Towards a European Research Area in Industrial Biotechnology

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What is ERA-IB?

- Network of 20 Research Funding organisations in Europe and Israel that have the ambition to:

Create a true European Research Area in the field of Industrial Biotechnology by:

- stimulating and supporting **coordination** and the development of a joint approach
- enhance **cooperation** between national and regional programmes
- increased **effectiveness** of research programming and management
- **joint activities** in the ERA-IB
- joint approach towards the **societal issues**

What is ERA-NET?

- An instrument financed by the European Commission (FP6)
- Cooperation and coordination of national or regional research activities including their mutual opening and implementation of joint activities.
- National research and innovation programmes should:
  - be strategically planned
  - be carried out at national or regional level
  - be financed and managed directly by national or regional public bodies

Why ERA-NET?

"Reduce fragmentation of research efforts made at national level in Europe"

Coordination because:

- Achieving **critical mass**, better use of scare resources
- **Join forces** to provide common answers
- Addressing **global issues**
- Developing **common approaches** (e.g. ethics, standards)
- Addressing specific **geographical issues**
- Speaking with **"one voice"**

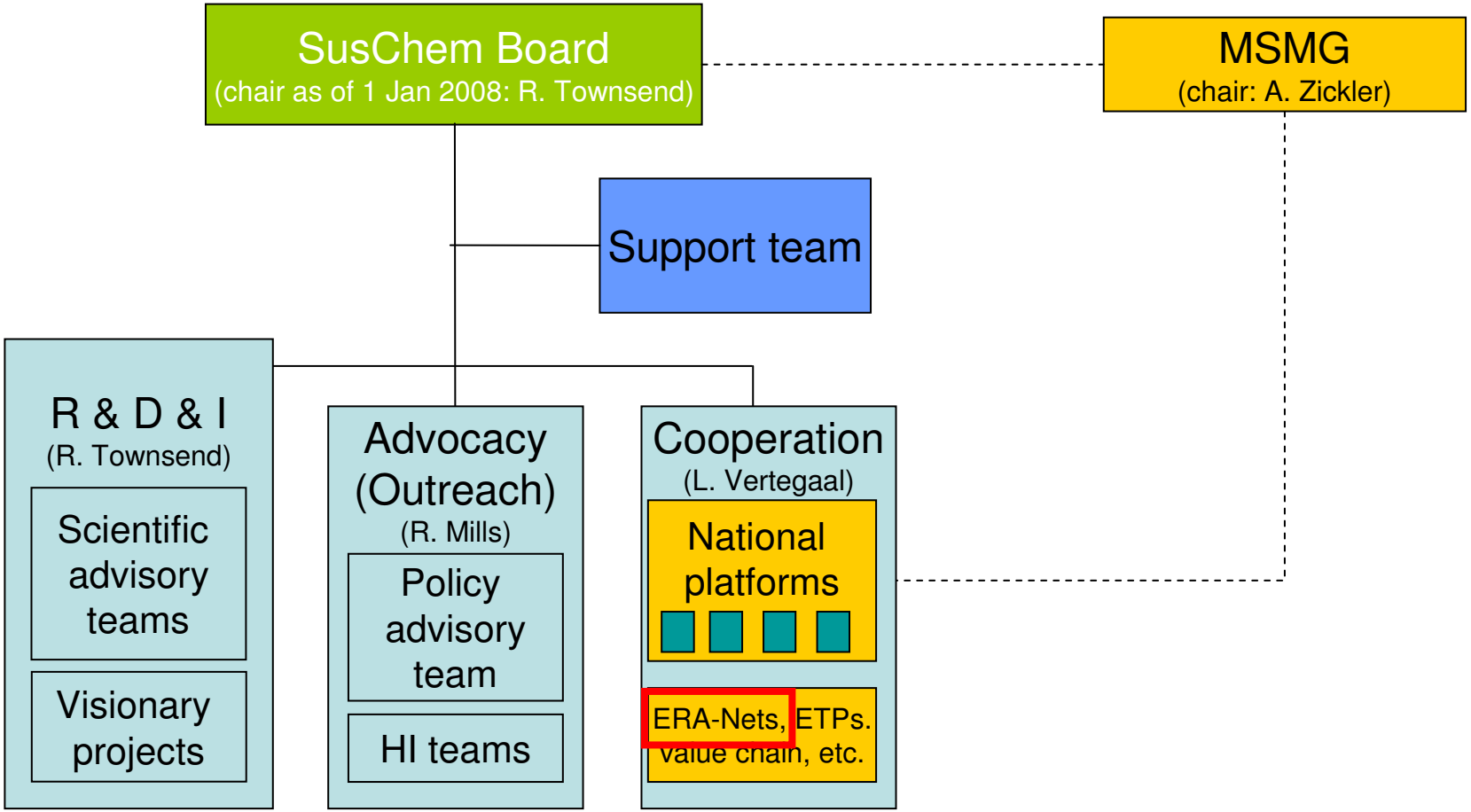
While ensuring:

