

Dear Reader,

The largest community programme FP7 with a budget of over 50 billion euro for the seven-year period, 2007-2013 had the first deadlines for submission in May. Proposers all over Europe and even the world are currently getting the initial feed back from the Commission in form of an Evaluation Summary Report. New calls are open and more funding is available, which is why we have decided to dedicate the entire summer edition of EU Center Magazine to EU research policy and FP7.

FP7 is the EU's financial instrument to finance research and development in Europe and beyond. The EU strives to achieve the ambitious goal set out in the Lisbon agenda, namely to make the EU the most competitive and dynamic knowledge based economy in the world by 2010. The strategy is based on three pillars, the so-called knowledge triangle: Research, Innovation and Education. For the new financial period, 2007-2013, three main Community Framework programmes have been created: **The Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7)**, **The Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)** and the **Life Long Learning Framework Programme**.

FP7 supports research and development but one should not think that only pure research is funded, FP7 is about much more than that. FP7 is composed of four specific programmes, each supporting different types of actions related to research and development. FP7 not only finances pure research projects, but also actions aiming to support or coordinate research, as well as building and maintaining networks. Support is also available for actions aiming to enhance research capacities, for frontier research and for researcher mobility.

FP7 is not only of interest for the EU Member States, but basically the entire world can participate depending on the country and the call, although not everyone may receive funding. You can read more about this in the Research Policy article. The main point is that FP7 funding can be an option for anyone based anywhere who wants to cooperate internationally.

As mentioned above, FP7 offers tremendous opportunities to receive funding but it is important to remember that competition is extremely tough and estimations show that approximately 1 out of 9 or 10 eligible proposals submitted gets funded in the end. This means that only the best of the best proposals will get funded!

Thousands of people all over the world spend considerable amounts of time and resources to develop proposals, many of which will not even get accepted. Preparing an FP project proposal is very time consuming and requires extra

costs for the organization, costs that are not reimbursed. Proposal preparation can also be a stressful activity; deadlines must be respected and partners may not send their contributions in time. Everyone involved in project preparation probably has encountered such situations...

During the implementation of the project, participating in an FP7 project may take a considerable amount of more time that simply implementing the project without FP funding. This is because of the international aspect of the FP7 projects. Partners come from various countries; each having their own work culture which may not always correlate well with other work cultures. Having your project financed by the FP also involves a lot of extra administrative work and rules to respect as a legal binding contract has been signed with the Commission.

So why should anyone invest so much time and money and suffer from the extra stress involved with applying for funding and getting caught-up in something so strenuous and tiring?? The first most obvious answer is of course that funding from the Commission offers financial opportunities to carry out your project. But this is not all; being a partner in an FP project allows you to take part in international cooperation between universities, research centers, private sector and public authorities from different countries. Besides achieving high quality research this is actually a goal for FP7. For the individual company, it is also beneficiary in terms of technology transfer and broadening and deepening business relations, expanding networks and building lasting relationships with many different businesses and organisations. Last but not least, it is fun and rewarding to work with people from different sectors and countries!

FP7 projects may seem intimidating for newcomers, filtering through the jungle of information and learning and adhering to the new rules both for applying and for implementing the project. Not knowing can actually cause a serious loss for your organization both financially and in terms of reputation. If one partner is late or filled out the reports and forms wrong, all consortium members will have to wait for their payment. But everyone has to start somewhere and learning by doing is the best way of sorting it all out. Many specialized courses in proposal development and project management are helpful in speeding up the learning process and getting everything right from the beginning and at a much faster pace.

Take all the help you can get, there are many resources to help you along the way with you FP project!

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NEWS

EU financial assistance for 2007-2009 has been set for the Western Balkans and Turkey – 20 June 2007

The Multi-annual planning indicates an amount of EUR 3,961 billion EU financial assistance to the candidate and potential candidate countries aiming to help enhance political and economic reform and development, towards their integration process for EU membership.

