

"M-ERA.NET - subjects and design of accompanying and final assessment"

ERALEARN 2020 Evaluation
Workshop, Brussels, May 18, 2016

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M-ERA.NET in Brief

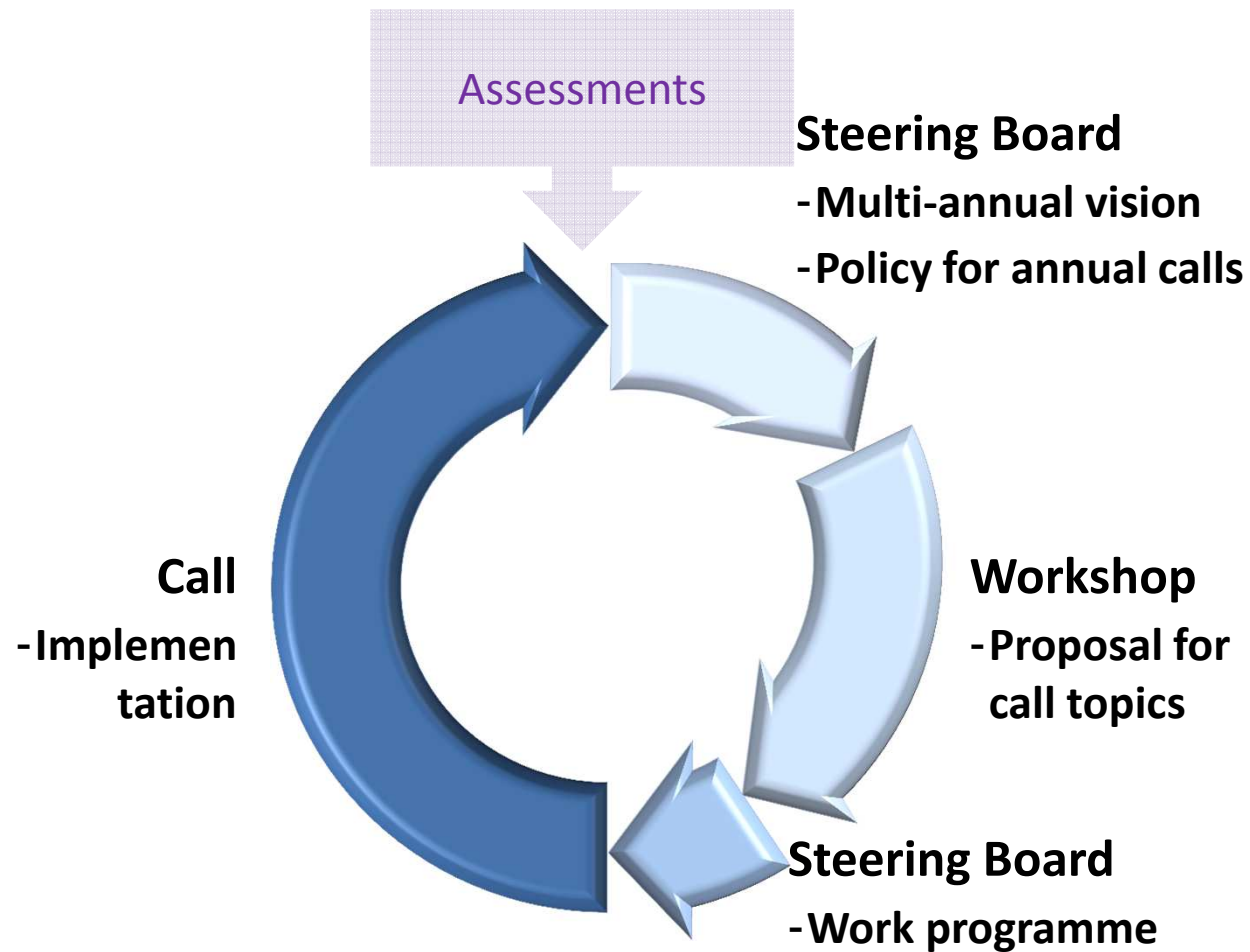
- “From materials science and engineering to innovation for Europe”
- All phases of innovation chain
- MATERA/MNT-ERA.NET → M-ERA.NET → M-ERA.NET Cofund
- Coordinator: FFG (Austria)
- 25 countries – 36 funding organisations + observers
- 4 calls 2012-2016; 2-stage submission
- App. 600 pre-proposals; 90+ funded transnational projects