- Avoid overlap and build up of expertise
- Exchange of good practices
- Access to expertise

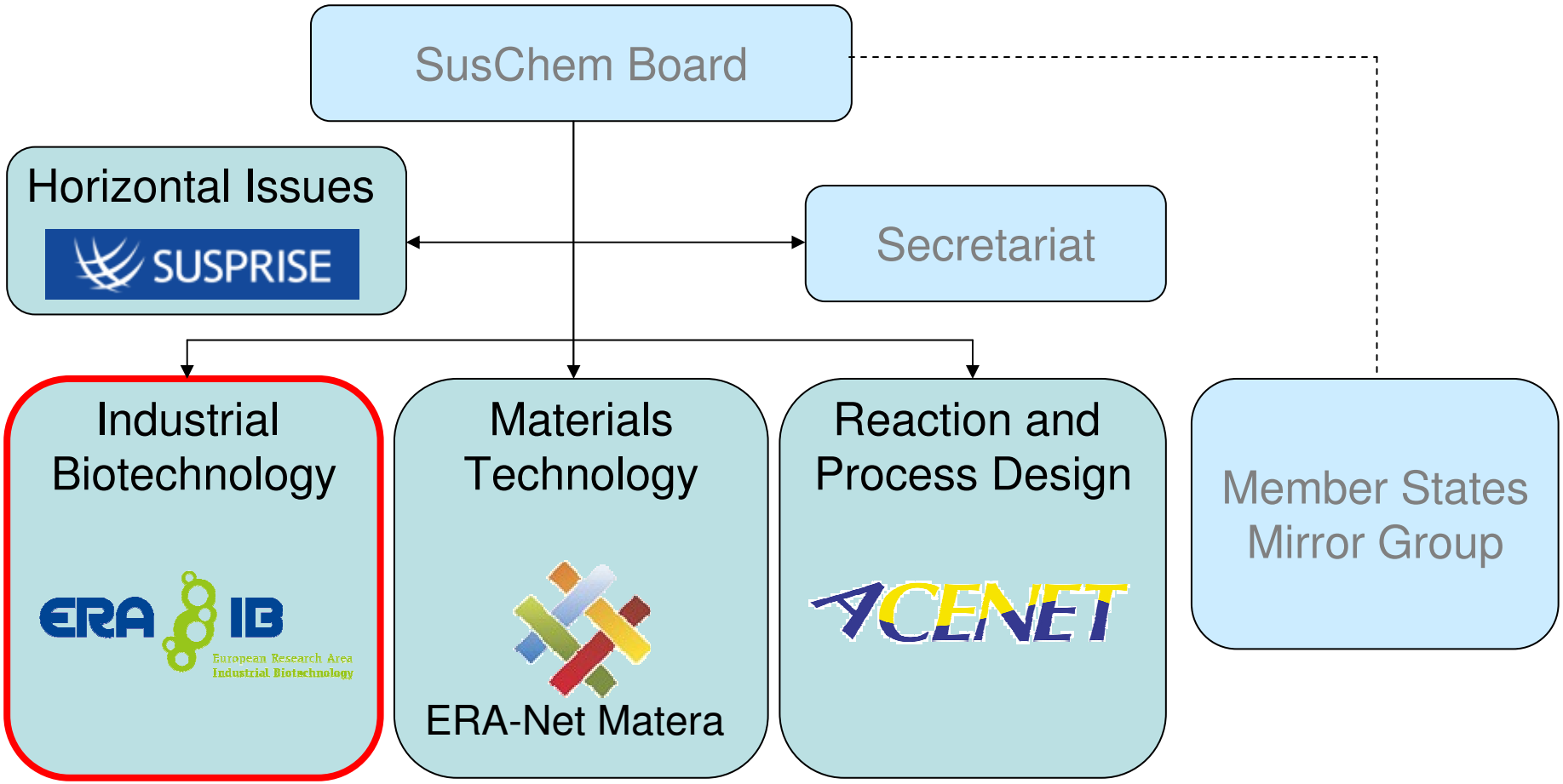
Why ERA-IB?

