

Joint Programming Newsletter 4 February 2021

Incl. A public consultation on Soil Health, video's on Plant Health, and much new joint research starting.

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Joint Programming is a research and innovation policy concept driven by societal challenges. Its aim is to tackle grand societal challenges through more efficient use of resources, by the alignment of funding at national level and through decreasing fragmentation in the European Research Area (ERA). There are currently over sixty active ERA-NET Actions (around 250 have been funded in total since FP6), five Article 185 initiatives, ten Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs), and six European Joint Programme Cofunds (EJPs). While H2020 funded actions will phase out, HEU Partnerships are being developed by the EC and the Member States. For an overview see our website jointprogramming.nl. This monthly newsletter provides in a nutshell up-to-date information for scientists, (research) policy actors, and other stakeholders.

Newsletter 4 February 2021

About us

The joint programming officers at Wageningen University & Research follow ERA policy and strategy, the JPIs, EJPs, Art. 185, ERA-NET Actions, and the new HEU Partnerships with a focus on those in the areas of the bioeconomy, food, and the blue and green environment. We have built collaborations with many other joint programming actors in national and European networks, such as through the Platform of Bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions, the support action for the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research SCAR and national JPI forum and sounding boards. We are involved in coordination and management of FACCE-JPI as a Secretariat Member, in the ERA-NET Actions FOSC and ERA-GAS as Executive Team members, and in the EJP SOIL. We also conduct a global science and policy mapping on microbiome research in frame of the International Bioeconomy Forum, and are involved in work on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), scoping emerging research areas, preparing R&I agendas and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment in joint programming networks. You can follow us on [Twitter](#) and contact us at jointprogramming@wur.nl.

Editorial:

'Sometimes when you are lost you are found'...

... paraphrases Commander Burnham from the nineteenth century novel *Alice in Wonderland* in the gloomy trailer of Star Trek Discovery placed in 2255. We at *Spaceship Earth* find ourselves one month into 2021 and almost a year into smart or stupid, short or longer term, complete or partial lock downs. The Minister for Corona affairs said that everybody had to comply with the corona rules for just a bit longer and then there would be light at the end of the tunnel. This year would bring us 'roaring twenties' with regained freedom, travels and parties, some magazines wrote in autumn. Preparations for vaccination campaigns were made, contracts with many suppliers. But what if the light of the tunnel is an approaching train? Into what clash are we running, with eyes wide shut? Virologists warn us, climate scientists warn us, even some economists warn us. Emerging Covid variants that spread faster, other zoonoses might be lurking around the corner, extreme weather occurrences and melting of polar ice that may be irreversible, bubbles are blown by speculations.

The thinking biases of overestimating our luck and underestimating the risks are persistent, and policy making is not free of such bias thinking. Expectations that science and technology can still solve all future problems created by greed, anthropocentrism, and short-termism of current systems are in my view unrealistic. Can societal transformations and corporate responsibility bring redemption and is there enough sense of urgency? People, planet, and profit, coined in 1994 by business

author John Elkington at SustainAbility, and used by Shell in 1997 as title of its first sustainability report, have become the three pillars for Corporate Social Responsibility. Though the original focus of the phrase was on societal impact and thus societal profit, a widespread interpretation suggests that organizations do well if they generate large profits and limit harm to people and the planet. Less Ferengi and more Vulcan body of thought is in 'People Planet Prosperity', the title of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 to pave the way forward for sustainable development. The UN 2030 Agenda launched in 2015 added two more P's (Peace and Partnership) in the holistic plan for putting the world on a sustainable and resilient development path.

The SDG's are reflected in strategic plans of organisations such as WUR, in foresights such as SCAR foresight, and in SRA's such as the FACCE SRA. The 2030 Agenda is also reflected in missions of the new joint programming partnerships, that intend to enable implementation of research insights into policy-making and concrete action and to create shared goals that guide policy decisions in relation to public health, reaching SDGs and funding research and innovation. The challenges are multitude, for the longer-term 2030 agenda with its 5 P's and global perspective, and for strategies on how to handle the impacts of the corona virus causing waves of health, economy and societal crisis. The key word of this weeks' corona press conference was: uncertainty. A mathematician may say that uncertainty is the only certainty there is, still people want to, need to, string to something. Bring your moral compass, hope for the best, prepare for the worst, and down the rabbit-hole it goes.



