



HDHL-INTIMIC

Grant No: **727565**

Deliverable No: **7.1**

Title: **Statistical Analyses of the JFA1 results**

Responsible Beneficiary: **ZonMw**
Dr. Wilke van Ansem

Due Date: **August 2019**

Dissemination Level: **Public**

Table of Content

1. Introduction	2
2. Flow charts proposal	4
3. Facts and figures application.....	5
3.1 Principal investigators & coordinators.....	5
3.2 Distribution female vs male Knowledge Platform members	5
3.3 Budget.....	6
4. Awarded proposal.....	7
4.1 Organization types	7
4.2 Topics & expertise of the Knowledge Platform	7
4.3 Knowledge Platform & connection JPI HDHL funding activities	7

1. Introduction

In September 2018, the Joint Programming Initiative “A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life” (JPI HDHL) launched the *Knowledge Platform on Food, Diet, Intestinal Microbiomics and Human Health* research call. This was the first non-cofunded joint funding activity under the frame of HDHL INTIMIC.

The overall aim of the Knowledge Platform (KP) was to foster transnational and multidisciplinary collaboration and networking in order to accelerate, further develop and increase the impact of intestinal microbiome research related to human health. Therefore, HDHL-INTIMIC brought together research groups from various disciplines to form a transnational consortium that will design and implement the KP.

The following focus areas were described in the call text:

- Standardisation and harmonisation
- Data handling, knowledge and data sharing
- Move from association to causality

In total 9 countries (represented by 14 funding agencies) participated in this call. Eleven funding agencies participated with fresh funding budgets, while three funding organisations participated with their already funded projects in the HDHL-INTIMIC cofunded call (*“Interrelation of the Intestinal Microbiome, Diet and Health” (2017)*), where travel budget to Knowledge Platform meetings have already been granted. Table 1 presents an overview of the participating countries and their respective funding organisations.

Table 1: Available budget per participating country and respective funding organisation

Country	Funding Organisation	Short name	Earmarked Budget
FRESH FUNDING			
Austria	Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research. Call implemented by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)	BMBWF	€99.900,-
Belgium	Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food	ILVO	<i>In kind</i>
Israel	Ministry of Science, Technology and Space	MoST	€200.000,-
Italy	Italian National Institute of Health	ISS	€50.000,-
Italy	Ministry of agricultural, food, forestry and tourism policies	Mipaaft	€250.000,-
France	French National Institute for Agricultural Research	INRA	<i>In kind</i>
France	French National Institute of Health and Medical Research	Inserm	<i>In kind</i>
Germany	Federal Ministry of Education and Research, represented by the Project Management Agency in the German Aerospace Center	BMBF represented by DLR-PT	€ 500.000,-
Germany	Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture represented by the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food	BMEL Represented by BLE	€100.000,-
The Netherlands	The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development	ZonMw	€ 200.000
Spain	National Institute of Health Carlos III	ISCIII	€ 50.000,-
Participated only with projects funded in the HDHL-INTIMIC cofunded call “Interrelation of the Intestinal Microbiome, Diet and Health” (2017)			
Italy	Ministry of Education, University and Research	MIUR	
Spain	Spanish State Research Agency	AEI	
Sweden	The Swedish Research Council Formas	FORMAS	
TOTAL			€ 1.449.900,-

To evaluate the implementation and the results of this JFA, analyses on the call statistics have been performed on the following set of indicators:

- number of Expression of Interest (Eoi) submitted per country
- number of Knowledge Platform members per country
- requested funding per country
- funding awarded per country
- gender of successful Knowledge Platform members and coordinators
- type of organization of partners involved
- connection Knowledge Platform with other JPI HDHL funded projects

The final sets of indicators were determined in collaboration with WP 7 of HDHL INTIMIC and WP6 of the JPI HDHL CSA 2.0.

2. Flow charts proposal

This KP call was implemented in a 3-step procedure:

1. Expression of Interest (Eol)
2. Networking Meeting
3. Joint proposal (including peer review process)

Within the first stage of implementation of the KP, interested researchers or research groups submitted an Eol letter following a predefined template to the JPI HDHL. In total, 69 Eol were submitted to the Joint Call Secretariat. Two proposals did not meet the formal conditions and were rejected. A pre-selection of suitable KP members has been made by the participating funding agencies based on national procedures following the selection criteria that have been defined in the call text. The national pre-selection has been discussed by the Call Steering Committee (CSC) and a final selection has been agreed. Of the 67 eligible Eol, 55 research groups were selected.

In the second step -the Networking Meeting- the selected KP members were brought together for the first time to facilitate the start of the development of a joint proposal. In the last step, the KP members submitted one joint proposal. Of the 55 selected research groups, 53 research groups participated in the joint proposal.

The joint proposal was peer-reviewed by a Scientific Evaluation Committee (SEC). The SEC recommended the proposal for funding after revision. In May 2019 the CSC recommended the revised joint proposal for funding, based the recommendations of the SEC. The Knowledge Platform requested a total amount of almost €1.6M euro. Figure 1 summarizes the call procedure.

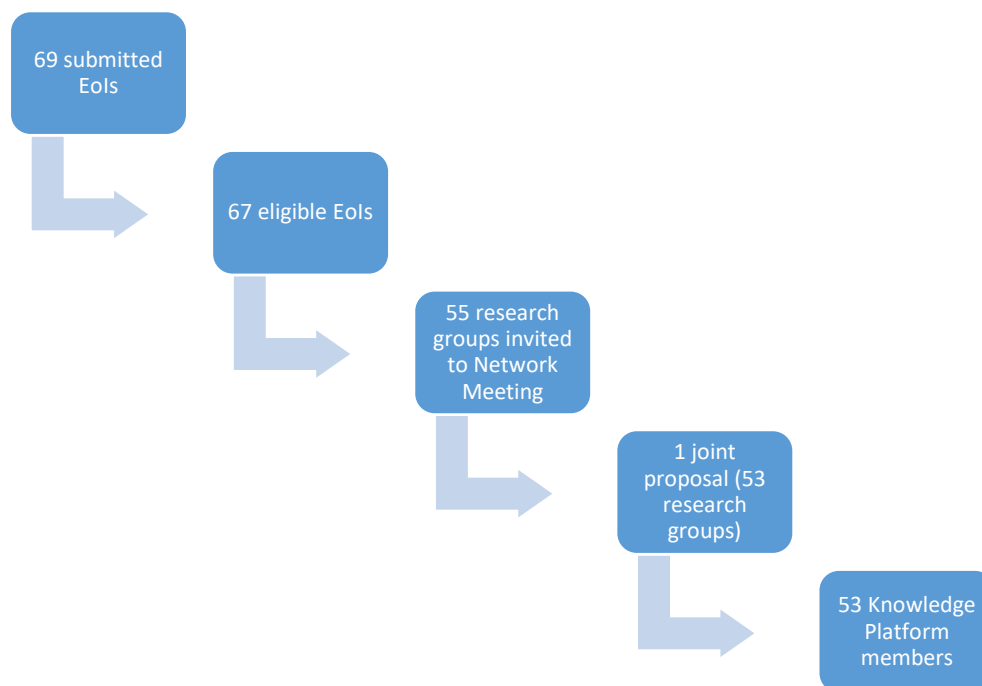


Figure 1: Flow chart showing the call procedure.

3. Facts and figures application

3.1 Principal investigators & coordinators

The Knowledge Platform consists of 53 research teams (principal investigators) from 9 countries (see figure 2). A large part of the research groups (43 %) is from Germany and Italy, both countries also had the highest amount of fresh money available. A coordination team of 3 principal investigators leads the Knowledge Platform. The coordination team is from the Netherlands (coordinator) and Germany (2 deputy coordinators).

