

Project number 226160 – BS-ERA.NET

BS - ERA.NET

Networking on Science and Technology in the Black Sea Region

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Deliverable 1.2

Portfolio Analysis of research programmes targeting the Black Sea Region

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PU = Public

PP = Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services).

RE = Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services).

CO = Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services).

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Executive Summary

Deliverable 1.2 presents an overview of existing R&D programmes targeting the Black Sea region (BSR), lists programme owners who are active in the BSR and provides a first statistical analysis. Finally, conclusions are drawn in view of the development of a multilateral research programme for the target region in the frame of the BS-ERA.NET project.

1 Introduction

The main objectives of the **BS-ERA.NET project** concerning **“Networking on Science and Technology in the Black Sea Region”** is to **develop** and **strengthen** the coordination of public research programmes conducted at national and regional level; to **enhance** research cooperation in Europe by fostering integration of Black Sea Region into the European Research Area; to **extend** and **add** value to the existing science and technology co-operations and to develop a multilateral cooperation in the region; to **improve** interregional research cooperation; **contribute** to the EU-BS cooperation in science and technology;

The project aims at providing a framework for networking and mutual opening of national and regional research programmes which fosters concrete cooperation in the frame of a Black Sea Research Programme (BSRP). The BSRP will function as the basis for the development and implementation of joint R&D programmes and activities in the region.

Within the above context and as described in **Work Package 1/Task 1.2** (Analysis and interpretation of the identified RTDI national and regional Programmes including similar initiatives within EU), fact sheets for R&D programmes in and with the BS region have been collected. Those programme fact sheets contain basic information like aim and scope of the programme, funding conditions of the programmes and a link to the websites and contact persons of the programme owners.

The aim of Deliverable 1.2 is to present an overview of the existing R&D programmes targeting the Black Sea region, to list programme owners who are active in BSR and provide a first statistical analysis. The collected information will be analysed in later tasks of the BS-ERA.NET project and have a substantial impact of the concept for the BS-ERA.NET project pilot joint call. However, the analysed

data mainly picture the existing R&D programmes in the Black Sea Region, but do not reflect the available budgets of the programme, volume of funding and the number of funded projects under a programme. These questions which are fundamental to develop a funding concept were not in focus of the present report, but need to be addressed in later activities of the BS ERA.NET project.

The collected information within the scope of Deliverable 1.2 has been made publicly accessible in a web based database and addresses researchers from EU MS/AC and Black Sea countries which are interested in cooperation with each other.

2 Methods and References

In order to systematically collect the first set of information on programmes, a template for a "Fact Sheet for international S&T Programmes" was developed in close cooperation with the ERA.NET RUS project (Annex I). The Fact Sheet was addressed to programme owners in the BS.ERA.NET as well as to project partners and programme owners in the ERA.NET RUS consortium with the request to provide information and describe the main S&T funding programmes of EU Member States/Accession Countries, as well as Russian and other Black Sea countries. Especially those are targeted at that include a funding line for support of international S&T cooperation or which are specific bilateral or multilateral S&T funding programmes. After elaboration of a Fact Sheet template, it was sent out to the partners of BS ERA.Net consortium and of the ERA.NET RUS project, as well as to relevant external Programme owners. The answers were collected accordingly and are given in Annex II. For the statistical calculation bilateral and multilateral Programmes submitted more than once from the participating programmes owners have been treated as one programme but are give in Annex II separately.

3 Statistical analysis of existing R&D programmes

The following section shall give a general overview of the identified R&D programmes in and with the Black Sea Region. As a result, information on a total of 54 programmes from 18 different programme owners cooperating with Black Sea countries. Programmes with a major focus on Russia were not considered within the statistics, but are analysed within the ERA.NET RUS project (The Russian S&T funding system from the perspective of international cooperation, D 1.2.1).

3.1 Programme types

Four different Programme types can be found in international R&D cooperation. These programme types can be explained by the following:

- **National** – a national S&T funding programme, which is open for international participation;
- **Unilateral** – an international S&T funding programme, supporting international cooperation funded and implemented by one country. It supports international S&T cooperation of scientists situated in the funding country with scientists in certain target countries;
- **Bilateral** – an S&T funding programme supporting international cooperation, funded and implemented by the two countries,
- **Multilateral** – an S&T funding programme, supporting international cooperation funded and implemented by more than two countries.

