

Classification of the FP 6 Instruments

Note

The Instruments have been classified into three different groups on the basis of their purpose:

- The first group comprises the instruments aimed at generating, demonstrating and validating new knowledge through research and development, and is composed of Integrated Projects (IPs) and Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREPs);
- The second group is composed only of the Networks of Excellence (NoEs), an instrument aimed at the durable integration of the participants' activities/capacities;
- The third group comprises the instruments aimed at supporting collaboration and coordination, and other activities (such as conferences and studies) and is composed of Coordination Actions (CAs) and Specific Support Actions (SSAs).

Instruments aimed at generating, demonstrating and validating new knowledge

Instrument	Purpose	“Target ” audience	Activities covered by EU contribution	Funding mechanism	Indication on value of EU contribution ¹	Average duration	“Optimum” size of consortium ²	Flexibility	Enlargement of partnership within the initial budget	Specific characteristics
Integrated Project	Ambitious objective-driven research dealing with different issues through a “programme approach”	Industry, including SMEs Research institutes Universities (Possibly) Potential end-users	<u>One or more of:</u> Research Demonstration Training Innovation linked activities Management of the consortium	Cost based	€ 10 million € 4-25 million	36-60 months	10-20 participants	Yearly update of work plan	Possible through “competitive calls”	“Programme approach”, focussing on multiple issues As a rule several components Often multi-disciplinary
STREP	Objective-driven research more limited in scope than IPs and usually focussed on a single issue	Industry, including SMEs Research institutes Universities	<u>One or more of:</u> Research Demonstration Innovation linked activities Management of the consortium	Cost based	€ 1.9 million € 0.8-3 million	18-36 months	6-15 participants	Fixed overall work plan	Possible	“Project approach”, focussing on a single issue As a rule one component Often mono-disciplinary
Instrument aimed at the durable integration of the participants’ research activities/capacities										

¹ overall average of the lowest and the highest averages per project in the various thematic priorities under FP 6 so far

² not a legal requirement, but provides an indication of the number of partners the Commission services consider likely to allow the achievement of the project’s objectives.

Instrument	Purpose	“Target ” audience	Activities covered by EU contribution	Funding mechanism	Indication on value of EU contribution ³	Indicative average duration	“Optimum” size of consortium ⁴	Flexibility	Enlargement of partnership(within the initial budget)	Specific characteristics
Network of Excellence	Durable integration of the participants’ research activities	Research institutes Universities Mainly <u>indirectly</u> : Industry (possibly through steering committees, governing boards, scientific committees) SMEs (possibly through take-up actions)	<u>Joint programme of activities (JPA)</u> : Integrating activities Joint research programme Spreading of excellence <u>And</u> Management of the consortium	Calculation of the grant Maximum grant calculated on the basis of the number of researchers Possibility for the participants to request a lower amount <u>Payment of the grant</u> based on actual costs for implementing the JPA <u>And</u> On basis of the progress towards durable integration	€ 7 million € 4-15 million	48-60 months	6-12 participants	Yearly update of the work plan	Possible through “competitive calls”	Institutional commitment at strategic level from the very start and for the whole duration As a rule limited number of partners

Instruments aimed at supporting collaboration and coordination and other activities (such as conferences and studies)

³ overall average of the lowest and the highest averages per project in the various thematic priorities under FP 6 so far

⁴ not a legal requirement, but provides indication on the number of partners the Commission services consider likely to allow the achievement of the project’s objectives.

Instrument	Purpose	“Target ” audience	Activities covered by EU contribution	Funding mechanism	Indication on value of EU contribution ⁵	Average duration	“Optimum” size of consortium ⁶	Flexibility	Enlargement of partnership (within the initial budget)	Specific characteristics
Coordination action	Coordination, networking	Research institutes Universities Industry including SME	Activities intended to improve and effect the coordination of research carried out in another context that can include: programmes of meetings, seminars, workshops, working groups, studies, analyses, exchanges of personnel, exchange and dissemination of good practices, setting up of information systems Management of the consortium	Cost based	€ 1 million € 0.5-1.2 million	18-36 months	13-26 participants	Fixed overall work plan	Possible	No funding of research activities Consistent set of activities focussing on coordination (“programme” approach)
Specific support action	Preparation of future actions, support to policy, dissemination of results	Research institutes Universities Industry including	Individual meetings, seminars, workshops, studies, publications, scientific	Cost based Public procurement (payment of a price following a	€ 0.5 million € 0.03-1 million	9-30 months	1-15 participants	Fixed overall work plan	Possible	No funding of research activities “Project” approach Possibility of one single participant

⁵ overall average of the lowest and the highest averages per project in the various thematic priorities under FP 6 so far

⁶ not a legal requirement, but provides indication on the number of partners the Commission services consider likely to allow the achievement of the project’s objectives.

		SMEs	awards and competitions Management of the consortium	call for tender) when provision of a service to the Commission						
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