

The European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)

Opportunities for Socio-Economic Sciences and the Humanities (SSH), Science in Society (SiS)



Information on calls launched in July 2011
CSIR and HSRC venues, August 2011

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Overview of this presentation

- General introduction to the **EUF7**
- Information on the **SSH theme**
- Information on the **SiS theme**
- Information on SSH-related topics in **other themes**
- **Hints** for people who are interested in responding to opportunities under FP7
- Where to find **further information**



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Introduction to the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Union (EUF7)



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What is the EU FP7?

- The Seventh Framework Programme (FP) for Research and Technological Development of the European Union (EU)
- Framework Programmes (FPs)
 - Since 1984
 - Main financial tools for EU support for R&D activities
 - Require research collaboration amongst member states and associated countries
 - Cover almost all scientific disciplines
 - Intended to respond to Europe's needs: Jobs, competitiveness, maintaining leadership in the global knowledge economy
 - Activities funded must have a "European added value"
- FP7
 - Seven years, from 2007 to 2013
 - Total budget: Over € 50 billion
 - Countries outside Europe may participate fully on condition that certain criteria have been met



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How this works

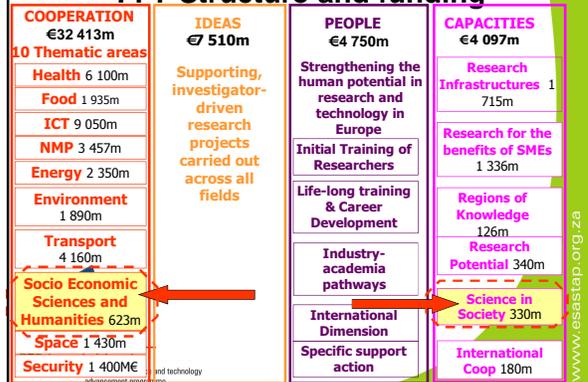
- All member countries contribute to pool of funds
- A consultative, bureaucratic process to identify the themes and priority areas
- Themes are approved by European Parliament and will remain the same for seven years
- Annual calls for proposals: Work programmes
 - Detailed topic descriptions constitute the text to which proposals must respond
- Proposals must be prepared by international consortia



Specific eligibility criteria to ensure inter-European collaboration
– "Third countries" (e.g. South Africa) may participate once minimum criteria have been met

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FP7 Structure and funding



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Information on “Cooperation” Theme 8:

Socio-economic sciences and the humanities (SSH)



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Socio-economic Sciences and the Humanities (SSH)

- One of ten programmes in FP7 under the broad category “Cooperation”
- Also a cross-cutting programme: The nine other programmes all address issues relevant to SSH
- EU Objective:
 - “To contribute to an in-depth, shared understanding of the complex and interrelated socio-economic challenges Europe is confronted with”
 - (http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cooperation/socio-economic_en.html)



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SSH Indicative Budget and Funding Schemes

- Total amount available
 - More than € 610 million for SSH over duration of FP7 (2007-2013)
 - 2012 call (launched 20 July 2010): € 87 million
- Funding schemes (“types of project”)
 - Collaborative research projects:
 - Large-scale integrating (many partners, huge budgets)
 - Small or medium-scale focused (from € 500k per project)
 - Coordination and Support Actions (CSA):
 - Coordinating
 - Supporting

Also possible: Public Procurement, Expert Groups



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SSH Activities to be Funded (I)

1. Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society
 - Innovation, competitiveness and labour market policies
 - Education and life-long learning
 - Economic structures and productivity
2. Combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective
 - Socio-economic models within Europe and across the world
 - Economic and social and cohesion across regions
 - Social and economic dimensions of environmental policy
3. Major trends in society and their implications
 - Demographic change, reconciling family and work, health and quality of life, youth policies, social exclusion and discrimination
4. Europe in the world
 - Trade, migration, poverty, crime, conflict and resolution



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SSH Activities to be Funded (II)

5. The citizen in the European Union
 - Political participation, citizenship and rights, democracy and accountability, the media, cultural diversity and heritage, religions, attitudes and values
6. Socio-economic and scientific indicators
 - The use and value of indicators in policy making at macro and micro levels
7. Foresight activities
 - The future implications of global knowledge, migration, ageing, risk and the emerging domains in research and science
8. Also: Strategic activities, horizontal actions
 - Emerging and unforeseen policy needs, international cooperation, dissemination of programme activities, strategic studies



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The current Work Programme (Published July 2011)

- Deadline 2 February 2012 @ 17h00 Brussels time
- One Work Programme
- Two calls, differentiated by “type of projects”
 - Call identifier: FP7-SSH-2012-1
 - Budget: EUR 39 million
 - Type of projects: Collaborative research projects (large-scale integrating research projects) – “CHALLENGES”
 - Call identifier: FP7-SSH-2012-2
 - Budget: EUR 48 million
 - Type of projects: Collaborative projects (small or medium-scale focused research projects), Coordination and support actions



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How to read the Work Programme (Published July 2011)

Start with Table of Contents

- I Objective and context – **important for background**
- II Content of calls – **the heart of the document**
 - Seven big '**activities**' – in place for seven years
 - Several '**areas**' per activity – in place for seven years
 - Detailed '**topic**' descriptions to follow activity headings – this is the specific call to respond to
- III Implementation of calls – **summary description and requirements**
- IV Other actions – **for information**



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Topics of particular interest

(amongst others ...)

