

International Consortia in Biology

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- **Three waves of international collaboration**
- **Communications technology**
- **Research Agency funding**
- **Industry support**
- **Questions for the RTK Consortium**

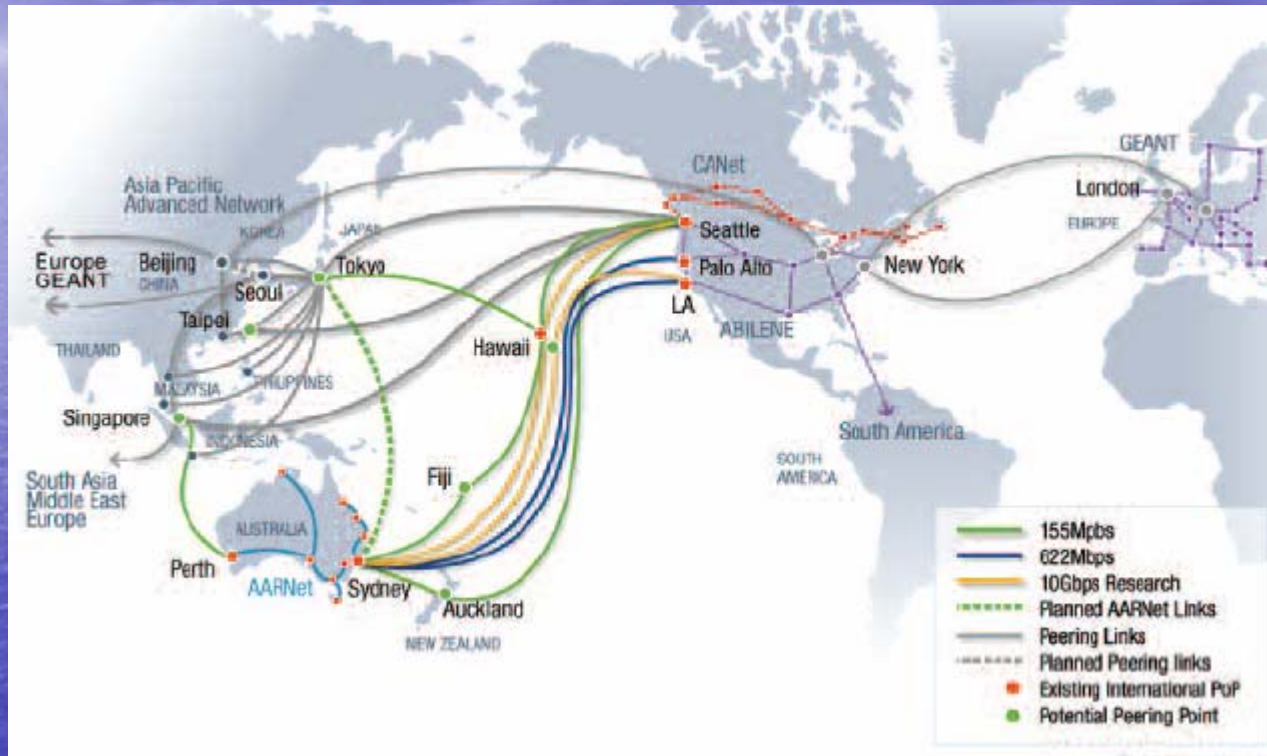
Three waves of international collaboration

Institutions: CERN (1954), EMBO (1964)

Virtual, division of labor: Human Genome Project

Mixed, integrated: AfCS

Mega-networks change the way that science is done



Issues: data security, intellectual property, privacy

Research Agency Funding

- Funding squeeze
- Commitment to traditional funding approaches
- Difficulties with trans-national projects?
- Enthusiasm for high-profile projects
- Use of big-name members to boost impact

Other consortia in biology

Beta Cell Consortium

Molecular Biology Consortium

Structural Biology Consortium

Chemical Biology Consortium

Immune Tolerance Network

Industry support

- Limited monies for external research
- Looking for collateral benefits, e.g.:
 - Drug development advances
 - Profile within science community
 - Coverage in the media
- Involvement as research/technology partners?

Questions for the Consortium

Why is your consortium here?

Who is it aimed at?

What are the advantages of the consortium?

What makes your consortium so special? How are you qualified? What makes you better than anyone else?

What, specifically, will you do?

What are your ambitions?

Why is your consortium here?

“The objective of the consortium is to facilitate research to obtain as complete as possible an understanding of RTK biological networks”

Who is the consortium aimed at?

An exclusive club or an open house?

Will you court particular areas of expertise/individuals?

How will you get your message out?

What are the advantages of the consortium?

Why will this group group would make progress more swiftly than individual labs working alone?

What makes your consortium so special?

How are you qualified? What makes you better than anyone else?

What specifically will you do?

How will you do it?

Dedicated, centralized labs?

How long a project is this?

How much commitment from the members?

What sort of administration does it need?

What is the anticipated legacy of the consortium?

What are your ambitions?