SEAFOODplus in the context of EU research

by Ciaran Mangan

- SEAFOODplus was
  - First FP6 Integrated project contract signed,
  - First to have a kick-off meeting,
  - First to have it's final meeting.

OBJECTIVES

- Showcase the developments which have taken place in this flagship Integrated Project over the past four and a half years since its debut in January 2004.
- SEAFOODplus - largest research project ever sponsored by the EU in the seafood sector in terms of total budget, content and complexity
- Frequently used as a successful example of IP bringing together the "critical mass" necessary to address a specific EU objective.
- Objective - reduce health problems and increase well being in European consumers through increased fish consumption

- 150 scientists from nearly 70 organisations across 16 countries participating in 20 individual research projects, across 6 strategic pillars ranging from human nutrition to consumer behaviour, food safety, aquaculture and traceability along the food chain

- In parallel to the research pillars the project ran a further six pillars dedicated to information flow to businesses and consumers, training, dissemination and demonstration activities.

- The actual impact of this 25 M€ project will be felt over the coming years as the results are tested and tried through peer review and market acceptability.

- With over 200 individual result based deliverables in the form of tools, trials, surveys, protocols, databases, and intellectual property along the whole food chain a very high impact is expected.

- Over the next two days we shall hear and learn about these developments and at the end be able to access their true significance

Importance of fisheries in EU

- The livelihood of 400,000 people in the EU depend on the fishing sector, mainly in Spain, France, Italy and Portugal

- However the main message of SEAFOODplus "eat more fish" is potentially hampered by external global factors such as the recent inhibitive increase in diesel fuel making the catching of fish even less profitable than before

European Research Area (ERA)

- Realising a single labour market for researchers
- Developing world-class research infrastructures
- Strengthening research institutions
- Sharing knowledge
- Optimising research programmes and priorities
- Opening to the world: international cooperation in S&T
- Working towards joint programming and in paralell to JETIs or larger instruments

New initiatives under ERA:

- Developing joint public research programmes
- European researchers' passport
- Facilitating the building and operation of research infrastructures
- Strategy for international S&T cooperation
- Code of practice on the management of IPR
- Increased role of technology platforms

Realising ERA in FP7:

- Coordination with other funding mechanisms (regional funds, CIP, others)
- New Maritime Policy: Communication on marine/maritime sciences
- Revision of the Aquaculture Strategy (RTD component)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Community Research

The Strategy
Rational

Maritime Policy

ERA

Lisbon

- **Objectives:**
  - **Integration** across sectors: marine S&T, research, policy-making, industry and society
  - **Synergy** with and between MSs > ERA
  - **Governance**

- **Actions:**
  - European Maritime Science **Partnership**
  - Support to **infrastructure** and **capacities** with MS
  - Themes (reinforce existing ones, and new **cross-cutting**)
  - **Instruments** for implementation

WHEN?
WHO?
HOW?

