



SIXTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME

The EURATOM 6th Framework Programme in brief

The brochure is focused on the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) Framework Programme. A similar brochure is available for the European Community (EC): “The 6th Framework Programme in brief”

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Preface

The purpose of this brochure is to give a brief overview of the basic features of the EURATOM 6th Framework Programme (FP6) for Nuclear Research and Training Activities. It should serve as a guide for navigating through the various activities, funding schemes, thematic areas, types of projects etc. allowing potential participants to better find their way through to the activity best suited to their ideas and plans.

To elaborate and submit a proposal, the information provided in this brochure alone will not be sufficient. For more detailed information on a specific subject, the brochure indicates links to the respective documents and websites.

For the preparation of a proposal, a dedicated information package for the particular Call for proposals and for the respective instrument is necessary. Details on how to access information and where to get assistance are given below.

For readers who are for the first time in contact with EU research activities, the brochure starts with a compressed two-page overview “Euratom FP6 at a glance” summarising the main features and the differences to other public research funding programmes.

The brochure is structured as follows:

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The EURATOM 6th Framework Programme (FP6) at a glance

Fact Sheet for Potential Participants

What is Euratom FP6?

Euratom FP6 is the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) Sixth Framework Programme for Research and Training activities. It is a collection of actions at EU level to fund and promote nuclear energy research.

Basic features distinguishing Euratom FP6 from other national or international research funding programmes

The European and international dimension

Following the principle of subsidiarity, projects have to be transnational. In other words: only consortia of partners from different member countries and associated states can apply; for mobility and training actions the fellows have to go to a country different from their country of origin or residence. Activities that can better be carried out at national or regional level, i.e. without co-operation across borders will not be eligible under the Framework Programme. Euratom FP6 provides also dedicated possibilities and funding for organisations from third countries. (See section 5).

The scientific and technological objectives

In order to fulfil the objectives concerning nuclear research and training activities as set out in the Euratom treaty and in order to contribute to the establishment of the European Research Area, Euratom FP6 has been structured into three thematic priorities (fusion energy research, management of radioactive waste and radiation protection) and other activities in the field of nuclear technologies and safety. (See section 0).

Focus and concentration – the thematic priorities

Based on the above objectives, a number of priorities have been identified. Detailed descriptions of these areas and specific subjects will be given in the calls for proposals. Potential participants have to check carefully if their ideas for projects fit within the scope of these priorities and subjects. Proposals falling outside the specified priorities and subjects cannot be funded. (See section 1).

Sharing of costs

In general, the EC contributes only a certain percentage of the total costs of a project. Participants have to mobilise their own resources accordingly. The percentage of the EC's financial contribution depends on the type of activity. (See section 7).

The submission and selection process

A. Fusion Energy Research: The particular nature of activities in this area necessitates implementation arrangements other than Calls for proposals except for training fellowships. More details of the implementation procedures for this area are given in the Work programme. This submission and selection procedure is not applicable to fusion energy research apart from training fellowships (see Section 2.7.1).

B. Management of Radioactive Waste, Radiation Protection and Other Activities in the Field of Nuclear Technologies and Safety: Submission of proposals is only possible in response to Calls for proposals, which are published in the Official Journal of the European Communities and on the Internet, in particular on CORDIS (the Community Research and Development Information Service). Special information packages are issued for each Call comprising documents, explanations (Guide for proposers) and forms, which are needed for the preparation of a proposal. An Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS) is offered and proposers are strongly encouraged to use electronic submission. Calls have strict deadlines, which are enforced to the minute. Proposals are evaluated and selected for funding by the European Commission with the help of independent external experts (peer review). Evaluation criteria and a detailed description of the process of evaluation, including an ethical review, are published in the Work Programme and Evaluation Manual. For successful proposals, the European Commission enters into (financial and scientific-technical) contract negotiations. Successful negotiation will lead to a contract between the European Commission and participants. Euratom FP6 on CORDIS: <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/euratom/>.

Project management

For the management of their projects, consortia will have great autonomy. One of the project participants has to act as co-ordinator. The European Commission will transfer the EC financial contribution to the co-ordinator for further distribution to the other participants. The co-ordinator will also be responsible for delivering reports. To define details of relations between participants the conclusion of a consortium agreement is highly recommended. In some cases, it is even mandatory. The European Commission will provide a checklist for consortium agreements. (See Section 7).

