

## Project Management

We have a vastly knowledgeable and able team of Project Managers with the necessary know-how to guide the project and its partners through the rigors of EC funded research projects. Our associates at EurExcel have broad expertise in the coordination of entire projects, leading work packages and in the management of Enterprise Groupings for the dissemination and exploitation of project results.

Our experience in Framework Programmes projects dates back as early as FP4 and through this experience we are a company who intrinsically understand both what the EC expect and what is required to run a successful FP project. Framework Programme Framework Programmes (FPs) are the main financial tool through which the European Union supports research and development activities covering almost all scientific disciplines. FPs are proposed by the European Commission and adopted by Council and the European Parliament following a co-decision procedure. They have been in place since 1984, and will each usually cover a five year period, with the last year of one and the first of the next overlapping. However, it has been proposed that FP7 should run from January 2007, and expire in 2013.

The allocated budget (FP7 budget is 50.5 billion euros, that's €50,000,000,000) is split between 6 'themes', (Cooperation, Ideas, People, Capacities, Euratom and JRC(Joint Research Council)). Each theme then sets out a number of specific calls which are released at different times throughout each year of the FP. Their release date depends on the specific content, and any overlap in theme. These calls invite businesses across Europe to submit relevant proposals, in order to gain structured funding to develop the ideas through the fixed duration of a FP project.

FP7 has been designed to build on the achievements of its predecessor towards the creation of the European Research Area, and carry it further towards the development of the knowledge economy and society in Europe.

More detailed information can be found on CORDIS which is the Community Research and Development Information Service, a web site that is run by the EC to give open access to a lot of information about European projects. It contains guidance on the whole journey of proposal writing, from selecting the most relevant call, through finding partners, to the Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS).

Available in five languages, the CORDIS web site is well organised, user friendly and an excellent repository for all your FP needs. There is an opportunity to register on the site which allows access to a library service through which documents can be emailed to you.

The CORDIS web site is well worth a visit: {iframe linktext="Cordis" width="850" height="750" url="http://cordis.europa.eu"}