

Promoting stakeholder engagement throughout the whole research process in BiodivERsA

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www.biodiversa.org

@BiodivERsA3

Joint Programming conference (14-15/01/2016)


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BiodivERsA:

The network of research programmers & funders promoting the ERA for biodiversity and ecosystem services


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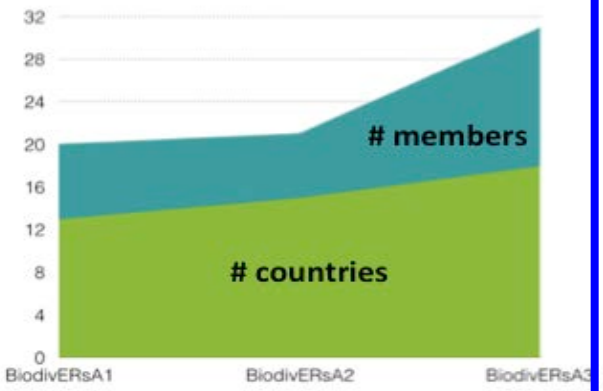
BiodivERsA1: FP6 ERA-net 2005-2010 (13 countries)

BiodivERsA2: FP7 ERA-net 2010-2014 (15 countries)

BiodivERsA3: H2020 ERA-net 2015-2019 (18+1 countries + overseas)



Biodiversity questions cross borders & disciplines >> collaboration between multi-national teams

BiodivERsA integrates national programmes & funds to achieve resource efficiency and synergy, and build up the ERA for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services





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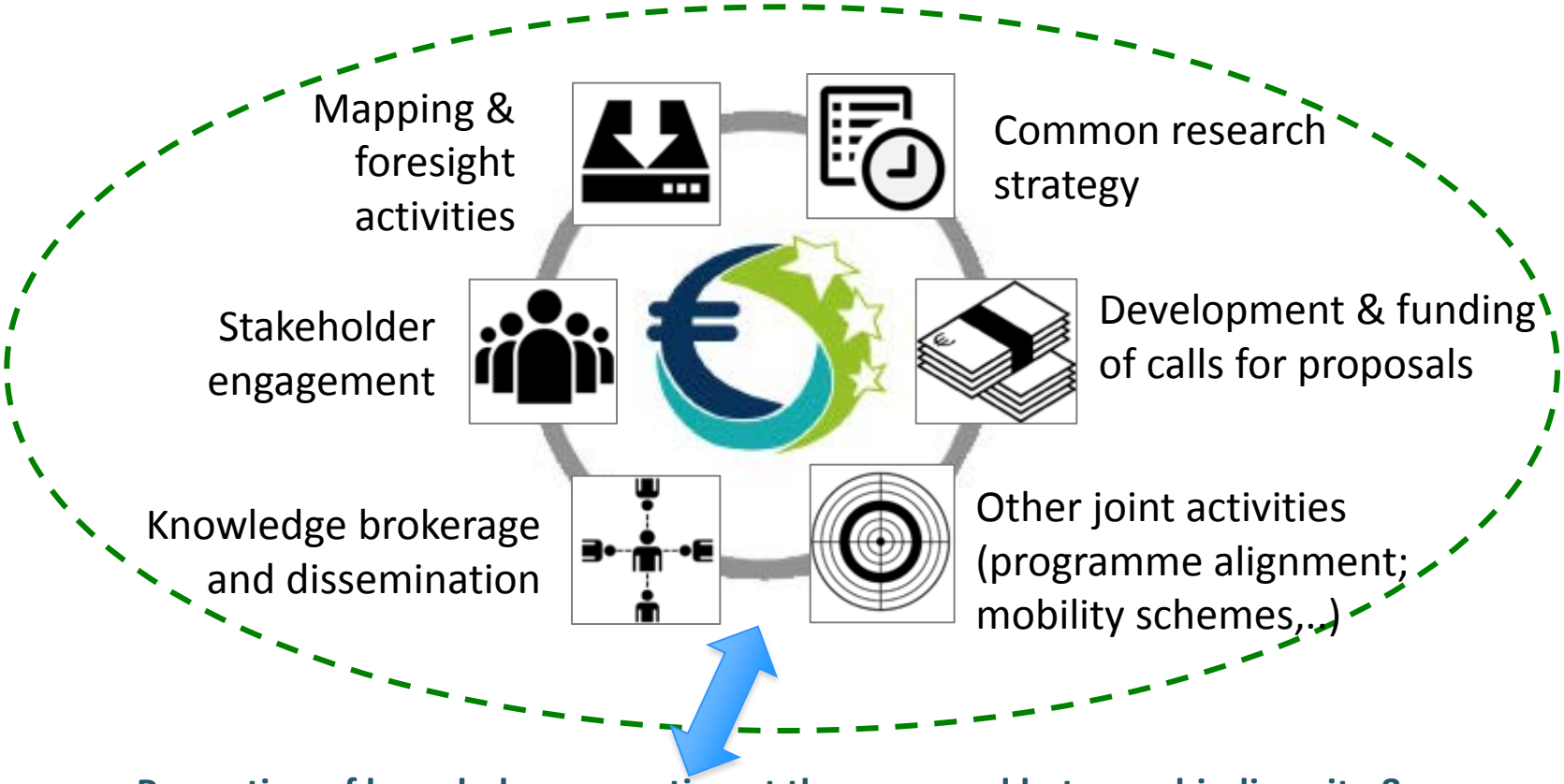
The BiodivERsA3 network today (mainland and overseas)