Euratom FP6 – Who should consider participation ?	
A research group at a university or at a research institute	Research institutions are one of the main target groups of FP6. They find possibilities in virtually all actions of FP6, from participation in research projects to becoming hosts for mobility and training actions.
A company intending to innovate	No matter whether small or large, companies are one of the main target groups of FP6. They can take part in all research activities.
Public administrations	Public administrations can be valuable partners of consortia in areas where they play a role in the use of research results (e.g. in health, environment, safety etc.).
Undergraduate students and Individual junior researchers (post-graduate)	In general, activities funded under Euratom FP6 do not seek to target undergraduates or post graduates directly. Mobility actions for undergraduates are supported in the EU educational programmes (SOCRATES-ERASMUS and others). See http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/erasmus.html For post graduates (less than 4-years experience), see Marie Curie Early Stage Research Training Action in the EC programme. http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/mariecurie-actions/home_en.html
Individual experienced researchers	Special mobility actions are foreseen in Euratom FP6 for experienced researchers (having a PhD or several years research experience). The aim is to develop human resources and mobility, in particular offering advanced training to high calibre young scientists and assisting fellows to re-establish themselves in their country of nationality. (See Section 2.7).
Institutions running a research facility of trans-national interest	The infrastructure actions are of interest to institutions hosting an important or unique research facility. They offer support for trans-national access for guest researchers from Europe or other countries. (See Section 2.6).
Organisations and persons from third countries	International co-operation (=co-operation with third countries not being a member state or an associated state) is an integral part of Euratom FP6 (See Section 5): - Third countries may participate on a case-by-case basis in projects. - International organisations can also participate in FP6 projects.

0 Introduction

0.1 Why European Research?

The task of European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) is to contribute to the raising of the standards of living in the Member States. Research and Technological Development (RTD) is an essential element in the functioning of industrialised countries, such as the EU Member States and the countries having applied for EU membership. The competitiveness of companies and the employment they can provide depend to a great extent on RTD; and RTD is also essential for the support of other EU policies such as the protection of the environment. In short, the individual and collective well being of citizens depends on the quality and relevance of RTD.

Conducting a European research policy and implementing European nuclear research and training programmes is a legal and political obligation resulting from the Euratom Treaty. Europe must also play an active role in RTD because of a number of developments inherent to the RTD sector itself:

- high level research is increasingly complex and interdisciplinary;
- high level research is increasingly costly;
- high level research requires a constantly increasing "critical mass".

There are very few individual research teams or laboratories or companies that can reasonably claim to be able to respond to these challenges. Even entire countries find it increasingly difficult to be active and play a leading role in the many important areas of scientific and technological progress. Organising co-operation at different levels, co-ordinating national or European policies, networking teams and increasing the mobility of individuals and ideas is therefore a requirement resulting from the development of modern research in a global environment. Without determined action at European level the present fragmentation of Europe's efforts cannot be overcome. Taking up this challenge the European Commission, Member States and the European Parliament, the scientific community and industry are committed to work jointly towards the creation of a "European Research Area" (ERA). The sixth Framework programme for nuclear research and training activities will be the main financial and legal instrument of the European Commission to implement the ERA in this area, alongside national efforts and other European co-operative research activities. The framework programme will support collaboration in research and promote mobility and co-ordination.

0.2 Basic features of Euratom FP6

As the name indicates Euratom FP6 is the frame for the EURATOM research activities in the field of nuclear energy. The main objective of FP6 is to contribute to the creation of the European Research Area (ERA) in the field of nuclear energy by improving integration and co-ordination of nuclear research in Europe. The Joint Research Centre will contribute to the implementation of the Framework programme in an appropriate manner as provided for in the Euratom Treaty. Activities under FP6 have to be conducted in compliance with ethical principles, including those reflected in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Furthermore they should strive both to increase the role of women in research and to improve information for, and dialogue with, society. Training is also an important component of the Euratom programme.

Euratom FP6 is composed of the following main activities of nuclear research (see Table 1): A Euratom Specific programme for research and training on nuclear energy implemented through indirect actions and a Specific programme for research and training implemented by direct actions and carried out by the Joint Research Centre (JRC). JRC can also participate as a legal entity in the indirect actions of the former Specific programme.

MAIN NUCLEAR RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES				
PRIORITY THEMATIC AREAS			OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES AND SAFETY	NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES OF THE JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE (JRC)
Fusion energy research	Management of radioactive waste	Radiation protection	Innovative concepts Education and training Safety of existing nuclear installations	Nuclear Safety and security Measurements and reference materials
HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES: SPECIFIC SUPPORT ACTIONS AND ACTIONS TO PROMOTE AND DEVELOP HUMAN RESOURCES AND MOBILITY				
Specific support actions Training fellowships Special training courses Grants for co-operating with third countries Trans-national access to large infrastructures				

Table 1: Schematic overview of the structure of EURATOM FP6

For indirect actions, projects in the fields of management of radioactive waste, radiation protection and other activities in the field of nuclear technologies and safety will be selected in a competitive way based on **Calls for Proposals** (and exceptionally by calls for tenders) and peer review, i.e. evaluation with the help of external, independent experts. There are no Calls for proposals in the area of fusion energy research except for the training fellowships. Due to the particular nature of the activities in this area, specific implementation procedures are used, the details of which are given in the Euratom work programme.