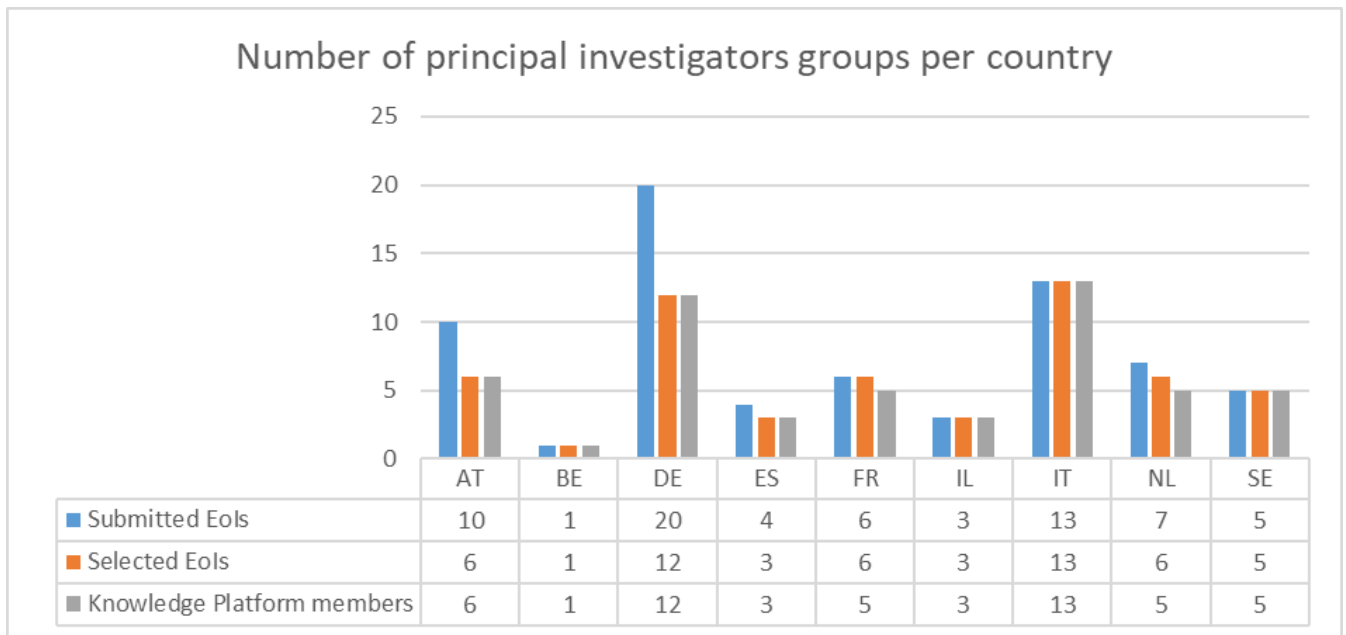


Figure 2: Distribution of the principal investigators of the research groups among the participating countries.

3.2 Distribution female vs male Knowledge Platform members

Figure 3 presents the distribution of male versus female principal investigators in the Eol and the joint proposal. Male principal investigators submitted slightly more Eol compared to female principal investigators (39 male PI versus 30 female PI). No female principal investigators from Belgium, Israel and Sweden submitted an Eol. Contrastingly, in Italy and Austria more female principal investigators submitted an Eol. In the KP, the distribution regarding male and female principal investigators is similar (slightly more male PI's). The coordination team consist of a female coordinator and two male deputy-coordinators.

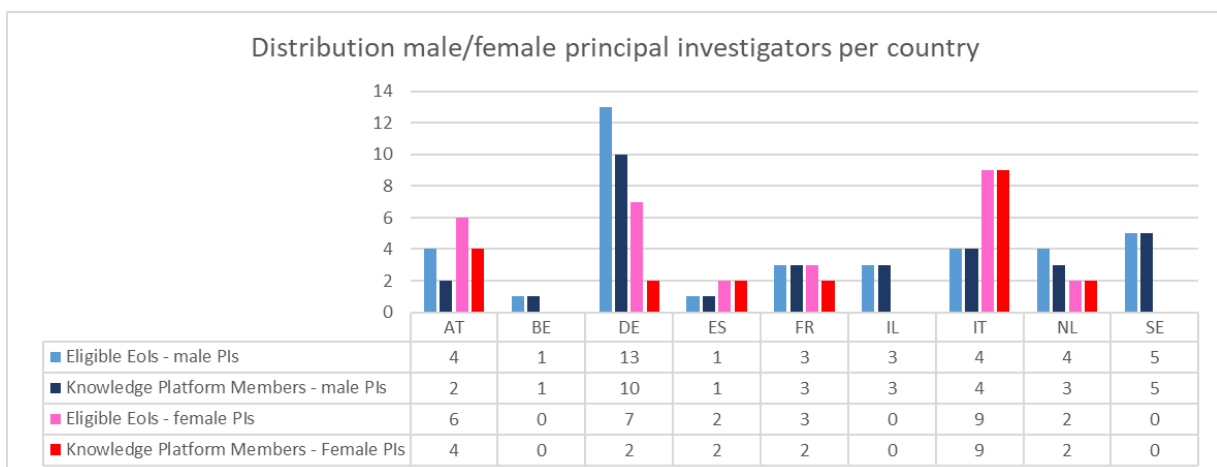


Figure 3: Distribution of male/female principal investigators of the research groups among the participating countries.

