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Community Research

EU measures to support RTD and innovation activities performed by SMEs

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European Commission
DG Research and Technological Development
Research and SMEs





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Objective of the presentation

- To give an overview of the current EU Framework Programme for research, technological development and innovation (2002-2006)
- To give practical information about how to participate in the RTD and innovation projects
- To highlight opportunities for SMEs
- To provide some figures about the evaluation of the first calls





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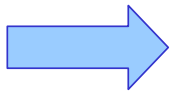
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The Sixth Framework Program

FP6 = Main instrument
for research funding in Europe 2002-2006



Objective = to create a European market
for science and technology
the European Research Area (ERA)

Actors = industries, universities, research centers
+ special focus on SMEs





FP6 Structure - Groups of actions

Actions I	Actions II	Actions III
Integrating European Research	Structuring ERA	Strengthening ERA
13.345 M€	2.605 M€	320 M€
7 THEMATIC PRIORITIES (11.285 M€)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research and Innovation - Human resources and mobility - Infrastructure - Science and Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination of activities (national/EC) - Coherent development of R&D policies (studies)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting policies - Research for SMEs (430 M€) - International cooperation 		





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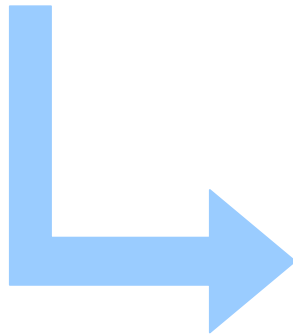
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Rules for participation

Design of new instruments

Simplification - Flexibility and adaptability
Increased management autonomy



1. Participation
2. Financing
3. Evaluation
4. Intellectual Property Rights





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Participation

- Submission of proposals following official calls
- All legal entities can participate
- A minimum number of participants is required
- A minimum number of different countries is required

**Associated candidate countries
are assimilated as Member State**





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Financing

A **grant to the budget** (acting as a ceiling for EU contribution) is calculated according the following 3 steps

- 1 The estimated actual costs of carrying out the project
- 2 The cost model for each participant
- 3 The rates of EC support for each activity





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EC financial participation

Rates of EC support for each activity

R&D and innovation-related	50%
Demonstration	35%
Training	100%
Management of the consortium (audit certificates)	100% Up to 7% of EC contribution

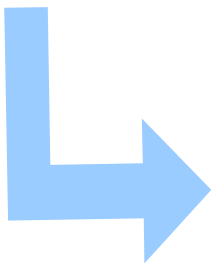




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Evaluation

Six core criteria



- Relevance to the objectives of the call
- Scientific and Technological excellence
- Quality of the management
- Quality of consortium
- Potential Impact
- Mobilization of the resources

Quality of the consortium ↔ Involvement of SMEs





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Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)

- Participants own results they have generated
 - exception: Cooperative and Collective projects
- Emphasis on exploitation of the results
- Detailed in the **Consortium Agreement**





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Different types of projects

1. Networks of Excellence
2. Integrated Projects
3. STREP

Only the seven
PTAs

4. Collective Research
5. Cooperative Research

Any field
of Science and Technology,
in favor of SMEs

6. Coordination actions
7. Specific support actions





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Networks of Excellence

Objective	To strengthen excellence on a particular topic by networking resources and expertise to provide European leadership
Activities	Integrating activities, R&D, training, dissemination, management
Size	At least 3 participants from 3 different MS or AS (at least 2 MS or ACC)
Duration	5 years or more
EC support	Up to several millions Euro per year
IPR	Ownership to the participants, Consortium agreement





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Integrated Projects

Objective	To generate new knowledge – Ambitious, clearly defined scientific and technological objectives
Activities	R&D, training, dissemination, management
Size	At least 3 participants from 3 different MS or AS (at least 2 MS or ACC)
Duration	3 to 5 years or more
EC support	Several millions Euro to several tens of millions Euro
IPR	Ownership to the participants, Consortium agreement





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Specific Targeted Research Projects

Objective	To gain new knowledge (research) or to prove the viability of new technologies (demonstration)
Activities	R&D, demonstration, management
Size	At least 3 participants from 3 different MS or AS (at least 2 MS or ACC)
Duration	2 to 3 years
EC support	Up to several millions Euro
IPR	Ownership to the participants, Consortium agreement

FP5 shared-cost RTD projects and demonstration projects

20th of November 2003

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Collective research (SME)

Objective	To expand the knowledge base of large communities of SMEs
Activities	R&D, training, dissemination, management
Size	1 European industrial association or at least 2 national industrial associations + SME core group + 2 RTD performers
Duration	2 to 3 years
Total budget	Between 2 to 5 millions Euro
IPR	Ownership to the industrial associations





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Cooperative Research (SME)

Objective	To support SMEs to respond to their needs for research and innovation
Activities	R&D, management
Size	At least 3 SMEs from 2 different MS or AS (1 MS/ACC) + Other proposers (not dominant) + 2 RTD performers
Duration	1 to 2 years
Total budget	Between 0.5 and 2 millions Euro
IPR	Ownership to the SMEs participants





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Coordination Actions

Objective	To promote and support the networking and coordination of research and innovation activities
Activities	Organisation and management of joint and common initiatives, organisation of conferences, meetings, performance of studies, exchange of good practice, exchange of personnel, setting up common information systems and expert groups
EC Support	Grant to the budget of up to 100% of the budget Up to several hundreds of thousands of Euro

FP5 thematic networks

20th of November 2003

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Budget to be allocated to SMEs

- 1** Specific measures to involve SMEs in the 7 priority thematic areas (PTAs) **1700 M€**
- 2** Specific schemes for SMEs on any area Co-operative and Collective Research **430 M€**
- 3** Appropriate information and assistance to SME participants





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More Information

- Sixth Framework Program
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6>
- Research programs and projects
<http://www.cordis.lu>
- SME Website
<http://sme.cordis.lu>
- SME National Contact Points
<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/ncp.htm>

