

## Joint Programming Newsletter 24 April 2019

Incl. SusAn mid-term research project seminar, SCAR meta-analysis of forecast-studies, and pre-announcement of new CORE Organic-SUSFOOD2 joint research call

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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 over sixty active ERA-NETs, six Article 185 initiatives, ten Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs), and four European Joint Programme Cofunds (EJPs); for an overview see our website [jointprogramming.nl](http://jointprogramming.nl). This monthly newsletter provides in a nutshell up-to-date information for scientists, (research) policy actors, and other stakeholders.*

Newsletter 24 April 2019

### About us

The joint programming officers at Wageningen University & Research follow ERA policy and strategy, the JPIs, EJPs, Art. 185 and ERA-NET Actions, with a focus on those in the areas of the bioeconomy, food, and the blue and green environment. To support WUR and its Science Groups in engaging in the public research partnerships we provide information, liaise on the national as well as the European level and ensure direct involvement. We work on alignment, valorisation and joint activities in FACCE-JPI, the International Bioeconomy Forum and other research programming initiatives. Furthermore, we established a platform of bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions, support the EU Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) to increase visibility and European policy impact, and are academic member in the European Bioeconomy Stakeholders Panel of DG RTD. You can follow us on [Twitter](#) and contact us at [jointprogramming@wur.nl](mailto:jointprogramming@wur.nl).

### Editorial: Towards a circular agriculture through collaboration and knowledge valorisation

Sustainable food security, the restoration and maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and the development of mitigation and adaptation strategies for climate change are large-scale societal issues. Considering their immense complexity and the magnitude of their social, environmental, and economic impact, these issues can only be resolved through multi-stakeholder collaboration. Suggestions for practical solutions to some of these issues are not always easy to implement because they might come as trade-offs. Therefore, alignment of research policies, research programmes and the valorisation and dissemination of research findings from universities and organisations across Europe is critical for avoiding duplication of research, minimizing costs, and, ultimately, achieving a resilient and circular European agri-food sector. Examples of such alignment are public-to-public transnational collaborations that exist throughout Europe. The ERA-NET on sustainable animal production; SusAn, recently held their mid-term research project seminar in Wageningen. The research projects showcased their preliminary results and explained how this can contribute towards a more sustainable and circular animal production sector. The research aims at solutions for multiple challenges, like improving animal welfare *and* animal production efficiency, or reduction of agricultural greenhouse gas emissions *and* production systems that will meet societal acceptance. Impact of such

research comes through innovations at the farm level. A multi-stakeholder approach ensures involvement of the relevant stakeholders from the onset of research, starting as early as in the design phase. There is also need for involvement of stakeholders at other stages. The valorisation and communication activities of the Joint Programming Initiative on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change (FACCE-JPI) have the central goal to connect to the relevant stakeholders and support research to have impact. That starts with smart and user-friendly communication. To this end, FACCE-JPI will launch a new website that will have a clean interface and intuitive and consistent navigation to assist the interested audience (i.e. researchers and policy makers) in finding relevant information easy and quick. A next, vital step is in the co-development of engaging workshops together with other FACCE-JPI partners and stakeholders to foster policy dialogue and to strengthen the link between researchers and policy makers. Knowledge transfer from science to society can be challenging but it is also critical because the adoption of science-based solutions to these complex issues by the society will depend largely on the way science is designed, communicated and valorised.



Filippos Zisopoulos, Valorisation & Communication FACCE-JPI  
Corporate Strategy and Accounts

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### Provisional agreement reached on Horizon Europe

In the March' trilogue between European Commission, Council and Parliament, a preliminary agreement has been reached on the content of the Horizon Europe Regulation. This agreement is on the general part and it does not involve partnerships. How these will take shape, and how they will be assembled, is one of the topics for further discussions in the coming time, as the Commission will start preparing implementation of Horizon Europe. The programme is set to launch on 1 January 2021.

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### Strengthening partnerships to accelerate SDG implementation

The Council of the European Union has adopted a set of conclusions titled: 'Towards an ever more sustainable Union by 2030'. They concern the implementation of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. The conclusions are the Council's response to a reflection paper published by the European Commission earlier this year. They underline importance of, and urgency for, accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. In its conclusions, the Council also reiterates the need for a *'well-organised and transparent participatory process to enhance collaboration [...] and to facilitate partnership involving the EU and its Member States, local and regional authorities, civil society, the private sector, academia, NGOs, social partners, citizens and other stakeholders [...]*'.

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### SCAR publishes foresight studies meta-analysis

The Foresight Group of the Standing Committee of Agricultural Research (SCAR) has recently published an analysis into relevant and recent foresight and horizon scanning studies. This analysis is conducted as input for the 5th upcoming Foresight study: 'Natural resources and food systems: Transition towards a 'safe and just' operating space'. The analysis identifies commonalities and divergences, reliable trends and main uncertainties, contrasting social, political and economic scenarios that will provide a background for the Foresight experts.

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## Baltic bioeconomy and EU research policy

A high-level meeting to inform policy makers, institute directors, experts, and stakeholders involved in agricultural research and innovation, was organised in Riga by the Latvian Academy of Sciences and the three Baltic Agricultural Ministries, supported by SCAR CASA. The aims were to inform on policy making, to strengthen cooperation, and to foster Baltic engagement in European research policy making.

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## PRIMA presented in the European Parliament

On April 4<sup>th</sup>, the long-term Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA), presented itself to the Members of the European Parliament and the Commission. The event confirmed the attention of European Institutions and Member States towards the partnership, given the relevance of food security and water scarcity in the Mediterranean area. The Co-chairs encouraged European Member States and PRIMA Participating States, as well as relevant EU Institutions, to join their forces to ensure for the Initiative the necessary long-term support.

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## Water JPI presents policy brief at World Water Day

On Friday 22 March; World Water Day, the Joint Programming Initiative on 'water challenges for a changing world' (Water JPI) presented its first Policy Brief on Contaminants of Emerging Concerns (CECs). It highlights water contaminants such as antibiotic resistant bacteria travelling via irrigation waters, new mobile chemicals, and microplastics in water. The policy brief, titled: *What is contaminating our waters next?*, is a compilation of the results of seven high-level transnational research projects, funded by the Water JPI. The paper was produced in cooperation between the funded projects, the Water JPI community, the Water JPI Advisory Boards and high-level stakeholders. The key messages were presented at the Water JPI International Conference in 2018 in Helsinki.

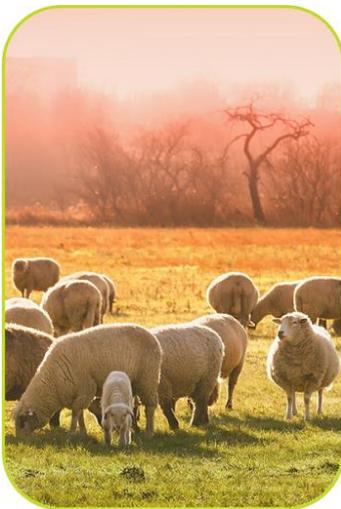
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## JPI Urban Europe's SAB publishes paper on addressing SDG challenges

The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) of the Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe has published a paper in the journal *Sustainability*, as part of their special issue on Urban Transformations Towards Sustainability. The article summarizes critical reflections upon the work and the achievements of JPI Urban Europe during the last five years and presents the requirements and challenges of urban transitions towards sustainability from the perspective of the SAB.

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## SusAn mid-term research project seminar in Wageningen

On the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of April, the ERA-NET SusAn mid-term Research Project Seminar took place in Wageningen, The Netherlands. SusAn partners, policy makers and researchers from fifteen different European countries were present. At the meeting, the fourteen research projects of the first co-funded call were showcased and the involved researchers explained how their project could contribute to a more sustainable animal production. The seminar also included sessions on stakeholder involvement, valorisation of knowledge and the development of a SusAn Strategic Research Agenda on sustainable animal production.

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## NewHoRRIZon Social Lab' pilot actions in food area

Funded by the EC, NewHoRRIZon is a project that aims at further integrating Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in the research and innovation systems on national and international levels. The core of the project are social labs, organised for each part of Horizon 2020. In February the second workshop for the food and bioeconomy area took place in Tromsø and currently four pilot actions are being elaborated, including one on stakeholder involvement in joint programming.

[Read more](#)

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## Joint Research

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### **SUSFOOD2 and CORE Organic join forces in future call**

The ERA-NETs held a first Joint Call Board Meeting on 2 and 3 April 2019 in Brussels to further strengthen their cooperation. Following a joint exploratory workshop in June 2018, the networks have received funding commitments from eighteen countries/regions that will enable them to join forces in a transnational call to be launched in September 2019. This upcoming call will provide possibilities for new research partnerships relevant for both organic and sustainable food sectors to enable the transition towards sustainable and organic food systems in the future.

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### **Joint research on climate impacts and pathways for sustainable transformation**

The JPI Climate ERA-NET AXIS (Assessment of Cross(X) - sectoral climate Impacts and pathways for Sustainable transformation) will fund 10 of the submitted 40 full proposals. These proposals address climate impact research and connect it to societal needs. The total budget is between 15,7 and 17,5 million. In six out of ten funded calls Dutch researchers participate, one project of which is based at Wageningen University and Research.

