

Regional Dimension of the 7th Framework Programme

Regions of Knowledge Research potential

FP7 2007 - 2013

Cooperation – Collaborative research

Ideas – Frontier Research

People – Human Potential

Capacities – Research Capacity

+

JRC (non-nuclear)

JRC (nuclear)

Euratom

Structure of presentation

Capacities Programme - overview

Regions of Knowledge

Research potential

Some implementation issues

FP 7- specific programme « CAPACITIES »

1. Research Infrastructures
2. Research for the benefit of SMEs
- 3. *Regions of Knowledge (RoK)***
- 4. *Research Potential (RP)***
5. Science in Society
6. Coherent Development of policies
7. Activities of International Cooperation

1. Research Infrastructures

- Support to existing research infrastructures:
 - Integrating activities
 - Research e-infrastructures
- Support to new research infrastructures:
 - Construction of new research infrastructures and major updates of existing ones
 - Design studies

2. Research for the benefit of SMEs

- Research for SMEs
- Research for SME associations
- Encourage and facilitate SME participation across FP7

+

under the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP): Support services provided by networks to encourage SME participation in FP7 (awareness, identification of needs, assistance)

3. Regions of Knowledge

Two objectives for all European regions:

Strengthen their capacity for investing in RTD and carrying out research activities

Produce research strategies that contribute to regional economic development

- Through the development of regional 'research-driven clusters'



4. Research Potential

Two objectives for EU's convergence and outermost (RUP) regions

Unlock and develop their research capacities

Foster an increase in their participation to Community research activities

To fully realise the European Research Area in the enlarged Union

Through:

- Transnational two-way secondments and recruitment of staff
- Development of research equipment and the material environment
- Workshops and conferences for knowledge transfer
- 'Evaluation facilities'



5. Science in Society

- Strengthening the European science system (inc. scientific advice)
- Broader public engagement on science-related questions
- Promoting better science through ethics research and ethical review
- Science and technology and their place in society
- Gender research, gender dimension, and the role of women in research
- Science education – curiosity and the participation of young people
- Policy for the role and engagement of universities
- Communication between scientists, policy-makers, media and the public

6. Coherent Development of Research Policies

- Monitoring and analysis of research related public policies/industrial strategies:
 - Information and intelligence service (ERAWATCH)
 - Industrial research investment monitoring
 - Indicators on research activity and its impact on the economy
- Coordination of research policies:
 - Implementing the Open Method of Coordination
 - Bottom-up initiatives undertaken by several countries and regions (OMC-NET)

7. Activities of International Cooperation

Two interdependent objectives:

Support competitiveness
through strategic partnerships
with third countries in selected
fields

Address specific problems
that third countries face or
that have a global character,
on the basis of mutual interest
and mutual benefit

'Horizontal' support actions and measures not carried out in
the Cooperation or People programmes

1 – Before Regions of Knowledge

• Pilot Action in 2003

- ✓ **Objective:** implementing the Lisbon strategy at regional level, stressing the central role of knowledge for regional development
- ✓ **Instrument:** networks of European regions, including universities, research entities and enterprises.
- ✓ 14 projects financed for € 2,5 M

• Call for proposal in 2004

- ✓ **Objective:** promote more and better regional investments in research
- ✓ **Instrument:** mutual learning, coordination and collaboration between regional policies and initiatives through foresight, benchmarking, networking and coordination activities
- ✓ 18 projects financed for € 9 M

I – Regions of Knowledge – Policy Context

The "**Regions of Knowledge**" initiative responds to a need to **increase the overall capacity of regional players** to enhance science and technology for **economic development** of all European Regions

Expected Outcome

- * improve links between stakeholders and local business community
- * foster transnational / cross-border cooperation
- * enhance mutual learning of regional actors
- * exchange experience and best practice

