

FLAG-ERA Activities

FET Flagship Board of Funders (BoF) meeting
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Outline of the presentation

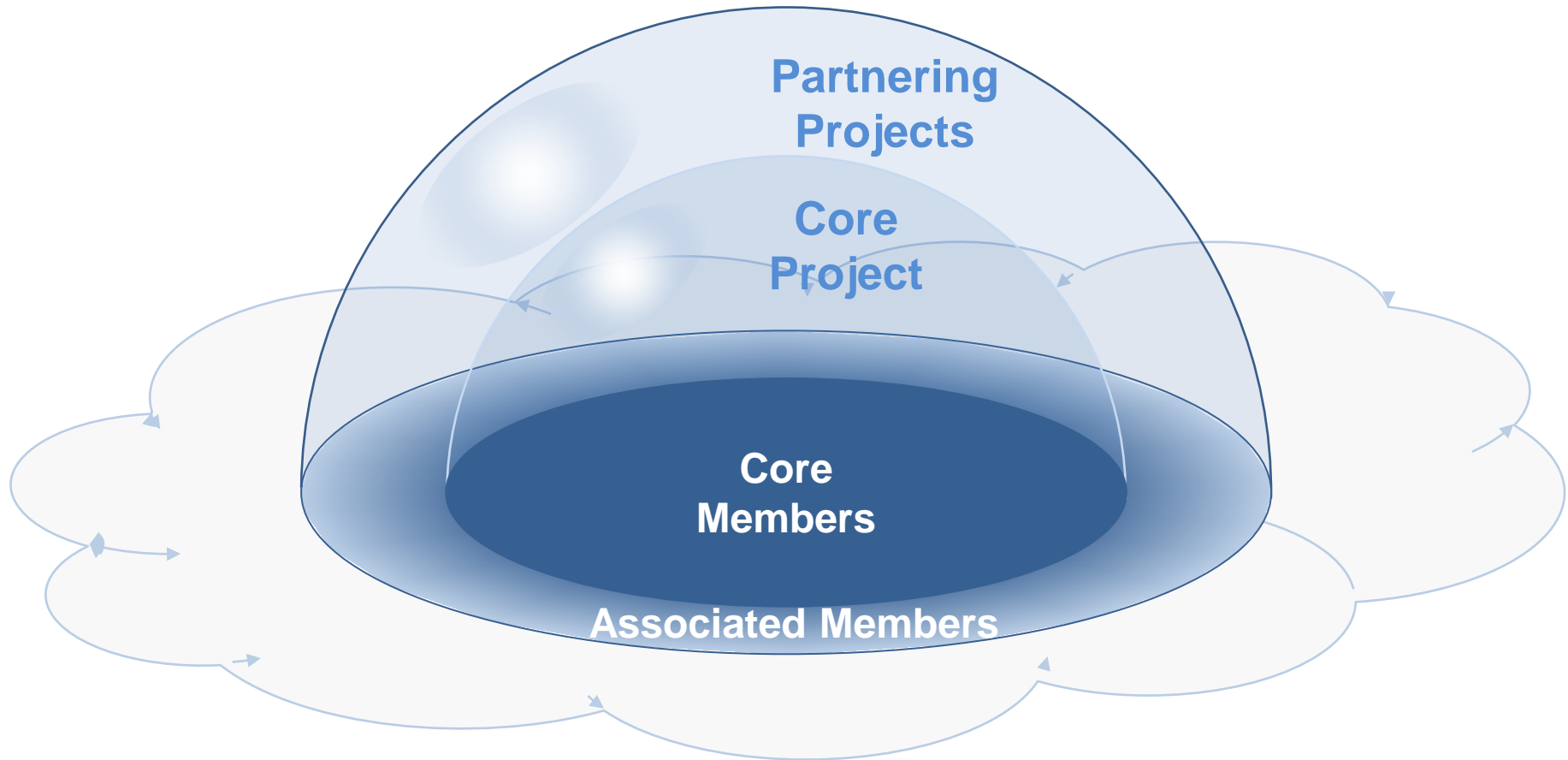
- What is FLAG-ERA?
 - Overarching goal: Combining efforts from multiple sources in Europe in a seamless way
- The FLAG-ERA consortium
- FLAG-ERA goals and activities
- National and regional funding for the Flagships
 - Existing calls & Flagship association mechanisms
 - Dedicated calls (with association mechanisms embedded)
 - The FLAG-ERA Joint Transnational Call (JTC) 2015
 - The foreseen Joint Transnational Call (JTC) 2017
- Support to the 4 Pilots: JTC 2016
- Perspectives

What is FLAG-ERA?

