

Preparation for the FP7 from the Czech NCPs point of view

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Presentation structure

- NCP system in CR, national information network for FP, new features for FP7
- Work of NCP - getting ready for FP7
- Development of NCP services for clients
- Barriers in NCP work

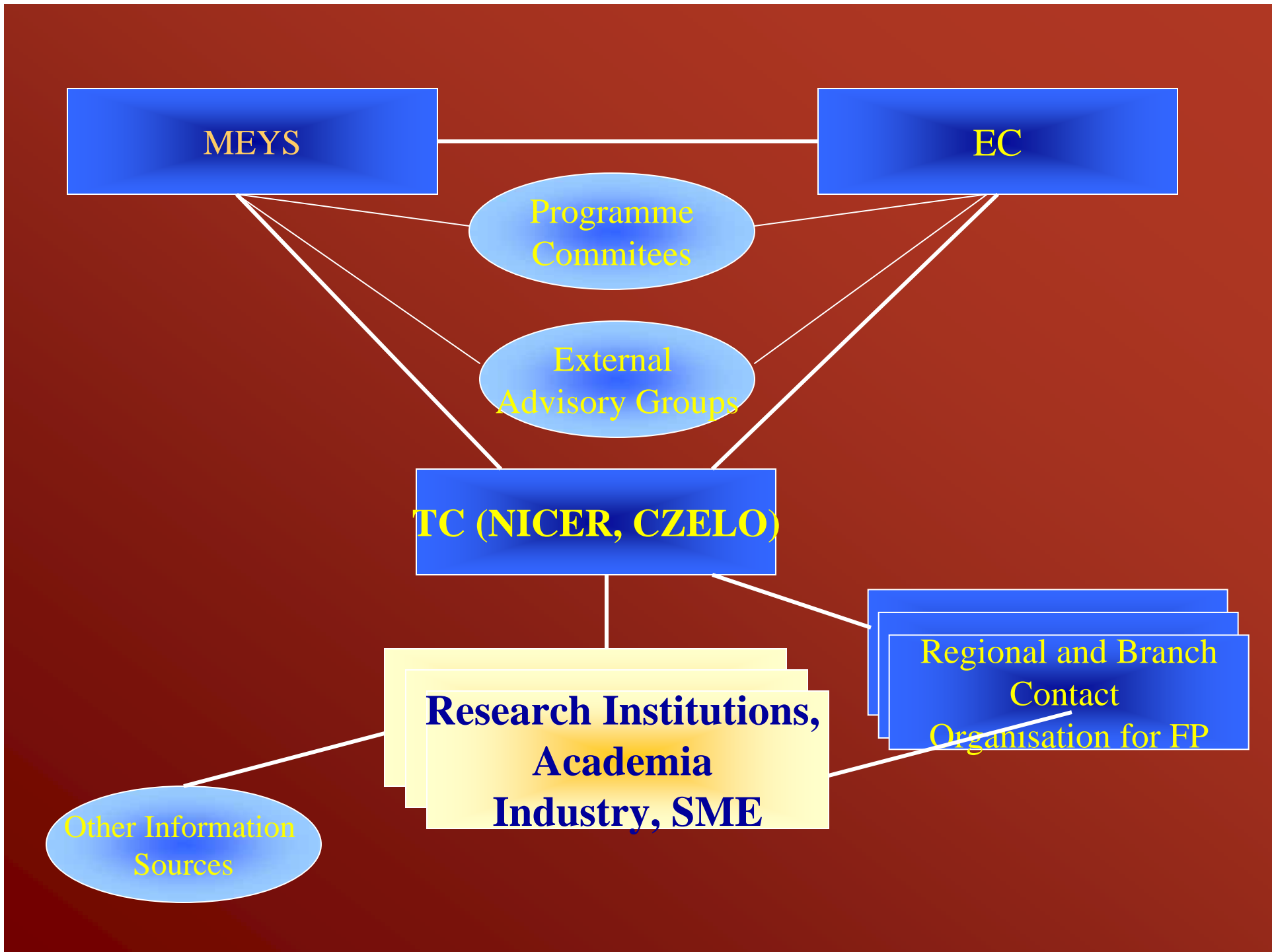
Technology centre AS CR

[http:// www.tc.cz](http://www.tc.cz)

