Framework Programme

EURATOM CAPACITIES IDEAS PEOPLE COOPERATION

Research Infrastructures
Integrating Activities in FP7 - Call 3

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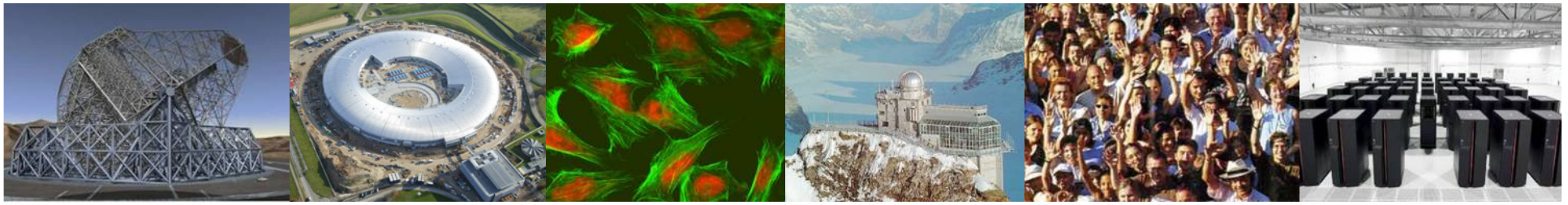

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The Community Research Infrastructures action

- **"Research infrastructures" refers to facilities, resources and related services used by the scientific community for leading edge research**

  - **Major scientific equipment**
  - **Scientific collections, archives and structured information**
  - **Entities (of unique nature) used for research**
  - **ICT-based infrastructures**
  - **Can be single-sited, distributed, virtual**

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Objectives of the Community Research Infrastructures action

- **Optimising the use and development of the best existing research infrastructures in Europe**
- **Helping to create in all fields of S & T new research infrastructures of pan-European interest needed by the European scientific community**
- **Supporting programme implementation and policy development (e.g. international cooperation)**

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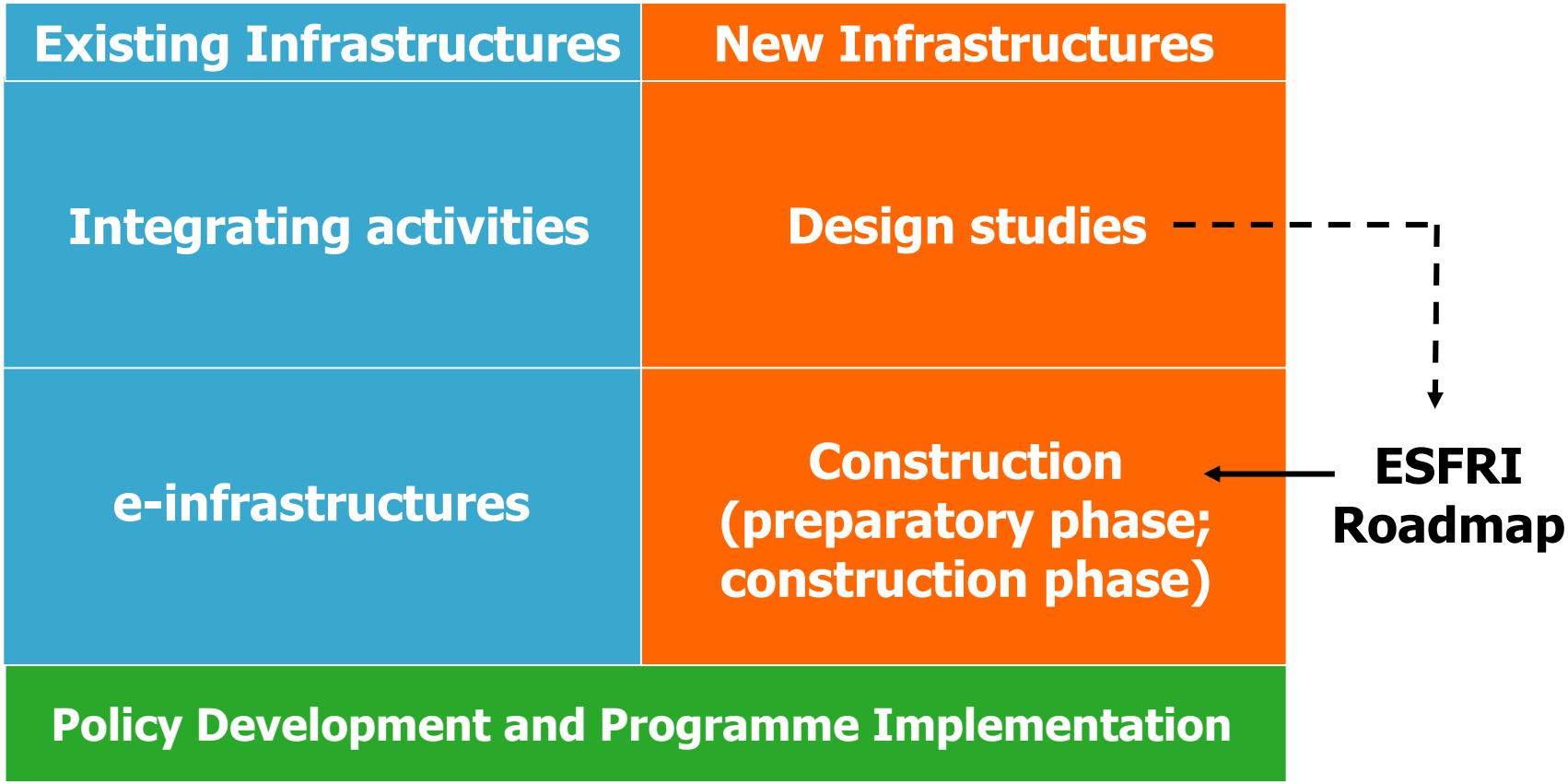
FP7 Research Infrastructures in brief