According to the specific needs of each country the EU strategies tend to transform the financial commitment into concrete projects in order to sustain their major priorities.

In addition to the country-specific beneficiary programme, the financial assistance will support a Multi plan on eleven areas of intervention to be supported by joint projects in the region. These areas include for example regional cooperation, infrastructure, education and research.

Source: *The EU Commission Press releases*

For more information on Indicative financial assistance for the period 2007-2009 available at:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/07/856&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Commission adopts simpler payment method for International Cooperation Partner Countries for FP7 financing: lump sums - 04 June 2007

The adopted decision allows the use of a flat rate lump sum amount to be used within grant agreements for indirect actions completed under the Seventh Framework Programme. Accordingly, if the applicant decides on the lump sum option for financing, the maximum EC contribution is calculated on the basis of the GNI of the International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC). Otherwise ICPC participants may ask for the standard

reimbursement of eligible costs. This decision applies the lump sum payments to make the grant agreement process simpler for participants from these countries. The lump sum covers all the costs of an ICPC participant including not only the costs for personnel and travel, but also those of equipment, consumables and indirect costs.

Source: *CORDIS*

(Art. 11.18 ECGA of the DRAFT Guide to Financial Issues relating to FP7 Indirect Actions) available at:

ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/financialguide_en.pdf

New service launched by CORDIS for the coordination of FP7 research activities - 20 July 2007

This is to coordinate European research activities by offering a valuable service to provide full details of the instruments available for the plan's implementation in the Coordination homepage and 'About Coordination'. Moreover, the 'Get support' page makes available links to National Contact Points (NCPs) in 27 EU Member States and associated states to the Framework Programme, as well as personalised support on the spot in the proposer's own language. In addition, for those wishing to submit an ERA-NET or ERA-NET Plus action, a Pre-Proposal Check (PPC) service is available in order to evaluate the eligibility of the proposal and its consortia. The frequent queries on Coordination of Research Activities through ERA-NET, Article 169 and JTIs will be addressed to the FAQs section as well as personalized responses will be given by relevant experts replacing the traditional emails with a FP7 enquires service. Finally, a Library will make available several relevant publications for the Coordination service and additionally, access to Erawatch and Technology Platforms will be provided.

Source: *CORDIS*

The new service is available at:

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/coordination>

Eurostat Report founded Mobility of scientists still limited - 26 July 2007

Although an European Research Area and Internal market for researchers have been created, the statistics reveal that the Commission's attempts to create encouraging conditions for the mobility of researchers is not yet giving results. The study envisages that large disparities exist in the share of highly skilled people among EU countries. Only 5.7% of human resources in research and technology of the EU-27 are citizens of a foreign country, while half of them are citizens from Member States. The member-states ability to attract foreign researchers varies from one country to another, as in Luxemburg the share of non-national scientists is 46% in the new EU countries it is much lower, around 1 % (with the exception of Estonia and Cyprus).

Source: *Eurostat*

The official document can be found at:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-SF-007-075/EN/KS-SF-007-075-EN.PDF

INTERVIEW

Diane Whitehouse

The Castlegate Consultancy

Former Scientific Officer - ICT for Health, General Directorate Information Society and Media, European Commission

Europa Media: Firstly, Everyone who is involved in FP projects is familiar with the term Scientific Officer, but not many people know the intricacies of this profession. So, first I would like to ask you to describe briefly your profession as a Scientific Officer, pointing out the pros and cons of your job and the challenges you are faced with.

Diane Whitehouse: When you are involved in a research project, your link with the European Commission is through your own project coordinator - it is he or she who liaises directly with the person who is your project officer. Your scientific officer or project officer is the person who acts as an interface for the project to the whole of the Commission Services (all scientific, technical, legal, financial, and organisational issues). In general, he or she may have up to ten projects in his or her portfolio. In some perhaps exceptional cases, he or she may even have fifty or so.

