

WORK PROGRAMME 2011

CAPACITIES

PART 3

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE

(European Commission C(2010)4903 of 19 July 2010)

Capacities Work Programme: Regions of Knowledge

The work programme presented here provides one call for proposals on '*Transnational cooperation between regional research-driven clusters*'. In addition to this, one other action is dedicated for the organisation of a conference under the EU Hungarian Presidency.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I	CONTEXT	4
II	CONTENT OF CALL IN 2011 Area 3.1. Transnational cooperation between regional research-driven clusters – FP7-REGIONS-2011-1	8
III	IMPLEMENTATION OF CALL	13
IV	OTHER ACTION(S) Support to an event organised by the EU Hungarian Presidency: Week of Innovative Regions in Europe (WIRE 2011) - (FP7-WIRE-2011-1)	16
V	INDICATIVE BUDGET	18
VI	INDICATIVE PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE CALL - 2012	18

3. REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE

Objectives

Strengthening the research potential of European regions, in particular by encouraging and supporting the development, across Europe, of regional “research-driven clusters” associating regional authorities, universities, research centres, enterprises and other stakeholders.

I. CONTEXT

The “Regions of Knowledge” action in FP7 responds to a need at European level to increase the overall capacity of regional players in enhancing innovation based on science and technology based development in full compliance with the priorities of the EUROPE 2020 strategy¹. Its purpose is to enable regions to strengthen their capacity for investing in and conducting research and technological development activities in a way which can contribute significantly to economic development. This shall maximise the potential for a successful involvement of regional actors in the European Research Area (ERA).

To this end, "Regions of Knowledge" will support the cooperation, development and integration of **regional research-driven clusters**² on a transnational basis. For the implementation of this

¹ The Flagship initiative: "Innovation Union" highlights in particular that "At EU level, the Commission will work... to promote knowledge partnerships and strengthen links between education, business, research and innovation".

² Research-driven clusters must be composed of at least three types of legal entities (so called 'triple helix'), namely:

- legal entities conducting research (universities, research organisations and research for-profit bodies); national entities conducting research can be accepted if their organisational structure is broken down at regional level and if the regional structure involved is located in the same region as the other components of the cluster;
- business entities (large enterprises and SMEs as defined in the EC recommendation 2003/361/CE of 6 May 2003, OJ L 124/36, 20/05/2003) or their local groupings;
- regional/local authorities (local and regional government, regional development agencies); national entities can be accepted to represent regional authorities either in small Member States made up of only one NUTS II region (plus Slovenia which has two NUTS II regions) or if their organisational structure is broken down at regional level and their regional representation is located in (or is effectively in charge of) the same region than the other components of the cluster; specialised regional entities, like for example regional transport agencies, can be accepted if they are in charge of the design and/or the implementation of the relevant regional policy.

Where appropriate research-driven clusters may involve as well, in addition to the three previous categories, other regional/local entities such as technology transfer offices, chambers of crafts, commerce and industry, financial entities (such as banks and saving banks) as well as also management consultants (specialised consultants active in the technological or economic sector concerned can be accepted as representing the business side of the 'triple helix'). A science park is considered as an additional actor as well, unless it is established in the proposal that it represents a regional research-driven cluster according to the terms of the "approach for 2011" section on p 6

work programme, regions shall not necessarily be defined along administrative boundaries or according to the European statistical NUTS nomenclature.

Following the recommendations of the adopted guidelines³ of the Scientific and Technical Research Committee of the EU (CREST) and the Communication from the Commission on the "Competitive European Regions through research and innovation: a contribution to more growth and more and better jobs"⁴, the "Regions of Knowledge" action will also seek to promote synergies between regional and research policies, primarily by supporting the development of regional research strategies which regional authorities can integrate into their economic development strategy as a basis for increased and more focused use of the Structural Funds as well as IPA (Instruments for Pre-accession Assistance) funds for R&D investment and activities. Activities will be implemented in close cooperation with the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP), especially as regards the Entrepreneurship programme and its PRO INNO Europe® and Europe INNOVA cluster initiatives⁵. Synergies will also be explored with the European Institute of Technology (EIT)⁶.