Figure 1 shows that most of the programmes have a bilateral background (70%). Multilateral (16%), national (7%) and unilateral (7%) programmes have only a small percentage.

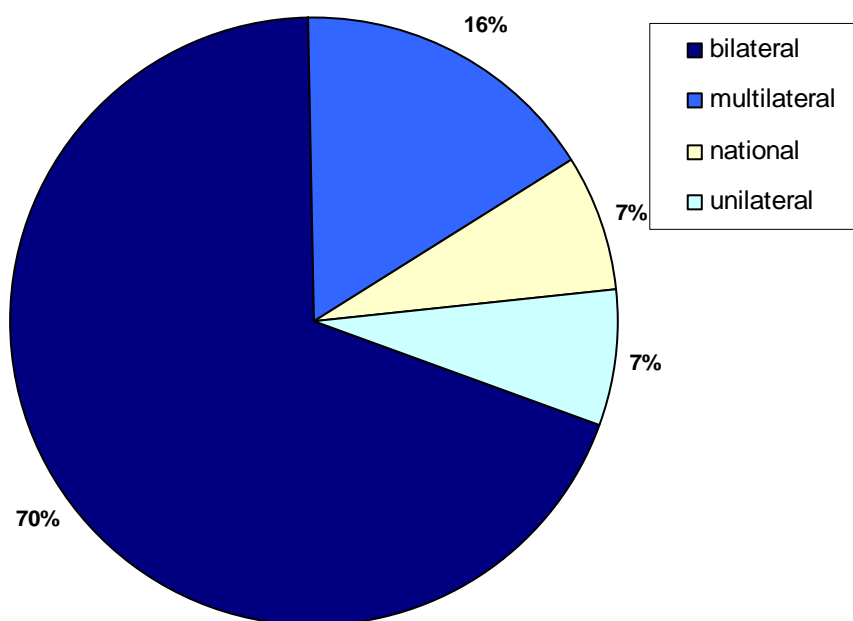


Fig. 1: Programme types

3.2 Cooperation pattern

In Figure 2, the pattern of cooperation of the BS-ERA.NET partners is portrayed. Bilateral programmes (down left corner) are depicted in green colours, and multilateral programmes (upper right corner) in blue, yellow, red and purple colours. The Figure shows clearly that non-Black Sea countries (Germany, France, Greece, Italy and Malta) use mainly bilateral programmes to cooperate with Black Sea countries and only a few bilateral programmes exist between the Black Sea countries themselves. Turkey, Ukraine and Romania have the highest number of bilateral programmes. However, Black Sea countries use (a few) multilateral programmes to cooperate among themselves and with EC MS /AC countries like Romania, Turkey, Greece and Italy, countries which are involved in bi- and multilateral programmes. Considering the regional coverage of in the existing multilateral programmes, the NATO Science for Peace Programme and the three BSEC programmes are the largest. The NATO Science for Peace Programme offers funding for all participating countries as they are NATO members, NATO Partner or Mediterranean Dialogue countries. The Central European Initiative offers two multilateral funding programmes with a regional focus on Central European and Western Balkan Countries including Moldova, Ukraine Bulgaria and Italy.

	Romania	Turkey	Azerbaijan	Armenia	Ukraine	Moldova	Georgia	Bulgaria	Germany	France	Greece	Italy	Malta
Romania		abc g	abc g	abc g	abcd g	abcd g	abc g	abcd fg	fg	g	abc g	dg	g
Republic of Turkey			abc g	abc g	abc g	abc g	abc g	abc g	g	g	abc g	g	g
Republic of Azerbaijan				abc g	abc g	abc g	abc g	abc g	g	g	abc g	g	g
Republic of Armenia					abc g	abc g	abc g	abc g	g	g	abc g	g	g
Ukraine						abcd g	abc g	abcd g	g	g	abc g	dg	g
Republic of Moldova							abc g	abc g	g	g	abc g	dg	g
Georgia								abc g	g	g	abc g	g	g
Republic of Bulgaria									fg	g	abc g	dg	g
Federal Republic of Germany										g	g	g	g
French Republic											g	g	g
Hellenic Republic												g	g
Italian Republic													g
Republic of Malta													