To implement the various activities, different instruments, project types and funding schemes will be applied.

This document is primarily aimed at the indirect actions for research and training in the field of nuclear energy. The direct actions of JRC are also not a part of this document.

In addition to the activities shown in the above overview, there are a larger number of other specific programmes covering the activities of the research under the EC Treaty. These actions are not dealt with in this document but can be found elsewhere. (see, for example, the companion brochure: "The EC 6th Framework Programme in brief").

1 The specific programme

1.1 The bulk of research actions - the specific programme

The Euratom Specific programme for research and training on nuclear energy, implemented by indirect actions, aims at intensifying and deepening the well established co-operation at European level in the field of nuclear research and radiation protection.

The Euratom Specific programme on nuclear energy strives towards greater integration by promoting research in:

- key priority areas of exceptional interest and added value for Europe and
- international co-operation with partners from third countries

Thematic priorities and other activities

The objectives and actions of each thematic area of the nuclear energy programme are given in Table 2.

Specific Programme (Euratom) for Research and Training on Nuclear Energy				
	1. Fusion energy research	2. Management of radioactive waste	3. Radiation protection	4. Other activities in the field of nuclear technologies and safety
Objectives	To make progress towards demonstrating the scientific and technological feasibility of fusion energy and assessing its sustainable qualities	Research to contribute to a broadly agreed approach to waste management and disposal; exploration of the technical and economic potential of concepts able to make better use of fissile material and generate less waste	Underpin and contribute to maintaining and improving the high standards of radiation protection, in particular resolve uncertainties from exposures to low and protracted doses	Support EU policies in the fields of health, energy and the environment and ensure that European capability is maintained in relevant fields not covered by the thematic priorities
Actions	<p>Associations' programme in physics and technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – R&D in fusion physics and plasma engineering structured R&D activities in fusion technology – investigations of socio-economic aspects <p>Exploitation of the JET facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - prepare for ITER operation <p>Next step/ITER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continuation of activities with a view to participating in its construction in the second half of FP6 	<p>Research on geological disposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – improvement of fundamental knowledge, developing and testing technologies (key physical, chemical and biological processes, interaction with barriers, long-term stability etc.) – new and improved tools (models for performance and safety assessment, development of alternative measures of performance and better governance) <p>Partitioning and transmutation and other concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Partitioning and transmutation – Concepts to produce less waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Quantification of risks associated with low and protracted exposure (epidemiological studies, cellular and molecular biology) – Medical exposures and natural sources of radiation (enhancing safety and efficacy of medical uses, better assessment and management of natural sources) – Protection of the environment and radioecology (conceptual and methodological basis) – Risk and emergency management (better approaches for risk and emergency management) – Protection of the workplace (improved monitoring and management of occupational exposures) 	<p>Innovative concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improved and safer processes for the generation and exploitation of nuclear energy <p>Education and training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development of a more harmonised approach for education in nuclear sciences and engineering and radiation protection – Support for fellowships, training courses and grants for young researchers from NIS and CEEC <p>Safety of existing nuclear installations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Plant management (ageing, fuel performance), severe accident management, advanced numerical simulation, integration of capabilities and knowledge from practical decommissioning etc.

Table 2: Objectives and actions of research in the Euratom Specific program for research and training on nuclear energy.

Co-operation with the rest of the world

Activities involving third countries (= international co-operation) are carried out in three forms in the specific programme:

- participation of those countries that have concluded association agreements with the European Atomic Energy Community to this effect.
- participation of researchers and organisations from third countries on case-by-case basis in projects.
- international organisations can also participate in projects¹.

An overview of conditions applying to the different groups of countries is given in Section 5.

1.2 *Horizontal Activities: specific support actions and actions to promote and develop human resources and mobility.*

These activities are summarised in Table 3.

¹ An **international organisation** means any *legal entity* resulting from an association of States, other than the Community, established on the basis of a treaty or similar act, having common institutions and an international legal personality distinct from that of its Member States.

