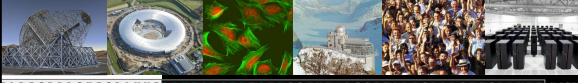

Research Infrastructures under FP7
 The support to ESFRI Roadmap projects

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EuroBioImaging meeting
 Heidelberg, September 22nd, 2009



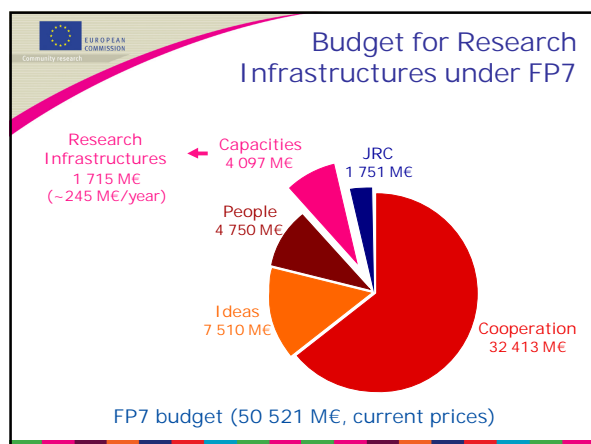

ERA building blocks

Excellent research institutions and universities
 Well-coordinated research programmes and priorities (joint programming)
 Single labour market for researchers
 Opening to the world through international cooperation in S&T
 Effective sharing of knowledge
 World-class research infrastructures


European Research Area


Definition of Research Infrastructures

- Facilities, resources, and related services used by the scientific community for conducting top-level research
- They include
 - Major scientific equipment or set of instruments
 - Scientific collections, archives and structured information
 - ICT-based infrastructures ("e-Infrastructures")
 - Other entities of a unique nature, used for research
- "Single-sited" or "distributed"
- Subject to international review




Objectives of the Community Research Infrastructures actions

- To optimise the use and balanced development of the best existing research infrastructures in Europe
- To help creating in all fields of S&T new research infrastructures of pan-European interest needed by the European scientific community
- To support programme implementation and policy development (e.g. international cooperation)

Towards a coherent policy for Research Infrastructures: ESFRI

- A European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (launched in April 2002)
- Brings together representatives of the 27 Member States, Associated States, and one representative of the European Commission (EC)
- To discuss the long term vision at European level and to support the development of a European RI policy
 - A Roadmap Report with 44 projects
 - Worth ~18 BE investments over the next ~10 years

Infrastructures for the Life Sciences

- | BBMRI - Biobanks
- | EATRIS - Translational research facilities
- | ECRIN - Clinical trial platform
- | ELIXIR - Data repositories
- | Infrafrontier - Mouse archives and clinics
- | INSTRUCT - Structural biology facilities
- | EMBRC - Marine biology resources
- | EU-Openscreen - Chemical libraries
- | EuroBioImaging - Imaging facilities
- | HBSL4 - High-security labs

A new European legal framework for ERI's

- | Necessity of a new Legal Framework, at Community level, for the construction and operation of European Research Infrastructures
 - ⌚ A legal personality recognised in all Member States
 - ⌚ To facilitate the joint establishment and operation throughout Europe
- | EU Commission decision end of July 2008, and adoption by the EU Council end of June 2009
- | Council Regulation (EC) No 723/2009 of 25 June 2009, published in the Official Journal of the European Union L 206/1 EN on 8.8.2009

Making use of Structural Funds

- | About 86 B€ out of the 347 B€ are dedicated to RTD-I (to be compared to the 50 B€ of FP7)
- | One of the categories of expenditure into which the operational programmes are divided is "R&D infrastructure and centres of competence in a specific technology"
- | Budget allocated to this expenditure category:
 - ⌚ Under the Convergence objective: 7.5 B€
 - ⌚ Under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective: 2.3 B€
 - ⌚ Under the European Territorial Co-operation objective: 148 M€

FP7 support to the Construction of new infrastructures (or major upgrades)

- | List of projects to be supported based on the ESFRI roadmap
- | The preparatory phase
 - ⌚ Restricted calls, targeting projects identified as having pan-European character
- | The implementation phase
 - ⌚ Mainly under the financial responsibility of Member States
 - ⌚ Use of financial engineering, such as RSFF


Call information

Call FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1

1.1 Support to existing research infrastructures	
1.1.1 Integrating activities	~ 162 M€
1.2 Support to new research infrastructures	
1.2.2 Construction of new infrastructures (or major upgrades) – Preparatory phase	~ 45 M€
1.3 Support to policy development and programme implementation	~ 10 M€

