

The European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) Information Session:

*Socio-Economic Sciences and the
Humanities (SSH)
and
Science in Society (SiS)*



What is the EU FP7?

- The complete name of FP7 is the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
- 'Framework programmes' (FPs) are the main financial tools through which the European Union supports research and development activities covering almost all scientific disciplines, and have been implemented since 1984
- FP7 will last for seven years from 2007 until 2013, and has a total budget of over €50 billion
- FP7 is a key tool to respond to Europe's needs in terms of jobs and competitiveness, and to maintain leadership in the global knowledge economy
- Activities funded from FP7 must have a “European added value”:
 - *Transnationality of actions*
 - *Research projects are carried out by consortia which include participants from different European (and other) countries*
 - *Fellowships in FP7 require mobility over national borders*



Overview of this presentation

- Information on the **SSH theme**, support networks in place, and opportunities for funding (next call expected to be published \pm July 2008)
- Information on the **SiS theme**
- **Hints** for people who are interested in responding to opportunities under FP7, and **links** to further information



Socio-economic sciences and the humanities (SSH)



Socio-economic Sciences and the Humanities (SSH)

- One of ten programmes in FP7 under the broad category “Cooperation”
- All of these programmes address issues relevant to SSH
- The ten programmes are:
 - *Health*
 - *Food, agriculture and biotechnology*
 - *Information and communication technologies*
 - *Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies*
 - *Energy*
 - *Environment (including climate change)*
 - *Transport (including aeronautics)*
 - **Socio-economic sciences and the humanities**
 - *Security*
 - *Space*



Previous related programmes under FP6 and FP5

- FP6 (2002-2006)
 - Priority 7: “Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-Based Society”
 - Priority 8: “Scientific Support to Policies”
 - Lists of funded projects under both priorities accessible from <http://cordis.europa.eu/citizens/projects.htm>
 - Up to 2006: Low level of participation from South Africa; no National Contact Point (NCP)
 - Top-up call (2006) yielded four successful applications involving South African research teams
- FP5 (1998-2002)
 - Key Action “Improving the Socio-economic Knowledge Base”
 - No significant participation from South African researchers



Specific attention to South Africa

- Privileged position: Formal intergovernmental agreement in place
- Advisory Group on Social Sciences and Humanities in the European Research Area (SSHERA)
 - Luc Soete: Mission report to South Africa July 2005
http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/mission_report_south_africa_en.pdf
 - ‘South Africa: a case of “best practice” in EU international S&T collaboration?’
 - ‘South Africa: a “goldmine” for social sciences and humanities research’
 - Knowledge management and economic growth
 - Growth and employment
 - Migration
 - Local governance
 - Quality and funding of higher education
 - Social cohesion and national identity
 - Democracy and voting behaviour
 - Geo-political integration
- Consultative meetings, EC delegation to South Africa, invited presentation and participation at EC conference December 2005



SSH Research: Purpose and Priorities

- EU Objective:
 - *“To contribute to an in-depth, shared understanding of the complex and interrelated socio-economic challenges Europe is confronted with”* (http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cooperation/socio-economic_en.html)
- Opportunities for South African (“Third Country”) Participation:
 - *Such understanding can obviously be enriched and informed by collaborative and comparative work, and benefit from expertise and experience in other countries and regions – **such as South Africa!***
- Research to address the following major challenges facing Europe and the world:
 - *Growth, employment and competitiveness;*
 - *Social cohesion, social, cultural and educational challenges in an enlarged EU;*
 - *Sustainability, environmental challenges, demographic change, migration and integration, quality of life and global interdependence.*

SSH Activities to be Funded (I)

- Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society
 - *Innovation, competitiveness and labour market policies*
 - *Education and life-long learning*
 - *Economic structures and productivity*
- Combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective
 - *Socio-economic models within Europe and across the world*
 - *Economic and social and cohesion across regions*
 - *Social and economic dimensions of environmental policy*
- Major trends in society and their implications
 - *Demographic change, reconciling family and work, health and quality of life, youth policies, social exclusion and discrimination*
- Europe in the world
 - *Trade, migration, poverty, crime, conflict and resolution*

SSH Activities to be Funded (II)

- The citizen in the European Union
 - *Political participation, citizenship and rights, democracy and accountability, the media, cultural diversity and heritage, religions, attitudes and values*
- Socio-economic and scientific indicators
 - *The use and value of indicators in policy making at macro and micro levels*
- Foresight activities
 - *The future implications of global knowledge, migration, ageing, risk and the emerging domains in research and science*
- Also: Strategic activities
 - *Emerging and unforeseen policy needs, international cooperation, dissemination of programme activities, strategic studies*

