

RULES FOR PARTICIPATION AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

Maria Spulber

DG Research - European Commission
Directorate E - Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food
Unit E3 – Food, Health and Well-being
maria.spulber@ec.europa.eu

Rules for participation & International Co-operation

- FP7: Rules for participation
- FP7: International co-operation in Biotechnologies, Food and Agriculture

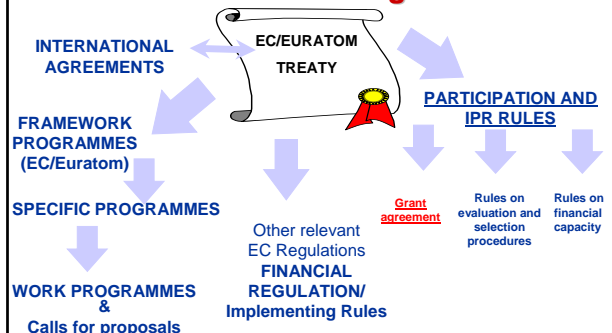
FP7: Rules for participation

Regulation (EC) 1906/2006 of 18 December 2006, OJ L 391, 30.12.2006, p. 1 and

Regulation (Euratom) 1908/2006 of 19 December 2006, OJ L 400, 30.12.2006, p. 1

FP7: Rules for participation

Legal Framework



FP7: Rules for participation

General principles I

Continuity of principles and procedures from FP6

- Simplification where possible meanwhile respecting financial interests of the European Communities (EC/Euratom)
- Close involvement of stakeholders from the research community

FP7: Rules for participation

General principles II

Political debate with European Parliament and Council focussed on:

- Participant guarantee fund (instead of FP6 collective financial liability)
- Reimbursement of indirect costs for Universities, research organisations (after abolition of FP6 additional cost model) and SMEs
- IPR: access rights for affiliated entities



Important definitions I

- **Public body** - any legal entity established as such by national law, and international organisations.
- **Research organisation** - a legal entity established as a non profit organisation which carries out research or technological development as one of its main objectives.
- **Higher and secondary education establishments** - Term used by **Financial Regulation / Implementing Rules**, includes universities, schools for applied sciences and similar.
- **SMEs** - micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the meaning of **Recommendation 2003/361/EC** in the version of 6 May 2003 (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p. 36).



Important definitions II

- **International cooperation partner countries** (= FP6 INCO countries) – three categories according to income per capita (low-income, lower-middle-income, or upper-middle-income); will be identified as such in the work programmes.

Financial Regulation / Implementing Rules:

- “**Contract**” becomes “**Grant Agreement**”
- “**Contractor**” becomes “**Beneficiary**”
- “**Instruments**” become “**Funding Schemes**”
- “**Audit certificate**” becomes “**Certificate on Financial Statement**”



Minimum conditions for participation

General:

- **3** independent participants from **3 different Member States (MS) or Associated countries (Ac)**
- Natural persons may participate
- JRC may participate and is deemed to be from a **different MS or Ac** (same principles for international European interest organisations and entities established under Community law)
- Additional conditions can be established by the work programme (WP) or specific programme (SP) (e.g. number or type of participant, place of establishment)



Minimum conditions for participation

Specific:

- **Frontier research actions (ERC)** – at least **1** legal entity established in a MS or Ac
- **Coordination and support actions** and **actions in favour of training and career development of researchers** – **minimum of 1** legal entity (except actions to coordinate)
- **Collaborative projects** addressing the participation of international cooperation partner countries (ICPC) – **minimum is 4 participants** of which 2 in MS or Ac and 2 in ICPC countries unless otherwise foreseen in work programme.
- Participation of international organisations and participants from third countries possible in addition to minima



Implementation and grant agreements

- **No more financial collective responsibility** ≠ FP6
- Instead: establishment of a **participant guarantee fund** to cover risks

However there is “technical responsibility” - participants implement the indirect action jointly and severally towards the Community and carry out work of a defaulting partner unless the Commission relieves them of that obligation.

