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**NORFACE Crossing Boundaries – Interagency Cooperation
in Building Joint European Research Funding
in the Social Sciences**

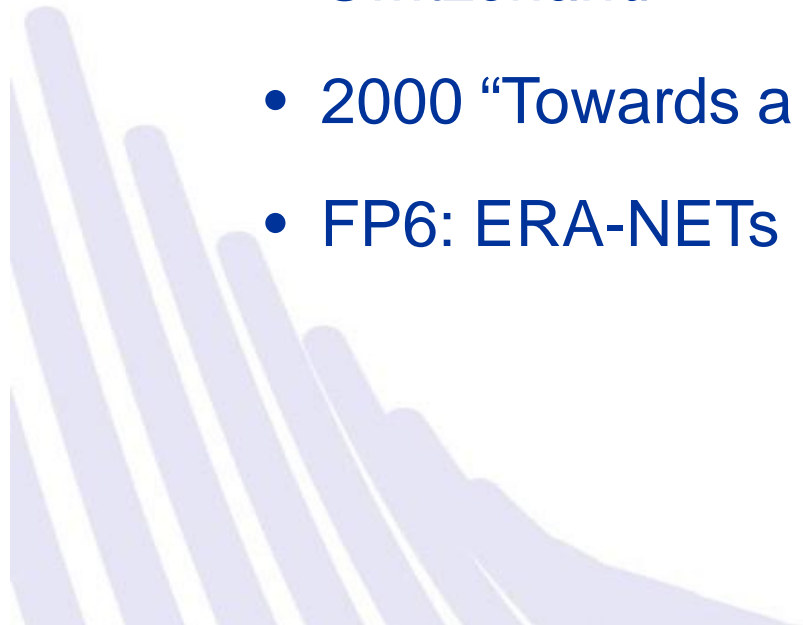
**Eili Ervelä-Myréen
18 September 2009**

Funding agency cooperation early 2000



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- ESF, COST
- Bilateral agreements
- Multilateral agreements: *NOS-S, Germany-Austria-Switzerland*
- 2000 “Towards a European Research Area”
- FP6: ERA-NETs



NORFACE: New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Co-operation in Europe

