

Benefits to the ERA-CAPS partners and observers both within and beyond Europe:

- To share information and exchange expertise with other members.
- To take part in ERA-CAPS activities and thereby play an active role in international plant sciences.
- To give our scientists the unique opportunity to form transnational research groups by participating in joint calls.
- To improve the performance of plant sciences research by fostering international collaboration among high-level teams.

How to get involved?

If your organisation is interested in being involved in ERA-CAPS activities, please contact:

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Contact Information

- Central coordination, Dr Paul Wiley: eracaps@bbsrc.ac.uk (see above).
- For contact information of the ERA-CAPS partners and observers, please refer to the 'Contact' page of our website: www.era-caps.org



ERA-CAPS partners:

	P1 Coordinator United Kingdom	Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council BBSRC
	P2 Austria	Austrian Science Fund FWF
	P3 Belgium	Fund for Scientific Research F.R.S.-FNRS
	P4 Canada	National Research Council NRC
	P5 Denmark	Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation DASTI
	P6 Estonia	Estonian Science Foundation ETF
	P7 France	French National Institute for Agricultural Research INRA
	P8 Germany	German Research Foundation DFG
	P9 Hungary	Hungarian Academy of Sciences HAS-SEC
	P10 Israel	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development MOARD
	P11 Italy	Ministry of Education, Universities and Research MIUR
	P12 Latvia	Latvian Academy of Science LZA
	P13 Netherlands	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research NWO
	P14 New Zealand	Ministry of Science and Innovation MSI
	P15 Norway	Research Council of Norway RCN
	P16 Poland	The National Centre for Research and Development NCBiR
	P17 Portugal	Foundation for Science and Technology FCT
	P18 Serbia	Ministry of Education and Science MPN
	P19 Spain	Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness MINECO

ERA-CAPS Observers

	O1 Europe	European Plant Science Organisation EPSO
	O2 France	National Research Agency ANR
	O3 India	Department of Biotechnology DBT
	O4 Italy	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies MiPAAF
	O5 Japan	Japan Science and Technology Agency JST
	O6 Slovenia	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food MAFF
	O7 United States	National Science Foundation NSF



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ERA-CAPS

ERA-NET for coordinating action in plant sciences

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Why plant sciences?

“Plants are essential to human life”

Directly or indirectly, plants produce most of the world's food as well as renewable sources of energy and materials.

Plant sciences face important challenges at the European and global scale due to a burgeoning world population that requires sustenance. Global demand for food is expected to increase by 50% by 2030 and to double by 2050. Reliable production of high-quality and safe food, feed and renewable carbon supplies for green chemistry, without the use of excess land, energy, water, pesticides and chemicals is therefore essential.

What is ERA-CAPS?

ERA-CAPS is a European Research Area Network (or ERA-NET) for **C**oordinating **A**ction in **P**lant **S**ciences, supported by the 7th Framework Programme. ERA-NETs are an instrument of the European Commission's Framework Programme; the objective of the ERA-NET scheme is to develop and strengthen the coordination of national and regional research programmes.

(Further information here: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/coordination/about-era_en.html)

Why ERA-CAPS?

The ERA-CAPS programme aims at **deepening** and **enlarging** European cooperation in the area of **Molecular Plant Sciences**, which will help plant sciences to address both current and future challenges in food and non-food crop production.

