

EU Research Trends

The last newsletter before summer holidays will be short and mostly an update on the recent developments.

Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 has finally been agreed upon! Now we just need to see on paper the particulars of the programme. The internal budgetary discussions are still ongoing within the Commission and draft work programmes have started leaking from national authorities.

It seems the first calls still *could* be ready in December if it will be voted upon in Parliament during the September plenary. However, it is still uncertain as the linguistic lawyer section is still working on the details and it is not certain when their work is finished.

It has finally been decided that we will see 14 programme committees:

- one for each challenge,
- a horizontal,
- one for ERC/Marie Curie/FET
- one for research infrastructures
- one for SMV and risk financing
- Industrial leadership: one for ICT and one for KET
- One for space

KICs

Regarding the KICs, it will be a 2+2+1 model with health and raw materials in first round (2014), food and manufacturing in second round (2016) and urban mobility in 2018. Secure societies was not included in the end. Whether the call for the food KIC will be out in 2015 or 2016 is still uncertain and depends on Parliament, who has been insisting on 2016.

KETs

Some of you might be interested in hearing more about the KETs. In short: DG DG RTD Industrial Technologies is responsible for 3 of 6 KETs:

- Nanotechnologies
- Advanced Materials
- Advanced Manufacturing (&Processing)

Other 3 KETs:

- Micro- and nano electronics - DG Connect
- Photonics - DG Connect

- Biotechnology - another DG RTD directorate

Support for KETs is aimed at solving bottleneck problems preventing new technological developments from reaching the market. Thus projects may not be huge but they will be complementary - EC is looking for synergies with other projects / programmes. Projects must be outcome oriented.

Keywords:

- Efficiency
- Taking technology from development to market
- Synergies in funding and projects

About 30 % of KETs budget will go to specific support for cross-cutting KETs (combination of more than one KET) and there will be a strong focus on leveraging private sector investment.

Generally there will be a strong focus on technology readiness level will assessing project applications. On a scale of 1-7 readiness levels 5-7 are prioritised with 4 being a low cut off point in most cases - some funding will go to level 8. There will still be funding for lower TR levels in certain cases but not in cases where development is already advanced beyond a certain stage.

Much of KET support will go toward addressing manufacturing bottlenecks where up-scaling is often the main hindrance. The entire spectrum of technological development will be covered in terms of available funding options - KETs and other options.

Funding is granted based on industrial roadmaps that assess the development stage of a technology and requirements for progress. Hence, the focus is on industrial outcomes, which means research that bridges the gaps. Thus, basic research may also be funded but more often than not other funding apart from KET will be more appropriate

There are two funding rates where 100 % is used for projects with the majority being R&D and 70 % is used for projects where the majority is pilots and demonstrations. The average size of projects is expected around € 7 mill but with more projects around the € 10 mill mark. Generally though, there won't be much difference from FP7 .

Questions, comments etc. should be sent to [Kirstine Magoola](#)