- a Strategy for Social Science

2004-2009

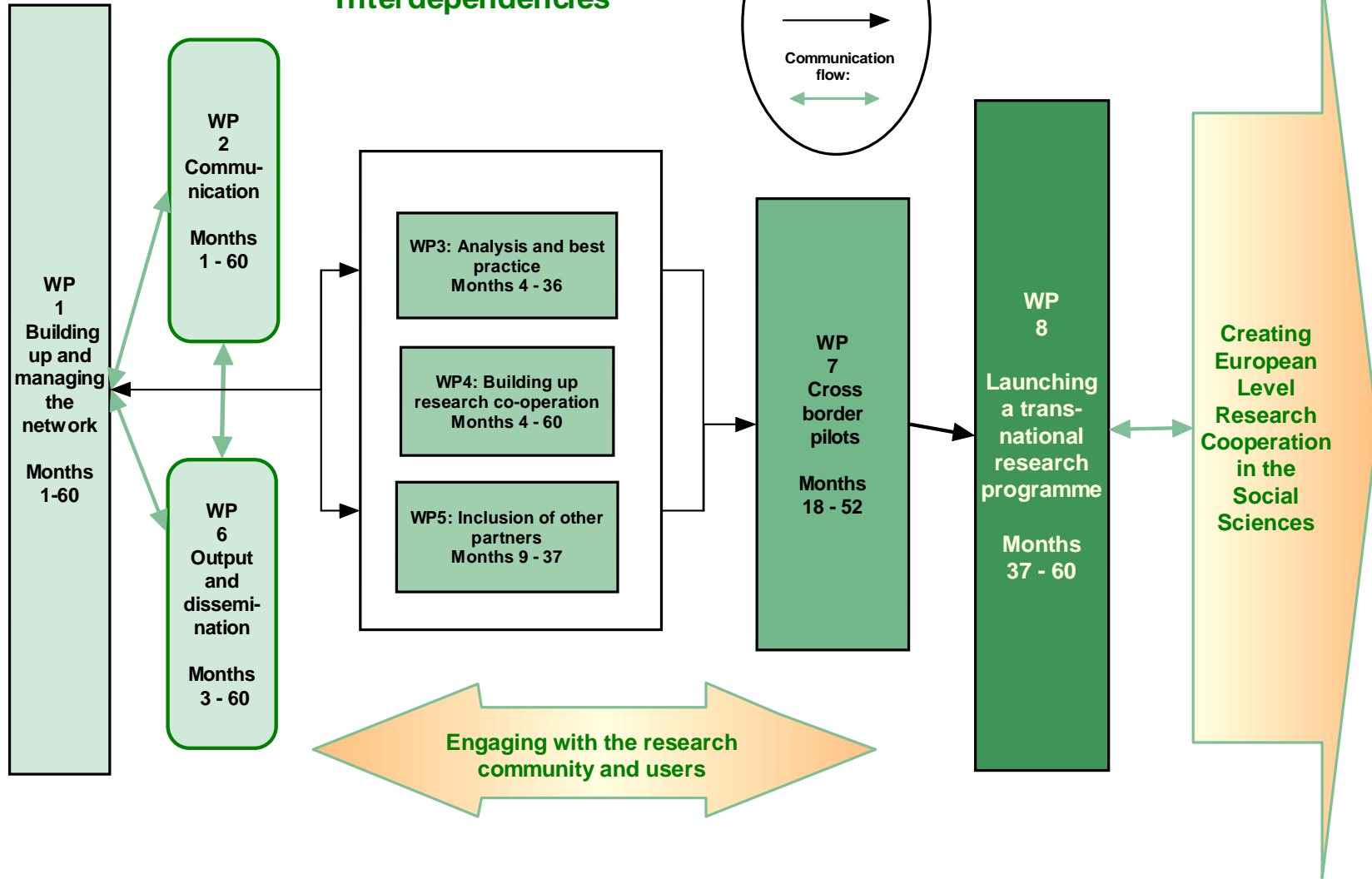
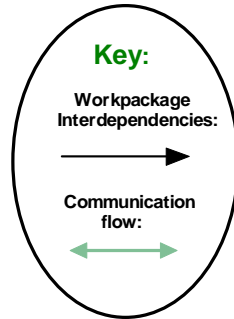
Strategic objectives

- the development of a durable **partnership** in research funding policy and practice between the partner organisations
- increasing co-operation between national programmes and **developing a transnational research programme between** the partner organisations

15 partners: FI, NO, SE, UK, DK, IS, IE, DE, EE, PT, NL, SI; AT, FR, CA



NORFACE Interdependencies



Best practice studies



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- Evaluation and peer review of research
- Programme development and management
- Priority setting and development of new initiatives
- User engagement
- Promotion of gender equality in research



Strategic activities



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- Comparative analysis of partner organisation
- Data and research infrastructures
- Opening up to transnational participation
- Design of new transnational funding instruments
- Staff exchange scheme
- The impact of language to international research co-operation
- Participation of ethnic minorities in social sciences