... *supported* by a coherent set of instruments

Framework Programme 7
2007 – 2013

Cooperation – Collaborative research

Ideas – Frontier Research

People – Human Potential

Capacities – Research Capacity

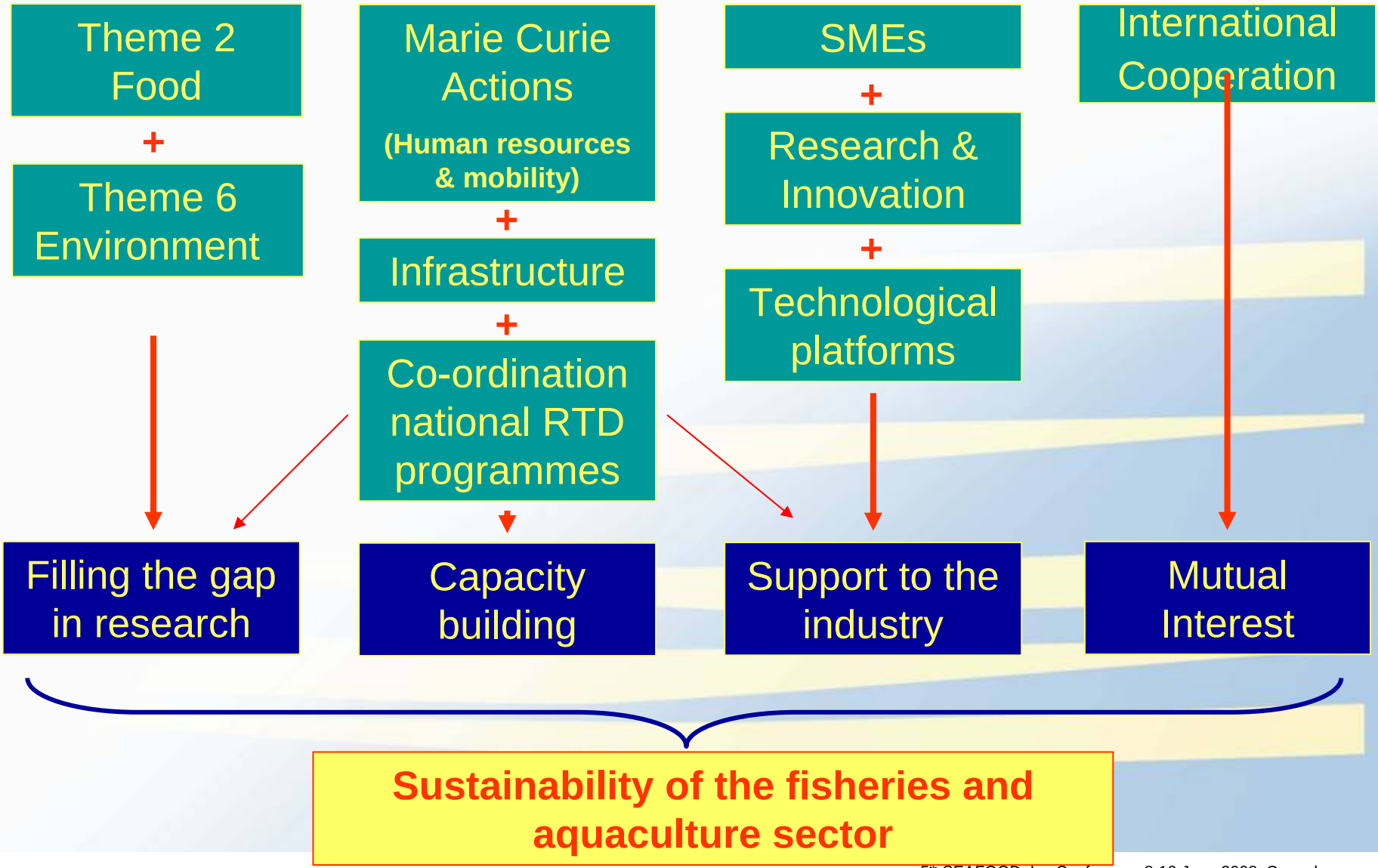
+

JRC (non-nuclear)

JRC (nuclear)

Euratom

FP 7 Opportunities



Cooperation – Collaborative research

9 Themes

1.	**Health**	**6.100 B€**
2.	**Food, agriculture, fisheries and biotechnology**	**1.935 (6.0%)**
3.	**Information and communication technologies**	**9.050**
4.	**Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies**	**3.475**
5.	**Energy**	**2.350**
6.	**Environment (including climate change)**	**1.890**
7.	**Transport (including aeronautics)**	**4.160**
8.	**Socio-economic sciences and the humanities**	**0.610**
9.	**Security and space**	**2.780**

2. Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Biotechnology

Sustainable production and management of biological resources from land, forest, and aquatic environments

“Fork to farm”: Food (including seafood) health and well being

Life sciences, biotechnology and biochemistry for sustainable non-food products and processes

Why Cross-Cutting in FP 7

- Marine Sciences identified at the specific programme of FP 7 as potential “cross-cutting” area

- Blue book and action plan on Maritime Policy

- Strategy for Marine/Maritime research (June 2008)

Options for Cross-cutting

- Topics of cross-cutting nature (T2 >2009)
- Identify major political challenge (eg climate change, energy) and seek solutions across the full potential of FP 7 (>2010)
- Partnership between national and Community research programmes (marine/maritime ERA-NETS, TPs) (>2010)