Horizontal Activities			
	Specific Support Actions	Trans-national access to large infrastructure	Training fellowships, special training courses and grants for co-operating with third countries
Objectives	The main objective of the Specific Support Actions is to contribute actively to the implementation of activities in the Work programme, dissemination of results and preparation of future activities.	The trans-national access to large infrastructure is aimed at promoting access for researchers to infrastructures that provide essential and unique services to the European research community.	<p>Training Fellowships: Advanced training for high calibre young scientists and assisting fellows to re-establish themselves in their country of nationality.</p> <p>Training Courses : To maintain a high level of expertise and competence within the Community on nuclear matters.</p> <p>Grants for Third countries: To provide support to young research workers from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the New Independent States (NIS) of the former Soviet Union to work in laboratories in the Community actively involved in the current or previous FP at the time of the exchange.</p>
Actions	Specific support actions: Promote and facilitate dissemination over and above regular project activities, pilot activity on ERA benchmarking, mapping, prospective studies etc.	Trans-national Access to large infrastructures: Access to researchers working in Member States and Associated States for infrastructures located away from the Home State of researchers. (Implementation will be similar to that for Research Infrastructures in EC Specific programme on Structuring the ERA)	<p>Training fellowships in fusion energy research and nuclear fission and radiation protection: Euratom Intra European Fellowships and European Reintegration Grants for Member States and States associated to Euratom FP6. (Modalities for implementation will be similar to the Marie Curie Actions in EC Specific programme on Structuring the ERA)</p> <p>Special training courses: facilitate rapid dissemination of national and Community research and maintain competence.</p> <p>Grants for co-operating with third countries: CEE and NIS researchers of the former Soviet Union to work in Community laboratories for up to six months.</p>
More info	Work programme	Work programme	Work programme

Table 3: Objectives and actions for specific support actions, trans-national access to large infrastructures and actions to promote and develop human resources and mobility.

2 Which type of project to choose - available instruments and schemes

The mechanisms by which different types of projects and actions are implemented in FP6 are known as **the instruments**. There are a number of different instruments for multi-partner research activities, mobility schemes, support for utilising and developing large-scale research infrastructures, etc. An overview of all the instruments available within the Euratom programme is given below.

Not all instruments apply across the whole programme. A summary of their applicability is given in Table 4. The Euratom Work programme and the Call for proposals as published in the Official Journal of the European Communities indicate the type of instrument to be used for each topic of research.

2.1 Network of Excellence (NoE)

NoEs are multi-partner projects aimed at strengthening excellence on a particular research topic by networking together the critical mass of resources and expertise needed to be a world force in a given domain. This expertise will be networked around a joint programme of activities aimed primarily at creating a progressive and lasting integration of research activities of network partners while at the same time advancing knowledge on the topic.

NoEs are more than just schemes for the co-ordination of research and information exchange and the research itself is not their main focus. Participating institutions have to invest seriously in **organisational change**. This requires the commitment at all levels of decision-making in an institution, including top management, supervising and financing bodies.

The **main result** should be a **durable restructuring and reshaping** of the way research is carried out in Europe in a given area. Of course, by investing money in a partnership of excellent teams, networks can also be expected to generate knowledge.

There must be a minimum of three partners from three different countries. However, as an indication, and as a general rule there should be a minimum of six participants. Minimum numbers are specified in the calls for proposals.

It is expected that larger networks may involve several hundred researchers. Others may be of a much more limited size, provided that they pursue ambitious goals and gather the critical mass needed to ensure their achievement. The Community contribution will be commensurate among others with the degree of integration and, typically, may be of the order of 5-10 million Euro. The financial regime for NoE has been built on the following principles:

- a **grant for integration**, as a **fixed amount** to support the joint programme of activities;
- to be calculated taking into account (a) the degree of integration proposed by the consortium, (b) the number of researchers that all participants intend to integrate, (c) the characteristics of the field of research concerned and (d) the joint programme of activities;
- to be disbursed in **annual instalments**, with payment depending primarily on the network's progress towards achieving a durable integration and on condition that the costs incurred in implementing the joint programme of activities are greater than the grant itself.

NoEs will be applied in the following thematic areas: management of radioactive waste, radiation protection and other activities in the field of nuclear technologies and safety.

Further information: http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instr_noe.htm

2.2 Integrated Project (IP)

IPs are multi-partner projects to support objective-driven research, where the **primary deliverable is knowledge for new products, processes or services**. IPs should bring together a critical mass of resources to reach ambitious goals aimed either at increasing Europe's competitiveness or at addressing major societal needs. They must contain a research component and may contain technological development and demonstration components, as appropriate, as well as a training component. A project can be at any position in the research spectrum. A single project may indeed span large parts of the spectrum, i.e. from basic to applied research.

The degree of integration within an IP can be realised and will be evaluated in several dimensions:

- Vertical integration of the full “value-chain” of stakeholders from those involved in knowledge production through to technology development and transfer.
- Horizontal integration of a range of multi-disciplinary activities.
- Activity integration: integrating various research activities from fundamental to applied research and with other types of activity, including take-up activities, protection and dissemination of knowledge, training, etc, as appropriate.
- Sectoral integration of actors from private and public sector research organisations, and in particular between academia and industry, including SMEs.
- Financial integration of public and private funding, with overall financing plans that may involve the European Investment Bank and co-operation with Eureka.

The effective management of knowledge and its dissemination and transfer will also be essential features of each integrated project together with the analysis and assessment of the technologies developed and of the factors relating to their exploitation, where relevant.

