

Constructing synergies: the National R&D priorities and the European RA agenda

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Background: Public R&D funding Greece

- The main source of funding for R&D(&I) activities is the General Secretariat for Research and Technology – GSRT (which operates under the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious affairs).
- The grants managed by GSRT cover all types of research, under many thematic headings, and address both academic/ research and industrial participants.
- There are, also, other public entities (e.g., Ministries) that could support R&D activities...

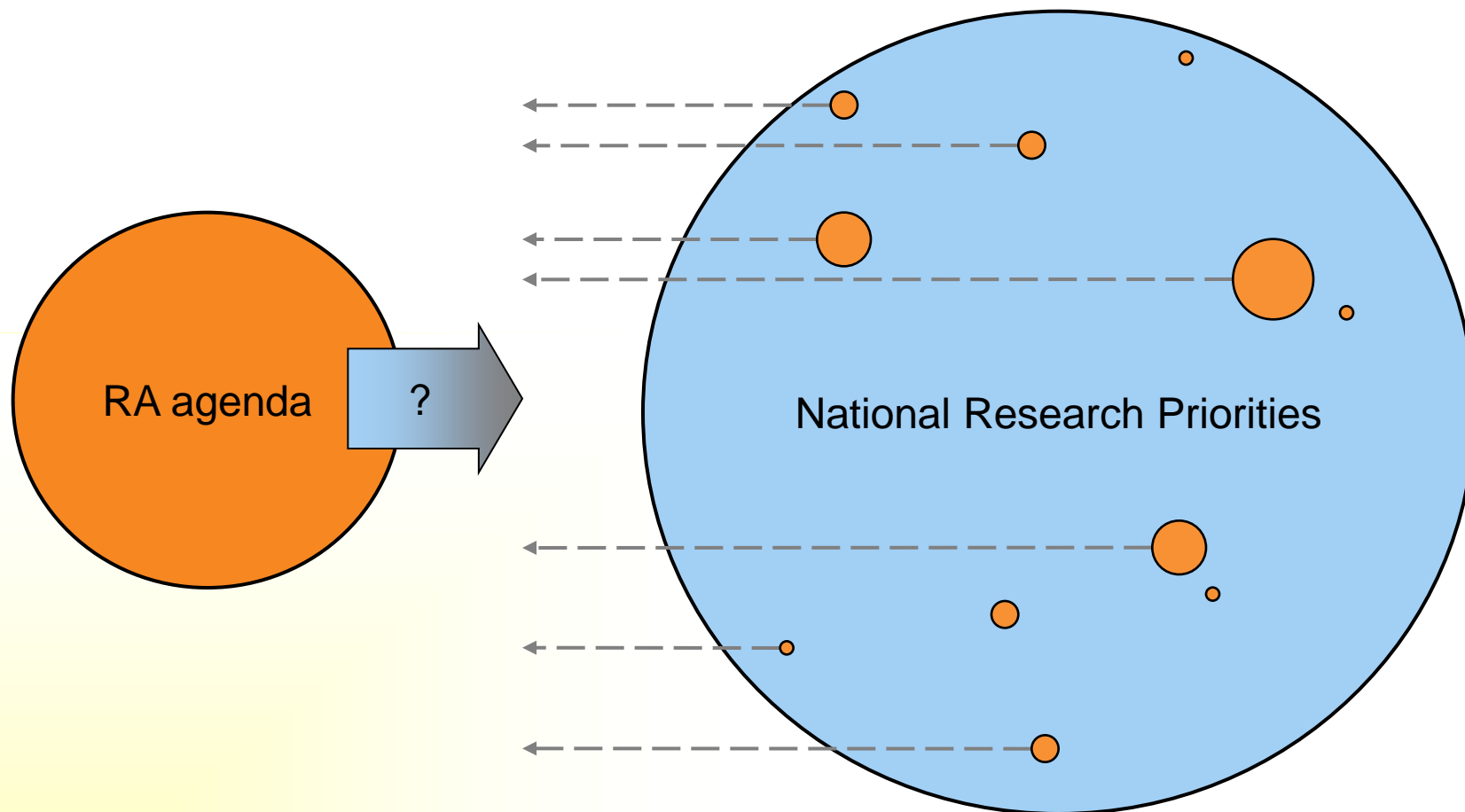
Background: The RA agenda

- EFSA
 - compiled the “European RA agenda” based on the input gathered from experts
 - has initiated a mapping exercise, also engaging the FPs, to identify funding sources potentially suitable for the support of the RA agenda
- EFET (as the Greek FP)
 - started the mapping of trans-regional schemes that could support R&D activities (e.g., the various Interreg programmes, such as BalkanMed)
 - informed GSRT - the main national research funding body - on the contents of the RA agenda

Identifying the national research priorities for the agro-food sector

Work in progress

- GSRT has set up an Advisory Group to review research topics and propose priorities to be considered in the pilot and forthcoming calls.
 - EFET has been invited to participate
 - The AG's mandate covers the agro-food sector, i.e., aquaculture, plant production, animal production and food
 - Possible coordination amongst the AGs for the different themes
- The 'fitness' criteria to set research priorities include:
 - Capacity to lead to new/ improved value-added products, especially of export potential
 - Positive impact on competitiveness, sustainability and society



Challenges in identifying and/ or constructing synergies...

- The RA agenda topics and the national priorities have different top-objectives, different potential beneficiaries, etc. Thus:
 - Individual RA agenda elements need to be identified or described within the various suitable proposed topics, e.g.,
 - *as deliverables*
 - *as intermediate results*
 - *as methodologies to achieve deliverables, etc.*
 - A mechanism is needed to disseminate the RA-relevant results to the interested parties, without hindering the exploitation of the main projects' deliverables, e.g.,
 - *via appropriate dissemination actions*
 - *via suitable multi-actor engagement during the projects, etc.*
- The identified priorities will undergo a further consultation/ review process by the research stakeholders
- Limits in available funds → competition amongst themes and priorities

Likely next steps?

- Greek FP:
 - Further contribution to the work of the AG
 - Communication/ cooperation with GSRT (and possibly other relevant entities) regarding the dissemination/ exploitation of RA-relevant results
- EFSA and/ or other parties
 - Facilitation of the communication/ cooperation among the actors involved in the RA agenda implementation
 - Further refinement/ revision of the RA agenda

Thank you for your attention!



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