

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES IN FP7

General Information

EuTuCHe workshop
23-25.04.2006

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Definition of Research Infrastructures

- **Facilities, resources, and related services used by the scientific community for**
 - ➔ **Conducting leading-edge research**
 - ➔ **Knowledge transmission, knowledge exchanges and knowledge preservation**
- **Includes**
 - ➔ **Major scientific equipment**
 - ➔ **Scientific collections, archives and structured information**
 - ➔ **ICT-based infrastructures**
 - ➔ **Entities of a unique nature, used for research**

FP7 will continue supporting existing Research Infrastructures

- **Integrating Activities** to promote the coherent use and development of research infrastructures in a given field, *implemented through*:
 - **A bottom-up** approach for proposals open to all fields of science
 - **Targeted** approach with topics defined in cooperation with the FP7 thematic areas
- **ICT based e-infrastructures** in support of scientific research

FP7 will also increase support to new research infrastructures

- **Design studies:** to support the conceptual design for new facilities or major upgrades, of clear European dimension and interest
 - through bottom-up calls
- **Support to the Construction of new infrastructures and major upgrades to existing ones**
 - the list of projects to be supported will be based on the work conducted by the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI roadmap)

IA

Integrating Activities and e-infrastructures

- To optimise the use and development of existing research infrastructures
- Based on the continuation of the successful FP6 instrument “**Integrated Infrastructure Initiatives**” (I3s) e.g. CARE
- **Within one single contract:**
 - ➔ Networking activities
 - ➔ Transnational access and/or service activities
 - ➔ Joint research activities

NA Networking Activities

- To foster a culture of **co-operation** between the participants and the scientific communities benefiting from the research infrastructures
- Forms of activities:
 - Towards **the users**: training, studies, feedback, coordination...
 - Towards **good practice**: exchange of personnel and visits, standards and quality...
 - Towards **virtual infrastructures**: Web-sites, common softwares, databases, data management...
 - **Technical workshops**, forums, working groups and studies...

TA Trans-national Access and/or Service activities

- Provide **trans-national access** to researchers or research teams to one or more infrastructures among those operated by the participants
 - "Hands on" access
 - **Remote** access: sending of samples, sample analysis...
Managed by the contractors
- Provide research infrastructures related **services** to the scientific community

JRA Joint Research Activities

- Explore new fundamental technologies or techniques underpinning the efficient and joint use of the participating research infrastructures
To improve the services provided by the infrastructures (in quality and/or quantity)
- Forms of activities:
 - **Prototype** development
 - Development of **methods, protocols, standards...**
 - Development of **software**, algorithm;
 - Database creation, upgrade, ...

Implementation of the Integrating Activities under FP7

- **Bottom up calls for proposals in all fields of science (successful in FP6, to be continued in FP7)**
- **Targeted approach for clearly defined infrastructure needs for Europe, coordinated with the thematic priorities (new)**

→ **FP7 Call N°2**

Integrating Activities preparation (1)

Overhead rules for public bodies and Universities:

- personnel, permanent or additional 60%
- Travel and subsistence 60%
- Consumables (prototypes) 60%
- Subcontracting Omit

Overheads are then 60 % of the total direct costs.

Eligible costs for EC re-imburement are:

75% of 160 % of direct costs = 120 % of direct costs.

Plus the direct costs of subcontracting

Integrating Activities preparation (2)

Try to answer the following key-questions:

- **What problem are we trying to solve ? Clear objectives**
- **Is it a European problem or can it be solved nationally ?**
- **How crucial is the EC support ? Why do it now ?**
- **Is the solution available or addressed elsewhere ?**
- **Are the participants the best suited for the objectives ?**

And check that:

- **It is aiming at improving an existing infrastructure**
- **There is a formal commitment from the participants concerning matching resources to be provided**

DS

FP7 will support the design
of new research infrastructures
(or major upgrades)

- **Design studies** aiming at the conceptual design for new infrastructures with clear European dimension and interest, « feasibility study »
- **Case of e-Infrastructures**: to foster new organisational models for service provisioning in domains of grids & data
- **EC support** likely to be smaller than under FP6, i.e. less than 5 M€
- Scope larger than the « emerging ideas » identified in ESFRI roadmap... **bottom-up** call...
- Useful to feed the ESFRI roadmap process

Design Studies implemented as Collaborative Projects

- **Research, conceptual design studies**
- **Demonstration of technical feasibility,
may include prototypes**
- **Management**
- **Others, such as training and dissemination**

Research and demonstration normally are the core of the project.

Management costs are not limited: a target is 7% of total. Avoid to buy expensive durable equipment (usable to other purposes), declare prototypes as consumables.

CNI

FP7 will support the construction of new Infrastructures (or major upgrades)

- The list of projects to be supported will be based on the work conducted by **ESFRI**
- A two-stage process:
 - The **preparatory phase**: to check the commitment of the Member States and reach a **(draft) agreement** between Member States and stakeholders for the construction
 - The **implementation phase**: the actual construction

The Preparatory phase

- **Tasks** focusing on:
 - Strategy development
 - Technical work (e.g. final prototypes)
 - Governance and logistical work
 - Financial arrangements
 - Legal issues
- The first call will be restricted to the projects identified in the **2006 ESFRI roadmap**
- Direct EC (average) contribution around **5 M€**

Call for proposals

N°1 – closing on May 2, 2007

- For **design studies** and **CNI preparatory phase**
- Indicative budget for **design studies**: 35 M€
 - 7 to 10 projects to be selected
- Indicative budget for **preparatory phase**: 135 M€
 - 34 projects
- Closure: May 2, 2007
- Single stage procedure for evaluation
 - remote + panel evaluation
- Results within 4 months after closure date
- First contracts will come into force before the end of 2007

Call for proposals

N°2 – closing in March 2008

- For both **bottom up** and **targeted approach**
- Indicative budget of 280 M€
 - 25 to 30 projects to be selected
- Closure: March 2008
- Single stage procedure for evaluation
 - remote + panel evaluation
- Results within 4 months after closure date
- First contracts will come into force before the end of 2008

Planning of calls and indicative budget

	<i>Call 1 2007 (April)</i>	<i>Call 2 2008 (March)</i>	<i>Call 3 2010</i>	<i>Call 4 2012</i>
Integrating activities		280	x	x
e-Infrastructures	89	115	x	x
Design studies	35		x	
Construction – Support to the Preparatory Phase	135		x	
Policy Development and Programme Implementation	20	5	x	x
Total (M€)	279	400		

Possible topics for RI's under the targeted approach

→ About 30 priority topics for RI's in 8 of the "Cooperation" thematic areas

- Health (6)
- Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology (3)
- Information and Communication Technologies (3)
- Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies and Materials (2)
- Energy (5)
- Environment (3)
- Transport (2)
- Socioeconomic Sciences and Humanities (3)