There must be a minimum of three participants from three different countries. However, in practice, there are likely to be substantially more participants. The size of the project will reflect what is to be done but, typically, total costs of the order of 10 to 20 million Euro are to be expected with a Community contribution of about of 5 to 10 million Euro. However, there will be no minimum threshold, provided that the necessary ambition and critical mass are there. Funding will take the form of a grant to the budget, as a percentage (up to 50%) of the total costs of the project.

IPs will be applied in the following thematic areas: management of radioactive waste, radiation protection and other activities in the field of nuclear technologies and safety.

Further information: http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instr_ip.htm

2.3 Specific Targeted Research or Training Projects (STREP)

STREPs are multi-partner research, demonstration or innovation projects. They are an evolved form of the shared-cost RTD projects and demonstration projects used in FP5. Their purpose is to support research and technological development or innovation activities of a more limited scope and ambition, particularly for smaller research actors and participants from candidate countries. Depending on the nature of the project, the Community contribution may range from hundreds of thousands of Euro to a few millions of Euro and is paid as a grant to the budget (percentage of total costs of the project up to 50%).

Further information: http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instr_strp.htm

2.4 Co-ordination Action (CA)

CAs are intended to promote and support the networking and co-ordination of research and innovation activities. They are an evolved form of the concerted actions/thematic networks used in FP5. They will cover the definition, organisation and management of joint or common initiatives as well as activities such as the organisation of conferences, meetings, the carrying out of studies, exchanges of personnel, the exchange and dissemination of good practice, setting up common information systems and expert groups. EC funding is given for the costs of co-ordination (not for the research) in the form of a grant to the budget of up to 100%.

Further information: http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instr_ca.htm

2.5 Specific Support Action (SSA)

Specific Support Actions are more limited in scope than the accompanying measures of the previous Framework Programmes. These projects aim to **contribute actively** to the implementation of activities of the Work programme, the analysis and dissemination of results or the preparation of future activities, with a view to enabling the Community to achieve or define its RTD strategic objectives. Therefore, a significant emphasis has been placed on Support Actions:

- to promote and facilitate the dissemination, transfer, exploitation, assessment and/or broad take-up of past and present programme results (over and above the standard diffusion and exploitation activities of individual projects);
- to contribute to strategic objectives, notably regarding the European research area (e.g., pilot initiatives on benchmarking, mapping, networking, etc);
- to prepare future community RTD activities, (e.g., via prospective studies, exploratory measures, pilot actions, etc).

as opposed to awareness and information exchange activities, e.g., annual workshops and conferences, that would take place anyway without Commission support. The latter activities will not be welcome if they do **not serve** the programme's strategic objectives, (in the sense of the European Research Area, improved co-ordination, public awareness, preparation of future Community initiatives, etc). SSAs can be proposed by a single participant or by a consortium of several participants. The activities of a specific support action will be supported through a grant to the budget of up to 100% of the budget or, if necessary as a lump sum.

Further information: http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instr_ssa.htm

2.6 Specific actions to promote research infrastructures

2.6.1 Integrating Activities

The objective of this scheme is to support the integrated provision of infrastructure related services to the research community at a European level. The final objective is to achieve a long-term integrating effect on the way research infrastructures operate, evolve and interact with each other and with their users, thus contributing to the development of the European Research Area. To this end, the main characteristics of this scheme will be its capacity to mobilise a large number of stakeholders in a given class of infrastructures by combining networking, trans-national access and joint research activities within a single contract. Participants will be operators of research infrastructures, universities and other public research organisations as well as industry. Integrating Activities will be implemented as Integrated Infrastructure Initiatives (I3s). An I3s will include at least three independent legal entities established in two different Member States or Associated States, of which at least one shall be a Member State or an Associated candidate country. At least one of these entities must operate a research infrastructure. In addition to entities from Member States or Associated States, organisations from third countries may also participate, with or without Community support, as specified in the "Rules for Participation" for Euratom FP6.

2.6.2 Trans-national Access

The objective of this scheme is to sponsor new opportunities for research teams and individual researchers to obtain access to major research infrastructures, which are unique or rare in Europe and provide world-class service essential for the conduct of top-quality research. Community support will cover up to 100% of the costs of providing access to an infrastructure for research teams working in Member States and Associated States other than that where the operator of the infrastructure is located. Access costs will be calculated either on the basis of the Unit Fee system, or of the actual additional costs connected with making the access available. Applications shall be made by the institutions operating the major research infrastructures. Opportunities for potential users in the infrastructures selected will be published on the Internet.

2.7 Actions on mobility and training

These actions provide a variety of possibilities for individual researchers in different stages of their career as well as for institutions acting as hosts for fellows. All applicants require trans-national mobility, i.e. a researcher cannot apply for a fellowship in his/her country of origin or residence (apart from re-integration fellowships).