- FLAG-ERA is the FET Flagship supporting ERA-NET
 - A **network** of National and Regional Funding Organisations (NRFOs) in Europe and beyond
 - A **coordination and support action** supported by the European Commission (EC)
- Main goals
 - Set up, together with the two Flagship Core Projects and the EC, the **mechanisms** for using the existing national, regional and transnational calls in the framework of the Flagships
 - Launch **dedicated calls** such as the FLAG-ERA JTC 2015

<http://www.flagera.eu>

Combining efforts from multiple sources of funding in a seamless way



FLAG-ERA consortium

22 founding members from 17 countries



Virtually all European countries involved

Two levels:

- Strategic (ministries, national policy making)
- Operational (agencies, call implementation)

FLAG-ERA goals and activities

- Tightly connect NRFOs with each core project through a small liaison group, and regular workshops involving all stakeholders
- Set up mechanisms for integration of nationally or regionally funded research into the Flagship work plans
- Maintain an inventory of funding and scientific landscapes
- Analyse overlaps & gaps to adapt national/regional research agendas
- Launch dedicated transnational initiatives, for instance joint calls for allowing researchers from several countries to join simultaneously
- Network with potential new participants

For the 2 Flagships, while also offering support to the 4 non selected Pilots

- Foster international cooperation beyond Europe
- Set up mechanisms for the whole Flagship duration (10 years)

Funding through existing calls & the Flagship association mechanisms

- Total funding available through existing national and regional calls in the domain of the Flagships is estimated to be of about the same size as the Core Project funding
- Flagship members and potential new members can apply to these calls
 - while explaining how the proposed work complements the Flagship current work plan and the added value of integrating the proposed work in the Flagship work plan
- Accepted projects can then be formally associated to the Flagship
 - www.flagera.eu/flagship-association-mechanisms
 - www.graphene-flagship.eu/
 - www.humanbrainproject.eu/

Dedicated Calls: FLAG-ERA JTC 2015

- **Joint call for transnational research proposals in synergy with the two FET Flagships**
 - Graphene Flagship
 - Human Brain Project
- Funding both Core Project members and new partners (expected to become Associated Members of the Flagship)
- 14 participating countries
- Indicative budget: 18,5 M€
- Submission deadline: January 27th, 2015
- Publication of results: September 2015

An ERA-NET call tuned for the Flagships

- A fine balance between the goal of selecting projects in synergy with the Flagships and the need for independence
 - Scientific call text based on the Flagship inputs
 - Validated by the funding organisations
 - Evaluation by an independent Scientific Evaluation Panel
 - “Level of potential synergies with the Flagship” is an evaluation criterion
 - Information about potential synergies requested at submission time
 - Evaluated by the Scientific Evaluation Panel
 - Check for unforeseen issues with the association by Flagship representatives before publication
 - Formal association process after publication
- A transnational collaboration context provided by the Flagship
 - 3-country rule adapted to offer the possibility to request funding in only two countries while partnering with a Flagship Core Project member from a third one

Comparison of national calls & JTC

National and regional calls	JTC 2015
Support both Core Projects members and new (associated) members	
Synergy with the Flagship can be a plus for the evaluation	Strong synergy with the Flagship is favoured (synergy is an evaluation criterion)
No constraint	At most half of partners can be led by Flagship PIs
Funding requested in 1 country	Funding requested in 2+ countries
All countries have calls	Only some countries participate
Larger budgets overall	Smaller budgets
Compete with all proposals in the domain	Compete only with proposals fitting the JTC constraints