Objectives/Activities



- **Promotion of knowledge generation at the crossroad between biodiversity & Nature-based solutions and other grand challenges**
- **Link with innovation & business**
- **International dimension**

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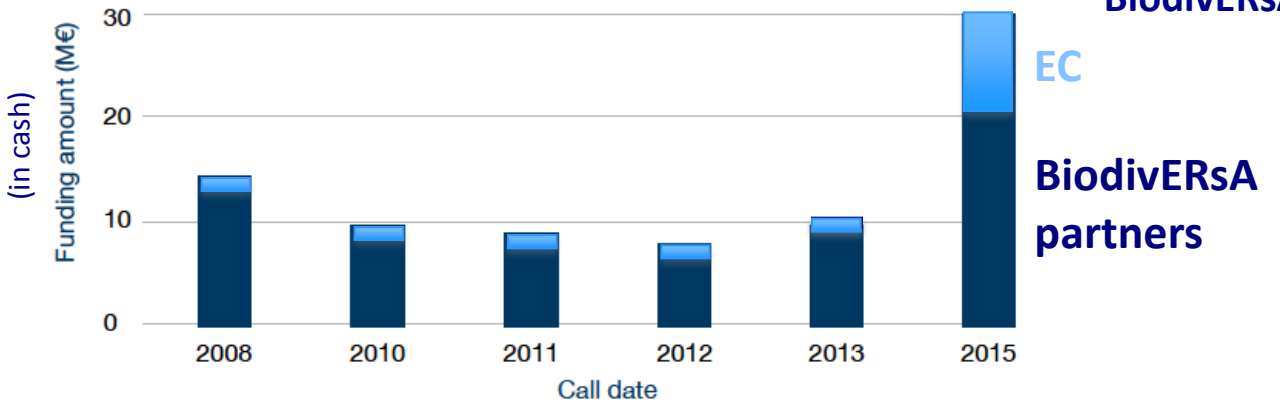
Research funding

Over 2008-2016

in cash contribution by BiodivERsA partners & the EC



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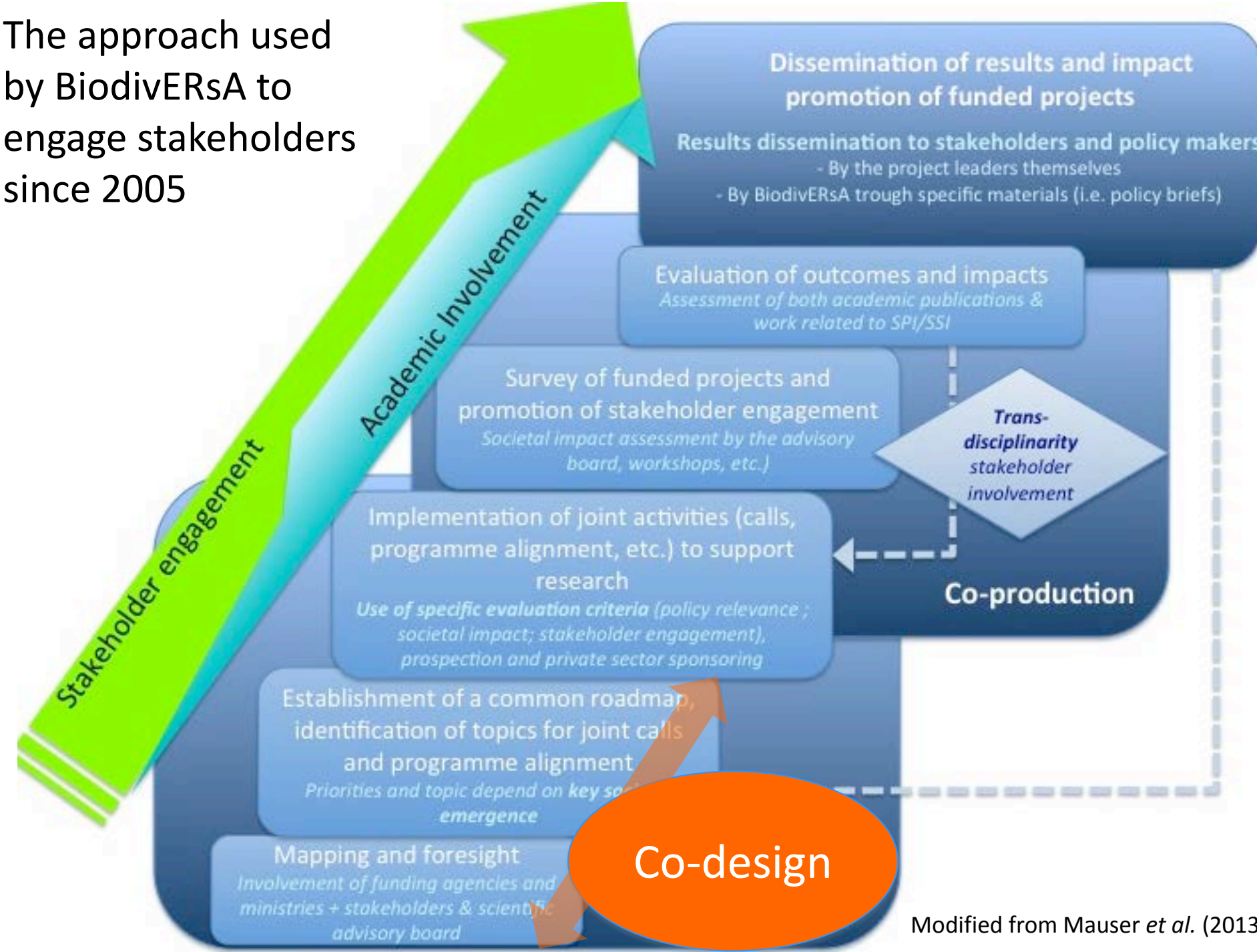
Stakeholder Engagement throughout the whole research process in BiodivERsA