- SSH.2012.2.1-1. *Social innovation against inequalities*
- SSH.2012.2.1-2. Social innovation for vulnerable populations**
- SSH.2012.2.2-1. *Governance of cohesion and diversity in urban contexts*
- SSH.2012.2.2-3. New types of offence in a globalised world: the case of environmental crime**
- SSH.2012.3.1-1. *Making longevity an asset for economic and social development*
- SSH.2012.3.2-1. *Families in transitions*
- SSH.2012.3.2-2. *Understanding disabilities in evolving societies*
- SSH.2012.4.1-1. Towards an Atlantic Area?**
- SSH.2012.4.2-1. Human rights in the EU external relations and internal policies**
- SSH.2012.4.3-1. *Social changes and political transformations in the Arab world.*
- SSH.2012.8.8-1. The future of Social Sciences and Humanities in the context of the European Research Area**



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Previous related programmes and funded projects

- FP7 (2007-2013)
 - Programme 8: "Socio-economic sciences and humanities"
 - Lists of funded projects under both priorities accessible from http://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/ssh/docs/synopsis_ssh_projects_fp7_low_definition_with_web_links.pdf
- FP6 (2002-2006)
 - Priority 7: "Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-Based Society"
 - Priority 8: "Scientific Support to Policies"
 - Lists of funded projects under both priorities accessible from <http://cordis.europa.eu/citizens/projects.htm>
- FP5 (1998-2002)
 - Key Action "Improving the Socio-economic Knowledge Base"
 - No significant participation from South African researchers



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South African participation

- A highly competitive programme – 18% to 25% of proposals funded
- The best consortia and the best ideas have the best chances of success
- South Africa has been doing very well – starting with EUFP6, now also in EUFP7



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Information on "Capacities" Part 5:

Science in Society (SiS)



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Science in Society (SiS)

- One of seven cross-cutting themes in FP7 under the broad programme "Capacities"
- The *Capacities* programme intends to enhance research and innovation capacities throughout Europe and ensure their optimal use.
- EU Objective:
 - "With a view to building an effective and democratic European knowledge-based society, the aim is to stimulate the harmonious integration of scientific and technological endeavour and associated research policies into European society."



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SiS Activities to be Funded

- A more dynamic governance of the relationship between science and society
 - Research on ethics in science and technology
 - The reciprocal influence of science and culture
 - Conditions for an informed debate on ethics and science
- Strengthening potential, broadening horizons
 - Strengthening the role of women in scientific research
 - Supporting formal and informal science education in schools as well as through science centres and museums and other relevant means
 - Reinforcing links between science education and science careers

- Science and society communication
 - Encouraging a European dimension at science events targeting the public
 - Science prizes
 - Science, policy makers and the media – Research to support better inter-communication



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SiS Indicative Budget and Funding Schemes

- Total amount available
 - A total of € 330 million for SiS over duration of FP7 (2007-2013)
 - 2012 call (launched 20 July 2011): € 37.4 million
- Funding schemes
 - Collaborative research projects:
 - Coordination and Support Actions (CSA):
Include large "Mobilisation and Mutual Learning (MML) Action Plans"
 - Also possible: Public Procurement; Expert Groups; Research for the Benefit of Specific Groups - Civil Society Organisations
 - Some topics earmarked for "named beneficiaries"

Minimum conditions per funding scheme:
Outlined in Work Programme and "Call Fiche"



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The current Work Programme (Published July 2011)

- Deadline 22 February 2012 @17h00 Brussels local time
- One Work Programme
- One Call
 - Call identifier: FP7-SCIENCE-IN-SOCIETY-2012-1
 - Budget: EUR 37,4 million
 - Type of projects: Collaborative projects (small or medium-scale focused research projects)
 - Coordination and support actions – including MML



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Topics of particular interest (amongst others . . .)

- SiS.2012.1.1.1-1:
Governance frameworks for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)
- SiS.2012.1.2.1-1:
International Coordination in the field of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)
- SiS.2012.1.3.3-1:
Scientific data: open access, dissemination, preservation and use



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Previous related programmes and funded projects

- FP7 (2007-2013)
 - "Science in Society"
 - Lists of funded projects under "Science in Society" accessible from http://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/sis/docs/sis-project-synopses_en.pdf
- FP6 (2002-2006)
 - "Science and Society"
 - Lists of funded projects under "Science and Society" accessible from http://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/science-society/docs/overview_society_contracts.pdf



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South African participation

- Several topics more geared towards European requirements
- There are definitely topics where international collaboration and South African inputs will add value
- Focus on finding the right topic first



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Information on

SSH-related topics in other themes



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Other themes under FP7

- SiS is described as a “cross-cutter”
- SSH should also be regarded as a “cross-cutter”: other themes contain topics requiring inputs, often leadership, from scientists working in the socio-economic sciences and humanities
- Specific examples from the July 2011 call:
 - Health
 - Food, agriculture, forestry and biotechnology
 - Information and communication technologies
 - Environment (including climate change)
 - Security



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Hints for people interested in . . .

