EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Community Research

Part A

Sixth Framework Programme of the EC

Content and instruments

EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

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Introduction: FP6 legal framework

Legal Framework

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES

WORK & PROGRAMMES
Calls for proposals

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PARTICIPATION AND DISSEMINATION RULES

CONTRACTS

GUIDELINES ON EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES

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A new Research Framework Programme (FP) designed to help realise the European Research Area (ERA)

What is the European Research Area?

- Long-term goal of ERA, launched at Lisbon summit 2½ years ago
  - to create a true "internal market" for research in Europe
- Why do we need ERA?
  - Europe will fall far short of its economic potential unless it reverses decades of technological underperformance
  - but for that to happen, Europe must first tackle deep-rooted structural weaknesses in its research and innovation systems
  - hence ERA

What are these structural weaknesses?

- **Underinvestment in the research system**
  - both financial and human
  - particularly by the business sector
- **Unfriendly environment for research and innovation**
  - regulatory shortcomings
  - financial weaknesses
  - weak culture of entrepreneurship
  - networking failures
  - unfriendly social environment…
- **Excessive fragmentation of public research**
  - coupled to low levels of cooperation and coordination between countries on policies and programmes

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Why FP6 became a tool to realise ERA?

- **The FP is the only funding arm of EU research policy**
  - primary mission of new FP must therefore be to help realise ERA
- **Previous FPs had, however, a different mission**
  - were not designed to tackle our structural weaknesses
  - were instead designed to support network-building and high quality research
    - though often failed to mobilise the critical mass needed to achieve ambitious objectives of European dimension
  - were also overly complex and excessively bureaucratic in their implementation
- **Therefore, to address its new mission, the concept of the FP had to be totally rethought**

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1- Key features of FP6

- **For its objective-driven thematic components**
  - much greater concentration on a limited number of topics of strategic importance to Europe
    - where the research needs to be carried out at the European level
  - using new more effective instruments capable of mobilising the activities and resources necessary to achieve ambitious objectives of European dimension
    - integrated projects, networks of excellence, Article 169

Note: these new instruments are the principal innovation in the thematic components of FP6

1- Key features of FP6

- **Better balance between objective-driven thematic research and actions to reinforce Europe's research base**
  - expanded and better targeted training & mobility actions
  - new bottom-up action to support emerging S&T ("NEST")
  - expanded support for research infrastructures
  - mainstreaming of most international cooperation, innovation and SME support measures
  - new science and society action
  - expanded range of measures to support open coordination in research policy-making
  - new scheme ("ERA-NET") to support the networking and mutual opening of national programmes

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1- Key features of FP6

- **Simplified and streamlined implementation**
  - to reduce overheads of participating
  - to speed up procedures
  - to increase flexibility and autonomy of contractors

- **Full integration of the associated candidate countries**
  - research is first policy area where these countries are fully integrated into the EU

2- FP6 Budget

- **€17.5 billion *(compared to €14.96 billion in FP5)***
  - an increase of 9% in real terms ***(a satisfactory result)***

	€ billion
Focusing and integrating Community research ***("thematic")***	**13.345**
Structuring ERA ***("underpinning")***	**2.605**
Strengthening the foundations of ERA ***("coordinating")***	**0.320**
Euratom ***("nuclear")***	**1.230**

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3- FP6 Structure*

Integrating European Research *(76%)*

Priority Thematic Areas[■] *(64%)*

- Life sciences …
- Information society …
- Nanotechnologies …
- Aeronautics and space
- Food quality and safety
- Sustainable development …
- Citizens and governance …

Specific activities

- Policy-oriented research
- New and emerging S & T
- Specific SME activities
- Specific international cooperation activities
- JRC activities

Structuring ERA *(15%)*

- Research and innovation
- Human resources & mobility
- Research infra-structures
- Science and society

Strengthening ERA foundations *(2%)*

- Coordination of national activities
- Support for policy development

→ excluding Euratom *(7%)*
■ of which, 15% for SMEs

4- Instruments

➢ A wider range of better differentiated instruments

- ***New***

Networks of excellence, Integrated projects, Integrated initiatives infrastructures, Collective research projects (Specific research projects for SMEs), **Article 169**

- ***Traditional***

Specific targeted projects, Co-operative research projects (Specific research projects for SMEs), **Actions to promote and develop human resources and mobility** (Some are ***new***), **Co-ordination actions, Specific support actions**

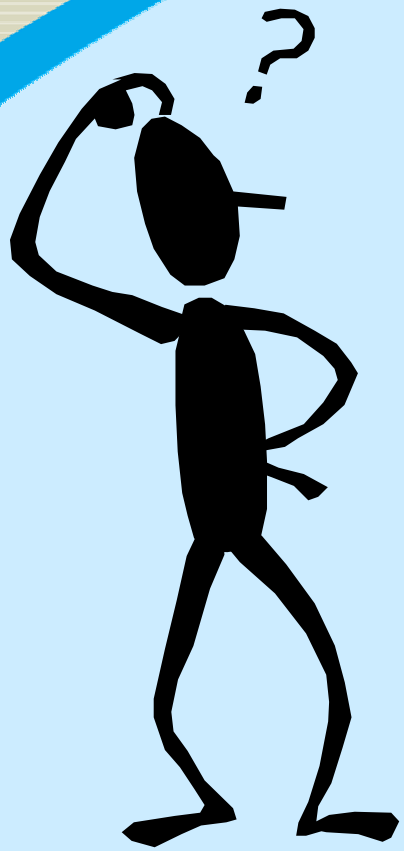
4- Instruments

Principles guiding their design

- **Simplification and streamlining**
  - to minimise the overheads for all concerned
  - to speed up procedures, especially time-to-contract
- **Increased legal and financial security**
  - to avoid weaknesses of FP5 instruments
- **Flexibility and adaptability**
  - to enable projects to adapt to changing circumstances, both in the science and in the partnership
- **Increased management autonomy**
  - to eliminate unnecessary micromanagement
- **While preserving public accountability and protecting interests of the Community**

4- Instruments

Instrument	Purpose	Primary deliverable	Scale
IP	objective-driven research	knowledge	med-high
NoE	tackle fragmentation	durable structuring	med-high
169	joint MS programmes	knowledge and/or structuring	high
STRP	research	knowledge	low-med
CA	coordination	coordination	low-med
SSA	support	support	low



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION