



## Projects in the Seventh Framework Programme

Friedrich Gaigg, projekt.service.büro,  
University of Innsbruck



STEP ITN



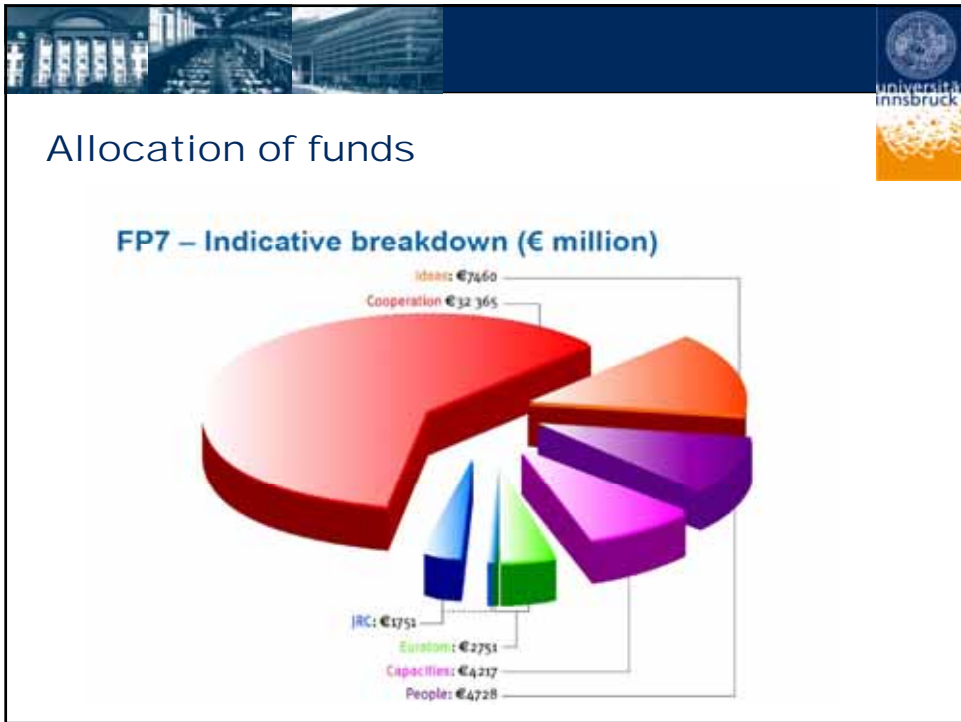
## The Seventh Framework Programme

- “Framework Programmes” (FP) are the European Commission’s main funding instrument for research in Europe
- FPs have been implemented since 1984, the current (FP7) runs from 2007 to 2013
- Its aim is to strengthen the scientific and technological base of European industry and to encourage its international competitiveness, while promoting research that supports EU policies
- The total budget allocation of FP7 is app. 50 billion € for 7 years

Structure of FP7

- Four basic programmes corresponding to four basic components of European research

- Additionally two programmes for Euratom nuclear research and training activities and for Joint Research Centres (partly nuclear, partly non-nuclear activities)





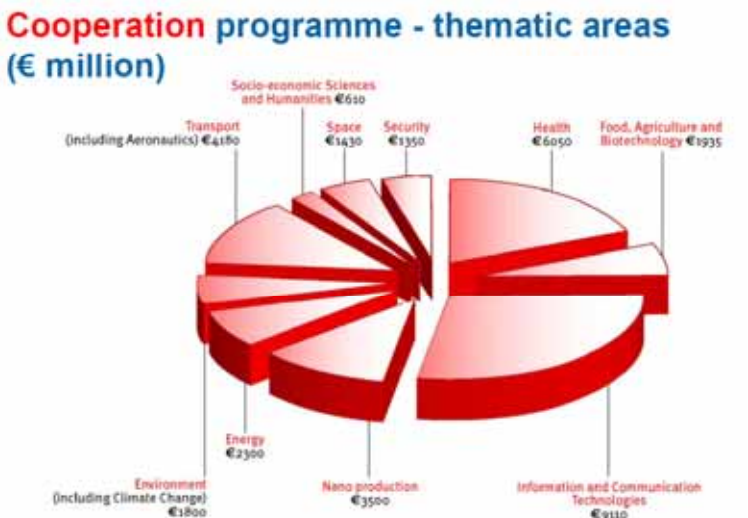
## Cooperation

- Is the core of FP7, representing app. two thirds of the overall budget and most of the projects carried out
- Most important programme for universities
- Fosters *collaborative* research between universities, industry, research centres and public authorities across Europe and other partner countries through projects by transnational consortia
- At least 3 partners from 3 different countries
- Programme is sub-divided into 10 distinct themes