- Consortium agreements obligatory unless exempted by call for proposals
- Changes in consortium membership possible



Community financial contribution

Eligibility for Funding:

- Legal entities from MS and Ac or created under Community law (and JRC)
 - Legal entities established in international cooperation partner countries (ICPC)
- and
- International organisations, third countries other than ICPC, if provided for in SP or WP; or essential for carrying out action; or provision for funding is provided for in a bilateral agreement between Community and the third country.



General principles

Forms of grants

- **Reimbursement of eligible costs as the preferred method**, particularly at the beginning of FP7
- Flat rates: a percentage for indirect costs or scales of unit costs
- Lump sum amounts, in particular as option for participants from ICPC and, if provided for by work programme, for NoEs
- Combination possible (will be used for ERANET-PLUS)
- Determination of forms of grants to be used in the work programmes and calls for proposals

Principle of co-financing and no profit



Maximum funding rates I

Research and technological development activities:

- up to 50% of eligible costs except for:
 - Public bodies: up to 75%
 - Secondary and higher education establishments: up to 75%
 - Research organisations (non-profit): up to 75%
 - SMEs: up to 75%
 - Security related research for highly reliable capabilities with impact on security of European citizens and targeted to a limited number of public users: up to 75%.

Demonstration activities: up to 50%



Maximum funding rates II

- Frontier research actions: up to 100%
- **Coordination and support actions:** up to 100%
- **Training and career development of researchers actions:** up to 100%
- **Other activities:** up to 100% including e.g. Management



Community financial contribution

Participant Guarantee Fund

- Replaces financial collective responsibility
- To be established by the Commission
- The basis for an exonerated verification of financial viability of participants (excluding CO) requesting less than € 500.000
- No bank/financial guarantee for small actors



Eligible Costs (1)

Eligible

- actual
- during duration of project
- in accordance with its usual accounting and management principles
- recorded in the accounts of beneficiary
- used for the sole purpose of achieving the objectives of the project

Non-eligible (identifiable indirect taxes including VAT...)



Eligible Costs (2)

- ***Average personnel costs accepted if :**
 - Consistent with the management principles and accounting practices
- &
- they do not significantly differ from actual personnel costs= if identified according to a methodology approved by the Commission (NEW)

Indirect Cost

- **For all:**
 - either actual overhead or simplified method
 - **flat rate of 20%** of direct costs minus subcontracting and 3rd parties not used on the premises of the beneficiary.
- For **Non profit Public Bodies, Secondary and Higher Education establishments, Research Organisations and SMEs** unable to identify real indirect costs, may apply for a flat rate of **60% for calls 2007 – 2009, not lower than 40% for calls from 2010 – 2013**

Certification

Certificate on financial statements (CFS)

- Mandatory when requested funding reaches 375,000 Euro (except for project of 2 years or less: CFS submitted at the end)
- If above the threshold, mandatory for every beneficiary, except if a certification on the methodology is provided

Certificate on the methodology (NEW)

- Aims at certifying the methodology of calculating (average) personnel costs and overhead rates

Cost reporting of direct and indirect costs

- Participants may charge direct and indirect costs.
- A participant may use a simplified method to calculate its indirect costs if this is in accordance with its usual management and accounting principles. Principles to be set out in the model grant agreement.
- For indirect costs flat rate is an option. This flat rate will be determined in the model grant agreement.
- Particular flat rate for indirect costs for non-profit public bodies, secondary and higher education establishments, research organisations and SME when participating in research and technological development and demonstration activities (60% for calls 2007 – 2009, not lower than 40% for calls from 2010 – 2013).

Submission and Evaluation

Calls for proposals always except:

- Coordination and support actions where the beneficiary has been identified in the SP or in the WP where this is foreseen by the SP
- Coordination and support actions for the purchase of a good or service by the Community
- Coordination and support actions for the appointment of independent experts
- Other actions where provided by the Financial Regulation or its implementing rules (monopolies etc.)