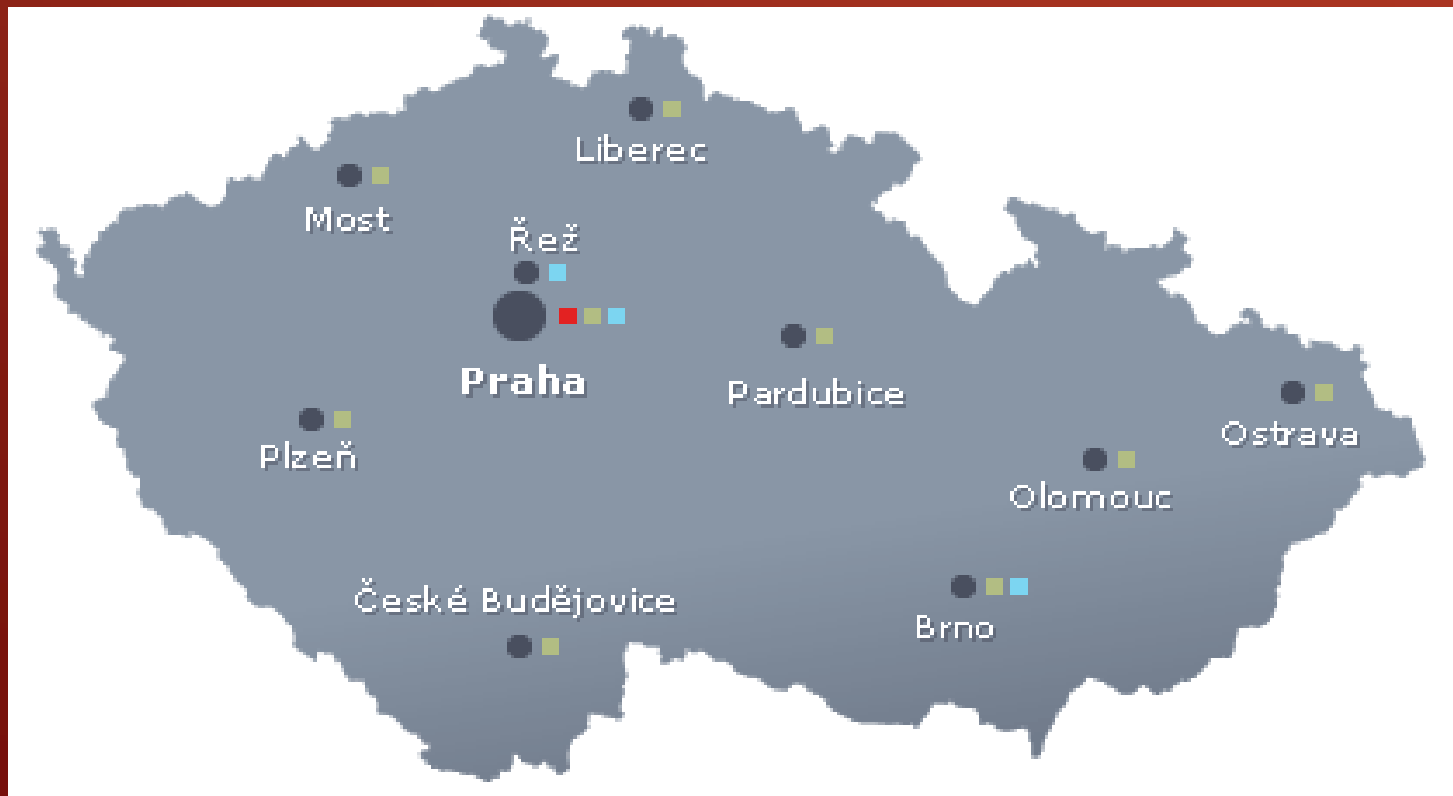
- Activities based on projects:
- National Information Centre for European Research – contact organization pro Framework programmes and COST (project NICER 100 % funded by Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)
- Innovation and Technology Transfer (Czech Innovation Relay Centre – CIRC)
- Strategic Studies and Projects (Regional innovation strategies, National Research Programme, Technology foresight)
- Czech Liaison Office for Research and Development in Brussels (project CZELO)

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Czech information network for FP6 (<http://www.ninet.cz>)



NICER = national project to fund NCPs work

NICER I -duration: 1.10.2003 – 31.12.2006

- Grant - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
- 14 NCP – for particular programmes within FP6 (except EURATOM)

