FP7 – Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
What is FP7?
Which areas does it cover?
Who can participate?
When can you participate?
What are the funding schemes?
Financial rules
Evaluation Process & Criteria
The future Strategic Framework – CSF
What is FP7?

- EU’s main instrument for funding research in Europe

- **Aim**: to make or keep EU a world wide leader in the supported sectors

- **Time framework**: between 2007 and 2013

- **Budget**:
  - EU level – € 50.5 billion (2007–2013)
  - EURATOM level – € 2.7 billion (2007–2011)
Which research areas does it cover?

- 4 main blocks of activities = 4 main programmes + 1 specific programme (nuclear research)
  - Cooperation
  - Ideas
  - People
  - Capacities
  - EURATOM
    - Nuclear research and training
    - Joint Research Center
Which research areas does it cover?

- Ideas: €7,460
- Cooperation: €32,365
- JRC: €1,751
- Euratom: €2,751
- Capacities: €4,217
- People: €4,728
**COOPERATION**

- **Budget**: € 32 billion
- **10 thematic areas**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Energy</th>
<th>Space</th>
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<tr>
<td>Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology</td>
<td>Socio–economic Sciences and Humanities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information and Communication Technologies</td>
<td>Nanosciences, Nanotechnology, Materials and new Production Technologies</td>
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<td>Environment (Climate Change)</td>
<td>Transport (+ aeronautics)</td>
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<td>Health</td>
<td>Security</td>
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The Cooperation Programme breakdown (€million)
Objective:
- improve the health of European citizens
- boost the competitiveness of health–related industries and businesses
- address global health issues

Benefits for citizens:
- development and validation of new therapies
- development of methods for health promotion and prevention
- development of diagnostic tools and medical technologies
- sustainable and efficient healthcare systems
- new drugs and treatments would be developed in a shorter time frame, through international multi-centre trials
Health under FP 7

Benefits for industry and SMEs:

- Enhance competitiveness of the European pharmaceutical and healthcare industries through strong EU-based biomedical research
- Creation of an environment conducive to innovation in the public and private sectors

European-funded research will be focused on:

- Biotechnology, generic tools and technologies for human health – producing knowledge that will be applied in the area of health and medicine;
- Translating research for human health – making sure that basic discoveries have practical benefits and improve the quality of life;
- Optimising the delivery of health care to European citizens – ensuring that the results of biomedical research will ultimately reach the citizens.
Work programme 2011 was published in July 2010 for proposals to be selected in 2011.

**Aim:** ensure with the previous work programme and to concentrate on specific activities within the budgetary constraints.

The estimated total allocation for work programme 2011 is €~682 million.

**New emphasis in 2011:**
- SME orientation
- large pilot projects
- investigator-driven clinical trials
- focus on brain-related diseases, diabetes, and cancer
- focus on antimicrobial drug resistance and emerging epidemics
SMEs Opportunities

- **Funding opportunities:**
  - Funding of up to 75% for research and development activities of SMEs, rather than the 50% for larger industrial participants.
  - Funding of up to 100% for management and training activities.

- **Protection of intellectual property:** greatly improved with more attention to the special needs of SMEs

- **Reduced need for financial checks and bank guarantees:** a guarantee fund replaces the ‘collective financial responsibility to cover the financial risks of defaulting project participants

- **Support structures:** Networks of experts are in place to help SMEs to participate in FP7 Health proposals and projects
Objective: JTI (Joint Technology Initiatives) to achieve Public-Private Partnerships in research at European level

The Innovative Medicines Initiative Joint Undertaking – JTI between the EU (represented by EC) and the pharma industry (represented by the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations – EFPIA)

- Budget: € 2 billion
- Aim:
  - accelerate the discovery and development of better removing bottlenecks in the drug development process
  - Supports research activities open to all research actors and focusses on creating better methods and tools to improve the drug development process
International Cooperation in Health Research

Implemented through:

- **General opening** of all topics to participation by entities from any country in the world.
- **Specific International Cooperation Actions**, addressing distinct issues relevant for cooperation with particular countries or regions.
- **Programme level cooperation on coordinated topics with certain countries** – the cooperating country collaborates by financing complementary projects within its own research programmes.
Key Research Challenges

- Increasing innovation and competitiveness of European health–related industries and services by attracting higher SME participation
- Two pilot actions for high impact research initiatives (large–scale integrating research projects, up to EUR 30 million)
  - Epigenomics
  - Immunisation strategies and applications
Key Research Challenges

