

ERA CoBioTech:

Final Seminar of the research projects
funded in the 4. Joint Call of ERA-IB-2

ERA-Net Cofund on Biotechnologies is an ERA Net Cofund Action under Horizon 2020 that builds upon the achievements of ERA-IB2 (ERA-Net for Industrial Biotechnology 2), ERASysAPP (ERA-Net for Applied Systems Biology) and ERASynBio (ERA-Net for Synthetic Biology).

On 11 May 2017, in the Representation of North Rhine Westphalia to the European Union in Brussels, ERA CoBioTech organized a final seminar for projects funded in the 4th ERA-IB-2 Joint Call. The coordinators or representatives of the 9 transnational projects funded with ca. 14 M€ through ERA-IB-2 presented the results achieved during the last 3 years of

“ERA-net type of projects suit very well the needs of research institutes and universities, by creating a real collaborative way of working with companies and research organizations, with a consortium of reasonable and practical size”

Matti Siika-aho (VTT, Finland) - coordinator of project ELMO

interdisciplinary research, pointing out to the progress achieved in the development of innovative biotechnological processes and/or products with applications in the food industry, biofuel production, medicine and pharmacy, among others. A variety of biotechnological approaches were exploited, such as engineering of bacteria, yeasts, plants and animal cells to produce bioactive compounds, design of novel enzymes for industrial processes, discovery of new pathways for utilizing waste feedstock from biodiesel production and development of innovative capture techniques for recovery of valuable proteins. At the end

of each presentation, researchers shared with the ERA CoBioTech funders the experiences gained during the transnational collaborative work under ERA-Net projects.



The added value of ERA-NET projects as instruments to bring together expertise from academia and industry across Europe, joining efforts to work on the global societal challenges, was emphasized by all participants. In a special break out session the researchers discussed together with funders from ERA CoBioTech, which hurdles are hampering the transnational research collaboration within the ERA-NET scheme and how those could be overcome in ERA CoBioTech in order to increase the impact of the upcoming projects funded during the lifespan of ERA CoBioTech.

The ERA-Net offered us a platform to bring together experts from three different European countries, representing the complete value chain for the production of high value proteins from serum applying magnetic particles in combination with magnet technology.

Matthias Franzreb (KIT, Germany)- coordinator of project ProSeCa