



EARTO promotes the interests of over 300 Research and Technology Organisations in Europe

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATIONS

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In this issue:

- EARTO Annual Conference
- EARTO Working Group
- FP7: Model Grant Agreement
- FP7: 60% Overhead Rate
- FP7: ICT STREPs
- FP7: EARTO FP7 Proposal Review Service
- FP7: Financial and IPR Guidelines
- FP7: DESCA Model Consortium Agreement
- FP7: European Technology Platforms
- FP7: New Funding and IPR Regime for SME-specific Measures
- FP7: Proposal Writing Workshops
- FP7: Handbooks from Hyperion and EFPConsulting
- Commission State Aid Vademecum
- Commission Communication on Knowledge Transfer between Research and Industry

EARTO 2007 Annual Conference Munich, 2nd- 4th May



The EARTO 2007 Conference is an official event of the German EU Presidency

160 participants are registered already for the major event of the EARTO year.

Members who have not yet registered should please do so as quickly as possible.

The final conference programme and registration facilities are available on the EARTO website.

[More...](#)

The EARTO Working Group Munich, 2nd May

Open to All EARTO Members

The EARTO Working Group will meet on the afternoon of May 2nd, the day preceding the EARTO Annual Conference.

An important part of the meeting will be devoted to discussing EARTO members' first experiences with FP7 and to providing practical guidance and advice about FP7 issues by a panel of highly experienced Framework Programme experts.

EARTO is inviting all members to offer comments and questions about FP7 for discussion in Munich.

Please submit your comments and question in advance in order to help us better prepare the event.

[Give Feedback](#)

There will also be an opportunity to ask questions and receive guidance about the [DESCA Model Consortium Agreement](#).

The programme of the Working Group meeting is available on the EARTO website. You can also register via the Internet.

[More...](#)

FP7 News and Resources

Model Grant Agreement Finally Published

The FP7 Model Grant Agreement has now been finalised and published.

There are in fact different Model Grant Agreements for different parts of the Framework Programme.

The same model applies for the 'Cooperation' and 'Capacities' Specific Programmes. Different models apply for 'People' (Marie Curie) and 'Ideas' (European Research Council).

[More ...](#)

60% Overhead Rate

There are reports that some SMEs and research organisations have misunderstood the provisions concerning the 60% overhead rate.

This is not a generally available option. It is intended only for those organisations – typically, some universities – which are unable to accurately identify their overhead costs.

ICT STREPs

As in FP6, the ICT programme does not always use the same definitions and interpretations as other Specific Programmes.

One difference in FP7 is that ICT continues to distinguish STREPs and IPs, whereas the other programmes treat all Collaborative Projects as one category.

This is not just about using different labels. One implication is that an activity such as training is not permitted in ICT STREPs whereas it generally is in other STREPs. Also, in ICT STREPs dissemination at 100% may only be permitted to a limited extent if included under consortium management.

If you are applying to ICT, make sure you read the specific ICT documents (Work Programme, Guide for Applicants). Do not rely on what is written generally for FP7 or specifically for other programs.

EARTO FP7 Proposal Review Service

The EARTO FP7 Proposal Review Service is available to all members who are preparing proposals as Project Coordinators.

It offers to accompany an EARTO member from the initial planning of an FP7 proposal through to submission to the Commission, including a critical review of the complete proposal prior to submission.

Members interested in using the service are invited to contact hull@earto.org.

[More...](#)

Financial Guidelines and IPR Guidelines for FP7

The Commission is still working on Financial Guidelines and IPR Guidelines for FP7 proposers and contractors. It seems unlikely that they will be published before the end of April.

DESCA: A Model Consortium Agreement for FP7 Workshop, Brussels, June 22nd

DESCA is a comprehensive, modular consortium agreement for the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).

It has been developed by a group of experts from EARTO members together with colleagues from other European R&D organisations.

DESCA aims to offer a reliable frame of reference which seeks to balance the interests of all of the main participant categories in FP research projects: large and small firms, universities, public research institutes and RTOs.

A first version of DESCA is available. [More ...](#)

There will be a one-day workshop to present and explain the DESCA Model Consortium Agreement in Brussels on June 22nd. Details will be announced shortly.

European Technology Platforms

European Technology Platforms (ETPs) have brought together stakeholders and have defined common and ambitious strategic research agendas (SRAs). The challenge is now to align national, regional and international activities with the SRA priorities.

There are currently 31 ETPs in existence, spanning a range of technologies deemed key to Europe's growth and competitiveness. All have been established within the last four years.

The Commission has now published the third annual status report on ETPs.

