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Research Area



European Research Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities

PROJECT SYNOPSES

European Commission

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List of projects 2007-2008**

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European Research Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities

List of projects
2007-2009

Seventh Research Framework Programme

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Foreword

Socio-economic structures are changing. New elements are acquiring more and more importance in the Lisbon Strategy both in economic terms (cf. world competition, service economy, entrepreneurship, intangibles) and in social terms (demographic trends, ageing population, migrations).

In the twenty-first century, globalisation is not a phenomenon limited only to the economic domain: it is crucial to analyze the foreign investments, trade and finance, but also the social, cultural, environmental and geopolitical elements. Europe has a particular influence in the world also thanks to its cultural and artistic heritage, and to the multicultural nature of its society and institutions.

Sustainable development is a European priority (cf. the energy and climate change legislative package). It is tackled together with regional cohesion under a long term approach, taking into account paradigm shifts, territorial dynamics and adaptation to global changes.

Demography has mostly been treated at national level, while comparison at the world level becomes necessary to anticipate, for example, future flows of migration. The analysis of lifestyles, health, consumption, work and family life are also very important looking at the great impact they have on individuals, on the economy and on the whole society. In the modern world, moreover, intercultural dialogue cannot be left aside and this is a key issue for the research in humanities.

The development of new databases, indicators and foresight activities are very useful to provide a picture and a quantitative analysis of the present and future situation of Europe in a world context. It concerns aspects such as productivity, innovation or green paradigm.

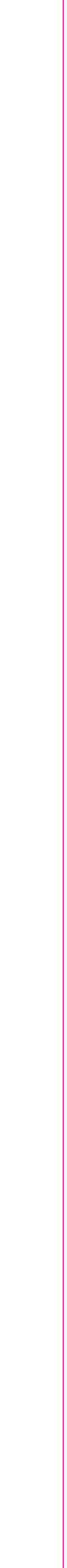
As a result of the 2007 and 2008 European calls for proposals in the Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities research programme, the European Union has invested €130 millions and funded almost 100 projects dealing with the European Union policy priorities.

Among some of the subjects that are on the top of the European Union policy agenda, one has to quote the actions for growth and employment (beyond Lisbon); the new perspectives for the European Research Area; the coherence, effectiveness and visibility of the European Union in the world (how to succeed in the age of globalisation); the evaluation of European Union policies and financial perspectives; the European Union sustainable development strategy; the societal dimension of energy and climate change package, the regional policy, cohesion and Common Agricultural Policy reform; the renewed social agenda; the ageing population; the questions of migration and immigration; the European Union and development policies; the European agenda for culture; the citizens' agenda; the protection and promotion of diversity.

Better understanding and improving the knowledge on these activities is a major challenge for European researchers in the field of Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities. But the results of these scientific works can help Europe to face the major societal challenges of today and tomorrow.



Jean-Michel BAER
Director



Introduction

Within the Seventh Framework Programme for research and technological development (2007-2013), the Theme 8 'Socio-economic Sciences and the Humanities' aims to mobilise European research in economic, political, social sciences and humanities in order to develop an understanding of and to address policy issues of relevance to Europe in several crucial domains.

These Activities are:

Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society: European research in socio-economic sciences and the humanities should help European Union economies thrive, resist the international competition and innovate. At the same time, more research is needed in order to increase rates of employment and the quality of jobs.

Combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective: European research in socio-economic sciences and the humanities is to understand how social cohesion has been made possible in Europe and how it can be affected by current problems, taking into consideration that sustainable development is at the same time a challenge and an opportunity.

Major trends in society and their implications: European research in socio-economic sciences and the humanities should address the main scientific and policy concerns about major social changes such as ageing, migration, families, work, multicultural societies, racism, to quote but a few.

Europe in the world: European research in socio-economic sciences and the humanities is to address the new reality of the multipolar world with its economic, social and political developments and upheavals and study the role of Europe in this new context.

The citizen in the European Union: European research in socio-economic sciences and the humanities should help understand how European democracies work, how citizens' participation is important for the legitimacy of governments, but also how in Europe diversities and commonalities are shared that make European Union different but also united in a European political reality.

Socio-economic and scientific indicators: European research in socio-economic sciences and the humanities should study the use of indicators in policy-making and especially try to develop new indicators that are not strictly economic but integrate new social or environmental data.

Foresight: European research in foresight aims at developing likely scenarios for the future of Europe and potential new tools for forecasting main social and economic trends.

In order to implement this ambitious programme, the European Union publishes regular research calls for proposals. This research is European, which means that it must be done by a group of researchers from at least three European countries.

The current synopsis gives a brief information on the projects selected so far after a strict evaluation from European experts in 2007 and 2008. It should be completed along the implementation of the Seventh Framework Programme until the end of 2013.

If you wish the last up-dated information about European Union research on socio-economic sciences and humanities, visit: http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/index_en.html and http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ssh/home_en.html.

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Activity 1 | Growth, employment
and competitiveness
in a knowledge society

Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.1 Changing role of knowledge throughout the economy

Topic 1.1.1 Interactions between knowledge, economic growth and social well-being

Proposal | 225134

Estimated EC contribution |
3 300 000 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Large scale project

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Advancing knowledge-intensive entrepreneurship and innovation for growth and social well-being in Europe

AEGIS

The proposed research project will study the interactions between knowledge, economic growth and social well-being in Europe. It focuses on knowledge-intensive entrepreneurship as a necessary mechanism and an agent of change mediating between the creation of knowledge and its transformation into economic activity.

Knowledge-intensive entrepreneurship is perceived here in as a core interface between two interdependent systems: the knowledge generation and diffusion system, on the one hand, and the productive system, on the other. Both systems shape and are shaped by the broader social context – including customs, culture, and institutions – thus also pointing at the linkage of entrepreneurship to that context.

The project has three main objectives (research thrusts). At the micro-level, it purports to study in depth the very act of knowledge-intensive entrepreneurship, its defining characteristics, boundaries, scope and incentives.

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At the macro-level, it will study the link between knowledge entrepreneurship, economic growth and social well-being, also extending to the socio-economic processes that help transform the 'animal spirits' (John Maynard Keynes) into a self-reinforcing process for broader societal prosperity.

The way the broader socio-economic environment stokes 'animal spirits' and benefits from them will be studied within the contexts of various shades of capitalism in Europe and elsewhere, expanding beyond the growth accounting and endogenous growth approaches and issues to novel concepts of knowledge-intensive entrepreneurship in growth and, further, into the underlying issues of social well-being such as inclusion, cohesion, equity, opportunities, and social care.

Finally, at the policy level, the project will take a systemic approach aiming at an organic integration of diverse sets of policies that influence the creation and growth of innovative entrepreneurial ventures based on knowledge generation and diffusion.

Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.1 Changing role of knowledge throughout the economy

Topic 1.1.2 Intangible investment and innovation in Europe

Proposal | 214576

Estimated EC contribution |
1 496 523 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Intangible capital and innovations: drivers of growth and location in the EU

INNODRIVE

It is widely recognised that intellectual assets are major determinants of the generation of innovation and thus in the enhancement of growth, employment and competitiveness of the EU.

The importance of R&D and innovation is also explicitly acknowledged in the 'Lisbon process'. However, our knowledge of the contribution of intangibles to economic performance is still incomplete. While firms undoubtedly are at the centre of innovation and productivity growth, their activities are hard to analyse empirically.

Furthermore, at the macro-level the national accounts data on capital formation focus primarily on fixed investment and have only recently attempted to measure investment in intangibles such as software, mineral exploration and artistic creations.

The aim of this research project is to reduce our ignorance by providing new data on intangibles and new estimates of the capacity of intangible capital to generate growth. We envisage doing this both at firm-level and at national level.

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At the micro-level the present project will improve our insight into the contributions of intangibles to the growth of firms by exploiting the potential of recently established linked employer-employee datasets and implementing a performance based methodology to analyse how firms use knowledge and human capital to increase their productivity and how mobile workers react to these processes.

At the national economy level we will expand the traditional growth accounting framework by including, in capital formation, estimates of the investment in intangibles which, hitherto, have been counted as current expenditure in the conventional national accounts. This research will thus explore hitherto uncharted territories in EU socio-economic research.

This research project will deliver new foundations for the formulation of policies to strengthen growth and employment in the EU by providing new 'beyond-the-state-of-the-art' estimates of intangibles' contribution to economic performance.

Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.1 Changing role of knowledge throughout the economy

Topic 1.1.2 Intangible investment and innovation in Europe

Proposal | 216813

Estimated EC contribution |
1 456 119 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Intangible assets and regional economic growth

IAREG

The objective of IAREG is to analyse the role played by intangible assets (IA) in the generation of innovation, competitiveness and consequently economic growth and increases in productivity at regional level with a special emphasis on the geographical space in which such processes occur.

The specific objectives of the project will be:

- ▶ to develop new indicators for improving the measuring of some of the IA that we consider to have the most influence in the generation of economic development;
- ▶ to analyse how IA and their interaction define the environment affecting firms' location;
- ▶ to measure the role of regional externalities in the generation of IA and in determining local economic performances in Europe and in the diffusion of knowledge;
- ▶ to provide decision-makers with policy recommendations in order to support them in the future design and implementation of regional innovation strategies.

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The main result expected in the project is the guide of policy recommendations and the dissemination of this guide among regional, national and European policy-makers.

The project will be carried out by a consortium of 11 partners from 9 European countries. To ensure the achievement of the proposed objectives, the project is structured in 8 work packages.

The first block of work packages (WP1, WP2 and WP3) will research on the impact of different intangible assets on innovation, regional economic growth and productivity, both at a theoretical but especially at the empirical level. WP4 and WP5 will analyse the role of spatial knowledge flows (knowledge diffusion) as a transmission mechanism from IA to innovation and growth.

WP6 will be devoted to the development of a guide of policy recommendations for stimulating intangible investment and economic growth. WP7 will focus on the broad dissemination of the results achieved in the project, specially of the policy recommendations guide. WP8 will ensure the correct management and monitoring of the project.

Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.1 Changing role of knowledge throughout the economy

Topic 1.1.2 Intangible investment and innovation in Europe

Competitiveness, innovation and intangible investment in Europe

COINVEST

The project aims to understand the contributions of intangible investments to innovation, competitiveness, growth and productivity in Europe.

Such a project is vital to help EU policy formation and deepen our understanding of some of the most crucial questions facing EU economic policy.

This is because, currently, (almost all) intangible investments are either not measured, or treated as an intermediate input into production so they are assumed to produce no durable assets for firms or economies. The question is does this matter? In practice, most knowledge investments involve intangible spending. And, given that the Lisbon agenda aims to make the EU 'the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-driven economy by 2010', we are in the difficult position of having perhaps the major EU policy aspiration backed by almost no data or measures.

This project will set out a method to address this problem and collect the required data.

Given the issue's importance, the work under the project should make an important contribution.

Proposal | 217512

Estimated EC contribution |
1 464 767 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Some knowledge investment is included as such in the key economic measures such as GDP (e.g. software). However, R&D and other knowledge investment (like investment in human capital via training, investment in reputation capital, investment in organisational capital etc) are all treated as day-to-day expenses, not investment.

Thus, under current conventions, investment and GDP in an economy whose businesses spend €1 more on almost all knowledge investment is the same as an economy whose businesses turn up their air-conditioning.

Therefore, the project has put together a small but focused team comprising some of Europe's (and the world's) leading experts on these questions, spanning business, policy and measurement interests.

The project will collect data on a wide range of knowledge investment, at macro and micro-levels, incorporate these into macro and micro performance measures and thus greatly improve our understanding of knowledge-driven economies, firms and policy.

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Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.1 Changing role of knowledge throughout the economy

Topic 1.1.3 Impact of internationalisation on Europe's research and innovation systems

Proposal | 217296

Estimated EC contribution |
1 111 983 €

Starting date | 01.05.2008

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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focused research project)

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The changing nature of internationalization of innovation in Europe: impact on firms and the implications for innovation policy in the EU

GLOBINN

The overall purpose of the GlobInn project is to improve our understanding of the changing nature of internationalization of Europe's innovation systems by studying the international knowledge sourcing strategies of European firms and their effect on performance. The starting premise of the project is that Europe's knowledge resources and its role in the global economy will be increasingly shaped by the ability of EU firms to source knowledge internationally.

Firms can employ three modes in internationalizing their innovative activities:

- the global trading of technology based services and licensing as firms seek to exploit the global markets for their technologies;
- international collaborative agreements and strategic alliances as firms seek out international partners for their knowledge generating activities;
- the international dispersal of their own R&D and technology creating activities as they seek out new regions and resources in different parts of the world.

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The GlobInn project aims to bring together leading EU scholars involved in studying each of these modes largely in isolation to focus on an integrated analysis.

In the first instance this analysis will map the trends in the growth of each of these modes with an emphasis on whether internationalization of innovation in European firms is an intra EU or extra EU phenomenon.

The second focal point will be the organisational and managerial issues which influence the strategies of EU firms in seeking international sources of knowledge, and have an impact on innovation and economic performance. Both of these are essential for analysing the implications for national and EU-level policies.

Indeed the underlying rationale for the GlobInn project is that devising appropriate policies requires a deeper understanding of each of the three modes and the firms level processes and strategies.

Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.1 Changing role of knowledge throughout the economy

Topic 1.1.3 Impact of internationalisation on Europe's research and innovation systems

Science, innovation, firms and markets in a globalized world

SCIFI-GLOW

In 2000, EU leaders committed to the objective of making Europe 'the most dynamic and competitive knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth, with more and better jobs, greater social cohesion and respect for the environment.'

They drew up the 'Lisbon agenda' to achieve this goal by 2010.

The central strategy was based on policies to encourage investment in knowledge. Knowledge as a public good with potential spillovers is the rationale behind intellectual property protection and subsidies for investments in innovations that will potentially lead to high spillovers.

University research that creates basic knowledge is a leading example of this. But research shows that spillovers are also generated from private firms' R&D and that firms can therefore benefit from the presence of more innovative and more productive firms.

But which universities and which firms are more innovative?

How does globalization influence the answer to these questions? Finally, how can policy influence the innovation process?

Proposal | 217436

Estimated EC contribution |
1 115 634 €

Starting date | 01.06.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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This project aims at answering these questions, without forgetting their implications in terms of income inequality and volatility, which impacts on the political sustainability of the innovation dynamics.

To do this, the first part of the project will focus more specifically on the knowledge sector itself. This second part of the project will look at the 'bigger picture', looking at the overall organization of firms in the global knowledge economy, as well as its implications on markets and inequality.

The third part will contain a summary and policy recommendations: while the project brings together researchers at the frontier of academic knowledge on these topics, its outcomes will be highly policy-relevant.

We plan to end the project with a summary and set of policy conclusions on research and innovation in the global knowledge economy.

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Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.2 Structural changes in the European knowledge economy and society

Topic 1.2.1 Globalisation and its interactions with the European economy

Impact of networks, globalisation, and their interaction with EU strategies

INGINEUS

INGINEUS addresses the evolution of global production networks (GPNs) into global innovation networks (GINs), and the impact this new process of global capitalism has on knowledge intensive activities in the EU.

Global sourcing and assembly arrangements have been around for some three decades. They were principally based on efficiency considerations. Thus, multinational firms (MNCs) outsourced parts of production processes to manufacturers in Asia and other low-cost locations around the globe, while retaining the most knowledge intensive assets in the home country.

This is no longer the case. MNCs increasingly scout the globe for locations where the right mix of local competences allows them to tap into sophisticated parts of value chains.

This is not limited to advanced economies but more and more involves firms and regions in selected developing countries that position themselves as attractive knowledge-intensive locations in their own right.

INGINEUS studies the determinants of this process and analyses its implications both for the EU and its emerging partner countries in the developing world.

Proposal | 225368

Estimated EC contribution |
2 600 000 €

Starting date | 01.01.2009

Duration | 42 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(large scale project)

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First, it looks at the changing strategies of MNCs and the conditions under which it is favourable for them to offshore R&D and other knowledge-intensive parts of their production process.

Second, it focuses on the evolving local capabilities in selected developing countries that allow them to claim increasingly complex parts of global value chains at much higher levels of technological sophistication than hitherto.

Third, it analyses the consequences of the formation of GINs in the global economy and differentiates among their static and dynamic effects on growth, employment, and competitiveness in the EU.

Finally, based on these insights, it derives policy recommendations that would allow the EU to benefit from the positive features of this process while mitigating its adverse consequences.

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Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.2 Structural changes in the European knowledge economy and society

Topic 1.2.1 Globalisation and its interactions
with the European economy

European firms in a global economy: internal policies for external competitiveness

EFIGE

The chances of European countries to grow, prosper and provide well-being to their citizens rest on the ability of their firms to become successful traders and producers in foreign markets within and outside the EU.

This project examines the pattern of internationalisation of European firms. With a clear focus on defining adequate and effective policy measures, it looks at the broad factors constraining or enhancing companies' foreign operations, like growth in size and productivity, type of ownership and corporate governance, access to financial markets, innovation, the macro-economic environment.

It will do so by combining theoretical and empirical research at the frontier of the academic and policy debate with the gathering of new data through a cross country survey.

The main questions addressed by the project are:

What are the features of European firms that successfully compete in international markets?

To what extent do they contribute to productivity and employment?

Proposal | 225551

Estimated EC contribution |
3 150 000 €

Starting date | 01.09.2008

Duration | 48 months

Funding scheme |
Large scale project

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Does access to foreign market enhance firm performance through a learning process?

Why are some countries more successful in international trade and foreign direct investment (FDI)?

What are the policies that can improve a nation's foreign trade performance?

Does integration within the Single Market foster productivity improvements?

Has the euro led to a wider participation of firms in cross-border business?

What policies can promote the participation of other European firms that are currently excluded from international markets?

What are the gains and the adjustments involved in reducing barriers to trade and FDI?

What policies can best maximise gains and smooth adjustments?

Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.2 Structural changes in the European knowledge economy and society

Topic 1.2.2 The implication of developments in the service economy for the European economy and society

Proposal | 217247

Estimated EC contribution |
1 480 141 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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The contribution of public and private services to European growth and welfare, and the role of public-private innovation networks

SERVPPIN

Services are the dominant economic sector in modern economies and are a crucial component of competitiveness strategy and welfare in Europe.

In the past public and private services have been studied in isolation of one another. At best this is misleading.

At worst it produces a false understanding of the drivers, dynamics, and impact of services.

The SERVPPIN project addresses this problem by analyzing public and private services, and their impact on growth and welfare.

In particular, it focuses on service innovation and on public-private innovation networks because these are an important organizational mode for developing, producing, and delivering new and improved services.

They work by establishing and enhancing complementarities and synergies between public and private organizations.

The research objectives of the project are:

- identifying and understanding the links between public and private services and economic growth and welfare;

- understanding service innovation and how public-private sector interactions function, and how they can be better managed to increase performance;
- understanding the characteristics of successful public-private service networks which have a high impact on growth and welfare.

The achievement of these objectives will be undertaken by theoretical and empirical research that is cross-country and cross-sector.

This will be supported by in-depth case studies covering major service types: health, transport, and knowledge intensive services.

The expected outputs of the project are the development of new knowledge, improved scientific understanding of services, improved policy prescriptions, and the dissemination of this new knowledge to business leaders and policy-makers. In order to diffuse knowledge effectively, the project has set up a stakeholder International Expert Reference Group that comprises enterprises, professional associations and public institutions.

The aim is to affect policy in services, including EU policies.

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Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.2 Structural changes in the European knowledge economy and society

Topic 1.2.2 The implication of developments in the service economy for the European economy and society

Social entrepreneurs as 'lead users' for service innovation

SELUSI

Companies that don't innovate lose their competitive edge.

This is one certainty companies in an increasingly competitive, complex environment face, and which is further driven home by the 2005 re-launch of the Lisbon Strategy.

But how should a Philips, IMEC or say a leading company in high-tech or knowledge-based services innovate their service function?