I - Regions of Knowledge

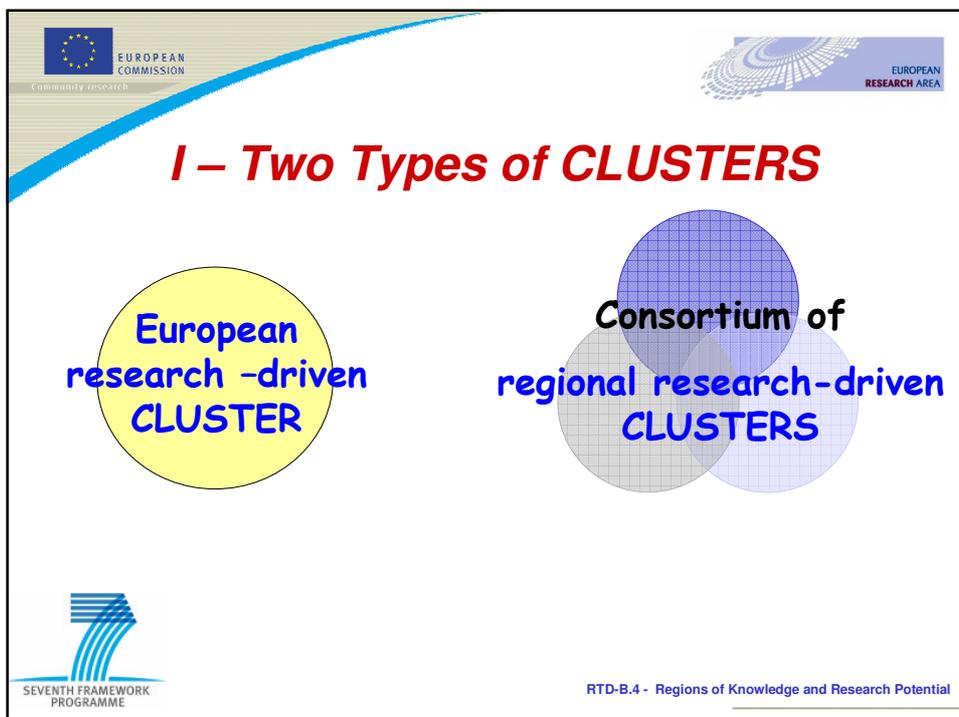
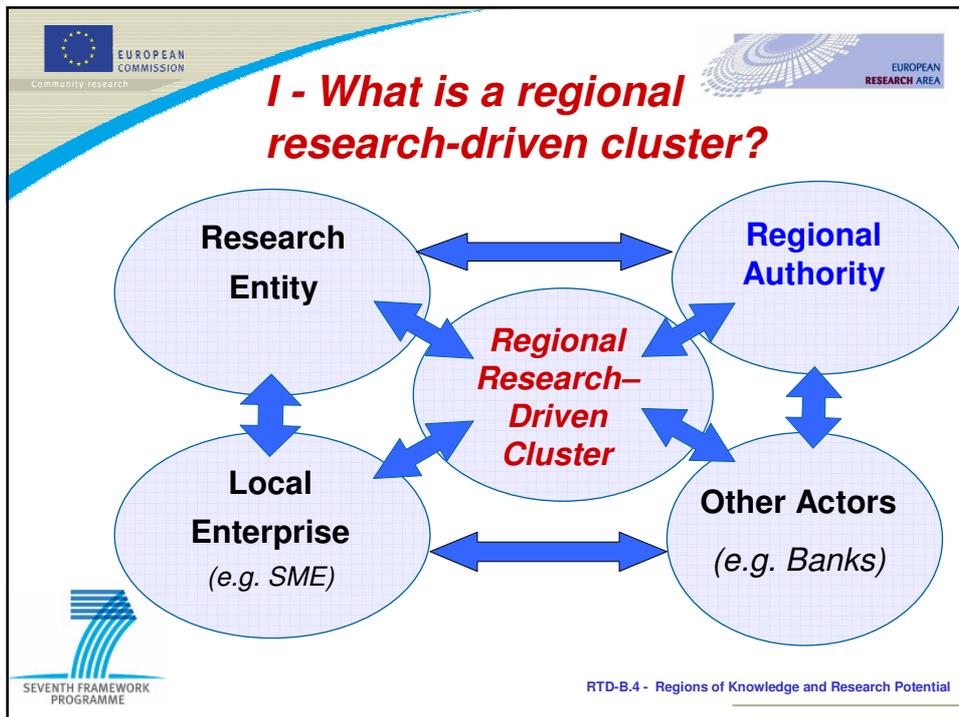
Two objectives for all European regions:

Strengthen their capacity for investing in RTD and carrying out research activities

Produce research strategies that contribute to regional economic development

Through the development of regional 'research-driven clusters'

Associated and candidate countries are also eligible



I - Expected impact

- **Regional economical growth** in selected domains
- **Response to the needs** of regional business communities
- **Mobilisation** of local, national and community funds to implement defined **regional “action plans”**

I - FP7 and the Structural Funds: more synergies

- FP 7 has a new regional dimension, under “Capacities”
- ... while Structural Funds will reinforce R&D investment
 - R&D, innovation and entrepreneurship as the first **priority** in Convergence regions
 - Innovation and the knowledge economy as the first priority for the competitiveness and growth objective
 - **Earmarking**: at least 60% or 75% of funds for Lisbon priorities
- Complementary funding where possible
 - ... but no double funding

I – RoK: Main activities 2007

Three calls for a total of 10 M €:

- **REGIONS-2007-1** (8.8 M €)

Analysis, mentoring and **integration** of research actors

- **REGIONS-2007-2** (0.8 m €)

Facilitating the emergence of **new clusters** and mutual information

- **REGIONS-2007-3** (0.4 M €)

Transnational cooperation among **NCPs**

I – Thematic priorities in 2007

For the first two calls:

1. Bringing the benefits of research to SMEs

Action aimed at **increasing integration of SMEs in regional research driven clusters** and **awareness about the potential benefits of research for SMEs in their business activities**.