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### **MarTERA call for proposals well subscribed**

The ERA-NET Cofund MarTERA aims to strengthen the European Research Area in maritime and marine technologies and Blue Growth. Its 2019 call for (pre-)proposals closed on March 29th. A total of forty-seven pre-proposals, with consortia from all thirteen participating countries were received. The proposals comprise a total requested funding of EUR 56 million. The deadline for submission of full proposals is September 6th, 2019.

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## BlueBio joint call received strong response

The first call of the ERA-NET Cofund on the Blue Bioeconomy (BlueBio) focussed on projects that explore innovative, yet sustainable and climate-friendly utilisation of aquatic biomass at different trophic levels. The call required active involvement of industry. At the closing date of the call on March 17th, eighty-three project (pre-)proposals were submitted. At the beginning of June, pre-proposals will be selected and invited for full proposal submission afterwards. The deadline for full proposal submission is September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

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## Calls open for submission

- [AAL Sustainable Smart Solutions for Ageing well](#) – closing date proposals: **24 May 2019**
- [JPI Climate and JPI Oceans' 'Next Generation Science for Oceans' call](#) - closing date full proposals: **14 June 2019**

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## Upcoming Activities



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## Workshop on Diversifying Food Systems

On May 14<sup>th</sup>, the SCAR Strategic Working Group Food Systems (SCAR FS SWG) will organise a dissemination workshop in Paris. The aim of this workshop, titled: “Diversifying Food Systems in the Pursuit of Sustainable Food Production and Healthy Diets”, is to present a policy recommendations paper on how to promote diversity in food systems. The presented recommendations will be shared through interactive discussion with relevant stakeholders and Member States representatives of FACCE, HDHL and OCEANS JPI, the SUSFOOD2 ERA-NET, researchers, policy makers and external experts working in the area.

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## **Circularity and Resource Efficiency of Food Systems Conference**

This conference will take place under the Romanian Presidency of the European Council on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2019 in Bucharest. Its main aim is to raise awareness and strengthen international collaboration on sustainable production, consumption and food waste. Participants will be high-level policy makers, researchers and other food chain stakeholders from Romania and other European countries. The Conference is accompanied by two international side events. The Policy Lab workshop of Fit4Food2030 will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May, and the Governing Board Meeting of the Joint Programming Initiative on Food, Agriculture and Climate Change will be held the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> (FACCE-JPI Governing Board members only).

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## **FACCE Surplus addresses stakeholders at European Biomass Conference and Exhibition**

The ERA-NET FACCE Surplus will be present at the European Biomass Conference and Exhibition (EUBCE) that will take place from May 27 to 30 in Lisbon, Portugal. The ERA-NETs' projects in the first call will finish in 2019 and now is the time to address stakeholders in order to make further progress and to link the research to policies, farming practices and socio-economical aspects. The EUBCE, focussing on biomass experts, is a logical place to make this connection.

[Read more](#)



## **'Circular Bioeconomy Days' in Foulum coming up**

From 25 to 27 June 2019, the international conference on 'Circular Bioeconomy Days - new protein sources for Europe' will be organised at Aarhus University, in Foulum, Denmark. The event is focussed on the transition to circular bioeconomy and a central question is how companies, agriculture and aquaculture can enter into it while further developing the value to both industry and society. Participants will have the opportunity to meet decision-makers as well as researchers and entrepreneurs who work to develop the bioeconomy and sustainable protein sources of the future.

[Read more](#)

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## Events Calendar

This 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](mailto:jointprogramming@wur.nl)

[To the events calendar](#)

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### Upcoming events 2019:

14 May	Workshop on Diversifying Food Systems, Paris
17 May	JPI Climate Scoping Workshop Flagship action: Latin America, Helsinki
22 May	Circularity and Resource Efficiency of Food Systems Conference, Bucharest
22-24 May	1 <sup>st</sup> One Health EJP Annual Scientific Meeting, Dublin
23-24 May	ForestValue Kick-Off Seminar, Helsinki
27-30 May	European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, Lisbon
12 June	SCAR Conference, Brussels
12-14 June	ERA-GAS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Research Programming Meeting, Consortium Meeting and Summer School, Amsterdam
25-27 June	Circular Bioeconomy Days Conference, Foulum
23-24 Sept.	XXXIII EURAGRI Conference, Ghent
24-26 Sept.	European Research and Innovation Days, Brussels

## Joint Programming officers at Wageningen University & Research:



Christine Bunthof  
Manager  
Joint programming



Brenda Kuzniar  
Valorisation &  
Communication  
ERA-GAS / FACCE-JPI



Filippos Zisopoulos  
Valorisation &  
Communication  
FACCE-JPI



Joke de Lang  
News editor  
Joint programming



Dorri te Boekhorst  
Policy advisor  
Joint programming

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