ERA-NET Preparatory Action in Marine Biotechnology (CSA-MBt)

Marine Biotechnology in the European Research Area: Challenges and Opportunities for Europe
Brussels, 11-12 March 2013

Steinar Bergseth - Research Council of Norway
ERA-NET in Marine Biotechnology (ERA-MBT)

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Steinar Bergseth
Coordinator: The Research Council of Norway
Towards an ERA-NET MarineBiotech?

20.02.2013

20 partners in 14 countries applied to the ERA-NET call from FP7.
What is Marine Biotechnology?
What is Marine Biotechnology?

... the use of marine bioresources as the target or source of biotechnology applications (OECD)

Marine Biotechnology
ERA-MBT operations...

ERA-MBT: A technology provider enabling developments in thematic R&D?

Interactions with KBBE Technology Platforms?

European Technology Platforms (ETPs) are industry-led stakeholder fora charged with defining research priorities in a broad range of technological areas.

Source: EC, DGXIII
ERA-NET logistics

EU-COM

Call from FP7 for ERA-NET (2 m€)

Funding agencies apply as a consortium (20 partners)

ERA-NET consortium of Funding Agencies

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Launch calls for proposals with national, public money (€, NOK, DAK, SEK, ISK)

Scientists & industry apply. Projects are funded
The work...

WP 1  Coordination & Management

WP 2  Scoping & Strategy

WP 3  Industry

WP 4  External interactions

WP 5  Transnational calls

WP 6  Communication & Dissemination

Develop Marine Biotechnology RTDI in Europe

January 2014 → December 2017
ERA-MBT organisation (proposed)

- Stakeholder Forum (SF)
- Steering Committee (SC): All partners represented, Chaired by the coordinator
- International Advisory Group (IAG)
- European Commission
- Coordinator with secretariat
- Project Management Team (PMT): All Work Package Leaders, Chaired by the Coordinator
- WP1, WP2, WP3, WP4, WP5, WP6
Why ERA-MarineBiotech?

- Europe’s marine ecosystems and organisms are:
  - Underexplored, Understudied and Underexploited.
- Europe’s sea basins have an immense biodiversity supporting:
  - Food production, ecosystem services and the possibility to develop new innovations for societal benefits (energy, platform chemicals, neutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, ...).
- Biotechnology needs to go marine!
- By sustainable development of marine biotechnology:
  - The marine ecosystems can be better understood.
  - The bioeconomy will be developed and the economical potential realised.
  - The societal requirements can be integrated as ELSA / RRI / ABS issues.
  - The Grand Challenges of our time will be addressed.
    (environment, food supply, health, energy).
Main objectives and structure of the ERA-MarineBiotech

- Avoid duplication and ensure complementarities with relevant on-going and new efforts
  - Add value to the ERA by identifying the gaps and needs for marine biotech developments.
  - Set up cooperation tools (internal & external) and pool resources to undertake joint funding of transnational projects and further increase the level of coordination.
- Identify the hurdles and stimulate valorization from MBT.
- Ensure Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI / ELSA)
- Communicate the potential and develop a European MBT Communication Strategy
  - The European MBT portal as a single point of entry: www.marinebiotech.eu