2. Research and rural economies

Action aimed at **integration of economic actors into regional research driven clusters** as a key challenge to allow the development of dynamic rural and maritime knowledge economies.

I – REGIONS-2007-1

*Supporting analysis, mentoring and integration
of research actors*

Activities

- **Analysis**, development and implementation of research agendas
- **Mentoring** of regions with a less developed research profile or mutual learning
- Initiatives to improve **integration**: definition of joint action plans, together with business plans – following SWOT analysis and definition of RTD needs
- **Dissemination** activities

Participants

- Consortia of regional research driven clusters
- or a single transnational regional research driven cluster
... and always at least 6 partners from 2 countries

I - REGIONS-2007-2

*Facilitating the emergence of new clusters
and mutual information*

Activities

- creation of **new** research driven **clusters**
- Analysis, workshops, roundtables, expert group meetings, dissemination activities, including web-based initiatives

Participants

- at least 3 participants (one research entity, one public authority, one enterprise) or one research driven cluster (for mutual information activities)

I - REGIONS-2007-3

Transnational cooperation among NCPs

Activities

- **Reinforcing the network of National Contact Points (NCP)** by focussing on identifying and sharing good practices (*benchmarking, joint workshops, training, and twinning schemes, trans-national brokerage events*)
- **Specific approach** to be adapted to the nature of the theme, capacities and priorities of the NCPs concerned
- Special attention to **helping less experienced NCPs**
- Proposals to **include all officially appointed NCPs**
- Action to **involve official FP7 contacts from Associated Countries.**

I - Instruments

Projects will be implemented through:

Coordination and support Actions (CSAs).

➤ **Coordination actions** promote the creation of added value by bringing together on-going activities in a given field in different countries and providing them with a European dimension.

→ *For REGIONS-2007-03*

➤ **Support actions** will be used to provide support to **promote systematic mutual information exchange and joint activities** (analysis, workshops, roundtables, expert group meetings, mentoring, dissemination activities)

→ *For REGIONS-2007-01 and REGIONS-2007-02*




I - Funding scheme overview

	funding scheme	duration	Community contribution	% of total eligible cost
REGION-2007-1 <i>Analysis, mentoring and integration</i>	coordination and support action	up to 36 months	approx. 1 Mio. €	up to 100%
REGION-2007-2 <i>New clusters</i>	coordination and support action	up to 24 months	Approx. 200.000 €	up to 100%
REGION-2007-3 <i>NCPs</i>	coordination and support action	max. 5 years	indicatively 400.000 €	up to 100%



RTD-B.4 - Regions of Knowledge and Research Potential




II - RESEARCH POTENTIAL

Two objectives
for **CONVERGENCE & OUTERMOST** regions only :

- to stimulate the *realisation of the full research potential* by unlocking and developing the research potential in the **EU's convergence regions** and **outermost regions**
- to *strengthen the capacities* of their researchers to success fully participate in research activities at EU level



RTD-B.4 - Regions of Knowledge and Research Potential

II - What are.....

CONVERGENCE REGIONS:

Regions eligible for financing by the Structural Funds (2007-2013) under objective « convergence »

i.e. Sicilia (IT), Castilla la Mancha (ES), Martinique (FR), MT, Calabria (IT), Baltic states...

OUTERMOST REGIONS:

Regions defined by art. 299§2 of EC Treaty

i.e. Canary Islands (ES), 4 DOM (FR), Açores & Madère (PT)

DOM = Guadeloupe, Guyane, Martinique, Réunion

II - Policy instruments

Activities

- **Exchange of know-how and experience** through trans-national two-way **secondments** of research staff with another EU state
- **Recruitment** of incoming experienced researchers
- Acquisition, development or upgrading of **research equipment** for the selected centres
- Organisation of **workshops and conferences** to facilitate knowledge transfer at (inter-)national level
- **Dissemination and promotional activities**

II – Expected impact

OPTIMISATION of :

- International exposure and recognition
- Leadership potential
- Quality of their scientists
- Visibility of their research groups

INCREASE of:

- Visibility of their research groups
- Participation in the ERA/FP

II – RP: MAIN ACTIVITIES - 2007

REGPOT-2007-1 (23.5 M€)

Unlocking and developing the **research potential** in the EU's convergence and outermost regions

REGPOT-2007-2 (1 M€)

Providing **evaluation facilities** for research organisations in the EU's convergence and outermost regions