The "Regions of Knowledge" action therefore aims at:

- Fostering trans-national, including cross-border, co-operation between research driven clusters in areas or topics of common interest, either related to challenges from the globalisation of markets, technological change or the evolution of the research framework in the European context, as well as mutual learning between regional actors (legal entities conducting research, business entities, regional/local authorities)⁷ ;
- Improving links between regional authorities, legal entities conducting research and the local business community not only as partners in the development of specific goals or regional RTD policies, but also as joint partners in national or European initiatives;
- Developing joint action plans at the European level to increase regional economic competitiveness through research, technological development activities and innovation in traditional or emerging business sectors and by mobilising financial possibilities and other forms of support offered by national/regional authorities, the private sector and by EU

³ "Coordinating the Framework Programme and the Structural Funds to support Research and Development" – CREST 1203/07 – 01.06.2007.

⁴ COM(2007) 474 final and SEC(2007)1045 – 16.08.2007.

⁵ An overview of the cluster initiatives under Europe INNOVA and PRO INNO Europe® is available at <http://www.europe-innova.eu/web/guest/cluster-cooperation/overview> . While the activities under Europe INNOVA bring together innovation support practitioners and cluster managers, those under PRO INNO Europe® bring together innovation and cluster policy-makers.

⁶ See: <http://eit.europa.eu>

⁷ Cross border cooperation for the implementation of this work programme is not limited to the eligible cross border regions (NUTS level III) of the Territorial Cooperation Objective of the Cohesion Policy and refers to adjacent regions generally. A regional research-driven cluster established across the border of two different countries will be considered as one cluster for the implementation of this work programme.

programmes (Research Framework Programme, CIP and the Structural Funds), in order to exploit the synergies between regional, national and EU programmes for research and economic development;

- Supporting the internationalization of the regional research-driven clusters;
- Mentoring regions with a less developed research profile to support their capacity in setting up and developing regional research-driven clusters.

Special attention will be given to innovative approaches fostering worldwide competitiveness and sustainable development of the economic activity. However, it must be underlined that clusters must really be based on research and innovation.

Approach for 2011

The clusters in the consortium submitting a proposal shall be mature research-driven clusters. The selected projects shall be coordinated only either by regional research-driven clusters established as a legal entity or by the regional/local authorities (or any regional entity they have mandated to implement their economic development and/or research and innovation policy⁸). The cluster as a whole may be represented through one legal entity; the proposal shall demonstrate that it conforms to the definition of a regional research-driven cluster.

If such a legal entity does not exist, two possibilities are proposed:

- a) a legal arrangement⁹ between the members exists for one member of the cluster to be allowed to legally represent all the others and the envisaged representative must have a clear mandate to represent and act on behalf of all other members of the 'research driven cluster'. Or,
- b) in cases where no legal entity can represent the cluster as a whole nor a representative can act on behalf of the other members, at least one legal entity conducting research, one business entity and one regional/local authority being part of the cluster shall be direct partners of the project consortium.

In any case each member of the cluster directly involved in the project's activities should be clearly identified in the proposal.

Clusters involved shall demonstrate in their proposal their maturity and current state of play in terms, for example, of membership (business and research entities), workforce (including researchers), number of students, turnover or GDP generated, foreign direct investment, R&D expenditure, collaborative projects, exploitation of R&D results, spin-offs, start-ups and patents

⁸ Or specialised regional agencies in charge of the design and/or implementation of the regional policy relevant for the project (see footnote n° 1).

⁹ It can be an existing legal arrangement or a legal arrangement specifically elaborated before the submission of the proposal (or before the entry into force of the grant agreement) but its scope can not be limited to the participation and the duration of the project and must cover other activities implemented by the cluster.

generated, intellectual property management, as well as services offered to their members and their financing. Partner entities conducting research have to be already and demonstrably involved in RTD activities supported by national, regional or European programmes that are closely linked to the economically relevant technological or scientific areas.