Bilateral Programme

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

Multilateral programme

The Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme (Black Sea JOP) and

The Project Development Fund (PDF) of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and

The BSEC Hellenic Development Fund (BSEC-HDF)

CEI Research Fellowship Programme (CERES) and CEI programme on Cooperation activities

Joint Operational Programme Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova

International Cooperation in Education and Research – Central, Eastern and South Eastern European Region

IATO Science for Peace (IATO, Partner and Mediterranean Dialogue countries) ¹

¹ IATO Science for Peace Programme covers participation of all indicated countries

national or unilateral Programmes not included

Black Sea country
Not Black Sea country

Fig. 2: Cooperation pattern of bi- and multilateral programmes in and with the BS Region (between BS ERA.NET partners)

3.3 Cooperation instruments

The obtained fact sheets were analysed considering their coverage of costs for Travel, Personnel, Consumables, Equipment, Conferences/Exhibitions and Dissemination. The results show a variety of combination of eligible costs (Fig. 3 and 4). Most of the programmes (21%) support travel costs, consumables and equipment. Travel and personnel costs as well as Conferences are funded by 18% of the programmes, whereas 12% of the programmes finance travel and personnel costs. A small portion of the programmes support travel and personnel costs (3%), another small part funds travel and personnel costs, consumables, equipment, Conferences and dissemination (3%); and the largest part of the programmes finance other combinations of eligible costs (21%).

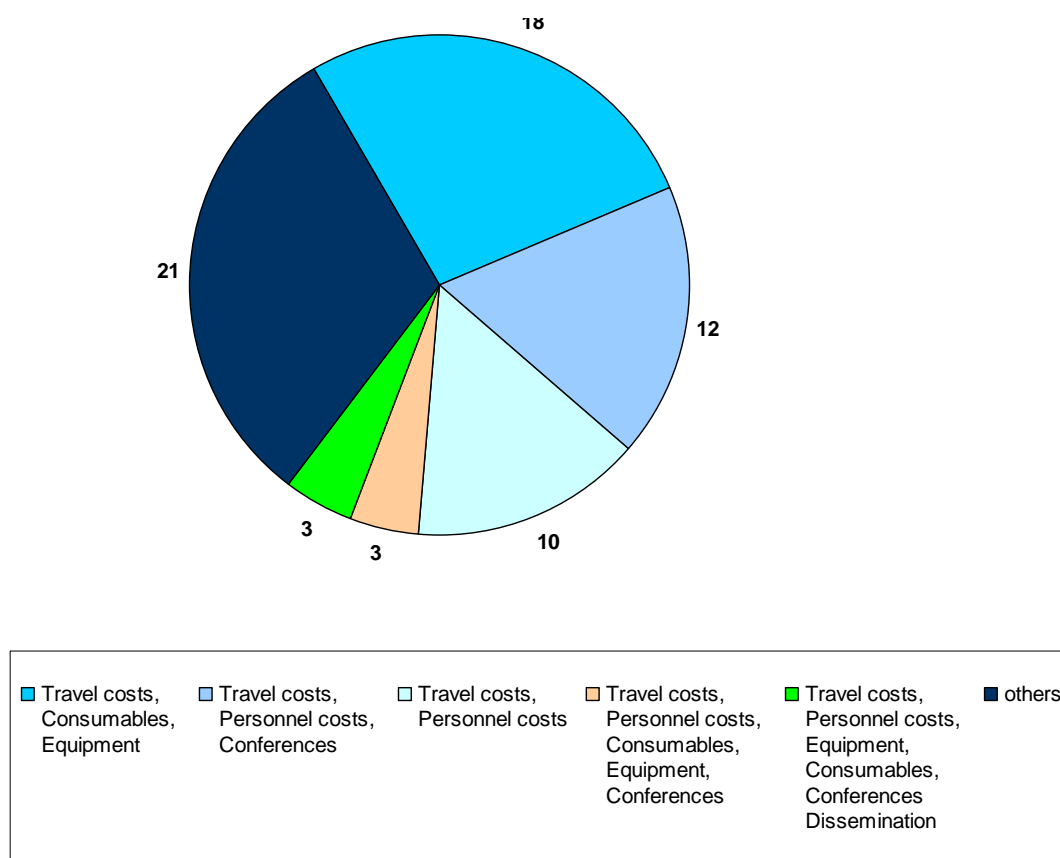


Fig. 3: Types and combination of eligible costs in the programmes.