Christine Bunthof,
Senior policy officer Strategy & Research

News

- [Horizon Europe -symbolically- launched](#)
- [Public consultation on EU Soil Strategy](#)
- [Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership consultation report](#)
- [FACCE-JPI reinforces its Stakeholder Advisory Board](#)
- [How microbiome interventions can contribute to policies](#)
- [Check out and vote for the best Plant Health video](#)
- [We're hiring!](#)

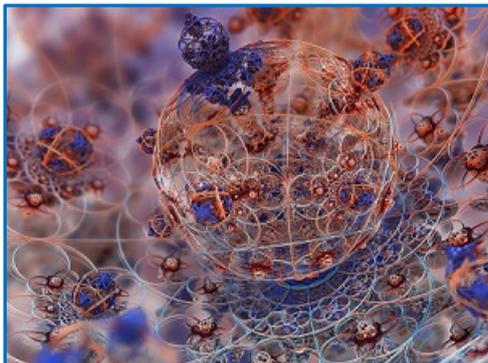
Joint Research

- [One Health interventions on antimicrobial resistance](#)
- [JPI HDHL announces new research](#)
- [ERA-Net 'Urban Transformation Capacities' launches joint funding activity](#)
- [New research opportunities on Neurodegenerative diseases](#)
- [Joint research on organic farming systems](#)
- [Maritime and marine research opportunity](#)
- [New forest-based value chain research opportunities](#)
- [Research commences on Responding to Changing Societies](#)
- [New obesity research starting soon](#)

Upcoming Activities

- [PRIMA virtual info day](#)
- [Seminar on science-based policy advice in agriculture, food, climate and environment](#)
- [Workshop on Partnership preparation](#)
- [EIP-AGRI seminar on Healthy soils for Europe](#)
- [Events Calendar](#)

News



Horizon Europe -symbolically- launched

The ambitious Horizon Europe programme has been symbolically launched on the 2nd of February at an international virtual conference, organised by the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The Horizon Europe programme, featuring the new Partnerships and Missions, will be the biggest one ever undertaken in Europe with a budget over EUR 95 billion.

[Read more](#)



Public consultation on EU Soil Strategy

The European Commission has launched an online public consultation on the development of a new EU Soil Strategy. The consultations seeks input on challenges and opportunities regarding our land and soils' ecosystems and is based on the Roadmap on a new Soil Strategy and part of commitments under the Biodiversity Strategy 2030. Citizens and organisations are invited to contribute and share their views on potential objectives and actions. The consultation will be open until the 27th of April.

[Read more](#)



Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership consultation report

The proposed co-funded partnership 'A climate neutral, sustainable and productive Blue Economy' is currently under preparation. In order to enrich the partnership's co-design, stakeholders were invited to share their insights and suggestions on the first draft of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) in an open consultation at the end of 2020. The results are now available in a draft report.

[Read more](#)



FACCE-JPI reinforces its Stakeholder Advisory Board

The Joint Programming Initiative on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change, is welcoming 14 new member organisations in its Stakeholder Advisory Board (StAB). The StAB provides end-user and stakeholder advice to the Governing Board and in activities of the JPI and have contributed to the recently updated Strategic Research Agenda.

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How microbiome interventions can contribute to policies

A new MicrobiomeSupport publication highlights why and how microbiome-based innovations can contribute to policies which support the achievements of a number of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and underpin solutions to tackle global challenges. The paper calls for policy makers, funders, investors, regulatory and education bodies to support microbiome-based innovation processes by engaging in a global and systemic approach.

[Read more](#)



Check out and vote for the best Plant Health video

In 2020, in frame of the International Year of Plant Health, Euphresco and CIHEAM Bari launched a call for a video competition 'Plant Health TV: Research that helps 'Plant Health''. This has resulted in 38 applications from all over the world. The videos are now online and you are invited to like your favourite.

[Read more](#)

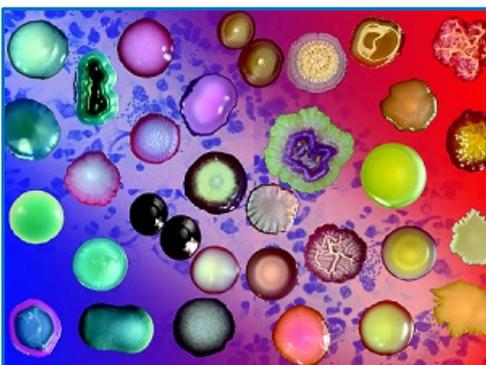


We're hiring!