SSH Indicative Budget and Funding Schemes

- Total amount available
 - *More than € 610 million for SSH over duration of FP7 (2007-2013)*
 - *First call (launched 22 December 2006): € 58.5 million*
- Funding schemes
 - *Collaborative research projects:*
 - *Large-scale integrating (€1.5 M to € 4 M per project)*
 - *Small or medium-scale focused (€ 500k to € 1.5 M per project)*
 - *Coordination and Support Actions (CSA):*
 - *Coordinating*
 - *Supporting*
 - *Also possible: Public Procurement, Expert Groups*
- Minimum conditions for **collaborative research projects:**
 - *At least three independent legal entities, established in three different Member States or Associated Countries*
 - *Third country participation possible – **often required or desirable** – once minimum conditions have been met*



European - south african science and technology
advancement programme

Support network for SSH

NET4SOCIETY



Science in Society (SiS)



Science in Society (SiS)

- One of seven cross-cutting themes in FP7 under the broad programme “*Capacities*”
- The *Capacities* programme intends to enhance research and innovation capacities throughout Europe and ensure their optimal use.
- The seven themes are:
 - *Research infrastructures*
 - *Research for the benefit of SMEs*
 - *Regions of knowledge and support for regional research-driven clusters*
 - *Research potential of Convergence Regions*
 - ***Science in society***
 - *Support to the coherent development of research policies*
 - *International cooperation*



Previous related programmes under FP6

- FP6 (2002-2006)
 - “Science and Society”
 - Lists of funded projects under “Science and Society” accessible from ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/science-society/docs/overview_society_contracts.pdf
 - SA involvement in project with a focus on ethics: *Genomics and Benefit Sharing with Developing Countries*
 - Up to 2006: Low level of participation from South Africa; no National Contact Point (NCP)

SiS Research: Purpose and Priorities

- EU Objective:
 - *“With a view to building an effective and democratic European knowledge-based society, the aim is to stimulate the harmonious integration of scientific and technological endeavour and associated research policies into European society.”*
(<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/sis/>)
- Initiatives undertaken in this field will provide support to:
 - *A more dynamic governance of the relationship between science and society (ethics in science and technology; science & culture)*
 - *Strengthening potential, broadening horizons (women in science, science education, science careers)*
 - *Science and society communication (science events, science prizes, transnational cooperation)*

SiS Activities to be Funded

- A more dynamic governance of the relationship between science and society
 - *Research on ethics in science and technology*
 - *The reciprocal influence of science and culture*
 - *Conditions for an informed debate on ethics and science*
- Strengthening potential, broadening horizons
 - *Strengthening the role of women in scientific research*
 - *Supporting formal and informal science education in schools as well as through science centres and museums and other relevant means*
 - *Reinforcing links between science education and science careers*
- Science and society communication
 - *Encouraging a European dimension at science events targeting the public*
 - *Science prizes*

SiS Indicative Budget and Funding Schemes

- Total amount available
 - A total of € 330 million for SiS over duration of FP7 (2007-2013)
- Funding schemes
 - Collaborative research projects:
 - Small or medium-scale focused (EU contribution cap: € 1.0 M per project)
 - Coordination and Support Actions (CSA):
 - Also possible: Public Procurement; Expert Groups; Research for the Benefit of Specific Groups - Civil Society Organisations
 - Some topics earmarked for “named beneficiaries”
- Minimum conditions per funding scheme: Outlined in Work Programme

Support network for SiS

EUROSIS



Hints to bear in mind . . .



Points to bear in mind (I)

This is a fund created by the EU, to address EU priorities. Many EU priorities are also global priorities.

South African participation and perspectives are welcome – as long as we can show how we will **add value** to the issues under consideration.

For some topics, international collaboration is particularly encouraged. This means that proposals without participation of international partners will not be successful.

For other topics, international collaboration will nevertheless be possible and often welcomed.

For more detailed descriptions of the issues to be addressed under each topic, please refer to the Work Plan



Points to bear in mind (II)

Keys to success:



Responding to the topics and work plans is like working with an exam paper: Read carefully what the EU wants, and prepare your response accordingly!

Get the right partners in the EU. A strong, experienced lead organisation in the EU will make it easy and enjoyable to be a South African counterpart



ESASTAP
european - south african science and technology
advancement programme

Also see: “Ten tips for a successful proposal”, at
http://www.euresearch.ch/index.php?id=676&no_cache=1

Useful links



Web-based resources for more information

General information on EU FP7:

- Leaflet, fact sheets and posters available at http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm?pg=understanding
- “Frequently asked questions” answered at http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/faq_en.html
- Also see www.esastap.org.za



For more information on SSH and SiS

National Contact Point (NCP) and Assistant National Contact Point (ANCP) for SSH / SiS in SA:

Christa van Zyl, HSRC

Carla Pheiffer, HSRC / Khanya Ledwaba, HSRC

ssh.ncp@esastap.org.za

sis.ncp@esastap.org.za

Link to the ESASTAP website:

<http://www.esastap.org.za/esastap/ncp/soceco.php>

<http://www.esastap.org.za/esastap/ncp/sis.php>

Link to the CORDIS (EU) website:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cooperation/socio-economic_en.html

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/capacities/science-society_en.html



Thank you!

More information
www.esastap.org.za



www.esastap.org.za