NTNU approach to European Platforms and Strategic Partnerships

M. Busuoli – Director of NTNU Brussels Office
• Main profile in science and technology
• Academic breadth: humanities, social sciences, medicine, health sciences, science of education, architecture, fine arts and performing arts
• Headquarters in Trondheim with campuses in Gjøvik and Ålesund
• One Brussels Office
Key figures

- Largest university in Norway
- 8 faculties, 55 departments and NTNU University Museum
- 7761 person-years (2020)
- More than 42 000 students (2020)

- Horizon 2020 results:
  - More than 240 Signed Grants
  - About 140 Million Euros Funding
    (not considering ERA-Nets and KIC projects)
The European Playfield

Platforms, Alliances, Associations*

Horizon Europe Strategic Partnerships

* non-exhaustive list
Positioning in EU initiatives

• Needs:
  • One committed representative for the whole organisation
  • Effective exchange and collaboration with relevant internal experts
  • Provision of Multidisciplinary inputs

• Benefits:
  • Networking/new collaborations
  • Access to strategic information
  • Contribution to the definition of the contents of SRIAs and calls

In addition, strategic partnerships are expected to cover about 50% of total budget for Pillar II of HEU
NTNU Approach: Internal Fora

Creation of cross-faculty Multidisciplinary Thematic Fora linked to achieved positionings in relevant EU initiatives to:

• Ensure effective information exchange
• Provide the possibility for multidisciplinary contribution
• Amplify the initiative participation impact on the internal research system
Internal Fora – Adopted Model

- **Steering Committee**: Comprises Administrative support people and Ambassadors. Responsible to follow governance and administrative aspects of the initiative concerned.

- **Theme Ambassador**: Scientific expert to follow specific focused activities in the platform.

- **GOR**: composed by NTNU professors interested in the themes of the initiatives willing to receive information and to provide inputs from/to the Ambassador.

- **Cross Faculty participation**
- **Information/opportunities Exchange**
- **Inputs preparation**
Internal Fora – Strategic Guidelines
NTNU Food Forum example

- Organizing our university to deal with food systems and sustainability challenges and make the most of our positions in EU

- A two way route, combining NTNU Food expertise and the EU system
Sustainable food system – a grand global challenge strategically prioritized in Europe

- One of the European responses
- …another one is the European strategic partnership on food systems
The establishment of NTNU Food Forum - a multi-disciplinary forum

Comprising experts from:
• all 9 faculties,
• all NTNU campi
• >25 departments
• >90 experts

Fragmented research → Strategic & organized forum with a SYSTEM APPROACH
Strategic Initiatives
Ambassadors

Eva Falch
Forum Leader
Thais Mothe-Diniz
Administrative Coordination
Massimo Busuoli
Strategic advisory and EU positioning

Forum animation
and orchestration

Strategic Initiatives
Ambassadors

Eva Falch

- European Food Forum
- JPI A healthy diet for a healthy life (Scientific Advisory Board)
- European Multidisciplinary program on sustainable food and biomass
- European region of gastronomy
- National professional body for education and research in nutrition (UHR)
- Grønn forskning...

- Animal Welfare Europe
- Food Systems...

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Alexandro Asimakopoulos
Alireza Ashrafian
Anita Nordeng Jakobsen
Anitra Ramsdal
Anna Olsen
Annik Magerholm Pet
Atle M. Bones
Bård Eirik Klausen
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Heidi Carin Dreyer
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Thais Mothe-Diniz
Trygve Magne Eikevik
Turid Rustad
Vegan Ottesen
Veronica Hammer Hjellnes
Vidar Halsteinl
Vidar Aalrust Kristoffersen
...

Turid Rustad

- Metrofood infrastructure
  Europe

Hilde Bjørkhaug

- Norwegian Research Council/HEU Cluster 6...
Ambassadors as contact points actively involved...

Organisation to benefit from European Platforms and networks.
... in the policy debate

Utilizing the experts from the multidisciplinary forum to involve in the debate towards more sustainable food systems.
... in regional and national challenges

Involving experts from the multidisciplinary forum in regional and national activities.
... in projects linking the regional, national and European dimension

Involving experts from the multidisciplinary forum and involving relevant food actors
Making a fast and responsive university

Achieved outcomes:
• Position paper
• New networks and projects internally and externally
• Participation in European Food Forum events from all disciplines
• 5 Green Deal applications
• Regional activities and visibility
• Improved systemic understanding
• Communication …

ALL THIS WITHIN A FEW MONTHS
Positioning – two Best Practices
NTNU Fora as effective «selling points» - Best practice outcomes

NTNU Food Forum
• Annual Workplan agreed with all participants
• Inclusion in the EIT Food KIC
• Bilateral Talks with UniBo about future calls for proposals
• Discussion with the EC to possibly drive a policy activity related to Aquaculture EU regulation

ECTP Forum
• Inclusion of NTNU representative in the Management Board of the Built4People strategic Partnership

Winning element: «Multidisciplinary knowledge organised and ready to use»

Two new fora in the making starting from initiative of IE Faculty: Waterborne and Clean Sky
Further Partnerships with NTNU involvement

- **AI, data and Robotics** through BDVA
- **Processes4Planet** as a follow up of SPIRE
- **Shift2 Rail** in a national consortium led by the National Railway system
- **Clean Sky** Forum in the making
- **European Clean Hydrogen Alliance**
- **2Zero** – Forum under discussion
- **Waterborne** – Forum established recently
- **Sustainable Smart and Inclusive Cities**
- **Clean Energy Transition** – Indirectly through EERA
- **Circular Bio Base Europe** – Forum to be relaunched
- **EIT Climate KIC**
- **EIT Raw Material KIC**
- **EIT Food KIC**
- **EIT Health KIC**
- **EIT Energy KIC**

Moreover:
- **Raw Material Forum Establishment** under evaluation
Thank you