Submission and Evaluation

- Commission to adopt and publish rules on procedures for proposal submission, evaluation, selection and award
 - Including two-stage submission and two-step evaluation
 - Including procedures for redress
- Commission to adopt and publish rules to ensure consistent verification of the legal status and financial capacity of participants
- Evaluation criteria established in Rules for Participation
- Irregularity and violation of fundamental ethical principles are grounds for exclusion from evaluation and selection
- Transparent, fair and impartial evaluation procedures with help of independent experts

Work Programmes

- Strategy/approach, timing and content of calls (topics, funding schemes, budgets etc.)
- Evaluation criteria (S&T quality, impact, implementation)
- Particular requirements for participation, evaluation, implementation

FP7: International co-operation in Biotechnologies, Food and Agriculture

International Co-operation in FP7

Basic principles

Efforts should be made to strengthen international co-operation towards:

- Reaping the full benefits of Internationalization of R&D
- Contributing to the production of global public goods
- Further integrating the EU into the world-wide research community
- Where possible, the FP will contribute to meeting the Millennium Development Goals by 2010

Objectives

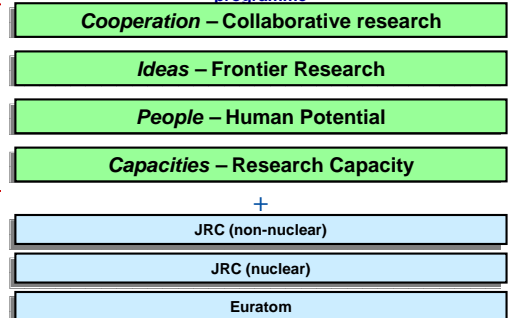
1. To support and promote **European competitiveness** through strategic research partnerships with third countries in selected fields of science
2. To contribute to the **production of knowledge** in Europe
3. To address **specific problems that third countries face or that have a global character**, on the basis of **mutual interest and mutual benefit**.

Third country

is a country which is not a European Union Member State:

- 1- Associated countries, associated candidate countries
- 2- Industrialised countries (USA, Canada, Japan, Australia....)
- 3- International Cooperation Partner Countries (**ICPC**):
 - **Countries neighbouring the EU** (Mediterranean Partner Countries, Western Balkans, Eastern European and Central Asian Countries)
 - **Developing countries** (ACP, ASIA, Latin America)
 - **Emerging economies** (e.g. China, India, Brazil, Russia, South Africa)

International co-operation will be implemented in **EACH FP7 specific programme**



INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION in → Capacities – Research Capacity

- Policy Dialogue
- S&T co-operation partnership
- Co-ordination of national policies and activities

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION in → People – Human Potential

- International OUTGOING fellowships
- International INCOMING fellowships
- Partnerships to support exchange of researchers
- Support of common initiatives between European organizations and countries with S&T agreements
- Measures to counter the risk of 'brain drain' from developing countries/emerging economies

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION in → Ideas – Frontier Research

- Aim to integrate the EU into the world-wide research community and to support fundamental research
- Open to Third Countries on basis of mutual benefit or according to relevant concluded agreements (*in addition to the minimum consortium: one legal entity from MS/AC*)
- Participation of Third Countries to be justified on basis of added scientific value

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION in → Cooperation – Collaborative research

WHERE?

in each thematic area and across themes

1. Health
2. Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food
3. Information and communication technologies
4. Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies
5. Energy
6. Environment (including climate change)
7. Transport (including aeronautics)
8. Socio-economic sciences and the humanities
9. Security
10. Space

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION in → Cooperation – Collaborative research / International co-operation **IMPLEMENTATION**

HOW ?

1. The opening of all activities carried out in the thematic areas to third countries
2. **Specific International Co-operation Actions (SICA)** in each thematic area dedicated to third countries in the case of mutual interest in co-operating on particular topics.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION in → Cooperation – Collaborative research / International co-operation **OPENING**

1. Opening of all activities to third countries

- The opening of all activities carried out in the thematic areas to researchers and research institutions from third countries
- particular emphasis to encourage third country participation in identified areas of mutual interest.