Being a project officer will, however, be just one aspect of that person's job. Among the various activities s/he undertakes, he or she will have to move a specific scientific, research, or policy area forward. S/he will be asked to speak or make presentations publicly, organise meetings and events, set up evaluations and reviews, write reports or other formal documents, and give input to both senior colleagues and peers. Many responsibilities exist in parallel.

Pros: being part of a large, well-resourced organisation; having bright, intelligent, gifted colleagues; experiencing variety, challenge, stimulus, frequent change; learning new facts and developments continuously; responding to demands; working either on your own specialist area or - together with others - on much larger initiatives.

Cons: an organisation is what you make of it. The list of disadvantages is in reality therefore much shorter than the benefits.

Overall, you know that you and your colleagues are there to further 'the European project'. You have the thrill to see Europe grow and mature. It is a rare privilege in a job to have such an important underlying task

EM: How do you consider the evaluation process of FP project proposal, taking into account the time available for the evaluators? Do you think the current process is effective?

DW: For me, the evaluation process works well whether it is done on-site or offline/at a distance. It has been devel-

Did you know this about working with the European Commission..?

- **How to apply:** Competitions are advertised in the Official Journal or on the Europa website whenever Calls are open
- **Qualifications:** are stipulated in the advertisements; the minimum -for being Scientific Officer - is of a university degree, but the reality is often higher (many Scientific Officers have several degrees of different levels)
- **Languages:** a minimum of two of the EC official languages; to progress in the managerial career hierarchy, three. Many Commission officials speak a multiplicity of European languages
- **Contract periods:** depending on the type of contract offered - they can range from three years to life
- **Geography:** most competitions stipulate whether they are calling for candidates from particular countries, e.g., when new Member States come on board in the Union there are often calls for personnel from those areas
- **Employment policies:** the Commission has fair and equal employment policies including gender, and race

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm

oped well and solidly over the years. It is, however, generally improved and enhanced with the arrival of each new Framework Programme - based on a range of comments and criticisms that are made by the external community, national contact points, research management committees, evaluations of the evaluations themselves, and internal consultations with Commission personnel. Between each and every evaluation, there is usually an assessment of what worked and what didn't work organisationally. Within the constraints of the official - formally approved - guidelines, organisational improvements and enhancements can still be made.

EM: FP7 differs from its predecessors in several aspects. In your opinion, what are the main features as well as the shortcomings of FP7 when compared to FP6?

DW: Maybe you can see a horse's form while it is still in the paddock. But never judge an animal before it has run its race. This Programme is large, ambitious, well-resourced, committed to bringing together European and national visions of research in a substantive way, and it will last for many years to come. An endeavour this challenging will take time to show its metal. Let's see how the initiative is put into place practically, and how it develops now and in the future.

Above all, any new Framework Programme with new approaches and procedures may experience 'teething difficulties' during the evaluations of its early Calls, but these are usually ironed out over time.

EM: A contractor has to respect many rules and procedures concerning project implementation. What are the typical mistakes that lead to conflicts between the EC and the contractors/beneficiaries?

DW: Conflict is a too strong word: it is really very rare for a project to be involved in such a dramatic end-result. One of the major difficulties for projects, though, is an internal problem - it involves changes in key partners. It can be particularly challenging if there is a change in the project coordinator (the problem can be at two levels: the person him or herself but, even more difficult, the company or institution) or in a key scientific partner.

Some generally good tips for a lead contractor are: make certain that your own company or institution is really 100 per cent on board in supporting the project; ensure that good people are managing both the technical and the organisational aspects of the initiative; know all your project and its partners and keep in regular contact with them; monitor technical progress, any organisational developments, and financial activity; and always keep in regular contact with your project officer. Particularly where technical reviews are concerned: prepare and plan them well, and well ahead of time, and - as a Consortium - never be too proud or too blasé to accept constructive criticism.

EM: Lastly, many people and organisations have applied for funding under FP7 since the beginning of May when the first calls closed. More calls are coming up; do you have any useful advice for the potential applicants of FP7?

DW: My main messages would be to read the Programme and the Call guidelines really carefully indeed, and to comply with them. Prepare, prepare, prepare; focus on an excellent (not just a good) idea that correctly matches the Call; choose excellent people to work with; and submit your proposal in due time. Then, hope!

As background, be aware that first calls in any research programme are generally very popular and can be heavily over-subscribed. The success rate for selected proposals can be anywhere between 1:6 and 1:10. The competition is tough.

You can get good advice and criticism on proposals from your trusted experts and colleagues. Ultimately, this also happens through submitting an unsuccessful proposal and getting the experts' comments back. Being an expert yourself at some time for the Commission's evaluations can also make you more realistic about the very high standard required of selected proposals.

EM: Thank you very much for taking the time and I wish you the best in your future endeavours.

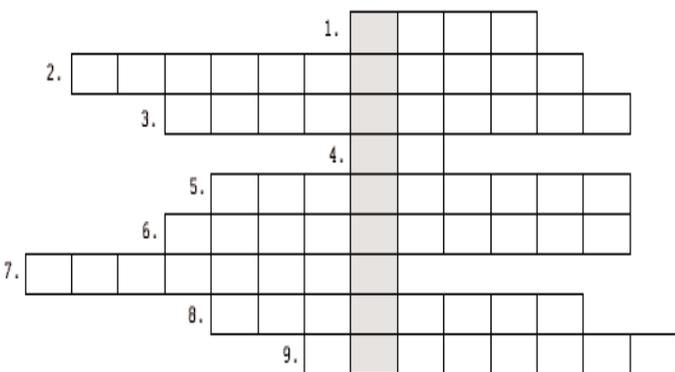
DW: Thank you

Bodil Palmberg,
Europa Media PSC.

QUIZ

- 1.) The acronym for the Food theme in FP7.
- 2.) Under FP7 Cooperation, one of the 10 themes is ...
- 3.) In most cases, a project under FP7 is implemented by a ...
- 4.) The abbreviation for work programme is ...
- 5.) It lists the call for proposals under a specific theme (2 words)
- 6.) This former programme provided exchanges, fellowships and conferences to aid researcher mobility and is now implemented under the FP7 People programme (2 words)
- 7.) Another way of expressing "Indirect costs" is to say...
- 8.) To be reimbursed, costs must be...
- 9.) FP7 is promoting primarily...

(See the answers on page 7.)

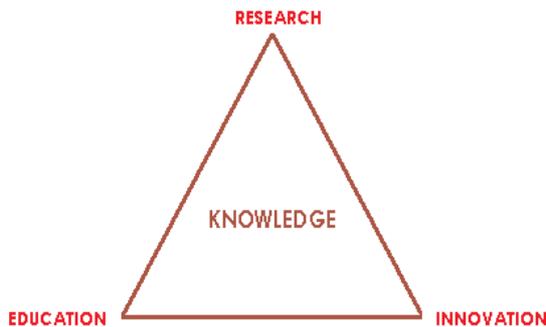


Solution: One of the fundamental dimension aiming to meet the Lisbon goals.

POLICY OF THE MONTH

EU Research Policy: Going beyond state of the art

Three elements will play the key role in achieving the EU's strategic goals of the Lisbon Strategy: Research - Education - Innovation.



The objective of the Lisbon Strategy is to make the EU the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion. Generating and exploiting knowledge lies behind the objective of the Lisbon Strategy; and Research, Education and Innovation are three essential elements to focus on.

For each of these three pillars, the EU has substantial policies, specific objectives and targets, as well as actions and activities. This issue of the EU Center Magazine focuses on the EU Research Policy and the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7), the largest Community Programme and the main instrument of the EU for financing European research.

Research Policy - Background

The Community policy for research and technological development (RTD) has a legal basis, which traces back to the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) Treaty. The Single European Act (SEA) of 1987, the Maastricht Treaty of 1993, and finally the Amsterdam Treaty of 1999 include Articles that specify the Community strategies in research and technological development, and set the basis for the multi-annual Framework Programmes (FP).

The objective of Community RTD policy has been defined as to strengthen the scientific and technological bases of European industry and to encourage it to become more competitive at international level. A wide range of activities have been endorsed by the EU with an aim to achieve this ambitious objective:

- Implementation of research, technological development and demonstration programmes, by promoting cooperation with and between undertakings, research centres and universities
- Promotion of cooperation in the field of Community research, technological development and demonstration

- with third countries and international organisations;
- Dissemination and optimisation of the results of activities in Community research, technological development and demonstration;
- Stimulation of the training and mobility of researchers in the Community.

Several structures have also been established to support the implementation of EU RTD policy. Endeavours for the creation of a European Research Area (ERA) constitute an important step in this respect. ERA, a unified area across Europe, will support the coordination of research throughout the continent, help researchers move freely and exploit research infrastructures, help to develop links with other researchers from around the world, and facilitate the effective sharing of knowledge. In addition, a pan-European funding body, the European Research Council (ERC), to support investigator-driven research by encouraging the best and creative scientists and engineers; a high-level, independent, advisory committee, the European Research Advisory Board (EURAB), to provide advice on the design and implementation of EU research policy; a reference centre of science and technology for the Union, the Joint Research Centre (JRC), to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies are important establishments serving the excellence of European RTD.

The Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)

The main instrument of Community RTD policy is the multi-annual Framework Programmes, which sets objectives, priorities and the financial package of support for a period of several years. Having started in 1984, six Framework Programmes have been launched, implemented and completed until today. The Seventh Framework Programme started 1 January 2007 and will continue to finance transnational research and technological development actions until the end of 2013.

FP7 is the largest Community Programme with a complex structure and certain set of rules for participation. A typical FP7 project involves legal entities including universities, research centres, businesses, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), or individual researchers, from several Member States, associated and third countries. The project consortia usually include complementary members from industry and academia. In most cases involvement of at least 3 different legal entities established in different Member States or associated countries is required for participation in the programme. There are other rules and requirements that define the eligibility of a project proposal for submission under the Seventh Framework Programme. These rules and requirements depend on the type of projects and activities that the applicants intend to undertake, and are clearly defined in the relevant guidance documents for applicants.

Being a large programme aiming at covering the broad objectives of the EU RTD policy, FP7 is divided into four categories referred to as Specific Programmes:

- **Cooperation:** Supports transnational collaborative research strengthening European industries' competitiveness.
- **Ideas:** Supports frontier research by financing investigator-driven research projects carried out across all fields by individual teams.
- **People:** Supports the training, mobility and career development of researchers.
- **Capacities:** Supports the enhancement and optimal use of research and innovation capacities throughout Europe.

In addition to these four Specific Programmes, the Joint Research Centre is allocated a certain budget to carry out non-nuclear actions. Euratom, on the other hand, has a separate budget as well as a separate legal basis. The Euratom programme supports nuclear research and training activities.

More than half of the total budget of FP7 is allocated to 10 thematic areas under the Cooperation specific programme. (Health, Food, ICT, Nano technologies, Energy, Environment, Transport, Socio, Space and Security).

<i>Specific programme</i>	<i>Budget (million Euro)</i>
Cooperation	32 413
Ideas	7 510
People	4 750
Capacities	4 097
JRC	1 751
TOTAL	50 521

While great opportunities exist for those who intend to develop and implement projects within any of these thematic areas, the competition is very high at a European level and statistics show low concerning positive evaluation of project proposals and subsequently funding of projects.