## Cooperation 2

### Cooperation programme - thematic areas (€ million)





Thematic Area	Budget (€ million)
Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities	€650
Transport (including Aeronautics)	€4180
Space	€1430
Security	€1350
Health	€6050
Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology	€1935
Information and Communication Technologies	€9110
Nano production	€3500
Environment (including Climate Change)	€1800
Energy	€2300




## Ideas

- The programme is implemented via the new “**European Research Council**“ (ERC)
- Supports “frontier research” (=basic research) on the basis of scientific excellence → highly competitive, only 10% of the proposals are accepted
- Research may be carried out in any area of science or technology, including engineering, socio-economic sciences and the humanities
- In contrast to the Cooperation programme, there is no obligation for cross-border partnerships → e.g. funding of research in only one university
- Projects are implemented by “individual teams” around a “principal investigator”







## People

- Focussed on the single researcher → providing fellowships and other measures to help researchers build their skills and competences throughout their careers
- Implemented via a set of so-called “Marie Curie actions“
- Provides support for researcher mobility training (e.g. Networks), and career development, both for researchers inside the European Union and internationally (e.g. Incoming and Outgoing Fellowships)



## People – Marie Curie Actions

<p><b>Initial training</b></p> <p><u>ITN</u> - Initial Training Networks</p> 	<p><b>International dimension</b></p> <p><u>IDF</u> - International Outgoing Fellowships for career development</p> <p><u>IEF</u> - International Incoming Fellowships</p> <p><u>IRSES</u> - International Research Staff Exchange Scheme</p> 
<p><b>Life-long training</b></p> <p><u>IEF</u> - Intra-European Fellowships for career development</p> <p><u>ERG</u> - European Reintegration Grants</p> <p><u>IRG</u> - International Reintegration Grants</p> <p><u>COFUND</u> - Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes</p> 	<p><b>Industry - Academia</b></p> <p><u>IAPP</u> - Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways</p> 



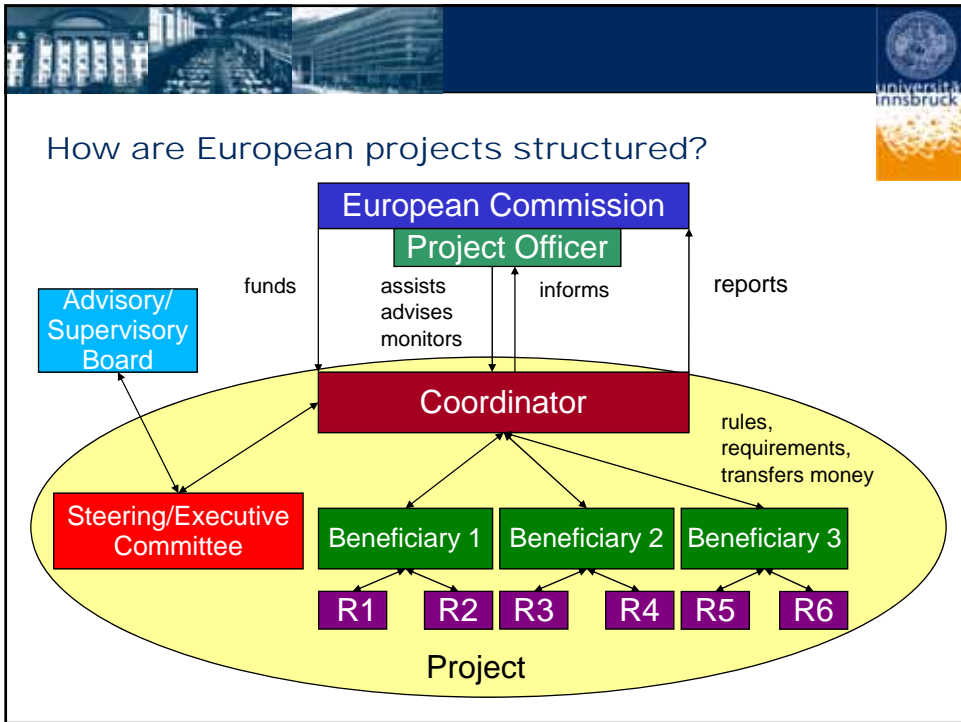
## Capacities



- Focussed on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
- Aims to optimise the use and development of research infrastructures, while enhancing the innovative capacities of SMEs to benefit from research

[SME → EU-definition: limit of 250 employees and a turnover of 50 million €]

Which countries participate?

