



SUOMEN AKATEMIA
TIETEEN RAHOITTAJA JA ASiantuntija

7. Puiteohjelman väliarviointi Huomioita ja kommentteja

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Roadmap

- Context and Organisation
- Key Findings and Recommendations
- The way ahead

Basics

- FP7 Decision:
 - Interim Evaluation “no later than” 2010
- To cover FP as a whole
- Specific reviews in some areas (ERC, RSFF, INFISO ...)
- Carried out by a group of 10 external experts
- Meetings from March to October 2010
- Final Report submitted on 31 October 2010

Key Questions from the Mandate

1. General objectives achieved?
2. How to improve impact of FP on ERA and other policies?
3. FP7 role in positioning Europe on the global map?
4. Efficiency of novel measures (ERC, JTI, ...)?
5. How to better address interdisciplinary “grand challenges”?
6. Simplification measures effective?
7. Progress on issues raised in FP6 evaluation?



Evaluation Report: First Key Message

- FP7 is on course and is clearly making a significant contribution to European science and the development of the European Research Area
- There are acknowledged difficulties in some aspects of its implementation, but it is important to applaud what is good about it

Evaluation Report: Key Strengths

- Impressive reach; likely to make a real impact
- Excellence is largely achieved
- Important contribution to mobility and training of researchers ('Marie Curie actions')
- Positive effect on research infrastructures
- RSFF seen as effective
- Calls are processed effectively
- Evidence for a positive 'leverage' effect on national research efforts and innovative capacity of industry.



Evaluation Report: Areas in need of improvement

- Administrative burdens
- Risk-Trust balance needs to be redressed
- Slow progress on female participation
- Trend in industry participation unclear - SME participation close to (but still below) 15% target

Evaluation Report: New concerns and dilemmas

- Effective coordination of research between the Member State and EU levels
- JTI's are developing, but subject of complaints
- Slender evidence on Article 185 and Joint Programming
- Low success rates in many areas of FP7
- EU-12 success rates distinctly lower than for the EU-15
- Time to Grant needs further management attention
- More attention needed to achieve real impact

Evaluation Report: Directions for reform

- Focus on Grand Challenges – climate change, competitiveness, an ageing population, energy supply
- Proper balance between research and innovation - better encompass education in research policy
- Integration of research policies at national and EU levels requires new thinking
- Look afresh at the international dimension of the FP
- Improve connections between the main performers of research in universities and research and technology organisations (RTOs), and industry (especially SMEs)

FP7 Interim Evaluation Ten recommendations (1)

- Advance ERA and Innovation Union objectives, overcoming fragmentation in research. Concentrate resources on fewer topics (Grand Challenges) where critical mass is necessary
- Develop high quality research infrastructure
- Maintain level of funding, both for FP7 in its latter stages and for a successor programme.
- A well-articulated innovation strategy is needed
- Simplification needs a quantum leap
 - For FP7: implement proposed simplification measures
 - For FP8: Use revision of the Financial Regulations

FP7 Interim Evaluation Ten recommendations (2)

- Mix of funding measures should strike a different balance between bottom-up and top-down approaches
- Consider a *moratorium* on new instruments until the existing ones have been sufficiently developed and adequately evaluated.
- Take further steps to increase female participation
- Pave the way for increased participation from Member States that are under-represented
- Promote opening of the FP7 to international cooperation by devoting more resources – and review the strategy

FP7 Interim Evaluation Goals and implementation of FP8

- More ambitious goals for FP8 (Europe 2020, Innovation Union)
- Stronger focus on Grand Challenges
- Strategic reorientation of international cooperation
- Effective links between research and innovation – but also strengthening research training and education
- Improved coordination between Member States and EU level
- Research agenda structured along Excellence, Competitiveness and Societal objectives

The Way ahead

- Formal Commission response in December / January
- To be discussed in Council and Parliament
- Evidence base to be published on
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/evaluations>
- Orientation Paper on next FP in February 2011
- Commission Proposals for next FP by end 2011

The report can be found on the following web page:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/evaluations/index_en.cfm