The clusters involved shall also indicate in their proposal the potential for growth and competitiveness foreseen in the targeted sector through the proposed cooperation. Furthermore the proposed project shall address the topic set out in this work programme

“Regions of Knowledge” will support consortia of partners representing at least three regional research-driven clusters from at least three different EU Member States and/or Associated Countries.

The consultation process

The Expert Advisory Group "Regional aspects in the FP7" representing public authorities and research entities has also contributed to the preparation of this action.

Activities

The 2011 Work Programme will develop "**Transnational cooperation between regional research-driven clusters**" by covering the following activities:

- Analysis, development and implementation of research agendas
- Mentoring of regions with a less developed research profile by highly developed ones
- Initiatives to improve integration of research actors and institutions in regional economies

II. CONTENT OF CALL

The activities listed on page 7 of this Work Programme will be implemented through the following area:

Area: 3.1. Transnational cooperation between regional research-driven clusters

The "Regions of Knowledge" action supports the development, cooperation and integration of innovative and mature research-driven clusters in order to make happen more and better RTD investments at regional level and support European competitiveness worldwide. Proposals must demonstrate a clear exploitation potential in their regions and should help actors in the regions to make the best use of EU instruments such as the Framework Programmes, the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme or the Structural Funds.

Indicative available budget: EUR 18.66 million.

Topic: REGIONS-2011-1

Technical content/scope

In the 2011 call, proposals shall support sustainable economic development, including through supporting green transport systems as defined by the Lead Market Initiative¹⁰, by **boosting the competitiveness of transport-related economy**.

The overall objective is to support the innovative capacity of European transport-related industries and businesses. It should promote sustainable transport in an integrated, technology-led and user friendly way¹¹ which can contribute to regional and local development.

Projects should favour innovative and cross-disciplinary approaches, smart specialization and implementation, focusing for example on greening of transport, development of intermodal regional transport, urban mobility or safety and security.

Type of activities/work

The activities listed on page 7 of this Work Programme and linked to the area of **Transnational cooperation** will be implemented through "Coordination and Support Actions" (**Coordinating Action (CSA-CA)**), which will support projects covering **all** of the following steps:

- **Analysis and integration of research agendas of actors in regional clusters**

Project partners will perform a detailed analysis of the state of play of the identified research-driven clusters and of additional regional capabilities around which research

¹⁰ See Commission communication, COM (2007) 860, 21/12/2007

¹¹ See Commission communication, COM (2009) 279

could be carried out. For the selected topic, the analysis shall involve the identification of relevant issues and components, including:

- The existing regional RTD policies, plans and activities, their evolution and their impact;
- Regional public and private RTD actors, including financial ones (e.g. banks, business angels), and infrastructure and facilities;
- The strengths and weaknesses of the regions concerned in terms of their capacity to produce, transfer and use knowledge;
- The existing regional cluster policy and initiatives;
- Economic development strengths, opportunities and needs, and economic development policies;
- European and international context, with a reference to possible links to existing European Technology Platforms, Joint Technology Initiatives or other European projects.

This analysis shall cover the possibilities of synergies and opportunities for mutual learning and exchange of best practices as well as possibilities of mentoring (mandatory) for capacity building, with identification of the targeted emerging European clusters, if not already identified in the proposal¹², and of cooperation possibilities between the regional actors involved in regional research-driven clusters. It can also cover the preparation of an international cooperation strategy, with the identification of potential targeted clusters from third countries¹³ and of cooperation possibilities in RTD and innovation support services with these clusters.

It shall be made with the involvement of local stakeholders concerned as part of the consensus building and dissemination processes around the project.

The output shall be a directory of RTD offer and demand, a global analysis including an analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) from an economic and R&D perspective and an analysis of the complementarities of the partners involved in the consortium for the particular scientific and technological domain or economic sector targeted by the project. It shall also include an analysis of the complementarities of the emerging European clusters targeted for mentoring activities and, where appropriate, of the third country clusters targeted for international cooperation.