- EU-27
- “Associated Countries“: Croatia, Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey, Switzerland → like EU-members
- “International Cooperation Partner Countries“ (ICPC) – low-income, lower-middle-income or upper-middle-income country → get lump sum or actual costs
- “Third countries“ (e.g. USA, Canada) → participate but receive no funding







## Funding principles 1

→ The basic principle of funding in FP7 is co-financing  
→ Commission gives grants to projects, thus contributing a certain percentage to the overall costs, depending on the activity:

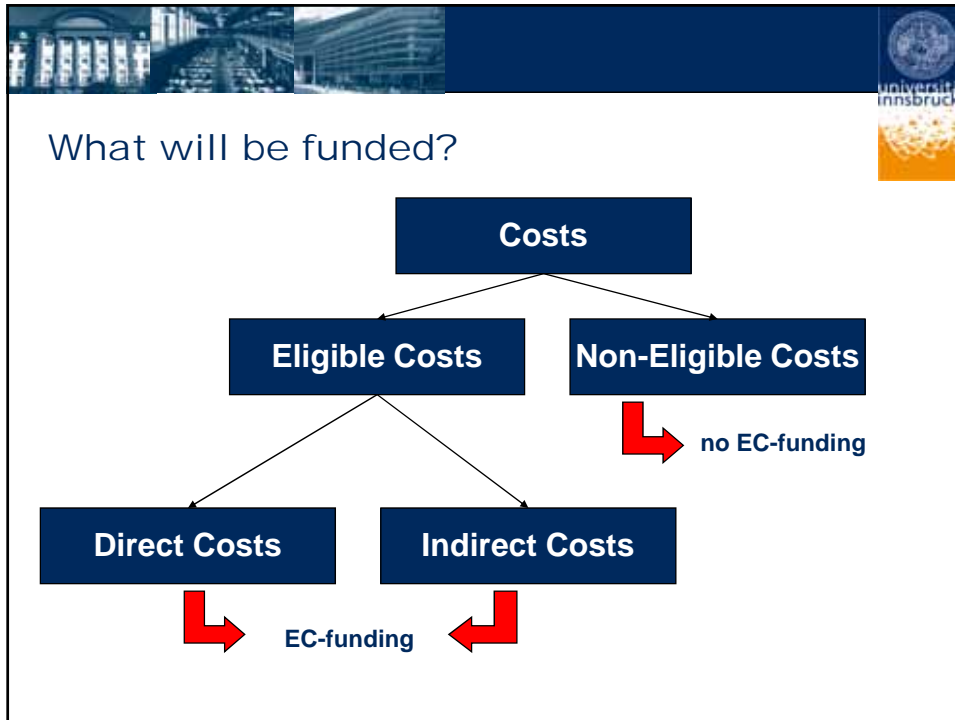
- Research and technological activities: – 50% to 75% of eligible costs
- Demonstration activities: – 50% of eligible costs
- Other activities: – 100% including e.g. management
- Coordination and support actions – 100%

→ Receipts are taken into account to determine the final financial contribution




## Funding principles 2

- Grants are allocated in response to a so called “Call for Proposals” (“Call”) → <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm>
- Calls under FP7 will be set out in annual “Work Programmes“ which will provide details about the topics, timings and implementation
- Basic rule for most projects: they have to involve partners from multiple countries (at least 3)
- Activities funded by FP7 must have a “European added value”




- What will be funded?
- only **“eligible costs”**
- actual
  - incurred by the beneficiary during the duration of the project
  - must be determined in accordance with the usual principles and practices of the beneficiary
  - used for the sole purpose of achieving the objectives of the project
  - must be recorded in the accounts of the beneficiary
  - they must be indicated in the estimated overall budget in Annex I