This project will bring forward emerging social entrepreneurs as a powerful, yet so far untapped source of 'external' intelligence, ideas and technologies, and will advance a concrete strategy for how companies can access and leverage this intelligence in their service innovation processes.

To do so, we will first rigorously analyse the founding decisions of 800 emerging social entrepreneurs based in Western as well as Central and Eastern European countries.

This will allow us to systematically dissect the rising phenomenon of social entrepreneurship along a number of dimensions, including financial contracting, competitive strategy and organizational design.

Proposal | 217622

Estimated EC contribution |
1 446 878 €

Starting date | 01.06.2008

Duration | 40 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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As we better understand who social entrepreneurs in Europe are and how they evolve over time, we can start to address more effectively how their intelligence can be optimally mobilized to accelerate service innovation.

We will pilot-test at least one concrete, new innovation strategy (match-making model) through a series of action-orientated workshops that will involve academics, social entrepreneurs and leading companies.

Finally, through our unique blend of fundamental and applied research, we will be able to formulate public policy initiatives in the following four domains:

- the area of emerging social entrepreneurship both at the EU and Member State levels;
- that of service innovation and competitiveness particularly at the EU level;
- areas of both emerging social entrepreneurship and services innovation in European welfare states versus emerging market economies;
- our 'SELUSI'-Innovation Strategy at the global level.

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Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.2 Structural changes in the European knowledge economy and society

Topic 1.2.3 The role of finance in growth, employment and competitiveness in Europe

Financial systems, efficiency and stimulation of sustainable growth

FINESS

The main purpose of FINESS is to get a clear understanding of the implications of ongoing financial market integration in Europe on economic growth, employment and competitiveness, to identify likely future paths of the development and to draw policy relevant conclusions.

Several main breakthroughs will be achieved throughout the project.

On the macro-economic level, the role of financial systems and their transmission channels on growth will be explored by innovative and tailor made econometric techniques, taken dynamic interactions between financial, product and labour markets into account.

A range of indicators to measure the degree of financial integration will be constructed, and their development in time will be addressed.

Moreover, insights into the working of financial institutions will be provided for the micro-economic level.

Proposal | 217266

Estimated EC contribution | 998 170 €

Starting date | 15.02.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme | Collaborative project (small and medium scale focused research project)

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The comparative approach undertaken by FINESS is especially useful to uncover catalysts and bottlenecks in the architecture of financial systems.

By investigating unique datasets, the role of the financial structure, i.e., the banking sector, markets for private equity and venture capital, for improving efficiency and sustainable expansion of start ups and established firms is studied.

The impacts of different degrees of financial integration on the portfolio decisions of households are explored with simulation models.

Topics specifically related to the transition period of the new Member States as well as the gender dimension in turning impulses from the financial system into efficiency and growth are covered by the project.

By fulfilling its goals, FINESS will provide in-depth knowledge on the relationship between financial systems and sustainable economic growth in a changing environment.

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Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.2 Structural changes in the European knowledge economy and society

Topic 1.2.3 The role of finance in growth, employment and competitiveness in Europe

Finance, innovation and growth: changing patterns and policy implications

FINNOV

The Lisbon agenda states that Europe's future prosperity is dependent on developing a knowledge-based economy driven by innovation. To stimulate the supply of innovation it calls for increased public and private investment in R&D to match the proportions of GDP being invested in R&D by Europe's major competitors. However the success of this strategy depends equally on the successful translation of innovation into economic growth. Business experimentation is central to these processes, and this ability is central to achieving the objectives of the Lisbon Agenda of 2000 and the new industrial policy in an enlarged European Union. This project will examine key factors that impact on those processes, in particular the interactions between innovation and financial markets. It will lead to a deeper understanding of the complex relationships involved and will inform both policy and practice.

Much of the current debate on financing of innovative companies in Europe is based on models and data derived from experience in the USA, leading to recommendations intended to promote convergence on US structures and practice.

Proposal | 217466

Estimated EC contribution |
1 495 000 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
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We argue that there is now powerful evidence to suggest that the European situation is in fact different, and that Europe therefore needs to develop its own approach, adapted to its own circumstances. This project will provide empirical evidence and theoretical models to underpin the evolution of a distinctive and self-confident European approach to the financing of innovative businesses.

The ways in which innovative businesses are financed affect not only their own growth and economic performance, but the differential rates of return to owners, managers, workers, investors and financial institutions. They also impact on the evolution of the market as a whole, selection dynamics within the market, the rate of attrition of both new and existing enterprises, and the net contribution from innovative businesses to employment and economic development regionally, nationally and across Europe as a whole. A better understanding of these processes is essential if Europe's slowly increasing rate of investment in R&D is to deliver the economic outcomes envisaged in the Lisbon agenda.

Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.2 Structural changes in the European knowledge economy and society

Topic 1.2.3 The role of finance in growth, employment and competitiveness in Europe

Proposal | 217485

Estimated EC contribution |
1 475 357 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Financing entrepreneurial ventures in Europe: impact on innovation, employment growth and competitiveness

VICO

The aim of the VICO project is to assess the impact of Venture Capital and Private Equity (VC/PE) financing on the economic performance of European innovative entrepreneurial ventures as they are reflected by their innovation output, employment, growth, and competitiveness, and the role VC/PE investors play in helping these firms bridge their resource and competence gap beyond the provision of financing.

Particular attention will be devoted to the institutional variety of VC/PE investors in Europe.

We will consider factors affecting both the demand for and the supply of VC/PE financing, at micro and macro level. In particular, we will analyze how the effects of VC/PE financing on the economic performance of portfolio companies are moderated by:

- the characteristics of the investor;
- the characteristics of invested firms;
- the characteristics of the business and institutional environment in which firms operate.

In addition, we will examine specific open issues that play a crucial role for the development of the VC/PE sector in Europe, namely:

- the design of a mix of multi-level policy schemes targeting seed and pre-seed capital;
- exit mechanisms for VC/PE investors;
- the European integration of the VC/PE sector and the internationalization of VC/PE investors.

The project will benefit from a unique combination of qualitative (survey analyses and case studies) and quantitative empirical methodologies.

As to these latter, the project will build and use a micro and macro cross-country panel type dataset with a rather long longitudinal dimension and wide coverage of EU countries so as to overcome some of the key weaknesses of the extant empirical literature.

The consortium is a blend of well-known scientists from different disciplines (i.e. finance, innovation economics, entrepreneurship, management, policy science).

Several of them have already collaborated in EU promoted research projects (such as the VCFUN project promoted by the PRIME Network of Excellence).

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Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.3 Strengthening policy coherence and coordination in Europe

Topic 1.3.1 Macro-economic policy, its interaction and coordination with other policies

Modelling and implementation of optimal fiscal and monetary policy algorithms in multi-country econometric models

MONFISPOL

This project contributes to the evaluation of macro-economic policy by advancing the analysis of optimal fiscal and monetary policy in monetary union such as the European one.

This work will result in the addition of new numerical tools, specially designed for the computation of optimal policy in large macro-econometric models. Such multi-country models are necessary to take into account the diversity of the countries making now the European Union.

These new tools for the computation of optimal policy will be added to Dynare, a public domain platform for the simulation and estimation of dynamic stochastic general equilibrium models that is increasingly used in policy-making institution and in academic research alike.

New models are proposed to analyse the contribution of optimal policy to smooth shocks in a union of heterogeneous countries with rigidities in labour and financial markets. In that framework, special attention is given to the dynamics of public debt.

Proposal | 225149

Estimated EC contribution |
1 350 000 €

Starting date | 01.10.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Systematic models comparison is made possible thanks to a database of macro-economic models currently in use in policy-making institutions around the world. New numerical tools are added to Dynare that provide the computation of optimal policy, either under commitment, in a timeless perspective or under discretion, for a general class of nonlinear models.

Particular attention is given to correct linear quadratic approximation of these models. Extensions are proposed to deal with partial information.

These tools shall also permit to perform Bayesian estimation of models under the assumption that the policies followed were optimal. Special emphasis is placed on the definition of priors. Given the complexity of the numerical computations, we stress speed of computation and the development of parallel algorithms. Altogether, this project should represent a very significant step forward towards better models and better tools for the formulation of macro-economic policies.

Activity 1 Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society

Research area 1.3 Strengthening policy coherence and coordination in Europe

Topic 1.3.1 Macro-economic policy, its interaction and coordination with other policies

Monetary, fiscal and structural policies with heterogeneous agents

POLHIA

It is almost a common place that macro-economic policies, if well conducted, are a stability-enhancing device. By providing a non-inflationary environment, they 'keep in order' the backstage of a movie in which the actors – firms and households – determine long run growth by means of saving/investment decisions. In this view aggregate outcomes can be improved upon by means of micro-economic or structural policies such as labour and product market deregulation, investment in human capital, etc.

The scope of macro-economic policies, however, is much wider. For instance, monetary policy affects business fluctuations and growth through financial factors which are certainly no less important than inflation, as the sub-prime crisis has emphasized.

POLHIA aims at exploring the role of macro-economic policies in this wider sense and the nexus of macro-economic and micro-economic/structural policies in an heterogeneous agents setting. Modern macro-economic thinking goes beyond the Representative Agent assumption because agents are indeed different – in terms for e.g. of real and financial conditions, labour market status, technical capabilities, expectations, market power – and this heterogeneity is crucial for macro-economic outcomes.

Proposal | 225408

Estimated EC contribution |
1 330 000 €

Starting date | 01.11.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Monetary and fiscal policies affect in different ways different people just as structural policies do. Structural policies, in turn, can have macro-economic consequences through externalities. Hence macro and micro policies are strictly intertwined: they can reinforce (or interfere with) each other.

The research group will exploit a wide range of tools. At the level of model building the development of macro-economic frameworks in the New Keynesian tradition will be paralleled and complemented by the use of Agent based models, which are appropriate for the exploration of heterogeneous agents environments. Empirical research will be carried out by means of econometric models and experiments to study, for instance, the formation of expectations.

POLHIA aims at providing new insights for the implementation of both macro-economic policies and structural policies and for rethinking policy coordination or coherence, which emerges first between monetary and fiscal policies and second between micro and macro policies.

The dissemination of results to policy-makers will be mostly oriented towards central bankers and European and national officials in charge of fiscal and structural policies.

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Activity 2 | Combining economic,
social and environmental
objectives in a European
perspective

Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.1 Socio-economic development trajectories

Topic 2.1.1 **Analysing, comparing and evaluating the various societal
models in a medium-to-long-term perspective**

Meeting the challenges of economic uncertainty and sustainability through employment, industrial relations, social and environmental policies in European countries

GUSTO

Coping with economic uncertainty while seeking security is a central dilemma of public policy in a globalising economy. A complex set of deals and conflicts are involved in the process of distributing the gains and the burdens of that uncertainty, and various forms of employment contracts and labour and social policies express their outcome. This project is concerned with the study of that process and its implications for societal models.

In the course of conflict a number of different institutions engage in new practices; and there is a new diversity of employment forms and tenures. Social policy becomes increasingly integrated with employment and industrial relations practices, while both the sustainability of the institutions themselves and their impact on the natural environment require consideration. Challenges are also presented by the different forms of governance at work in the various policy fields.

Proposal | 225301

Estimated EC contribution |
1 496 830 €

Starting date | 01.03.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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The crisis of the Keynesian model was often seen as a crisis for associational governance (or neo-corporatism), and an advance for reliance on market governance (usually assisted by strong elements of government intervention). Since then, policy-making by individual large corporations often seems to be replacing associational governance as well as government policy-making in fields of employment categories and rights, pay determination, and the determination of pensions. However, the public goods issues raised by uncertainty and environmental damage bring again into question the adequacy of governance by the market and individual firms.

The team should expect to find radical changes in the societal models that they have become accustomed to using in the analysis of social policy. There is a search for new modes of governance, or new combinations of old ones.

Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.1 Socio-economic development trajectories

Topic 2.1.1 **Analysing, comparing and evaluating the various societal
models in a medium-to-long-term perspective**

Institutional changes and trajectories of socio-economic development models

ICATSEM

The aim of the project is to analyse, within a comparative institutional analytical framework, the trajectories of socio-economic development models. Comparative analyses of forms of capitalism have underlined the diversity in institutional configurations.

Within the EU, it is assumed that four types of socio-economic models exist: market-oriented, continental, Nordic, and Southern, with the position of transitional Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC) under discussion.

The project will reconstitute the historical trajectories of these socio-economic models, in order to understand how their institutional configuration mediates the synergies and trade-offs between the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development. By focusing on complementarities and conflicts as well as changes in socio-political compromises, by contesting the hypothesis of convergence towards a specific European model and by analysing the impacts of globalisation and structural reforms, the possible future for these models will be discussed.

Proposal | 217207

Estimated EC contribution |
1 188 000 €

Starting date | 01.01.2009

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
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focused research project)

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The project will combine three approaches:

- a quantitative analysis of the trajectories of socio-economic models – using long-term data bases for industrialized countries, statistical and econometrical analyses will allow for a quantitative historical analysis of trajectories for the period 1975-2005. The analysis will be completed with analysis of CEEC and emerging countries for the period 1990-2010;
- a comparative analysis of socio-political dynamics and institutional changes – twelve European and four non-European countries will be examined in order to identify, from an historical perspective, the evolution of socio-political compromises and their influence on the dynamics of institutional changes;
- sectoral analyses of institutional configurations and industrial dynamics, which will combine statistical and socio-political approaches in order to analyse the long term dynamics of four industries within different socio-economic models.

- Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective
- Research area 2.1 Socio-economic development trajectories
- Topic 2.1.2 **The extent to which trade-offs or synergies exist between the different aspects of sustainable development**

Synergies in multi-scale inter-linkages of eco-social systems

SMILE

The consortium participants have developed tools for analysing the different dimensions of sustainability in a FP6 project DECOIN (Development and Comparison of Sustainability Indicators).

The objective of the proposed SMILE project is to apply and further develop these tools to analyse the trade-offs and synergies between four different aspects of sustainable development.

A number of case studies will be carried out to assess the use of the toolkit in different socio-economic, environmental and cultural contexts and at different levels.

The project analyses the trade-offs and synergies that exist between the different objectives related to sustainable development by utilising the different indicators developed within the European Sustainable Development Indicator (SDI) Working Group as well as new types of indicators provided by the tools developed by the consortium partners in previous projects.

Proposal | 217213

Estimated EC contribution |
1 160 000 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 42 months

Funding scheme |
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focused research project)

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The assessment takes place between:

- economic and environmental aspects;
- economic and social aspects;
- social and environmental aspects;
- all the three objectives.

In addition, interfacing the scientific results with societal/policy processes (stakeholder participation, sustainable consumption and production patterns) will be assessed and policy recommendations will be formulated.

The assessment of the interlinkages of the different dimensions will form the basis for policy recommendations on improvement of sustainability conditions at various geographical scales.

The futures oriented approach of the project, including construction of different scenarios of future development paths relating to the synergies and trade-offs, will provide knowledge that will be relevant for economic, social and environmental policies and their combination in the longer term.

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Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.1 Socio-economic development trajectories

Topic 2.1.2 **The extent to which trade-offs or synergies exist between
the different aspects of sustainable development**

Proposal | 217239

Estimated EC contribution |
1 483 560 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Confronting social and environmental sustainability with economic pressure: balancing trade-offs by policy dismantling or expansion?

CONSENSUS

CONSENSUS aims to improve our understanding of trade-offs and synergies between economic, environmental and social aspects of sustainable development.

In so doing, the project applies a selective focus in order to shed light on several issues that are of particular relevance in this respect – both in practical and analytical terms.

First, the project places particular emphasis on a systematic analysis of the interlinkage between different levels of economic pressure and social and environmental policy.

Second, in line with the political emphasis on better regulation and deregulation, the project applies a highly innovative perspective on policy change and sustainable development, taking into consideration making new legislation whereby there is an absolute necessity.

Third, this interlinkage between economic pressure on the one side, and environmental and social sustainability on the other, is analyzed on the basis of a systematic comparison across 25 OECD countries over a period of thirty years (1975-2005).

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Fourth, this focus offers the opportunity for a comparison of regulatory adjustments across different policy areas.

The focus on two 'crucial' policy fields – social and environmental policy – allows us to study whether regulatory responses to economic pressures differ between these areas.

Fifth, with regard to environmental and social policy, we focus on those subfields that have been identified as priority areas of sustainable development.

The project proceeds in the following steps. In the first step, the theoretical framework will be further elaborated. In the second step, a quantitative analysis of the major driving forces of policy dismantling (deregulation) will be carried out.

For this purpose, cross-national data on social and environmental policy dismantling (deregulation) for the period from 1975 to 2005 will be collected. In the third part of the study, theoretically interesting cases will be selected and subject to an in-depth qualitative analysis.

The final part refers to the publication of the research report and the dissemination of the results.

Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.1 Socio-economic development trajectories

Topic 2.1.3 **Development and applications of tools for the assessment
of policies and socio-economic forecasting**

Proposal | 225281

Estimated EC contribution |
3 995 444 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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World input-output database: construction and applications

WIOD

How has the increase in Chinese exports of textile products affected the employment of low skilled workers in German retail trade? What would be the effects of a change in the European Union's agricultural policy on global CO₂ emissions?

Economic and environmental policies are designed at a detailed level of industries and products, while production is characterized by an interdependent structure. Due to globalization, these interdependencies cross borders and the inclusion of trade is more than ever essential. Analyzing policy issues therefore requires an all encompassing database. Its construction is at the heart of this project and the following three aspects are crucial:

- ▶ input-output (IO) tables provide a description of the interdependent production structure. Taking the reach of internationalization into full consideration requires a world-wide set of national IO tables (covering at least 80 % of world GDP) that are fully linked through bilateral trade data;
- ▶ taking the dynamics of internationalization into account requires a time series (1995-2006) of such linked IO tables, in current and constant international prices;

- ▶ taking the effects of internationalization into consideration requires that other relevant information is appended. These so-called satellite accounts include labor data for different skill types, investment flows, and environmental and resources data.

The first part of the project constructs such a unique database. The second part of the project applies the database to analyse the international interaction of socio-economic and environmental objectives from a policy perspective. These are applications that use the database by directly employing IO and econometric techniques, and applications that use large scale models that employ the database.

The project builds on several previous, EU-sponsored projects and is carried out by Europe's leading experts in IO theory, data construction, interindustry models, and policy applications.

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Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective

Research area 2.1 Socio-economic development trajectories

Topic 2.1.4 Socio-economic factors and actors that shape the 'post-carbon society'

Governance, infrastructure, lifestyle dynamics and energy demand: european post-carbon communities

GILDED

In Europe, about 35 % of all primary energy use and 40 % of all greenhouse gas emissions come from private households. While technological innovation can make low-carbon energy sources economically and environmentally viable, their impact in reducing carbon-intensive energy use will depend critically on broad public and political commitment to such a reduction.

GILDED will target socio-economic, cultural and political influences on individual and household energy consumption through five regional case studies. Each case study focuses on a medium-sized city along with nearby rural areas. Investigating individuals' lifestyle choices and their understanding of energy issues will provide insights into patterns of energy-related behaviours characterising emergent lifestyle types, and the particular drivers impacting on consumption decisions.

The social, cultural and political contexts in which these behaviours are embedded will be addressed through analysis of the structural factors and actors (from local to EU level), including governance networks, physical environments, and materialized and institutionalized transport and provisioning networks.

Proposal | 225383

Estimated EC contribution |
1 430 434 €

Starting date | 01.12.2008

Duration | 42 months

Funding scheme |
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This combined ‘top down’ and ‘bottom-up’ perspective on household consumption will be utilised to inform the analysis of an energy-reduction initiative or experiment in each case study region, in which stakeholder advisory groups guide the selection of an intervention of particular local relevance.

