

Interim Evaluation of FP7

ESF MO Evaluation
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European Commission

- 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
- Pre-Final Report submitted on 31 October 2010
- Final version online since 18 November 2010

Expert Group Members

<i>Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Gender</i>	
ACHESON	Helena	IE	F	
ANNERBERG	Rolf	SE	M	Chair
BEGG	Iain	UK	M	Rapporteur
BORRÁS	Susana	ES	F	
HALLÉN	Arvid	NO	M	
MAIMETS	Toivo	EE	M	
MUSTONEN	Riitta	FI	F	
RAFFLER	Hartmut	DE	M	
SWINGS	Jean-Pierre	BE/USA	M	
YLIHONKO	Kristiina	FI	F	

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
- JTIs 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)

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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

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Ten recommendations (2)

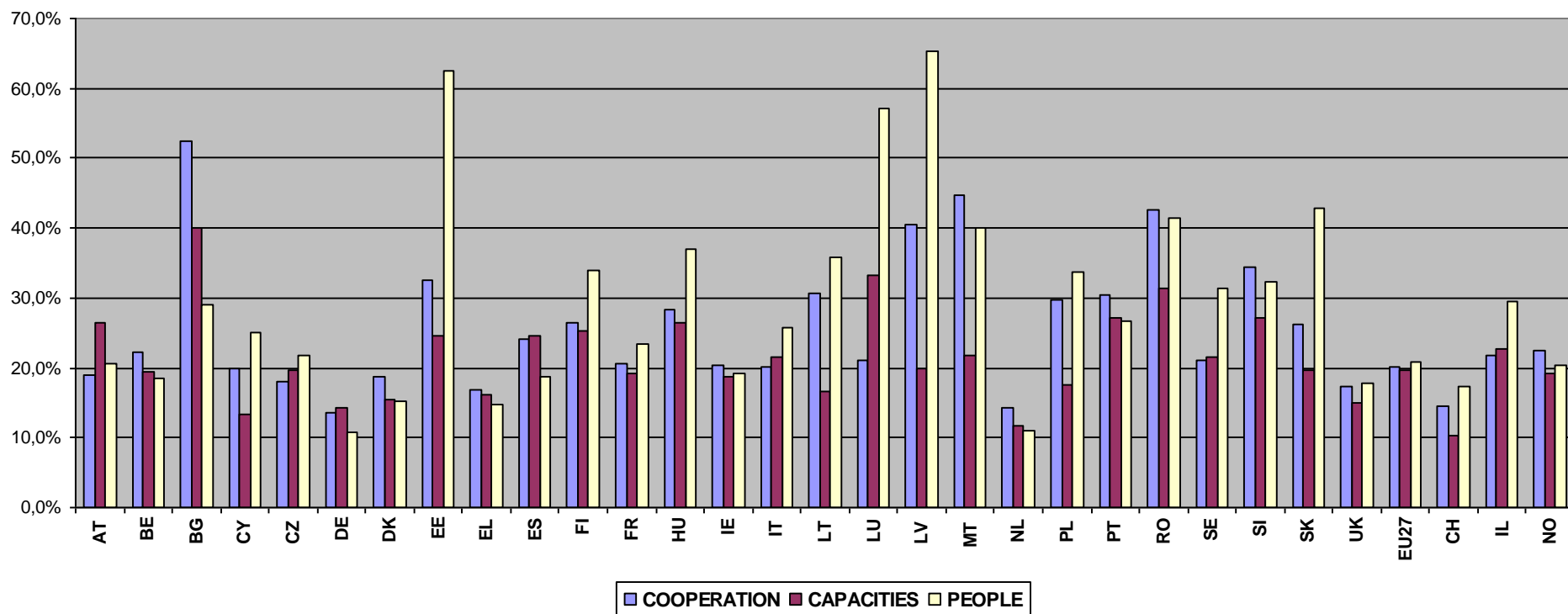
- Mix of funding measures should strike a different balance between bottom-up and top-down approaches
- Consider a *moratorium* on new instruments until the existing ones have been sufficiently developed and adequately evaluated.
- Take further steps to increase female participation
- Pave the way for 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