These actions support individual researchers with a view to encouraging trans-national mobility and to complementing individual competencies. Applications to the European Commission are made jointly by the individual and the host organisation. The following actions are foreseen:

2.7.1 Training Fellowships:

The training fellowships apply to the areas of fusion energy research, management of radioactive waste, radiation protection and other activities in the field of nuclear technologies and safety.

(a) Intra-European Fellowships

These will allow experienced researchers (PhD or a minimum of 4 years of research experience) who are nationals of an EU Member State or an Associated State to spend one to two years doing research on a topic within the scope of the Euratom Work programme in a research establishment in a Member or Associated country different from the country of their residence or origin.

(b) European Reintegration Grant

These will be open to researchers who have just completed an Euratom funded fellowship. The grant will consist of a lump sum to assist reintegration in the fellow's country of origin and will be allocated on the basis of a defined project.

2.7.2 Special Training Courses:

Training courses are aimed at the rapid dissemination of the results of national and Community research as well as at maintaining competence.

2.7.3 Grants for co-operating with third countries

Support will be provided for periods of up to six months to young research workers from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the New Independent States (NIS) of the former Soviet Union to work in laboratories of the Community that are actively involved in this or previous Euratom Framework programmes at the time of exchange.

3 Schematic overview of instruments used

Euratom 6 th Framework programme of research and training on nuclear energy				
Instrument	Fusion Energy Research	Management of Radioactive Waste	Radiation Protection	Other Activities in the Fields of Nuclear Technologies and Safety
Network of Excellence		✓	✓	✓
Integrated Project		✓	✓	✓
Specific Targeted Research or Training Project		✓	✓	✓
Integrated Infrastructure Initiative		✓	✓	✓
Actions to Promote and Develop Human Resources and Mobility:				
• Training Fellowships	✓	✓	✓	✓
• Special Training Courses		✓	✓	✓
• Grants for Co-operating with Third Countries		✓	✓	✓
• Trans-national Access to Large Infrastructure		✓	✓	✓
Co-ordination Actions		✓	✓	✓
Specific Support Actions		✓	✓	✓

Table 4: Schematic overview of FP6 activities and instruments (only Euratom Framework Programme, for the EC Framework Programme, see a companion EC brochure)

4 FP6 Budget

	EUR million
Euratom 6th Framework Programme (Total, with break down):	1 230
• Fusion energy research	750
• Management of radioactive waste	90
• Radiation protection	50
• Other activities in the fields of nuclear technologies and safety	50
• Activities of the Joint Research Centre (Direct actions)	290
EC 6th Framework Programme (Total, without breakdown)	16 270
Grand Total (EC+EURATOM)	17 500

Table 5: Euratom 6th Framework Programme (indirect actions) budget breakdown. The budget of JRC (direct actions) and the EC 6th Framework Programme budget are also given. The budget breakdown of EC FP6 can be found in the companion brochure “6th Framework Programme in brief”.

5 Who can participate?

Eligible participants in Euratom FP6 are legal entities (for example research institutes, universities and industry including SMEs, but also natural persons) **from any country in the world** with a few exceptions². Different rules for participation and funding apply to different groups of countries. The following table gives an overview for the Euratom specific programme “research and training on nuclear energy”.

Participant’s country of establishment	Participation	Financing
European Union Member States ³ , Joint Research Centre (JRC)	No restriction	No restriction
Associated Candidate Countries ⁴	No restriction	No restriction
Other Associated Countries ⁵	No restriction	No restriction
International organisations of European interest	No restriction	No restriction
Third countries	No restriction over and above the minimum consortium composition, if participation is foreseen or if it is necessary for carrying out the project	If Community contribution is foreseen by the Work programme or if it is essential for carrying out the project
Other international organisations	No restriction over and above the minimum consortium composition	If Community contribution is foreseen in the Work programme or if it is essential for carrying out the project

Table 6: Eligible legal entities for participation in Euratom FP6 and the conditions of participation.

² Afghanistan, Cuba, India, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Myanmar, Pakistan and North Korea. This situation with respect to all excluded countries is subject to review, in line with the Community’s external policies. Please check on Cordis for any update.

³ Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

⁴ The association to Euratom FP6 has come into force for Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Romania, Slovak Republic, and Slovenia. At the time of writing Bulgaria is also engaged in ratifying its association to Euratom FP6.

⁵ Foreseeable (association to FP6 is not yet in force for Switzerland except for fusion energy research).

6 Flowchart: From proposal to contract

The process of proposal submission (in response to a Call from the European Commission) to the start of contract between a consortium of partners and the Commission is depicted in the flow chart given in Figure 1.