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Call 1: summary of evaluation results

Topic	Number of proposals submitted	Number of proposals recomm.	Funding recomm. Mio. EURO
Design studies	45	12	25
e-Design studies	6	2	4
Preparatory phase	33	33	137
e-Preparatory phase	1	1	10
Accompanying measures	6	6	8
total	91	54	184

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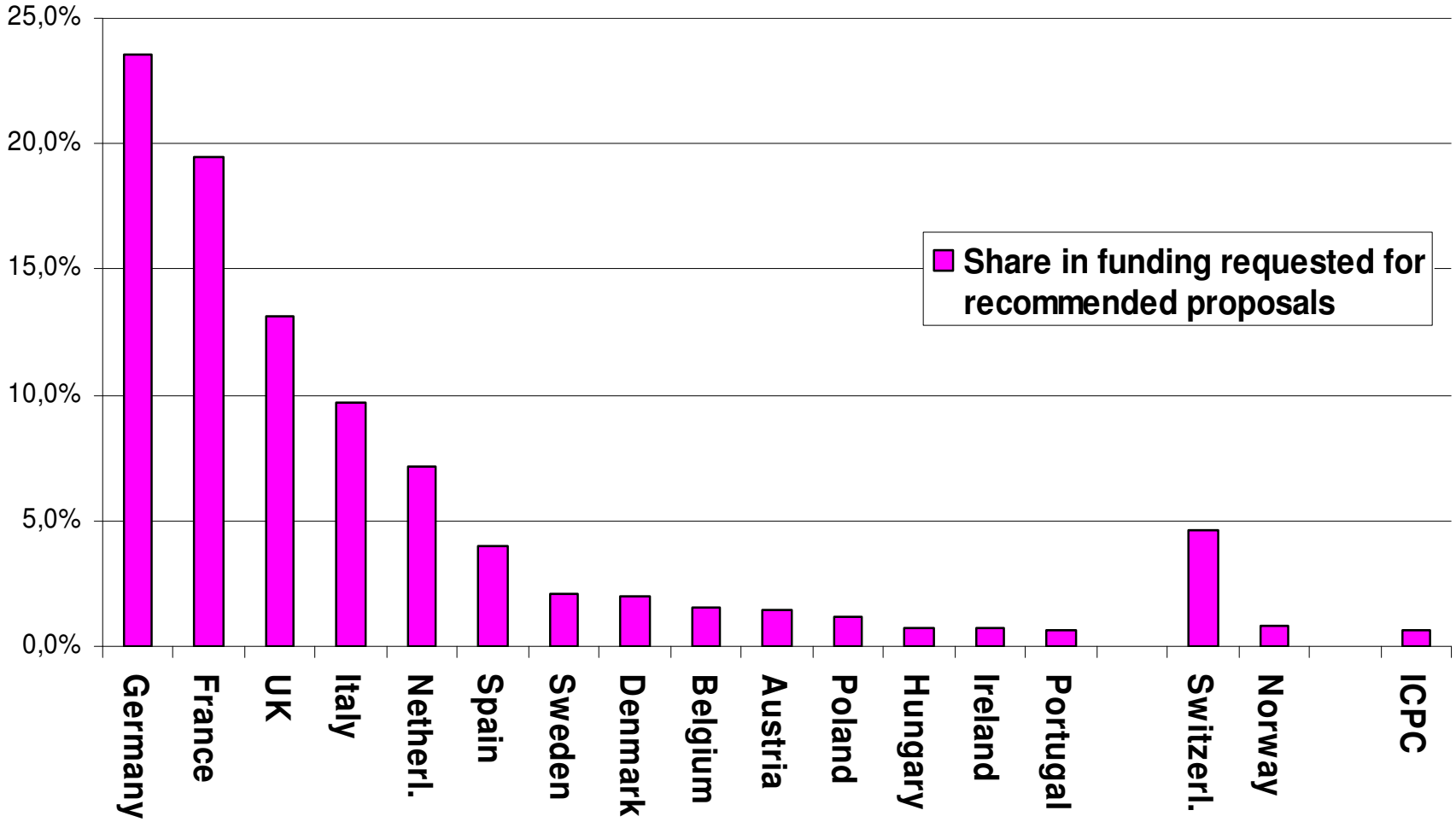
Call 1: Requested funding for recommended proposals: country share