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Cooperation – Collaborative research / International co-operation
SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION ACTIONS

2. Specific International Cooperation Actions (SICA)

- Dedicated to collaboration with third countries, on the basis of **mutual interest to co-operate on particular topics**, to be selected on the basis of their S&T levels and needs
- Closely associated to **bilateral agreements and biregional dialogues** with the EU

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Cooperation – Collaborative research / International co-operation
RULES OF PARTICIPATION

1. Opening of all activities

the minimum number of participants shall be 3 independent legal entities established in three different Member States or Associated countries. **Third Countries as ADDITIONAL partners**

2. Specific International co-operation actions

SPECIAL RULE

...the minimum number of participants shall be 4 independent legal entities of which:

- at least 2 are established in two different Member States or Associated countries,
- and
- at least 2 are established in two different International Cooperation Partner Countries.

Third Countries (ICPC) as COMPULSORY partners

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Cooperation – Collaborative research / International co-operation
FUNDING

A Community financial contribution may be granted to:

- (1) any legal entity established in an **international cooperation partner country (ICPC)**,
- (2) any legal entity established in a **third country** other than an International Co-operation Partner, provided that at least one of the following conditions is satisfied:
 - if provision is made for this purpose in the specific programmes or in the relevant work programme
 - or
 - if it is essential for carrying out the indirect action
 - or
 - if such funding is foreseen in any bilateral scientific and technological agreement, or other arrangement between the Community and the country in which the legal entity is established, that opens the research funding schemes of the Community to such an entity.

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

International Co-operation in

FP7 – Co-operation:
Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

International co-operation in
Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food

1. Opening

- 1.1 Opening of all activities to participation by Third Countries
- 1.2 Certain topics particularly encourage international co-operation

2. Specific International Co-operation Actions (SICA)

on selected topics, with priority partner countries / regions :

- 2.1 BIREGIONAL DIALOGUES, BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, NEIGHBOURS AND EMERGING ECONOMIES: topics jointly identified, based on mutual interest and benefits
- 2.2 DEV COUNTRIES: taking into account their needs (focus on MDG)

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

1. OPENING

in **Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food**


2. Food, Agriculture and Fisheries and Biotechnologies


2.1 Sustainable production and management of biological resources from land, sea, and aquatic environments


2.2 "Farm to farm": Food, health and well being


2.3 Life sciences and biotechnology for sustainable non-food products and processes

Opening of all activities to international cooperation


 2. Specific International Co-operation Actions in <i>Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food</i>		
SICA Examples for the year 2007		
Annual Food crops with improved tolerance to multiple ABIOTIC STRESSES	Small collaborative project -	Med (2)
Improving research in support to scientific advice to FISHERIES management outside EU waters	Coordination and support action -	ICPC (3)
Consolidate alliances with third countries in the field of AQUACULTURE	Coordination and support action -	ICPC (3)
NEGLECTED ZOOSES in developing countries: integrated approach for the improvement of their control in animals	Large collaborative project -	ICPC (4)
Developing research tools for FOOD CONSUMER science in the Western Balkan Countries	Small collaborative project -	West Balk (2)
MALNUTRITION in developing countries	Large collaborative project -	ICPC (3)
Reduce contamination by MYCOTOXINS in the food and feed chain	Large collaborative project -	ICPC (3)
ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS - Novel methods of treatment of animal by-products for the production of substances with biologically valuable functional properties	Small collaborative project -	Russia (2)

 Specific International Co-operation Actions in <i>Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food</i>	
SICA Examples for the year 2008 - tentative	
Improved AGRO-FORESTRY systems for sustainable farming	ICPC
Valorisation of Andean MICROBIAL BIODIVERSITY for agro-industry of basic crops, for environmental protection and as a source of novel bioactive compounds	Latin America (Andean Region)
Methodologies and tools to support the prevention of OBESITY in Mediterranean Partner Countries	Mediterranean
Linking with international DATABASES on FOOD composition and consumption	ICPC
FUNCTIONAL FOODS , natural products and bioactive compounds from the Black Sea region	Black Sea
SWEET SORGHUM - Alternative energy crops for biofuel production in semi-arid and temperate regions	Latin America and Africa
INDUSTRIAL ENZYMES - Rational design of biocatalysts and enzyme systems with requested properties	Russia
BAGASSES - Improved chemical and enzymatic treatments of bagasses from energy crops, for increased bio-fuels production yields	Latin America and ACP
Plants as EDIBLE VACCINES	Russia
Network of Third Countries NATIONAL INFORMATION POINTS	ICPC and countries with EU bilateral agreements

