

## RESEARCH POTENTIAL

### Management aspects of FP7 support actions

## KICK-OFF MEETING "CREDES"

European Commission  
Research DG  
Dr. Stefan Weiers

Not legally binding



## FP 7- specific programme « CAPACITIES »

1. Research Infrastructures
2. Research for the benefit of SMEs
3. **Regions of Knowledge (ROK)** 126 M€
4. **Research Potential** 340 M€
5. Science in Society
6. Activities of International Cooperation

Not legally binding



## Two lines of action

... but NO funding of (« hands on ») research

### « Regions of Knowledge »

- for ALL European Regions
- to encourage and support the development of « regional research driven clusters »

### « Research Potential »

- for Convergence & Outermost regions
- to unlock and develop their research potential
- to help researchers to successfully participate in research activities at EU level
- specific actions for WBC (only 2007 call)

Not legally binding



## REGPOT-1 Call topics and objectives

**FP7-REGPOT-2008-1** (29 M. €): Unlocking and developing the research potential of research entities in the EU's convergence regions and outermost regions

Objectives:

- improve the research capacities of highest quality and/or promising centres
- reinforce their S&T potential
- support and mobilise the human and material resources
- develop strategic partnerships (including twinning) with well established research groups
- disseminate scientific information facilitate communication between the centres having similar scientific interest
- improve their responses to socio-economic needs of the country.

Not legally binding



## II – REGPOT- 1

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

#### Activities

**Implementation** of an Action Plan defined by the selected research entities, derived from their **SWOT** analysis. The Action Plan must include a **set of coherent measures** as described in the **Work Programme**.

#### Participants:

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

Not legally binding



## REGPOT-2008-1

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

The Action Plan must include the following **set of coherent measures**:

- **Exchange of know-how and experience** through trans-national two-way secondments of research staff,
- **Recruitment of incoming experienced researchers** by the selected research entities,
- **Acquisition, development or upgrading of research equipment** for the selected research entities,
- **Organisation of workshops and conferences** to facilitate knowledge transfer,
- **Dissemination and promotional activities** to increase visibility

Not legally binding





EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Community research

## **- Project implementation – some practical guidance**

- Structure and content of the grant agreement
- Roles of players
- Financial matters
- Reporting
- Assessment of reports

**Not legally binding**



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Community research

## **Structure of the Grant agreement:**

- Core Grant agreement,
- Annex I: DoW (Description of Work),
- Annex II: General Conditions,
- Annex III: Specific provisions for funding schemes (*not applicable to this call*)
- Annex IV, V & VI: Forms A,B & C
- Annex VII: Form D terms of reference for the certificate of costs and Form E certificate on the methodology

**Not legally binding**



## Role of Coordinator

- The coordinator shall:
  - administer the Community financial contribution
  - inform the Commission of the distribution of the Community financial contribution
  - review the reports to verify consistency with the project tasks before transmitting them to the Commission
  - monitor the compliance by beneficiaries with their obligations under the grant agreement

The coordinator may not subcontract the above-mentioned tasks

Not legally binding



## Role of the EC (project officer and other services involved)

- Monitors the scientific, technological and financial execution of the project,
- Carries out assessment, analysis and approval of project deliverables
- ...

Not legally binding



## Financial issues– Budget, eligible direct costs

- **Eligible costs, upon condition that they are**
  - Actual
  - Incurred during project duration
  - In accordance with usual accounting and management principles and practices
  - Recorded in the accounts of the beneficiaries
  - Used for the sole purpose of achieving the objectives of the project
- **Some ineligible costs** (identifiable indirect taxes such as VAT, etc)

Not legally binding



## Financial issues: others

- **Prefinancing**
  - Cash flow for duration of project
  - Includes 5% contribution to guarantee fund
  - NB : retention of 10% until final payment
- **Subcontracting – to be justified**
  - Only for limited tasks
  - Awarded ensuring best value for money
  - Beware possible IPR issues
  - subcontractor to be auditable
- **Audit certificates**
  - Only for cumulative payments above 375 000 € per partner
  - For projects of 2 years or less, only with final report anyway

Not legally binding



### FP7 reporting guidelines

#### Reporting during the *course of the project*:

- 1) **Deliverables** according to annex 1 (DOW)
- 2) **Periodic report** comprising:
  - **overview**, including a publishable summary, **of the progress of work**
  - explanation of the **use of the resources**
  - **financial statements** (form C)
  - **summary financial report**

Not legally binding



#### Reporting at the *end of the project*:

- **final *publishable* summary report** covering results, conclusions and (socio-economic) impact of the project
- plan for **use and dissemination** of foreground
- report covering the **wider societal implications** of the project (questionnaire)

#### *after receipt of final payment:*

- report on the **distribution of the Community financial contribution** between beneficiaries (if applicable)

Not legally binding



## Assessment of periodic reports - approach

- Done by the Commission services (*external experts may assist*)
- checks **coherence** of activities / results and DOW and REGPOT work programme
- Assesses **achievement** of objectives and milestones
- examines appropriate **use of resources** (e.g. personnel costs and other major cost items consistent with the principle of economy, efficiency and effectiveness)
- Evaluates performance of scientific and financial **management**
- ...

Not legally binding



## Assessment of periodic reports – decision..

- to accept or reject the deliverables;
- to allow the *project* to continue without modification of Annex I or with minor modifications;
- to consider that the *project* can only continue with major modifications;
- to initiate the termination of the *grant agreement* or of the participation of any *beneficiary* according to Article II. 38 of the *grant agreement*;
- to issue a recovery order regarding all or part of the payments made by the Commission and to apply any applicable sanction.

Not legally binding





## Amendments

- It can be implemented after the entry into force of the GA and before the final payment
- Approval/rejection of VALID request within 45 days

Amendment is effected through an exchange of letters:

- A letter-request from the Commission or the coordinator on behalf of the consortium in writing
- A letter of acceptance, with an exception in the case of tacit approval

- Link to amendment guidelines:

[ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/amendments-ga\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/amendments-ga_en.pdf)

**Not legally binding**



## Useful references on Cordis

- Negotiation Guidance notes:  
[ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/negotiation\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/negotiation_en.pdf)
- Template for description of work:  
[ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/negotiation\\_en.doc](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/negotiation_en.doc)
- Model Grant Agreement and annexes: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/calls-grant-agreement\\_en.html#standard\\_ga](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/calls-grant-agreement_en.html#standard_ga)
- Guide to Financial Issues relating to FP7 indirect actions:  
[ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/financialguide\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/financialguide_en.pdf)
- Rules to ensure consistent verification of the existence and legal status of participants: [ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/rules-verif\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/rules-verif_en.pdf)
- Checklist for a consortium agreement for FP7 projects:  
[ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/checklist\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/checklist_en.pdf)
- Guides to Intellectual Property Rules for FP7:

**Not legally binding** [ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/ipr\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/ipr_en.pdf)





EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Community research

**Thank you for your attention**

**Not legally binding**