= successor of a project National Contact Organisation for
FP 5

(1.7.2000 – 31.12.2003):

121 workshops, information days + publications

- 5000 participants
- 277 presentations
- 8100 consultations (hot line + personal consultations)

NICER II – 2006-2009 – continuity of NCPs work in
FP 7

NICER II = national project to fund NCP work in FP7

- New structure of NCPs will reflect structure of FP7 – significant new features:
 - NCP for financial and legal (IPR) issues
 - NCP for basic/frontier research (Ideas)
 - NCP for technology platforms – links to „national technology platforms“, close collaboration with „thematic NCPs“
 - thematic NCPs – for each thematic area within FP7
 - restructuring of activities of „horizontal NCPs“ to cover all aspects of FP7 Capacities programme (including CIP): mobility, SMEs, research infrastructures, INCO, science and society, regions of knowledge, ERANETs
- Czech NCPs planned capacities: 22 full times

NICER – activities

I

Information distribution and FP awareness raising

- ✓ **Information days** (for all FP thematic areas within programme Cooperation, People, Ideas, Capacities, general information + call specific information), **specialised workshops** (*financing and auditing of FP projects* – module for accountants and auditors, different module for researchers, IPR issues – in collaboration with National Patent Office and IPR helpdesk, training - module for project managers, doctorands – mobility schemes, CORDIS services),
- ✓ **conferences** (Czech Days for European Research 4 = FP7 launch conference)
- ✓ Information materials published by TC (journal Echo – international collaboration in research, edition VADEMECUM FP, **publications for FP7 more „explanatory” – not just translated materials of EC...**)
- ✓ Distribution of information materials published by EC (model contract, work programmes....)
- ✓ Webs: <http://www.tc.cz>, <http://www.6rp.cz>, <http://www.fp7.cz>; <http://www.czechrtd.info>
- ✓ **Electronic bulletin – news, events**
- ✓ Metodical support and trainings for National information network for FP (NINET – network), regular meetings of NINET network with PROGRAMME COMMITTEE MEMBERS
<http://www.ninet.cz>



Country general information

Scheme of R&D

Directory of R&D institutions

International cooperation

Sci&res portals

Sci&res bibliography

Discussion forum

On using this web

 webmaster

 home

Find your partner

Search according to

Start

Our mission ▼

CZECHRTD.INFO is aimed at providing information of the Czech RTD landscape particularly to those researchers, who work outside the Czech Republic but want to find a partner here. The main focus is on activities developed to foster the European Research Area and the Sixth Framework programme of the EU. These web pages are maintained by the Czech National Contact Organization for the EU Framework Programmes, which is hosted by the Technology Centre of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.



Tip for visitors ▼

Want to know weekly news from the Czech Republic? Try Prague Business Journal

Recent registrations

- Charles University in Prague
- University of Pardubice, Jan Perner Transport Faculty
- Agricultural Research Institute Kromeriz, Ltd.
- Agricultural Research Institute Kromeriz, Ltd.

News

- ▶ **Catalogue of Projects of the FP5 with Czech Participants**
The Czech National Contact Organisation for Framework Programmes (Technology Centre AS CR) is preparing a Catalogue for the conference "The European Research Area and the Framework" (26.09.2002)
- ▶ **"Proposal of the National Research Programme"**
This publication summarises the methodology and results of the project on preparation of the proposal of the National Research Programme for the Czech Republic. This project is the first (02.07.2002)
- ▶ **The publication "The Academy of Sciences for the Economy & Society"**
It presents the institution not only as a centre of high-quality research, but especially as a source of results and knowledge leading to applications. (28.06.2002)

Events

- ▶ **01.10.2002 - 3rd Conference on Municipal Information Systems**
Prague, Hotel "Pyramida"
- ▶ **16.10.2002 - TECHSTA 2002 - Technology for Sustainable Development in Building Industry**
Prague, Czech Technical University
- ▶ **16.10.2002 - IST: e2002 - eBusiness and eWork**
Prague, Corinthia Towers

[More events](#)

NICER - activities II

Consultations

- ✓ info hot line (phone, e-mail, personal)
- ✓ individual assistance in project preparation and management, comments to consortium agreements
- ✓ partner search in CR and abroad, brokerage events (collaboration with IRC network)

Expert studies (for the government)