European Fisheries Research

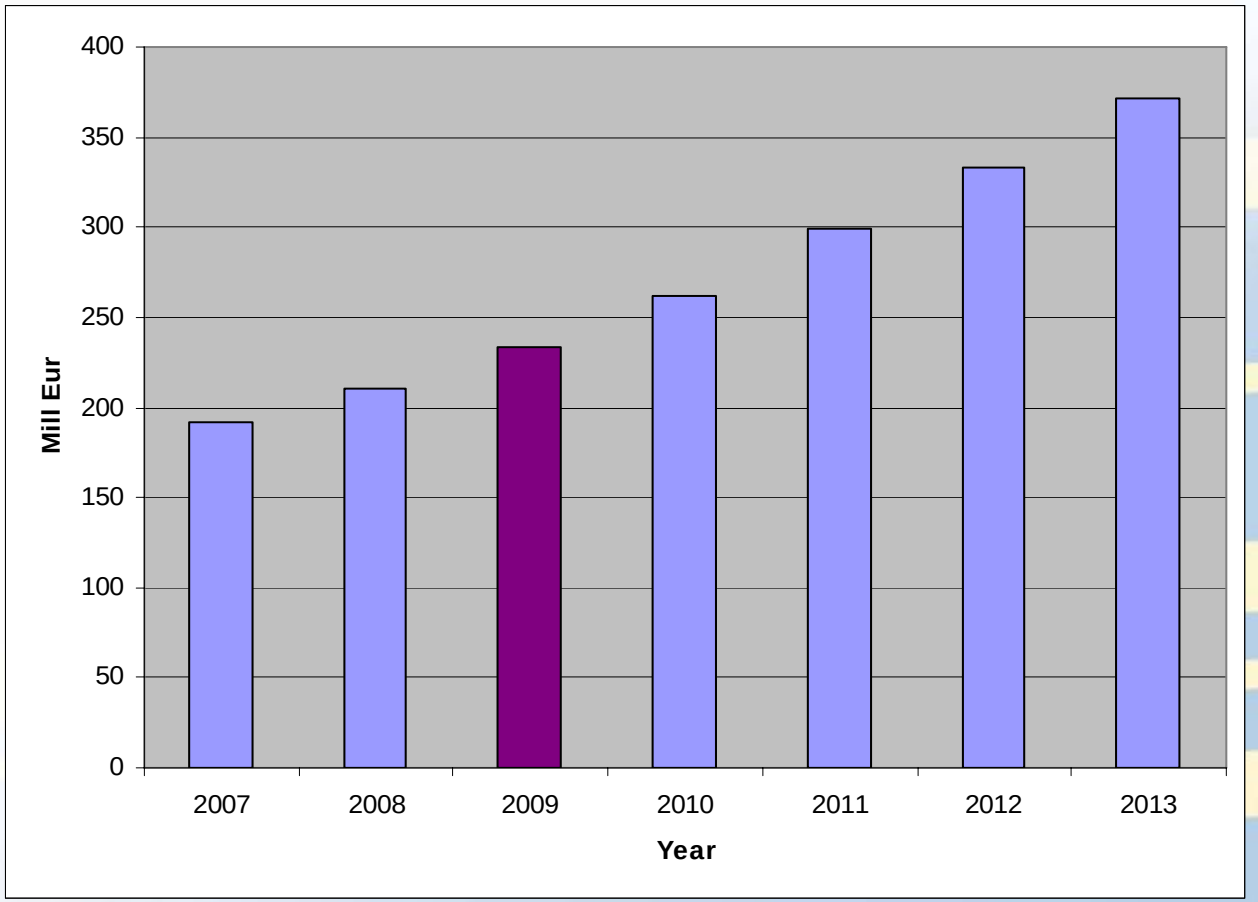
- Support the CFP:
  - Recovery Plans, Management Plans, Fleet based management, Discards, close areas
  - Ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management,
  - Economic approach to fisheries management.
- Implementation of international commitments (Johannesburg - MSY),
- Improvement of scientific advice (data, pre-analysis, support to advice, Research in Support to Policy, Basic research),
- Support the development of the new Maritime Policy.

European Aquaculture Research

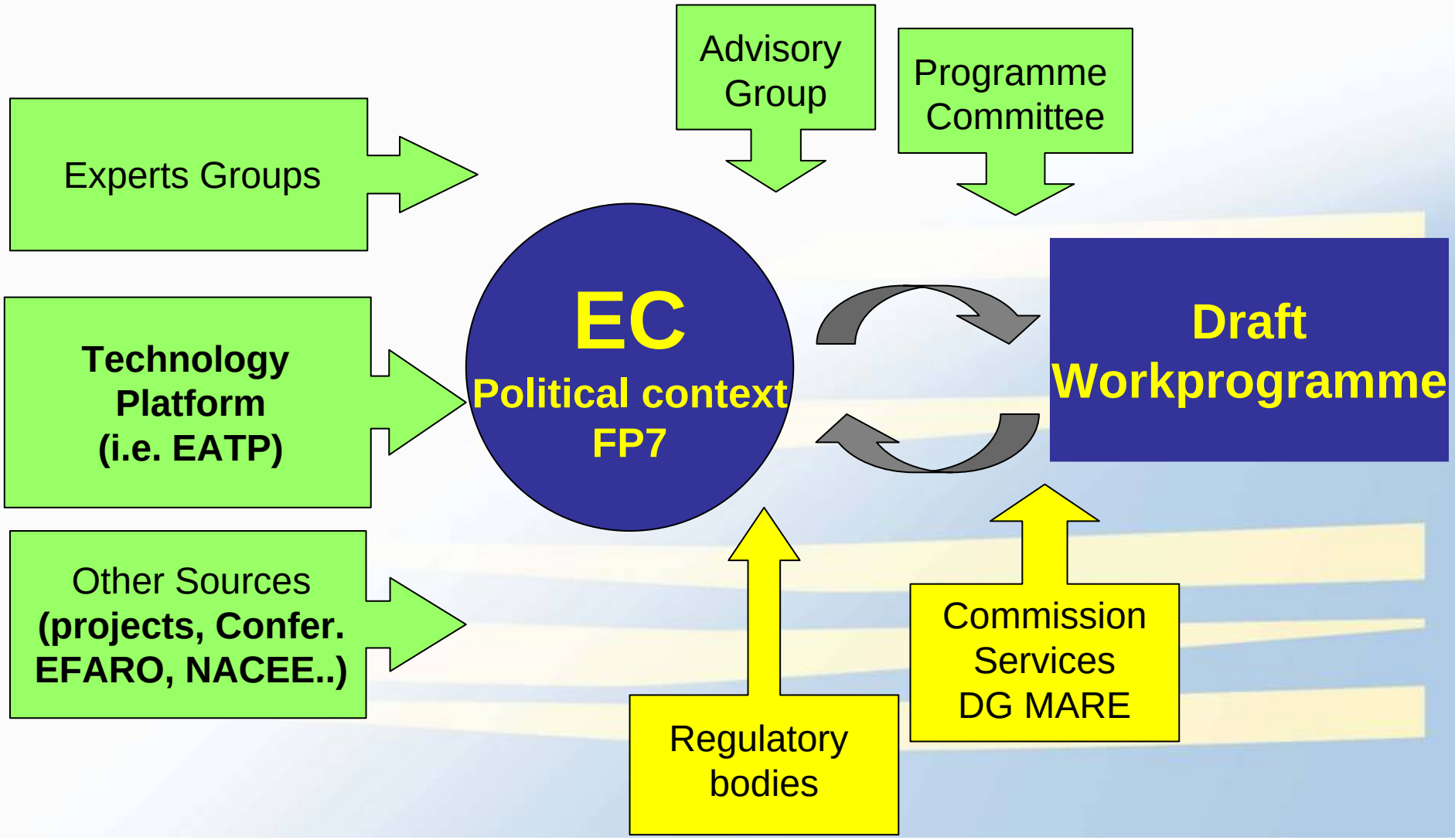
- Self sustainable industry: caters for its own R&D needs and helped by national programmes, and community initiatives like SMEs, other sources
- Clear European dimension issues: health, environmental interactions and consumer health and wellbeing
- Need for better partnership and integration of national aquaculture research efforts (role of EFARO)

Budget for Theme 2

240 m€ for 2009 of which up to 15% on fish aqua research



From the political text to the workprogramme



POTENTIAL FISH TOPICS FOR T2 WP 2009

1. Consolidate alliances with Mediterranean in the field of aquaculture SICA
2. Consolidate alliances with Asia in the field of aquaculture SICA
3. Importance of foraging fish
4. Improving fisheries assessment methods
5. Sustainable use of the seas and the oceans
6. Supporting governance in aquaculture research, innovation and policy making
7. Improving mollusc spat production in hatcheries
8. Sustainable inland aquaculture
9. From capture based to self-sustained aquaculture
10. Impacts of climate change on fisheries/aquaculture (CROSS CUTTING)