

ERA-NET Cofund ERA-HDHL: ERA-NET Biomarkers for Nutrition and Health implementing the JPI HDHL objectives

WHAT

ERA-HDHL was the first ERA-NET Cofund of the JPI-HDHL. It aimed to provide a robust platform for implementing Joint Funding Actions that addressed the research challenges identified and described in its Strategic Research Agenda and Implementation Plans. In addition, ERA-HDHL aimed to improve coordination and reduce the overlap between national and EU funding in relevant fields of research, achieve a critical mass and ensure better use of limited resources in fields of mutual interests.



WHO

The ERA-HDHL consortium was composed of 19 funding organisations, representing 12 EU member states (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Romania, Spain, The Netherlands and United Kingdom) and also one associated country (Turkey) and one third country (Canada), from the JPI HDHL.

HOW

All activities supported excellent research groups to work together and to share knowledge but also contributed to the reduction of the fragmentation of research efforts and increased efficiency of invested funds.

The first aim of ERA-HDHL was to support research in the field of Biomarkers for Nutrition and Health (through a co-funded call) in the form of multidisciplinary transnational research consortia. The funded consortia used innovative and scientific approaches to increase knowledge on the development and validation of biomarkers

for nutrition and health and created a transnational network of researchers collaborating in those fields. This first transnational call was launched on February 2016 and was cofunded with the European Commission. Additional activities of the ERA-HDHL were based on the Implementation Plans of the JPI HDHL to fulfil the JPI HDHL objectives.



The different funded projects aimed to gain a better understanding of (1) the impact of policies aiming for significant and sustainable changes in dietary, physical activity and/or sedentary behaviors conducted across Europe (PEN, 2017); (2) the diet- epigenome relationships and their effect on human health (Nutrition & The Epigenome, 2018); (3) the impact of climate change on nutritional make-up of food, and adaptive strategies/measures to ensure food and nutrition security (KH FNS SYSTEMIC, 2019; in collaboration with FACCE JPI and JPI Oceans); (4) the prevention of undernutrition in older adults (PREVNUT, 2020), and (5) how food ingredients and food processing methods can induce or prevent the occurrence of food intolerances and allergies (FOOD HYPERSENS, 2021). All activities supported excellent research groups to work together and to share knowledge. The activities also contributed to the reduction of the fragmentation of research efforts and increased efficiency of invested funds.

WHEN

ERA-HDHL ran for a period of six years from February 2016 to January 2022.

FUNDING

The JFAs launched under ERA-HDHL allowed funding 24 research projects involving 131 research teams with a budget of 28,54 M€ and two knowledge hubs composed in total of 101 research teams funded with an amount of 5,8 M€.

JFA	Project numbers	Budget	Research teams
<i>Biomarkers¹</i>	12	11,2	53
<i>PEN</i>	1	4,5	60
<i>Nutrition and Epigenome</i>	6	6,9	29
<i>KH FNS²</i>	1	1,3	41
<i>PREVNUT</i>	6	5,96	31
<i>FOOD_HYPERSENS</i>	4	4,39	18

¹ cofunded by the European Commission

² collaboration with FACCE-JPI and JPI OCEANS

More information: Coordinator of ERA-HDHL, French National Research Agency (ANR), **Martine.BATOUX@agencerecherche.fr**



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