



# Criteria for success: the future of collaborative brain research: the European Commission's perspective



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# Why Collaborative Research?



*"If you want to walk fast, walk alone*

*If you want to walk far, walk with others"*

## **Historical reasons**

- ✓ From *"individual"* research to *"collaborative lab"* research (Prussia-1850)
- ✓ Building the EU : political will to bring together countries



# Why Collaborative Research?

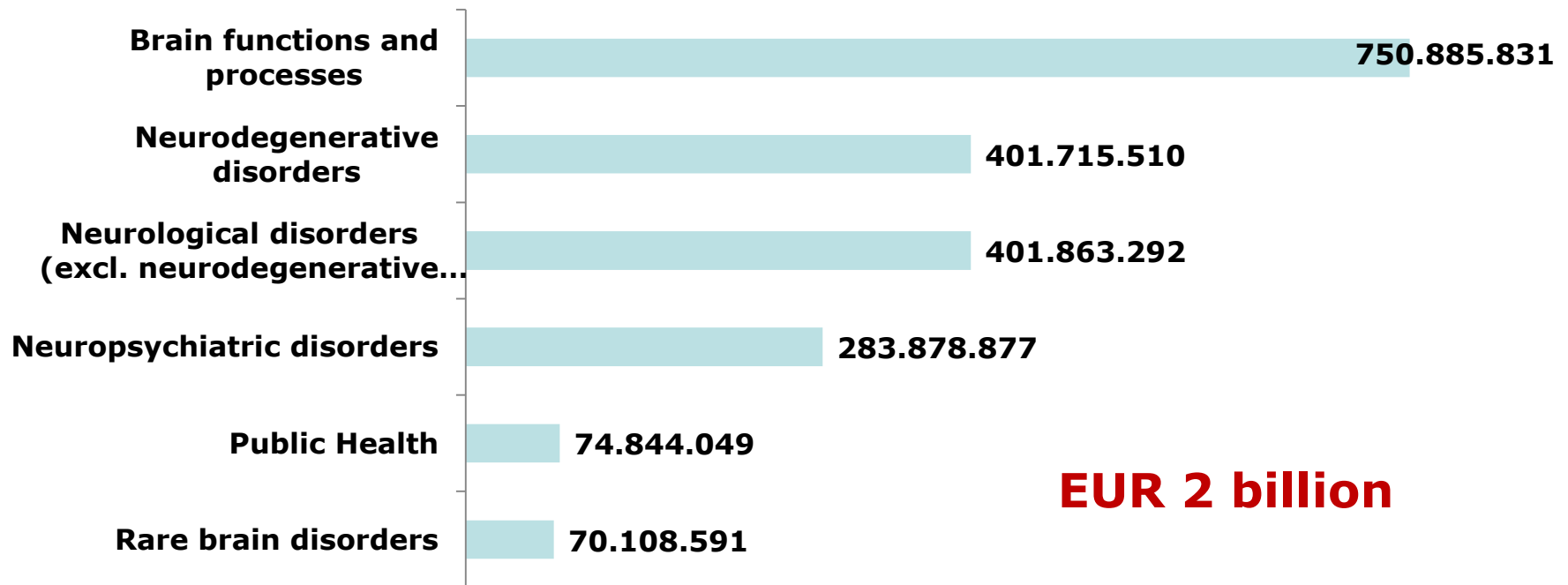


*To create a nurturing ground for excellence to flourish*

- **Bring together high expertise, from various disciplines and sectors**
- **Bring together great minds**
- **Create links between *People* and between *Institutions***
- **Spread excellence through the consortia**
- **Reach critical mass to address issues that cannot be tackled at institutional or national level**

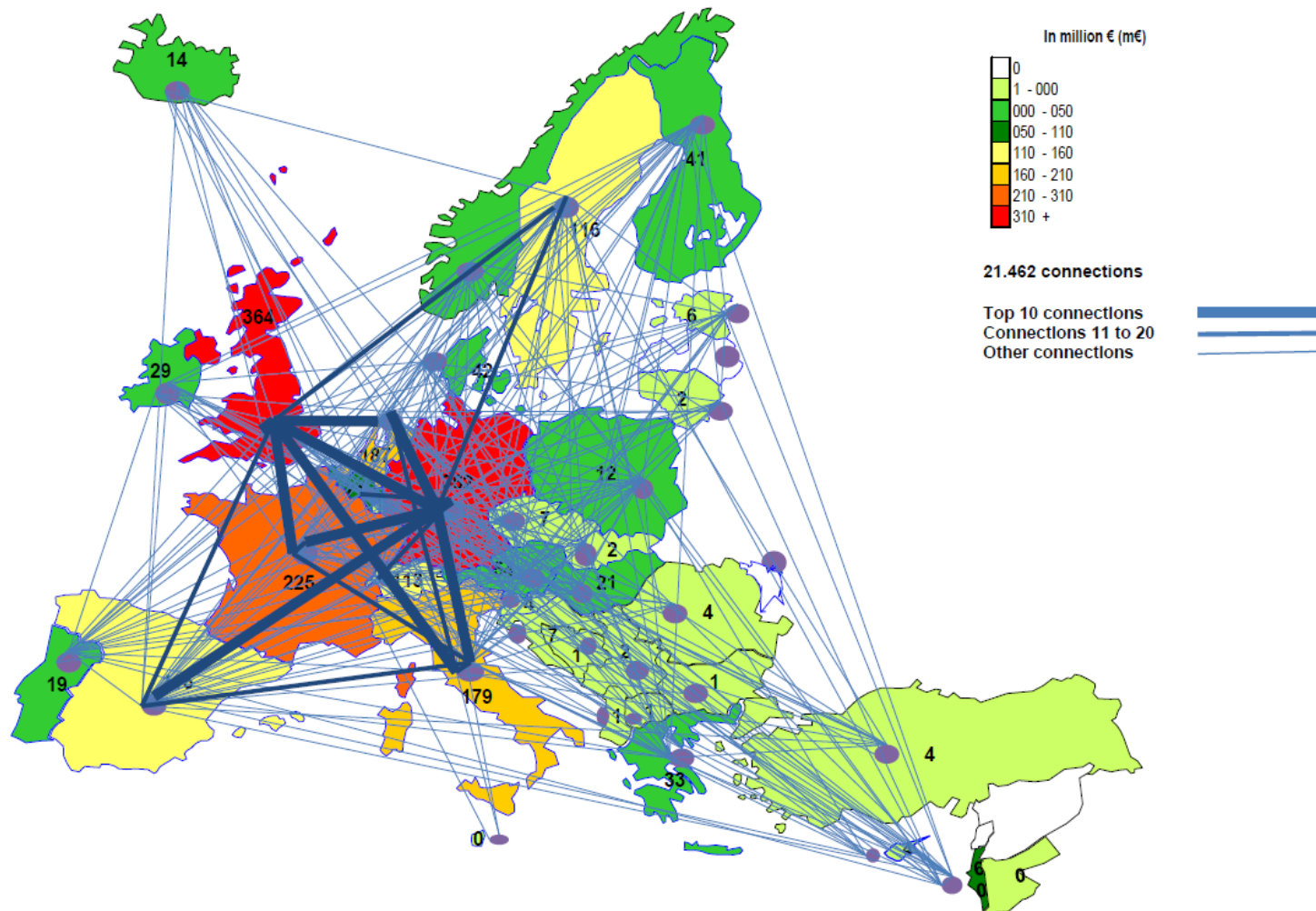


## FP7 funding support for brain research





# FP7 Brain Research 2007-2013



**21,500 connections**



# FP7 Health Cooperation Programme (2007-2013)- Brain

## *Key figures*

**785** M€ invested to date

**138** projects

**1 732** participations

**810** organisations

**56** countries

## **First outcomes**

(on 57 closed projects from Health Programme)

**2 031** publications

**3,1** average SJR\* (average IF  
of 8.8)

**52** patent applications

**4** spin-offs created



# Horizon 2020 and partnering



## **Public-private partnerships:**

Through *Joint Technology Initiatives* or other formal structures (Art. 187)

Through contractual agreements, which provide inputs for work programmes

Only when criteria met, e.g. clear commitments from private partners

## **Public-public partnerships:**

Through « ERA-Nets » for topping up individual calls/actions (replacing current ERA-Net, ERA-Net Plus, Inco-Net, Inno-net)

Through participation in joint programmes between Member States (Art. 185)

*Supporting agendas of Joint Programming Initiatives when in line with Horizon 2020*

Only when criteria met, e.g. financial commitments of participating countries

## **European Innovation Partnerships:**

Not funding instruments, but for coordination with broader policies and programmes