- **Initiatives to improve integration: definition of a Joint Action Plan**

Project partners shall define a Joint Action Plan (JAP) that describes their strategy to drive economic development through research and technological development and innovation activities in a selected topic or economic sector and enhance the whole value-

¹² In this case, the proposal should at least include a clear commitment to mentoring as well as the methodology and schedule to be followed to identify them.

¹³ Any country other than Member States or Associated Countries.

added chain of innovation. This JAP may comprise regionally specific activities. It will include the design of measures **such as**:

- Increasing researcher mobility, including mobility between research and industry;
- Improving and sharing RTD infrastructure and other facilities;
- Identifying relevant (collaborative) research and technological development related projects;
- Enhancing skills and knowledge transfer (including technology transfer and intellectual property management) between business entities and between research entities and business entities, in particular SMEs, through networking;
- Improving availability of, and access to, SME and innovation support services, including the facilities provided under Europe INNOVA;
- Facilitating access to private and/or public funding for RTD and innovation, including through the implementation of pre-commercial procurement;
- Other relevant business support measures;
- International cooperation activities, such as visits, conferences, workshops, exchange of clusters' staff, in order to finalize the definition of the international strategy, and test it, if need be.

However, the Joint Action Plan **must** include the following measures:

- Mentoring activities for capacity building in regions with a less-developed research-profile so that they analyse the feasibility and define their own action plan for the setting up of new regional research-driven clusters;
- Dissemination activities through conferences, workshops, publications, web-based initiatives and any other relevant events or activities, including public awareness raising measures, especially among economic actors in their regions.

This Joint Action Plan shall identify the partners involved, objectives, activities (what to do), responsibilities (who does what) and schedule for trans-national (European) and, if relevant, international cooperation with third countries.

This action plan shall include clear targets in terms of outputs for the measures it lists.

The Joint Action Plan shall also clearly define how the different measures foreseen will be funded by using possibilities available at national and at regional / local level, including from the private sector, or at EU level (Framework Programmes, Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, Structural Funds). The Business Plan (BP) describing in details the sources of funding of the Joint Action Plan will be submitted together with the JAP. Without the provision of a convincing BP, the Commission will terminate the grant agreement.

The Joint Action Plan should make clear the complementarities between the proposed actions and the EU regional policy programmes of the regions concerned.

- **Measures towards the implementation of the Joint Action Plan**

The specific measures identified for implementation in the Joint Action Plan (e.g., R&D, mobility, infrastructure, skills enhancement, access to finance, etc) will **not** be funded by the “Regions of Knowledge” activity *per se*.

However, the support activities relating to mentoring, international cooperation and dissemination will be funded under Regions of Knowledge. Other activities to support the implementation of the Joint Action Plan (e.g. through the outplacement of executives of the clusters' boards or management structure, other staff exchange or trust-building activities for members of the clusters, research intelligence, joint trainings, joint recruitment campaigns for research staff, identification and definition of research related projects...) can also be funded¹⁴.

Proposals should show a balance between the budget devoted to the analysis and definition of the Joint Action Plan and the one earmarked for the second stage of the project for international cooperation, mentoring activities, dissemination and accompanying measures.

To further support the implementation of the Joint Action Plans in the future, "Regions of Knowledge" beneficiaries will be expected to take part in the European Cluster Alliance¹⁵ and the European Club of Clusters Managers established under the European Cluster Excellence Initiative under PRO INNO Europe®¹⁶, to liaise with relevant cluster partnerships under the European Innovation Platform for Clusters established under Europe INNOVA¹⁷ as well as to provide project descriptions and relevant data to be collected in the framework of the European Cluster Observatory.¹⁸

¹⁴ Open business partnering events will not be funded under this call, but partners can take advantage of the opportunities offered in that respect under Europe INNOVA (<http://www.europe-innova.org>).

¹⁵ The European Cluster Alliance is an open platform that was established to maintain a permanent policy dialogue at EU level among national and regional public authorities responsible for developing cluster policies and managing cluster programmes in their countries (for more details, see: <http://www.proinno-europe.eu/eca>).