To explore: FP7 Monitoring Women in FP7 Projects by Country

Women as Contact Persons for Scientific Aspects

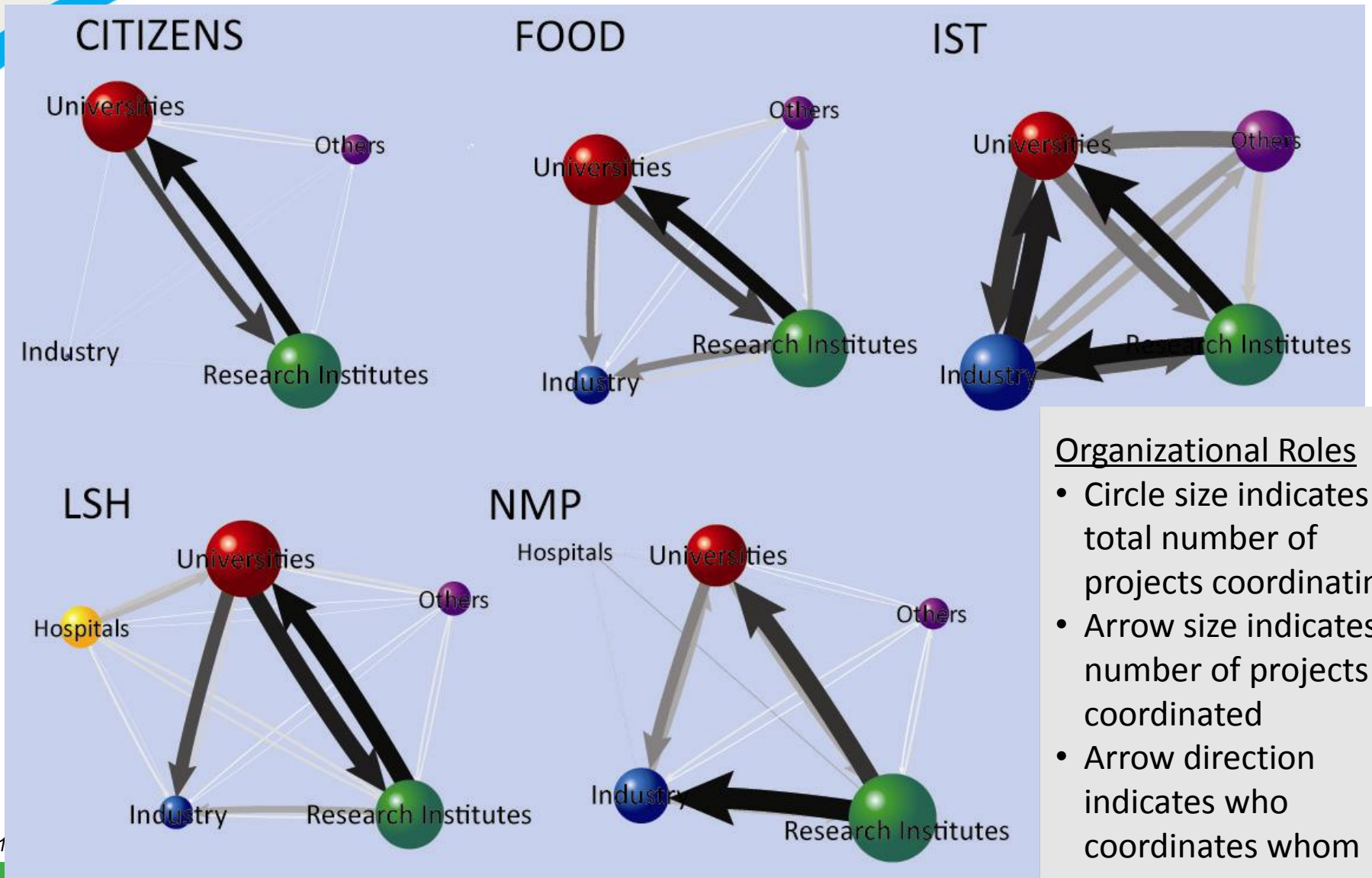


To explore: FP7 Evaluation Top 50 Participants

- Top 50 Participants account for 25% of FP7 funding
- Strong indication that FP7 is not a “closed shop”

Rank	Organisation Name	Country	Participations	EU Contribution in Mio €
1	CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE	FR	501	231,0
2	FRAUNHOFER-GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FOERDERUNG DER ANGEWANDTEN FORSCHUNG E.V	DE	331	153,1
3	COMMISSARIAT A L' ENERGIE ATOMIQUE	FR	234	118,7
4	MAX PLANCK GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FOERDERUNG DER WISSENSCHAFTEN E.V.	DE	238	115,4
5	THE CHANCELLOR, MASTERS AND SCHOLARS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE	UK	215	97,8
6	ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FEDERALE DE LAUSANNE	CH	165	97,4
7	THE CHANCELLOR, MASTERS AND SCHOLARS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD	UK	176	96,7
8	FONDATION EUROPEENNE DE LA SCIENCE	SUP	9	93,5
9	EIDGENOESSISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE ZUERICH	CH	170	91,7
10	IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE	UK	175	86,9

To explore: NetPact Study Network structures in FP6



- Organizational Roles
- Circle size indicates total number of projects coordinating
 - Arrow size indicates number of projects coordinated
 - Arrow direction indicates who coordinates whom

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

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<http://ec.europa.eu/research/evaluations>