Research alliances & their impact on the EU research agenda – EPSO & Plant ETP

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ETPs – State of Play

• Established 2003 as bottom up industry-led stakeholder fora
• Concentrate efforts and address fragmentation
• Currently 36 ETPs

• Strategic Research Agendas important input towards FP7 research topics
• Consulted when preparing research and innovation policy initiatives (e.g. Innovation Union)

• In addition ETPs:
  • Coordinate and align priorities for individual sectors with a view to developing a future vision

Source: Charlotte Andersdotter (EC), Jan’2013, modified
ETPs – State of Play

- In addition ETPs:
  - Work across sectors addressing common issues (e.g. grand challenges) – advantage to involve universities
  - Build capacity to enable stakeholders to participate in EU activities
  - Gave rise to JTIs, PPPs, European Industrial Initiatives (SET Plan)

- Weaknesses in the current system:
  - Presence of SMEs and end-users remains low
  - Risk of duplication and fragmentation due to the large number of ETPs
  - Inconsistent EC procedures for monitoring and funding

Source: Charlotte Andersdotter (EC), Jan’2013, modified
## ETPs – list by sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Energy</th>
<th>ICT</th>
<th>Bio-based economy</th>
<th>Production and processes</th>
<th>Transport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Biofuels TP - Biofuels</td>
<td>Embedding <strong>computing</strong> systems - ARTEMIS</td>
<td>Plants for the Future - <strong>Plants</strong></td>
<td>European <strong>Construction</strong> TP - ECTP</td>
<td>European <strong>Space</strong> TP - ESTP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETP for <strong>Wind</strong> Energy - TP Wind</td>
<td>Integral <strong>Satcom</strong> Initiative - ISI</td>
<td>ETP for Global <strong>Animal Health</strong> - GAH</td>
<td>ETP on Sustainable <strong>Mineral Resources</strong> - ETP SMR</td>
<td><strong>Waterborne</strong> ETP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable Nuclear TP - SNETP</td>
<td>Converged fixed and Wireless <strong>Communication</strong> Network - Net!Works</td>
<td>Nanotechnology for Medical Applications- <strong>Nano Medicine</strong></td>
<td>Future <strong>Manufacturing</strong> Technologies - Manufuture</td>
<td>Advisory Council for <strong>Aeronautics</strong> Research in Europe - ACARE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETP for <strong>Electricity Network</strong> of the Future - Smart Grids</td>
<td>ETP where <strong>New Media</strong> Content and Networks meet - NEM</td>
<td>Forest-Based Sector TP - <strong>Forest-based</strong></td>
<td>Future <strong>Textiles and Clothing</strong> - FTC</td>
<td>European <strong>Road</strong> Transport Research Advisory Council- ERTRAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Photovoltaics</strong></td>
<td>Networked European <strong>Software and Services</strong> Initiative - NESSI</td>
<td>Food for Life - <strong>Food</strong></td>
<td><strong>Water</strong> Supply and Sanitation TP - WSSTP</td>
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<td><strong>Photonics 21</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Robotics</strong> - EUROP</td>
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<td><strong>Industrial Safety</strong> ETP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ETPs – Next steps

• Rationale for ETPs remains valid: to close the gap with global innovation leaders and to drive jobs and growth

• Innovation Union and Horizon 2020 will considerably strengthen the innovation dimension of EU support

• Commission's proposals for Horizon 2020 specifies ETPs amongst those whose research and innovation agendas will be taken account of

• EC is currently developing a strategy for future structured dialogue with ETPs

Source: Charlotte Andersdotter (EC), Jan’2013, modified
EPSO aims to advance plant science in Europe

Independent academic organisation

Mission:
• Promote plant science and support plant scientists
• Discuss future plant science programmes across Europe
• Provide authoritative source of independent information on plant science
• Promote training of plant scientists to meet the 21st century challenges in breeding, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, plant ecology and sectors related to plant science

CREATING A FUTURE FOR PLANT RESEARCH IN EUROPE
Members mainly institutional, only academia: 228 universities, res. institutes = 28,000 people, 30 countries + 3,100 Personal members

Observers:
NGOs, industry

Links: academic & governmental organisations, e.g.:
- ISE, GPC, National sc. societies
- COST, ERA-Nets, Joint Programming Initiatives
- FAO
EPSO @ work: addressing grand challenges

Advice on science policy from national to European levels

Achievements:

- Research opportunities for the plant sector in FP6 & FP7
- Observer in ERA-CAPS, links with ERA-PG, Plant KBBE
- Major stakeholder of the Technology Platform “Plants for the Future”
- Foster creation of and encourage proposals to the ERC (via ISE)
- Coordinated strategic bioeconomy project of 9 ETPs – white paper
- Founding member of Global Plant Council
- Developing long term partnerships with developing countries & FAO
- Initiated and coordinate International Fascination of Plants Day

Now: Addressing grand challenges like food – water – energy security, sustainable agriculture

- Several working groups develop new science activities and policy papers
Partnership of industry, academia (EPSO) and farming communities
Develop Action Plans for Research, Innovation and Education
Contribute to addressing societal challenges - priorities by Plant ETP:
ETPs & Bioeconomy activities at European level

**EC:** Eur Innov Partnership: Agric. Product. & sust.; Horizon 2020 & Bioeconomy strategy; CAP renewal

**Proposal:** KIC Food4future

**MSs:** Joint Programming Initiatives; ERA-Nets

**Proposal:** PPP on R&I for bio-based industries

To Oct’11: StarColibri: Biorefineries – Vision & Research Roadmap

To Mar’11: BECOTEPS: Bioeconomy – Vision & Research Roadmap

**ETPs** complement the top-down by a bottom-up approach – bringing in industry, farmers and academia – making it happen
Horizon 2020: Framework Programme for R&I

Europe 2020 Priorities

- Tackling Societal Challenges
  - Health, demographic change and wellbeing
  - Food sec., sust. agri., mar. res. & bioeconomy
  - Secure, clean and efficient energy
  - Smart, green and integrated transport
  - Supply of raw materials, resource efficiency and climate action
  - Inclusive, innovative and secure societies

- Creating Industrial Leadership and Competitive Frameworks
  - Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (Biotechnology,...)
  - Access to risk finance
  - Innovation in SMEs

- Excellence in the Science Base
  - Frontier research (ERC)
  - Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)
  - Skills and career development (Marie Curie)
  - Research infrastructures

Shared objectives and principles

Common rules, toolkit of funding schemes

International cooperation

European Research Area

Simplified access

Coherence with other EU and MS actions

Source: N Sivenas (EC), July’2012, modified
EPSO – conclusions for you

Research alliances are important for universities to have a voice at national, European and global level

Give input towards **EU research agendas**, e.g. of
• Horizon 2020, European Innovation Partnerships, Joint Programming Initiatives, etc.
• Always consider input to innovation and to education agendas too

Involvement in **ETPs** is one way
• On sectorial basis via your faculties, departments, personal contacts
• Become member of Steering Councils, Working Groups etc.

**Other research alliances** are equally important
• Local (e.g. BioScience Center in NRW)
• European (e.g. EPSO, Initiative for Science in Europe)
• Global (e.g. FAO, Global Plant Council)

Thank you for your attention
**www.epsoweb.org**