¹⁶ The European Cluster Excellence Initiative aims to develop quality indicators, peer-assessment procedures, training materials and an approach for quality labelling of cluster management, in order to help cluster managers achieve high levels of excellence in their duties and to increase the professionalization of cluster organizations. Further information is available at <http://www.cluster-excellence.eu/>

¹⁷ The European Innovation Platform for Clusters (Cluster-IP) brings together transnational cluster partnerships of cluster organisations willing to cooperate in working on the modernisation of cluster support services in the EU with the aim to accelerate the take-up of innovation and growth of cluster firms in Europe, especially of SMEs. The initiative focuses on the development and testing of new or better innovation support targeted at cluster firms. Two cluster partnerships in eco-innovative industries (EcoCluP) and biotechnology (ABCEurope) have been set up under the Cluster-IP. Further information is available at <http://www.europe-innova.org/cluster-ip>

¹⁸ See <http://www.clusterobservatory.eu/>

Duration:

Projects are expected to be completed within 36 months. The definition of the Joint Action Plan is expected to be finalized during the first half of the project's duration.

Funding scheme:

The applied funding scheme is "Coordination and Support Actions" (**Coordinating Action (CSA-CA)**).

The EU contribution to be envisaged for projects will be approximately from EUR 1 to 3 millions.

The EU financial contribution may reach a maximum of 100 % of the total eligible costs.

Expected impact:

- Developing and integrating research-driven clusters across Europe in order to promote regional economic development and worldwide competitiveness (increased cost-efficiency, increase in jobs, in foreign direct investment, in patents, additional GDP or growth in Value added) in a particular scientific and technological topic, thereby facilitating in particular the emergence of lead markets;
- Delivering more effective investments in R&D at regional level through the definition and implementation of regional strategies based on business needs or the reinforcement of private and public partnerships, which would mobilize European, national and regional funds and promote synergies notably with the Structural Funds, and the CIP.
- Including more regions into the "Regions of Knowledge" action, into the knowledge economy and the ERA, especially through the mentoring of regions with a less developed research profile. Where appropriate, delivery of "guidance" solutions for those regions.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF CALL

Call title: Transnational cooperation between regional research-driven clusters

- **Call identifier: FP7-REGIONS-2011-1**
- Date of publication: 20 July 2010¹⁹
- Deadline: 9 December 2010 at 17.00.00, Brussels local time²⁰
- Indicative budget: EUR 18.66 million from 2011 budget²¹
- Topics called:

Activity/ Area	Topics called	Funding Schemes
<i>Regions-2011-1. Transnational cooperation <u>between regional research-driven clusters</u></i>	In the 2011 call, proposals should support economic sustainable development by boosting the competitiveness of transport-related economy.	CSA-CA (Coordinating Action)

- Eligibility conditions²²:
 - The general eligibility criteria for the different funding schemes are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme and in the guide for applicants. Please note that the completeness criterion also includes that part B of the proposal shall be readable, accessible and printable
 - The minimum number of participants: Consortia of partners representing a minimum of three regional research-driven clusters from at least three different EU Member States and/or Associated Countries. Research-driven clusters must be composed of at least three types of legal entities (so called 'triple helix'), namely:
 - legal entities conducting research (universities, research organisations and research for-profit bodies); national entities conducting research can be accepted if their organisational structure is broken down at regional level and if the regional structure involved is located in the same region as the other components of the cluster;

¹⁹ The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of publication.

²⁰ The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

²¹ Under the condition that the draft budget for 2011 is adopted without modifications by the budgetary authority. The budget for this call is indicative. The final total budget awarded to this call, may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the call.

²² A pre-proposal eligibility check will be offered for the Regions of Knowledge call by Commission services in relation to the eligibility criteria of the call. It shall be operational from the publication of the call until 9 November 2010 at 17:00. Requests for pre-proposal checks shall be sent to the following address : RTD-PRECHECK-REGIONS-2011@ec.europa.eu

- business entities (large enterprises and SMEs as defined in the EC recommendation 2003/361/CE of 6 May 2003, OJ L 124/36, 20/05/2003) or their local groupings;
- regional/local authorities (local and regional government, regional development agencies); national entities can be accepted to represent regional authorities either in small Member States made up of only one NUTS II region (plus Slovenia which has two NUTS II regions), or if their organisational structure is broken down at regional level and their regional representation is located in (or is effectively in charge of) the same region as the other components of the cluster; specialised regional entities, like for example regional transport agencies, can be accepted if they are in charge of the design and/or the implementation of the relevant regional policy.

