

# An approach to stimulate participation in Framework Programs and International Cooperation Programs

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# CDTI: The Spanish Innovation Agency

## RTDI funding

- Evaluation and funding (around 1 B€/year)
- Reports towards tax exemption

## Support to the creation and consolidation of new technology based companies

- NEOTEC
- INNVIERTE (Venture capital)

## RTDI internationalization

- Technological Cooperation: Eureka, Iberoeka, Eurostars, **European Framework Programme...**
- Support to technological transfer: External network

## Aeronautics, Space and Industrial Returns Programmes

- Aerospace RTDI
- Technological supplies: CERN/ESRF, Hispasat, Eumetsat, Spainsat.

# The Challenge. Plan Euroingenio: Spanish Government commitment for FP7 and international R&D



## The challenge

- Objective: economic return on Spanish from FP7 equivalent to our economic weight in the EU-25.
- Target economic return: From 6,5% (FP6) to 7% in 2008 and 8% in 2010
- Project Coordination Objective: 6% in 2008; 7% in 2010

## How:

- Including to the plan all stakeholders: business, universities, research groups and innovation, innovation agencies, etc. Supporting the creation of offices of international projects.
- Posing structural measures to provide a way to participate differently (professionalizing the management of international projects) with an International long-term approach
- Introducing for the first time the concept of funding results prior a presentation of an ambitious plan of participation in FP7

# The challenge

We needed more funded proposals

- More participations, especially from newcomers
- Larger projects
- Higher coordination rate

Weaknesses detected

- Lack of Project Offices with qualified professionals in International issues, especially in FP.
- Difficulty to reach critical mass (SMEs)
- The lack of coordination in this issue between State and Regions was a barrier to reach effectively all potential participants

# What should the Project Offices do

Professional management of projects:

- Giving advise
- Preparation of proposals and Project Management
- Scientific / Technology Coordination
- Managing turnkey services
- Planning
- Financial and Administrative Management
- Reporting and high-level relationships with partners and the EC
- Legal Issues: consortium agreements and IPR
- Impact Analysis

# Aspects of the Strategy

- Building capacities
- Looking for newcomers and giving support to the proposers
- Creating structures

# Building capacities:

## Training of specialists in International R&D Projects

- **Specialization Courses:** Courses aimed at managers of Project Offices from RTOs, universities, business, administration, associations, etc.
  - Support: Partially funding postgraduate courses at the university (grants covering up to 75% of the fee)
- **Short-term stays in Brussels** (six weeks at SOST-CDTI Office): Aimed at experienced personnel of entities with special interest in H2020
  - Academic sessions given by CDTI and EC Officers
  - Development of an implementation plan for the participation of the manager's entity in European Programmes (especially large initiatives such as JTI, PPP, etc.)



# Giving support to the proposers

- **Short-term measures:** Grants to cover proposal preparation expenses. Up to 40 k€/proposal.
- **Mid-term measures:** *Programa de Bonos Tecnológicos* (PBT): Incentive Programme for a network comprised of agents (consultancy firms, universities, RTOs, etc.) experienced in FP projects.
  - Objective: Find newcomers or new project coordinators in FP (aim at business, especially SME)
  - Incentive: Performance bonuses according to grant obtained by the newcomer found.

# Creating structures (long-term measures)

- **International Innovation Units Programme (UII)**  
Creation and operation of International Project Offices in Technological Platforms and Business Associations.
  - Initial payment for the Office's creation
  - Operational costs covered by an incentive: Performance bonuses according to grant obtained by the participant (members of the TP or BA)
- **Involving Regional Administrations (Comunidades Autónomas, CC AA):**
  - Collaboration Agreements CC AA-CDTI in terms of cooperation in everything related to International R&D
  - *Fondo Euroingenio* (Euroingenio Competitive Fund) to stimulate the increase of regional participation in FP7 compared to FP6. In the period 2007-2009 30 M€ were allocated within Spanish Regions to create and run complementary instruments and structures to stimulate the participation of regional stakeholders in FP7 and in other international R&D programmes

# An example: Approved Project Offices MINECO-CDTI H2020 (2014-2016)



# Results



**936 M€ (6,0%)**  
**(6,5% UE-25)**  
**235 M€/year**



**3.397 M€ (7,4%)**  
**(8,3% UE-27)**  
**485 M€/year**

- Coordination rate: From 6% FP6 to 10,7% FP7
- Almost 300 newcomers or new project coordinators within business
- Spanish business participation increased more than 30% within all the European business participants (from 6,7% FP6 to 9,0% FP7)

## Financing regional initiatives to stimulate the participation of regional stakeholders in FP and in other international R&D programs

- These measures can be adopted by Member States and Regions under their ESIF Operative Programs
- They aim to use ESIF to reinforce cooperation / communication / coordination between 2 groups of actors:
  - H2020 NCPs / national managers of international R&D programs
  - Regional public agents promoting, financing and stimulating R&D and Innovationin order to optimize efforts/increase regional participation in these **programs**.

# Other proposed measures...

**RIS3: Fostering internationalization & H2020 can be used**

- **to take up high quality project proposals from H2020** for which there is not enough budget available: ERC + SME Instrument (**Seal of Excellence!**)
- to support for the **up-take of results** of FP7/H2020 and CIP/COSME projects
- to facilitate international R&I partner finding, Awareness raising, information, advice and training on **H2020**
- Support ERA-Net projects

# Conclusions

- An initial strong political commitment is needed at National and Regional level
- Three types of measures were taken (Training; Direct support to proposers and Structures Creation)
- The results are positive in terms of participation increase and regional involvement.
- Almost all the measures taken can be co-funded with ESIF, so they have to be reflected in the National and/or Regional Operative Programs

# and why?