Wageningen University & Research is looking for an officer Research Programming Networks. Are you used to working in an international research policy environment, a natural networker and preferably with a background in life sciences? Are you taking on the challenge to work for joint programming networks within the WUR research domains? We may be looking for you to strengthen our team. Find out more about the job offer at the WUR vacancy site.

[Read more](#)

Joint Research



One Health interventions on antimicrobial resistance

An international call on One Health interventions to understand its impact on the development and transmission of antibiotic resistance, has been launched by JPIAMR. Funding organisations from 21 countries, including the Netherlands, are participating with an estimated budget close to EUR 25 million. The call is co-funded by the European Commission. Pre-proposal submission deadline is the 2nd of March, full proposal deadline the 29th of June.

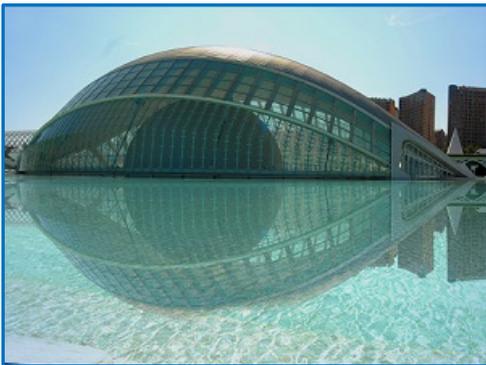
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JPI HDHL announces new research

The joint programming initiative 'A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life' is announcing two new joint research opportunities. One call is titled '*Addressing adverse and beneficial effects of food ingredients and food processing on hypersensitivities to food*', and the other '*Standardised measurement, monitoring and/or biomarkers to study food intake, physical activity and health*'. Information on proposal submission deadlines is in the calls section.

[Read more](#)



ERA-Net 'Urban Transformation Capacities' launches joint funding activity

JPI Urban Europe's new ERA-Net ENUTC invites researchers, urban government authorities, businesses and civil society partners to join in new research proposals that support capacity building for urban transformations. Partners from 14 countries (including NL) and the EC have raised over EUR 18 million. Pre-proposal deadline is the 15th of April, and full proposals in June. On the 18th of February, an information webinar will be organised.

[Read more](#)



New research opportunities on Neurodegenerative diseases

The Joint Programming Initiative on Neurodegenerative Diseases has launched a transnational call for linking pre-diagnosis disturbances of physiological systems to neurodegenerative diseases. Funding organisations from 24 countries including the Netherlands, have made a preliminary budget available of around EUR 19 million. The deadline for pre-proposal submission is the 2nd of March, full proposal submission is the 29th of June.

[Read more](#)



Joint research on organic farming systems

The EU has adopted ambitious targets to increase organic production as part of the European Green Deal indicated in the Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies. In order to support joint, transnational knowledge development for this target CORE Organic Cofund has launched its 3rd call on '*Organic farming systems for improved mixed plant and animal production*'. Partners from 13 countries have raised an indicative budget of around EUR 5 million. Closing date for this call is the 8th of March.

[Read more](#)



Maritime and marine research opportunity

The ERA-Net Cofund on maritime and marine technology, MarTERA, has launched a 4th joint call for transnational research and innovation projects. The call covers 5 priority areas. Funding partners from nine countries contribute a total funding budget of EUR 8.5 million. Applicants from countries not contributing to this call are eligible with their own funding. The deadline for pre-proposal submission is March 26th, deadline for full proposals is September 10th.

[Read more](#)



New forest-based value chain research opportunities

With a new call for joint European research from the ERA-Net Cofund ForestValue, policymakers and funding partners of the ERA-Net are focussing on the whole forest-based value chain. Funders from 10 countries brought together an indicative budget of over EUR 11 million. Partners from countries which are not participating in the joint call are encouraged to join a consortium as additional partners with their own funding. The proposal deadline is the 13th of April.