- ✓ participation of CR in FP5, FP6, mapping potential of CR for participation in FP

NICER - activities III

Financial support of project preparation

- ✓ grant MEYS – covers project „preparatory phase“ up to 75% of costs – organization of preparatory meetings, travel costs
- ✓ available for Czech coordinators and participants (including SMEs)
- ✓ additional support for SMEs – preparatory grant of Ministry of Industry and Trade

Czech Liaison Office for Research and Development in Brussels

- ✓ promotion of Czech research and research institutions
- ✓ lobbying, facilitating contacts with EC, member of IGLO - informal group of RTD liaison offices: <http://www.iglortd.org/>

International collaboration

- ✓ EC (NCP meetings, trainings)
- ✓ NCP network
- ✓ other institutions (Helmholtz Gesellschaft, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, UKRO)

NICER - activities IV

Collaboration in EU projects – possibility to gain practical experience !

- ✓ ETI, SSA projects (e.g. Nanoroadmap, SMEs for Food, EUAGRI MAPPING, EMTECH...)

Analysis of Czech Republic participation in FP

- ✓ reports for MEYS, Research council
- ✓ publications, presentations
- ✓ opinion surveys – evaluation of FP project impact
- ✓ identification of barriers of participation of Czech teams in FP

Getting ready for FP7

- ✓ Knowledge of basic FP7 documents:

- ✓ **FP7 proposal** – specific programme Cooperation – thematic area Food, agriculture and biotechnology – detailed knowledge necessary + good general knowledge of FP 7, contexts and links to other specific programmes + basic knowledge of national and other international schemes to support research

Typical question of a researcher: I do research in the area of
WHAT IS FOR ME IN FP ?

- ✓ **Rules for participation and financing ! CHANGES COMPARED TO FP6 !**
 - ✓ Experienced participants/project managers – specific questions and specific information needs
 - ✓ Beginners with no experience in FP – need answers to basic questions – IMPORTANT – SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE (AVOID BRUSSELS SPEAK), BE SURE THAT THEY UNDERSTAND (OFTEN) SPECIFIC TERMINOLOGY OF FP
- ✓ **Work programmes related to individual calls – detailed description of research topics, call available budgets, evaluation criteria**
- ✓ **Guide for proposers**
- ✓ **Guide for evaluators**
- ✓ **Financial guides**
- ✓ **Frequently asked questions.....**

Getting ready for FP7

✓ Training of NCPs

- ✓ organised by EC – free of charge
- ✓ organised within some FP SSA projects (Food-N-Co, Trainnet Future.....)
- ✓ organised by professional organisations (Hyperion, EFP consulting... – cost money)
- ✓ organised by NCP organisations – learn from experience of your colleagues

✓ Issues usually covered by training:

- ✓ FP structure
- ✓ financing and rules
- ✓ calls for proposals, project evaluation – INVITE EVALUTORS !
- ✓ consortium building
- ✓ proposal writing
- ✓ contract negotiation
- ✓ project implementation, management, IPR

Getting ready for FP7

Be familiar with basic sources of information for NCP

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/>

✓ CORDIS – know the structure, use alert services QUICKPICK, RAPIDUS, CORDIS NEWS: <http://cordis.europa.eu/guidance/email.htm>

✓ EUROPA – RESEARCH

http://ec.europa.eu/research/future/index_en.cfm

✓ Financial helpdesk

<http://www.finance-helpdesk.org/Front/ShowCategory.aspx?CatId=30>

✓ IPR helpdesk

<http://www.ipr-helpdesk.org/index.html>

✓ Agro-food specific portals:

AGRINET http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/index_en.html

BIO-SOCIETY AND THE KNOWLEDGE BASED BIO-ECONOMY

http://ec.europa.eu/research/biosociety/index_en.htm

EU AGRI MAPPING

<http://www.agrifoodresearch.net>

SCAR – Standing Committee for Agricultural Research

http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/scar/index_en.cfm

Getting ready for FP7

- ✓ To know your „target group“ at the national level
 - ✓ To create and maintain a good electronic directory:
 - ✓ include all relevant key research institutions: universities, research institutes, institutes of Academy of Sciences – preferably use contacts at the level of heads of research teams or heads of departments
 - ✓ SMEs – difficult to identify, participants in FP but also participants in „national“ research grant schemes, industry associations...
 - ✓ Representatives of regulatory bodies (e.g. Food and veterinary inspections, phytosanitary services etc.
 - ✓ Research departments of ministries (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Industry...)
 - ✓ National grant agencies (target groups for ERANETs)
 - ✓ Good complementary sources of contacts: participants in FP – CORDIS database of funded projects, national registers or databases of publicly funded projects, members of various national scientific committees, companies significantly participating in national quality assurance schemes (food quality assurance schemes).....
 - ✓ For specific expertise check also bibliographic databases (national bibliography, CABI, AGRIS FAO...) – valuable source of information and contacts

