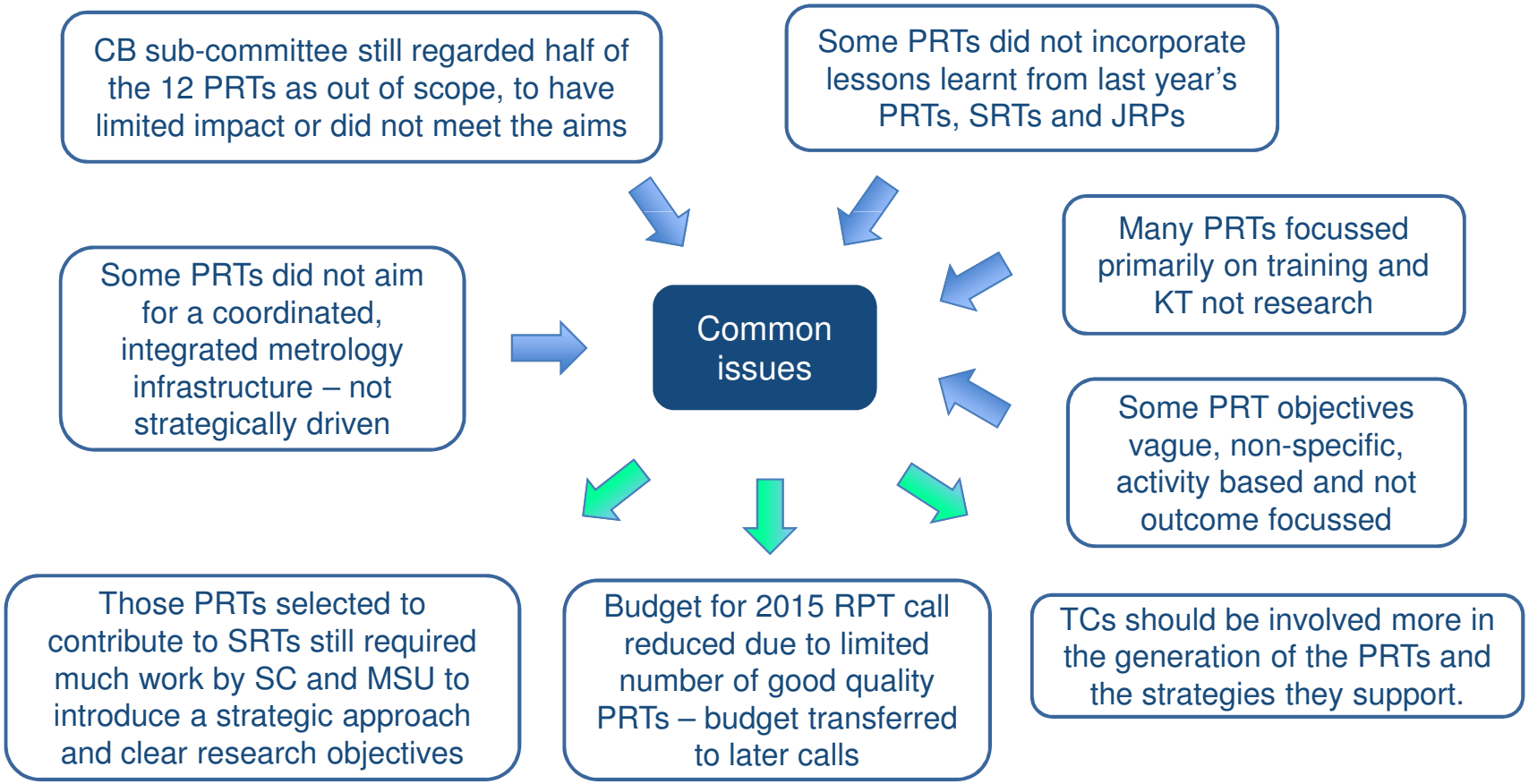


RPT JRPs and calls, a view from the MSU

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2015 RPT PRTs

- Some improvements to the 2015 submitted PRTs compared with 2014. An improved call scope, and PRT related training events in Sarajevo and Tallinn, helped reduce the number of inappropriate PRTs submitted this year. There are still a number of issues however…..

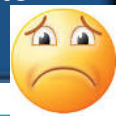


2014 RPT JRPs

- All 5 RPT have now started and the contracts have been concluded
- Several RPT JRPs were well structured, included research, technical developments that went beyond the current state of the art outside the JRP, and any training was specifically related to the research
- At least one coordinator looked at an existing JRP protocol to see what was required and incorporated this information in the RPT JRP
- Any legal entity validation issues were resolved
- The majority of coordinators addressed issues raised by the MSU and in a timely manner.