Looking at the distribution of types of funding instruments in the programmes, Figure 4 shows that travel costs are being funded in 93% of the programmes. Personnel costs are supported in 60% of the programmes, whereas consumables (47%), equipment (44%) and Conferences (44%) are supported less. The smallest part of programmes finances dissemination activities (7%).

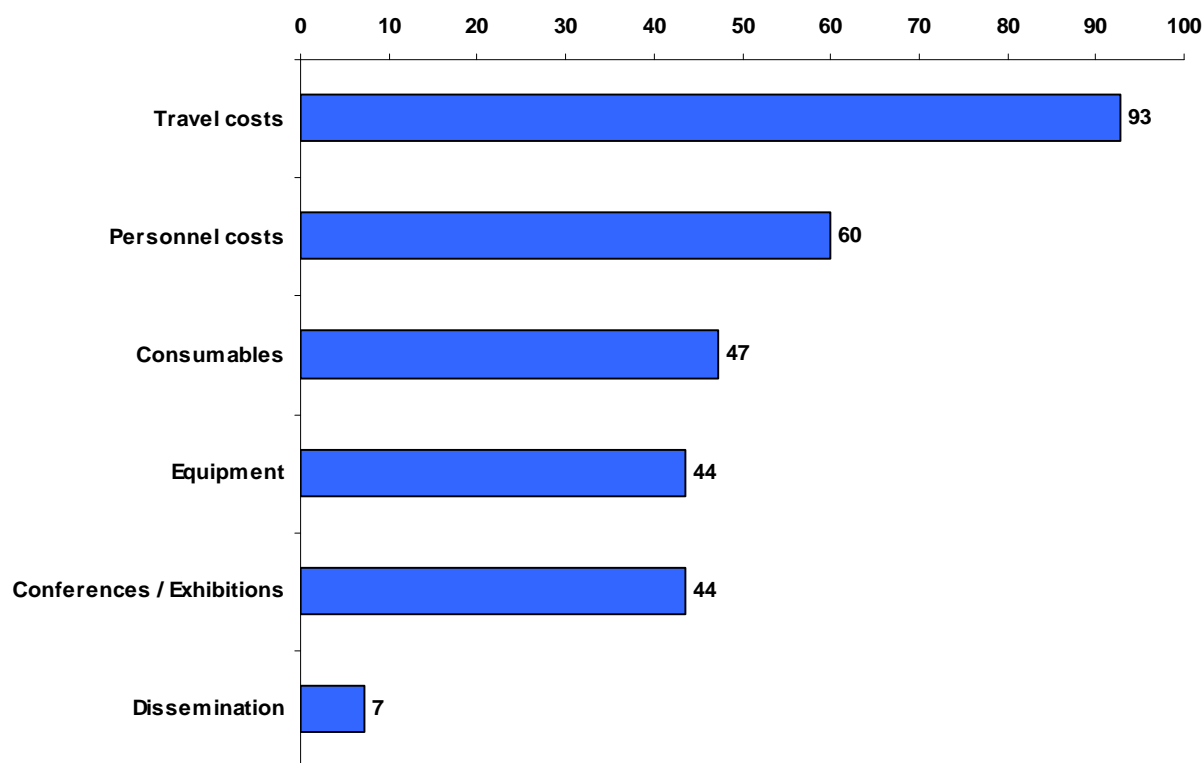


Fig. 4: Proportion of programmes attributed to types of supporting instruments (eligible costs).

3.4 Thematic priorities

The funding programmes and their thematic priorities are given in Figure 5. It illustrates that one third of the programmes are thematically open and no particular thematic priority is attributed to the calls. When it comes to the defined thematic fields in the programmes, Biology/Biotechnology (11%) and Energy/Energy Technologies (10 %) are represented the most, followed by Geosciences, Climate Research, Environmental Research/Technologies (9%), Medicine (8%) and Materials, Chemistry, Chemical Technologies (7%). In 6% of the programmes, the thematic priorities Economics, Social Sciences, Humanities and Informatics, Information Technology, Communication Technology are

funded. Physics, Physical Technologies are mentioned as thematic priority in 5% of the programmes, and Mathematics in 4%. Engineering (1%) and Aeronautics/Space (1%) play only a minor role.