Principles derived from the lifestyle, structural and initiative studies will be utilised to structure agent-based models of policy implementation and change response. Resultant policy recommendations will describe the necessary changes at systemic level that need to be initiated in order to develop an environmentally-friendly European model of energy policies that respond to the expectations and needs of European cities and rural communities.

Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective

Research area 2.1 Socio-economic development trajectories

Topic 2.1.4 Socio-economic factors and actors that shape the 'post-carbon society'

Proposal | 225503

Estimated EC contribution |
1 375 000 €

Starting date | 01.10.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Pathways for carbon transitions

PACT

Most 'business-as-usual scenarios' built up till now have shown that hydrocarbon resources scarcity and the growing release of greenhouse gases will bring the world far away from sustainability over the next decades. Then, deep changes in behaviours away from 'Business as usual' are unavoidable long before the turn of the century in a move towards a post-carbon society.

Urbanisation and mobility are probably the domains where these changes might be the most important and they will be necessarily driven and limited by socio-economic and cultural forces that will dominate the century. They will induce further deep changes in behaviours of consumers and producers and are likely to deeply impact the use and production of bulk materials, large energy consumers and greenhouse gas emitters.

To address these challenges, key milestones were defined by the EU: a 20 % reduction (minimum) of CO₂ emissions by 2020 (compared to 1990) in Europe; and a reduction of the greenhouse emissions by 2050 and after, so as to limit the increase of the temperature due to climatic change within 2°C.

In this framework, the PACT project objective is to provide strategic decision-support information to decision-makers to achieve these milestones. It will focus on 3 themes:

- what shape the energy demand, and how this should evolve towards post-carbon concept, from the infrastructures view-point, in relation to urbanisation and land-use schemes, and that of the lifestyles and behaviours, in relation to the available technologies;
- the question of urbanisation and land-use from the renewable energy perspective, including that of the systems;
- the role of social forces, actors, stakeholders in the transition process.

PACT will address these issues in two phases: first, by developing the necessary analytical and conceptual framework, second in attempting to quantify scenarios of post-carbon societies at EU and world level by 2050 and beyond, using enhanced versions of the VLEEM and POLES models.

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Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.2 Regional, territorial and social cohesion

Topic 2.2.1 **Regional development challenges in an evolving
international context**

Governance of shrinkage within a European context

SHRINK SMART

The aim of SHRINK SMART is to study the role of policies and governance systems in different types of shrinking urban regions. It is based on comparative case studies from seven urban regions throughout Europe with a focus on disadvantaged urban regions in Eastern and Southern Europe that will provide a basis for analyzing different trajectories of shrinkage, understanding main challenges for urban planning and elaborating alternatives for urban governance.

Firstly, the impact of shrinkage for urban and regional development that are caused by population losses will be identified focusing on different fields; the main challenges will be elaborated in a comparative perspective.

Secondly, the relation between local institutional structures and modes of decision-making on the one hand and the challenges of shrinkage on the other will be analysed. Here, the focus will be on strategies and instruments, on the relation of public and private actors and on institutional frameworks and cross-scale interactions. As a result, different trajectories of shrinkage processes within Europe will be defined and a set of policy recommendations for different constellations of shrinking cities will be developed.

Proposal | 225193

Estimated EC contribution |
1 496 091 €

Starting date | 01.05.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Furthermore, with the aim of providing practicable knowledge for decision-makers, SHRINK SMART will engage in extensive dissemination activities and develop a set of tools and policy recommendations.

Summarizing, SHRINK SMART embarks on the following key objectives:

- to identify main challenges caused by shrinkage for urban and regional development;
- to develop an analytical framework for understanding the challenges of development in different types of shrinking urban regions;
- to draw lessons and develop sustainable and transferable policy-recommendations;
- to establish a network of experts on the phenomenon of shrinking urban regions;
- to discuss the findings with practitioners and policy-makers in order to improve transferability of knowledge into action.

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Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.2 Regional, territorial and social cohesion

Topic 2.2.1 **Regional development challenges in an evolving
international context**

Developing Europe's rural regions in the era of globalization

DERREG

Globalization is one of the key challenges facing rural regions in Europe, bringing significant social, economic, cultural and political changes. Current studies on the impact of globalization on rural regions tend to focus on specific sectors or processes or localities. The absence of an overarching integrative analysis has resulted in the inability of regional development strategies to cope with these challenges.

The objective of the DERREG project is to produce an interpretative model that will enable regional development actors to better anticipate and respond to the key challenges for disadvantaged regions arising from globalization. In doing so, it will expand scientific knowledge and understandings, inform policy development, and identify examples of best practice.

The project is innovative in adopting an integrative approach that synthesises research across four key themes and nine case study regions in different types of rural regions to produce an overarching analysis of the impact of globalization on rural Europe.

Proposal | 225204

Estimated EC contribution |
1 499 211 €

Starting date | 01.01.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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The research will involve both qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. It will develop new methods in areas such as business network analysis.

A further innovation is the linking of the scientific analysis with practical application through the development of an interpretative model.

The consortium comprises 9 partners with expertise in rural and regional research, focusing on Eastern Europe. The consortium has been assembled to provide an appropriate combination of expertise in the areas examined in the project, including rural businesses, migration, sustainable development, capacity-building and gender.

The proposed research will enable policy-makers and other stakeholders involved in regional development to better anticipate and respond to the challenges of globalization. It will support initiatives to increase the capacity of rural businesses to engage with new opportunities and to enhance social cohesion.

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Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.2 Regional, territorial and social cohesion

Topic 2.2.1 **Regional development challenges in an evolving
international context**

Fostering regional innovation and development through anchors and networks

FRIDA

The FRIDA project aims to improve regional policy making within the EU, by advancing state of the art understanding of the importance of anchor firms to regional development and cohesion. Anchor firms are known to be increasingly important to regional development as highly entrepreneurial, multi-national firms restructure and relocate in response to the pressures of globalisation.

However, there is currently a substantial gap in our understanding of the reasons for their qualitatively different impacts on different regions, how and why they assist the development of networks and capabilities in regions, and what local policies make particular regions attractive, and influence anchor firms to contribute towards more cohesion and even development. By addressing these questions, the FRIDA project aims to both improve understanding and contribute towards the effectiveness of policy-making.

The outputs of the project are designed to directly help regional policy-making to better anticipate and respond to economic restructuring by helping create regional governance systems that ensure less developed regions level-up to the most developed regions, rather than more developed regions levelling-down in response to the increasing freedom of movement of capital, production and knowledge.

Proposal | 225546

Estimated EC contribution |
1 275 000 €

Starting date | 01.01.2009

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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In doing so, the project aims to improve development throughout Europe in a way that is more sustainable, even and socially cohesive.

To do this, the FRIDA project will integrate analysis across a range of analytical levels and across advantaged and disadvantaged areas within and between regions. The methodology is innovative in that it moves from a 'bottom-up' micro-analysis of economic action and strategies at the enterprise level to sectoral, regional, national and European levels to explore the role of anchors and networks in driving competitiveness and growth at the firm, regional and cross regional levels.

The project brings together a range of diverse international experts, with well established track records in their fields, to engage in inter-dependent, inter-disciplinary, policy-focused research.

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Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.2 Regional, territorial and social cohesion

Topic 2.2.2 **The impact of Common Agricultural Policies (CAP)
reforms on Europe's rural economies**

Assessing the multiple impacts of the Common Agricultural Policies (CAP) on rural economies

CAP-IRE

European rural areas are undergoing major changes, including the impacts of migration, changes in settlement patterns, demographic ageing, changes in the nature of rural-urban interactions, a decreasing role of agriculture in terms of income and employment, and changes in governance systems.

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is the main expenditure chapter of the EU and is directly affecting the economy of rural areas. Assessing the impact of the CAP will help in re-addressing the CAP in the wider framework of EU policy objectives.

The objective of the project CAP-IRE is to develop concepts and tools to support future CAP design, based on an improved understanding of long term socio-economic mechanisms of change in rural areas.

The focus will be farm households as the reference agents in the connection between policy and socio-economic change, as well as between agriculture and other sectors of the economy.

Concepts and tools will be developed, shaped by state of art literature and a wide empirical testing. Coverage includes case study regions in 9 countries of the EU.

Proposal | 216672

Estimated EC contribution |
1 499 720 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Account of the wider non-EU and non-rural scenarios will be taken. The first step of the project will be to devise concepts and tools able to fill the gaps in present knowledge on development in rural areas. In the second step, these concepts and tools will be applied in an empirical analysis of mechanisms of change in selected case study areas. In a third step, tools will be used to assess the impact of CAP in the selected areas.

Expected results concern:

- an improved conceptual view of CAP relationships in the context of changing rural areas and a framework to assess reciprocal impacts between CAP and other drivers of change in a long term perspective;
- models and tools to assess changes in rural areas, with particular attention to the connection between CAP and other drivers;
- an assessment of present dynamics of change, including impacts of CAP in the selected case study areas.

Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.2 Regional, territorial and social cohesion

Topic 2.2.2 **The impact of Common Agricultural Policies (CAP)
reforms on Europe's rural economies**

Proposal | 217381

Estimated EC contribution |
1 399 331 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Rural future networks

RUFUS

As the objectives of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) shift from an agricultural-centred approach to wider rural development, the idea of multifunctionality of rural areas comes into play.

This in turn brings the CAP into closer association with a wide range of sectoral policy regimes: regional policy, spatial planning, environmental management, social, energy policy, and others. Sectoral regimes interact in complex ways, and with a determining effect on the sustainable development of rural areas.

RUFUS will provide policy-makers and stakeholders with better theoretical and practical understandings of how CAP measures interact with other forms of public intervention in rural development and how policy regimes can be combined to ensure more sustainable development.

RUFUS will investigate how rural development policy can be targeted at the specific endogenous potential of rural regions to encourage multiple functionality which goes beyond physical landscape potentials to include social and economic activities and opportunities.

An interdisciplinary methodology will build into the analysis a qualitative analysis of the social dimension and endogenous potentials, alongside economic and ecological variables.

RUFUS will establish a transdisciplinary conceptual framework on policy integration and rural multifunctionality. It will create a rural typology incorporating social aspects and endogenous potentials. Scenarios of rural futures – the trajectory of policy interaction processes – will be generated. These quantitative findings will be ‘tested’ against the reality of stakeholder experiences of regional development dynamics through case studies using visualisation techniques.

The relevance of the findings for other regions will be examined with the help of an expert panel. Special emphasis is given to combining findings with other research, setting them in the context of political goals and policy problems, and transposing them into practical and meaningful recommendations for action.

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Activity 2 Combining economic, social and environmental objectives
in a European perspective

Research area 2.2 Regional, territorial and social cohesion

Topic 2.2.3 Social platform on cities and social cohesion

Social platform on cities and social cohesion

SOCIAL POLIS

This proposal outlines the organisation and strategic activities of a social platform, 'Social Polis', for the development of a research agenda and scientific dialogue addressing the role of cities and social cohesion.

Its central purpose is to engage significant stakeholders from the scientific, civil society and governance sectors in establishing key scientific and policy issues for the agenda, informing focussed and coherent calls for proposals on the socio-economic sciences and humanities (SSH) thematic priority of the 7th EU Research Framework Programme (FP7).

Social Polis will mobilise a wide range of relevant findings, recommendations and scientific/practitioner networks from previous research projects under the 4th, 5th and 6th Framework Programmes. Building on these experiences, Social Polis will organise consultation with a wide network of researchers and other stakeholders, including small-scale workshops and one large scale final conference.

Proposal | 217157

Estimated EC contribution |
1 482 228 €

Starting date | 01.12.2007

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Coordination and support action
(support action)

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Social Polis will make four substantive contributions:

- a focused, critical review of research on cities and social cohesion;
- a focused agenda of effective research proposed for FP7;
- establishment of a social platform of and for scientific, policy and practice stakeholders for these purposes;
- production of educational resources for stakeholders.

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Activity 3 | Major trends in society
and their implications

Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.1 Demographic changes

Topic 3.1.1 The impact of demographic changes in Europe

Activating senior potential in ageing Europe

ASPA

The dejuvenation and ageing of Europe's population puts society for some major challenges.

The development towards a knowledge-based society requires continued investment in new knowledge and skills.

Given the ageing of the population and low fertility rates it also requires high(er) participation rates of females and people over fifty.

So far, employers' and governments' policies have focused on human capital investments for the younger age categories and have stimulated older workers to retire at a relatively early age, instead of investing in sustainable workers throughout the life course.

This proposal aims for an ambitious, exhaustive examination of the forces and mechanisms behind employers' and governments' behaviour and the resulting societal arrangements.

Proposal | 216289

Estimated EC contribution |
1 489 803 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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To that aim it will use large scale surveys for the analyses of employers' behaviour and desk research and interviews to map government behaviour.

Statistical and focus group analyses will be used to get insight in the participation and activity rates of people between 50 to 70.

Next, the project tries to identify good practices at the company level and at the level of (national or local) government policies that contribute to continuous investment in knowledge and skills throughout the life course, resulting in high activity rates for people between 50 and 70.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.1 Demographic changes

Topic 3.1.1 The impact of demographic changes in Europe

Demographic change and housing wealth

DEMHOW

DEMHOW will investigate links between demographic change and housing wealth.

Whereas those who rent their homes may have no housing wealth at all, for many older Europeans – perhaps 75 % of the total – housing is their single largest item of wealth. But, increasing numbers do not have children to whom their wealth might be bequeathed.

The potential of housing assets is that they offer:

- older households a way of increasing their consumption;
- governments a way to respond to the pension crisis;
- financial institutions a way to increase business.

Proposal | 216865

Estimated EC contribution |
1 262 193 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 33 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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DEMHOW will investigate the ways in which, across Member States, ageing populations and housing wealth are linked, how housing wealth has been used in the past and how attitudes to its use in old age are changing.

In addition, it will investigate developments in policy and in financial markets that may encourage its use as a form of pension, and assess the characteristics of housing assets as a form of pension.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.1 Demographic changes

Topic 3.1.1 The impact of demographic changes in Europe

Long-run economic perspectives of an ageing society

LEPAS

This project integrates into modern dynamic macro-economics a biologically founded process of individual ageing, i.e. ageing understood as the gradual deterioration of the functioning of body and mind. It investigates theoretically and quantitatively how ageing affects the health and productivity of older people. Using models of endogenous economic growth, the project assesses how the feedback effects of ageing on investment and education affect long-run economic growth, competitiveness, and welfare of the EU Member States. With multi-country models it is analysed how ageing influences human capital formation and migration flows in Europe. Using models of optimal retirement decisions it is investigated how ageing impacts on the contribution and employability of older workers and how this feeds back to issues of intergenerational solidarity. With models of endogenous R&D the project explores how ageing interacts with technological progress and assesses how ageing will affect the EU's capacity to innovate and to develop. Moreover, it is investigated how ageing interacts with health demand and supply and how this feeds back to the macro-economy. The project also gives insights into whether the EU's market economies and public sectors provide too much or too little health care.

The project emphasises that in order to fully understand the effect of ageing on the economy, it is necessary to develop an economic theory of ageing that takes into account the

Proposal | 217275

Estimated EC contribution |
974 601 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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endogenous evolution of human frailty and disability, because only if we understand both the biological and economic forces behind the changes in the functional status of human beings during their lives will we be able to analyse the economic determinants of successful aging. Thus, the project integrates a conception of human senescence into macro-economics that is founded in the life sciences. The expected milestone is a new theoretical framework based on economic and biological foundations in which it is possible to analyze the endogenous evolution of morbidity along the life cycle, and its impact on education, savings, health demand, productivity, and growth.

Important aspects of the financial crisis can be addressed within the LEPAS project. In particular the long-run consequences of the current events can be ideally discussed within dynamic models (of the life cycle or dynastic type) developed under LEPAS. Since these models will be of the dynamic general equilibrium type they take into account important dynamic feedback mechanisms, which are less frequently emphasized in the current public debate. It is expected that the models developed will give reason to expect a less grim future outlook for the long run than currently predicted by some economists and journalists for the short run. This is so because a dynamic general equilibrium framework reveals the opportunities created by a major negative shock of (financial) wealth.

Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.1 Demographic changes

Topic 3.1.1 The impact of demographic changes in Europe

How demographic changes shape intergenerational solidarity, well-being, and social integration: a multilinks framework

MULTILINKS

The objective of this project is to investigate how changing social contexts, from macro-societal to micro-interpersonal, affect social integration, well-being and intergenerational solidarity across different European nations. Debates on ageing societies predominantly focus on the circumstances of the old.

The MULTILINKS approach builds from three key premises. First, ageing affects all age groups: the young, the middle-aged, and the old. Second, there are critical interdependencies between family generations and between men and women. Third, we must recognize and distinguish analytical levels: the individual, dyad (parent-child, partners), family, region, historical generation, and country.

Building from these premises, we examined:

- multiple linkages in families (e.g. transfers up and down family lineages, interdependencies between older and younger family members);
- multiple linkages across time (measures at different points in time, at different points in the individual and family life course);

Proposal | 217523

Estimated EC contribution |
1 499 694 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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- multiple linkages between, on the one hand, national and regional contexts (e.g. policy regimes, economic circumstances, normative climate, religiosity), and, on the other hand, individual behaviour, well-being and values.

By identifying intergenerational care regimes (i.e. combinations of child care provisions and provisions for the frail old) and their shortcomings, MULTILINKS will contribute to the substantive understanding of the risks of becoming socially isolated and/or lacking necessary supports.

A consortium of eight partners organized in six teams will carry out the project. All partners are involved in the Gender and Generations Programme, a system of nationally comparative surveys and contextual databases, which aims at improving the knowledge base for policy-making in UNECE countries. Currently, data are available from twelve countries.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.1 Demographic changes

Topic 3.1.2 Determinants of birth rates across the European Union

Reproductive decision-making in a macro-micro perspective

REPRO

The main objective of the REPRO project is to upgrade the existing knowledge and to generate new scientific and policy-oriented knowledge on the factors that drive changes in the birth rates and influence the reproductive decision-making of contemporary Europeans.

REPRO incorporates analyses in macro, micro, and macro-micro perspectives.

At the macro-level, we describe recent fertility trends observed across Europe and examine their association with selected macro-level social, economic and institutional indicators. At the micro-level we use the social-psychological theory of planned behaviour to analyse the process of reproductive decision-making.

The theory will be developed to fit specific demographic research on fertility intentions of individuals as well as of couples. We also use panel data to obtain insights into the realisation or non-realisation of fertility intentions.

Proposal | 217173

Estimated EC contribution |
1 295 152 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
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To this end, we make use of economic, sociological, and cultural theoretical approaches whose application has proved useful. The analyses at the micro-level are furthered by inferences based on available qualitative surveys. The macro-micro approach integrates the findings reached at the macro and at the micro-level using comparable data sets on fertility intentions and behaviours available in most European countries and multi-level statistical techniques.

This integrated approach sheds light on the impact and inter-relatedness of diverse factors such as work patterns and employment, family formation, housing, gender roles and factors related to ideational change, cultural specifics and institutional settings. Finally, the integrated method of research generates knowledge that can be streamed into relevant policy construction and implementation.

A synthesis of all findings will be performed to serve as a sound basis for drawing valuable policy implications.

Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.1 Demographic changes

Topic 3.1.3 Migration

Proposal | 217206

Estimated EC contribution |
1 498 954 €

Starting date | 01.10.2008

Duration | 42 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
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Migration between Africa and Europe

MAFE

African migration has become a major concern for European policy-makers.

New policy measures are engaged, but they rely on a poor understanding of the underlying causes and consequences of African migration.

