

News

UK **Europe** Australia Africa New Zealand USA World Views

Framework 7 Horizon 2020 Politics Regulation Universities Innovation Germany France Netherlands Sweden Ir

Bookmark Email Download

ESF launches support services

10 Jan 17, 12:47

The European Science Foundation has launched a provider of research services for hire, following a fundamental shift in the foundation's historic remit.

By Craig Nicholson

Related Links

[ESF announcement](#)

 [Comment on this article](#)

Science Connect, the ESF's 'expert services' division, launched on 6 January. It is offering services including research programme management, institution and programme evaluation, and project peer review.

The ESF has gradually changed its remit to become a provider of science services over the past five years or so.

It was established in 1974 by national research councils as a funder of large-scale cross-border projects, eventually distributing more than €50 million per year. However, many of its former member organisations left in 2011, after the creation of the separate European Research Council, and the foundation's funding activities were subsequently wound down.

The EU's long-term Graphene Flagship innovation project hired the ESF to administer its competitive call for proposals. Jari Kinaret, director of the flagship, said in a statement quoted on the ESF's website that the foundation "ran the whole process from setting up the application system, identifying and recruiting global experts, organising and supervising the review meetings, to compiling and communicating the review results and responding to questions the applicant had during and after the process".

Something to add? Email comment@ResearchResearch.com

This article also appeared in Research Europe