Research Programme of the Research Fund for Coal and Steel
Introduction

- Information package available on CORDIS: http://www.cordis.lu/coal-steel-rtd/home.html

- The contractual obligations of former ECSC projects continue
The Programme


- Funding allocation
  - Coal: 27.2%
  - Steel: 72.8%
Participation

- **Member States**
  - Any undertaking, research institute or natural person

- **Applicant states (new)**
  - yes, but without receiving any financial contribution (unless otherwise decided)

- **Third countries**
  - yes, but on the basis of individual projects, and without receiving a financial contribution
  - in the interest of the European Community
RTD projects

- Research projects *(funding up to 60 %)*
  - investigative or experimental work

- Pilot projects *(funding up to 40 %)*
  - characterized by the construction, operation and development of an installation or significant part of it

- Demonstration projects *(funding up to 40 %)*
  - characterized by the construction and/or operation of an industrial scale installation or significant part of it
Accompanying measures

**funding up to 100 %**

- Accompanying measures

  - supporting the dissemination of results and the promotion of the use of knowledge gained under the programme

  - training and mobility of researchers (new)
    - minimum duration: 3 months
    - maximum duration: 12 months
Mobility scheme

- Linked to an on-going RTD project funded by the programme
- Fellow’s applying institution not necessarily member of the project consortium
- Fellow’s nationality of one of the EU Member states
- Commission contribution:
  - monthly *mobility allowance* (1900 Euros)
  - single payment for *travel costs* (flat rate)
Management structure

- The **new** management groups
  - The Coal and Steel Committee
    - representatives of Member States
    - assisting Commission in the overall programme management
  - The Coal and Steel Advisory Groups
    - technical advisers
    - assisting Commission in the programme management (e.g. evaluation)
  - Technical Groups
    - technical experts
    - assisting Commission in the monitoring of RTD projects
Call for proposals

- Open and continuous call
  - launched with the publication of the multi-annual technical guidelines *(Official Journal L79/42)*
  - possibility to publish invitations for the submission of proposals on limited numbers of research topics
Definition of Coal

- Hard coal, hard coal briquettes, coke, semi-coke derived from hard coal, lignite, lignite briquettes, coke and semi-coke derived from lignite
- Hard coal includes high and medium-ranking “A” coals
- Lignite includes low-ranking “C” and “B” coals and to be used for electricity production, combined heat / electricity production, manufacture of briquettes and semi-coke
Coal RDT Priorities

- Improving the competitive position of the Community
- Health and safety in mines
- Increasing efficiency and improving the use of coal as a clean energy source
- Management of external dependence on energy supply
Definition of Steel

- Raw materials for iron and steel production (iron ore, sponge iron, ferrous scrap)
- Pig iron incl. hot metal and ferro-alloys
- Crude, semi-finished and hot finished products of iron, ordinary steel or special steel coated or un-coated (continuous casting, blooms, billets, bars, slabs, strips, sheets, long products)
Definition of steel (continued)

- End products - coated or un-coated (cold rolled strips, sheets, electrical steels)

- Products of the first stage processing of steel that can enhance the competitive position of above mentioned products (tubular products, drawn and polished products, cold rolled and cold formed products)

- Castings, forgings and powder metallurgy products do not fall under the definition
Steel RDT Priorities

- New and Improved Steelmaking and Finishing Techniques
- RTD and the Utilisation of Steel
- Conservation of Resources and Improvement of Working Conditions
Proposal preparation

- No change of participation rules compared to the former ECSC RTD programme
- No priority areas for the first evaluation
- Preference given to larger coherent research projects, rather than a multitude of small projects addressing same RTD objectives in a specific field
How to prepare an RTD proposal

- Contribution to programme objectives
  - consistency of proposal objectives with programme objectives

- Scientific / technological objectives
  - description of the state-of-the-art and technical limitations
  - contribution of the scientific objectives to the expected technical achievements
  - explanation and justification of the selected scientific approach
  - main innovations claimed
How to prepare an RTD proposal (continued)

- Industrial interest and scientific/technical prospect
  - project deliverables in terms of industrial interest, scientific/technical prospect, strategic relevance
  - transferability of results to other applications
  - validation of modelling work within the project
  - estimated gains / benefits from project results

- Information on resources and budget
  - how the partners complement each other’s activities
  - explanation and justification of proposed costs per partner
How to prepare an RTD proposal (continued)

- Community added value and contribution to EU Policies
  - to be carried out at European level
  - strategic relevance to the related sector
  - contribution to the preservation of natural sources, energy and environment
  - contribution to working conditions, safety in and around the working place
How to prepare an RTD proposal (continued)

- Workprogramme and distribution of tasks (Annex II B.0- B.1) *(new)*
  - use of work packages (WPs)
  - each WP with clearly defined objectives, partners involved, WP leader
  - description of each WP including expected results and indicating the number of man months needed
  - logical interaction between WPs, scheduling and partners role
Proposal submission

- One paper version duly signed (at least original signature of the co-ordinator, proof by other partners by fax-copy) (new) + 2 unbound versions

- Cut-off date for submission: 15th September of each year (post, courier or hand-delivered before 17h00 (Brussels local time)) (new)
  - if the 15th September is a non-working day, the deadline will be the following working day
Proposal submission (continued)

- Submission of an electronic version of the proposal is recommended (either posted or by e-mail)

- Mailing address:
  RFCS Proposals
  European Commission
  DG RTD MO 75 2/62
  B - 1049 Brussels
  E-mail (Steel): rtd-steel@cec.eu.int
  E-mail (Coal): rtd-coal@cec.eu.int
Evaluation of RTD proposals -
The Evaluation Criteria

- Scientific and technical approach
- Innovative content
- Industrial interest and scientific / technical prospects
- Community added value and contribution to EU Policies
- Consistency of resources and quality of partnership
Reporting

- Reporting scheme (same as under ECSC)
  - Six-monthly report (by 30 September)
  - Annual report (by 31 March)
  - Draft final report (three months after completion date)
  - Publishable report (intention is to publish these on CD-ROM)

- New reporting structure
Six-Monthly Report Structure

- Cover page
- Distribution list of relevant TG
- Table of contents
- Summary (half a page)
- Project overview (**new**)
- Assessment of scientific and technical progress
Annual Report Structure

- Cover page
- Distribution list
- Table of contents
- Summary (one page)
- Annual summary (new)
  - Part 1 - Management and co-ordination aspects
  - Part 2 - Scientific and technical progress
- Publications and patents
Draft Final Report Structure

- Cover page
- Distribution list of relevant TG
- Table of contents
- Short summary
- Synthesis report (20 to 25 pages) (new)
  - Assessment of exploitation and impact of the research results (new)
- Appendices: Scientific and technical description of research results (on task per task, or partner per partner basis)
Publishable report

- In general, if no changes have been requested, content and structure are the same as the draft final report.

- Intention is to publish the reports on CD-ROM (new).