Where appropriate research-driven clusters may involve, in addition to the three previous categories, other regional/local entities such as technology transfer offices, chambers of crafts, commerce and industry, financial entities (such as banks and saving banks), as well as management consultants (specialised consultants active in the technological or economic sector concerned can be accepted as representing the business side of the 'triple helix'). A science park is considered as an additional actor as well, unless it is established in the proposal that it represents a regional research-driven cluster.

The clusters in the consortium submitting a proposal shall be mature research-driven clusters. The selected projects shall be coordinated only either by regional research-driven clusters established as a legal entity or by the regional/local authorities (or any regional entity they have mandated to implement their economic development and/or research and innovation policy²³).

The cluster as a whole may be represented through one legal entity; the proposal shall demonstrate that it conforms to the definition of a regional research-driven cluster.

If such a legal entity does not exist, two possibilities are proposed:

a) a legal arrangement²⁴ between the members exists for one member of the cluster to be allowed to legally represent all the others and the envisaged representative must have a clear mandate to represent and act on behalf of all other members of the 'research driven cluster'.

Or,

b) in cases where no legal entity can represent the cluster as a whole nor a representative can act on behalf of the other members, at least one legal entity conducting research, one business entity and one regional/local authority being part of the cluster shall be direct partners of the project consortium.

In any case each member of the cluster directly involved in the project's activities should be clearly identified in the proposal.

²³ Or specialised regional agencies in charge of the design and/or implementation of the regional policy relevant for the project (see footnote n° 1).

²⁴ It can be an existing legal arrangement or a legal arrangement specifically elaborated before the submission of the proposal (or before the entry into force of the grant agreement) but its scope can not be limited to the participation and the duration of the project and must cover other activities implemented by the cluster.

Clusters involved shall demonstrate in their proposal their maturity and current state of play in terms, for example, of membership (business and research entities), workforce (including researchers), number of students, turnover or GDP generated, foreign direct investment, R&D expenditure, collaborative projects, spin-offs, start-ups and patents generated, as well as services offered to their members and their financing. Partner entities conducting research have to be already and demonstrably involved in RTD activities supported by national, regional or European programmes that are closely linked to the economically relevant technological or scientific areas.

The clusters involved shall also indicate in their proposal the potential for growth and competitiveness foreseen in the targeted sector through the proposed cooperation. Furthermore the proposed project shall address the topic set out in this work programme

“Regions of Knowledge” will support consortia of partners representing at least three regional research-driven clusters from at least three different EU Member States and/or Associated Countries.

- Restrictions on participation: *As described above under 'The minimum number of participants'.*

- Evaluation procedure:

- The evaluation criteria (including weights and thresholds) and sub-criteria together with the eligibility, selection and award criteria, for the different funding schemes are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme.
- The evaluation will follow a single stage procedure.
- Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
- Proposals may be evaluated remotely.

- Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable: *Evaluation results are estimated to be available within 4 months after the deadline; grant agreement signature: it is estimated that the first grant agreements related to a call will come into force 9 months after the closure date.*

- Consortia agreements: *Participants are encouraged, but not required, to conclude a consortium agreement.*

- The forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to the Capacities work programme.

- Use of flat rates for subsistence costs:

In accordance with Annex 3 of this work programme, this call provides for the possibility to use flat rates to cover subsistence costs incurred by beneficiaries during travel carried out within grants for indirect actions. For further information, see the relevant Guides for Applicants for this call. The applicable flat rates are available at the following website: ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/flat-rates-subsistence_en.pdf.