Getting ready for FP7

- ✓ To make and maintain collaborative links with
 - ✓ **NCP colleagues at the national level** (exchange of experience, discussing specific issues related to national participation – for example possibilities of co-financing of EU projects from national sources, VAT reimbursement etc...) – „united voice“ of all NCPs
 - ✓ **Other relevant contact points** at the national level (at universities, research institutes, ministries, industry associations...) – know exactly who is who in their institutions and can facilitate information flow within the institution or industrial sector
 - ✓ **EU and INCO NCPs networks** – exchange of experience, training organised by EC or within SSA projects, facilitating international partner search, common activities within SSA projects - **participation in SSA is essential to gain practical experience in EU project** (reporting, cost statements, audits....)
 - ✓ **IRC network** (complex services to clients, facilitating technology transfer): <http://irc.cordis.lu/>
 - ✓ **Liaison offices in Brussels**: <http://www.iqlortd.org>, EU officials, programme committee members (only EU members), members of EU advisory groups – up-to date information, “grey” information

NCP services for clients

- ✓ To develop **services for national research community** and to ask for a feedback to evaluate the effectiveness of services
 - ✓ Specific service for specific target groups (EU project beginners, project managers, doctorands and post-docs, financing for accountants, SMEs and industry,...)
 - ✓ Individualised services x general information
- ✓ **General information awareness**: FP 7 web, electronic/paper bulletin, information in local media – journals, newspaper, FP general information days, FP conferences, presentation at national research conferences, presentations for regional universities, booth at industry fairs etc.– **go to meet your clients**
- ✓ **Specific services**: specialised workshops (financing, IPR, focus on SMEs, technology platforms, call specific information days – collaborate with specialists (IPR lawyers, auditors, FP project evaluators....)
- ✓ **Individual assistance** (hot line, answering questions by mail, partner search facilitation, assistance in proposal preparation, organization of project preparatory meetings, project management, reporting, auditing....)
- ✓ **PROMOTE YOUR SERVICES, SPEAK HIGHLY, USE YOUR ORGANISATION PR SERVICES,**
- ✓ **Service to the government** (monitoring of participation in FP, opinion surveys, analyses)

Obstacles in NCP work

- ✓ to reach the target research community – knowledge of the „national research area“, knowledge of key players, knowledge of participants in previous FP (CORDIS database of contracted projects – partners probably will participate in future projects)
- ✓ building good personal contacts with clients/local partners as well as gaining a good reputation of quality of provided information and consultation services is a long time process
- ✓ motivation of researchers to participate in FP (competition of „national grant schemes“ – often higher chance for success, less administrative work, use of local language) – also COST, EUREKA, Structural funds
- ✓ availability of „grey information“ – draft workprogrammes – topics to be addressed in future calls– contact with programme committee, advisory group members, liaison offices might help
- ✓ information about EU projects in preparation and the respective coordinators – most research teams want to join the consortium not to coordinate a project
- ✓ availability and different formats of statistical information provided by EC do not facilitate evaluation of national participation in FP

Obstacles in NCP work

barriers for researchers

- ✓ availability of additional financial resources to co-finance EU projects (incompatibility with the „national“ schemes)
- ✓ availability of financial resources to facilitate preparatory phase of a project
- ✓ language barrier (SMEs)
- ✓ relatively low success rate in EU projects – demotivating factor
- ✓ newcomers - difficult to find the potentially successful coordinator seeking after additional partners
- ✓ limited human resources for EU projects (almost every team has already a national grant or another EU grant)
- ✓ lack of practical experience in EU project coordination
- ✓ lack of time for proposal preparation, professional companies writing proposals (like PERA in UK) still missing, writing proposals for clients is not a task for an NCP

Obstacles in NCP work

And what is your experience ?

Thanks for your attention !