The MAFE project aims to overcome this lack of understanding by pursuing three interrelated objectives:

- to create a unique data set on Afro-European migration. Comparable data will be collected in both sending and receiving countries, i.e. in sub-Saharan Africa and Europe. The project aim is to replicate a survey applied to study Senegalese migration on new populations, i.e. Congolese and Ghanaians. The methodology used in the project is built upon key studies on international migration in the world. The data will be representative, longitudinal and multilevel;
- to provide new analyses through innovative techniques. Using this new data, the MAFE project will employ methods of longitudinal data analysis to provide policy-makers with new insights on the changing patterns and determinants of migrations between Africa and Europe, as well as on the socioeconomic changes associated with international migration;

- to foster a policy dialogue. MAFE fully integrates a process of policy dialogue in its design. Various stakeholders have already been consulted and will follow the development of the project. Research findings will be disseminated through various channels to reach a large audience (working papers, policy briefs, etc.). The MAFE database will be made available for the research community at the end of the project.

The overall idea underpinning the project is that migration must not be seen only as a one-way flow from Africa to Europe. We rather argue that return migration, circulation, transnational practices are significant and must also be understood in order to correctly design migration policies. Hence the project denomination: 'Migration between Africa and Europe'.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.1 Demographic changes

Topic 3.1.3 Migration

Transnationalisation, migration and transformation: multi-level analysis of migrant transnationalism

TRANS-NET

The objective of this project is to clarify and compare the complex process of transnationalism.

During the past few years, transnationalism has attained ever greater importance and topicality due to the increase in transnational mobility of people. In order to attain a comprehensive and valid insight into the topic in question we adopt a multi-level approach.

The research conducted in Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, India, Morocco, Turkey, and the United Kingdom addresses both policy documents and individual migrants, including labour migrants, posted workers, family-based migrants, humanitarian migrants, and foreign degree students.

The focus lies on their transnational networks and political, economic, and socio-cultural activities. Moreover, the topic of transnational empowering is of central importance.

Proposal | 217226

Estimated EC contribution |
1 499 920 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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The following transnational spaces will be taken as the main units to analyse the border-crossing relationships:

- Estonia/Finland;
- India/UK;
- Morocco/France;
- Turkey/Germany.

Research data will be gathered through content analysis of policy documents and semi-structured and life-course interviews among a selected sample of respondents in each participating country.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.2 Societal trends and lifestyles

Topic 3.2.1 Youth and social exclusion

Youth, unemployment, and exclusion in Europe: a multidimensional approach to understanding the conditions and prospects for social and political integration of young unemployed

YOUNEX

This research aims to advance knowledge on the causes, processes, and perspectives for change related to the social and political exclusion of unemployed youth.

The main objectives of YOUNEX are to:

- generate a new body of data on young unemployed (in particular, young long-term unemployed), but also precarious youth;
- advance theory and extend knowledge on the social and political exclusion of young unemployed;
- provide practical insights into the potential paths for the social and political integration of young unemployed.

The overall design of the research has three main components:

- a multidimensional theoretical framework that combines macro-level, meso-level, and micro-level explanatory factors while taking into account various dimensions of exclusion (social and political exclusion, individual well-being);

Proposal | 216122

Estimated EC contribution |
1 460 560 €

Starting date | 01.05.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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- a cross-national comparative design that includes European countries with different institutional approaches to unemployment (France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Sweden, and Switzerland);
- an integrated methodological approach based on multiple sources and methods (analysis of state and EU policies and practices towards unemployment, a survey of organizations active in the field, a survey of young long-term unemployed and precarious youth, in-depth interviews with young long-term unemployed, and focus groups with stakeholders).

Three important features of the proposed research underscore its innovative impact: its comparative approach allowing for bench-marking and best-practice analysis; its multidimensional approach allowing to consider the mediating impact of (European, national, or local) public policy on the way people cope with their situation of unemployed; its interactive research process spurring policy-learning by bringing together different expertise and knowledge, and allowing at the same time for the transfer of scientific findings into policy recommendations.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.2 Societal trends and lifestyles

Topic 3.2.1 Youth and social exclusion

Proposal | 217223

Estimated EC contribution |
770 173 €

Starting date | 01.05.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Combating social exclusion among young homeless populations: a comparative investigation of homeless paths and reinsertion programmes for young men and women of different ethnic and migrant statuses

CSEYHP

Embroidered on the Lisbon Strategy, this research project meets the EU guidelines for youth policy by focusing on socially excluded youth – homeless young people and those at risk of homelessness – and promoting a dynamic understanding of their life trajectories.

It takes into account gender, ethnic minority and migrant status and its policy outcomes and programme recommendations will also apply to those with low education qualifications, and poorer employment and social integration prospects. It involves the active participation of young people as co-researchers.

Levels of youth homelessness vary between European countries in relation to the patterns of support available to young people and within countries in relation to gender, ethnic minority group and migrant status.

However, even Mediterranean societies, with strong family support systems, have begun to experience youth homelessness amongst local as well as migrant populations.

In Northern Europe interventionist programmes have been developed designed to structure case work with hostel dwellers (the Netherlands '8 Step' Programme) and prevent youth

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homelessness among those at risk through a cluster of local services (the UK 'Safe Moves' programme).

Working with NGOs, CSEYHP will:

- study the life trajectories of homeless youth populations in different national contexts, identifying risk, processes of social exclusion and points of reinsertion;
- introduce and investigate the use of the '8 Step' and 'Safe Moves' programmes with NGOs working with homeless youth in the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Portugal and Czech Republic;
- investigate the roles of trusted adults, lead professionals, peer mentors and family members in delivering reinsertion strategies;
- develop the concepts of risk, social exclusion and shelter exclusion both theoretically and practically.

Expected impacts include change in the working practice of NGOs, empowerment for young people and national and EU recognition of the issue of youth homelessness.

Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.2 Societal trends and lifestyles

Topic 3.2.1 Youth and social exclusion

Young people from a public care background: pathways to education in Europe

YIPPEE

This project investigates post-compulsory educational pathways among young people who spent at least one of their childhood years in the care of public authorities or child protection agencies.

Young men and women from a public care background are among the most economically and socially excluded groups in European nations yet the pathways by which they might overcome their childhood disadvantages through further and higher education are virtually unknown.

The high level of social exclusion among young people from a public care background, coupled with some evidence of their heterogeneity and resourcefulness, makes this discreet group a valuable case for investigating the educational prospects for, achievements of, and barriers facing all socially excluded young people.

The overall aim of the proposed project is to contribute to the knowledge and policy development and changes in practice that may lead to the retention of many more young men and women from a public care background in education after the end of compulsory schooling and to open up the prospect of further and higher education to them.

Proposal | 217297

Estimated EC contribution |
1 484 030 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 32 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Specific objectives are to:

- map current knowledge about educational participation among young people from a public care background;
- track and evaluate the educational plans and pathways of a sample of 19-21 year-olds from a public care background;
- identify the conditions within the care and education systems that facilitate or inhibit entry to and continuation in post-compulsory education;
- explore young people's constructions of educational identities and trajectories in terms of class, gender, race, ethnicity and care responsibilities both from the perspective of young men and women themselves and of carers and staff in services designed to support them.

Using a highly experienced five EU country research team, and a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, the project will provide a national overview and in-depth analysis.

Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.2 Societal trends and lifestyles

Topic 3.2.1 Youth and social exclusion

Ethnic differences in education and diverging prospects for urban youth in an enlarged Europe

EDUMIGROM

The proposed research project aims to study how ethnic differences in education contribute to the diverging prospects for minority ethnic youth and their peers in urban settings.

Through a comparative endeavour involving nine countries from among old and new Member States of the European Union, EDUMIGROM will explore how far existing educational policies, practices and experiences in markedly different welfare regimes protect minority ethnic youth against marginalisation and eventual social exclusion.

Despite great variations in economic development and welfare arrangements, recent developments seem to lead to similar consequences for certain groups of second-generation immigrants in the western half of the continent and Roma in Central and Eastern Europe.

Formally citizens with full rights in the respective states, people affiliated with these groups tend to experience new and intensive forms of involuntary separation, social exclusion, and second-class citizenship.

Proposal | 217384

Estimated EC contribution |
1 291 892 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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The project critically examines the role of education in these processes of 'minoritisation'. In ethnically diverse urban communities, schools often become targets for locally organised political struggles shaped by a broader political and civic culture of ethnic mobilisation.

EDUMIGROM investigates how schools operate in their roles of socialisation and knowledge distribution, and how they influence young people's identity formation.

The project also explores how schools contribute to reducing, maintaining, or deepening inequalities in young people's access to the labour market, further education and training, and also to different domains of social, cultural, and political participation.

The results of macro-level investigations, a comparative survey and multi-faceted field research in local settings will provide rich datasets for intra- and cross-country comparisons and evidence-based policy-making.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.2 Societal trends and lifestyles

Topic 3.2.1 Youth and social exclusion

On the margins of the European community – Young adult immigrants in seven European countries

EUMARGINS

The extents to which different groups of young adult migrants are socially included or excluded, and the factors that facilitate inclusion or help cause exclusion is a vital issue for young adult immigrants, the nations they have joined, and the European Union whose policies have facilitated large volumes and rapid rates of change in migrant flows.

The central concept of EUMARGINS is that there are a range of factors that inhibit, or encourage, the abilities of individuals and groups to make the transition from excluded to included within societies.

The principal aim of EUMARGINS is to identify and prioritise those factors that matter most (for specific young adult migrant groups and in different countries as well as for all young adult migrant groups and across Europe) and to lay a foundation for recommendations that can assist the transitions from exclusion to inclusion, particularly focusing on dominant factors of unemployment/jobs and the related education aspects.

Given these premises the project focuses upon young individuals with immigrant origin in seven local urban-metropolitan areas in seven different European countries.

Proposal | 217524

Estimated EC contribution |
1 418 731 €

Starting date | 01.10.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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In every research setting most and less marginalised immigrant groups will be investigated in order to provide a comparative framework also at the local level.

Major social domain will be education and labour market. These are the most important arenas in which young adults have to establish themselves as active social actors in society.

Other relevant areas of young adults' interest such as leisure and socio-political activism will also be considered.

The study focuses upon the experiences of social inclusion/exclusion among young adults with immigrant background living in Oslo, Göteborg, London, Genova, Metz, Barcelona and Tallinn.

EUMARGINS is based on a combination of biographical and ethnographical data-collection in the above mentioned cities, and in addition, analysis of available statistical data on relevant literature.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.3 Cultural interactions in an international perspective

Topic 3.3.1 Cultural interactions and multiculturalism in European societies

Finding a place for Islam in Europe: cultural interactions between Muslim immigrants and receiving societies

EURISLAM

The central research question of this project is: how have different traditions of national identity, citizenship, and church-state relations affected European immigration countries' incorporation of Islam, and what are the consequences of these approaches for patterns of cultural distance and interaction between Muslim immigrants and their descendants, and the receiving society? We answer this question by focusing on three specific research questions:

- what are the differences between European immigration countries in how they deal with cultural and religious differences of immigrant groups in general, and of Muslims in particular? This question has two aspects. First, the more formal aspect of legislation and jurisprudence, which we will address by way of gathering a systematic set of cross-national indicators using secondary sources. Secondly, cultural relations are also affected importantly by how conceptions of national identity, citizenship, church-state relations, and the position of Islam in relation to these, are framed and contested in the public sphere;
- to what extent do we find differences across immigration countries in cultural distance and patterns of interaction between various Muslim immigrant groups and the receiving society population? On the one hand, we will focus here on attitudes, norms, and values. On the other hand, we will look at cultural and religious resources and practices;

Proposal | 217028

Estimated EC contribution |
1 448 283 €

Starting date | 01.02.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
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- to what extent can cross-national differences in cultural distance and patterns of interethnic and interreligious interaction be explained by the different approaches that immigration countries have followed towards the management of cultural difference in general, and Islam in particular?

Our research therefore focuses on the six numerically most important destination countries of Muslims during the period until 1980: France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Switzerland. We will include the following four groups from distinct cultural and geographic regions of origin: Turks, Moroccans, Pakistani, and former Yugoslav Muslims. Based on the size of the groups in the destination countries, Turks and Moroccans will be studied in all six countries, Pakistani in all countries except in Belgium and Switzerland, and former Yugoslav Muslims in all countries except in Belgium and Britain.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.3 Cultural interactions in an international perspective

Topic 3.3.1 Cultural interactions and multiculturalism in European societies

Gender, migration and intercultural interactions in the Mediterranean and South East Europe: an interdisciplinary perspective

GEMIC

Ge.M.IC will study 'Cultural Interactions in a European Perspective' through a tripartite conceptual and methodological approach, whose aim will be to identify links between migration, gender and intercultural interaction, as it is in the meeting place of these three dimensions that some of the most important cultural developments in Europe take place.

Ge.M.IC will approach these questions from a critical perspective emphasizing in particular the impact of migrant mobility and cultural diversity on gender relations in host, transit and sending societies.

Research will be of an interdisciplinary nature in accordance with the broad range of expertise of the researchers collaborating in the project.

Proposal | 216065

Estimated EC contribution |
1 019 280 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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The organization of work will reflect the inter-ethnic and inter-disciplinary character of the consortium focusing both fieldwork and analysis on six thematic areas of study, rather than on national case studies: representations of national identity and the media, education, urban social spaces and movements, religion, violence, and the family.

Ge.M.IC will generate new and important insights in these thematic areas, taking advantage of the diverse areas of expertise of different researchers and their mutual commitment to studying gender and addressing issues of gender equality as a central aspect of research.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.3 Cultural interactions in an international perspective

Topic 3.3.1 Cultural interactions and multiculturalism in European societies

Genereting interethnic tolerance and neighbourhood integration in European urban spaces

GEITONIES

In the context of the growth of diversification within European nation states there has been much debate in public and policy discourse regarding the cultural specifics of immigrant groups and their descendents.

As global processes and events have stressed cultural differences concerns about the cohesion of society, related often to a perceived cultural mismatch between immigrant and indigenous groups, have propelled multiculturalism and integration to the top of the political agenda.

Whilst there has been a trend across several European states where a discourse of failing multiculturalism has been accompanied by fears regarding integration, the republican model in France has also been criticised due to its failure to recognise inequality and diversity.

Both of these perspectives have been further endorsed by recent urban conflicts in different European cities.

These policy shifts and debates are also relevant to the newer destinations of the South where issues of integration are pertinent as in the new reception countries of the East. Whilst being politically important these debates reveal a gap in the evidence base regarding how and in what form cultural engagement and communication actually occurs in urban settings and on the subsequent impacts on integration in social and economic terms.

Proposal | 216184

Estimated EC contribution |
1 462 753 €

Starting date | 01.05.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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This cross-comparative project intends to address these issues from a relational perspective through the lens of place, assuming that in contemporary multi-ethnic cities spaces of intercultural communication and engagement are vital to promote tolerance and cohesion.

A survey will be administered not only to immigrants but also indigenous individuals in 6 European cities at the neighbourhood level, given this is a place where daily social practises, representations and group relations develop.

Furthermore, the role that place or neighbourhood dynamics (in their national/urban contexts) play in developing or hindering intercultural interaction and tolerance will be deliberated.

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Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.3 Cultural interactions in an international perspective

Topic 3.3.1 Cultural interactions and multiculturalism in European societies

Religious education in a multi-cultural society: school and home in comparative context

REMC

This study explores the transmission of religious beliefs and values through the education system and the family across different EU country contexts.

Firstly, it examines the importance of religious denomination in school choice. Secondly, it explores how religious beliefs and values are transmitted in the course of primary education across different countries.

The study will use both primary research and secondary analysis of existing data sources. The study will use existing cross-national data to assess the treatment of majority and minority religious groups along with those with secular beliefs across different European contexts. This will identify different models of how religious belief is treated in diverse educational systems.

Located within this broad overview, primary research will be carried out in primary schools in Belgium (Flanders), Germany, Ireland, Malta, and Scotland, countries with very different religious compositions and educational systems.

Proposal | 217028

Estimated EC contribution |
833 628 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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This research will involve case-studies of schools selected to capture diversity in school policy and practice.

Within these schools, interviews will be carried out with school principals, teachers, members of the board of management, parents and students themselves to provide a holistic picture of the interaction between home and school in shaping the transmission of religious belief.

The results of the study will be disseminated widely through seminars and publications as well as a public website.

This innovative project will contribute to the conceptualisation of religious socialisation within multicultural settings and to policy development in the educational arena by highlighting the role of religion in school choice as well as potential tensions between home and school regarding religious formation and practice.

Activity 3 Major trends in society and their implications

Research area 3.3 Cultural interactions in an international perspective

Topic 3.3.1 Cultural interactions and multiculturalism in European societies

Media and citizenship: transnational television cultures reshaping political identity in the European Union

MEDIA & CITIZENSHIP

Media & Citizenship studies the ways transnational media, in particular Arabic language television, reshape the political landscapes of citizenship (Area 8.5.1) in the European Union. It provides the first European wide empirical research on the use of Arabic language television and its effect on integration in multicultural societies (Area 8.3.1).

After collecting ratings data across 7 EU nations, focus group studies explore how Arabic speakers themselves construct citizenship in the light of their media use, and their adopted national cultures.

Models of democratic participation continue to be based on the nation state, while political debate is no longer contained within its boundaries.

Concerns around extreme expressions of Islamic fundamentalism on one hand, and the advance of moral panics around a threatening religious difference on the other, have brought Muslim communities into the core of political and media debates about citizenship in Europe.

Proposal | 217480

Estimated EC contribution |
1 240 225 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Those communities now have access to a shared ‘public sphere’, the space of Arabic language television.

The project will gather quantitative and qualitative comparative empirical data on the use of Arabic language television in Europe, in order to deliver well founded policy advice on issues relating to the media and its regulation.

The project works with Arabic speakers on their understandings of citizenship, derived from the media on the one hand and imposed by citizenship testing regimes on the other, in order to involve the community to influence policy at the national and European level.

The project will be disseminated to the community through public meetings with stakeholders and a documentary.

Activity 4 | Europe and the world

Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.1 Interactions and interdependences between world regions and their implications

Topic 4.1.1 Europe's role in global economic governance

Politics, economics and global governance: the European dimensions

PEGGED

The long-standing US-EU partnership and dominance of a range of international institutions (IMF, World Bank, Security Council, etc.) is rapidly breaking down under the impact of shifting interdependencies and power relationships.

In this sense, global economic governance is at a crucial cross-roads. If a more complex and multi-polar world is now emerging, interwoven with bilateral agreements and a proliferation of regional efforts of uncertain outcome and dimensions, it is unclear how co-operation will be organised in the future and by whom.

Global economic governance is riddled with worrisome uncertainties, yet this offers clear opportunities for an alliance between scholars pushing the bounds in terms of analysis, and EU policy entrepreneurs in terms of action.

Europe must play a major part in the reform and reinforcement of global governance mechanisms, but in order to do so the EU requires a clear definition of its self-interest, a correspondingly clear sense of purpose and objectives, and the internal coherence and institutional capacity to exercise leadership. Now is the time for Europe to project a vision of how the global system should evolve, and to act.

Proposal | 217559

Estimated EC contribution |
3 306 000 €

Starting date | 01.07.2008

Duration | 48 months

Funding scheme |
Large scale project

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The project begins with four research domains:

- macro-economic adjustment and governance;
- the integration of markets for finance and investment;
- the integration of markets for trade in goods and services;
- migration and the mobility of labour.

These are questions where a combined analysis by political scientists and economists is necessary if workable and real-world policy solutions are to be developed and prevail.

Ultimately, the legitimacy of global governance depends on input and representation in the decision-making process of global governance, and on the output or policy outcome in terms of growth, distribution, and compensation for the losers.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.1 Interactions and interdependences between world regions and their implications

Topic 4.1.2 Development paths in an historical and comparative perspective and their impact on Europe

Historical patterns of development and underdevelopment: origins and persistence of the great divergence

HI-POD

Understanding the 'great' and 'little' divergences between Northwest Europe and the rest of Europe, and between Europe and the rest of the world, implies considerable challenges, both in terms of quantification and analysis.

In terms of quantification, the major European challenges are to be found in the pre-1800 period, although much work remains to be done in quantifying post-1800 performance elsewhere.

