

Agriculture Food Security and Climate Change

Newsletter

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FACCEJPI



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Welcome to the second issue of the FACCE-JPI newsletter! I am happy to inform you of the latest updates on the FACCE-JPI governance, and particularly of the re-election of Marion Guillou as Chair and of the election of our two new Vice-Chairs of the Governing Board, Niels Gøtke (DK) and Marina Montedoro (IT). This election, foreseen by the permanent governance adopted last February and made necessary by the multiplication of FACCE-JPI activities, partners and planned actions, marks the progress of FACCE-JPI and will ensure that emphasis is laid on the strategic issues accompanying the development of the JPI.

You will also find news about the launch of our Strategic Research Agenda which occurred on December 5th, 2012. This Strategic Research Agenda is the result of a collective process involving many partners, scientists and stakeholders during 2 years. It is an important milestone in the FACCE-JPI history, but also a crucial document steering future joint activities.

You will find out more on our developing activities and recent achievements, as well as more actions scheduled in the future. We look forward to keeping you up to date on FACCE-JPI news and always welcome your feedback.

Isabelle Albouy,
FACCE-CSA coordinator

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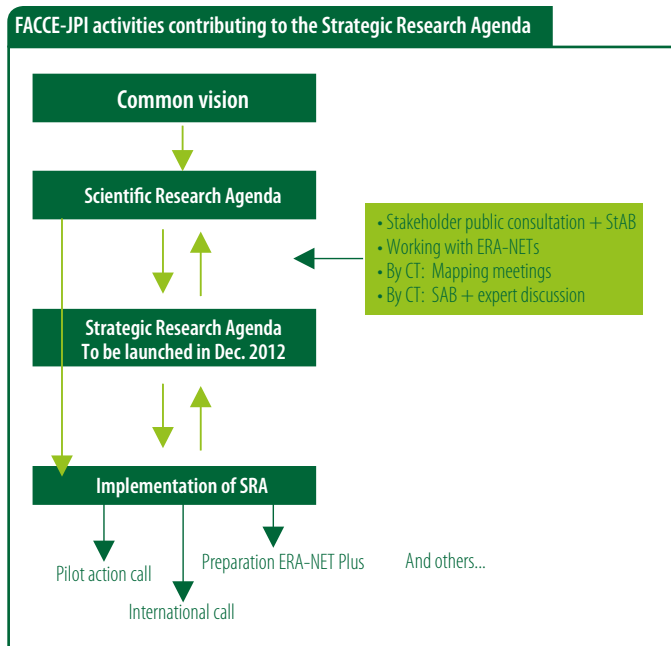




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Launch of the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA)

Based on different contributions such as a scientific agenda elaborated by the Scientific Advisory Board in 2010, the organisation of the first four mapping meetings on Mitigation of Climate change, Adaptation to Climate Change, Assessing and reducing trade-offs between Food Supply and Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and Food Security under Climate Change, a workshop with ERA-NETs, and a stakeholder consultation, the FACCE-JPI Strategic Research Agenda was drafted this summer, and submitted for feedback to both advisory boards (SAB and StAB) and to the Governing Board in the Fall. The Governing Board adopted the SRA at its last meeting in Rome on October 25th. The document, which was designed as a roadmap to steer current and future FACCE-JPI activities, was launched on December 5th, 2012, with the simultaneous publication of a press release by all FACCE-JPI members, partners and stakeholders. It is available [here](#).





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FACCE-JPI governance update

Following the adoption of the permanent governance of FACCE-JPI in February 2012, important institutional changes took place in the various FACCE-JPI bodies.

The **Governing Board** unanimously decided to prolong the mandate of Marion Guillou as the Chair of the Governing Board for one additional year to ensure the transition to the permanent governance.

Following the terms of reference of the Governing Board, two Vice-Chairs were elected, to assist the Chair with the task of aligning national research programmes, and to ensure constant ties with the advisory bodies. To this purpose, it was decided that each Vice-Chair would be associated with an advisory board. In September, the Governing Board was happy to welcome as its new Vice-Chairs Niels Gøtke (DK), in charge of relations with the Stakeholder Advisory Board, and Marina Montedoro (IT), in charge of relations with the Scientific Advisory Board. Marina and Niels have, since then, both attended meetings of their respective boards and already initiated a dynamic cooperation. An interview with them can be found below, in which they speak about their role and projects for FACCE-JPI.

