Landcare Research
Manaaki Whenua

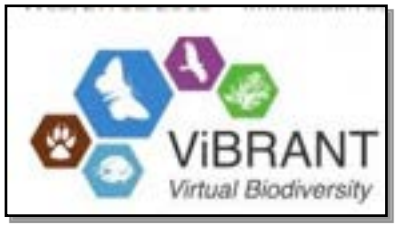
FP7 e-Infrastructures Programme

An NZ example of engagement

Jerry Cooper

FP7 e-infrastructure Programme

- *"It aims at empowering researchers with an easy and controlled online access to facilities, resources and collaboration tools, bringing to them the power of ICT for computing, connectivity, storage and instrumentation"*



EU e-infrastructure and NSF cyberinfrastructure programmes are vital to tech/information transfer

Our engagement was with ...

4D4Life
Distributed Dynamic Diversity Databases for Life

i4Life

Two e-infrastructure programmes to support **the Catalogue of Life** (CoL)

CoL is the (incomplete) list of all names of all described organisms, their synonyms and common names.

It is a vital data-backbone for biodiversity data-management supporting research, operational management, policy development ... IUCN Red data, GenBank, GBIF ...

How/Why did we engage?

Teams from different countries were already interacting at the international level to solve a common problem.

NZOR
New Zealand Organisms Register

The **Catalogue of Life** is (was) manually assembled from over 100 separate databases several times a year

European/Global E-Infrastructure required!

The New Zealand Organisms Register (NZOR) is the New Zealand national digital species catalogue, assembled from separate databases on a weekly basis.

NZOR is part of CoL

National E-infrastructure required!

What happened?

- China, USA, Australia and NZ proposed as vital non-EU partners in 4D4Life by UK-based lead

- Confusion about eligibility of non-EU partners for (EU) funding
  - issue around communication/support within the EU system for applicants

- China got EU funding
- USA leveraged national funding
- Australia and NZ – no funding (but still in project!)

Outcomes

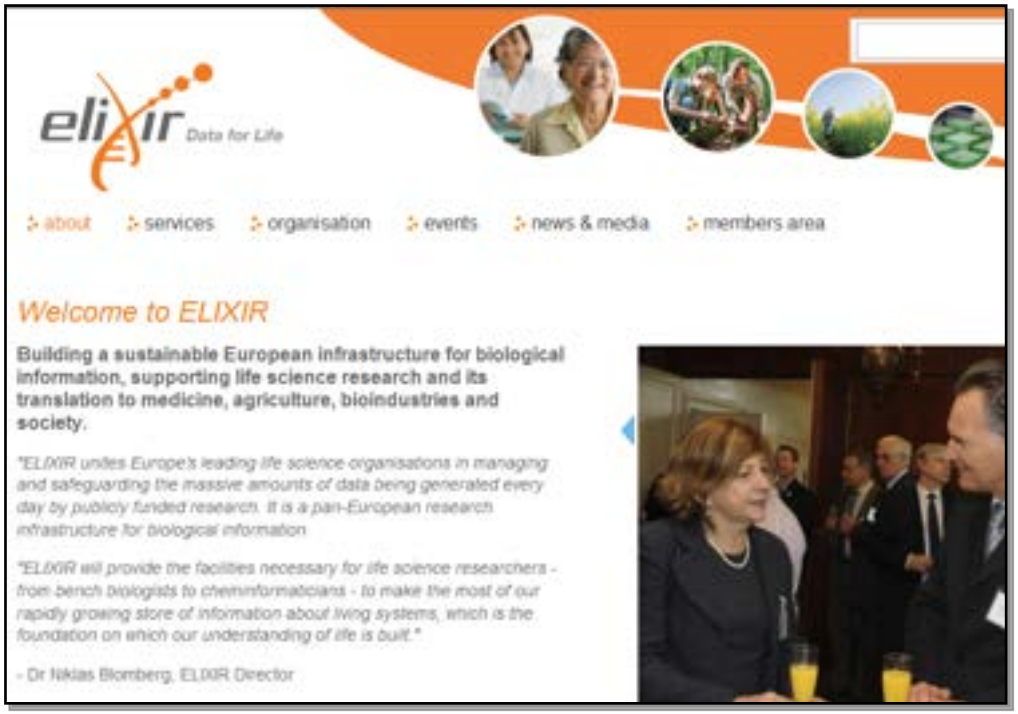
- We achieved allocated milestones within several work packages
  - work we needed to do anyway, and largely funded elsewhere
- NZ developed the ONLY operational e-Infrastructure to solve the problem
- Our work not picked up by CoL because it wasn't funded within the project
  - The EU lost out on utilising our expertise
  - Future engagement for NZ limited (clique formation)

(My) lessons

- Remember EU funding is about supporting the research process, as well as doing it
- Leverage existing international networks
  - which requires NZ-sourced funding to support international engagement in the first place
- Get in early (before the cliques develop)
- Make sure everybody knows and agrees who is eligible for what funding before you develop the work plans

H2020 e-infrastructures Potential?

ESFRI (FP7 prep for H2020)
Already done a heap of work prioritising work, and identifying partners for bids



H2020: ELIXIR Biological e-infrastructure consortium

No current involvement from NZ