This proposed research project fits very tightly with the objectives of this call. We will be explicitly exploring the 'relations between world regions and the factors shaping different development paths in a historical perspective' (Area 8.4.1).

Proposal | 225342

Estimated EC contribution |
1 343 507 €

Starting date | 01.11.2008

Duration | 48 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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We will be explicitly focussing on the experiences of Asia, Africa and Latin America, and will be drawing not only upon European-based scholars but on a Latin American partner to this end (Activity 8.4). In terms of the specific topic addressed, 'SSH-2007-4.1.2', the proposal focuses explicitly on the way in which 'development processes have and are being affected by relations between world regions and countries', and on the links between uneven development and such relationships.

The project will indeed look at whether and how uneven development is linked to such relations, both past and present; at 'the extent to which historical relationships such as colonial and post-colonial relations affect today's development paths'; at 'the role of urbanisation'; and at 'gender and development relations', to which we will be devoting an entire work package.

Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.1 Interactions and interdependences between world regions and their implications

Topic 4.1.2 Development paths in an historical and comparative perspective and their impact on Europe

Models and their effects on development paths: An ethnographic and comparative approach to knowledge transmission and livelihood strategies

MEDEA

The project interrogates the impact of development paths on the livelihoods and life projects of citizens. Starting from the premise that the analysis of (dominant or alternative) development paths must be situated within the complexities of historically unfolding links and relationships, we shall explore how they are 'practiced' in specific environments.

Central questions address:

- how development models interact with specific socio-economic contexts;
- the effects of these interactions on transmissions and innovation of knowledge/skills;
- how specific development paths affect livelihood strategies.

An interdisciplinary approach combines qualitative research and comparative methodologies with modelling to explore the dynamic effects of development models as they are implemented in specific contexts, at micro and macro-levels.

We hypothesise that:

- there is a lack of fit between the formal design of development models and their concrete applications;

Proposal | 225670

Estimated EC contribution |
1 100 322 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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- the transmission of knowledge/skills is central to effective development;
- knowledge/skills (both tacit and explicit) are transmitted through formal and informal mechanisms, for example between gender and generations in families and neighbourhoods;
- political and economic disruptions constitute situations of crisis in this transmission but at the same time afford opportunities for innovation.

Focusing on connections between skills, work and unemployment in relation to heavy industry, the research will identify critical points in the shift in demand for knowledge across generations, regions and economic spheres.

An ethnographic approach enables a detailed account of social networks (encompassing those of solidarity and support) within and beyond work places, including strategic friendship, kinship and neighbourhood relations.

The project will thus contribute to the comparative analysis of development models, generating recommendations for more complex and context-sensitive approaches.

Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.2 Conflicts, peace and human rights

Topic 4.2.1 Conflicts and peace

Proposal | 210615

Estimated EC contribution |
998 102 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Research for the benefit
of specific groups

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Involving transnational communities – Civil society forum on conflicts

INFOCON

INFOCON is the unique result of extensive consultations and discussions between members of civil society and leading scholars in various disciplines.

These consultations have been synthesised into the objectives of the proposed project. The overall objective of the project is to create a better understanding of how Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) representing Transnational Communities (TCs) can help in preventing and resolving conflicts in Europe and the world.

Under this overall objective INFOCON strives to attain the following specific objectives:

- provide recommendations and strategic tools for CSOs based on the project's results in order to increase the efficiency and involvement of CSOs in the elaboration of policies related to transnational communities and conflicts;
- verify past research on TCs and their role in conflicts with the benefit of CSOs' experience and their involvement in the research process. It also addresses the current gap between civil society knowledge and academic expertise;

- advance the scientific knowledge on the dynamics and current potential role of CSOs in different conflicts by elaborating new and innovative comparisons of TCs across Europe (four cities: Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels and London) and the world (three regions of origin: Turkey, Kosovo and Great Lakes);
- provide conflict-sensitive policy recommendations in order to enhance current conflict policy and to use the leverage and opportunities that transnational community CSOs offer in the field of conflict and peace;
- significantly contribute to public debate on the role of TCs in conflicts and conflict policies by large scale dissemination activities aimed at fostering global communication and connectivity.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.2 Conflicts, peace and human rights

Topic 4.2.1 Conflicts and peace

Proposal | 217335

Estimated EC contribution |
1 488 861 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
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Diasporas for peace: patterns, trends and potential of long-distance diaspora involvement in conflict settings. Case studies from the Horn of Africa

DIASPEACE

DIASPEACE seeks to generate policy-relevant, evidence-based knowledge on how diasporas (exiled populations from conflict regions) play into the dynamics of conflict and peace in their countries of origin.

The project has an empirical focus on diaspora networks operating in Europe which extend their transnational activities to the Horn of Africa. This is a region where decades of violent conflict have resulted in state collapse and the dispersal of more than two million people.

The project will conduct field research in seven European countries and in Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

In a globalised world diasporas have become new forces shaping the interactions between countries, regions and continents. On one hand, they are seen to fuel conflict by transferring remittances and logistic support to the warring parties, and to exacerbate tensions through radical mobilisation along ethnic and religious lines. On the other hand, diaspora groups are playing an increasingly prominent role in peace and reconciliation processes.

There is a need for a balanced empirical account of the nature, motivations and impact of transnational diaspora activities in conflict settings.

DIASPEACE aims to:

- devise and test methodologies of multi-sited comparative research and to develop the conceptual framework for researching migrant political transnationalism in a conflict context;
- facilitate interaction between diaspora and other stakeholders in Europe and in the Horn of Africa;
- provide policy input on how to better involve diaspora in conflict resolution and peace-building interventions, and how to improve coherence between security, development and immigration policies.

The consortium involves six partners from Europe and two from the Horn of Africa, bringing together cross-disciplinary expertise from the fields of conflict analysis, migration studies and anthropology among others. The project is coordinated by the University of Jyväskylä in Finland.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.2 Conflicts, peace and human rights

Topic 4.2.1 Conflicts and peace

Proposal | 217488

Estimated EC contribution |
1 497 038 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Just and durable peace by piece

JAD-PBP

Peace is elusive and the quest for peace is perpetual. In Iraq, Afghanistan and the Middle East, peace and war exist in parallel and contemporary peace support operations simultaneously involve combat operations and building peace.

Hence, the goal of establishing just and durable peace is a fundamental challenge to contemporary peacemakers and academics alike. In order to shed new theoretical and conceptual light on the problematique of building just and durable peace and to offer policy-relevant advice, the team JAD-PbP has identified three critical challenges, which constitute the core of the proposal.

The first challenge focuses on the quest for justice in contemporary peace processes, which has become increasingly apparent as several violent conflicts and wars are distinguished by gross human rights violation and ethnic cleansing. The second challenge concerns the quest for durable peace.

Several contemporary conflicts tend to resist negotiated settlement. Yet, the ones that do reach a peace agreement still have a poor track record on implementation.

The third challenge relates to the quest for effective strategies, particularly concerning the involvement of international actors in peacebuilding. JAD-PbP is convinced that the only way to address these challenges is through an interdisciplinary approach, drawing on insights in peace and conflict research, international law, political science and international relations.

Scientific objectives:

- enhance theoretical and methodological conceptualisation of just and durable peace;
- analyse legal and democratic accountability of peacebuilding strategies, including mapping international law and norms on the use of force for humanitarian reasons;
- examine the effectiveness of general peace building strategies and evaluate to what extent they enhance just and durable peace;
- examine and compare EU peace building strategies in Western Balkans and the Middle East.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.2 Conflicts, peace and human rights

Topic 4.2.1 Conflicts and peace

Multi-stakeholder partnerships in post-conflict reconstruction: the role of the European Union

MULTIPART

By consolidating and advancing the knowledge on factors that facilitate peace and foster human security, this project meets the goals of the 7th Framework Programme, area 8.4.2 'conflicts, peace, and human rights'. Namely, it investigates whether, how, and under what conditions multi-stakeholder partnerships can positively impact on human security and thus, facilitate non-violence and long-term peace, and provide a productive framework for relations between local actors and external actors, including third party mediators and international organisations.

The project moves from the recognition that there is a widespread agreement among both academics and policy-makers on the need to adopt more comprehensive, integrative, and participatory approaches in post-conflict interventions. Within this broader framework, multi-stakeholder partnerships are then emerging as one of the preferred tools geared towards enhancing participation, legitimacy and effectiveness of post-conflict interventions.

Proposal | 217564

Estimated EC contribution |
1 186 273 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 28 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
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However, there is a clear lack of systematic analysis of the multi-stakeholder partnerships and of evaluation of their concrete impact on effectiveness and sustainability of post-conflict reconstruction initiatives.

The project will base its empirical investigation on three core case studies of core political interest to the EU today: Kosovo, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Afghanistan. By employing a participatory methodology, the project will ensure the highest degree of on-going feedback between its researchers and different local and international actors operating in these settings and will explore opportunities to directly impact on partnerships that are evolving in these societies.

By translating its findings into policy recommendations, the project will contribute to enhancing the role of Europe in conflict prevention and resolution as well as in fostering the rule of law.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.2 Conflicts, peace and human rights

Topic 4.2.2 Articulation of the rule of law and protection of human rights at national, European and international level

Armed conflicts, peace keeping, transitional justice: law as solution

ATLAS

The cooperative project ATLAS responds to this call by examining the role and impact of the rule of law and international humanitarian law applicable during armed conflict with regard to effectively promoting and protecting human rights.

From a prospective standpoint, normative weaknesses and gaps must first be pinpointed. The operational dichotomy between proclaiming a right and assuring its effective respect must lead to proposing rules designed specifically to assure greater effectiveness of the existing legal framework by taking into account the concrete realities of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

Due to the non traditional configuration of contemporary conflicts and the diversification of the actors implicated therein, violations of international human rights and humanitarian law have taken on new forms.

Either the existing legal framework must be strengthened, or new legal responses must be developed.

The overall objective of this study is to determine how the EU may contribute to promoting human rights and international humanitarian law both during and after armed conflicts.

Proposal | 217334

Estimated EC contribution |
1 252 571 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 47 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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In this context, ATLAS will compare existing international legal rules with the practice of both Member States and third states in order to support decisionmaking by decision-makers.

The Member States that have been chosen (France, Romania, Spain and the United Kingdom) represent both the Roman-Germanic and common law legal traditions and the diversity of national practices among Member States.

The third states/region that have been selected are Cambodia, the former Yugoslavia (Bosnia and Kosovo), Haiti and Sierra Leone. These areas were chosen according to two principles: their experience with peace operations and the existence of national reconciliation procedures.

Peace operations are or were undertaken under either UN or regional auspices, either independently or in a complementary manner. National reconciliation is brought about in different ways.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.2 Conflicts, peace and human rights

Topic 4.2.2 **Articulation of the rule of law and protection of human rights at national, European and international level**

Proposal | 217405

Estimated EC contribution |
1 138 682 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Regulating privatisation of 'war': the role of the EU in assuring the compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights

PRIV-WAR

The goal of the research project is to assess the impact of the extensive use of private military and security companies in situations of armed conflict and to discuss the regulatory framework at national, European and international levels, to assure compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights.

Though this is not a new phenomenon, the fear motivating commentators and activists was that private companies operate in a legal vacuum.

Although there is growing consensus now in the literature that the situation actually resembles more a complex patchwork of norms, the key question still remains whether and how these existing norms can be effectively applied and whether they need to be supplemented with new norms.

Specific objectives are:

- to promote a better understanding of the phenomenon of the privatisation of war;
- to clarify the legal status of PMCs/PSCs (private military companies/private security companies) employees under international humanitarian law;
- to foster knowledge on the impact of private military activities on the enjoyment of human rights;

- to analyse international responsibility and accountability of the corporations;
- to examine the existing regulation at national and EU levels;
- to explore the ways the EU could regulate PMCs/PSCs.

The current proposal seeks to highlight the crucial role of the EU in three respects, which to date have not received much attention in the literature.

First, the proposal will seek to offer insights into how the EU can and should develop a unified position on the international regulation of PMCs/PSCs. Second, the work to be undertaken will assess the need for and potential of harmonization of the EU Member States' domestic approaches towards PMCs/PSCs.

Lastly, the present proposal will offer advice to policy-makers on the development of a regulation scheme at the supra-national level.

To date, the existing literature on such schemes has largely neglected the role of the EU could and should play in this regard.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.2 Conflicts, peace and human rights

Topic 4.2.2 Articulation of the rule of law and protection of human rights at national, European and international level

Impact of international criminal procedures on domestic criminal procedures in mass atrocity cases

DOMAC

Although considerable attention has been given to the establishment and operation of international criminal courts and other international or internationalized mechanisms for determining individual and state responsibility in mass atrocity situations, their capacity remains limited and national courts continue to carry most of the burden of prosecuting the vast majority of perpetrators.

However, efforts of the international community to ensure the proper utilization of national courts, as well as the coordination of their operations with international courts have been limited until now – leading to an incomplete response to highly complicated situations.

As a result, awkward situation may arise where high-ranking suspects, with the greatest responsibility for atrocious crimes, are tried before international courts under better conditions than lower-ranking suspects tried before national courts; furthermore, failure to prosecute low-level perpetrators at the domestic level might exacerbate the collective exoneration of communities generated inadvertently by international criminal proceedings; finally, ineffective domestic prosecutions perpetuate the image of impunity and leave victims unsatisfied.

Proposal | 217589

Estimated EC contribution |
1 487 789 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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The proposed collaborative project focuses on the actual interaction between national and international courts involved in prosecuting individuals in mass atrocity situations.

It explores what impact international procedures have on prosecution rates before national courts, their sentencing policies, award of reparations and substantive and procedural legal standards.

It comprehensively examines the problems presented by the limited response of the international community to mass atrocity situations, and offers methods to improve coordination of national and international proceedings and better utilization of national courts, inter alia, through greater formal and informal avenues of cooperation, interaction and resource sharing between national and international court.

Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.3 Europe's changing role in the world

Topic 4.3.1 Europe seen from outside

Proposal | 225260

Estimated EC contribution |
1 490 078 €

Starting date | 01.01.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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European Union and the world seen from abroad

EUROBROADMAP

Geographers are the most critical social scientists when it comes to the delimitation of borders of the so-called European continent.

Continents as Huntington's civilisation are ideological productions that are certainly not based on natural facts. But they are deeply enhanced in the mind of European citizens and policy-makers because they were historically produced by Europeans as a tool of world power.

It is therefore crucial to examine which divisions of the world are perceived by people located outside the European Union, in order to produce a non Eurocentric view.

The project EuroBroadMap is based on a worldwide survey trying to catch both the perception of European Union global role and attraction power level and the definition of EU from a qualitative and spatial point of view as well as the relative attraction of countries, or even cities that compose it.

The survey will be realized on a panel of license degree students in a relevant panel of external countries and in different academic fields. The questionnaire will combine different kinds of methods, like drawings on maps, open questions, ranking etc., ... Variations in answer will be examined according to both geographical location and social status.

The individual mental maps will be compared to collective representations: websites of organization, tourist guides, teaching books, international media, etc. Particular attention will be paid to (carto)graphic representations of Europe and other world divisions.

Spiritual flows that are revealed by individual and collective mental maps will be then compared to four types of effective flows linking EU and the rest of the world (Trade, Aid, FDI, Migrations) in order to examine possible discrepancies.

The diffusion of results in various formats (report, website, teaching material,...) will be organized in order to insure a growing awareness of the complexity of actual situation of Europe in the world, according to material and spiritual dimensions.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.3 Europe's changing role in the world

Topic 4.3.1 Europe seen from outside

Proposal | 225661

Estimated EC contribution |
1 430 800 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Disaggregating Chinese perceptions of the EU and the implications for the EU's China policy

CHINESE VIEWS OF EU

In 2007, China overtook Germany as the world's largest exporter.

Its trade surplus with the EU is rising at \$20 million an hour.

China makes up one-third of the annual increase in world oil demand, and emits the most greenhouse gases.

Engaging a rapidly rising China is a great challenge for the EU.

To do this more effectively, the EU needs a comprehensive understanding of China, especially of how the EU and its China initiatives and strategies are perceived in China itself.

Through surveys, interviews, and focus groups, this study looks into how the EU is perceived by the Chinese general public, government officials, intellectuals, business and civil society.

It will produce a comprehensive picture of how Chinese people see the EU: how China views its opportunities and challenges in dealing with the EU, how different government agencies view the EU, how government views differ from those of business and civil society, and how opinion in Beijing differs from that in the provinces.

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The recommendations from this study will lead to much more effective policies for the EU to deal with China, helping to reduce market restrictions, resolve the conflict over China's exchange rate policy, lift barriers to EU investment in China, increase EU 'green technology' exports, etc.

A mere 5% increase in EU exports to China will make a difference of €3.2 billion per year to the EU economy.

Our policy recommendations will facilitate greater cooperation on issues such as the Iran nuclear crisis, significantly improving the EU's security.

Our findings will contribute to a better projection of the EU's image, enhancing the EU's 'soft power' in China.

The project brings together a uniquely strong team from the University of Nottingham's China Policy Institute, Leiden University, Jacobs University Bremen and Chatham House, as well as two strong Chinese partners.

New knowledge from this research will help advance a number of social sciences disciplines.

Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.3 Europe's changing role in the world

Topic 4.3.2 Multilateralism and the new external relations of the European Union

Multilateralism and the EU in the contemporary global order

MERCURY

This project seeks to understand the EU's contribution to effective multilateralism. We consider evolving and conflicting (culturally-defined) meanings of multilateralism; its uncertain future on a global scale; the EU system of external relations in the light of the Reform Treaty and its implications for the Union's ability to shape multilateralism; and whether and how multilateralism is compatible with the EU's shift towards inter-regionalism and strategic partnerships.

Arguably, the EU has done more than most of its partners to acknowledge new global challenges and rising demand for multilateralism. Its own positions frequently become focal points for international negotiations on conflict resolution.

Nevertheless, essential questions remain unanswered about the viability of a European 'way' of multilateralism. Can multilateralism be defined in a way that transcends divisions within as well as beyond Europe, between states, nations and cultures, strong and weak, rich and poor?

Is there a concept of multilateralism that overcomes theoretical schisms? Is it possible for the EU or its Member States (or anyone else) to define and pursue a selfless, benign, credible doctrine of multilateralism, as opposed to one that serves its own interests?

Proposal | 225267

Estimated EC contribution |
1 500 000 €

Starting date | 01.02.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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The problem of matching supply to demand for effective multilateralism will be the leitmotif for MERCURY, a research programme that will elaborate and clarify forms of multilateralism, develop specific theses about the EU's contribution to multilateralism, and test them in line with best scientific practice.

Its remit extends to the interactions of the EU and its Member States with regions outside Europe, strategic partners, and global organisations. It is interdisciplinary, drawing on expertise in law, politics, economics, and international relations. It advances a clear intellectual agenda – to explore, explain, and evaluate different conceptions of multilateralism – while aiming to achieve practical policy relevance.

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Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.3 Europe's changing role in the world

Topic 4.3.2 Multilateralism and the new external relations of the European Union

Proposal | 225382

Estimated EC contribution |
1 173 475 €

Starting date | 01.01.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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The EU and sub-regional multi-lateralism in Europe's sea basins: neighbourhood, enlargement and multilateral cooperation

EU4SEAS

Closed seas play very diverse roles in relations between their bordering states: they unite and separate, they are a place of transit, a shared space, an element of joint identity, a common heritage.

This project focuses on four closed sea basins: those of the Mediterranean, Caspian, Baltic and Black seas.

Those basins were theatres for strategic competition between the Soviet Union and the United States during the Cold War and acquired since 1989 a new centrality in co-operation amongst neighbouring states, with a wealth of sub-regional multilateral agreements and institutions flourishing in a few years.

All four basins are crucial to the European Union, and the EU is at the same time a crucial actor in them.

Its policies have an impact not only in each country, but also on collective efforts at sub-regional level.