3.3 Budget

Figure 4 shows the budgetary information of this call. The German research groups requested the highest amount of fresh funding, which is not surprisingly, as Germany also allocated the highest amount of fresh funding. In total, the Knowledge Platform receives approximately €1.6M fresh funding. Besides the requested fresh funding, the Knowledge Platform also received in-kind funding (displayed in figure 4). A lot of this in kind funding originated from already funded projects (from JPI HDHL and national funded initiatives). Germany and Italy have the highest amount of in kind funding. Sweden, France and Belgium only participated with in kind funding. The total funding amount in the Knowledge Platform (requested fresh funding + in kind funding) is approximately €2.6M.

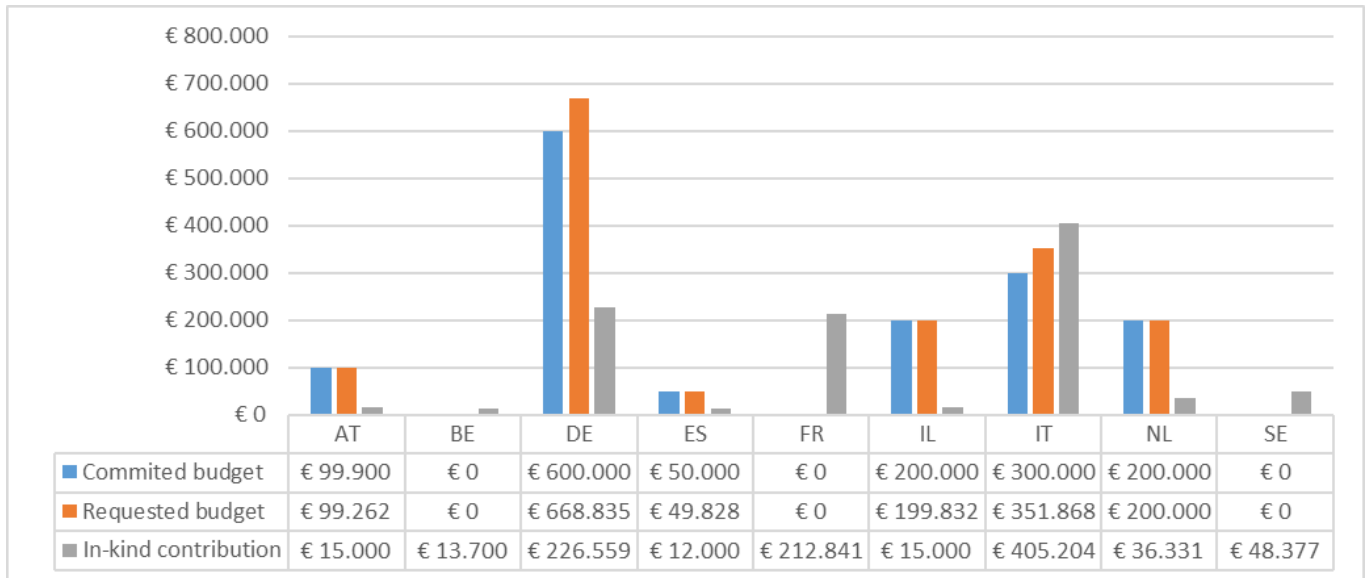


Figure 4: committed budget per country, requested budget and in kind contribution of the research groups as specified in the joint proposal.

4. Awarded proposal

The Knowledge Platform proposal was, after revision, awarded. The project will start in autumn of 2019 and runs for 2 years.

4.1 Organization types

The research teams are classified by organisation type: university, university medical centre (UMC), non-university research institute and industry partners. In total 29 universities, 16 research institutes, 6 UMC and 2 industry partners are involved in the KP. The industry partners are two large scale industries, one from the Netherlands and one from Germany. The coordination team works at a university and non-university research institutes (see figure 5).

