



# "Firing up Europe" support of transnational bioenergy R&D via joint calls

Birger Kerckow, FNR, Germany 24.01.2020, Graz, BMVIT Event Highlights of Bioenergy Research in the frame of the 6<sup>th</sup> Central European Biomass Conference (CEBC)

### **ERA-NET Bioenergy**



## Network of national ministries and funding organisations with the aim to implement joint calls for Bioenergy R&D proposals

Mission: "Enhance quality and cost-effectiveness of European bioenergy research programmes through transnational coordination and cooperation"

\*\* Strengthen national programmes \*\* Promote EU collaboration\*\*

\*\*Produce higher-quality results \*\* Avoid duplication \*\*

#### **Funding**

- EU-FP6 from October 2004 to December 2010
- Since January 2011: self-funded
- Current Partnership agreement (MoU) until end of 2020

#### Consortium (currently 7 partners)



- FNR/DE: Agency for Renewable Resources
- RVO/NL: Netherlands Enterprise Agency
- SWEA/SE: The Swedish Energy Agency
- **BMVIT/AT**: Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation & Technology
- NCBR/PL: National Centre for Research and Development
- SFOE/CH: Swiss Federal Office of Energy
- Innovate UK

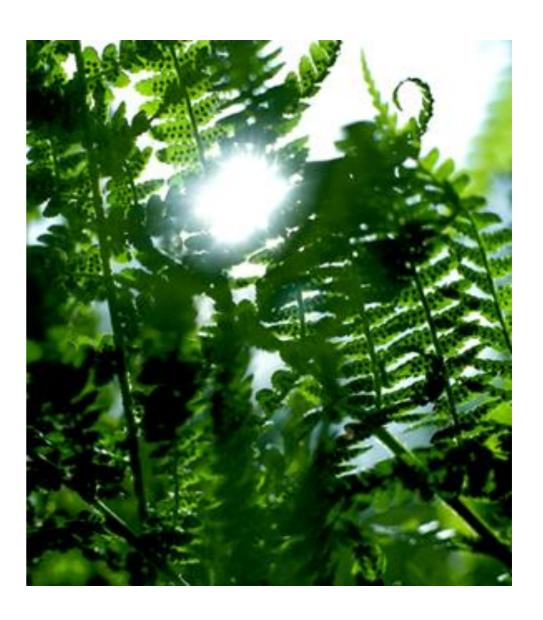
#### Plus observers & call partners:

- SEAI/IE: Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
- ADEME/FR
- **ENERGINET/DK**
- BusFi/FI
- BBSRC/UK; BEIS/UK
- FAPESP/BR

### **Development of Joint Calls**



- Definition of topics
- Joint time schedule
- Joint procedures for evaluating proposals
- Joint workshops/seminars
- National criteria on
  - Applications
  - Funding
  - Final decision



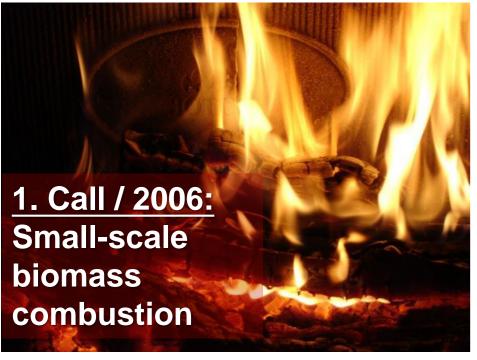
#### Summary of 13 Joint Calls (1)

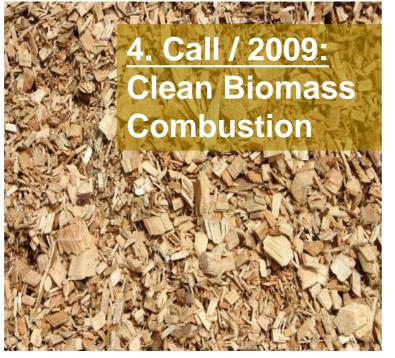














### Summary of 13 Joint Calls (2)





8. Call / 2014: Integrated biorefinery concepts

- 11. Call / 2017: "Bioenergy as part of a smart and flexible energy system".
- 12. Call / 2018: "Energy systems & circular economy"
- 13. Call /2019: "Combined biomass valorization"
- 14. Call... under discussion...







### **Summary of 13 Joint Calls**



✓ Total project costs: ca. 70 Mio. €

Total projects funded: 58

Countries involved so far: 18



#### 14th Joint Call... under discussion...



- Discussion since spring 2019
- Countries: CH, PL definitely interested; AT, DE, FI hesitant...
- Challenges: changed national priorities for bioenergy and/or lack of budget. Often bioeconomy (material biomass utilisation) has higher importance than energetic biomass use
- Still interesting bioenergy topics to most partner countries: sustainable production; mobilisation, supply & conversion of biomass aiming at lower GHG emissions & carbon storage; Integration of bioenergy in a sustainable circular bioeconomy (cascading); Sustainable biofuels and mobility concepts for heavy duty, aviation and maritime transport; Integrated energy management including Power-to-X, Biorefinery concepts

... to be clarified until 09/2020 the latest...

#### **Cooperation with BESTF3**



- The network Bioenergy Sustaining the Future (BESTF) provides funding to innovative collaborative bioenergy projects that result in demonstration at pre-commercial stage
- EU top-up for one joint call
- More partners: Finland (TEKES), Spain (CDTI & MINECO)
- More networking: bring research communities together



#### Perspectives / opportunities



- EU aims/visions for decarbonisation and fighting climate change are high but there is a lack of implementation measures
- Bioenergy framework conditions in partner countries are increasingly difficult
- BUT bioenergy is necessary to complement other, fluctuating renewables (solar, wind) e.g. in order to balance the grid at all times
- ✓ Horizon Europe (no more support for "ERA-NETs", but large partnerships which can organise calls together. Many former ERA-NETs are not supported anymore and thus there is an increased opportunity for self-sustained ERA-NETs such as ERA-NET Bioenergy → chance for more partners?)

#### Conclusions



- ERA-NET Bioenergy partners are currently elaborating a new strategic agenda and action plan according to the new EU goals and the national priorities of its members
- The partners are willing to keep ERA-NET Bioenergy as valuable instrument for international collaboration and R&I support in the area of bioeconomy with emphasis on bioenergy

ERA-NET Bioenergy is open for new members (funders) interested to join!

# Thank you very much for your attention!