Objectives and indications (Proposal Stage)

Aspect	M-ERA.NET objective
total call budget (national funding) mobilised per call	EUR 35 million (+400%)
joint strategic programmes	systematic multi-annual joint programming
geographical coverage of joint calls/number of countries in a call	27 countries (+200%)
new RTD partnerships and access to new markets (Europe)	> 10% particip. of new project partners
new RTD partnerships and access to new markets outside Europe	> 5% participation from outside Europe
joint call procedures: clear and transparent to RTD community	80% of call applicants agree
coverage of emerging topics	one single, flexible umbrella structure
newcomers to transnational RTD cooperation	>10% of applicants in a joint call
number of projects funded by ERA-NETs through joint calls	200 (+900%)
Complementarity to other funding instruments	80% agree
leverage effect: EC contribution for the ERA-NET coordination mobilises national funding	1:50 (+900%)
support for the innovation chain	whole innovation chain is covered by consortium



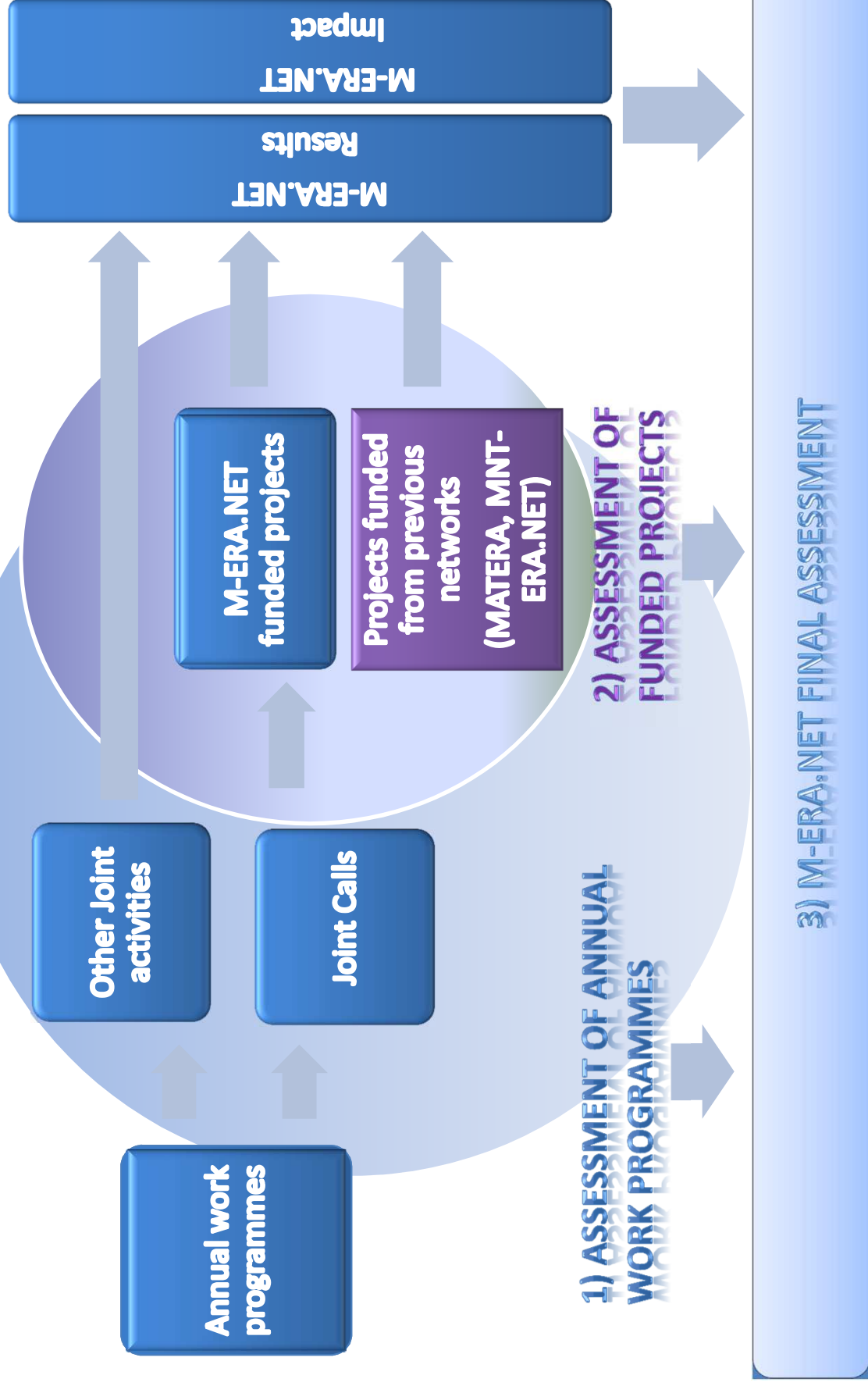
Joint Programming and Calls





M-era.Net

Overview of M-ERA.NET Assessments



Organisation

- Accompanying Evaluation
 - ➔ internal; Task force of 6 Consortium Members
 - ➔ Surveys/statistical analysis, report, discussion session for improvement
- Final Assessment
 - ➔ With external support; VDI/VDE IT
 - ➔ Surveys/statistical analysis, report, discussion session for improvement

Assessment of funded projects

Aims

- Evaluating the results of funded projects that have been completed
- Assessing additionality from national/regional perspective
- Improving joint programming

Scope

- Individual funded RTD projects, including projects from previous networks (MNT-ERA.NET and MATERA).

Aspects/Data Sources

The funded projects were assessed via questionnaires to all parties in funded projects

- 1) directly after the completion of the projects
- 2) 3 years after the end of the projects.

Success is measured by:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Technical results | c) Economic effects |
| b) Scientific results | d) Transnational benefit |

➔ Surveys, Statistical analysis report, presentation, discussion

Assessment of work programs (Network/Call Partners)

Aims

Continuous improvement in joint programming:

- Identifying options for future development
- Improving effectiveness and efficiency of joint programming
- Achieving a higher impact of M-ERA.Net activities

Scope

Annual work programmes, focusing on

- benefits for the transnational RTD community at large and
- benefits for national and regional programmes.

Aspects/Data Sources

a) Budgetary commitments

b) Benefit for networking of programmes and agencies at national level

c) Added value for the target group compared to alternative funding instruments