- IB: essential to transfer chemical (-related) industry to a sustainable sector
- IB: a key technology to reach the Lisbon objectives
- European chemical and biotechnology industry is united in the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry
- On national level IB is included in strategy and currently R&D policies are being defined and implemented
- Now coordination and cooperation on a European level is needed!

European level: SusChem New Board Structure



European level: Alignment with SusChem



Collaborations ERA-IB

EuropaBio
The European Association for Bioindustries

ACENET

ERA Bioenergy

SusChem
European Technology Platform For SUSTAINABLE CHEMISTRY

ERA-CHEMISTRY

ERA-NET PathoGenoMics

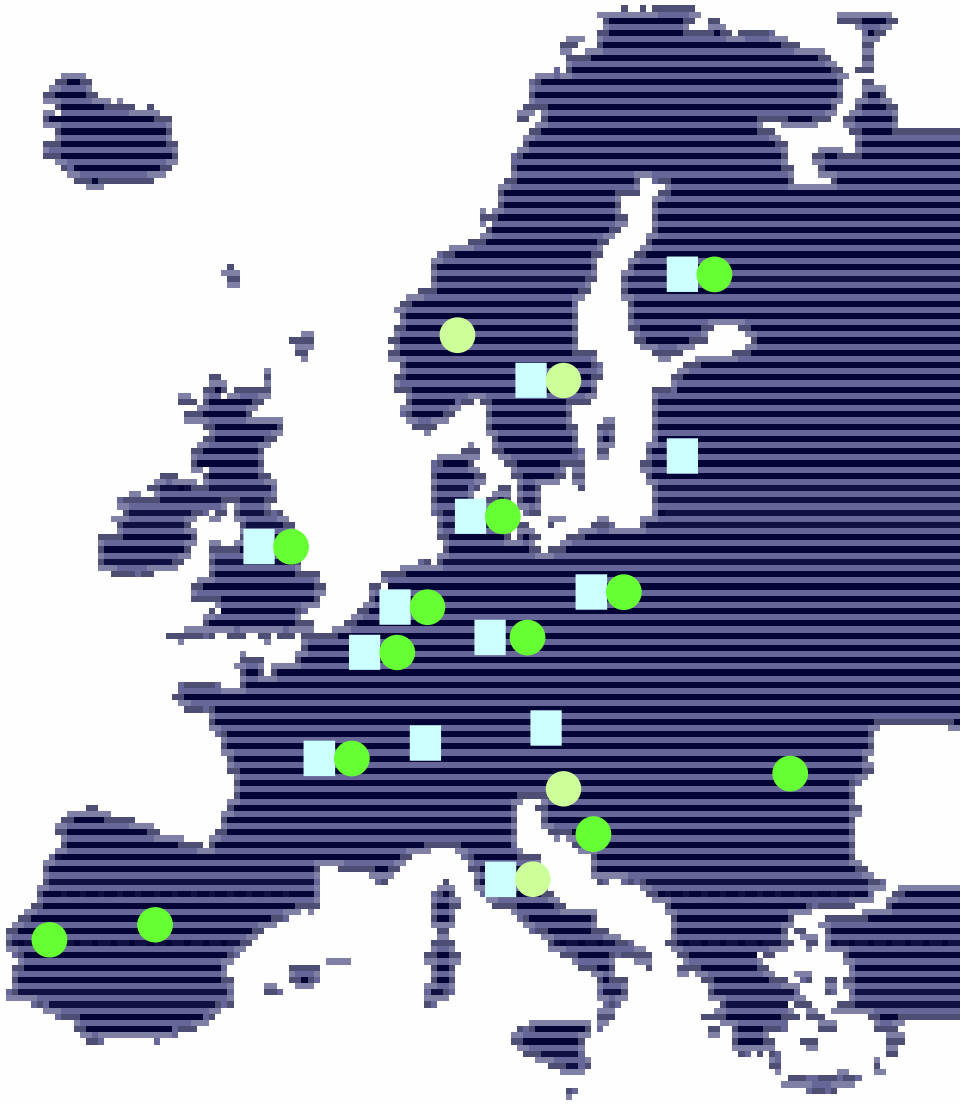
ERASysBio

ESAB
Section on Applied Biocatalysis

ERA-NET PLANT GENOMICS

Euro Trans Bio

