

How to take part in the FP6 Nuclear Fission and Radiation Protection Programme

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Finding your way

- The Call
- The Work Programme
- Identify the research topic of interest
- Determine the instrument to be used
- Euratom Programme in Brief
- Guide for Proposers for the relevant instrument
- Provisions for implementing that instrument

Who can participate

- EU States
- Countries associated to EURATOM
- Third countries
- International organisations

Who can be funded

- EU States
- Countries associated to EURATOM
- Third countries and International Organisations if essential for project

Numbers and origins of partners

- Varies with the instrument
- For IP and NoE
- 3 independent legal entities from 3 different MS or AS, with at least 2 MS or ACC

Points requiring careful attention

- Use the right instrument
- Understand the objective - critical
- Awareness of the scope - not to be taken too prescriptively
- Note "hints" on consortium composition, skills needed, user involvement, etc

Preparing a proposal

- Follow guidance for that instrument
- Respond to the stated objective
- For the consortium to decide how best to do this
- Awareness of evaluation criteria and process - critical
- Awareness of cost models and model contract (especially your Administration)

Evaluation Criteria

Vary with the instrument

For IP:

- Relevance
 - Potential Impact
 - Scientific and Technical Excellence
 - Quality of the consortium
 - Quality of the management
 - Mobilisation of resources
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- Threshold applied to each criterion and to overall score
 - Each criterion given equal weight
 - Generally, threshold is 3 out of 5 (good)
 - Apart from S&T Excellence and Overall criteria where threshold is 4 out of 5 (very good)

Additional aspects to be addressed

- ethical and safety aspects
- gender issues
- societal implications
- synergies with education
- third country participation and funding

Submission of proposals

- Pre-proposal check
- Electronic Proposal Submission System
- Pre-registration (encouraged)
- Submission
 - electronically
 - CD-rom or diskette
 - paper
- Deadlines strictly enforced - do not take risks

A wider range of better differentiated instruments

“New” instruments

- integrated projects
- networks of excellence

“Traditional” instruments

- specific targeted research projects
- coordination actions
- specific support actions
- fellowships and grants
- trans-national access to research facilities

Principles guiding their design

- Simplification and streamlining
- Increased legal and financial security

- Flexibility and adaptability
- Increased management autonomy
- Preserving public accountability and protecting interests of the Community

Integrated Projects

- Generate knowledge required to achieve programme aims
 - integrate critical mass of activities and resources needed
 - achieve ambitious clearly defined scientific and technological objectives
- Instrument to support objective-driven research of a European dimension
 - where the main deliverable is new knowledge

Activities supported

Activities integrated by an IP may cover the full research spectrum

- **Must contain**
 - *research*
- **May contain**
 - *technological development and demonstration*
 - *training*
- **Must ensure**
 - *effective management of knowledge and its exploitation*
- **all within a unified project management structure**

The scale of critical mass

- **Resources:** must assemble the critical mass needed to achieve its ambitious goals
 - may range up to several tens of millions €
 - *no minimum threshold*
- **Partnership:** minimum of three participants from three different countries
 - likely to be substantially more
- **Duration:** typically three to five years
 - but more if necessary

Financial regime

Grant to the budget paid as a contribution to actual costs

- that are necessary for the project
- determined according to the usual accounting conventions of each participant
- recorded in the accounts of the participants
 - *or, if provided in the contract, in the accounts of third parties*
- excluding indirect taxes, interest...
- no pre-defined cost categories as in FP5

Cost models

A family of three simplified cost models

- *FC*: full direct and full indirect costs
- *FCF*: full direct costs plus 20% (excluding subcontracts) for related indirect costs
- *ACF*: additional direct costs plus 20% (excluding subcontracts) for related indirect costs

Flexibility and autonomy of implementation

- Implementation plan: each year consortium
 - proposes a detailed plan for the coming 18 months
 - and may propose to update the overall plan
- Funding
 - the contract will not specify the distribution between participants nor between activities
- Consortium changes
 - consortium can take in new participants (no extra funding)
 - Commission can launch calls to add activities and participants (*with additional funding*)