The **Scientific Advisory Board** welcomed 3 new members. Professor Margaret Gill, from the University of Aberdeen (UK), Professor Peter Gregory from the University of Reading (UK) and Dr. Harry Clark from the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre (NZ) were elected by the Governing Board from a list of more than a hundred names to replace former SAB members having finished their term. A fourth and last member is currently being invited. All three contributed to the September SAB meeting. A detailed profile of each is available on the [FACCE-JPI website](#).

The second FACCE-JPI advisory body, the **Stakeholder Advisory Board**, was constituted over the summer, and held its first meeting on the 28th of September 2012. The Stakeholder Advisory Board is constituted of representatives of 22 European and international organisations elected by the Governing Board among a list of organisations from civil society, farmer organisations, industry, research and technology platforms. The first meeting, featuring in depth debates, demonstrated the members' eagerness to become involved in future FACCE-JPI activities. StAB members elected Tania Runge, representing COPA-COGECA, as their Chair, and Dawn Howard from FABRE-TP, Beate Kettlitz from FoodDrinkEurope, and Marco Schlüter from TP-Organics as co-Vice-Chairs. For their next meeting in March, the StAB will gather back to back with the Scientific Advisory Board to initiate further interaction between the advisory bodies on a number of topics. A list of the StAB member organisations can be found on the [FACCE-JPI website](#).



Interview with Marina Montedoro and Niels Gøtke, Vice-Chairs of the FACCE-JPI Governing Board

You have been elected by your peers to become Vice Chairs of the FACCE-JPI Governing Board. What were your motivations to stand as candidates?

MM: I have been involved with FACCE-JPI since its launch in 2009, as the Italian representative in the Governing Board (GB). Over these 3 years, I have seen the important progress made by FACCE. The work done so far, the results achieved and the lead role taken by FACCE encouraged me to submit my candidacy. I wanted to be even more actively involved in the JPI process and structure, and I believe that I can bring an added value both to my country and to the JPI, considering my Ministry and also my personal long experience with 7th FP instruments (such as ERA-NETs and other JPIs) to coordinate research at the European and international level.

NG: I believe that the FACCE-JPI is the right way to tackle the grand societal challenges on agriculture, food security and climate change. These challenges are recognised worldwide, and no single country or region has the capacity to tackle these issues alone; to do this we must identify research needs and gaps and we must align our national strategies and priorities, which is perhaps the most difficult thing, because each country is different in their research programming. Thus, in my view, we have an enormous potential in working together in an intelligent way. Having the willingness, FACCE-JPI will have synergies and create better impacts of research resources.

Both of you expressed your interest in following a specific advisory board. Which one and why? How do you see the role of this board in the future?

MM: I immediately expressed my interest in the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) for several reasons. It was the first advisory board to be set up in support of the JPI GB, so we already have a history of collaboration, and I wanted to further encourage interactions between the SAB and GB members. The SAB has been crucial at the beginning of the FACCE-JPI by delivering a Scientific Research Agenda

which served as a basis for the FACCE-JPI Strategic Research Agenda. But it also has an important role to play in the future. The European Commission is following closely the issues addressed by FACCE-JPI. They expect us to give useful inputs and suggestions on FACCE issues for future policy orientation and to launch interesting joint activities, which can only be done with a solid scientific basis. The SAB, as a *super partes* board with an “advisory” role, brings a guarantee of scientific quality to FACCE-JPI strategic orientations and activities.

NG: The SAB has had a very good start. The identification of the five core themes has been essential to launch the first activities. But to enhance visibility for FACCE-JPI and to achieve real benefits, we need a good dialogue and a close connection to our stakeholders. Therefore my preference was to work together with the StAB. I am convinced that the communication with the key stakeholders within the StAB is the way to create links to civil society. I am sure that the StAB will help us in carrying out our Strategic Research Agenda, and that it will provide valuable advice on implementation measures.

What is your projection of FACCE-JPI in the long term?

MM: At the beginning of FACCE probably none of us would have imagined that working with JPI would lead to significant results in such a short time, but after the Kick-off Meeting of the FACCE Knowledge Hub MACSUR (our first joint action), we realised that hard work could also have immediate effect. We must continue in this direction. The network we have created between scientists and funders and the results already obtained should be preserved and enhanced in the medium-long term, also enabling new instruments such as international calls, ERA-NET + instruments, close cooperation agreements with other initiatives, etc.

NG: In the longer run I expect to see FACCE-JPI as the central European platform for prioritisation of research activities within agriculture, food security and climate change. I hope to see FACCE work with a number of European Initiatives both P2Ps¹ (like ERA-NETs, other JPIs KICs etc.) and PPP²s. I also expect to see FACCE working on a more global scale developing partnerships with international initiatives. Concerning Horizon 2020, I find that FACCE should be the place where initiatives on agriculture, food security and climate change will be developed and coordinated. In this respect, FACCE-JPI is becoming an important partnering tool, which perhaps might develop into an article 185 initiative.