National level:
Alignment with national programmes



- Member states activities SusChem
- ERA-IB partner
- ERA-IB observer

Israel

Partners ERA-IB


NWO – The Netherlands


MEC / FECyT - Spain


ADEME -France


CNMP - Romania


FCT - Portugal


MSES - Croatia


BMBF/FZJ/FNR*/SMUL* - Germany


CSO-MOH / MOST - Israel


DTI/UoY* - UK


MSHE / TUL /
Nat. Res. Center* - Poland


DASTI - Denmark


BelSPO - Belgium


TEKES – Finland*

Observers: Slovenia, Norway, Sweden, Italy

*** Intended partners starting Nov. 1st 2007**

Approach ERA-IB

ERA-IB brings together the most important countries in Industrial Biotechnology. The aims of the consortium will be achieved in a four step approach:

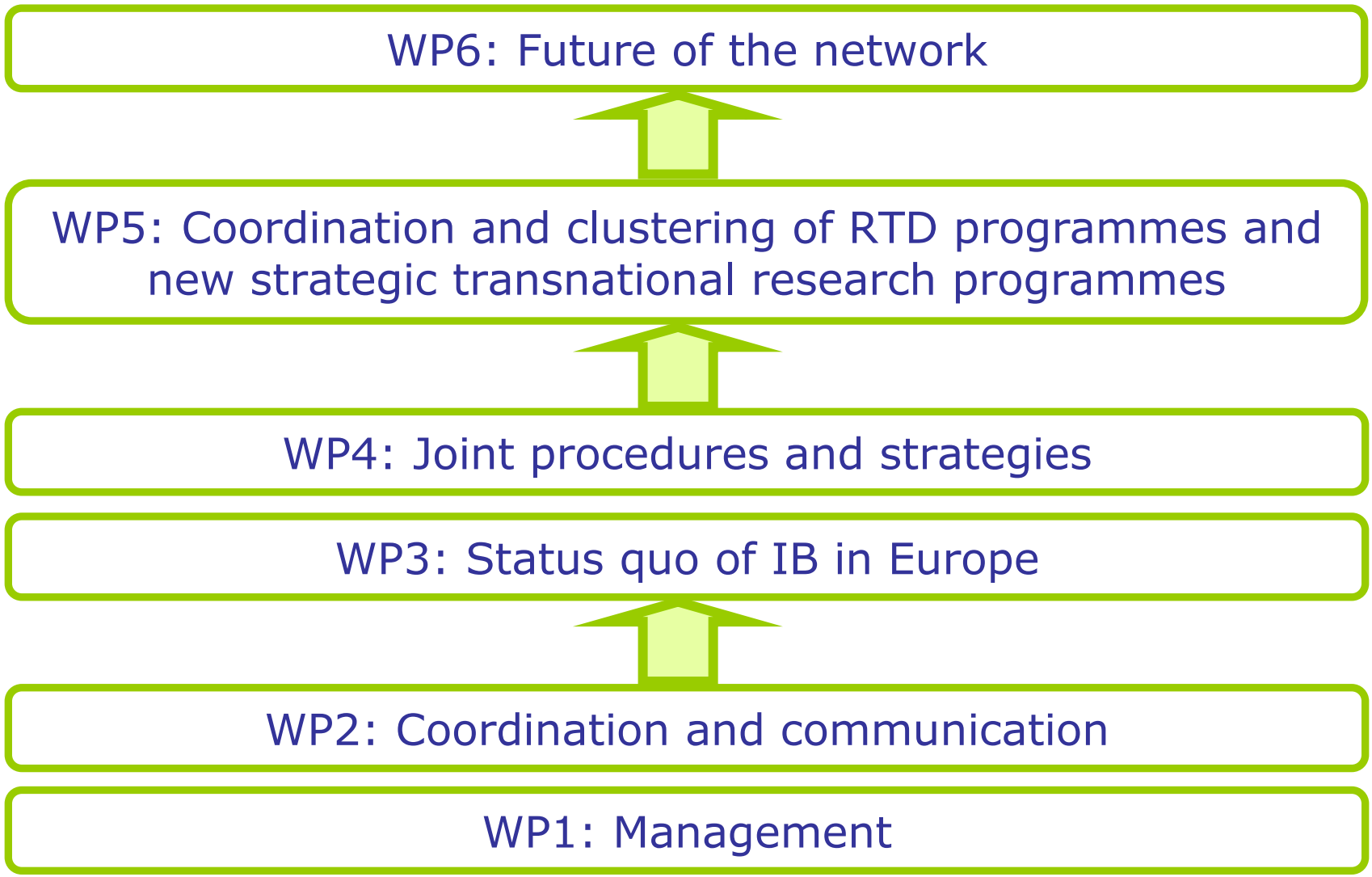
1. Systematic exchange of information and best practices, resulting in a status quo of IB in Europe