[More ...](#)

New FP7 Funding Model for "CRAFT" and "Collective" EARTO Workshop, Brussels, 23rd May 2007

The FP7 funding regime for the SME specific measures is not the same as in FP6. It is still possible for research performers to be fully remunerated for their services, but it is important to respect certain limits on funding categories.

A further important change relates to IPR. In the past the default regime was that IP rights were accorded to the beneficiary SMEs ("CRAFT") or SME associations ("Collective").

In FP7, the general rule remains that IP will normally go to the SMEs or SME associations, but there is explicit recognition that other arrangements may be made. In particular, the research performers may retain IP rights. The *quid pro quo* is that the price paid by the SMEs or SME associations to the research performers should then reflect the value of any IP rights granted to the latter.

The aim of this workshop is to explore in depth the flexibility permitted by the new arrangements, to consider the advantages for RTOs of taking IP title, and to try to identify standardised models for explaining and marketing the new arrangements to SMEs and SME associations.

Members interested in participating in the workshop are invited to send a short e-mail to hull@earto.org.

FP7 Proposal Writing Workshops Brussels, June 26th-28th

Hyperion Ltd (Sean McCarthy) is organising a three-day FP7 Advisors Course on June 26th - 28th in Brussels. The course covers:

- How to Write a Competitive Proposal for Framework 7
- How to Negotiate, Manage and Administer Framework contracts

More ...

Hyperion FP7 Handbook

The comprehensive Hyperion FP7 Handbook is due for publication imminently.

It offers a detailed guide to FP7, including chapters and sections on the different funding schemes, financial guidelines as well as practical advice on how to write the "impact" and "implementation" parts of a proposal.

More ...

EFPConsulting Guides to the Framework Programme

EFPConsulting have published their FP7 Guide to the ICT Programme.

They also offer FP7 Financial Workshops and FP7 Proposal Writing Workshops.

More ...

State Aid Vademecum

DG Competition has published an updated version of the Vademecum on State Aid rules.

It summarizes in a simple, reader-friendly and comprehensive way the main rules applicable to State Aid control.

The Vademecum has been updated in order to reflect the changes in State Aid rules which occurred since 2003.

An English-language version is available now. Translations in other Community languages will follow soon.

More ...

Improving Knowledge Transfer between Research and Industry

The EU Commission is seeking better exploitation of publicly funded research results and has presented guidelines to help research organizations, especially universities, improve their links with industry.

Making better use of publicly funded R&D is considered to be an important problem. The document states that the average university in Europe generates far fewer inventions and patents compared with North American counterpart.

This is said to be largely due to "a less systematic and professional management of knowledge and intellectual property" in European universities. Other barriers include cultural differences between business and science communities, lack of incentives for them to work together as well as legal barriers hindering co-operation.

The document also proposes voluntary guidelines to help universities, research and technology organizations and other publicly funded R&D bodies to work together better.

More ...

Organising A Meeting in Brussels? EARTO Has the Perfect Facilities

We have fully equipped modern meeting facilities in central Brussels. Close to the Commission (just around the corner from DG Research) and Parliament, and easily accessible by public transport.

The EARTO Meeting Room

Space for 25 people classroom style and up to 55 people cinema style.

Natural light, air-conditioning, video projector, Panaboard, whiteboard, paper boards, transparency projector, wireless Internet connection, photocopying facilities. Full catering service available.

Available by the day or half-day, at cost price to EARTO members.

A sliding sound-proofed partition permits division of the main meeting room into two separate rooms (1/3 – 2/3).

We also have a second, smaller room suitable for meetings of up to five people. It is available free of charge to EARTO members

For further information, please contact Kadija Taffah at the EARTO Secretariat: +32-2-5028698



Recent and Upcoming Events by and with EARTO

June 22 nd	DESCA Presentation Workshop	Brussels
May 23 rd	EARTO Workshop on New Funding/IPR Rules for SME-specific projects in FP7	Brussels
May 18 th	Conference on Strategy and Role of Research and Development Organisations in Europe	Warsaw
May 7 th	DESCA Core Group	Helsinki
May 3 rd – 4 th	EARTO Annual Conference and related events	Munich
May 2 nd	EARTO Evidence to Hearing of European Parliament Committees ITRE and CULT on the European Institute of Technology	Brussels
May 2 nd	EARTO Working Group on Spin-offs	Munich
May 2 nd	EARTO Working Group	Munich
April 25 th	75 th Anniversary of foundation of TNO	Delft
March 29 th	DESCA Model Consortium Agreement: Consultation Group	Brussels
March 28 th	DG Research SME Advisory Group	Brussels
March 25 th -26 th	EUROTECH Special Interest Group	Ivalo
March 14 th	DG Research Workshop on FP7 SME Measures	Brussels