This is a seldom analysed phenomenon: that of the relationship between a uniquely successful international organisation with a nature of its own, the European Union, and the smaller sub-regional multilateral structures and agreements.

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Compared to the huge attraction that the EU exerts, which has been a catalyser for stability, change and reconciliation in a number of European countries, sub-regional multilateral institutions have proved their relative weakness.

However, their role in a number of areas (from stability and conflict resolution, to environmental issues) has been and still is important.

This project aims to evaluate their main achievements and failures, and the areas in which they have been most successful.

At the same time, it aims to analyse how EU membership and EU policies impact on multilateral co-operation around the sea basins, and how the EU and other multilateral organisations and initiatives can co-operate in achieving their shared objectives.

In the end, the project will explore what would be the benefits of a specific approach of the EU for each of the four basins, in co-operation with the existing sub-regional multilateralism.

Activity 4 Europe and the world

Research area 4.3 Europe's changing role in the world

Topic 4.3.2 Multilateralism and the new external relations of the European Union

Changing multilateralism: the EU as a global-regional actor in security and peace

EU-GRASP

GRASP aims to contribute to the analysis and articulation of the current and future role of the EU as a global and regional actor in multilateral security governance, in a context of challenged unilateralism, where the EU aims for 'effective multilateralism'.

This project will examine the notion and practice of multilateralism in order to provide the required theoretical background for assessing the linkages between the EU's current security activities with multi-polarism, international law, regional integration processes and the United Nations system.

The project's work plan will consist of the following components:

- conceptual integrated analyses of the evolving concepts of multilateralism and security and the EU's role as a security actor;
- case-studies of the EU's approach to a number of specific security issues (regional conflict; terrorism; WMD proliferation; migration; energy and climate change; and severe violations to human rights);
- a transversal comparative analysis applying and integrating the case study findings;

Proposal | 225722

Estimated EC contribution |
1 465 000 €

Starting date | 01.02.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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- a foresight study, building off the project's findings that will detail scenarios for future EU policy towards external security relations and multilateral approaches to threats and challenges.

The research will be policy-oriented and include a strong interactive dimension, in order to assure ongoing feedback from the target-public.

The work will be undertaken by a consortium of European research centers that have already collaborated on these issues (FP6).

This group is enlarged by the inclusion of a number of institutes from outside the EU (Israel, Canada, South Africa and China) that will bring in further expertise on specific security issues in addition to important regional perceptions, necessary to avoiding a narrow Euro-centric approach and enabling a more comprehensive understanding of the role of the EU on the global stage.

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Activity 5 | The citizen
in the European Union

Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.1 Participation and citizenship in Europe

Topic 5.1.1 Democratic 'ownership' and participation

Proposal | 225314

Estimated EC contribution |
1 389 174 €

Starting date | 01.09.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
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EuroPolis: a deliberative policy-making project

EUROPOLIS

EuroPolis explores the forms of democratic deficit that directly affect EU citizens.

We test the hypothesis that citizen involvement in inclusive, informed, and thoughtful deliberation about the EU increases access to politically relevant information, citizens' political engagement in EU public affairs, perceptions of the legitimacy of EU institutions, a sense of belonging to the EU, and voter turnout in EU parliamentary elections. We draw our hypothesis from the theory of deliberative democracy that suggests that democratic legitimacy rests on open deliberation, and prescribes that citizens should become involved in politics.

EuroPolis intends to assess the political outcomes of deliberative democratic practices by experimenting what would happen if EU citizens became substantially more informed about EU institutional arrangements, decision-making processes, and policy issues, as well as more aware of the policy preferences of other EU citizens.

Would this make them evaluate EU policy alternatives differently from the way they would with limited information? Would their policy preferences change? Would their electoral choices be more aligned with their policy preferences and be more or less likely to vote in second-order elections?

Would their electoral choices change? And if EU citizens had equal opportunity to engage in a thoughtful dialogue with citizens of other EU nationalities to discuss what they expect from their Union, would they identify the interests and problems they share with other EU citizens? Would they develop stronger bonds with fellow EU citizens and feel part of the Union they formally belong to? Would there be an increase in civic engagement?

EuroPolis will seek to answer these questions through a carefully designed experiment that will assess how political and social attitudes toward EU issues change as a result of exposure to politically relevant information, and what difference this makes for political participation and voter turnout.

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Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.1 Participation and citizenship in Europe

Topic 5.1.2 Reassessing citizenship within the European Union

Proposal | 225327

Estimated EC contribution |
1 067 762 €

Starting date | 01.01.2009

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Impact of citizen participation on decision-making in a knowledge intensive policy

CIT-PART

Citizens, policy-makers and social scientists often call for citizen participation for reasons of democratic legitimacy and effectiveness. An important field in which this has been claimed vigorously is science and technology policy. Thus, many countries witnessed the introduction of Participatory Technology Assessment (PTA).

The 'litmus test' of PTA, and of citizen participation, is their impact on policy-making. But can PTA keep its promises and increase the influence of citizens' voices on decision-making? What in actual fact is the impact of PTA on decision-making? How can we increase it?

In order to answer these questions the project CIT-PART will study comparatively the impact of PTA and TA on policy-making in 7 Member States and one non-member country, the Commission, the OECD and the Holy See.

From that we will draw conclusions about the potential impact of institutionalised citizen participation on EU level. We will exemplify our questions through the reactions of various political systems to the challenge of xenotransplantation (XTP), which stands for the transplantation of animal organs, tissues or cells into humans.

XTP is highly controversial: its advocates perceive it as promising since it could help to remedy the shortage of human transplants. Its opponents insist that it involves too many risks – most prominently infection risks – and ethical questions.

Adopting a theoretical approach of ‘social practices’ we assume that the impact of citizen participation on decision-making is not only dependent on the quality of the PTA process itself but on practices of policy-makers in which PTA is embedded in.

Following from our theoretical approach we will apply qualitative methods of empirical research. The team involves researchers from anthropology, communication studies, political science, public law, social psychology and sociology.

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Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.1 Participation and citizenship in Europe

Topic 5.1.1 Democratic 'ownership' and participation

Proposal | 225511

Estimated EC contribution |
1 393 698 €

Starting date | 01.11.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Profane citizenship in Europe – Testing democratic ownership in hybrid situations

PROFACITY

By concentrating on hybrid, not strictly normative social situations, we consider how people experiment with novel forms of citizenship that modify the outlines of formal citizenship.

Such forms of citizenship imply practical activities connected to existing set-ups or milieus, and what is at stake is the continuous invention of the democratic principle itself, i.e. the 'right to rights'.

The task at hand is to affirm and implement the 'right to the city', not immediately conceded, that we call profane citizenship, and that we intend to use as a means of analyzing democratic ownership.

Our research program aims to examine in what ways the practices of actors who find themselves in situations where they have to make with their faults, handicaps, lack of resources, are taken (or not) into account as alternatives to juridical citizenship.

We will focus on 'milieus of translation' gathering the 'have-some' people acting in solidarity networks.

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Three interconnected fields are concerned (languages and codes, proofs of identity, tests of urbanity), leading to qualitative surveys whose materials and first results will be submitted with sensing methodology to professional and institutional representatives.

This in turn will lead us to reconsider the notion of profane citizenship with an eye to the recent transformations of democracy in various national frameworks, by concentrating not only on the juridical concepts of citizenship, but also on its sociological configurations.

The theoretical and experimental contribution expected from this research project aims to develop the notion of profane citizenship, showing how it allows, in situations of delicate or relative balance, to take into account, according to the different national and democratic political cultures, both the uniqueness of the personal actions they imply and the political ontology involved thereby.

Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.1 Participation and citizenship in Europe

Topic 5.1.2 Reassessing citizenship within the European Union

The use of racial anti-discrimination laws: gender and citizenship in a multicultural context

GENDERACE

The aim of the research is to evaluate the effectiveness of racial discrimination laws from the point of view of the target group and in a gender perspective.

The main hypothesis is that differences can exist between the uses made of the law by men and women. This is because they develop different representations of the legal system and experience different forms of discrimination.

The second hypothesis is that intersectional experience of discrimination based on race and gender is not recognized and treated properly in legal and institutional frameworks built around single types of discrimination because discriminations are seen as one-dimensional and as affecting all people – men and women – in the same way.

Proposal | 217237

Estimated EC contribution |
952 900 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
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The evaluation will be carried out through a study of case law and filed complaints, around 200 semi-directive qualitative interviews of foreign nationals and members of ethnic minorities and 70 interviews of stakeholders and social partners, including lawyers dealing with complaints.

The goal of the project is to improve our understanding of the phenomenon of double discrimination (race and gender) and to develop practical tools to allow administrations, NGOs and specialised bodies to better assess the effectiveness of policies and practices in the field of antidiscrimination when faced with cases of double discrimination.

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Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.1 Participation and citizenship in Europe

Topic 5.1.2 Reassessing citizenship within the European Union

Proposal | 217504

Estimated EC contribution |
1 197 910 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Enacting European citizenship

ENACT

The consortium assesses European citizenship as enacted by citizens as well as non-citizens (third country nationals, refugees, illegal aliens).

By investigating what we call ‘acts of citizenship’ we aim to determine the meaning given to the idea of European citizenship by those whose acts create new forms of identification.

We recognize that in a complex space such as the European Union, acts of citizenship – those acts through which subjects constitute themselves as European – will vary considerably reflecting various trajectories, territories, and cultures.

Thus the consortium involves three original Member States (United Kingdom, Belgium and the Netherlands), two new Member States (Hungary and Latvia) and a candidate state (Turkey).

The focus on acts of citizenship has several advantages. First, subjects and actors need not be conceived in advance as to what their status is or even the kind of entities they are since they can be individuals, states, groups and other legal or quasi-legal entities or persons.

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To recognize certain acts as acts of citizenship requires understanding that these acts produce subjects as citizens.

Second, acts that articulate claims and produce claimants create new sites of belonging and identification.

These sites are different than traditional sites of citizenship such as voting, social security, and military obligation though these continue to be important. Third, acts of citizenship stretch across boundaries and involve multiple scales of belonging and identification.

The focus on acts of citizenship that produce new subjects, sites and scales of citizenship is therefore a vital concern for understanding how European citizenship is enacted. Fourth, by investigating acts we shift focus from what people say (opinion, perception, attitude surveys) to what people do, which is an important supplement, and under certain circumstances, corrective, to studies that concern themselves with what people say about their European citizenship and identification.

Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.2 Diversities and commonalities in Europe

Topic 5.2.1 Histories and identities – Articulating national and European identities

Proposal | 213998

Estimated EC contribution |
1 422 081 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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The evolution of European identity: using biographical methods to study the development of European identity

EUROIDENTITIES

The development of a sense of positive identification with the 'European project' by ordinary citizens is crucial for the long-term success of the European Union.

The current state-of-the-art in research into European identity has been driven almost exclusively by a 'top down' elitist perspective that focuses upon the development of an identification with 'Europe' through centrally-driven policies.

The Euroidentities project will use advanced methods of qualitative biographical interviewing and analysis to gain insights into the evolution and meanings of a European identity or identities from the 'bottom up' perspective of the individual.

This will include investigating the factors that promote or retard a positive identification with 'Europe' and the Community.

The project's research strategy will be to target five special 'sensitized groups' – aggregates whose life experience will have caused them to confront questions of their own identity within Europe.

The five groups broadly conceived are: ‘transnational workers’ at all levels from menial economic migrants to ‘high end’ technological workers; mature adults who experienced cross-border educational exchange schemes earlier in their lives; farmers who are subject to Europe-wide markets and systems of regulation; ‘cultural contact’ workers; participants in civil society organisations.

The seven partner teams in Euroidentities include large and small nations who are in both original and accession states located both in the peripheries and the core of Europe. Euroidentities will employ a focused dissemination strategy that will include from the outset interaction with policy-makers and others in public arenas at national and European levels.

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Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.2 Diversities and commonalities in Europe

Topic 5.2.1 History and Identities – Articulating National and European Identities

Proposal | 215949

Estimated EC contribution |
1 447 773 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Identities and modernities in Europe: European and national identity construction programmes, politics, culture, history and religion

IME

IME investigates European identities.

European identities in this project refer to a wide range of definitions of ‘us, the Europeans’ proposed and acted upon by various actors in and around the current European Union (EU), in particular in nine cases: Bulgaria, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

The project addresses three major issues regarding European identities: what they are, in what ways they have been formed and what trajectories they may take from now on.

IME first investigates the diversity of European identities as it manifests in the nine cases.

It then examines the various ways in which these diverse self-definitions have been formulated and maintained in different societal, cultural and systemic settings and in which they have been interacting with various processes and forces.

It then aims to identify commonalities among diverse European identities in the nine cases as the basis of grounded projection of possible trajectories European identities may take as the processes of European integration continue.

The project therefore has the following objectives:

- to map the diversity of European identities across the cases studied in relation to four factors: type of state, type of religion, the strength of civil society and geo-historical and geo-political background;
- to analyse in each case how European identities have evolved within the specific historical context in relation to other forms of identification, especially national identity;
- to investigate the role of the EU integration processes in modifying the contemporary identities, especially in its relationship to national and religio-ethnic identities;
- to examine the extent to which religio-ethnic minorities influence identity construction programmes of the majority, and their unique contribution to the articulation of European identities;
- to seek commonalities in European identities across the cases by way of systematic comparisons;
- to test the validity of theory of multiple modernities as a sound basis for projecting the trajectory of the future of European identities.

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Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.2 Diversities and commonalities in Europe

Topic 5.2.1 Histories and identities – Articulating national and European identities

Space, place and the historical and contemporary articulations of regional, national and European identities through work and community in areas undergoing economic restructuring and regeneration

SPHERE

SPHERE explores themes of identity and belonging: how do such alignments and affiliations survive (or not) the socio-economic changes that accompany restructuring and the broader political and demographic remodelling of Europe's cultural landscapes?

Its multidisciplinary analysis will deepen insight into the ways life experiences are interwoven with a range of cultural practices to construct new identities; it will also address the sources and implementation of regeneration policies for notions of community.

SPHERE starts from six distinctive regional identities historically rooted in specific occupational contexts around strong communities in Europe's largest economies: France, Germany, Poland, Spain, UK and Turkey. All have undergone profound socio-economic transformations with associated challenges to cultural identities and practices.

The project focuses on changes to historic regional and cultural identities where regional regeneration projects have attempted to introduce new industries or services or jobs and to create new cultural and economic landscapes.

Proposal | 215985

Estimated EC contribution |
889 239 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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To assess the impact of Europe on the complex evolutions of community, regional and national identities, some of the regions chosen accessed or use EU regeneration funding, while others relied largely either on regional or national state subsidies or on market processes.

This research will trace the transition from older to newer industries and put a strong focus on the impact this has had on cultural identities linked to work, class and gender, as well as the effects of EU or other regeneration processes on understandings of place and on people's sense of belonging.

It will probe the conditions under which new occupational, community, national and/or European identities emerge.

By drawing on both the humanities and social science, it goes further and asks questions about the complex interconnections of history, place, culture and identity within households, the community and its collective organisations.

Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.2 Diversities and commonalities in Europe

Topic 5.2.1 Histories and identities – Articulating national and European identities

Proposal | 217227

Estimated EC contribution |
1 500 000 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Interplay of European, national and regional identities: nations between states along the new Eastern borders of the European Union

ENRI-EAST

The proposed research project is aimed at an in-depth understanding of the ways in which the modern European identities and regional cultures are formed and inter-communicated in the Eastern part of the European continent.

The project is an inter-disciplinary effort (sociology, political science, history, ethnography). Its methodological thrust is empirical and comparative; new data complementing priorities will be generated.

On top of that, the project pursues the objective to verify and advance existing theoretical and methodological frameworks for ethnic studies as well as studies of identities and nationalism.

In order to account for the diversity encountered in the field and to adequately identify the main factors in the identity formation process, ethnic groups, which are part of larger titular nations and are divided by the new European frontier toward the New Independent States are studied.

Altogether, 8-10 million people have been affected by politically set boundaries.

The project clusters are based on major themes such as 'formation and interplay of identities and ethnic cultures in Europe', 'nations between states', 'self-governance, representation and citizenship', 'historical memory and dynamic trajectories of the development of ethnic minorities in Eastern Europe'.

Project assumes a detailed study of a sample of 10 ethnic minorities in Eastern Europe by the means of a series of quantitative and qualitative surveys focusing on the identities and values issues.

Four regional workshops and a final conference will conclude the project.

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Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.2 Diversities and commonalities in Europe

Topic 5.2.1 Histories and identities – Articulating national and European identities

Proposal | 217411

Estimated EC contribution |
1 176 855 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 48 months

Funding scheme |
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Identity and conflict. Cultural heritage and the reconstruction of identities after conflict

CRIC

This proposal aims to investigate the ways the destruction and subsequent selective reconstruction of the cultural heritage impact identity formation.

Recent conflicts in Europe, as well as abroad, have brought the deliberate destruction of the heritage of others, as a means of inflicting pain, to the foreground. With this has come the realisation that the processes involved and thus the long-term consequences are poorly understood. Heritage reconstruction is not merely a matter of design and resources – at stake is the revisioning and reconstruction of people's identities!

Through five regional case studies, this project seeks to illuminate both the empirical and theoretical relationship between cultural heritage, conflict, and identity.

In particular, it will examine how destruction as well as reconstruction affect notions of belonging and identities at different scales ranging from the individual to the pan-national.

The five regional studies will ensure historical depth, variation, and different trajectories, while the shared methodologies and axes of investigation will ensure comparative measures are reached.

The regional work packages will use case studies to collect data and conduct analysis that collectively will aim to answer:

- what conditions and ideologies inspire the destruction of cultural heritage and what is selected for destruction?
- what are the consequences at local, national and regional levels of such destruction and the subsequent reconstruction of parts of people's heritage?

The project will vastly enhance insights into the crucial relationship between heritage and identity, and on this basis it will provide much needed knowledge of use to policy-makers.

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Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.2 Diversities and commonalities in Europe

Topic 5.2.1 Histories and identities – Articulating national and European identities

Slave trade, slavery abolitions and their legacies in European histories and identities

EURESCL

The objective of this project is to put back slaves trade and slavery in the history of Europe; global history to be built; national histories to be put into correlation between them and, in the case of transatlantic slavery and slaves trade, with their colonies or their extra-European zones of influence.

Within this context, it has the more specific target of studying the multiple genealogies of the 'Black', the 'Afro-descendants' and the 'Black Diaspora' issues in Europe, in order to tackle the definition of European identity.

Proposal | 217624

Estimated EC contribution |
1 490 171 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 48 months

Funding scheme |
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The approach to these questions will be a multidisciplinary one, between historians, geographers, sociologists, anthropologists, political scientists, jurists and educationalists.

The project has two components: research, thanks to the network that has been created among European research centres and valorisation of the research through the elaboration of educational tools for the teaching of slaves trade and slavery.

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Activity 5 The citizen in the European Union

Research area 5.2 Diversities and commonalities in Europe

Topic 5.2.2 Creativity, culture and democracy

Art festivals and the European public culture

EURO-FESTIVAL

The proposed research is a contribution to the comparative cultural sociology of contemporary European society. The aim of the research is to examine the role of festivals as sites of trans-national identifications and democratic debate.

Analytically, the project objectives are to:

- explore how festivals use aesthetic forms to symbolize, represent and communicate social and political life (European, national, sub-national) from the perspective of different actors, including programme directors, funding promoters, performing artists and the audience;

Proposal | 215747

Estimated EC contribution |
993 990 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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- study the way in which festivals frame the discourse of identity in relation to arts with particular attention to the local/European and local/global interfaces as well as the conundrum of difference (diversity) and similarity;
- analyze how festivals represent sites of competition for access to resources, status and power and how this competition impacts on debates about representation, openness and the public sphere.

Activity 6 | Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.1 How indicators are used in policy?