2. Strategic actions towards joint procedures and strategies

3. Joint strategic activities between national research programmes

4. Development of new transnational research programmes, in close cooperation with section IB of ETP-SusChem

Implementation plan ERA-IB



ERA-IB 1st Joint Call

"Industrial biotechnology for Europe: an integrated approach"

Aims:

- Establishing cross-border partnerships between industrial and academic IB research
- Improving and accelerating technology transfer
- Strengthening European efforts to achieve sustainable industrial development

Project duration:

- 3 years

Participating ERA-IB partners

NWO – The Netherlands

NCBiR - Poland

MEC - Spain

DASTI - Denmark

ADEME -France

BelSPO - Belgium

FCT - Portugal

TEKES – Finland

FNR and SMUL - Germany

Consortia criteria

- Organisations must be eligible for funding by the ERA-IB partners that participate in the call
- Minimum of 3 organisations
- Maximum of 10 organisations
- From minimum 3 different countries participating in the call
- Industrial involvement is highly encouraged

Topics

Funding will be offered to excellent, innovative, industrially relevant R&D and applied research projects. Applications should integrate **several of the below given topics** of Industrial Biotechnology into the proposal:

- *Novel enzymes and microorganisms for new and more efficient bioprocesses*
- *Metabolic engineering for the improvement of industrial microorganisms*
- *Enzyme design combining rational and or evolutionary methods*
- *Development of multi-enzyme processes and modular enzymes*
- *Microbial stress under process conditions*
- *Development of new platform chemicals, including biomonomers*
- *Development of new and functionalised biopolymers*
- *Process analytical technologies for improved bioprocess understanding*
- *Scale-up of bioprocesses*
- *Innovative down-stream processing and biocatalyst recycling*
- *Biotechnological upgrading and valorisation of biorefinery byproducts*

Financing and budget 1st Joint Call

Principle: *juste retour* i.e. each national/regional funding organisation funds its own researchers

Total budget: ~ 11.5 million €

National/regional budgets vary from 0.1 to 4 million €

Important dates and deadlines

Opening of the call for proposals	February 2008
ERA-IB Partnering Workshop	5 March 2008
Deadline for submission pre-proposals	31 March 2008
Communication of the results of the pre-proposal evaluation	Beginning of May 2008
Deadline for submission full proposals	30 June 2008
Communication of the funding decision	30 October 2008

More information

www.era-ib.net

ERA-IB Joint Secretariat:
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