Networks of Excellence

- Strengthen Europe's excellence in a research area
 - integrate expertise needed to provide European leadership and be a world force
 - through a Joint Programme of Activities
 - *to create durable integration*
- Instrument for tackling the fragmentation of European research
 - main aim is a durable structuring and shaping of European research
- Mission also to spread excellence
 - where training is an essential component

Joint Programme of Activities

- **Integrating activities**
 - *co-ordinated programming of the partners' activities*
 - *sharing of research platforms/tools/facilities/infrastructure*
 - *joint management of the knowledge portfolio*
 - *staff exchanges, possibly relocation of staff and equipment*
 - *reinforced electronic communications*
- **Joint research activities**
 - *a programme of joint research*
- **Activities to spread excellence**
 - *training programme of researchers and other key staff*
 - *dissemination and communication*
- **all within a unified management structure**

Scale of critical mass

- *Expertise*: commensurate with the ambitious goals
 - will vary from topic to topic
 - larger networks may involve several hundreds of researchers
 - *but networks may be much smaller, provided necessary ambition and critical mass is achieved*
- *Partnership*: in general at least six
 - legal minimum of three from three different countries
- *Duration*: typically five years
 - but up to seven years, if justified to create a durable integration

Financial Regime

- Support to overcome barriers to durable integration
 - barriers: organisational, cultural and human
 - *cannot be quantified in normal accounting terms*
- Provide incentive for integration
 - taking the form of a fixed grant
 - calculated mainly on basis of number of “researchers”

Illustrative grant calculation

The average annual grant to a network could vary with the number of “researchers” as follows:

50 researchers	€1m/year
100 researchers	€2m/year
250 researchers	€4m/year
1000 researchers and above	€6m/year

Payment regime

- Annual advances
- Annual settlements paid on the basis of results
 - progress towards a durable integration
 - additional check that costs greater than the value of the grant are incurred in implementing the JPA
- Results-based payments regime necessitates a robust system of output monitoring
 - with annual reviews, involving external experts

Flexibility and Autonomy

- For the JPA the network each year
 - proposes a detailed JPA for the coming 18 months
 - may propose to update the overall JPA
- Allocation of the Community grant
 - the partnership will have freedom to distribute it between partners and between activities

- Changes in the network partnership
 - partnership can decide to take in new partners (*no extra funding*)
 - Commission can launch calls to add partners (*extra funding*)

Governance of the network

A network's governance must ensure institutional engagement by the partner organisations

- through e.g. a "governing council" of senior representatives from the partners
 - *to facilitate the integration of the partners' activities*

"Traditional" instruments

- Retained to smooth the transition from FP5 to FP6
- Support research activities of more limited scope and ambition

Three "traditional" instruments

- specific targeted research projects
 - *evolved form of FP5 RTD and demonstration projects*
- co-ordination actions
 - *evolved form of FP5 concerted actions/thematic networks*
- specific support actions
 - *evolved form of FP5 accompanying measures*

STREP - Objectives

Generate knowledge required to improve European competitiveness and to meet the needs of society or Community policies

- targeted, well defined and precisely focused research and technological development
- demonstration component(s) as appropriate
- project management

Co-ordination Action

- To promote and support the networking and co-ordination of research and innovation activities at national, regional and European level.
- Establish in a coherent way co-ordinated initiatives of a range of research and innovation operators. In order to achieve improved integration of European research.

Specific Support Actions

Objectives

- to promote and facilitate dissemination, transfer, exploitation and take up of past and present programme results

- to contribute to strategic objectives (eg, ERA)
- to prepare future Community RTD activities
- as opposed to awareness and information exchange activities (confs, workshops, etc)

Other instruments for horizontal actions

- Euratom Fellowships
- Grants to young researchers in CEE and FSU
- Trans-national access to large infrastructure
- Special Training Courses (SSA)

Topical Information Meetings - Brussels

- Cellular and Molecular Biology - 28 January
- Severe Accident Management - 6 March
- Decommissioning of Installations - 10 March
- Geological Disposal (excluding NoE on actinides and governance activities) - 12 March
- Irradiation Damage Effects on Reactor Components - 13 March

Further information on CORDIS