REGPOT-2007-3 (8 M€)

International cooperation focused on **Western Balkan Countries**

REGPOT-2007-4 (0.5 M€)

Transnational cooperation among **NCPs**

II - REGPOT-2007-1

*Unlocking and developing the research potential
in the EU's convergence and outermost regions*

Participants

Any existing and autonomous public or private
research entity in the eligible regions

Expected output

Action plan to upgrade excellence centre
through a mix of foreseen eligible activities

II - REGPOT-2007-2

*Providing **evaluation facilities** for research organisations in the
EU's convergence and outermost regions*

Activities

- **Evaluation of research quality and infrastructures** by high level independent experts (*SWOT analysis*)
- Preparation of an **Action Plan to upgrade and reinforce its RTD potential** by the selected centre

Participants

Public or private **research centre** in the EU's **convergence regions** and **outermost regions**

II - REGPOT-2007-3

International Cooperation focused on Western Balkan Countries

Objectives

To promote closer S&T cooperation opportunities between European Union and in particular its convergence regions and the Western Balkan Countries (WBC) - through a mix of foreseen eligible activities.

Participants

Proposals should include at least **3 participants**: one from a *convergence or outermost region* in the EU, one from a *Member State* or an *associated country* and at least one from a **WBC**

II - REGPOT-2007-4

Transnational cooperation among NCPs

Activities

- **Reinforcing the network** of National Contact Points (NCP) by focussing on identifying and sharing good practices (*benchmarking, joint workshops, training, and twinning schemes, trans-national brokerage events*)
- Specific approach to be adapted to the nature of the theme, capacities and priorities of the NCPs concerned
- special attention to **helping less experienced NCPs**
- proposals to **include all officially appointed NCPs**
- action to **involve official FP7 contacts from Associated Countries.**

II - Instruments

Projects will be implemented through **Coordination and support Actions (CSAs)**.

➤ **Coordination actions** promote the creation of added value by bringing together on-going activities in a given field in different countries and providing them with a European dimension.

→ For REGPOT-2007-04

➤ **Support actions** will be used to provide support to foster seed-beds to create new research-driven clusters and to promote systematic mutual information exchange (analysis, workshops, roundtables, expert group meetings, dissemination activities)

→ For REGPOT-2007-01, REGPOT-2007-02 and REGPOT-2007-

03



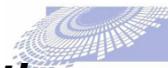
II - Funding scheme overview

	funding scheme	duration	Community contribution	% of total eligible cost
REGPOT-2007-1 <i>research potential</i>	coordination and support action	up to 3 years	approx. 1-1.2 Mio. €	up to 100%
REGPOT-2007-2 <i>evaluation facilities</i>	coordination and support action	up to 12 months	up to 200.000 €	up to 100%
REGPOT-2007-3 <i>WBCs</i>	<i>coordination and support action</i>	up to 3 years	approx. 1.2 Mio. €	up to 100%
REGPOT-2007-4 <i>NCPs</i>	coordination and support action	max. 5 years	indicatively 500.000 €	up to 100%



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



EUROPEAN
RESEARCH AREA

Selection and negotiation

- **Timetable of procedure**
 - ✓ Calls for proposals published 22/12/2006
 - ✓ Deadline for submission : 24/4/2007
 - ✓ Selection, with help of independent experts – within 3 months of call closure (24/7/2007)
 - ✓ Negotiation phase
 - ✓ Commission decision
 - ✓ Signature of grant agreement and entry into force, if possible before year end



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME

RTD-B.4 - Regions of Knowledge and Research Potential



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



EUROPEAN
RESEARCH AREA

Selection and negotiation

- **Reminder : eligibility criteria**, especially for
 - ✓ Cluster composition (number and type of entities)
 - ✓ Geographical location
- **Selection and award criteria** (see RP art. 15, 16, 38):
 - ✓ *Financial capacity*
 - ✓ Scientific and technological excellence
 - ✓ Relevance to the objectives of the work programme
 - ✓ Potential impact – through the development, dissemination and use of project results
 - ✓ Quality and efficiency of the implementation and management



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME

RTD-B.4 - Regions of Knowledge and Research Potential

Implementation

- **Role of coordinator** (see art. 25-36 PR):
 - ✓ Monitor compliance with obligations by partners, including formalities for accession
 - ✓ Receive and distribute Community grant without undue delay
 - ✓ Keep records and financial accounts for the grant implementation
 - ✓ Intermediary for efficient coordination with Commission
- **Financial issues** (see art. 30 & sq RP):
 - ✓ Reimbursement of eligible costs
 - ✓ Audit certificate requested if payments > 375 000 € per partner
 - ✓ Financial responsibility of each partner limited to its own debt
 - ✓ Participant guarantee fund
- **Model contract** – consortium agreement never compulsory