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Prospects for the Seventh Framework Programme 2007-2013

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European Council, December 2005:

“particular priority should be given to delivering a substantial and progressive enhancement of the EU’s research effort, which is generally recognised to be one of the most promising and effective drivers of innovation and growth”.



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Budget for FP7

- Commission proposal for Inter-Institutional Agreement on Financial Perspectives 2007-13
 - **47.8 billion euro (2004 prices)**
 - Proposed agreement with Parliament and Council, 4 April:
 - **Additional 300 million euro (2004 prices)**
- ⇒ **Overall budget ~ 54 billion euro (current prices)**
- **~ 60% increase compared to FP6**



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Strategic Objectives for EU Research Policy

- **Increasing research investment**
 - Towards 3% of GDP by 2010, with 2/3 financed by industry
- **Consolidating the European Research Area**
 - Greater coordination of research policies and activities
- **Strengthening research excellence**



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FP7: Overview of structure and objectives



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FP7 2007 - 2013

Specific Programmes

***Cooperation* – Collaborative research**

***Ideas* – Frontier Research**

***People* – Human Potential**

***Capacities* – Research Capacity**

+

JRC (non-nuclear)

JRC (nuclear)

Euratom



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***Cooperation* – Collaborative research**

9 Themes

1. **Health**
2. **Food, agriculture and biotechnology**
3. **Information and communication technologies**
4. **Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies**
5. **Energy**
6. **Environment (including climate change)**
7. **Transport (including aeronautics)**
8. **Socio-economic sciences and the humanities**
9. **Security and space**



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***Cooperation*– Collaborative research**

- Flexibility to address both *Emerging needs* and *Unforeseen policy needs*
- Emphasis on dissemination, knowledge transfer, broader public engagement

Collaborative research

(Collaborative projects; Networks of Excellence; Coordination/support actions)

Joint Technology Initiatives

**[medicines, nanoelectronics, embedded computing, hydrogen & fuel cells,
Aeronautics and air transport, GMES]**

Coordination of non-Community research programmes

(ERA-NET; ERA-NET+; Article 169)

International Cooperation



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***Ideas* – European Research Council**

- **Frontier research**
- **Support to individual teams, to**
- **Promote excellence through Europe-wide competition**
- **Dedicated implementation structure (Executive Agency)**
- **Independent scientific governance (Scientific Council)**



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People – Human Potential

Initial training of researchers

Marie Curie Networks

Life-long training and career development

Individual Fellowships

Co-financing of regional/national/international programmes

Industry-academia pathways and partnerships

Industry-Academia Scheme

International dimension

Outgoing International Fellowships; Incoming International Fellowships

International Cooperation Scheme; Reintegration grants

Specific actions

Excellence awards



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***Capacities* – Research Capacity**

1. Research Infrastructures
2. Research for the benefit of SMEs
3. Regions of Knowledge
4. Research Potential
5. Science in Society
6. Activities of International Cooperation
- + Coherent Development of Policies



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Funding schemes

- **Collaborative projects**
- **Networks of Excellence**
- **Coordination and support actions**
- **Individual projects**
- **Support for training and career development**
- **Research for the benefit of specific groups (SMEs)**



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Rules for Participation

Establish:

- **Minimum conditions for participation**
- **Procedures:**
 - Calls for Proposals,
 - Evaluation,
 - Implementation and Grant Agreements
- **Consortia requirements**
- **Community financial contribution**
- **Dissemination, use and access rights**



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Community financial contribution

- **Three forms of grant**
 - Reimbursement of eligible costs
 - Lump sums
 - Flat-rate financing
- **Maximum reimbursement rates**
 - Research and technological development $\leq 50\%$
 - but: Public bodies, secondary and higher education bodies, research organisations (non profit), SMEs $\leq 75\%$
 - Demonstration activities $\leq 50\%$
 - Frontier research actions (European Research Council) $\leq 100\%$
 - Coordination and Support Actions $\leq 100\%$
 - Training and career development of researchers actions $\leq 100\%$



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FP7 – what's new?

Not “new” but evolution (continuity) of successful FP 6-elements:

- **Themes for collaborative research** (*but with some new areas and greater flexibility*)
- **Marie Curie actions** (*but with new emphasis, e.g. international aspects and industry-academia mobility*)
- **SME specific actions** (*outsourcing research*)
- **Funding schemes** (*but with improvements*)



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FP7 – what's new?

...and major new approaches

- **European Research Council**
- **Joint Technology Initiatives**
- **Coordination of National Research Programmes (Art. 169)**
- **Strategic approach to research infrastructures**
- **Regions of Knowledge** *(following successful piloting during FP6)*
- **Research Potential** *(to exploit research excellence in “convergence regions”)*
- **Risk sharing finance facility** *(increasing the availability of European Investment Bank loans)*



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Simplification

Throughout FP7, including:

- **Rationalising the funding schemes**
 - simpler set of funding instruments
- **Avoiding red-tape!**
 - less bureaucratic and more user-friendly languages
- **Reducing**
 - number and size of documents
 - number of requests to participants



FP7: State of play and next steps



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Key documents

- **Framework Programme Proposals**
 - Commission proposal 6 April 2005
 - Codecision by Council and Parliament (EC Treaty)
- **Specific Programmes**
 - Commission proposal 21 September 2005
 - Council Decisions
- **Rules for Participation**
 - Commission proposals December 2005, January 2006
 - Codecision by Council and Parliament (EC Treaty)



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Debate in Council of Ministers

- **November 2005** Competitiveness Council: “Partial General Approach” agreed for FP7.
- **March 2006** Competitiveness Council: Cooperation and Ideas Specific Programmes + Rules for Participation discussed
- **April 2006** Informal Competitiveness Council: Discussion on budget breakdown



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Debate in the European Parliament

- **FP7:**
 - rapporteur, Mr Buzek (EPP, Poland)
 - Report circulated, December 05
 - Over 1300 amendments proposed
 - Parliament due to vote by June 2006
- **Debate ongoing:**
 - Rules for Participation (rapporteur, Mr Busquin)
 - Specific Programmes



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Revised Commission Proposals

- Structure and objectives **remain the same**
 - **Cooperation** (Themes): as core programme (largest budget share)
 - **Ideas**: Critical mass needed for European Research Council
 - **People**: Increase for Marie Curie actions compared to FP6
 - **Capacities**: Increases compared to FP6 for Research Infrastructures, SME specific actions, and Science in Society; New activities (Regions of Knowledge; Research Potential); strategic approach to international cooperation



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Next steps (indicative)

- **Revised Commission Proposals** (after Interinstitutional Agreement on the Financial Perspectives)
- **Parliament opinion on FP7**
- Mid 2006: **Council common position on FP:**
- Late 2006: **Codecision on FP and Rules, Decision on SPs**
- *Ongoing*: **Commission preparation for implementation** (work programme, forms, contracts, procedures, guidance, etc.)
- End 2006/ beg. 2007: **Launch of FP7** (adoption of work programmes, calls for proposals)



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Further information

- EU research: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/research>
- Seventh Framework Programme:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/future/index_en.cfm
- Information on research programmes and projects:
<http://www.cordis.lu>
- RTD info magazine:
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/rtdinfo/>
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