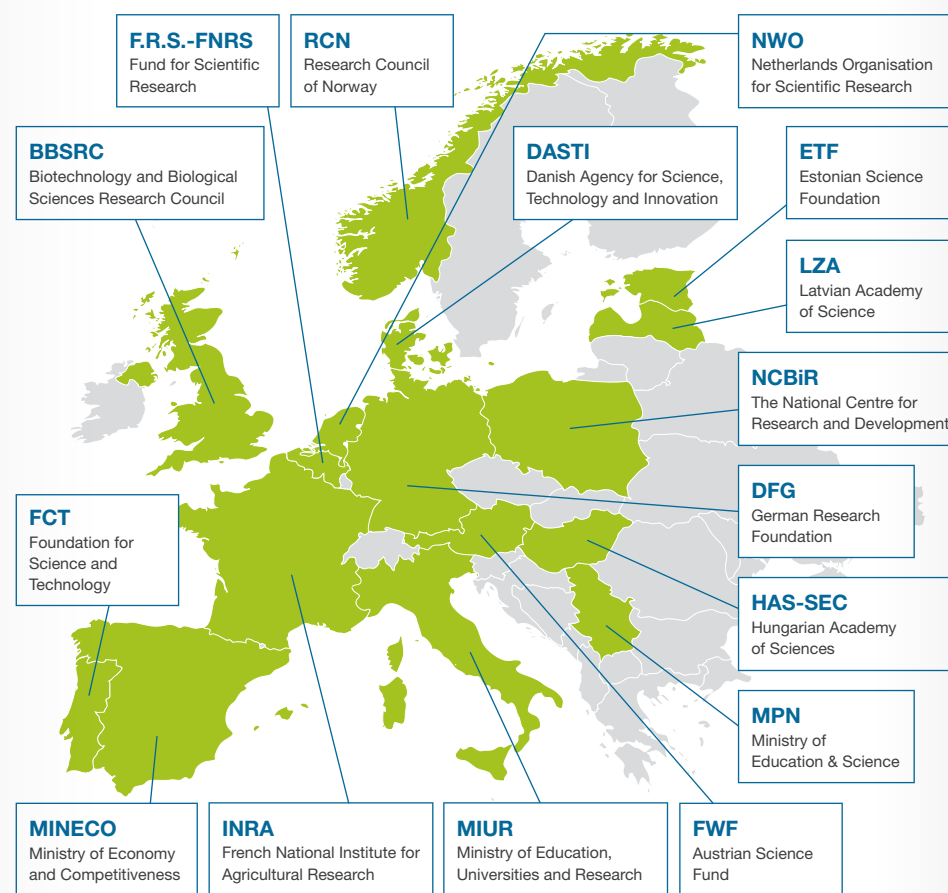
The programme will focus on a number of complementary mechanisms for achieving this:

- Transnational coordination and integration of national plant science programmes.
- Joint funding of a transnational research programme.
- Networking with other European and international plant science initiatives.

www.era-caps.org

The ERA-CAPS Network:

- The ERA-CAPS consortium was launched in January 2012 under the ERA-NET scheme of the 7th Framework Programme and its planned duration is 36 months.
- ERA-CAPS gathers a group of 26 partners from 23 different countries that are responsible for funding or coordinating plant sciences research in their respective countries/regions.



ERA-CAPS origins:

ERA-CAPS was preceded by the very successful ERA-NET in Plant Genomics (ERA-PG, for information please see <http://www.erapg.org>). ERA-PG ran from 2004-2009 and administered a number of joint calls that resulted in 55M€ of funding for transnational plant genomics research, as well as producing influential reports and position papers.

Future activities of ERA-CAPS:

Joint calls: In the course of ERA-CAPS, calls on various topics will be launched. The topics of the calls will be decided by the member organisations, informed by advice from the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB).

- **First call:** the call will be broad and inclusive, and will primarily address fundamental plant science. The topics will encompass those that have been previously identified as scientific, environmental, societal or economic challenges.
- **Second call:** the second call will be tailored to fit the strategic priorities of the different ERA-CAPS partners and the scientific community.

For up-to-date information, we invite you to visit our website or subscribe to our newsletter: www.era-caps.org

Workshops: ERA-CAPS will organise the following workshops and activities:

- Workshops for stakeholders and policy makers to develop common strategic goals for the programme.
- Grant-holders' workshops to allow researchers funded through ERA-CAPS to come together and share results.
- Public engagement activities to ensure that research findings are publicised beyond the network to the wider scientific community and general public.