JTC 2015 participating countries

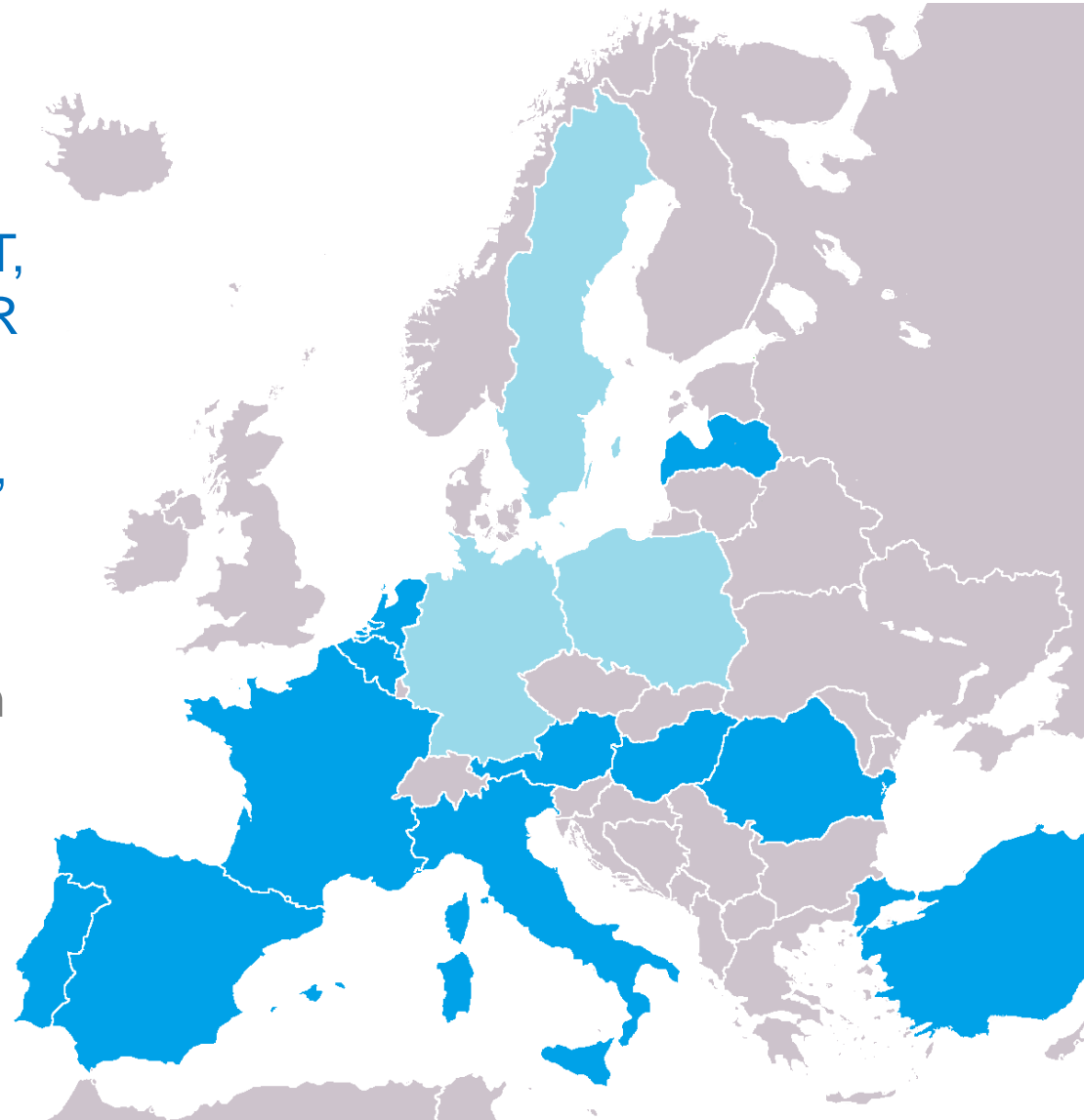
Graphene:

AT, BE, DE, ES, FR, HU, IT,
LV, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, TR

HBP:

AT, BE, ES, FR, HU, IT, LV,
NL, PT, RO, TR

Researchers from other
countries can participate in
a project if they secure
their own funding



JTC 2015 outcome main figures

- 19 projects recommended for funding out of 108 submissions ($19/108 = 18\%$ selection rate)
 - Graphene: $13/78 = 17\%$
 - HBP: $6/30=20\%$
- 13.5 M€ total funding ($13.5/18.5 = 73\%$ consumption rate)
 - Graphene: $9.9/11.6 = 86\%$
 - HBP: $3.6/6.9 = 52\%$
- 12 countries involved out of 14 participating to the call
 - Graphene: 12/14
 - HBP: 6/11
- 5 other countries involved in project consortia
 - Graphene: 3
 - HBP: 2

JTC 2017

- In the framework of FLAG-ERA II
 - ERA-NET Cofund
 - 8 M€ in WP2016-2017
 - To be submitted to the EC by March 1st, 2016
- Main expected changes compared to JTC 2015
 - Some simplifications from the lessons learned
 - To be discussed with all stakeholders
 - More countries, larger call
 - Target 20+ M€ (~50% increase)
 - Going toward innovation
 - Two categories for each topic, for research and for innovation projects
 - Two sets of funding organisations and budgets
 - Innovation oriented funding organisations are most welcome

JTC 2016 on the topics of the 4 Pilots

- To build on the efforts of the 4 non-selected Flagship Pilots
- Main goal: For each of the 4 topics, support one project
 - Able to federate other efforts (core project model)
 - Highly transformative in the way research in the topic is done
- Call text under preparation
- Expected launch in November 2016

Perspectives

- Publish the detailed description of the association mechanisms and put them into daily practice
- Publish results of the JTC 2015 and prepare grant agreements and Flagship association agreements
- Launch the JTC 2016 for the 4 Pilots
- Develop a more comprehensive and shared vision of the scientific and funding landscape
- Integrate into the new governance (Board of Funders and Flagship Governance Forum)
- Work with TAIPI for impact assessment and information dissemination towards policy makers
- Prepare FLAG-ERA II and JTC 2017



Thank you for your attention

more information on

www.flagera.eu