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Planning of calls

Total operational budget 1665 M€	*Call 1 2007*	*Call 2 2007*	*Call 3 2008*	*Call 4 2008*	*Call 5 2009*	*Call 6 2010*	*Call 7 2012*
Integrating activities			277			x	x
e-Infrastructures	42	50		113	x		x
Design studies	31					x	
Construction – Support to the Preparatory Phase	147					x	
Construction – Support to the Implementation Phase	RSFF (200 M€) + 130 M€						
Policy Development and Programme Implementation	8	14	9		x	x	x
Total per call (M€)	228	64	286	113			

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Call 3: Objectives of an Integrating Activity project

Structure better and integrate, on a European scale, the way research infrastructures operate and develop, in a given class:

- **By opening and optimising the access to and the use of the existing research infrastructures in the different Member States and Associated States**

- **By better structuring and integrating, on a European scale, the operation(s) of research infrastructures, and by fostering their joint development (qualitative and quantitative)**

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Integrating Activity in FP7

- **Collaboration of existing research infrastructures in a given field of science**
  - → **Normally all major RI's in Europe in one field**
  - → **At least 3 MS or AS**
- **3 types of activities obligatory in one project**
  - → **Networking Activities**
  - → **Trans-national Access, service activities**
  - → **Joint Research Activities**
- **Project type: *combination of* collaborative project + coordination and support actions**
- **Based on the continuation of the successful FP6 instrument "I3"**

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(1) Networking Activities

- **To foster a culture of co-operation between the research infrastructures and the related scientific communities**

- **Forms of activities:**
  - ➔ **Towards a common long-term strategy: foresight…**
  - ➔ **Towards good practice: exchange of personnel and visits, standards and quality…**
  - ➔ **Towards the users: training, feedback, coordination…**
  - ➔ **Towards virtual research communities: Web-sites, common software, databases, data management…**
  - ➔ **Technical workshops, forums, working groups and studies…**

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(2) Trans-national Access and/or Service activities (1)

- **Provide trans-national access to researchers or research teams to one or more infrastructures among those operated by the participants**
  - ➔ **"Hands on" access**
  - ➔ **Remote access: provision of reference material, sample analysis…**
- **Provide research infrastructures related services to the scientific community**
  - ➔ **Access to scientific services freely available through communication networks, e.g. databases available on the web**

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(2) Trans-national Access and/or Service activities ctnd.

- **Specific provisions for trans-national access activities are defined in Annex III to the Grant Agreement**
  - → **Access costs = unit cost x quantity of access provided**
  - → **An estimated unit cost will be specified in Annex I**
  - → **EC financial contribution will be adjusted in the final financial statement (Form C) based on real UC (will not exceed 20% of costs of providing total access to the installation over the duration of the project)**
- **Specific provision for access to services freely available trough communication networks are defined in Special Clause 17**
  - → **EC financial contribution for access costs will not exceed 20% of operating costs incurred**

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(3) Joint Research Activities

- **Explore new fundamental technologies or techniques underpinning the efficient and joint use of the participating research infrastructures**

  To improve the services provided by the infrastructures (in quality and/or quantity)

