



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Research Potential (REGPOT) 2009 Calls – TURKEY Event

Key-note Speech

Mr MALO Jean-David
Head of Unit B-04

« Research Potential (REGPOT) 2009 Calls – Turkey Event »

TUBITAK/Bogaziçi University – Istanbul – Turkey – 6th and 7th of November 2008

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Structure of the presentation

- Political context: Lisbon strategy – Synergies
- REGPOT Objectives in this context and main evolutions for 2009 Calls
- Purpose of the TURKEY Event

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Introduction

- Promotion of knowledge economy (through R&D and I) is central to the realisation of the **Renewed Partnership for Growth and Jobs ("Lisbon")**
 - New challenges facing the EU (increasing complexity) call for **more structured and strategic mix** of Community, national and regional policies in order to strengthen **innovation**
- 
- **R&D as a mean for more growth and more and better jobs ; crucial role of regions and regional development**

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Benefits of good innovation performance of a region / country

- Increase in GDP
- Job creation
- Productivity gains
- Competitiveness gains without pressure on salaries (and if possible increase of salaries)
- Reap benefits from the Internal Market & world market
- Facilitate coping with the consequences of structural changes

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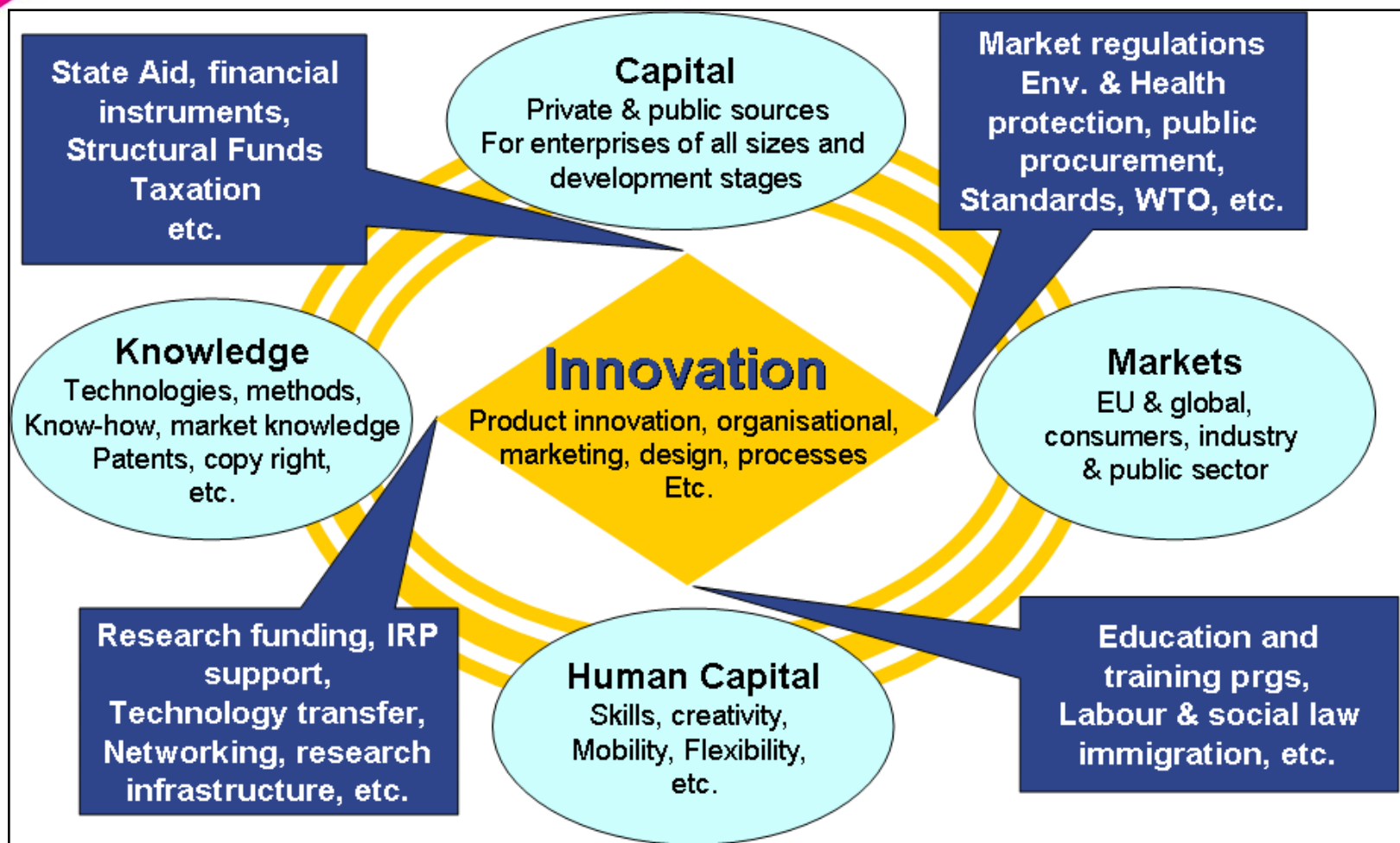
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Innovation Process, Factors & Public Support





The Process of Innovation

- Research = translating money into knowledge
- Innovation = translating knowledge into money
- Innovation can be non-technological: new or improved processes, organisation, design, marketing, etc.
- Innovation can emerge without new knowledge / research: the new combination of existing knowledge can be innovative
- Innovation = interactive process:
 - it depends not only on the performance of enterprises and research institutes, but
 - also the manner and frequency in which they interact to share knowledge, know-how, market flair, production / marketing capacities etc. is favourable for innovation
 - Proximity between different actors facilitates the acquisition, accumulation and use of knowledge (clusters, poles, etc.)

See: Oslo Manual on definition of innovation (OECD):

http://www.oecd.org/topic/0,3373,en_2649_37417_1_1_1_1_37417,00.html

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Who is in charge of EU research and innovation policy?

- **DG ENTR:** innovation policy development, entrepreneurship, e-business, CIP coordination
- **DG RTD:** research, technological development, demonstration, ERA, 3% objective, FP7 coordination
- **DG INFSO:** information society, ICT application (CIP), ICT research (FP7), regulation

Also:

- **DG COMP:** state aid framework for RTD and innovation
- **DG TREN:** Energy efficiency, renewable energies, market replication (CIP), Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan)
- **DG ENV:** Environmental Technologies, eco-innovation (CIP)
- **DG EAC:** Education & training, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIIT)
- **DG EMPL:** ESF for developing and up-grading skills, human potential in the field of research

Synergies with DG REGIO & Cohesion Policy and IPA !

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The main EU research and innovation sources of funding



Multi-country research projects & joint actions (JTI, 169) Fellowships Policy/Prog coordination Capacity building /RSFF



Multi-country Innovation networks
Cluster, Monitoring Support services Policy development Financial instruments



Nat / regional programmes
Research, capacity, SME, Cluster, TT, services ...
Entrepreneurship Innovative ICT Human Capital



Lifelong Learning Programme
Erasmus & Erasmus Mundus:
Univ.Educ:Scholarships
e-learning Programme:
ICT in schools
Leonardo vocational training



Environment:
policy monitoring & development;
Projects on:
Air, Energy, Climate, Industry, Urban env., Soil, Waste, Water



Rural development



Fisheries & Aquaculture

Not EU research initiatives:





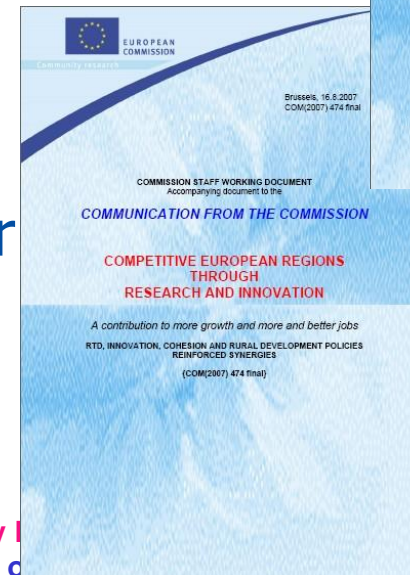
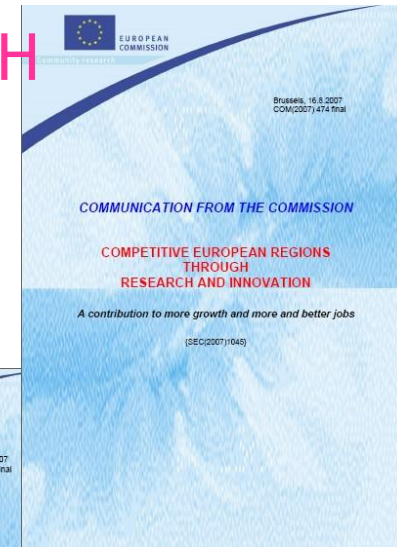
CRI: Towards more synergies

- COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION
"COMPETITIVE EUROPEAN REGIONS THROUGH
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION: A contribution
to more growth and more and better jobs"

COM(2007) 474 final (16.08.2007)

- COMMISSION Staff Working Paper

SEC(2007) 1045 (16.08.2007)



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Communication's Conclusions (1/2)

- **From synergies of design to synergies of action**
 - ➔ Already around €83 billion of Cohesion policy funding have been « earmarked » by MS for RD&I
 - ➔ Use of IPA for Countries candidate to accession
 - ➔ **BUT more can be done at national and regional levels** in terms of :
 - ◆ coordinated use of the instruments to support RD&I
 - ◆ improved information / communication
 - ◆ stimulation of actors

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Communication's Conclusions (2/2)

- **EC will act as a facilitator**
- **It proposes various actions to make better use of European funding:**
 - ➔ A **practical guide** will be prepared to help research institutions and companies to identify the most appropriate source of funding for them.
 - ➔ Improving information exchange with national/regional authorities so that they know what organisations receive FP7 and CIP grants , with a view to providing complementary support from national, regional and European funds.
 - ➔ Regular events at which those involved in research, innovation and regional development can come together to share ideas, exchange best practice and access support and advice.

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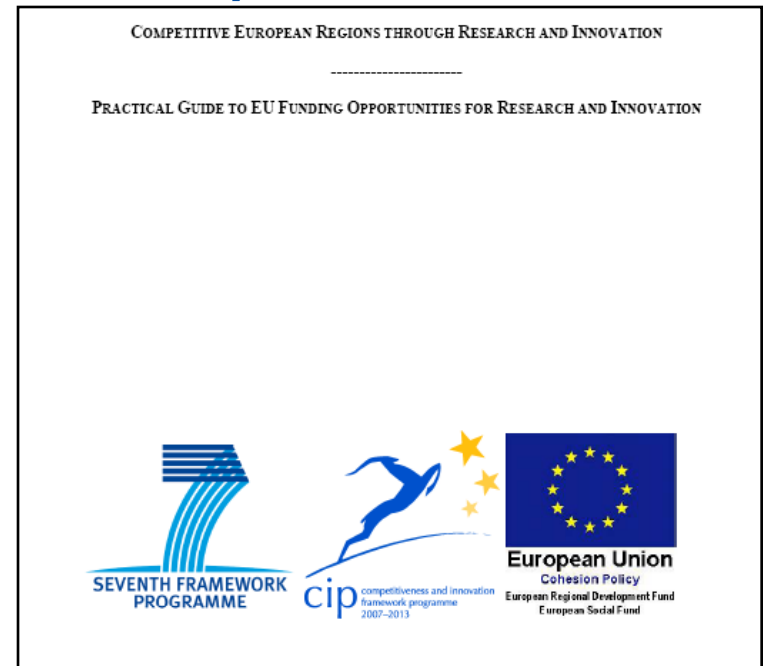
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The “Practical Guide”

- Draft officially presented in March 2008 (« Brdo Slovenian Presidency Conference on RI)
- Opened Consultation
- Published on internet on the 8th of September 2008
- Next steps:
 - Translations in 23 languages
 - Paper version
 - Website



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Why this guide ?

- Large range of EU funding opportunities, but different timings and thematic priorities and funding rules
- Missed opportunities for synergies through compartmentalisation of target groups / management and lack of knowledge of other sources
- Low level of research and innovation funding in the EU requires more efficient use of available means

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Role of National & Regional Authorities

- Central role in exploiting potential for synergies
- Establish mechanisms to enable co-ordinated access to different funds
- Communication and information
- Database of projects
- Prevent irregularities
- LOCAL FACILITATOR

**Publicise & use the practical guide !
(and the future website)**

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FP7 in this context

- **REGPOT (as well as REGIONS) are part of this general process to achieve the expected objectives !**

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Research Potential Objectives

- To stimulate the *realisation of the full Research Potential* of the enlarged Union by unlocking and developing the *research potential* in the EU's (including AC) convergence regions and outermost regions
- To *strengthen the capacities* of their researchers (research organisation) to successfully participate in research activities at EU level & in *FP7*

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Expected outcome and impact

- **Upgrading the RTD capacity** (human potential: number of new researchers and training of all research staff, improvement of research management, scientific equipment) and the quality of research carried out by the selected research entity
- **Better integration** of the selected research entities **in the ERA** as a whole (partnership with research groups elsewhere in Europe)
- Contribution to **regional capacity building**
- **Improved research capacity** for increased contribution to regional economic and social development and for **better participation in FP7 projects**

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Lessons learnt from first 2 years of implementation

- **High response rate** (*in particular for the core activity REGPOT-1*)
- **All FP7 Thematic Domains** represented in *submitted & selected* proposals
- **Broad representation**: Participation of **18 MS** (out of 20 with eligible regions) and **6 AC** in eligible proposals of 'REGPOT-1' calls
- Demonstrated **Synergy** with Regional Policy (*in proposals above thresholds*)

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NOT LEGALLY BINDING – Page 18





Lessons learnt from first 2 years of implementation

But also....

- **Oversubscription** for the core call (*REGPOT-1*) & rather *low demand* for « evaluation facilities » (*former REGPOT-2*)
- Several **small size** applicants & **small potential increase** of research
- Almost half of submitted proposals **below thresholds** (= Lack of evidence for RTD « Excellence », missing contacts with Top-class EU RTD partnering entities, no SWOT analysis, no Action Plan, etc.)
- **Small partnerships** and **limited funding** per selected proposal (average: 1 M€ per project for REGPOT-1)
- **Low potential for strategic impact**

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Main changes in 2009

2007-2008

- Small size (& small potential increase of) research entities
- Small partnerships and limited funding per project
- Oversubscription very often due to missing demonstration of « excellence »
- Often missing partnerships with top-class European RTD teams
- Low demand for « evaluation facilities »

2009

- ➔ **Significant size** research entities (e.g. Univ. Dept. & Faculties, Research inst.)
- ➔ **Enlarged** partnerships with up to 4 M€ per project
- ➔ Activity addressed to **high level** RTD entities (of significant size)
- ➔ **Brokerage facility** to assist in partner search of high competence
- ➔ Encourage applicants to self-assess their **RTD strategies**

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REGPOT 2009 Calls Why the Turkey Event?

- **TURKEY** to be fully involved in this process!
- **A very concrete INFODAY** to improve turkish participation
 - ✓ Presentation of calls 2009
 - ✓ Analysis and lessons learnt on turkish participation so far
 - ✓ Recommendations on key aspects (management, dissemination, finance, ...)
 - ✓ Success story
 - ✓ Last but not least interactivity with the audience (Q&A, debate ..)

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