

EUROINGENIO: An approach for stimulating participation in Framework Programs

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CDTI: The Spanish Innovation Agency

RTDI funding

- Evaluation and funding (around 1 B€/year)
- Reports regarding tax exemption

Support to the creation and consolidation of new technology based companies

- NEOTEC
- INNVIERTE (Venture capital)

RTDI internationalization

- Technological Cooperation: Eureka, Iberoeka, Eurostars, **European Framework Programme...**
- Support to technological transfer: External network

Aeronautics, Space and Industrial Returns Programmes

- Aerospace RTDI
- Technological supplies: CERN/ESRF , Hispasat, Eumetsat, Spainsat.

The Challenge. Plan Euroingenio: Spanish Government commitment for FP7 and international R&D



- Objective: economic return on Spanish from FP7 equivalent to our economic weight in the EU-25.
- Target economic return: From 6.5% (FP6) to 7% in 2008 and 8% in 2010
- Project Coordination Objective: 6% in 2008; 7% in 2010

How:

- Including all stakeholders in the plan: businesses, universities, research groups, innovation agencies, etc.
- Supporting the creation of offices of international projects.
- Imposing structural measures to provide a way of participating differently (professionalizing the management of international projects) with a long-term international approach
- Introducing the concept of funding results for the first time prior to a presentation of an ambitious plan for participation in FP7

The challenge

We needed more funded proposals

- More participations, especially from newcomers
- Larger projects
- Higher coordination rate

Weaknesses detected

- Lack of Project Offices with qualified professionals in international issues, especially in FP.
- Difficulty in reaching critical mass (SMEs)
- The lack of coordination in this issue between State and Regions was a barrier to reaching all potential participants effectively



Would these people be excellent managers of European projects?

What the Project Offices should do

Professional management of projects:

- Giving advice
- Preparation of proposals and Project Management
- Scientific / Technology Coordination
- Providing turnkey managing services
- Planning
- Financial and Administrative Management
- Reporting and high-level relationships with partners and the EC
- Legal Issues: consortium agreements and IPR
- Impact Analysis

Aspects of the Strategy

- Awareness raising
- Building capacities and skills
- Looking for newcomers and giving support to the proposers
- Creating structures

Awareness raising

Annual Conference on Framework Program
National and Regional Infodays, Seminars, etc.



Building capacities and skills:

Training of specialists in international R&D Projects

- **Specialization Courses:** Courses aimed at managers of Project Offices from RTOs, universities, businesses, public administration, associations, etc.
- **Short-term stays in Brussels** (six weeks at SOST-CDTI Office): Aimed at experienced personnel of organizations with special interest in H2020

Giving support to the proposers

- **Short-term measures:** Grants to cover proposal preparation expenses. Up to 40 k€/proposal.
- **Mid-term measures:** *Programa de Bonos Tecnológicos* (PBT): Incentive Programme for a network comprised of agents (consultancy firms, universities, RTOs, etc.) experienced in FP projects.
 - Objective: Find newcomers or new project coordinators in FP (aimed at businesses, especially SME)
 - Incentive: Performance bonuses depending on the grant obtained by the newcomer.

Creating structures (long-term measures)

- **International Innovation Units Programme (UII)**
Creation and operation of International Project Offices in Technological Platforms (TP) and Businesses Associations (BA).
 - Initial payment for the Office's creation
 - Operational costs covered by an incentive: Performance bonuses depending on the grant obtained by the participant (members of the TP or BA)
- **Involving Regional Administrations (Comunidades Autónomas, CC AA):**
 - Collaboration Agreements CC AA-CDTI in terms of cooperation on everything related to International R&D
 - *Fondo Euroingenio* (Euroingenio Competitive Fund) to stimulate the increase of regional participation in FP7 compared to FP6. In the period 2007-2009 30 M€ were allocated within Spanish Regions to create and run complementary instruments and structures to stimulate the participation of regional stakeholders in FP7 and in other international R&D programs

An example: Approved Project Offices MINECO-CDTI H2020 (2014-2016)



Results



936 M€ (6,0%)
(6.5% UE-25)
235 M€/year



3,397 M€ (7,4%)
(8,3% UE-27)
485 M€/year

- Coordination rate: From 6% FP6 to 10.7% FP7
- Almost 300 newcomers or new project coordinators among businesses
- Spanish business participation increased more than 30% among all the European business participants (from 6.7% FP6 to 9.0% FP7)

Conclusions

- An initial strong political commitment is needed at National and Regional level
- Four types of measures were taken (Awareness raising, Training; Direct support to proposers and Structure Creation)
- The results are positive in terms of participation increase and regional involvement.
- Almost all the measures taken can be co-funded with ESIF, so they have to be reflected in the National and/or Regional Operative Programs

and why?