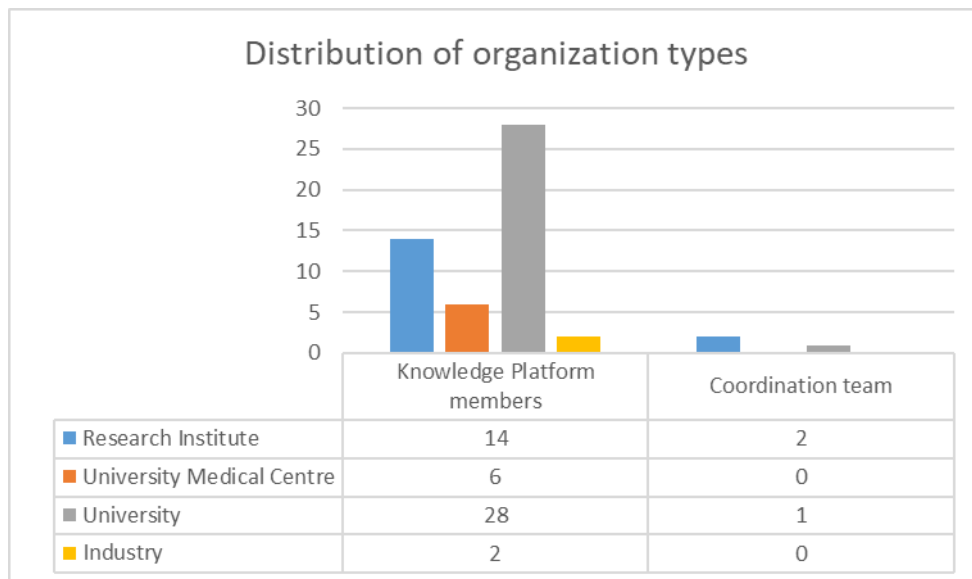


Figure 5: Distribution of organization types in the Knowledge Platform.

4.2 Topics & expertise of the Knowledge Platform

The focus of the knowledge Platform is on standardisation and harmonisation and data sharing. Nevertheless, a small part is focusing on causal effect relationships.

The Knowledge Platform members have expertise in the following areas:

- Lifestyle / epidemiology / dietary assessment
- Food / agricultural
- Microbiota / disease / immunology
- Molecular biology / -omics
- Bio-informatics / data

4.3 Knowledge Platform & connection JPI HDHL funding activities

JPI HDHL aimed to connect all funded JPI HDHL projects that are related to the research on food, diet, intestinal microbiomics and human health in the Knowledge Platform. Participation in the Knowledge Platform was mandatory for the projects funded under the HDHL-INTIMIC cofunded call “*Interrelation of the Intestinal Microbiome, Diet and Health*” (2017). Table 2 provides an overview of the number of research groups of the funded projects in the HDHL-INTIMIC cofunded call that are involved in the Knowledge Platform.

Table 2: Involvement of the Platform members in HDHL-INTIMIC cofunded call

Project Acronym	Number of research groups represented in the KP
DiGuMet	3
DIME	1
Di-Mi-Liv	4
EarlyFOOD	1
FATMAL	1
GUTMOM	2
MeaTlc	1
MEDIMACS	1
MICRODIET	2
OCTOPUS	1
TransMic	1

Although not mandatory, the Knowledge Platform also connected with other previous funding activities of the JPI HDHL. Table 3 presents the involvement of funded projects from previous JPI HDHL funding activities in the Knowledge Platform. Many research groups that were involved in ENPADASI are also connected to the Knowledge Platform, which makes sense, as ENPADASI was a project that focused on data sharing and delivered an open access research infrastructure that contain data from a wide variety of nutritional studies. Besides ENPADASI, also DEDIPAC, the Joint Action Biomarkers for Nutrition & Health; the Joint Action Intestinal Microbiomics and the cofunded call Biomarkers for Health (ERA HDHL) are well represented in the Knowledge Platform.

Table 3: Previous JPI HDHL Funding Activity of the Platform members in Joint Actions and ERA-HDHL

	Call	Number of research groups
Joint Actions	DEDIPAC	5
	ENPADASI	12
	Working groups	1
	BioNH	6
	NutriCog	3
	MaNuEL	2
	Intestinal Microbiomics	6
ERA-HDHL	Cofund BioNH	5
	PEN	1
	Nutrition & Epigenome	1