Surveys, Statistical analysis → report, presentation, discussion, change



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Final Assessment

Perspective/Aspects:

- The **network** perspective
 - ➔ Achievements/Facts about objectives of the network
- The consortium's members **clients** perspective (research communities)
- The consortium **member's objectives** perspective
 - ➔ National benefits from cooperation
 - ➔ What made you stay in - or leave the network
- The consortium **member as a client of the network management**
 - ➔ Appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of network management

Approach:

- Incl. MNT-ERA.NET, MATERA and ERA-LEARN sets of aspects/questions
- Some additional aspects to self assessments (e.g. Technology Readiness Levels)
- Search for lessons learned and improvement potentials rather than scientific statistical analysis

Aspects used in M-ERA.NET final Assessment

A: Statistical analysis

- Share of relevant national research funds for transnational projects made available by ERA network
- Output quantities (projects, funded partners, funds, project cost)
- Success rates of applicants
- Waste-of-researchers-time
- Types of funded applicants and their share of funding
- Networking of countries through funded projects
- Leverage factors of national money (project costs or funding)

B: Perception and assessment of the ERA network by call partners/consortium members

- Learning from each other – impact on national funding programme design and practice
- Perceived quality of transnational research and innovation projects in comparison to national ones (feasibility, market potential, excellence, speed, cost effectiveness)
- Drivers and barriers of cooperation (availability of funds for international cooperation, match with internationalisation policy/strategy, quality of transnational roadmap work, management effectiveness in realising critical mass of projects efficiently, etc.)

C: Perception and assessment of ERA network by research project applicants/funded beneficiaries

- Addressed and achieved Technology Readiness Levels
- Comparative perception of the Network Calls as a funding source (responsiveness, transparency e.g. compared to H2020, bilateral funding, etc.)
- Sustainability of transnational cooperation project consortia

Lessons learnt

- Addressing previously funded projects is
 - ...difficult (to maintain database → contact persons!)
 - ...invaluable , necessary ? → very specific analysisForm and channels of addressing still under discussion
- Indications on positive effects/impact change while networks mature/EU develops
 - „geographical coverage“ → having the programmes/budgets of the right countries in the right network
 - National/regional benefits from transnational cooperation seem to matter more than EC

Thank you!