# EU research in Brain



## Collaborative research

### ➤ **FP7: 2 Billion**

2007-2012

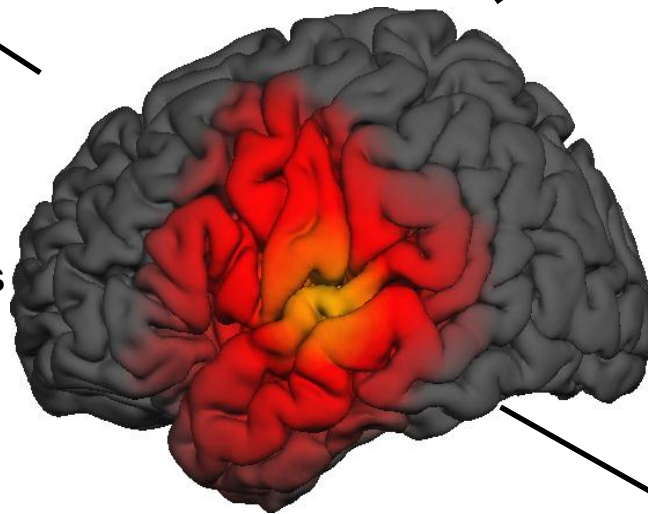
- Neurodegenerative diseases
- Pathophysiology
- Treatment
- Diagnostic
- Quality of Life

### ➤ **H2020**

- Comparative effectiveness
- Therapies proof of concept

## IMI

- **Speeding up drug development through open public-private collaboration**



## JPND

- **SRA (2011)**
- **7 transnational calls (2011-15)**
- **€30 Million in 2015:**
  - Longitudinal Cohort
  - Experimental Models
  - Risk and Protective Factors

## Human Brain Project

- **Harness modern ICT to understand the brain**
- **€ 1 Billion**



# Enabling collaboration



## Open Access to data H2020 Pilot :

- Deposit data into a research data repository of their choice
- Take measures to make it possible to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate free of charge
- Provide information about tools and instruments
- Projects can opt out for a variety of reasons (e.g. privacy, IP protection, security ...)



## EU Data Regulation

- Strengthen individuals' rights to personal data protection
- Help data subjects better manage risks associated to online processing of their personal data
- Ensure a harmonised approach at EU level ('one-stop-shop' mechanism)

## High Performance Computer

- accelerate processes & decrease costs in data analysis from different sources, modeling & simulation
- Currently not adapted to health applications



# Patients at the heart of R&I



## In Research

- *Patients involved in projects as partners & through ethics board, safety monitoring board, and patient input platform*
- *Offered patients' perspective on recruitment, study design, project communication & dissemination*
- *translate results in lay language, modify guidelines to better fit patients' needs*



**Month of the Brain 2013:**  
**Recommended policy principles**  
**"Promote the role of patients in all stages of Research"**

## In Policy Making

- *Research priorities based on wide stakeholder consultations patient organisations*
- *Horizon 2020 topics are patient-centred*
- *Health Advisory group: European Patient Associations representative*
- *Workshops: patients participation*
- *Many events are triggered by patient organisations*



# General opening



- *Horizon 2020 is open to participation from across the world*
- *Automatic funding:*
  - Member States (including overseas departments and overseas territories)
  - Associated Countries
  - Exhaustive list of countries in annex to work programme (but: no longer BRIC + Mexico)
- *Participants from other countries only funded in exceptional cases:*
  - when provision is made in the call text
  - bilateral agreement (e.g. Health challenge – NIH)
  - when the Commission deems it essential (case by case assessment)





# International cooperation



- Identify and define shared strategic goals
- Agree to approach jointly and share tasks (and costs)
- Let each agency use its own funding mechanisms/timing
- Agree to share data / standards / analysis



Alignment – Flexibility – Commitment

Example: Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD)



**When?** launched in October 2011 in Brussels

**Who?** Founding Members: EU (European Commission), US (National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke) and Canada (Canadian Institutes of Health Research)

**What?** coordinate clinical research activities across the full spectrum of TBI injuries

**Why?** to improve clinical outcomes and lessen the global burden of TBI by 2020

**How?** through the discovery of causal relationships between treatments and clinically meaningful outcomes



# G8 summit dementia



**When?** December 2013 in London (next = February 2015)

**Who?** CA, DE, FR, JP, IT, RU, UK, US

EC closely associated in follow-up events, as well as OECD, WHO, JPND, civil society

**What?** Identify a cure or a disease-modifying therapy by 2025

**Why?** Recognised impact of dementia for patients and carers and increasing socio-economic burden

**How?**

- Increase amount of funding for dementia research
- work together: co-ordinated international research action plan
  - (i) sharing information about funded research
  - (ii) identify strategic priority areas
  - (iii) strengthen collaborations