- Supporting innovative clinical trials to verify safety and efficacy
- How lifestyle affects health and how can this be mitigated
  - Brain-related diseases, including lifestyle-related health issues
  - Lifestyle determinants: diabetes, obesity and cardiovascular diseases
  - Social determinants of health
- Global health issues
Health Work Programme 2012

- **Active and healthy ageing** – contributes to the EU 2020 objectives of inclusion, sustainability and growth
- **SME-relevant research** – Promoting innovation by strengthening the links between academia and industry
- **Medical technologies** – focused on organ transplantation and artificial organs, diagnostics for infectious diseases, management of diabetes, sensory impairment, chronic inflammatory disease and health technology assessments
- **Rare diseases** – development of new technology for diagnosis and treatment and drug development
- **Specific support for clinical trials** – optimisation of treatment in the elderly, on paediatric/adolescent diabetes medicines and on orphan drugs
- **Dissemination actions** – improve the framework conditions for business to innovate by creating the single EU Patent and a specialised Patent Court, harmonising the regulatory framework, and improving access of SMEs to Intellectual Property Protection.
Budget: € 7.4 billion

Holds activities to be implemented by the European Research Council (ERC)

Objective: boost Europe’s competitiveness by

- helping to attract and retain most talented scientists
- supporting risk-taking and high-impact research
- Promoting world-class scientific research in new, fast emerging fields.
PEOPLE

- **Budget**: € 4.7 billion
- Offers individuals the opportunity to follow a career in research
- **Objective**:
  - Encourage individuals to enter the profession of researcher
  - Structure their research training by offering options
  - Encourage mobility within the same sector
**Budget**: € 4.2 billion

**Objective**: Optimize the use and development of research infrastructures, while enhancing the innovative capacities of SMEs to benefit from research

**7 broad areas:**

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<th>Research infrastructures</th>
<th>Science in society</th>
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<td>Research for the benefit of SMEs</td>
<td>International cooperation</td>
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<td>Regions of knowledge and support for regional research-driven clusters</td>
<td>Support to coherent development of research policies</td>
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<td>Research potential of Convergence Regions</td>
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Who can participate?

- **Participants:** any company, university, research centre, organisation or individual, legally established in any country, may participate in a collaborative project (indirect action).

- **Eligible countries:**
  - **MS – EU-27**
  - **Associated countries** – with science and cooperation agreements that involved contributing to the framework of FP budget
  - **Candidate countries** – recognized for future accession
  - **Third countries** – be justified by enhanced contribution to the objectives of FP7
Who can participate?

Eligible consortia – minimum standards:

- **Collaborative projects**: at least 3 legal entities established in different MS or associated countries, independent from each other
- **Indirect actions concerning international cooperation partner countries**: special conditions apply for non-EU or associated countries mainly in International Cooperation programmes
- **Coordination and support actions, and training and career development of researchers**: only one legal entity can participate
- **Investigator-driven “frontier” research projects**: one legal entity established in a MS or in an associated country
- **Sole participants**: involvement of natural persons and SMEs established in a MS or in an associated country
Who can participate?

**Independent experts:**
- Assist with evaluations required under FP7 and its specific programmes
- Chosen by the EC considering the skills and knowledge appropriate to the tasks assigned to them
- Identified and selected on the basis of calls for applications
- EC ensures that no conflict of interests can appear -> appointment letter must be signed
When can you participate?

EC issues calls for project proposals, for experts, for services and competitive calls in accordance with the requirements laid down in specific programmes.

Two-stage submission and evaluation procedures:

- Where a call for proposals specifies a two-stage submission procedure, only those proposals that pass the evaluation criteria for the first stage shall be requested to submit a complete proposal in the second stage.
- Where a call for proposals specifies a two-step evaluation procedure, only those proposals that pass the first step, based on the evaluation of a limited set of criteria, shall go forward for further evaluation.
Calls for project proposals

- Announced in the Official Journal
- Call ‘fiches’ published on CORDIS
- Set out details of:
  - Call budget, opening and closing dates
  - Topics and funding schemes
  - Eligibility and evaluation criteria (and any deviation from the norms)
  - Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable
What are the funding schemes?

- **Collaborative Projects (CP)**
  - Support to research projects aimed at developing new knowledge/technology/products or common resources for research
  - Size, scope and internal organisation of projects can vary from small or medium-scale focused research to larger integrating projects

- **Network of Excellence (NoE)**
  - Support to joint integration of activities in a given field, research teams aimed at longer term cooperation
  - Formal commitment to integrate resources
What are the funding schemes?