The approach used by BiodivERsA to engage stakeholders since 2005



Modified from Mauser *et al.* (2013



Organising co-design activities between funding agencies and ministries, scientists and a range of stakeholders

The **BiodivERsA Advisory Board** – consisting of both top scientists and major stakeholders related to various fields:

- European policy-making (e.g., European parliament, DG R&I, DG Env…)
- Relations with the public (incl. citizen science)
- Nature protection (e.g., NGOs, protected area managers)
- Socio-political activities
- Domestic and wild genetic resources (e.g., animal and plant breeders' federations)
- Economic and industrial activities (e.g. large private companies, SMEs)

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Nature-based Solutions: New Influence for Environmental Management and Research in Europe

Greening roofs or walls to cool down city areas during summer, to capture storm water, to abate pollution, and to increase human well-being while enhancing biodiversity: nature-based solutions (NBS) refer to the sustainable management and use of nature for tackling societal challenges. Building on and complementing traditional biodiversity conservation and management strategies, NBS integrate science, policy, and practice and create biodiversity benefits in terms of diverse, well-managed ecosystems.

Hilde Eggermont, Estelle Balian, José Manuel N. Azevedo, Victor Beumer, Tomas Brodin, Joachim Claudet, Bruno Fady, Martin Grube, Hans Keune, Penelope Lamarque, Katrin Reuter, Matt Smith, Chantal van Ham, Wolfgang W. Weisser, Xavier Le Roux

Nature-based Solutions: New Influence for Environmental M

Keywords: biodiversity, ecosystem services, research program

Co-produced by scientists, funders and stakeholders

Nature-based Solutions, an Emerging Term

It is now widely recognized that human activities have reached a level that could result in abrupt and, in some cases, irreversible environmental changes detrimental to human development (Steffen et al. 2015). Societies face increasing challenges such as climate change, jeopardized food security and water resource provision, and an enhanced disaster risk.

One approach to answer these challenges is to increasingly rely on technological strategies, which are designed and managed to be as simple, replicable and predictable as possible (Hoffert et al. 2002). For instance, physico-chemical biofiltration processes

for self-reorgani ce
and resilience n 2013).
context, natur based solu BS) hav tly been put for-
ward by practitioners (in p ular the Inte tional Union for
Nature Conservation, IUCN nd quickly thereafter by policy (European Commission), refer ng to the sustainable use of nature in solving societal challenges.

While ES are often valued in terms of immediate benefits to human well-being and economy, NBS focus on the benefits to people and the environment itself, to allow for sustainable solutions that are able to respond to environmental change and hazards in the long-term. NBS go beyond the traditional biodiversity conser-



Stakeholder engagement upstream in the research cycle
➔ Helps the development and update of a research agenda that adequately tackles the most pressing societal issues

Ex: major topics addressed through the 4 calls launched by BiodivERsA2 reinforced knowledge generation supporting 6 Aichi targets for biodiversity 2020

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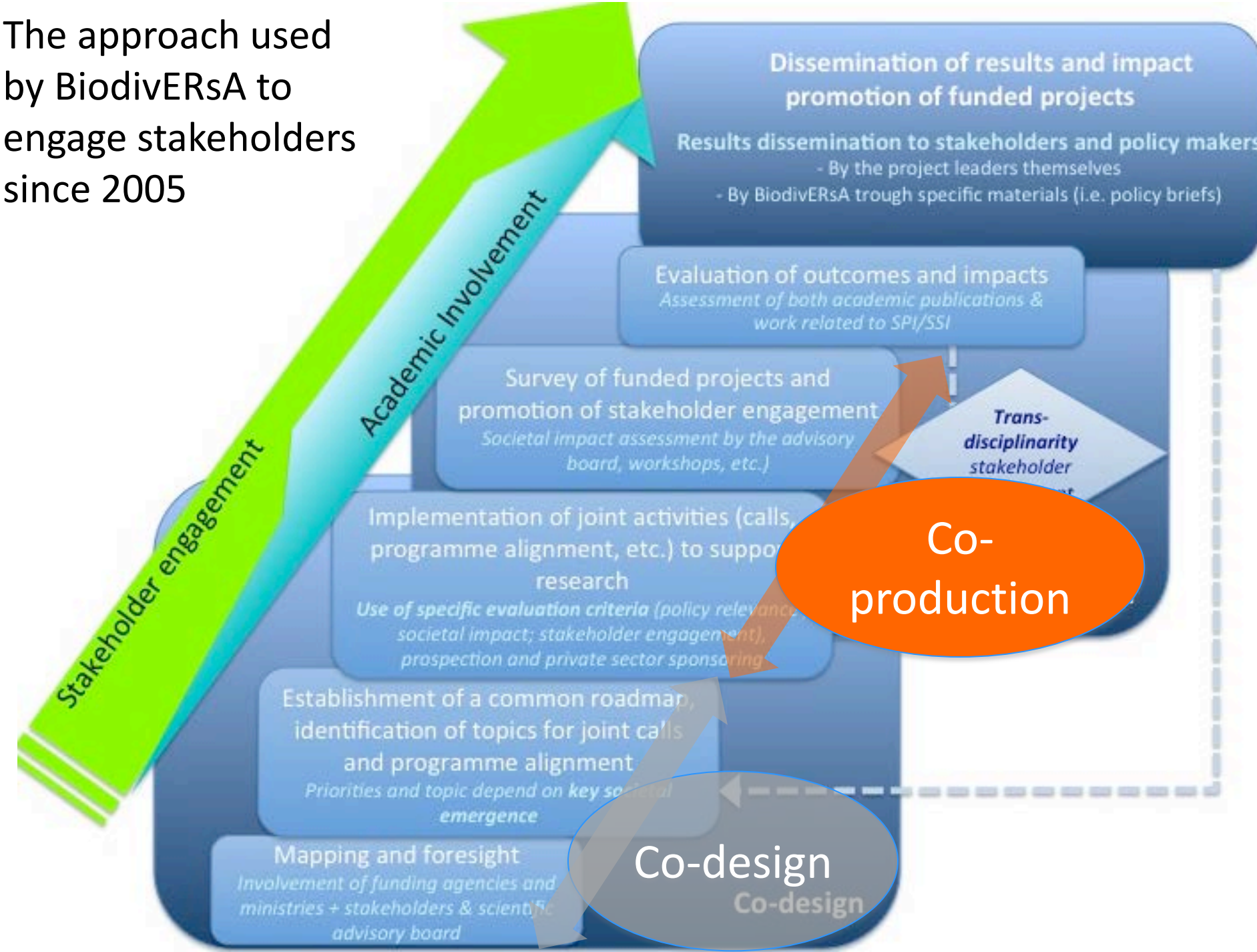


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- Major objective: make researchers/stakeholders/wider society work together to increase the societal impact of research

- Benefits from stakeholder engagement are amply:
  - Increased empowerment
  - Improved links and partnerships
  - Access to additional resources or information
  - Endorsement for an approach or decision
  - Better communication, awareness, trust & support
  - Improved learning through sharing of experiences
  - Managing risks and reducing conflicts
  - Making research more credible, relevant & legitimate, therefore improving its impact for society
  - …

Stakeholders' view

What interventions and policies are best?

Extracting relevant scientific messages is time consuming and challenging

Can interactions with scientists increase my access to relevant Knowledge and innovation capacity?

Scientists' view

What is the best science to develop?

Engaging with relevant stakeholders and disseminating knowledge are challenging and time consuming

Can engagement with stakeholders increase both my scientific excellence and societal impact?

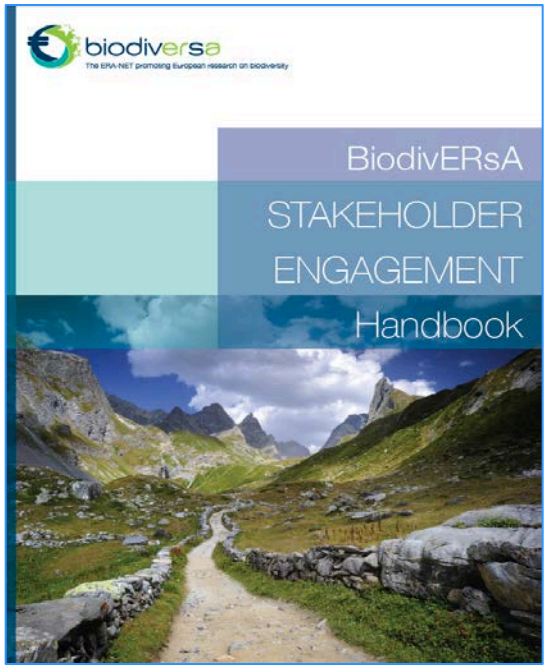


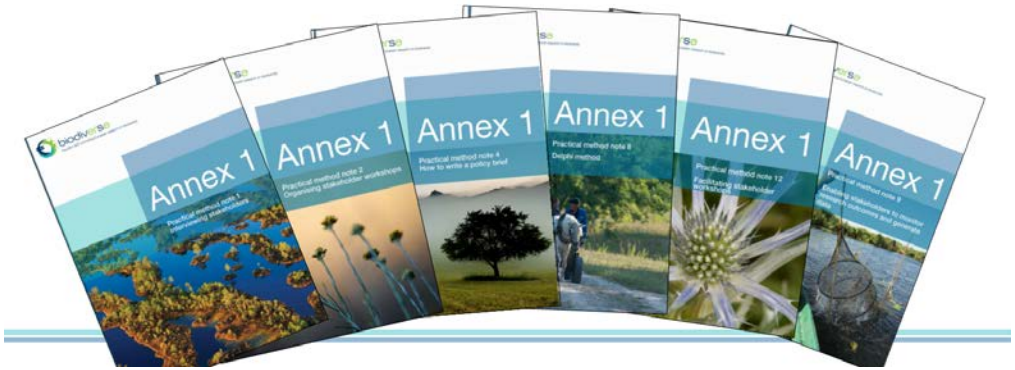
Need for tools (Handbook, Workshops …)

if we want scientists and stakeholders to properly work together



BiodivERsA Stakeholder Engagement Handbook: 'Best practices' Handbook to assist those planning and carrying out (biodiversity) research in identifying which stakeholders to involve, why to involve them, and how and when to engage with them; planning engagement activities; managing conflicts; monitoring outcomes





CASE Studies + Additional Tools/ Practical Methods:
Interviewing SH; Organising SH workshops; Participatory Mapping; How to write a policy brief; Scenario Analysis; Co-development of research outputs with SH, Delphi method; Social Media; Facilitating SH workshops etc.

JNCC (UK)
www.biodiversa.org/stakeholderengagement

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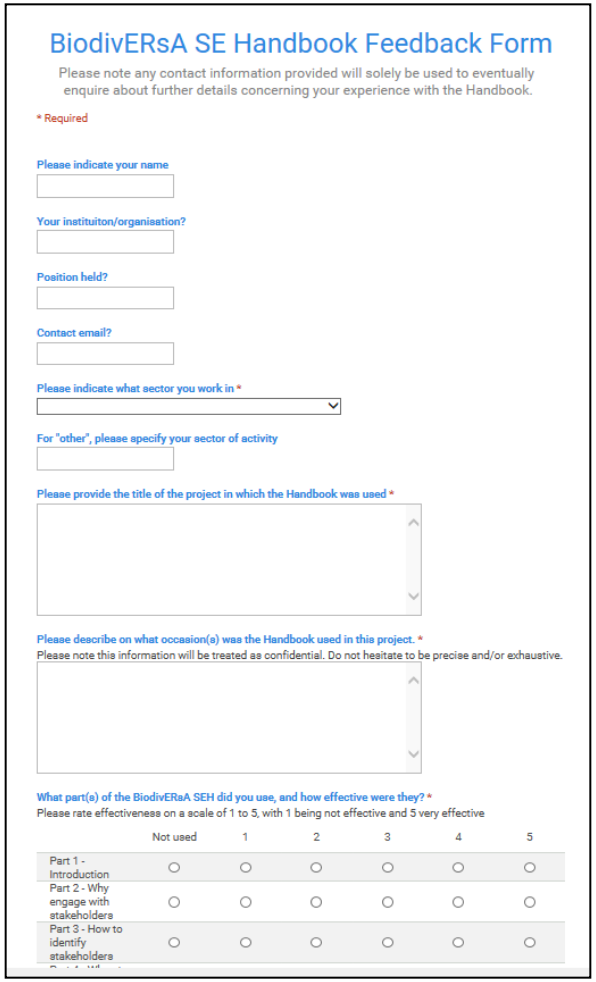
Continous improvement/feedback

(http://goo.gl/forms/LvzBXMhB3Z)



BiodivERsA SE Handbook Feedback Form

Please note any contact information provided will solely be used to eventually enquire about further details concerning your experience with the Handbook.

* Required

Please indicate your name

Your instituiton/organisation?

Position held?

Contact email?

Please indicate what sector you work in *

For "other", please specify your sector of activity

Please provide the title of the project in which the Handbook was used *

Please describe on what occasion(s) was the Handbook used in this project. *
Please note this information will be treated as confidential. Do not hesitate to be precise and/or exhaustive.

What part(s) of the BiodivERsA SEH did you use, and how effective were they? *
Please rate effectiveness on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not effective and 5 very effective

	Not used	1	2	3	4	5
Part 1 - Introduction	○	○	○	○	○	○
Part 2 - Why engage with stakeholders	○	○	○	○	○	○
Part 3 - How to identify stakeholders	○	○	○	○	○	○