Indicative timetable


⌚ Publication of call	30 July 2009
⌚ Deadline for submission	3 December 2009 17:00 (Brussels time)
⌚ Evaluation of proposals	Dec. 2009 – Feb. 2010
⌚ Evaluation results	March 2010
⌚ Launch of negotiation	May 2010
⌚ Signature of grant agreements	from autumn 2010
⌚ Pre-financing	45 days after signature of grant agreement
⌚ Starting date	to be negotiated

 **Preparatory phase**
List of topics

- è INFRA-2010-2.2.1: EISCAT_3D Upgrade
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.2: EPOS
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.3: SIAOS
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.4: ECCSEL
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.5: EMBRC
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.6: EU-OPENSREEN
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.7: EuroBioImaging
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.8: High Security BLS4 Laboratory
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.9: EMFL
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.10: CTA
- è INFRA-2010-2.2.11: One project in the European strategy for particle physics (CERN Council)

 **Preparatory phase**
Objectives


- | To provide a framework facilitating decision-making between partners from different countries to lead to the construction of the new infrastructure
- | To address all the **critical issues** (legal, financial,...) that need to be resolved
- | To conclude an **"agreement"** between the funding parties and other partners involved allowing the project to move forward

 **Preparatory phase**
Activities


- | Work expected to focus on
 - è Legal work
 - è Governance, Strategic work
 - è Financial work
- | **Technical work** also possible but cannot be the core of the preparatory phase

 **Preparatory phase**
Participants

- | Consortia should involve **all stakeholders necessary** to make the project a reality
 - è ministries, research councils, funding agencies from interested countries + as appropriate, research centres, universities, industries, ...
 - è **commitments**
- | Open to participants from third countries
- | Possibility for **new participants** to join at later stage

 **Preparatory phase**
Eligibility and requirements


- | **Eligibility conditions**
 - è General criteria: deadline, completeness, relevance to topics...
 - è Minimum 3 independent legal entities from 3 different Member States or Associated States
 - è Max. requested EC funding: 6 M€ (warning: € 6.000.000,01 è proposal NOT eligible = NOT evaluated)
- | **Further requirements**
 - è Maximum 4 years
 - è EC funding normally from 3 to 6 M€ (max.)

 **A preparatory phase project...**


- | ... is not a Research project, a Network of Excellence, etc.
 - è It instead aims at providing a catalytic and leveraging support, leading to the construction of a new research infrastructure
- | ... is not a closed shop
 - è The project should seek to build on all the expertise available and to develop a broad scientific support
 - è Experience shows that the organisation of conferences (e.g. in ELIXIR), stakeholder's fora (e.g. in BBMRI), etc. are very beneficial, if not a necessity

 Evaluation criteria


- I Criterion 1: S&T quality (/5)
 - è Infrastructure offering world-level service to users
 - è Contribution to scientific excellence
 - è Quality and effectiveness of coordination and associated work plan
- I Criterion 2: Implementation (/5)
 - è Appropriate management structure and implementation plan
 - è Quality of the partnership (all relevant parties)
 - è Appropriate allocation and justification of the resources to be committed

 Evaluation criteria

- I Criterion 3: Impact (/5)
 - è Contribution to the realisation of the infrastructure (addressing critical questions still unresolved)
 - è Contribution of the proposed infrastructure to:
 - è the attractiveness of the ERA
 - è the technological development capacity
 - è the reinforcement of research-based clusters
 - è the balanced territorial development
 - è socio-economic impacts
 - è Added value of the Community support (catalytic effect of EC involvement)

 Documents and Contacts

- I "Work Programme" (RIs, 2010) and "Call fiche"
 - è Information on objectives, actions and budgets
 - è List of topics
 - è Deadline, eligibility conditions, particular requirements...
- I "Guides for applicants"
 - è Practical information on how to apply
 - è Evaluation criteria
 - è Instructions for "part A" and "part B" of the proposal
- I Contacts
 - è National Contact Points
 - è European Commission
 - è Elena.Righi-Steele@ec.europa.eu
 - è Agnes.Robin@ec.europa.eu, Hugues.Crutzen@ec.europa.eu

 For further information

- I FP7 and Capacities Specific Programme
 - è <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/capacities/>
- I Research Infrastructures in Europa
 - è <http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures>
- I ESFRI
 - è <http://cordis.europa.eu/esfri/>
- I Structural Funds
 - è http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/atlas2007/index_en.htm
- I Risk Sharing Finance Facility (RSFF)
 - è <http://www.eib.org/products/loans/special/rsff/?lang=en>

