

Slovakia and Preparation of FP8 Strategy

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Slovak Research and Development Agency (SRDA)

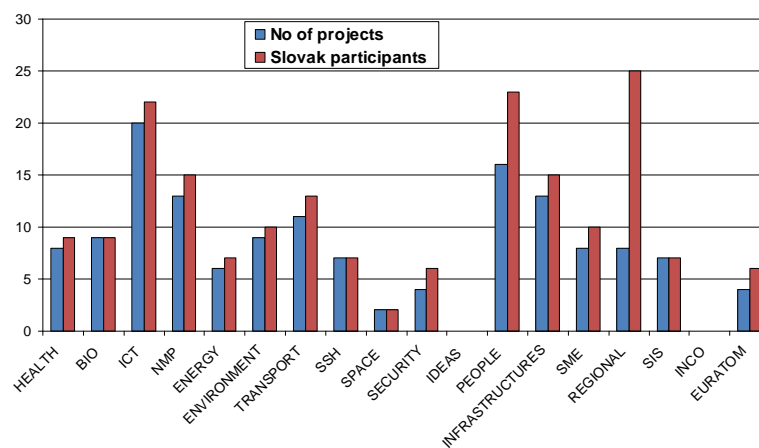
- is a state non-profit body (legal basis Act No. 172/2005 of Code on organization of state research and development support)
- supports research and development by providing funds for implementation of research projects
- linked to the budget of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic
- one of its tasks delegated from the ministry is support of participation in FP7

Tools for support of participation in FP7

- National cofunding of FP7 projects (DO7RP)
- Reimbursement of costs for preparation of FP7 projects (PP7RP)
- FP7 Support Structures (PŠ7RP)
e.g. National coordinator, NCPs & members of FP7 Programme Committees

Slovakia's success rates in FP7

as of end of June 2010



FP8 Initiative of new member states

- Slovakia joins the initiative of new member states in July 2010.
- Call for inputs (scientific attaché→ministry →national NCP coordinator →FP7 PC members)
- Collected inputs of PC members forwarded to the ministry and compiled, further sent to the scientific attaché in Brussels as background paper reflecting also Slovak needs and interests.
- Bottom-up spontaneous process, tight deadlines, complicated political and economic situation, no preceding analyses or studies carried out, no valid FP8 national policy document drafted yet.

Slovak inputs in the FP8 document

Most successful instruments for Slovakia:

- Cooperation (97): ICT (24), NMP (13), Transport (11)
- Capacities (40): Infrastructures (15)
- People (19)

Suitable for specific national needs:

- Smaller projects
- Marie Curie actions
- Projects focused on climate change related disasters

Slovak inputs in the FP8 document

Most inaccessible instruments:

- JTI-s (not fitting the scale of investments and resources of smaller countries)
- Ideas (suitable for old member states with better research capacity and infrastructure)
- Capacity (INCO)
- EURATOM-fusion

Slovak inputs in the FP8 document

Other reasons making some instruments inaccessible:

- Closed long-term consortiums from previous FPs, not accepting new partners from new MS
- ERC frontier research, senior or junior type projects, access depends on developed research infrastructure
- PPPs - international companies have their research facilities in "mother" countries.
- People - ITNs - extremely high competitiveness,
- COFUND - lack of national funds earmarked for mobility of researchers on long-term basis and thus low interest to put together a national programme that would comply with criteria.

Slovak inputs in the FP8 document

Proposed modifications and changes

- Simplification, shorter periods from application to contract
- Transparent criteria for evaluation of projects with the same score
- Project screening more focused on results than on project administration
- Synergy and complementarity of FP, CIP, SF (harmonization of rules)
- Contribution for SMEs and Universities up to 100% like in FP6

Slovak inputs in the FP8 document

To be kept:

- Support SMEs participation in Cooperation (at least 15% of the budget)
- Research potential and Regions of knowledge (with enlarged budget)
- Structure of People programme

Slovak inputs in the FP8 document

Main orientations / principles of FP8

- Continuity, simplification of procedures, priorities declared in Europe 2020
- Simplification and modification of financial and administrative provisions
- Close the widening gap in research infrastructure between old and new member states, encourage common research networks
- Trend of support for SMSs
- Shortened negotiation period in case of projects on short and reserved lists
- VAT reimbursement in all actions including Support and Coordination actions
- More funding for Security research

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