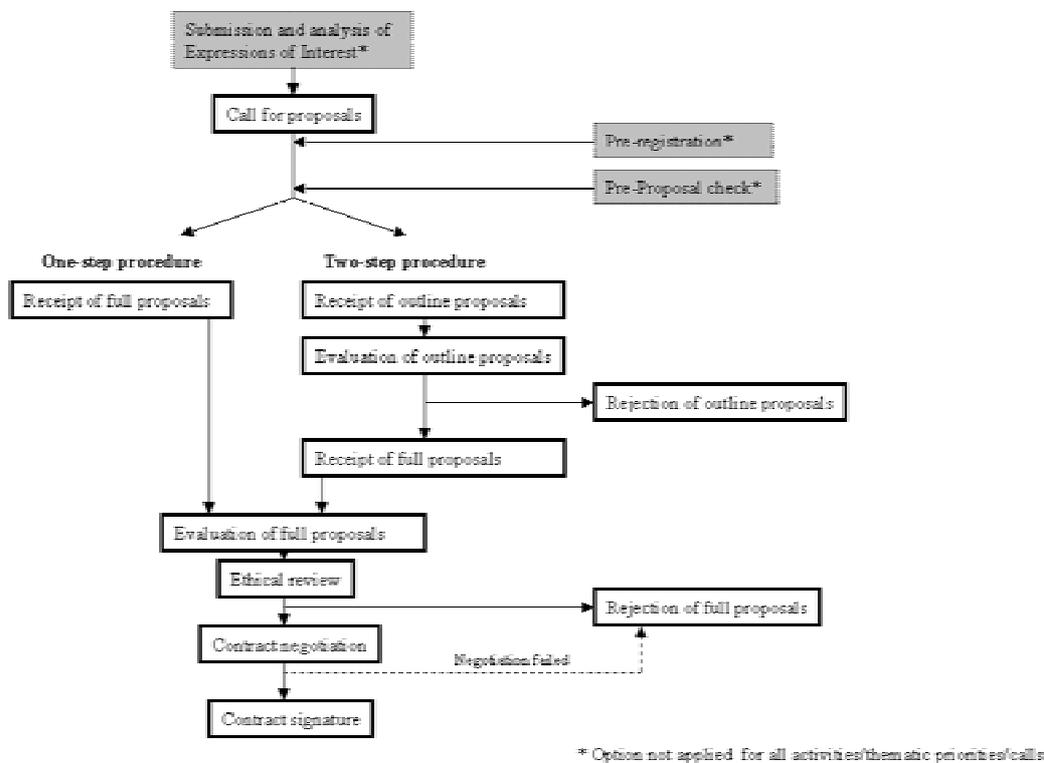


Figure 1: The submission and evaluation process in FP6

Additional remarks to complement the flow chart are as follows:

Expression of Interest: Before defining detailed thematic subjects for future calls, the European Commission may invite the research community to submit ideas in the form of short and informal Expressions of Interest. This will be done through publication in the Official Journal and on the CORDIS. Proposals should be sketches of possible future projects and consortia. They are not subject to evaluation and ranking. Accordingly they can not be rejected either. Having submitted an Expression of Interest is not a pre-requisite for later participation in calls for proposals.

One- and two-step procedure: Besides the usual one-step submission, where a full-fledged proposal has to be submitted as the basis for evaluation, in FP6 the European Commission may also have recourse to a two-step submission, where in a first step an outline or an incomplete proposal will be evaluated. Only proposers having successfully passed this first evaluation will be asked to submit a full and complete proposal. The evaluation procedure adopted (one- or two-step) will be indicated in the Calls for proposal.

Pre-registration: Proposers are encouraged to pre-register their proposals electronically via the electronic proposal submission system on CORDIS.

Pre-proposal check: This option is offered by the European Commission to potential participants for checking the relevance and eligibility of proposals - not the scientific quality. The purpose is to advise potential proposers on whether proposals seem to be within the scope of the call.

The co-ordinator sends a short description of the proposal he/she intends to submit, containing also details of the proposed project consortium, to allow an examination of the eligibility of the potential proposal.

In response the European Commission services will send by fax or electronic mail a standardised checklist to the proposal co-ordinator - normally within 5 working days.

For more details see: Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation Procedures

<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/>

7 Contractual relations

For proposals selected for funding, the European Commission will conclude a contract establishing rights and obligations of all participants. This concerns in particular provisions for the scientific, technological and financial monitoring, for the updating of objectives, changes in consortium membership, payment of the Community financial contribution and rules for dissemination and use of knowledge. The contract will be concluded between the European Commission and all participants. The European Commission has elaborated **model contracts** for the different instruments to facilitate the drawing up of individual contracts (see <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/modelcontract/>).

To fix the conditions and modalities of co-operation between partners, the conclusion of a **consortium agreement** will be obligatory for many projects, in particular, those implemented by the use of new instruments (see work programme). The European Commission will not be a party within this agreement and will not have to give its approval to it. It will however provide a checklist with points potentially to be covered by a consortium agreement. (see <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/consortiumchecklist/>)

8 Intellectual Property Rights

Concerning the access rights (see Table 7) to be applicable to all partners, the rules distinguish between two basic types of intellectual property:

Knowledge: all kind of intellectual property generated during the contract that did not exist before.