- **Coordination and support actions (CSA)**
  - Support to coordinating or supporting policies (networking, exchanges, research infrastructures, studies)

- **Individual Projects (IP)**
  - Support to projects carried out by individual national or transnational research teams
  - Support to investigator-driven “frontier” research projects funded by ERC (ERC Starting Grant + Call Advanced Grant)
What are the funding schemes?

- **Support for training and career researchers**
  - Support for training and career development mainly via Marie Curie program
  - Comprises:
    - Initial training – ITN
    - Industry–academia – IAPP
    - Life–long training – IEF, ERG, COFUND
    - International dimension – IOF, IIF, IRG
    - Specific actions – Excellence Awards, ERA–MORE, Researchers’ Night, National Contact Points

- **Research for the benefit or specific groups**
  - Support to research projects carried out for the benefit of specific groups, like SMEs or associations of SMEs
Financial rules

- 3 forms of grants:
  - Reimbursement of eligible costs
  - Lump sums
  - Flat-rate financing

- The financial contribution will cover:
  - Max. 50% of eligible costs minus receipts -> research and demonstration activities
  - 100% of ‘frontier research’ actions for all entities
  - Up to 100% for all other activities for all entities
Evaluation Process

Submission → Individual reading → Consensus → Panel (with optional Hearings) → Commission Follow-up

- Full/short Proposal
- Proposal forms
- Eligibility

- Evaluator(s) Criteria
- Evaluator(s) Criteria
- Evaluators Criteria
- Questions Proposals in suggested priority order

- Final ranking list
- Rejection list
Evaluation Criteria

- Criteria is adapted to each funding scheme

- Divided into three main categories:
  - **Scientific and technical quality** *(relevant to the topic of the call)*
  - Implementation
  - Impact
Scientific and Technical Quality Criteria

- Soundness of concept and quality of objectives (ALL)
- Progress beyond the state-of-art (CP)
- Contribution to the long-term integration of high-quality S/T research (NoE)
- Contribution to the high-quality research (CSA)
- Quality and effectiveness of the S/T research methodology and associated work plan (CP)
- Quality and effectiveness of the joint program of activities and associated work plan (CSA)
Implementation Criteria

- Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures (ALL)
- Quality and relevant experience of the individual participants (ALL)
- Quality of the consortium as a whole (for SSA only if relevant)
- Appropriate allocation and justification of the resources to committed – budget, staff, equipment (CP and CSA)
- Adequacy of recourses for successfully carrying out the joint program of activities (NoE)
Impact Criteria

- Contribution at the European or international level to the expected impacts listed in the work program under relevant activity (ALL)
- Appropriateness of measures for the dissemination and/or exploitation of project results, and management of intellectual property (CP)
- Appropriateness of measures for spreading excellence, exploiting results and disseminating knowledge through engagement with stakeholders and the public at large (NoE and CSA)
Major changes to be introduced from 2013 were proposed in EU research and innovation funding issues in order to:

- make participation easier
- increase scientific and economic impact
- provide better value for money

Scope:

- The Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration (currently FP7, €53 billion 2007–2013)
- The Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (€3.6 billion 2007–2013)
- The European Institute for Innovation and Technology (€309 million 2007–2013)
Seeking stakeholders’ views on key issues and questions regarding the Common Strategic Framework

**Budget**: € 80 billion *(the Commission Communication “A Budget for Europe 2020 – Part II” published on 29.06.2011)*

**Proposed improvements:**
- Clarify objectives
- Reduce complexity
- Increase added value and leverage and avoid duplication and fragmentation
- Simplify participation by lowering administrative burdens, reducing time to grant/payment and achieving a better balance between cost and trust based approaches
- Broadening participation in EU programmes
- Increasing the competitiveness and societal impact from EU support
Benefits of EU research and innovation funding:

- Enable cross-border **pooling** of resources to achieve **critical mass** and **diffusion of knowledge**
- Promote **competition** in research and innovation, thereby raising levels of **excellence**
- Offers a wide range of **training possibilities**
- Provides a way to deal with **pan-European policy challenges**
- Raises the **international attractiveness** of EU research and innovation
- Act as a **catalyser** and for development of **common solutions**
- Financial instruments with **high leverage**
Thank you for your attention!