¹ Public to Public : e.g. JPIs, etc

² Public-Private Partnerships





Recent FACCE-JPI activities

Pilot Action: kick-off meeting of the MACSUR Knowledge Hub

The FACCE MACSUR Knowledge Hub held its kick-off workshop last October 15th and 16th, 2012. More than 140 scientists, selected by their countries to participate in the Knowledge Hub, gathered in Berlin to plan the joint tasks foreseen in the project. This innovative instrument was created as a pilot action of the FACCE-JPI, and aims to gather European scientists working on modeling of climate change impacts and to encourage networking and collaboration in thematic clusters (crops, grasslands and livestock, trade), to achieve better integration of existing models on climate change impacts on European food security.

At the workshop, keynote lectures by Tim Benton (Global Food Security and University of Leeds) and Tim Carter (Finnish Environment Institute – SYKE) set the background by describing the need for assessing future impacts of climate change on food security and how to deal with the uncertainty associated with data, models, and projections. In parallel sessions, participants discussed the organisation of the work, common approaches to answering the questions, potential pilot regions, involvement of stakeholders, and how the results will be presented.

An important contribution to the Strategic Research Agenda: the online public Stakeholder Consultation

FACCE-JPI launched between January and March 2012 a stakeholder consultation on its draft Strategic Research Agenda. A questionnaire of 70 questions addressed the 5 core themes of FACCE-JPI and their scope. 164 national, European and international individuals or organisations responded, 55% of which were researchers in universities or from public or private research organisations. Outcomes are a wide overall support of the FACCE-JPI goals and scope, interest in working together with FACCE-JPI, and suggestions as to further areas to be considered.

Participation in a European-wide scientific event: the 2012 Euro-Science Open Forum

In July 2012, FACCE-JPI participated in the bi-annual Euroscience Open Forum in Dublin. FACCE-JPI and its Irish partner Teagasc organised a series of events on July 13th aiming to enhance the visibility of FACCE-JPI, to address a wide forum of citizens on FACCE-JPI related issues, and to promote cooperation with other international initiatives.

The **“Great Debate on a Battle to Feed a Changing Planet”**, starring 5 high level panelists in the ESOF auditorium including Nobel Prize Laureate Rajendra K. Pachauri (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), the Chair of the FACCE-JPI

Governing Board Marion Guillou, Professor Louise Fresco (focus: foundations of sustainable development in an international context, University of Amsterdam), Professor Lynn Frewer (focus: food and society, consumer behavior; Newcastle University) and Professor Pamela Ronald (focus: organic farming and genetics for the future of food, University of California, Davis), addressed more than 400 people in the audience, and many more followed the debate through live streaming. The highly interactive debate was moderated by the scientific journalist Leo Enright and structured in two modules: Will we have to choose between food security or the fight against climate change? Who should act and take responsibility? Interaction was stimulated through wide audience participation, a filmed report from Kenya (courtesy of CCAFS), a filmed interview with international children from the "Generation 2000", live twitter feed and instant voting devices for answering questions and responding to opinion polls. Since then, more than 13 700 viewers have watched the debate online.

A **brainstorming workshop** co-organised by FACCE-JPI and Teagasc as a side event gathered high level speakers from 5 different international initiatives (the Joint Research Center, the High Level Panel of Experts of the Committee on World Food Security, the Wheat Initiative, the Global Research Alliance on Greenhouse Gas Emissions, the CGIAR research programme on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security) to explore ongoing actions and future coordination and collaboration, while a **cocktail reception** given by FACCE-JPI, co-hosted by Irish GB member Frank O'Mara and attended by many European partners (ministries, other European initiatives, European Commission, FACCE-JPI and Teagasc team) closed the day.

Continuation of the Mapping Meeting process

The **Third FACCE-JPI Mapping Meeting** was also organised in Dublin on core theme 3 "Assessing and reducing Trade-offs between Food Supply, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services" on July 11th-12th, and gathered about 50 participants representing scientists, funders and policy makers around posters mapping national programmes and priorities. A report of this mapping meeting can be found [here](#).

The **Fourth FACCE-JPI Mapping Meeting** was held in Madrid on October 17th-18th. It addressed core theme 1 of the Strategic Research Agenda, "Sustainable Food Security under Climate Change". In addition to national delegates, representatives from the Belmont Forum, from JPI Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life, from 2 ERANETs: SUSFOOD and RURAGRI were present.