- A number of RPT JRPs were not strategically driven and would not lead to an improved, coherent and more integrated European metrology system
- Some RPT JRPs were essentially training and KT projects and included little or no research – the MSU had to work hard to try to rectify this
- Some RPT JRPs included poorly defined objectives and activities
- One RPT JRP had well described need, objectives etc but the activities did not match and would not deliver the desired impact and outcomes
- At least one JRP included a series of 'mini projects' that were not defined and the consortium were reluctant to explain what would be done
- One coordinator was very slow to respond and did not return the first set of revisions until a couple of weeks before the project was due to start



2015 improvements to help RPT proposers

A number of improvements / additional activities have been included by MSU and the Secretariat to help RPT proposers.

- Training sessions specifically for RPT JRPs related to the PRT stage were organised and held in Tallinn and Sarajevo.
- Guide 4: Writing Joint Research Projects now includes specific RPT examples. Some generic changes made to the protocol template (all JRPs) to better structure the explanations of the need for the project, state of the art, objectives and impact.
- Obligation to include a strategy related objective.
- RPT JRPs still have their own targeted coordinator training and partnering sessions rather than being combined with all the other JRPs.
- In 2015 RPT JRP proposers will have the opportunity to directly explain, clarify and defend their proposal at a Review Conference.
- During the Review Conference RPT JRP proposers will have a briefing on the negotiation process for successful projects, enabling them to have a better overview of the process and to ask questions.

Evaluation process for RPT JRPs (1)

- In 2015 RPT JRPs will be evaluated at a standard Review Conference and not a Consensus Group, unlike 2014.
- Review Conference for RPT JRPs will be held in Rotterdam, Netherlands on Thursday 19 November to Friday 20 November
- One representative for each proposal will need to attend the Review Conference. The representative does not need to be the potential coordinator.
- The representative will need to arrive by the end of 18 November and be available until early evening on 19 November.
- MSU will send proposers details about the Review Conference once proposals have been submitted and initial eligibility checks completed. Information will also be available at http://msu.euramet.org/research_2015/#

Evaluation process for RPT JRPs (2)

The Review Conference comprises

Briefing sessions for referees and JRP representatives on the process, including session for representatives on 'What happens next if they are successful'.

Poster session where JRP representatives make a short presentation to the referees and the referees then informally ask questions about proposals.

Session for referees to discuss the proposals and develop a set of formal questions to be put to the proposers.

Formal Q&A session, where the JRP representative is asked questions by the referees. The JRP representatives then leave – their part is complete.

The next day, the referees meet in groups to discuss the JRP proposals, and agree consensus marks and comments for each JRP.

The referees then meet in a plenary session to resolve the ranked order of tied JRPs near the budget line – and others if required – and to formally agree and approve a single ranked list of JRPs

Use of advice and guidance for RPTs

- Specific training events around the stage 1 Research Potential Call held in February 2015 in Sarajevo and Tallinn.
- Coordinator training and partnering sessions specifically for RPTs held at BEV.
- Proposers are not always making use of advice, guidance and briefings on offer
  - Very few enquiries to MSU helpdesk from RPT PRT and RPT JRP proposers
  - Limited enquiries to TP Facilitator
  - Some proposals not represented at coordinator training and partnering meetings – why? Some proposers may therefore not be aware of changes from last year and lessons learnt
  - Proposers not always interacting with TP Facilitator eg not providing financial data etc or providing the information late

2015 EMRP call for RMGs

- 18 different adverts for RMGs published – 10 applications received, which are currently starting the evaluation process.
- A number of applications from smaller NMIs/DIs, but only a relatively few from the FNMID FG.
- At last year's FNMID FG meeting participants indicated potential interest in up to 27 RMGs (although possibly not all for one year!!!)
- Legal entity validation issues have broadly been resolved.
- Why were the number of applications relatively few? The process for identifying and developing the adverts to be published was aimed at avoiding no-bids.
- There are likely to be 2 RMG calls (EMRP and EMPIR) in 2016, so we need to understand what the underlying reasons might be for the limited number of applications.

Points to consider during meeting

- What should be the budget for the 2016 EMPIR RMG call (bearing in mind there will also be an EMRP RMG call), ie what fraction of the 150 k€ budget provisionally earmarked for HICB activities in 2016 should be for RMGs?

- What other activities in addition to EMPIR mobility grants that would be eligible under EMPIR and fit within the financial constraints do the FNMID FG wish to include?

- The information (activities and costing) needs to have been discussed within the FNMID FG, the Secretariat and with the EMRP PM and be available for the EMRP PM to include in his paper on Secretariat activities under EMPIR (ie standardisation, impact and capacity building) which will be written at the end of October for submission to the EMPIR Committee. The approved activities will then feed into the 2016 EMPIR workplan that is submitted to the EC.

Questions?