The challenge for project proposers is two-fold:

1. Finding an excellent project idea that goes beyond the state of the art in the concerned field and responding perfectly to the objectives and expected results specified in the related call for proposals
2. Putting the project idea into the proper form of an FP7 project proposal in terms of style, language, keeping with rules and requirements, contribution to EU policies, consortium set-up, etc. Although a challenging process and the chances are low, participation in European programmes and particularly in FP7 would in the long run bring several benefits to the participating institutions: stronger market visibility, enhanced opportunities for cooperation and partnerships at European and international scale, chances to diversify the range of business activities, etc.

How to participate?

Those individuals and organisations that intend to participate in FP7 through submitting project proposals do so in response to "call for proposals" announced at the official web site of the programme (<http://www.cordis.europa.eu>).

First calls for proposals under FP7 were announced at the end of December 2006 with deadlines for submission in May 2007. The second calls have started to be announced for some thematic areas (e.g. ICT; Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology) from June with deadlines in autumn.

In order to obtain a good understanding of the entire programme and its functioning, a great deal of reading is essential through the official web site of FP7. Once the programme structure and the rationales of the thematic areas are clear in the project proposer's mind, the next steps should be checking the relevant calls for proposals according to the area of interest of the project proposer (i.e. Energy, Environment, Agriculture, Transport, etc.). A variety of essential and useful documents are available in the web pages where the calls are announced. Among these documents, the Work Programme of the concerned thematic area is of particular importance since it further specifies all those sub-topics, within which the project proposer can choose to develop a project specifically. The second crucial document is the Guide for Applicants, which lays down the rules and specifies the guidelines on how to fill in the parts of the project proposal.

Even after a thorough reading of these official and supplementary documents, project proposers may have further questions, especially in relation to specific clauses, financial rules, and other technicalities. In such cases, consultation with the National Contact Point (NCP) is recommended.

NCPs are national structures established and financed by governments of the 27 EU member states and the states associated to the framework programme, and they give personalised support on the spot and in proposers' own languages.

Ömer Ceylan
Europa Media PSC.

Useful links - Research Policy

The following Internet links will be a good starting point to discover the essentials of EU RTD policy and the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7):

The Research activities of the European Commission
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm>

CORDIS website
<http://cordis.europa.eu/>

Official home page of FP7
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html

Network of National Contact Points (NCPs)
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp_en.html

The following web services of the European Commission have been referred to and used in this article.

EC - DG Research Home Page
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=why>

European Parliament Home Page
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/facts/4_13_0_en.htm

EUROPA - Summaries of Legislation, Research and Innovation
<http://europa.eu/scadplus/leg/en/s23000.htm>

PRACTICAL HINTS

The first calls of many new programmes have been launched. and even closed. What will happen now? See some practical hints on this..

Now that the first deadlines of submission for FP7 have come and gone, the results will be announced in the coming weeks. It is important to keep your calm during this period. It may seem like the Commission is taking forever to give you the response and you are probably getting more and more nervous as the days go by without a word. Just remember, whatever the results of your proposal may be, you did your best!

If your proposal was not evaluated favorably, don't waste your time brooding over moot points. Take advantage of the situation and learn from your mistakes. The Evaluation Summary Reports (ESR) highlight what needs to be improved, so improve it and try submitting it again at a later date. You may get lucky the second time around.

Receiving the ESR does not tell if your project will get funded or not but of course with high scores it is more likely to be invited to Grant Agreement Negotiation with the Commission. Only a limited amount of funding is available for each call so only excellent projects can get funded. It will depend on the ranking by the Commission if you will be invited to negotiate or not. Another factor to count with is the projects that were higher ranked and their budget requests.

The importance of quick communication...

If you are the Coordinator and thus receive the ESR, make sure to communicate it quickly to all the partners. If your proposal received high scores and high ranking, you will need all partners' contribution to the negotiation. Being efficient at this stage is showing the partners the way to do it! And you will need them to deliver information quickly as the Commission's deadlines are short.