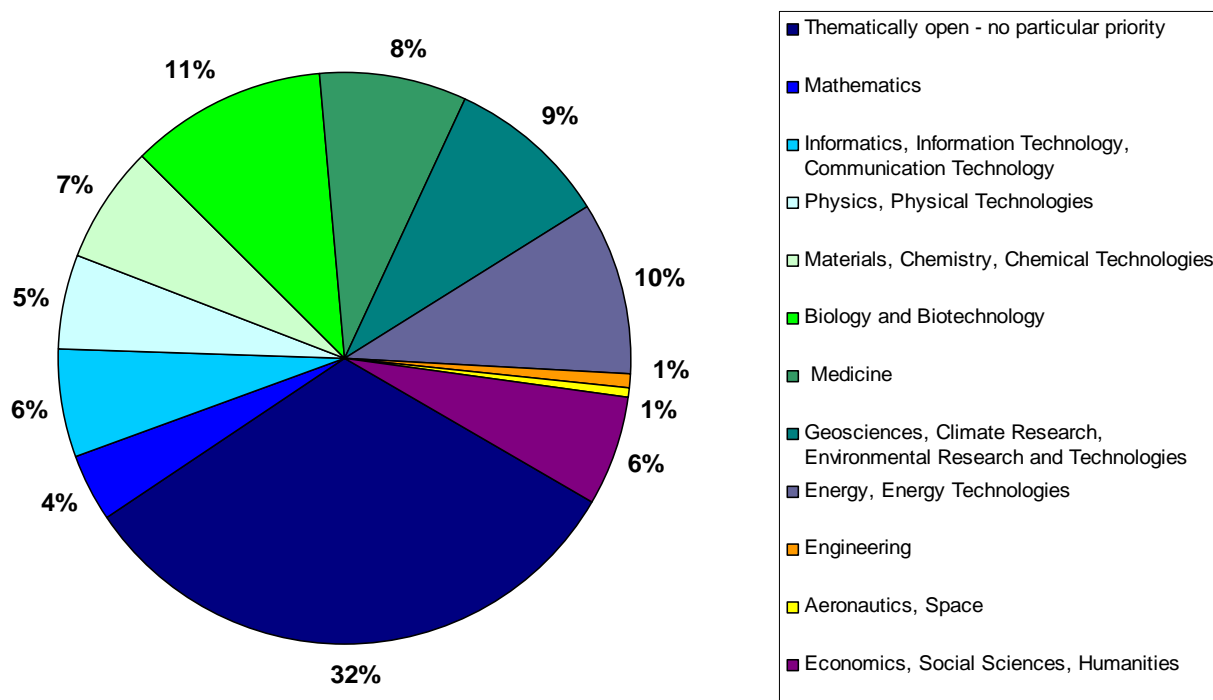


Fig. 5: Distribution of thematic priorities in the existing RD programmes in the BS region

4 Summary and conclusions

The presented data clearly show the dominance of bilateral R&D programmes in the Black Sea Region and a lack of R&D programmes funding multilateral projects. Surprisingly, bilateral links in R&D within the Black Sea Countries are not strong and the Black Sea Countries also tend to establish bilateral programmes with EC MS/AC countries. An implementation of a multilateral R&D programme with participation of Black Sea Countries and EC MS/AC enabling scientific exchange and joint scientific projects could therefore foster development and success in the regional scientific development for all participating parties.



The analysed data may also be helpful for designing a concept of this type of multilateral R&D programme. The eligible costs for the existing R&D programmes cover a broad range of funding opportunities. Almost all programmes fund mobility, but a specific small but flexible instrument seems to be missing. Funding of conferences and match making events has a low share in the existing funding opportunities. Improvement of this instrument could support the establishment and initiation of cooperation in and with the Black Sea Region.

Looking at the thematic priorities of the existing R&D programmes, it is obvious that 1/3 of the programmes have no thematic priority; the remaining programmes have a more or less even distribution in their thematic priorities. This could be a good fundament for linking the existing programmes with similar thematic priorities.

Annex I: Template of the Programme Fact Sheets

Annex II: Compilation of Programme Fact Sheets