## Direct – Indirect Costs


Direct Costs	Indirect Costs / Overheads
<p>→ can be directly attributed to a project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal Costs (actual hours according to timesheets)</li> <li>• Research material</li> <li>• Travel</li> <li>• Durable equipment</li> <li>• Publications</li> <li>• Subcontracting</li> </ul>	<p>→ are all those eligible costs which cannot be identified by the beneficiary as being directly attributed to the project but which can be identified and justified by its accounting system as being incurred in direct relationship with the eligible direct costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rents</li> <li>• Energy</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Internet</li> <li>• Stationery</li> <li>• Administrative staff</li> </ul> <p>→ FLAT RATE of e.g. 10 or 60% of direct costs! (percentage of Overheads depends on the specific programme and the legal status of the project partner!)</p>



## What won't be funded?


→ so called “**non-eligible costs**”

- Identifiable indirect taxes including value added tax (VAT)
- Duties
- Interest owed
- Provisions for possible future losses or charges
- Exchange losses, cost related to return on capital
- Costs declared or incurred, or reimbursed in respect of another Community project
- Debt and debt service charges
- Excessive or reckless expenditure

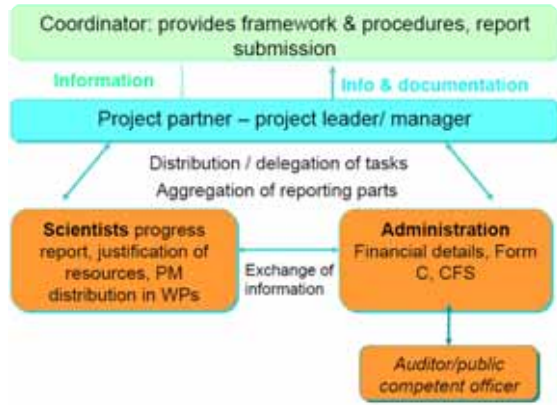


## Obligations

- Carry out the work (research) in accordance to Annex I
- Dissemination
- Reporting
- Financial Audits



## Reporting 1




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graph TD
    C[Coordinator: provides framework & procedures, report submission]
    P[Project partner – project leader/ manager]
    S[Scientists progress report, justification of resources, PM distribution in WPs]
    A[Administration Financial details, Form C, CFS]
    AO[Auditor/public competent officer]


    C -- Information --> P
    P -- Info & documentation --> C
    P -- Distribution / delegation of tasks / Aggregation of reporting parts --> S
    P -- Distribution / delegation of tasks / Aggregation of reporting parts --> A
    S -- Exchange of information --> A
    A --> AO
  
```

The diagram illustrates the reporting structure. At the top is the **Coordinator**, who provides the framework and procedures for report submission. Below the coordinator is the **Project partner – project leader/ manager**. There are two-way arrows between the coordinator and the project partner: one labeled "Information" pointing down, and one labeled "Info & documentation" pointing up. The project partner is responsible for the "Distribution / delegation of tasks" and "Aggregation of reporting parts". This role is split between two main groups: **Scientists** and **Administration**. The **Scientists** group provides progress reports, justifications of resources, and PM distribution in WPs. The **Administration** group handles financial details, Form C, and CFS. There is a bidirectional arrow labeled "Exchange of information" between the Scientists and Administration groups. Finally, the Administration group reports to the **Auditor/public competent officer**.



## Reporting 2

- Main method of telling the Commission what happened within the project (scientific work, finances...)
- Partners report to the Coordinator, who informs them what is needed
- Only Coordinator communicates with and reports to the Commission / the PO
- Reporting is of the utmost importance, every researcher is involved in the process of reporting
- Project reporting requirements depend on the funding instrument!
- Different reports at different stages of the project
- Specific deadlines!



## Reporting 3

→ e.g. for Marie-Curie-Actions

	Within 30 days after 12 months	At least 30 days before Mid-Term Review	within 60 days after 24 months	Within 30 days after 36 months	Within 60 days after 48 months	Within 30 days after Final payment
Progress report	X	X		X		
Periodic report			X		X	
Final Report					X	
Distribution report						X




# Auditing

AUDIT = evaluation of a person, organization, system, process, project or product

**Two different "Audits" for FP7**

<b>"Certificate on the Financial Statement"</b>	<b>Audit by the European Commission</b>
Every partner who has spent more than 375.000,- has to hand in a so-called "Certificate on the Financial Statement" automatically → done by a local auditor or a so-called "Public Competent Officer"	Up to five years after the end of the project the EC may control how the money was spent within the project → Audit carried out in much greater detail !
↓	↓
Proof that Commission wasn't overcharged and how money was used (by invoices, material from the accounting department, timesheets etc.)	



# Thank you for your attention!