Things to consider before next time...

- A winning proposal is only the first step. There is still much more to do!
- Start the preparation in time! Even if your project idea is clear, it will need time to develop and the partners will need time to send you all the documents
- When preparing a proposal, read through all support documents; nothing is worst than loosing a proposal due to administrative negligence
- If your proposal is rejected, make changes and submit it again. It never hurts, and it might win.
- The most important thing is to have an excellent proposal!
- It never hurts to get a second opinion on your proposal before you submit. Sometimes things just need a fresh eye to give it that unique touch.

My EU Center Team

Did you know that....?

- There were 72 topics open in the first Environment call in FP7 with a budget of 200 million euro Deadline for submission was 2 May, and over 600 proposals were submitted.

- Croatia, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have signed the Memoranda of Understanding with the EC that makes them eligible to compete on an equal level with EU Member States in FP7. A similar agreement was also recently signed between Turkey and the Commission.

- A total of 9167 applications have been submitted for the ERC's first round of grants, the Starting Grants for independent researchers – a much higher number than it had been expected.

- The EU still has got a long way to achieve the goal set in 2002 to increase European research spending to 3% of GDP by 2010 as the current figure is 1.93%, compared to 2.6% in the US and 3.2% in Japan. Therefore, while FP6 had a total budget of 19.113 billion, in FP7 it has been increased to 53.272 billion (with Euratom, however, the previous Framework Programmes ran only for four years contrary to FP7 that runs for seven years).

- According to a survey where 26 000 people were asked across the 27 EU Member States about satellite systems and particularly Galileo programme, the majority (59%) of those surveyed were unaware of the Galileo project, which has been in existence since 1999, despite the fact that an overwhelming majority of citizens - some 80% - said that the EU should have its own independent satellite system.

Sources: [http:// europa.eu](http://europa.eu) and <http://cordis.europa.eu>

Quiz solution

One of the fundamental dimension aiming to meet the Lisbon goals

Answers:

- 1: KBBE
- 2: ENVIRONMENT
- 3: CONSORTIUM
- 4: WP
- 5: CALL FICHE
- 6: MARIE CURIE
- 7: OVERHEAD
- 8: ELIGIBLE
- 9: RESEARCH

Solution: KNOWLEDGE

TRAININGS, EVENTS

e-Learning on the New EU Programmes of 2007-2013

Information on the new programmes is now available with a click of the mouse. Stay ahead of the competition and be the first to enrol in our course. Information is synthesised and pre-processed to meet Your learning needs.

The course is structured in the following manner:

Introduction: the complete EU funding system

1. Sustainable Growth - FP7, CIP, LLL, etc.
- Cohesion for Growth and Employment: the Structural and the Cohesion Funds, and the initiatives
2. Preservation and management of Natural Resources: agriculture, fisheries and environmental policies of the EU and the related funds
3. Citizenship, freedom, security and justice: special Community Programmes in this field
4. EU as a Global Player: External assistance of the Commission
5. Bonus: Public procurement issues
6. Exam

Duration:

There is a 2-week time period during which to complete the training; however, based on previous experience the course can be completed in 5 days.

FP7 Project Management

27 August - 11 September 2007, Budapest, Hungary

Project managers across Europe often realise that winning the proposal is only the tip of the iceberg. Project management is becoming more difficult, especially in the ever changing environment of the EU.

The FP7 Project Management course will help teach you how to successfully manage your FP7 projects, from contract negotiation to project reporting. The 2-day workshop is preceded by the highly interactive 2-week e-learning course that will give participants the building blocks to succeed in FP7 project management.

International Seminar on EU Project Development Energy and the Environment

20-21 September 2007, St. Julians, Malta

Each year a special workshop is organised for project leaders and CEOs from the energy and environment sectors. During these workshops the new programmes of the European Union available for organizations in the energy and environment sectors are introduced and new partnerships formed at the seminar. The event will take place in St. Julian's, Malta.