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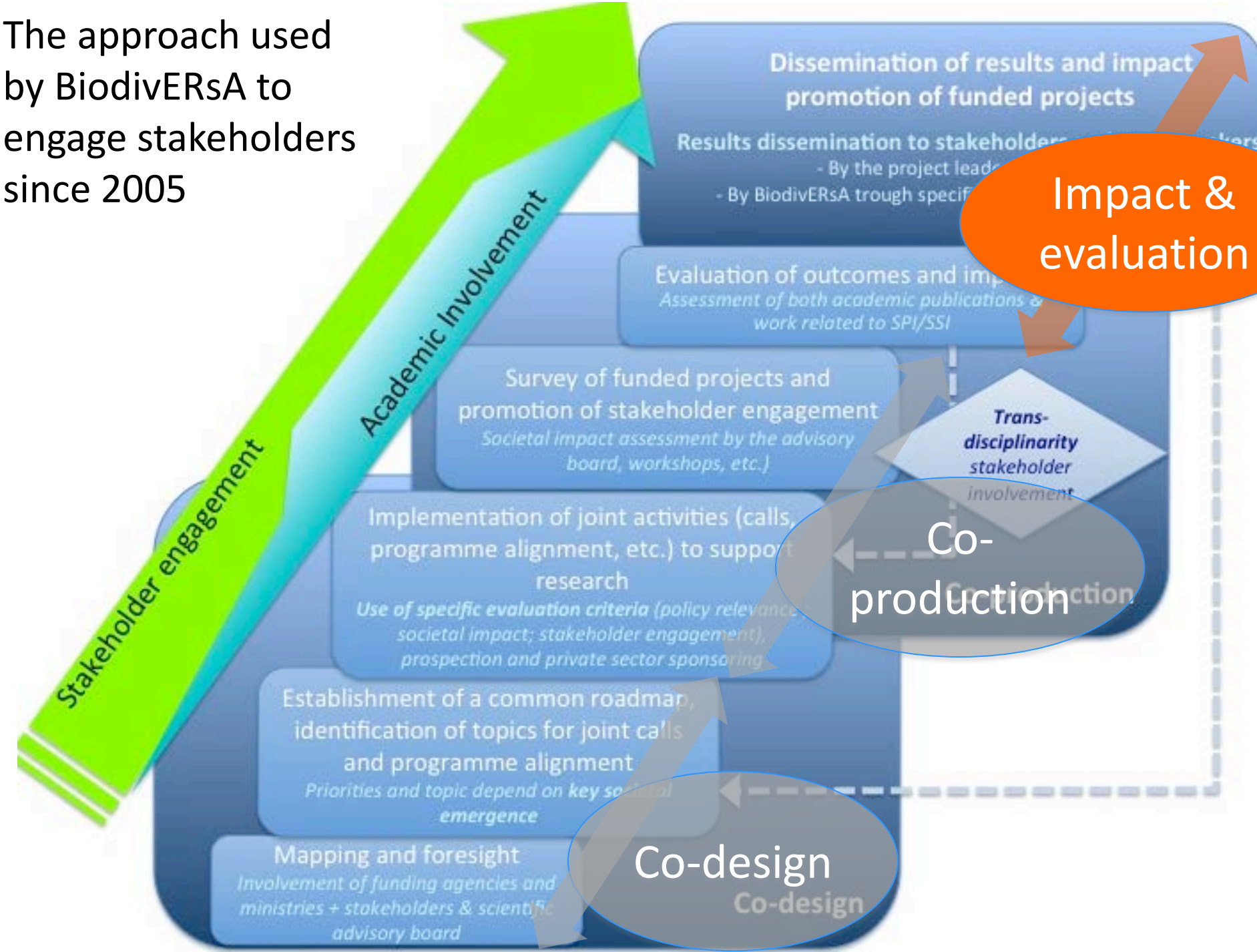
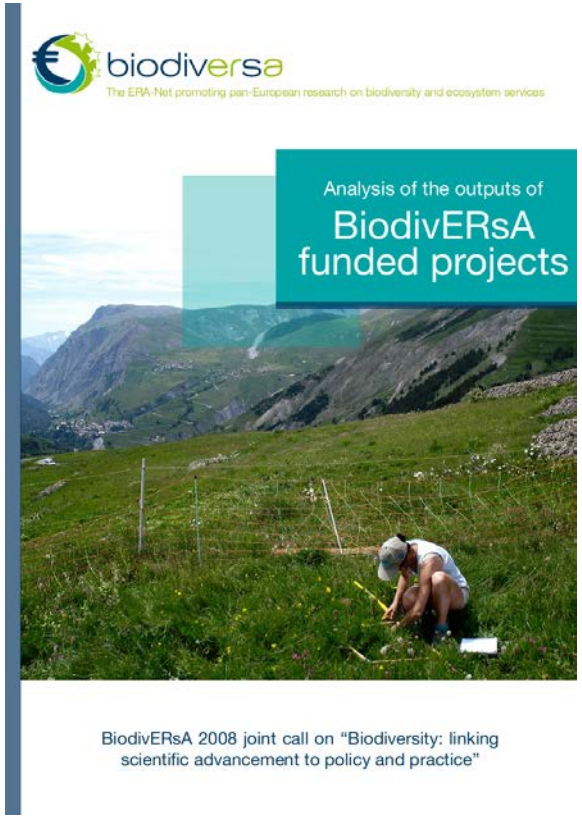