Topic 6.1.1 Current use of and emerging needs for indicators in policy

Proposal | 217207

Estimated EC contribution |
1 456 723 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Policy influence of indicators

POINT

The overall aim of POINT is to help find better ways of using indicators in all aspects of policy, but with a thematic focus on the role of indicators in fostering and supporting change in areas of policy making towards 'Sustainable Development'.

The research area of indicators in the presumed service of sustainability will provide a rich ground for addressing the actual use, influence and impacts of indicators, reflecting dynamic interactions between forces for policy continuation and versus policy change.

The objectives of the project are to:

- design a coherent framework of analysis and generate hypotheses on the use and influence of indicators, by pulling together the disparate strands of research and practical experience of indicator use and influence, focusing broadly on European policies, but with a special emphasis on fostering change towards sustainability;

- ▶ test the analytical framework and the hypotheses on specific cases of sector integration and sustainability indicators, as well as composite indicators (indices) in order to:
 - identify the ways in which indicators influence policy, including the unintended types of influence and situations of 'non-use';
 - identify factors that condition the way in which indicators influence policies, including the process and the outcome of designing and producing indicators, the type of indicators, expectations of stakeholders involved, the role of the organisations preparing and disseminating the indicators, as well as general socio-cultural and political background factors;
 - recommend ways to enhance the role of indicators in supporting policies.

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Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.2 Developing better indicators for policy

Topic 6.2.1 Improved ways of measuring both the potential for and impact of policies

Proposal | 217299

Estimated EC contribution |
1 391 000 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Innovative S&T indicators combining patent data and surveys: empirical models and policy analyses

INNOS&T

This project aims to develop and collect novel science and technology indicators covering Europe, Japan and the United States.

These indicators will be used in empirical models that can contribute to improve European, national and regional policies on the following four topics:

- economic use of patents, i.e. unused patents and strategic patents, licensing, entrepreneurship;
- science-industry linkages and innovation performance;
- gender, education and mobility of inventors;
- economic value of patents.

The project will carry out the following four sets of activities aimed at the creation of new indicators.

First, we will carry out a new survey data collection, PatVal-EU II, which will build on the previous PatVal-EU I survey of inventors. The new survey will interview inventors of about 30,000 EPO patents in 20 European countries and will ask questions about the inventors, the invention process, the motivations to patent, the use and the value of the patent and the links between science and patented inventions.

Partners

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Second, we will carry out two complementary survey data collections in US and Japan, PatVal-US and PatVal-JP, by using the questionnaire developed for European inventors.

Third, the project will develop indicators for industry-science links based on patent citations to science for all OECD countries, over time, across industries, by firms and by firms to universities and public research institutions. These indicators will be validated through the results of the PatVal-EU II survey.

Fourth, we will build complementary indicators at the level of patents (citations, oppositions, etc.), inventors, companies, regions, sectors, that will be integrated with the survey data.

The resulting integrated datasets will be used in empirical models and policy assessments on the four topics of this project. In particular, the project will develop adequate empirical methods that take simultaneously into account a variety of factors affecting the impact of policies.

Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.2 Developing better indicators for policy

Topic 6.2.1 Improved ways of measuring both the potential for and impact of policies

Scientific indicators of confidence in justice: tools for policy assessment

JUSTIS

JUSTIS (justice indicators) is a project designed to provide EU institutions and Member States with new indicators for assessing public confidence in justice.

Member States are making growing use of social indicators to improve policy and its assessment, but limited progress has been made in criminal justice.

Common-sense indicators based on readily available statistics – such as crime trends – have been used extensively. Much less attention has been paid to crucial but hard-to-measure indicators about public confidence in justice. Without such indicators, there is a risk that crime policies may become over-focussed on short-term objectives of crime control, at the expense of equally important longer-term objectives relating to justice.

The project is based on the assumption that an effective justice system must assess itself not only against narrow criteria of crime control, but against broader criteria relating to people's trust in justice and their sense of security.

Proposal | 217311

Estimated EC contribution |
1 499 944 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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In the long term, public compliance with the law depends on the legitimacy of institutions of justice.

Institutions command legitimacy if people recognise that they are fair, just and provide public security. The project will develop and pilot survey-based indicators of public confidence in justice – a term used here to embrace issues relating to fairness, trust and insecurity. It will assemble contextual data for interpreting the indicators – on the assumption that there are close relationships between public perceptions of justice and the substantive quality of justice as reflected in the workings of the justice process. It will develop tools for presenting and interpreting the indicators in ways that are intuitive and accessible.

The project will aim not only to develop scientifically credible indicators but also to build some consensus across Member States about the importance of assessing crime policy against criteria of public confidence, making effective dissemination a priority.

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Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.2 Developing better indicators for policy

Topic 6.2.1 Improved ways of measuring both the potential for and impact of policies

Proposal | 217322

Estimated EC contribution |
1 088 968 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Advanced methodology for European Laeken indicators

AMELI

The goal to turn the EU into the most competitive and dynamic economy by 2010 demands a full benchmarking system to monitor policy performance and their impact on progress.

For this reason, the European Commission has engaged in selecting, collecting and analysing a set of indicators that are published each year.

The Stockholm European Council has further emphasised the need for effective, timely and reliable statistics and indicators.

A main challenge is to develop indicators for the main characteristics and key drivers. An utmost important and challenging area to be measured is social cohesion.

Based on a clear definition of social cohesion, a universally-accepted high-quality and robust statistics to adequately measure social cohesion is required.

Further, tools for measuring temporal developments and regional breakdowns to sub-populations of relevance will be of great importance.

In order to measure social cohesion with Laeken indicators adequately while regarding national characteristics and practical peculiarities from the newly created EU-SILC, an improved methodology will be elaborated within AMELI.

This will ensure that future political decision in the area of quality of life can be based on more adequate and high-quality data and a proper understanding of the Laeken indicators by the users.

The study will include research on data quality including its measurement, treatment of outliers and non-response, small area estimation and the measurement of development over time.

A large simulation study based on EU-SILC data will allow a simultaneous elaboration of the methodology focusing on practical issues aiming at support for policy.

Due to the fact that the Laeken indicators are based on a highly sophisticated methodology, the project's outcome may also serve as a methodological complement for other 7th Research Framework Programme projects in the area of indicators.

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Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.2 Developing better indicators for policy

Topic 6.2.1 Improved ways of measuring both the potential for and impact of policies

Proposal | 217431

Estimated EC contribution |
1 446 496 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 60 months

Funding scheme |
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Assessment of patient payment policies and projection of their efficiency, equity and quality effects. The case of Central and Eastern Europe

ASSPRO CEE 2007

Given the lack of systematic research on the assessment of patient payment policies in Europe and worldwide, and the urging need of re-evaluating patient payment policies in Central and Eastern Europe due to the widely spread informal patient payments, we propose a project focused on these issues.

The aim of the project is to identify a comprehensive set of tangible evidence-based criteria suitable for the assessment of patient payment policies and to develop a policy projection tool that can be used to analyze the efficiency, equity and quality impacts of these policies.

The set of assessment criteria and the projection tool that will be developed in this project, will be validated by their application in Central and Eastern European countries.

In addition to this, the project aims to assure an extensive dissemination of project results involving policy-makers, health care professionals and the general public.

The project results will contribute to the overall progress in research focused on the methodology of policy evaluation, as well as in research focused on the analysis of the Central and Eastern European health care reforms.

Seven countries will be included: advanced Central European countries (Hungary and Poland), advanced former Soviet republics in Europe (Lithuania), less advanced Eastern European countries (Bulgaria and Romania), and less advanced former Soviet republics in Europe (Ukraine).

The comparison between these countries will help to establish to what extent the country context influences the evaluation of patient payment policies.

The project will have a direct relation to the SSH theme, but will also address the general objectives defined in the work programme, of policy harmonization, capacity building, mobility of scholars, strengthening competitiveness, international cooperation and solution to social problems.

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Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.3 Provision of underlying official statistics

Topic 6.3.1 Specific statistical issues

Proposal | 216036

Estimated EC contribution |
827 490 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 28 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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Representativity indicators for survey quality

RISQ

Data that is missing due to non-response impose a serious threat to the quality of statistics that are based on both surveys and registers. In most cases non-response relates to demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the selected persons or enterprises and importantly also on the data collection process. In recent years a growing focus can be observed in survey research on differentiated data collection protocols and adaptive designs.

The theory of Deming (1986) about improving quality and productivity in industry is well-known. Many of his famous 14 points for management also apply to the production of statistical information. Quality must be built in at the design stage. Deming's points particularly apply to the data collection process.

The response rate is often used as an indicator of survey quality. However, literature gives various examples where increased data collection efforts led to a higher response rate but also to a larger or comparable non-response bias.

Therefore, to assess the effects of non-response, other quality indicators are needed.

These indicators should measure the degree to which the respondents of a survey or register still resembles the population. First examples of such representativity indicators have emerged recently. The main objectives of this project are to elaborate and develop these representativity indicators, to explore their characteristics and to show how to implement and use them in a practical data collection environment. It will be demonstrated that representativity indicators can be used in several stages of the data collection process to improve the quality of the resulting statistics.

The project facilitates the efficient allocation of data collection resources and a sophisticated trade-off between quality and costs. Furthermore, in order to enable a sensible incorporation of register data in the production of statistics, quality indicators are important tools in the reduction of respondent burden.

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Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.3 Provision of underlying official statistics

Topic 6.3.1 Specific statistical issues

Proposal | 217565

Estimated EC contribution |
774 967 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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Small area methods for poverty and living condition estimates

SAMPLE

It is well known that in order to ensure a good allocation of public funds and to guarantee the rights of final users of the statistics (government, research institutes and citizens) statistical data on monetary and supplementary poverty indicators have to be timely and effective.

Effectiveness of statistical data is a function of their spatial relevance and accuracy. Often official data are referred only to wider domains (e.g. NUTS 2 level) and, sometimes, the finer the spatial detail required (NUTS3, NUTS4 level) the less accurate is the estimate.

Local government has to have accurate data for local areas and/or small domains (NUTS3, NUTS4 level) to:

- ensure monitoring of poverty and inequality;
- focus on special target consisting of segments of population at higher risk of poverty (elusive populations);

- appreciate the multidimensional nature of poverty and inequality with attention to the non monetary aspects of it (social exclusion and deprivation);
- measure the subjective aspects of poverty as they are perceived by local groups and populations.

The aim of SAMPLE project is to identify and develop new indicators and models for inequality and poverty which pay attention to social exclusion and deprivation, as well as to develop and implement models, measures and procedures for small area estimation of these new indicators and models. This goal is achieved with the help of the local administrative databases. Local government agencies often have huge amount of administrative data to monitor some of the actions which address situations of social exclusion and deprivation (social security claims for unemployment and eligibility for benefits from any of the programs social security administrators) of households and citizens.

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Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.4 Use of indicators and related approaches for the evaluation of research policies and programmes

Topic 6.4.1 Ex post and ex ante impact and analysis of research policies and programmes

Development of methods and tools for evaluation of research

DEMETER

The Lisbon Agenda of increasing competitiveness of European countries by the 'knowledge' has focussed attention on RTD and education policies.

The evaluation of such policies is in the state of the art very difficult. If there exist quantifications of RTD increase on economic performance at a firm or sectoral level, the assessment of such performance on a whole community or a group of countries is less frequent. The link between RTD and economic performance has, during the last decades, changed a lot, rising a doubt on the former estimations: for instance the knowledge spillovers between countries linked to RTD has increased, the services activities linked to RTD has increased also much and then the measurement of RTD did change in significance.

The importance of other forms of intangible capital (human, ICT, organisational capital, ...) has modified the link between RTD and innovation.

The overall objective of this project is to build a system of tools based on applied modelling that can be used for the ex ante evaluation of research and innovation policies at sectoral and European level.

Proposal | 217397

Estimated EC contribution |
1 484 669 €

Starting date | 01.01.2009

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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The method of the project will be a wide scope one. It will be based on micro, meso and macro economics, in order to give deep insight on the RTD incentives and the RTD performance; It will be grounded on Scientific and Technique and Innovation (STI) indicators and new databases that take into account all the activities related to RTD (and not only RTD expenses), the knowledge spillovers between activities and countries and also other forms of intangible capital.

These insights will be used to modify the production block and demand of the two large scale detailed economic coverage models that have a good track record: the econometric model NEMESIS and the general equilibrium one GEM-E3 that will produce macro and detailed indicators in order to assess RTD and innovation policies in terms of STI indicators, competitiveness, growth, employment, budget deficits, welfare, environment and sustainable development.

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Activity 6 Socio-economic and scientific indicators

Research area 6.4 Use of indicators and related approaches for the evaluation of research policies and programmes

Topic 6.4.1 Ex post and ex ante impact and analysis of research policies and programmes

Proposal | 217549

Estimated EC contribution |
1 494 654 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
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European educational research quality indicators

EERQI

EERQI will build an advanced framework for relevance assessment of research documents in educational research based on formal mechanisms including citation analysis and linking, semantically-based full text analysis and co-occurrence of information items in open access and non-open access repositories, as well as in online journal articles, books, and other freely available scholarly publications.

Educational research is chosen as an example of socially- and politically-embedded research fields within the humanities and social sciences. The resulting prototype framework of quality indicators and methods will provide the base toolset for a European information service for the observation and evaluation of educational research publications. The toolset can be applied to other social sciences and humanities fields.

Complementary to traditional measurements of scientific quality (citation analysis, journal impact factor), new methods and indicators of quality assessment will be tested (usage assessments, versions available, other statistical methods, as well as by means of advanced, semantics-based detection of linking, correlations and referral contexts).

The project will also address the complex role of the diversity of scientific languages in Europe. Different mother tongues are a barrier to the international flow of communication while also being fundamental to expressing complex scientific ideas which are often embedded in a certain cultural background.

Thus the project will also address the challenge of effectively dealing with multilingualism and specific 'cultural heritage' of research traditions in the European countries.

EERQI results will also raise visibility and competitiveness of European researchers and contribute to new policy bases for funding, hiring, and evaluation decisions in European academic and research institutions.

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Activity 7 | Foresight activities

Research area and Topic 7.4.1 **Blue sky research on emerging issues affecting European S&T**

Citizen visions on science, technology and innovation

CIVISTI

The CIVISTI project will identify new emerging issues for European Science and Technology by uncovering European citizens' visions of the future and transform these into relevant long term science, technology and innovation issues, which are of relevance for European policies of S&T and for the development of the 8th Framework Programme.

The CIVISTI project will do this by:

- consulting national citizen panels through an informed deliberation process, focussing on long term visions, needs and concerns of the citizens;
- developing an analytical model for transformation of the visions into relevant issues for future science and technology;

Proposal | 225165

Estimated EC contribution |
714 292 €

Starting date | 01.09.2008

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
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- by using the analytical model, through stakeholder and expert participation processes, analyse the citizen visions and transform them into possible priorities for research programmes;
- validating the priorities through a second round of citizen consultation.

The project will develop a novel citizen participation process with the aim of making cost-effective citizen participation possible in foresight processes.

CIVISTI will include new European actors in the foresight processes in order to expand the experience and capacity of foresight among the Member States, institutions and researchers.

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Research area and Topic 7.4.1 **Blue sky research on emerging issues affecting European S&T**

Proposal | 225229

Estimated EC contribution |
484 056 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 32 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Innovation futures in Europe: a foresight exercise on emerging patterns of innovation. Visions, scenarios and implications for policy and practice

INFU

The INFU foresight project will develop plausible and relevant long-term scenarios of future innovation landscapes in order to orient long-term strategy building for policy and other innovation actors.

The scenarios will outline how future actors may collaborate in new configurations and with new approaches to transform knowledge into products and services within different socio-economic frameworks.

To generate this anticipatory intelligence INFU is implementing a progressive explorative dialogue with key stakeholders and experts using advanced creativity methods to foster thinking beyond established pathways and up-to-date prospective methods to structure the debate and ensure rigour of analysis.

Particular emphasis is placed on optimising the knowledge flow through tailored and vivid formatting of outcomes for audiences in and outside the project.

The INFU futures dialogue departs from an identification of emerging signals of change in current innovation patterns and progresses with increasing integration of diverse perspectives and knowledge sources towards consolidated innovation futures scripts.

Partners

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These bottom-up visions are then confronted with different possible socio-economic framework conditions and global megatrends to finally synthesise consistent scenarios that are integrating micro, meso and macro elements of possible innovation futures with particular emphasis on the changes in nature and content of research.

The explorative analysis will be complemented with value-related debate on the desirability of different innovation futures based on an assessment of the scenario implications for key societal challenges such as sustainability.

Options for policy strategies to prepare for the identified changes in innovation patterns are derived together with key policy actors.

The INFU consortium comprises strong complementary competencies in foresight, strategic support to policy and industry and academic innovation research.

Research area and Topic 7.4.1 **Blue sky research on emerging issues affecting European S&T**

Proposal | 225369

Estimated EC contribution |
633 331 €

Starting date | 01.10.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Scanning for emerging science and technology issues

SESTI

Today's societal developments are often influenced by improbable events with high impact.

Recent examples are the 'cartoon quarrel' and developments impacting energy security.

These events are preceded by 'weak signals' which are only partially discussed in policy, if at all, and rarely acted upon.

The increasing complexity and uncertainty is reflected in the growing demand for tools for anticipatory intelligence, such as scenario analyses, Delphis and modelling and simulation tools.

Several countries, Finland, United Kingdom and the Netherlands, have initiated horizon scanning projects to identify disruptive events that are not on the RADAR of policy yet.

The overall goal of the project is to contribute to the development of an effective system for the early identification of weak signals of emerging issues.

For that a weak signals pool, integrating several scanning tools in a wiki to collect and disseminate the information, will be set-up.

Partners

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Additional to its European focus, potential links with national actors and platforms are planned, making use of existing networks such as ForSociety (several of the project members are ForSociety members), to feed the project outputs into European and national policy processes.

Beneath this overriding goal is the desire to initiate momentum at national and European level to pro-actively address emerging issues.

Next to its practical goals, this project also aims at developing and improving new tools and methods for weak signals of emerging issues to improve detection and the operationalisation of methods using a case oriented approach to contribute to the overall Blue sky call issues.

To exploit resources most effectively, this project builds on existing structures and competencies in foresight and horizon scanning in place at national level (above examples), and intends to add value by improving existing resources, providing new strategic information and creating synergies exploiting complementarities between initiatives.

Research area and Topic 7.4.1 **Blue sky research on emerging issues affecting European S&T**

The future impact of security and defence policies on the European Research Area

SANDERA

SANDERA will focus on the future relationship between two critical European policy domains: namely, the EU strategy since Lisbon to move towards the European Research Area and those EU policies focused on the security of the European citizen in the world.

SANDERA will use exploratory scenarios to 2020 to examine how future developments in European security and defence policies combined with technological change and the evolution of European science and technology policy could interact in intended and unintended ways to affect the pace and character of the move towards the ERA as well as priorities for the 8th Framework Programme.

Bringing together a multidisciplinary team that crosses the boundaries between security policy and science and technology policy, SANDERA addresses an issue of potentially great importance that has, until now, been at the margins of academic and policy agendas.

Proposal | 225544

Estimated EC contribution | 700 868 €

Starting date | 2009

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme | Collaborative project (small and medium scale focused research project)

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Amongst the expected impacts of SANDERA will be:

- an improved understanding amongst policy-makers and other stakeholders of the potential implications for the ERA and FP8 of future developments at the interface between security policy and science and technology policy;
- the stimulation of dialogue between stakeholders and the facilitation of new policy networks;
- the strengthening of the strategic policy intelligence capacity in Europe through the development of an Indicator Monitoring Framework and a Policy Analysis Toolkit;
- useful inputs for the preparation of the 8th Framework Programme through the identification of new research areas and research capacity requirements;
- the attraction of more researchers into the foresight field not least researchers from the security policy field.

