

("backstage snapshots of the European research arena")

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ETAT S.A. – a few key points

- ETAT was founded by the Greek Ministry of Development in 1988
- Its headquarters are in Athens, Greece
- It has 20 staff, of which 15 scientists/ engineers
- Its main objective is to help improve the competitiveness of Greek Food & Beverage industry
 - ETAT provides a wide range of support services
 - Laboratory analyses and contract research
 - Consultancy services for the food industry







ETAT S.A. – a few key points

• ETAT is:

- Closely cooperating with research organisations
- Active in the exploitation of research results
- Supporting Technology Platform initiatives in Greece













What is the "Framework Programme"?

- The Framework Programme (FP) is the European Union's main instrument for funding research and development.
- The FP is proposed by the European Commission and adopted by Council and the European Parliament following a co-decision procedure.



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FP1: 1984–1987
FP2: 1987–1991
FP3: 1991–1994
FP4: 1994–1998
FP5: 1998–2002
FP6: 2002–2006
FP7: 2007–2013
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Why does the EU have FPs?

- The FP is based on the Treaty establishing the European Union (art. 166)
- According to art. 163 of the Treaty the FP should have 2 main objectives:



- Strengthening the scientific and technological bases of the EU and enhancing its competitiveness, internationally
- Promoting research in support of EU policies
- The FP and the various National research funding schemes complement each other





A bit more on the FP-policies pair...

- The specific workprogrammes encourage researchers to take into consideration existing policies, e.g.:
 - The Lisbon agenda (aiming at increasing the funding for RTD activities)
 - ETAP (Environmental Technologies Action Plan)
 - CAP/CFP (Common Agriculture/Fisheries Policies)
 - Encouragement of the SME participation in RTD activities, International cooperation in research, etc.
 - International cooperation with non-EU researchers
- There can be calls specifically aiming to produce results that can support policy development, e.g.:
 - Organic farming/ low input agriculture
 - Development of a health claims list for foodstuff labeling
 - Migratory birds & Avian Influenza





Video 1



Who provides input to the content of the workprogramme?

- Relevant external input can be provided by (nearly) everyone
 - Individuals
 - Individual organisations
 - Various groups and associations
 - Technology Platforms



 External input is taken into consideration on top of the "in-house" expertise that the EC has access to (advisory groups, Programme Committee, positions of the Member States, ...)



European Technology Platforms

 ETPs are groups of stakeholders, led by the industry, which are of a critical mass and can define R&D priorities, timeframes and action plans on strategically important issues, where Europe's future growth, competitiveness and sustainability depends on major RTD advances





- ETPs may provide some input to the workprogramme
- BUT: ETPs should also seek to raise funds from non-FP sources





What is the structure of FP7?

Cooperation – Collaborative research

Ideas – Frontier Research

People – Human Potential



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Joint Research Centre (non-nuclear)

Joint Research Centre (nuclear)

Euratom







Which are the Thematic Priorities?

Cooperation – Collaborative research

10 Thematic Priorities – "Themes"

- 1. Health
- 2. Food, agriculture and fisheries and biotechnology (FAFB)
- 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. Space
- 10. Security





The importance of FAFB

- FAFB is of high importance to Europe's bio-economy
 - "Bio-economy" includes the food, agriculture, wood, forestry and industrial biotech sectors
 - Market size over 1.5 trillion Euro
 - Bio-economy industries employ more than 22 million people in Europe
- In FP7 the focus is on the Knowledge Based Bio-Economy (KBBE), so as to:
 - Support employment and growth
 - Secure sustainability in agriculture/ fisheries under challenging conditions (population rise, climate change, etc.)
 - Secure demand for renewable bio-resources & eco-efficient products
 - Satisfy consumer demand for quality, health & well-being promoting foodstuffs
 - Control and prevent emerging hazards (e.g., zoonotic diseases) and food-related disorders (e.g., obesity)

















FP7: Target audience

- Participation in FP6 (and FP7) is open to all interested parties (legal entities), including:
 - Research centres (public or private)
 - Universities
 - Industry (SME or not)
 - International organisations
 - Industrial associations, professional bodies, consumer associations, etc.
 - Physical persons







FP7 and international participation

- Participation of non-EU partners is a possibility in all FAFB calls
- Some calls encourage the participation of partners from specific areas
- Some calls require participation of non-EU partners (SICA)



 Mutual benefit and added value of the non-EU participants are the main parameters for choosing particular cooperations



FP projects: possible activity types

- Research and technological development
- Demonstration
- Training
- Coordination activities
- Support activities
- Integration activities/ Others
- Management

Note: Different activity types have different funding levels!







FP projects: Main Funding Schemes

- Each "funding scheme", i.e., project type, allows for a certain set of activity types. In FP7, calls will be addressing:
 - Small and Large Collaborative projects (in FP6,
 - STREP/IP)
 - Networks of Excellence
 - Coordination/support actions
 - Fellowships (Marie Curie scheme)
 - Research projects for third parties (e.g., SMEs)
 - Individual projects (ERC)







FP7 projects: From the proposal to the contract



An example of an FP6 "food" project

SEAFOODPLUS

- Integrated project, covering 6 research areas and comprising some 20 sub-projects
- 70 partners in 16 EU countries and Canada
- Strategic objective:
 - "...The strategic objective of the SEAFOODplus Integrated Programme is to reduce health problems and to increase well-being among European consumers by applying the benefits obtained through consumption of health promoting and safe seafood products of high eating quality."
- Budget: ~26 MEuro
- Funding: ~14.4 MEuro
- Coordinator: Danish Institute for Fisheries Research
- www.seafoodplus.org







FP7: margin for a bottom-up approach

- The "People" area (Marie-Curie scheme)
- The "Ideas" area
- The Research for the benefit of SMEs
 - SME associations
 - Individual SMEs







Video 2

FP7: Funding

In general:

- No-profit principle
- RTD activities 50%,



- (up to 75% for Public bodies, education establishments, nonprofit research organisations, SMEs)
- Demonstration activities 50%
- Management, support, coordination, training activities 100%



FP7: Intellectual property

- Flexibility to exploit generated knowledge
- In principle, each partner owns the knowledge they generate (but joint ownership also possible)



- The EC contract may set restrictions to transfer of ownership
- The consortium agreement can further clarify ownership of knowledge and exploitation capabilities



Getting support

- National Contact Points or Information Contact Points or equivalent structures receive training and support from the EC
- Specific **support actions** (e.g. INJOY&TRAIN)



CORDIS (http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7 – a very rich source of information!)





Getting involved

Ask \rightarrow Read \rightarrow Focus \rightarrow Network \rightarrow Dare!







Beyond FP projects: Exploiting research results

Innovation Relay Centre Network

- One of the biggest technology/ innovation transfer networks
- EC supported and cofunded since 1995
- Covers 33 countries
- May provide support on technology transfer even beyond the countries covered
- <u>http://irc.cordis.lu/</u>
- Now open to cooperation with all countries!!!







Participation pros & cons – in brief!

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• FP projects tend to involve ambitious, high quality work	 Getting involved requires resources (as any investment planning)
• FP research is strongly relevant to current and emerging needs	 Working in (multinational) consortia may sometimes be frustrating
 Successful consortia usually deliver according to expectations 	 FP mechanisms have their jargon It may take considerable time
 Partners can strongly benefit from participating in a strong team 	between the proposal preparation and the actual start of the work
• Funding rates can be attractive and the exploitation of the results is encouraged and supported	
• Participation adds an international dimension and further widens one's horizons	
There is plenty of support available	

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So, should one be interested in FP7?

Thank you for your attention!