Research funding activities

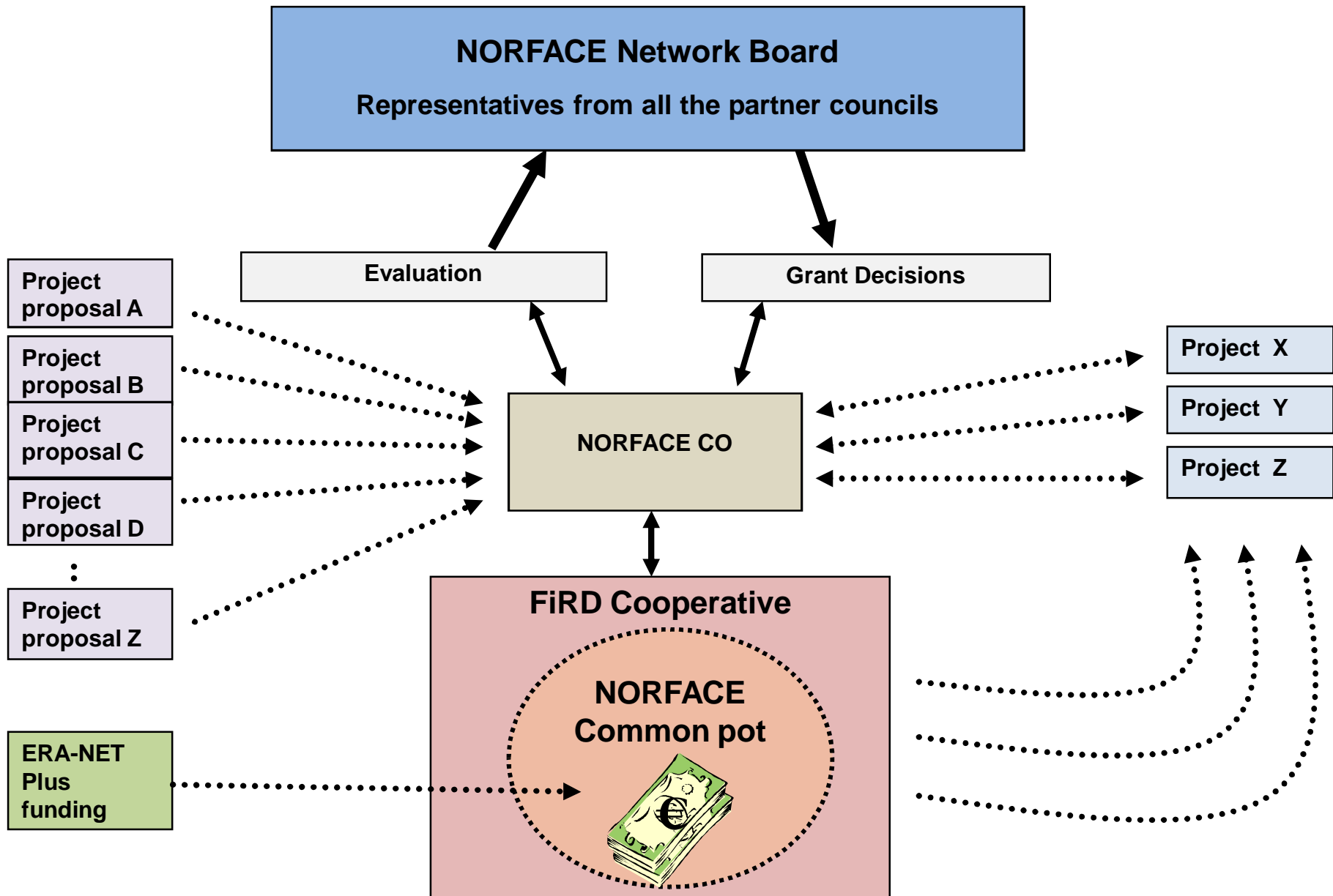


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- Seminar series (720.000 €)
 - 2005: ***Security Challenges; Science Policy and Science in Society***
 - 2006: ***Immigration and Demographic Challenges in Europe; Social Aspects of Language Diversity***
 - 2007: ***Politics and Evidence Based Knowledge; Transforming Europe – the Consequences of Globalisation***
- Pilot programme - 2006 (5,4 million €)
 - Re-emergence of religion as a Social Force in Europe?***
- Pilot on capacity building – 2007
- Transnational programme – 2008 (€ 28 million)

