



Seventh Research Framework Programme (FP7)

The Seventh Research Framework Programme for Scientific Research and Technological Development is the main instrument for funding of scientific research in Europe for the period 2007 – 2013.

The programme is aimed at building an integrated European Research Area (EEA) for achieving lasting and sustainable economic growth. The Programme will support the implementation of advanced research in emerging areas of knowledge. It will stimulate the best research groups in Europe and beyond to conduct joint research into contemporary directions. The programme will actively support the creation of a new generation of talented young scientists to remain in Europe and to work towards achieving a competitive economy based on knowledge and skills. It will encourage the linking of science policy with other policies of the Community - employment, regional development, competitiveness and innovation - to ensure complementarity and successful interaction between them.

The following activities are financed:

- **Joint research projects** - support for research projects carried out by consortia between partners from different countries aimed at developing new knowledge, new technologies, new products or pooling of resources for research..
- **Networks of competence** - support for joint research programs carried out by a number of scientific organizations integrating their operations in the area carried out by research teams within a long-term cooperation.
- **Activities for coordination and support** - supporting activities aimed at coordinating and supporting research activities or policies. These activities can be introduced through other than invitations to calls for proposal.

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- **Individual projects** - supporting projects implemented by individual research groups. The scheme will be used mainly to support research projects in the border areas of knowledge, implemented and financed within the European Research Council
- **Support for training and career development of researchers** - mainly for implementation of activities under the Marie Curie Programme.
- **Research aimed at specific groups (in particular SMEs)** - supporting research projects where the bulk of research is carried out by universities, research centres and other entities for the benefit of specific groups and in particular SMEs or associations of SMEs

FP7 consists of 4 main blocks of activities which form the 4 specific Programmes plus a fifth specific Programme for nuclear research. These specific programs are: “Cooperation”, “Ideas”, “People” and “Capacities” and the “Euratom” Programme.

- **“Cooperation”** - the Programme supports trans-national cooperation in ten thematic areas corresponding to the principal areas of technological development and innovation in Europe and in correspondence with the European social, economic and industrial challenges. The overall Programme goal is the sustainable development of the economy based on knowledge. Special attention is paid to the effective coordination between the thematic priorities. Interdisciplinary research projects which contribute to the development of different scientific fields will be supported. Special attention will be given to intersectoral partnership and implementation of research projects, solving important industry issues
- **“Ideas”** - this Programme is aimed at enhancing the dynamism, creativity and excellence of European science on the “boundary of knowledge”. Will support innovative ideas of top scientists and research teams in all scientific fields, which will compete on European level. Will finance projects submitted by individual researchers, from both private and public sector, without restrictions on thematic focus, evaluated by a single criterion - high scientific competence and innovative

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proposals. It will provide support for new scientific and technological research and development, which eventually turn into scientific discoveries. They are running independently of Thematic areas and other parts of the Framework Programme, devoting particular attention to young researchers and new teams, and to already proven research teams

- **“People”** - EU seeks to establish a system of circulation of brains ("braincirculation"), both within Europe and global levels. The Programme is aimed at supporting the development of scientific careers of researchers at all levels, from initial qualification to lifelong learning and career ladder.
- **“Capacity”** - this program is aimed at enhancing scientific and innovative capacity across Europe through support for: Optimizing the use and development of research infrastructures, increasing innovation and the absorption capacity of small and medium enterprises, support for the development of regional science-based Clusters “unlock” of the research potential in the regions covered by objective “similarity” and the most remote regions of the EU, entry of science in society and integration of science and technology in society, support for building coherence of research policies; horizontal actions and measures to support international cooperation
- **“Euratom”**- framework Programme for nuclear research and training activities includes research, technology development, international cooperation, dissemination of technical information and operational and training activities. Will be implemented through two Programmes: energy research Fusion; Nuclear fission and radiation protection. The second Programme covers the activities of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) nuclear energy