[Read more](#)



Research commences on Responding to Changing Societies

The 'Cultural Heritage, Identities & Perspectives: Responding to Changing Societies' call of the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage invited scholars to submit research proposals on the role of heritage in society from different (inter-)national perspectives and value systems. Six projects have been selected for funding. The research projects collectively receive approximately EUR 3.9 million and will start this year.

[Read more](#)



New obesity research starting soon

Four research consortia are selected for funding under the PREPHOBES call, launched at the beginning of 2020 by the Joint Programming Initiative 'A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life'. The selected project consortia include 22 research groups from 8 participating countries (AT, BE, CZ, FR, DE, IR, NL and ES) and 8 collaborators that will participate with their own resources. The total budget amounts to EUR 4.6 million. A joint kick-off meeting is foreseen in Spring 2021.

[Read more](#)

Calls (soon) open for submission*

- [Four ERA-NET joint call on circularity in mixed crop and livestock farming systems](#) – call opens in **February**;
- [JPND linking pre-diagnosis disturbances call](#) - closing date pre-proposals: **2 March**, full proposals: **29 June**;
- [JPIAMR One Health interventions call](#) - closing date pre-proposals: **2 March**, full proposals: **19 June**;
- [ERA-NET Cofund CORE Organic 3rd call](#) - closing date proposals: **8 March**;
- [ERA-NET MarTERA 4th call](#) - closing date pre-proposals: **26 March**, full proposals: **10 September**;
- [HDHL-INTIMIC STAMIFY call](#) - closing date pre-proposals: **31 March**, full proposals: **22 July**;
- [ERA-HDHL FOOD_HYPERSENS call](#) - closing date proposals: **8 April**;
- [ForestValue 2nd call](#) - closing date proposals: **13 April**;
- [ERA-NET Cofund ENUTC 1st call](#) - closing date pre-proposals: **15 April**, full proposals: **June**;

*Please note that submission deadlines may be subject to change, especially in pre-announcements of calls.

Upcoming Activities



PRIMA virtual info day

The Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area; PRIMA, is organising their virtual info day for the launch of the 2021 calls on the 16th of February 2021. More information on the calls themselves, as well as additional information on the event will be available soon.

[Read more](#)



Seminar on science-based policy advice in agriculture, food, climate and environment

Science-based policy advice is in high demand, but can also be subject of heated debates. In order to provide a forum for exchange on science-based policy advice, Aarhus University and the European Science Advisors Forum (ESAF) are organising a 1st trans-European seminar on the 16th and 17th of March, in order to facilitate exchange of experiences, challenges and best practices.

[Read more](#)



Workshop on Partnership preparation

ERA-LEARN supports research funders, policy makers and researchers with information and services on research and innovation partnership initiatives. On the 4th of March, an online webinar is organised to support the preparation of co-funded European Partnerships. It will be the first of a series, and in this one, the focus will be on presenting the status quo, clarifying open questions and facilitating a first exchange on experiences.

[Read more](#)



EIP-AGRI seminar on Healthy soils for Europe

On the 13th and 14th of April, EIP AGRI will organise the seminar 'Healthy soils for Europe: sustainable management through knowledge and practice'. The overall aim is to raise awareness and address practical soil management challenges and solutions to enhance soil health, to exchanging practical solutions to soil health problems, and discuss what needs to be done for farms to take them up. An application to participate is welcome until the 14th of February.

[Read more](#)

Events Calendar

[The events calendar](#) displays events related to Joint Programming and / or the Bioeconomy. Is your event not in our calendar yet? Please e-mail the details to jointprogramming@wur.nl

Upcoming events:

10 February	Final CIRCASA meeting, <i>invitation only</i>
16 February	PRIMA virtual info day
23 February	Kick-off meeting research projects of the SUSFOOD2 - CORE Organic joint call, <i>invitation only</i>
4 March	ERA-LEARN Workshop on Partnership preparation
16-17 March	Seminar on science-based policy advice in agriculture, food, climate and environment
13-14 April	EIP AGRI seminar on Healthy Soils for Europe, <i>application-based</i>
20-21 April	6 th HDHL International Conference
2021	FACCE ERA-GAS Stakeholder Event and final Research Programme Meeting - <i>postponed</i>

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Dorri te Boekhorst
Policy advisor

Ideas for the website or the newsletter? | Suggestions for news items? | Questions about joint programming?

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