Partners

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Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik

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Activity 7 Foresight activities

Area and Topic 7.4.1 Blue sky research on emerging issues affecting European S&T

Proposal | 225662

Estimated EC contribution |
224 331 €

Starting date | 01.09.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Use of foresight to align research with longer term policy needs in European Commission

FARHORIZON

The aim of this project is to pilot the use of foresight to align strategic and applied research with longer-term policy needs in Europe.

It addresses a perceived gap in alignment under present arrangements and also argues that to develop, the European system needs a more content-oriented approach. It seeks to advance knowledge on:

- differences across policy domains in the European Research and Innovation Ecosystem (also further articulating this concept) in terms of the role and the integration of research agendas in long-term policies and vice-versa;
- appropriate foresight designs needed to get engagement and secure follow-up across policy domains/areas.

The project seeks to produce immediately useful results by selecting areas and participants with a view to stimulating action.

Partners

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Four areas with different sectoral characteristics will be selected with the advice of an independent panel to ensure that the pilot covers a range of circumstances.

Success scenario workshops will be used to engage policy-makers and those responsible for research.

The methodology involves consideration of key drivers and wildcards to produce a vision of success.

This is compared with the ability of the research and innovation ecosystem in the area to deliver and a roadmap for change is produced.

A policy conference will be used to consider the outcomes and to disseminate the approach to other policy domains.

Research area and Topic 7.4.1 **Blue sky research on emerging issues affecting European S&T**

Proposal | 225695

Estimated EC contribution | 839 861 €

Starting date | 01.11.2008

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme | Collaborative project (small and medium scale focused research project)

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Interconnecting knowledge for the early identification of issues, events and developments (e.g. wild cards and associated weak signals) shaping and shaking the future of science, technology and innovation in the European Research Area

IKNOW

In recent years, foresight has emerged as a key instrument for the development and implementation of research and innovation policies with long-term perspectives.

Much futures work and foresight exercises are little more than extrapolations. Some activities show an interesting mix of approaches combining three types of elements: prospective studies of long-term opportunities and alternatives, participatory networking, and policy orientation.

However, far too little attention has been paid to the identification and analysis of wild cards and weak signals (WI-WE).

But two things are widely agreed upon in discussions of high-impact but low-probability events. First, it is vital to examine such events.

Some of them are almost bound to happen, even if we cannot say what these are.

Many organisational crises relate to failure to spot surprising developments sufficiently far in advance.

The weak signals that might warn of an impending wild card have been ignored.

Partners

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Second, our methods for identifying and detecting WI-WE are woefully underdeveloped.

The reason that most futurists use examples of wild cards to wake up their audiences, but do not then follow through on this, is that there is relatively little that is formalised and reproducible in WI-WE analysis.

The proposed study will provide answers to these questions, by mounting a sustained and multi-method effort to explore approaches to conceptualisation of WI-WE that can inform practice, establish tools for WI-WE analysis, and to additionally validate these in a specific application areas.

The application area in question is the European Research Area (ERA).

Wild cards and weak signals relevant to the future of the ERA will be the substantive focus of the study: so we will talk about conceptual and methodological contributions on the one hand, and on the other, we will talk about substantive results.

The study will generate, systematise, and make available policy-relevant WI-WE bearing heavily on the ERA.

Activity 8 | Strategic activities

Regenerative medicine in Europe: emerging needs and challenges in a global context

REMEDIE

The globalization of regenerative medicine is gathering pace yet has not been examined with respect to its medium and long term implications for European regulators, the corporate sector or patients located within different Member states.

Over the coming years it is hypothesised that the global pace of change in this field will be extensive and this needs to be both tracked and assessed for healthcare systems across Europe.

But we also argue that it is a field that is characterized by complex dynamics across a range of scientific, clinical and industrial sectors, highly unstable, yet developing rapidly.

Building on a platform of research experience, academic and policy networks, and data relevant to the field, this 3 year collaborative project will examine the economic, political and bioethical implications for Europe of near-term and future global developments in the field of regenerative medicine.

It will adopt an interdisciplinary approach which brings together social science and humanities researchers to understand the emerging needs, expectations and challenges that Europe faces that are conceptually and methodologically innovative, empirically robust and policy relevant.

Proposal | 217180

Estimated EC contribution |
1 310 253 €

Starting date | 01.05.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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Center for Ethics and Law
in Biomedicine (CELAB)
Judit SANDOR
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Kings College London
Health
Brian SALTER
UK – London

The objectives of the project are to provide:

- a detailed analysis of the competitive position of Europe within the globalisation of regenerative medicine, the requirements of successful innovation in this field and the EU policies that need to be developed to support Europe's global advantage in the field;
- an integrated series of work packages organised around three inter-related streams of research that constitute the platform for this analysis (the economic, political and bioethical);
- an integrated quantitative relational database on the geo-economic pattern of activity within the field of regenerative medicine derived from ongoing review of secondary data sources and primary data derived from partner projects;
- the use of novel techniques to interrogate results using geometric mapping of data items secured by different projects in the three streams of work;
- a continuing engagement with national and international policy-makers and others to test and refine the implications of emergent findings for future European policy and regulation in particular.

Faith-based organisations and exclusion in European cities

FACIT

The research concerns the present role of Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) in matters of poverty and other forms of social exclusion (such as homelessness or undocumented persons) in cities.

FACIT defines FBOs as any organisation that refers directly or indirectly to religion or religious values, and functions as a welfare provider or as a political actor.

The central assumption is that FBOs tend to fill the gap left after the supposed withdrawal of the welfare state in several domains of public life, particularly in social welfare and in social protection.

At first sight, this looks like a return to the charity of former times, when such associations occupied the fore of social help in many countries.

But it could be the beginning of a new type of welfare regime with a stronger focus on local policies and strategies and new interplays between local authorities and civil society organisations.

Proposal | 217314

Estimated EC contribution |
1 495 980 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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What is the position of FBOs in combating poverty and other forms of social distress cities? How has this role changed over time and how do these activities contribute to combating social exclusion and promoting social cohesion? What are the implications for policies and the governance of European cities?

From both scientific and policy perspectives, there is a great need for better empirical and comparative data on what is going on in European cities in matters of poverty and exclusion policies and, in particular, the contribution of FBOs in the reduction (or deepening) of the problems. FBOs have direct entrance to the 'poor side' of cities because of:

- their activities in deprived urban neighbourhoods and among excluded groups;
- as in the case of many FBOs with a non-western background, because their members often belong to these deprived and excluded groups themselves.

Partners

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Socio-economic and cultural impacts of the consumption of counterfeit goods

COUNTER

The COUNTER research project is designed to collect data, generate knowledge, and disseminate findings on the European landscape for the consumption of counterfeit consumer goods.

It proposes a research project that explores:

- frequency and distribution of counterfeits;
- consumer attitudes to counterfeit and pirated goods;
- legal and ethical frameworks for intellectual property;
- policy options for engaging with the consumers of counterfeits;
- the use of copyrighted goods in the creation of new cultural artefacts;
- impacts of counterfeiting and control of intellectual property.

COUNTER addresses an emerging research area which is not directly covered in current workprogramme and in which the EU lags behind the USA.

Proposal | 217514

Estimated EC contribution |
1 476 226 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
(small and medium scale
focused research project)

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This area, however, is central to current economic, political, legislative and cultural debates in Europe. Focusing on the demand side of the counterfeiting industry, COUNTER will collect data on consumer behaviour, policy development, and stakeholder engagement.

Together, these will allow COUNTER's research to integrate demand-consumption side issues with policy implications.

The project brings together a team of European researchers with recognised experience in the field in order to develop a multi-disciplinary and multi-method approach (triangulation) to counterfeit goods and intellectual property that draws upon the strengths of economics, sociology, law, psychology, and management and information science.

By developing an innovative research framework, the project will generate new policy and industry relevant knowledge and develop a research agenda which can be developed and implemented and inform future research.

COUNTER will provide a timely and much needed research project which will rapidly deliver foundational research which can contribute to the global debate and be developed to explore other forms of counterfeiting including pharmaceuticals, industrial markets, and the implementation of technical anti-counterfeiting measures.

Proposal | 217346

Estimated EC contribution |
1 333 754 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Collaborative project
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focused research project)

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European development co-operation to 2020

EDC2020

This is an important moment in the history of Europe's development policies and its relations with developing countries.

Over the next decade a combination of old and new domestic issues and substantial changes in the global landscape require a reshaping of Europe's development policies.

These include challenges facing EU's development policy agenda, issues around energy security, climate change and the emerging role of China and India in international affairs.

All these changes take place in times of wide-ranging global challenges, and at a time when questions of European identity loom large in national debates.

A key question will remain: how will Member States approach the issue of working together on common problems? It is crucial for decisions on the emerging matters to be based on good research and sound evidence.

The public and policy-making debate need to be informed by research voices.

To this end, the overall objective is ‘to improve EU policy-makers’ and other societal actors’ shared understanding of emerging challenges facing EU development policy and external action.

In addition, it seeks to understand how EU development policy-making processes work and why or how EU policies then change or remain the same.

EDC2020 will contribute to this objective by promoting interaction across the research and policy arenas to share perspectives, learn from each other, and strengthen working relationships through policy-oriented publications, a shared project website and high-level European policy forums.

The proposal contributes to the work programme as it is addressing ‘new challenges’ which go beyond the issues touched by SHH work programme 2007 and take a wider and longer term view of the challenges facing concerned policy fields. In order to effectively contribute to the work programme both in promoting understanding and drawing the attention of the policy-makers, the project has strong interdisciplinary approach and communication components.

Partners

Overseas Development Institute

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Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior (FRIDE)

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Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik

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Proposal | 216072

Estimated EC contribution |
643 686 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
Coordination and support action
(support action)

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Europe-South Asia exchange on supranational (regional) policies and instruments for the promotion of human rights and management of minority issues

EURASIA-NET

Human rights, and especially minority rights, have a clear supra-national dimension both in Europe and in South Asia.

Europe has made wide use of the mechanisms and soft law approaches developed and implemented at regional level by the OSCE, the Council of Europe and the European Union.

In South Asia there is a long tradition of study and robust experience in the field of cultural, religious, linguistic and ethnic management, including the gender dimension, within national boundaries.

However, it is only recently that some albeit limited attempts have been made to enhance regional cooperation on these very sensitive issues.

Studies carried out by South Asian scholars have created the knowledge base underlying the first rudimentary attempts by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the foresight initiatives of human rights NGOs and activists.

Furthermore, the geopolitical context is now particularly favourable to a supra-national discourse on human and minority rights

as a consequence of recently improved relations between India and Pakistan.

The overall objective of EURASIA-Net is therefore to enhance the requisite knowledge-base for new policies and instruments to reduce ethnic-religious conflicts and to foster stability and security in South Asia.

The specific objectives are:

- to develop a better understanding of regional South Asian attempts to define (by the research community) and implement (by decision-makers and activists) new supranational instruments for the protection and promotion of human rights, with a particular focus on cross-border minority issues;
- to sustain Euro-Asiatic research cooperation and exchange on those issues and to enlarge the discussion forum to encompass politicians and human rights activists;
- to create a framework for future research cooperation between Europe and South Asia that is twofold: a Joint Research Agenda and a modus operandi based on mutual knowledge and understanding.

Partners

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NP – Kathmandu

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Proposal | 217190

Estimated EC contribution |
694 094 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
Coordination and support action
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Connecting socio-economic research on the dynamics of the knowledge society in the European Union and Latin American and Caribbean Countries

EULAKS

The proposed project is premised on the assumption that by providing in-depth insights into socio-economic and policy development processes of other regions the SSH can make a valuable contribution to meeting the EU's ambitious challenges as set out by the Lisbon and Gothenburg Summits, particularly in the context of the opening of the European Research Area (ERA) to third countries and regions.

The project is aimed at raising the profile of SSH research activities and networks in Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries in order to make sure that the ERA can fully benefit from key contributions that substantially improve the understanding of the changing socio-economic dynamics of the knowledge society in both regions.

A principal goal of the project is the creation of a space for horizontal learning between communities of SSH scholars and communities of relevant stakeholders and policy-makers.

To attain this goal, the project will connect European and Latin American and Caribbean communities of scholars, research organizations and key agencies from a broad range of SSH disciplines that vary in their research focus and methodological preference yet have made significant contributions to the building of a shared understanding of the knowledge society and of the growing complexity of the knowledge-creating processes that are emerging in both regions, and to the shaping and structuring of national landscapes for the production of knowledge and the formulation of appropriate socio-economic and innovation related policies.

Partners

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Cooperative research on East African territorial integration within globalisation

CREATING

This project seeks to improve research capacity and develop collaboration amongst researchers in Europe and East Africa, and by doing so to contribute to the larger objective of regional integration.

The project enhances integration in the research community in both Europe and East Africa through bringing researchers together in a series of training activities.

These activities focus on two kinds of transborder environment: mountains and Lake Tanganyika. Through this focus on resources which span the borders of the multiple political units of East Africa, the project contributes directly to public understanding of some of the challenges to regional integration in East African context.

Proposal | 217231

Estimated EC contribution |
676 417 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Coordination and support action
(coordination action)

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The project is organized around four themes, all of which relate to human use and management of these cross border resources: resource management and livelihood sustainability, environmental and climatic change, migration and identity and the role of small and medium cities.

The project is bringing together nine institutions – eight European, and one East African.

All the individuals and institutions involved have substantial experience of work in Africa, and have commitment both to the enhancement of an integrated European research capacity and to the building of research capacity and regional integration in East Africa.

Partners

**Institut Français de
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China EU information technology standards research partnership

CHINA EU STANDARDS

This action will promote research collaboration and engagement between research and policy in relation to information technology standardisation in China & Europe.

The People's Republic of China has recently begun to be remarkably active in many areas of ICT interoperability standards. This raises important issues for China about standardisation processes and technology promotion policy. Their outcome will have important consequences for the European economy and global ICT market. They are flagged as of particular interest to the 7th Information Society Technologies Framework Programme.

This project brings together the leading European and Chinese centres for research into ICT interoperability standards for a comparative examination of ICT standardisation processes and associated policies between EU and China. It will develop a knowledge network of top researchers in the field in Europe, China and beyond. It will examine the new ICT standardisation activity emerging in China, apparently linked to its goals to promote indigenous technology, and compare these emerging standardisation processes with the more established approaches that have evolved at a European level.

Proposal | 217457

Estimated EC contribution |
468 788 €

Starting date | 01.03.2008

Duration | 24 months

Funding scheme |
Coordination and support action
(support action)

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Three strategic studies will address a selected sample of areas flagged by IST as bearing critically on European technology and industrial strategy. They will examine the standardisation approach adopted, the strategies of public policy, technical and industrial players, the likely implementation/uptake of standards and their consequences for innovation and markets.

In particular: will the outcomes be open standards and alignment between regional economies or competitive standards processes leading to so-called 'standards wars' or the fragmentation of global markets.

Attention will be paid to social learning by standardisation bodies, industry and policy actors.

Findings will be discussed with Chinese & European standards bodies and policy communities who will assist in pulling out the policy implications.

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Proposal | 217154

Estimated EC contribution |
997 184 €

Starting date | 01.01.2008

Duration | 30 months

Funding scheme |
Coordination and support action
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Strengthening the role that Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities (SSH) have on the ERA development by reinforcing interactions between SSH and non-SSH research communities

PLATON+

PLATON+ aims to catalyze dissemination of the European research in Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities (SSH) as well as to capitalize SSH research results and assets across non-SSH research areas / themes.

The project operates as a central hub for the dissemination of SSH research so as to:

- facilitate integration and coordination of SSH (-related) research under the 7th Framework Programme;
- exploit horizontally the competences of European SSH researchers for the benefit of European research.

Under this context, the project systematically deploys a set of diversified dissemination and valorisation actions that will enhance the integration of the SSH research community in non-SSH themes and are expected to have a long lasting effect, well beyond the project's lifetime.

PLATON+ activities target 3 high priority groups: research community, policy/decision-makers (European, national, regional) and business community.

PLATON+ differentiates from existing similar/complementary projects by setting its center of gravity in:

- the wide use of a variety of the latest information and communication applications which are integrated in its web-portal. The latter is expected to operate as a 'Virtual Knowledge Hub' for SSH research stakeholders;
- the systematic collaboration with complementary and similar projects;
- stimulating collaboration with FP6-CITIZENS & FP7-SSH research projects and highly experienced and networked SSH organizations.

Overall, more than 1.300 people will participate in PLATON+ events, 15.000 users are expected to visit the project web-portal.

The project mobilises a multidisciplinary and multicultural consortium of 12 partners from 10 countries, which will take particular care to optimize the use of the project resources within the 30 months of the project duration and to maximize its impact.

Partners

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Enhancing evidence based policy-making in gender and migration

GEMMA

GEMMA's specific objective is to improve access to synthesised EC-funded Gender and Migration (G&M) research results for policy-makers and civil society in five countries.

This objective responds to the need for national level strategy to promote working cultures between researchers, policy-makers and civil society organisations and the need to enhance the quantity and quality of synthesised research results for policy-makers and civil society.

The expected tasks of GEMMA concern:

- design a policy briefing sheet template that will be used to synthesise the research results from 20 projects funded by the 5th and 6th Framework Programmes regarding G&M;
- organise a policy dialogue and networking workshop in each country and produce the Policy-Making and Research National Action Plans;
- organise validation workshops for policy briefing sheet and national action plan finalisation;
- horizontal analysis of the policy briefing sheet in order to identify horizontal conclusions and recommendations for the European Union, researchers, policy-makers and civil society organisations.

Proposal | 217194

Estimated EC contribution |
527 378 €

Starting date | 01.04.2008

Duration | 28 months

Funding scheme |
Coordination and support action
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The policy briefings sheet will be disseminated to at least 20 civil society organisations in each of GEMMA's five Member States. A dialogue and networking workshop with civil society will be organised in the five partner countries. A validation workshop in the five partner countries will finalise the civil society and research national action plans.

The expected results are:

- five national strategies developed to enhance networking and communication between, on one side, researchers and, on the other side, policy-makers and civil society organisations in the field of G&M through policy-making / civil society and research national action plans;
- increased systematic dissemination and valorisation of synthesised European-funded research results and related policy recommendations in G&M to policy-makers and civil society organisations in five countries and national languages.

Partners

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Area and Topic 8.4.1 **Trans-national cooperation among National Contact Points (NCP) for Socio-economic sciences and Humanities**

Trans-national co-operation among National Contact Points (NCP) for Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities

NET4SOCIETY

A strong and efficient network of National Contacts Points (NCP) is not only key to the success of the 7th EU Framework Programme but also to the realization of the European Research Area.

The trans-national project NET4SOCIETY strives to achieve this declared goal. For its proposed duration of three years, NET4SOCIETY is supporting the creation and establishment of a functional network of Socio-economic Sciences and the Humanities (SSH)-NCPs.

NET4SOCIETY offers specific high quality training sessions (based on a questionnaire that is sent to all SSH-NCPs), dedicated workshops, and mentoring and brokerage events. The project provides targeted tools such as a best practice handbook and a database for the specific area of 'Socio-economics and Humanities', including a refined partner search tool. These tools are published on the project's dedicated internet site.

Through the project NET4SOCIETY the first network of SSH-NCPs is created.

The network consists of more than 40 NCPs from EU countries, associated countries and International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPCs).

A core group of Work Packages leaders, including the Third Country Contact Point, works closely together with the coordinator to implement the project's objectives.

All NCPs are involved in several network activities and have access to all network events and tools. NET4SOCIETY is opened to all SSH-NCPs, including those who have declined their official participation.

All NCPs, including non-members, are informed on a regular basis and have the possibility to contribute to the project's objectives, participate in the network events and benefit fully from the project's results.

Proposal | 217152

Estimated EC contribution |
2 767 221 €

Starting date | 01.02.2008

Duration | 36 months

Funding scheme |
Coordination and support action
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Table of acronyms

AEGIS 225134	Advancing knowledge-intensive entrepreneurship and innovation for growth and social well-being in Europe	EL	18
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