IV. OTHER ACTIONS

Support to an event organised by the EU Hungarian Presidency: Week of Innovative Regions in Europe (WIRE 2011)

Identifier: FP7-WIRE-2011-1 (*Week of Innovative Regions in Europe – WIRE*)

Technical content / scope

A three-day conference (WIRE 2011) will be organised during the EU Hungarian Presidency (Presidency Conference).

This conference will aim at giving an appropriate follow up to the conference organised in Granada during the Spanish Presidency (WIRE 2010: Week of the innovative regions of Europe).

It will highlight and discuss the first conclusions drawn by the Expert Group on synergies between FP, SF and CIP²⁵, and take into consideration the conclusions of the high-level European Cluster Policy Group²⁶, as well as the orientations provided in the future European Research and Innovation Plan.

As an illustrating example of efficient synergies, it will dedicate a day on the regional dimension of research infrastructures.

Participants: The beneficiary will be INNOVA Eszak-alföld Regional Development and Innovation Agency Nonprofit Ltd, 4028 Debrecen, Kürtös u. 4, Hungary.

Schedule: 7-9 June 2011 in Debrecen, Hungary

Funding scheme: Coordination and Support action (Supporting Action) ²⁷

Budget

The EU contribution to be envisaged will be up to EUR 400 000, with a rate of co-financing of up to 100%.

²⁵ Set up according to a Commission's communication of 16/08/2007

²⁶ More information and published policy recommendation by the expert group established by the Commission can be found at <http://www.proinno-europe.eu/ecpg>

²⁷ In compliance with Article 14a of the EU Rules for Participation and Article 168 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation

The EU financial contribution may reach a maximum of 100% of the total eligible costs.

Financing will be provided from the "Regions of Knowledge" work programme on the following basis: EUR 400 000.

Expected impact:

This conference will take stock of the results achieved since the conference organised in Granada during the EU Spanish Presidency (WIRE 2011) as regards in particular current partnership projects of cooperation currently being highlighted by the Commission as examples of synergies among policies.

A particular attention will be paid to discuss the outcomes of the Expert Group on synergies between FP, CIP and Structural Funds, its follow up and the impact of the "Regions of Knowledge" projects on the basis of the conclusions of the Impact assessment study, which will be available at the beginning of 2011.

It will dedicate a particular attention to the regional dimension of research infrastructures, their impact on regional development, the implementation of the ESFRI Roadmap.

This event will also contribute to the discussion over the future period (2014-2020) on the basis of the Recommendations from the Council on the improved interaction of the different systems oriented towards knowledge-based competitiveness, especially cluster policy and regional development policy for cluster initiatives.

It will take into account the new proposals for the ERA governance, the EUROPE 2020 Strategy, and the review and new provisions of the Financial Perspectives 2014-2020.

V. INDICATIVE BUDGET²⁸ FOR THE REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE ACTIVITY FOR THE 2011 WORK PROGRAMME

Activities	Indicative Budget 2011 (EUR million) ²⁹
Call FP7-REGIONS-2011-1 ³⁰	18.66
Other actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2011 Expert Evaluators (EUR 0.25 million) • Action FP7-WIRE-2011-1 - <i>Week of innovative regions in Europe</i> (EUR 0.40 million) 	0.65
Estimated total indicative budget	19.31

Budget figures in this work programme

All budgetary figures given in this work programme are indicative.

Following the evaluation of proposals the final budget awarded to actions implemented through calls for proposals may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the indicated budget for each call.

The final budgets for evaluation, monitoring and review may vary by up to 20% of the indicated budgets for these actions.

The final budget awarded for all other actions not implemented through calls for proposals may vary by up to 10% of the indicated budgets for these actions.

VI. INDICATIVE PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE CALL - 2012

In 2012 the projects are expected to address the following area: Sustainable energy

²⁸ Under the condition that the draft budget for 2011 is adopted without modifications by the budgetary authority.

²⁹ The Budget figures given in this table should be rounded to two decimals points.

³⁰ A reserve list may be produced of projects that pass the different thresholds of the evaluation but fall below the available indicative budget of a call, in case additional budget becomes available.