- **Forms of activities:**
  - ➔ **Instrumentation / prototype development**
  - ➔ **Development of methods, protocols, standards…**
  - ➔ **Development of software, middleware, algorithm; Database creation, upgrade, curation…**
  - ➔ **Development and curation of samples**

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New approach for Integrating Activities in FP7

- **Bottom up approach for all fields of science (as in FP6)**
- **New: targeted approach to respond to identified strategic needs:**
  - → **creating synergies and ensuring consistency with other parts of the Framework Programme,**
  - → **in important fields currently not well covered,**
  - → **Pilot exercise under FP7**

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Priority topics for RI's under the targeted approach

- Health (6)
- Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology (4)
- Information and Communication Technologies (3)
- Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies and Materials (2)
- Energy (5)
- Environment (4)
- Transport (2)
- Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities (3)

→ 29 priority topics for RI's in 8 fields of R&D

→ No competition under the same topic but integration on a European scale

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Expected size of an Integrating Activity under FP7

- **Duration: 4 years max**
- **EC contribution:**
  - ***Expected to be in the range of 3 to 10 M€. Higher contribution only in well justified cases, not foreseen to be more than 15 M€***
- **Number of contractors:**
  - ➔ ***Experience shows that a project with more than 20 contractors is difficult to manage - management issue for larger projects***
  - ➔ ***Not all partners need to be contractors***

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Expected size of an Integrating Activity under FP7 ctnd.

- **What should be the normal balance of activities?**
  - ➔ ***Management 5-10%***
  - ➔ ***Networking activities 15 to 20%***
  - ➔ ***TA/service activities 25 to 35%***
  - ➔ ***Joint research activities 35 to 45%***

No fixed rule, <one size does not fit all>

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Support for policy development and programme implementation

- **Two main subjects for 2008:**
  - ➔ **ERA-NETs for research infrastructures**
  - ➔ **Studies, conferences and coordination actions for policy development, including international cooperation, in particular:**
    - ➔ **Studies on the regional impact of research infrastructures**
    - ➔ **Impact studies refering to the ERA green paper**

Indicative budget in total 9 M€

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Financial issues in FP7

- **New terminology: Grant Agreement, Beneficiary, Funding Scheme, Certificate on Financial Statement(CFS)**
- **No CFS for beneficiaries below EURO 375.000 (exception for TA -> CFS at end of project)**
- **New rules for direct costs: all beneficiaries report their real direct costs, upper funding limit of 50%/75% for RTD**
  - **→ And 100% for Coordination and Support Actions**
- **New rules for TA: actual costs**
- **Indirect costs – no cost reporting models**
  - **→ For CSA limited to 7%**
  - **→ For RTD actual overhead or simplified method or flat rate(20% or 60%)**

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FP7 Call 3 outline (1)

- For Integrating Activities and Support to policy development and programme implementation
- Publication: 30 November 2007
- Closure: 29 February 2008
- Indicative budget for Integrating Activities: 84.5 M€ (+ 192 M€ from the 2009 budget)
  - → For both bottom up and targeted approach
- Indicative budget for Policy dev^{t}: 9 M€
- Results within 4 months after closure date
- First contracts will come into force before the end of 2008

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FP7 Call 3 outline (2)

- **Procedure for evaluation**
  - ➔**remote + panel evaluation**
- **1 Panel organised in 5 thematic sub-panels***
  - ➔**Math., computer related sciences, analytical facilities**
  - ➔**Physics, astronomy, nuclear & particle physics**
  - ➔**Biomedical and life sciences**
  - ➔**Environmental sciences and non-nuclear energy**
  - ➔**Social sciences and humanities**

  **** Computer and data treatment experts in each sub-panel***
- **2 priority lists** (I3 and support measures)

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Evaluation Criteria

- **All FP7 proposals will be assessed according to 3 criteria:**
  - ➔ **S/T quality** (threshold 3/5)
  - ➔ **Implementation** (threshold 3/5)
  - ➔ **Impact** (threshold 3/5)
- **Overall threshold 10/15**
- **Those criteria will be further specified in the revised workprogramme and in the respective guides for applicants**

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For further information

- **FP7 and Capacities Specific Programme**
  http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html
  http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/capacities/home_en.html
- **Research Infrastructures on CORDIS (FP6)**
  http://cordis.europa.eu/infrastructures/
- **Research Infrastructures in Europa**
  http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures
- **Guide to financial issues relating to FP7 indirect actions**
  http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/find-doc_en.html
- **Grant Model Agreement**
  http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/calls-grant-agreement_en.html#standard_ga