Migration in Europe

NORFACE Common Pot and Project Funding

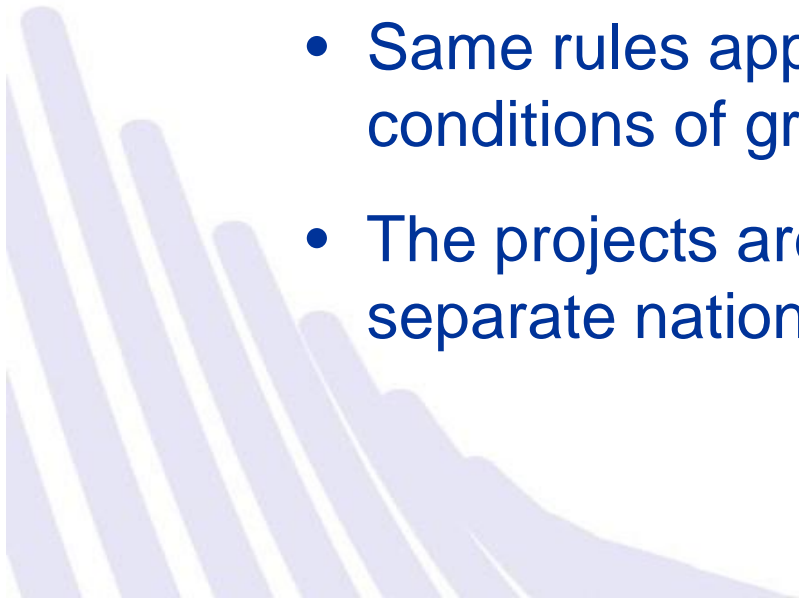


Planning criteria



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- “Common pot” funding model enables the funding of the best projects (excellence)
- “Researcher friendly” and transparent
- “One stop shop” for researchers
- Same rules apply to all projects – terms and conditions of grants, reporting and monitoring
- The projects are ‘real’ joint projects, not separate national projects



NORFACE Programme - theme planning



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- NORFACE partner countries invited to send in suggestions for themes
- Three clusters of themes emerged
- Two themes 'migration' and 'conflict' were chosen for further development
- Two expert groups, one for each theme, were nominated
- On the basis of the expert groups' reports Migration was chosen as the theme for the programme

NORFACE Migration programme: Implementation



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‘Real common pot’ funding – about 28 million EUR

Project requirements:

- Each application must include research teams in at least **three** or more different NORFACE countries
- Research teams from non-NORFACE countries can participate as co-operation partners, but will not be funded from “common pot”
- Minimum funding per project is **500.000 €** and maximum **4.000.000 €**
- Maximum duration is **48 months**

Two-stage procedure:

- outline proposals – 10 September 2008
- full proposals - 30 January 2009

Scientific coordination

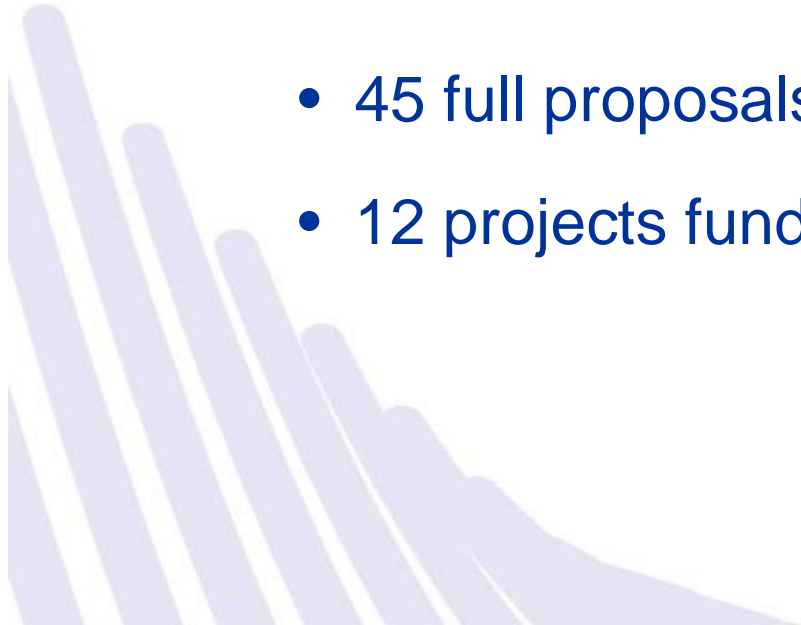
- Programme Director
- Funding for joint activities

NORFACE Migration Programme – call results



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- 240 outline proposals received
- 237 proposals were eligible
- Total amount of funding requested was over EUR 400.000.000
- 45 full proposals received
- 12 projects funded



NORFACE achievements



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- New ground has been broken with a genuine “common pot” for two large scale multi-country research programmes
- A partnership of 15 funding agencies
 - ✓ Contacts between the partner councils has been dramatically increased
 - ✓ Commitment and trust has been built between the partners