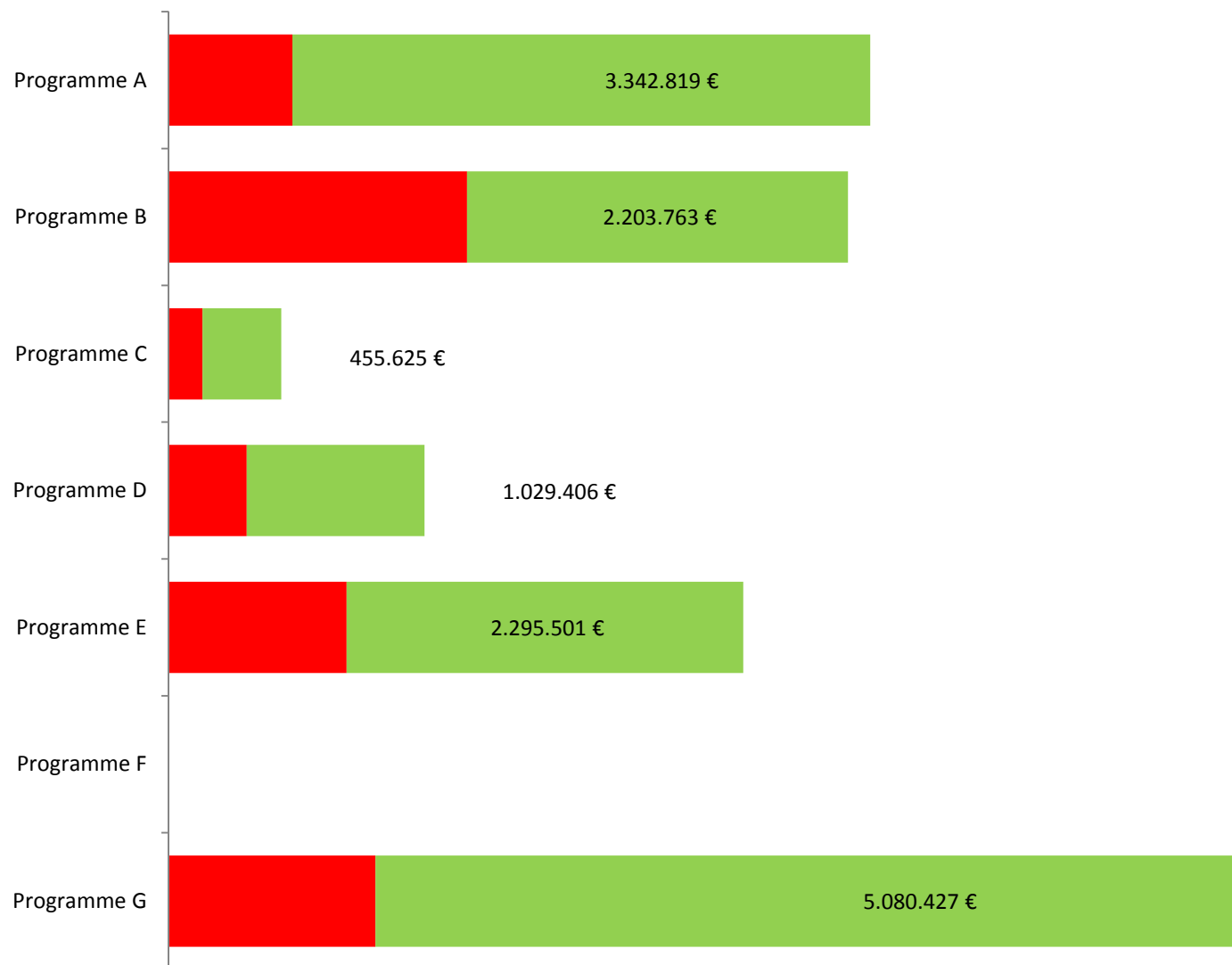
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Leverage factor by programme 2012 - 2014
Own funding (red) - leveraged foreign project cost (green)



Comparison of geographical levels of funding programmes

- Proposers -

Comparison of geographical levels of funding programmes

Compared to...