Enhancing collaboration with other JPIs

A first workshop was organised by "**JPIs to co-work**" in Vienna on September 20th-21st on "Framework Conditions of the early phase of Joint Programming Initiatives – Foresight and Ex-Ante Impact Assessment". A second workshop was held 18th and 19th December 2012, in Warsaw, on "Framework Conditions of Joint Programming Initiatives – Governance and Evaluation". More information on this initiative is available on their website (<http://www.jpis2cowork.eu/>).

A Conference on Joint Programming and Joint Research Programmes will take place from February 28th to March 1st under the **Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union**. This conference, to be attended by Commissioner Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, will address the role of Joint Programming in addressing societal challenges, JPIs in relation to the needs of citizens and society in Europe, the innovation cycle and the involvement of industry, the global context, Horizon 2020, etc. It is co-funded by the European Commission and will take place in the Dublin Castle.

Initiated by the Climate JPI, an **informal coordination meeting** was organised in Brussels on September 28th between 6 climate related JPIs from the first and second "wave" to discuss areas of complementarities between their respective challenges. Coastal zones and water-climate-food-energy nexus were identified as common topics on which objectives and activities should be coordinated, and ideas exchanged. The JPIs present decided to continue organising such meetings to further discuss their common themes, overlaps and gaps as they confirm their respective Strategic Research Agendas and move towards their implementation.



Upcoming events

Launch of an International Call on Green House Gas Mitigation

On December 4th 2012, the Steering Committee of the International Call on Mitigation of FACCE-JPI with three other non-EU countries (USA, Canada, New-Zealand) held its first meeting in Paris to finalise its Memorandum of Understanding. The launch of the call is foreseen for January 28th, 2013.

Submission of an ERA-NET Plus proposal on Climate Smart Agriculture

In its 2013 KBBE Work Programme, the European Commission published a call for proposals on "Climate Smart Agriculture: Adaptation of Agricultural Systems in Europe", related to the core theme 4 of the FACCE-JPI Strategic Research Agenda. FACCE-JPI is currently preparing a proposal involving a consortium of 20 members from 18 countries, for a launch foreseen in September 2013. An *ad hoc* meeting of the Scientific Advisory Board is scheduled in January to scope the call topic. The proposal is currently being finalised for submission to the EC by February 28th 2013.

EC Calls: 6 new ERANETs in the 2013 KBBE Work Programme

In addition to the above mentioned ERANET Plus, the 2013 KBBE Work Programme includes a call for 5 new ERA-NETs :

- KBBE.2013.1.4-01: Sustainable Forest Management and Multifunctional Forestry – ERANET
- KBBE.2013.1.4-02: Integrated Pest Management (IPM) - ERANET
- KBBE.2013.1.4-03: Mediterranean agriculture – ERANET
- KBBE.2013.1.4-04: Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and robotics for sustainable agriculture – ERANET
- KBBE.2013.1.4-06: Innovative solutions in organic food and agriculture for next generation of food systems seeking synergies between rural development, natural resource management and food security and quality – ERANET+

FACCE-JPI hopes to meet representatives of these new ERANETs at the next FACCE-JPI workshop with ERA-NETS to be held back-to-back with the PLATFORM meeting in Paris on April 18-19, and welcomes future collaboration opportunities.

Non exhaustive list of International conferences:

- 17-22 January 2013: Plant Abiotic Stress and Sustainable Agriculture: Translating Basic Understanding to Food Production (New Mexico, US)
- 4-7 February 2013: UNCDD 2nd conference (Fortaleza, Brazil)
- 26 February - 1 March 2013: 4th MoniQA International Conference - Food Safety under Global Pressure of Climate Change, Food Security and Economic Crises (Budapest, Hungary)
- 18-20 March 2013: European Climate Change Adaptation Conference 2013 - Integrating climate into action (Hamburg, Germany)
- 20-22 March, 2013: Global science-based conference on Climate Smart Agriculture (UC Davis campus, USA)
- 27-29 May 2013: Soil Carbon Sequestration: A solution for climate, food security (tbc, Iceland)
- 23-26 June 2013: 17th Symposium of the European Grassland Federation (Akureyri, Iceland)

Calls for research proposals within the area of FACCE-JPI:

- Following the yearly update of their common agenda to support European biodiversity research, the BiodivERsA partners have decided to launch their fourth joint call for research proposals on **“Invasive Species and Biological Invasions”** with a focus on alien invasive species, planned to be launched in early November 2012, with a closing date in mid-February 2013. More details can be found [here](#).

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