Evaluation of BiodivERsA-funded project outcomes and impacts

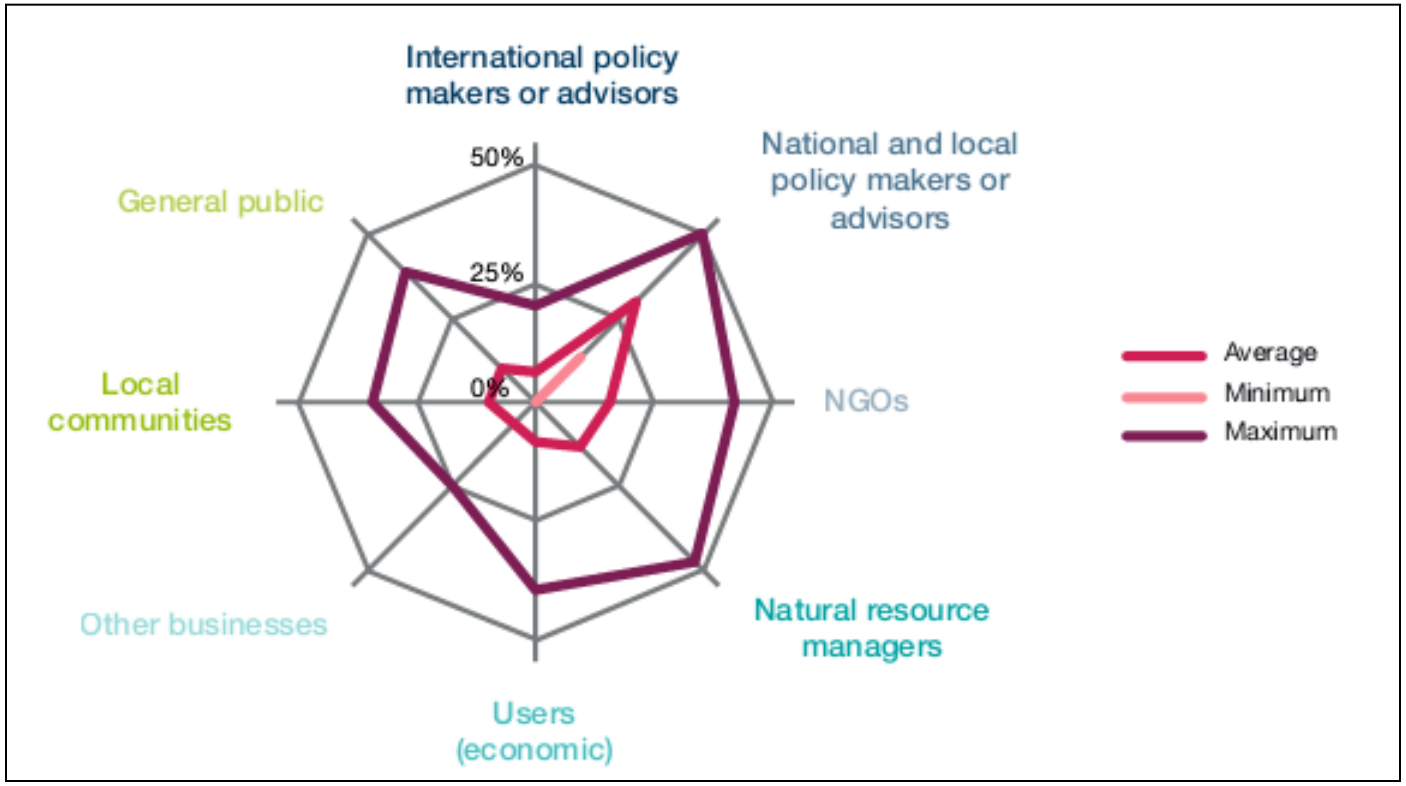


- Academic productions
- International collaborations
- Stakeholder engagement
- Research products relevant to society
- Highlights from each project