Responding to opportunities under FP7



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Minimum conditions and eligibility criteria

- Minimum conditions for typical collaborative research projects:
 - *At least three independent legal entities, established in three different Member States or Associated Countries*
 - **Third country** participation possible – *often desirable* – once minimum conditions have been met
 - *Different configurations for SICAS (“Specific International Cooperation Actions”), e.g. 2 EU/AC + 2 international*
- **Study** the work programme and related documents for specific eligibility criteria – number of participants, third country involvement, size of budget!



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Points to bear in mind (I)

This is a fund created by the EU, to address EU priorities. Many EU priorities are also global priorities.

South African participation and perspectives are welcome – as long as we can show how we will **add value** to the issues under consideration.

For some topics, international collaboration is particularly encouraged. This means that proposals without participation of international partners will not be successful.

For other topics, international collaboration will nevertheless be possible and often welcomed.

For more detailed descriptions of the issues to be addressed under each topic, refer to the Work Plan



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Points to bear in mind (II)

Keys to success:



Responding to the topics and work plans is like working with an exam paper: Read carefully what the EU wants, and prepare your response accordingly!

Get the right partners in the EU. A strong, experienced lead organisation in the EU will make it easy and enjoyable to be a South African counterpart



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“Ten tips for successful proposals”

1. Understand how FP7 works
2. Dedicate time and resources to plan and prepare
3. Do your reading – work programmes and other documents
4. Study what has been done before, and by whom
5. Visit information events
6. Bring together – or try to join – the perfect consortium
 - Build your consortium early
 - Look for the best partners, well known in Europe
 - Develop a work plan with well defined tasks and deliverables for each partner
 - You need to trust your partners
7. Contribute to the development of a perfect proposal
8. Keep the evaluation criteria in mind
9. Make sure the proposal fits the eligibility criteria
10. Ensure that the perfect proposal is submitted in time!
(Electronic submission by coordinator)



Based on http://www.euresearch.ch/index.php?id=676&no_cache=1

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Where to find . . .

Further information



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Web-based resources

- **Websites** for general information, partner searches and much more!
 - ESASTAP <http://www.esastap.org.za>
 - NET4SOCIETY <http://www.net4society.eu>
 - EUROSIS <http://www.eurosis-project.eu/index.php/home>
 - CORDIS <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7>
- General information on EU FP7:
 - Leaflet, fact sheets and posters available at http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm?pg=understanding
 - "Frequently asked questions" answered at http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/faq_en.html
 - Also see www.esastap.org.za
- Partner search support:
 - http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/partners_en.html
 - <http://www.esastap.org.za/esastap/partnersearch/index.php>
 - <http://www.net4society.eu/public/pss>
 - <http://www.eurosis-project.eu/index.php/partner-search>
- Register your expertise
(if selected as evaluator, you may get paid while learning!)
<https://ec.europa.eu/emmp7/>



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Where to find more information



- Your own international (European) networks
- Approach the relevant NCP(s) and ANCPs
- Subscribe to newsletters / e-mail distribution lists (CORDIS; ESASTAP, N4S Third Country team)
- Lists of successful proposals: FP6 and FP7

All projects (searchable database):

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/projects_en.html

SSH projects:

http://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/ssh/docs/ssh-project-synopsis-fp6_en.pdf

SiS projects:

http://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/sis/docs/sis_oi_synop_bookmarked.pdf



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NET4SOCIETY research directory

<http://www.net4society.eu/research-directory/>

Don't forget to register!



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Support available

- Partner search support (CORDIS, ESASTAP, NCP networks – ESASTAP)
- EUROSIS – network of SiS NCPs
- NET4SOCIETY – network of SSH NCPs
- Senior South African representative in Brussels (Mr Daan du Toit)
- ESASTAP / NCP network support
 - Sharing information on opportunities
 - Responding to, referring enquiries
 - Seed funding: ESASTAP
 - Strategic co-investment: ESASTAP



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For more information on EUFP7

National Contact Point (NCP) for SSH / SiS in SA:
Dr Christa van Zyl, HSRC
ssh.ncp@esastap.org.za
sis.ncp@esastap.org.za

Link to the NCP network on the ESASTAP website
<http://www.esastap.org.za/esastap/ncp/index.php>

Link to the CORDIS (EU) website for SSH and SiS:
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cooperation/socio-economic_en.html
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/capacities/science-society_en.html



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Thank you!

More information
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