 OTHER TOPICS with important international co-operation in <i>Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food</i>	
Examples (years 2007- 2008)	
Using new technologies to identify (re-) emerging pathogens from wildlife reservoirs	Enlargement network - Agro-economic policy analysis of the accession and the candidate states and the Western Balkan countries
Developing new methods for valuing and marketing of currently no-marketable forest goods and services	Drivers and limits of enhanced trade in agriculture and food products
Genomics for cereal improvement for food, feed and non-food uses	Trade and agricultural policies - India
Coordination of Agricultural Research in the Mediterranean	Containment of Sharka virus in view of EU-expansion
From capture based to self-sustained aquaculture	Policy and institutional aspects of sustainable agriculture, forestry and rural development in the Mediterranean partner countries
Mitigating adverse impacts of fisheries	Interactions of fisheries and aquaculture of bluefin tuna (BFT)
The structure of fish populations and traceability of fish and fish products	Sustainability of the food chain
Reducing the utilisation of mineral fertilisers by improving the efficiency of nutrient use in European crops	Plant Cell Walls - Understanding Plant Cell Walls for optimizing Biomass potential
Developing the knowledge-based bio-economy	Green oil - Plants providing oils of the future
Evaluating and controlling the risk of African Swine Fever in the EU	Developing vaccines for the control of roundworm infestation in extensive ruminant production systems
Emerging vector-borne diseases, in particular: West Nile fever, Rift Valley Fever and Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever	Development of a new generation vaccine for FMD
Improved epidemiological tools for food-borne zoonoses: application of geographical information for live animals and animal products	Non-tariff barriers
	Assessment of impacts from climate change on food

 Specific International Co-operation Actions in <i>Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food</i>	
<p>Specific International Co-operation Actions will be undertaken to contribute to the UN Millennium Development Goals of:</p>	
<p>➤ eradicating extreme poverty and hunger (under theme <i>Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology</i>)</p> <p>➤ ensuring environmental sustainability, including access to safe drinking water (under themes <i>Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology</i> and <i>Environment</i>)</p> <p>➤ combating HIV/AIDS malaria and other poverty related diseases (under theme <i>Health</i>)</p>	

 Support Actions for International co-operation in FAB	
FP6 Food-n-Co (AR, BR, CN, CS, HR, EG, ET, JO, KE, MA, MX, TN, ZA) Cooperation Network of National Contact Points with a special focus on Third Countries in the area of Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology	
Injoy&Train (RU, AM, BY, KZ, UA) East-European co-operation network for international joint training in FP6/FP7 Food Quality and Safety for EU-Russia-Ukraine-Armenia-Belarus	
EU-Balkan-FABNET (HR, CS, CS, BA, AL, MK) EU-Western Balkans network for training and the promotion of cooperation in research activities within the FAB area of FP7	
Frenz-Net (NZ) Food Research in Europe and New Zealand (FRENZ-net): A complementary network to stimulate consumer-focused research collaboration across Food sectors	
FP7 Network of Third Countries NATIONAL INFORMATION POINTS	

 More information	
CORDIS: - ww.cordis.lu/ - http://cordis.europa.eu.int/fp7/ - www.cordis.lu/food/ - www.cordis.lu/food/inco.htm - http://cordis.europa.eu.int/inco/home_en.html - First Call for proposals FAB: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.Cooperati onCallsPage&id_activity=2	
EUROPA: - http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/ - http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/future/index_en.cfm Data base evaluators : - https://emmf6.cordis.lu/index.cfm?fuseaction=wel.welcome	
Elisabetta Balzi Biotechnologies, Agriculture and Food DG Research - European Commission Elisabetta.balzi@ec.europa.eu	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!