EU FP7 FUNDING ACADEMY

24 September - 26 October 2007, Budapest, Hungary

First-round results of FP7! A 5-week programme on FP7 project development and management. The FP7 Academy will bridge the gap between 'Information Days' and the several years of actual experience required to develop

project proposals and manage FP7 projects. The Academy will discuss the results of the first round of FP7 call and how to proceed from there. An ultimate solution in FP7 research project manager training. *Special Early Bird rate is available until 31 August 2007!*

Programme Structure:

- >> eLearning: 24 September - 19 October 2007 (4 weeks)
- >> Workshop on FP7 Proposal Development and Project Management: 22-26 October 2007, Hotel Mercure Buda, Budapest, Hungary

The practical lectures of the e-learning and workshop are complemented by highly interactive group work activities with simulation and role-play exercises to enhance the learning experience.

FP7 Security and Space

10 September - 22 December 2007, Budapest, Hungary

Actual proposal submission!

European SMEs and R&D organisations from the Security and Space sectors are now eligible to receive funding under FP7 and increase their international presence and prestige! *The training course will result in an actual proposal to be submitted under the next round of FP7 calls!*

The programme is based on a 2-week interactive e-learning course that will provide all the theoretical knowledge for the participants. It will be followed by a 3-day workshop in Budapest where participants will have the opportunity to have their questions and concerns addressed by Europe's leading project managers. *An Early Bird Fee is available.*

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www.eustrainingsite.com

or to apply visit:

www.eustrainingsite.com/apply_here.php

DEADLINES

TITLE	REFERENCE NUMBER	(SUB)PROGRAM/THEME	DEADLINE
Developing the capacity of environmental NGOs through transfer of best practices from NGOs in the EU25	EuropeAid/125785/C/A	PHARE/ISPA/SAPARD	2007-08-22
Contract for a study of the health issues associated with restructuring	VT/2007/079	Employment and social affaires	2007-08-24
Addressing the social consequences of transition in the Ferghana Valley - Tajikistan	EuropAid/125-752/L/ACT/TJ	TACIS	2007-09-21
Enhancing individual incomes and improving living standards in Khatlon, Tajikistan	EuropAid/125-743/L/ACT/TJ	TACIS	2007-09-20
TACIS IBPP - Support to civil society and local initiatives - Kazakhstan	EuropeAid/125-768/L/ACT/KZ	TACIS	2007-10-12
Support for television broadcasting of European audiovisual works	EACEA 06/2007	Media 2007	2007-11-02
CIP	IEEA 2007	Intelligent Energy Europe	2007-09-28
European Innovation Platform for Knowledge Intensive Services	ENT6/CIP/07/C/N04S00	CIP	2007-09-07
Ibero-American medicinal products authorities meetings	ENT/CIP/07/F/S05S02	CIP	2007-09-21
Information and Communication Technologies - Policy Support Programme	CIP-ICT PSP-2007-1	CIP	2007-10-23
China IPR SME Helpdesk	ACTION ENT3/IMA N.R./6.1.1	Enterprise & Industry	2007-08-20
MedDRA - Medical Dictionary for Drug Regulatory Activities	ACTION ENT8/IMA R/1.1.3.	Enterprise & Industry	2007-09-14
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Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowships for Career Development	FP7-PEOPLE-2007-2-1-IEF	People	2007-08-14
FP7 - People - NCP 2007	PEOPLE-2007-5-4-NCP	People	2007-08-24
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ICT Call 2	FP7-ICT-2007-2	FP7 - Cooperation	2007-10-09
European Innovation Platform for Knowledge Intensive Services	ENT6/CIP/07/C/N04S00	FP7 - Cooperation	2007-09-07
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EURALIUS - European Assistance Mission to Justice System in Albania	EuropeAid/125922/C/ACT/AL	CARDS/OBNOVA	2007-10-24
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