

**BUSINESSEUROPE**



**Evaluation and Impact Assessment of  
European FP for R&D :  
Points of views from business**

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# Introduction

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- **General rule for participation in FP7**
- Participants have to be “legal entities”, including private companies: SMEs, SME associations, innovative companies



# Opportunities under the “Cooperation” programme (€ 32 billion - 63%)

- **Collaborative research**
  
- **Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs)**
  - **6 JTIs** identified in FP7:
    - “Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)”
    - “Embedded Computing Systems (ARTEMIS)”
    - “Aeronautics and Air Transport (Clean Sky)”
    - “Nanoelectronics Technologies 2020 (ENIAC)”
    - “Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Initiative (FCH)”
    - “Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES)”
  
- **European Technology Platforms (ETPs)**



# Opportunities under the “Ideas” programme (€ 7.5 billion - 15%)

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- Aims to boost Europe’s competitiveness by supporting **frontier research**, which is instrumental in producing new knowledge leading to future applications and markets
- Projects funding based on the **sole criterion of excellence**
- Implementation by the **European Research Council**



# Opportunities under the “People” programme (€ 4.7 billion - 9,3%)

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- **Specific action “Industry-academia pathways and partnerships”**
  - Aims to stimulate intersectoral mobility and
  - increase knowledge-sharing through joint research partnerships in long term



# Opportunities under the “Capacities” programme (€ 4.1 billion - 8,1%)

- **“Regions of knowledge” initiative**
  - Supports the development of “research-driven clusters” (funding: € 0.1 billion)
  
- **Specific measures for SMEs**
  - “Research for the benefit of SMEs” (funding: € 1.3 billion)



# Participation of business in FP6

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## ➤ Participation

- **13 907** industrial organisations: **19% of participations**
- In FP5, the participation rate was **10%**

## ➤ Budget share

- **€ 3 billion** : **18% of EC funding**
- In FP5, their share was **10%**



# **Why are companies interested in participating?**

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- **Public-private partnerships**
- **Regional research-driven clusters**
- **Access to European research infrastructures**
- **Benefits from technology transfer**
- **Specific actions**, e.g. for SMEs, intersectoral mobility





# **Why do most companies not participate?**

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- **Complex and time consuming rules for participation**
  
- **Low success rate of proposal in FP6**
  - Science and Society : 11,5%
  - SME actions : 12,3%
  - INCO : 12,4%
  
- **Over-subscription**



## **From FP6 to FP7: some improvements**

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- Improved cooperation with industry *via* **JTIs and ETPs**
- Creation of a **Risk Sharing Finance Facility**
- A step towards **simplification of the procedures** for participation



## Some issues of concerns

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- **Evaluation:** imbalance between academic and non academic evaluators
- **Contract negotiation:** very limited harmonisation in the implementation of the Commission's rules and principles
- A new issue: **restriction of the use of average personnel costs**, when making cost statements for FP7 cooperation project



# Recommendations for FP8

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1. Simplify rules and procedures
2. Review the selection and evaluation processes
3. Develop « Responsible Partnering »



# Simplify rules and procedures

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## Simplify:

### ➤ the rules for participation

- Simplification of the procedures
- Reduction in the number and size of official documents

### ➤ the framework programme's implementation

- Streamlining funding schemes
- A more limited choice of instruments for more coherent funding
- Greater autonomy for partner groups



# Review the selection and evaluation processes

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## ➤ On the selection side

- Mitigate the negative effects of oversubscription: the Commission should reinforce its role of guidance to potential proposers

## ➤ On the evaluation side

- Rebalance between academic and non academic evaluators
- Investigate further the idea of a remote evaluation



## **Develop « Responsible Partnering »**

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- 5 organisations: EIRMA, ProTon Europe, EUA, EARTO, BUSINESSEUROPE
  
- Guide to better practices for collaborative research and knowledge transfer between science and industry (January 2005)
  
- Set of tools containing guidelines on 4 issues:
  - identifying good partners
  - constructing the collaborative research agreement
  - self assessment guidelines
  - support of governmental authorities



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Thank you !

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