Pre-existing know-how: intellectual property owned by the partners before the start of the project (“background”) or created outside the project during its duration (“sideground”). Ownership resides with participants generating the knowledge. Transfer of ownership has to be announced to the other participants and to the European Commission. The European Commission may object to the proposed transfer.

	Access rights to pre-existing know-how	Access rights to knowledge
For carrying out the project	If a participant needs them for carrying out its own work under the project	
	Royalty-free unless otherwise agreed before signing the contract	Royalty-free
For use (exploitation and/or further research)	If a participant needs them for using its own knowledge	
	Non-discriminatory conditions to be agreed	Royalty-free unless otherwise agreed before signature of the contract
	Possibility for participants to agree on exclusion of specific pre-existing know-how before signature of the contract (or before entry of a new participant)	

Table 7: Intellectual Property Rights

9 Rules on ethics to be applied in FP6

Researchers participating in Community funded projects must respect fundamental ethical principles, as set out for instance in the “Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU”, as well as relevant international regulations/guidelines (by the Council of Europe, UN, UNESCO, WHO etc.). Researchers also have to follow European and international regulations/guidelines on animal welfare.

Research proposals, must conform to current legislation and regulations in the countries where the research will be carried out. They must describe the ethical implications of the research and, where required by national legislation or rules, participants must seek the approval of the relevant ethics committees prior to the start of the RTD activities that raise ethical issues.

The European Commission services will carry out an ethical review of those research projects containing ethically sensitive questions and, in some cases, an ethical monitoring may take place during the research project.

Some fields of research are excluded from funding:

- research activity aimed at human cloning for reproductive purposes;
- research activity intended to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes heritable;
- research activities intended to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer. In addition during the year 2003 the European Commission will not fund research involving the use of human embryos or embryonic stem cells except for banked or isolated human embryonic stem cells in culture.

10 Access to Information and Assistance

To help potential participants in FP6, several systems of information and assistance are available:

CORDIS: All the information necessary to participate in the Framework Programme, including an Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS) is available on the Internet at CORDIS, the **CO**mmunity **R**esearch and **D**evelopment **I**nformation System (<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/>). Specific information for the Euratom Framework Programme can be found at <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/euratom/>.

National Contact Points (NCPs): The first address for direct advice and individual assistance are National Contact Points (NCPs) established in all Member States and Associated States. NCPs will provide help on all aspects of FP6 in the national language. Contact details for all NCPs are available at <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/ncp.htm>

European Commission FP6 Infodesks: The European Commission infodesks for the thematic and horizontal priorities offer direct contact to European Commission services for questions that cannot be answered by the NCPs:

Theme/Action	Infodesk e-mail
Euratom	rtd-euratom@cec.eu.int

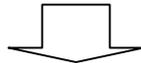
National liaison offices: Several countries have liaison offices in Brussels representing their research organisations. These are also offering advice and assistance. They are interconnected in an Informal Group of Liaison Offices (IGLO). A complete list of contact details is available on the website of the group: <http://www.iglortd.org/>.

Innovation Relay Centres: The Innovation Relay Centres (IRCs), present in many regions of the EU and candidate countries, can also be of assistance, especially on aspects related to innovation, technology transfer, SMEs. They are reachable via <http://irc.cordis.lu/whoswho/home.cfm>

11 Reference documents:

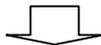
The legal basis of the Framework Programme is a hierarchical set of legal documents on nuclear research, derived from article 7 of the Euratom Treaty:

Euratom Treaty Articles 7-11
 OJ C 340, 10.11.1997, pp. 173-308, <http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/treaties/index.html>
<http://europa.eu.int/abc/obj/treaties/en/entoc38.htm>



The 6th Framework Programme
 Euratom programme: OJ L 232, 29.08.2002, pp 34-42, <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/decision>

Euratom Rules for Participation
 Euratom programme: OJ L ..., <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/participationrules>



Specific Programme (Euratom) for research and training on nuclear energy
 (Council decision n° 2002/837/Euratom), OJ L294/74 29.10.2002, <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/specificprogrammes>



Work Programme
 (Commission decision C(2002)4881, December 6 2002, annually revised)
<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/workprogrammes>



1 st Call for propos als	2 nd Call for propos als	...	1 st Call for propos als	2 nd Call for propos als	...	1 st Call for propos als	2 nd Call for propos als	...
Guidelines on proposal evaluation procedures (Evaluation Manual) (Commission decision, http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/eval-procedures/ , available in January 2003)								

To actually prepare and submit a proposal, an information package specific to the call and to the instrument under consideration should be consulted. Information packages are available on CORDIS: <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/euratom/>

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