Published in 2015 – see BiodivERsA website

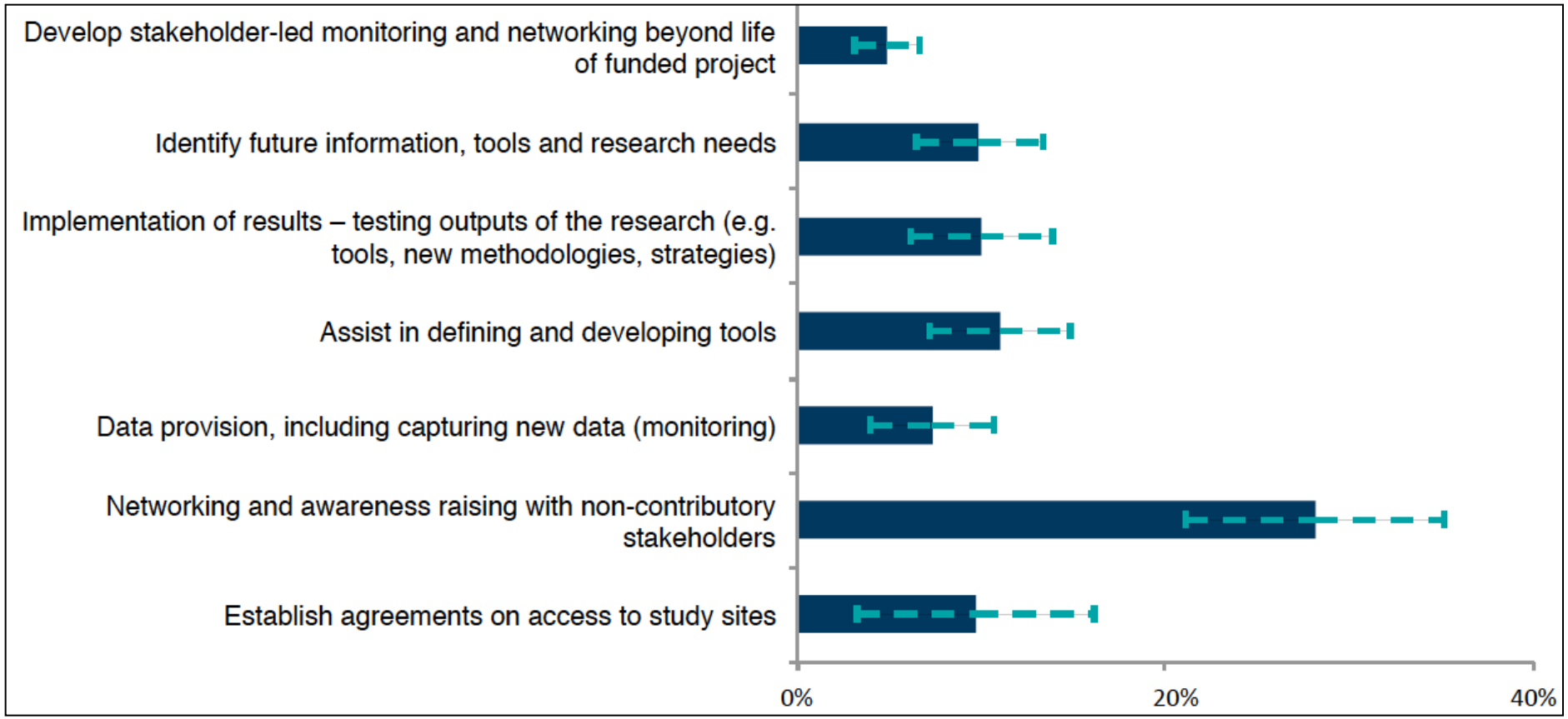

Type & number of stakeholders

Percentages of the stakeholders engaged in each project (Mean = 12/project) per stakeholder type



Main roles of engaged stakeholders

Roles of the stakeholders engaged by the research projects (mean % per project)



Generation and dissemination of stakeholder-relevant products

- >300 scientific papers
- 2/3 of projects published in *Nature*, *Science* or *PNAS*

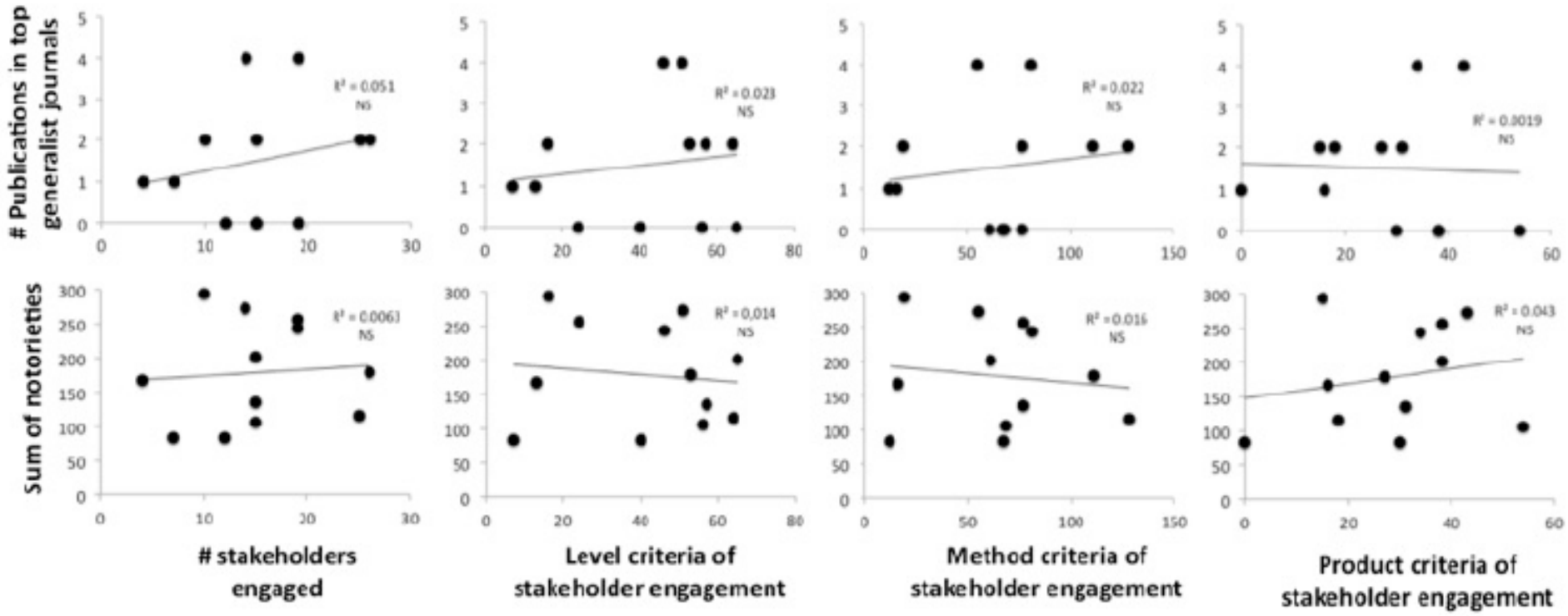
- Maps of emerging pathogens in EU; atlas …
- New indicators
- European abatement plan; Do's and don'ts for habitat directive; guidelines for businesss…

- Policy briefs targeting policy makers in Europe & European regions

Example for 2008 Call projects

… up to actual impact

No trade-off observed for funded projects between academic excellence and researchers' investment into stakeholder engagement & the generation of stakeholder-relevant products



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Conclusion

•BiodivERsA supports approaches that reinf cy, efficiency and long term ch

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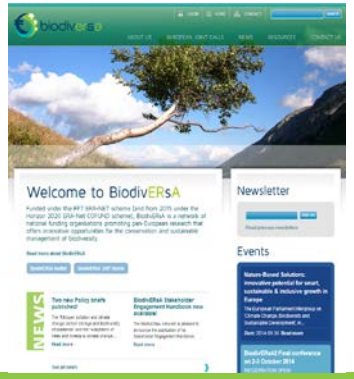
•.. whole process, wi tools

Science & society : an overdue liaison DURING the whole research process for BiodivERsA

➔ Successful *on the long term*!



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