



### **HELCATS Kick-off Meeting**

Information for a good start RAL, 14 May 2014

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European Commission Research Executive Agency Space Research Unit

Research Executive Agency



#### **OUTLINE**

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- Selection and Execution procedures
- Deliverables and periodic reports
- Periodic report Closer look
- Review Closer look
- Finance aspect (payments)
- Legal aspects: amendements, info letters
- Publication
- Questions?



### About us



### **European Commission**

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Policy & Implementation



**Executive Agencies** 

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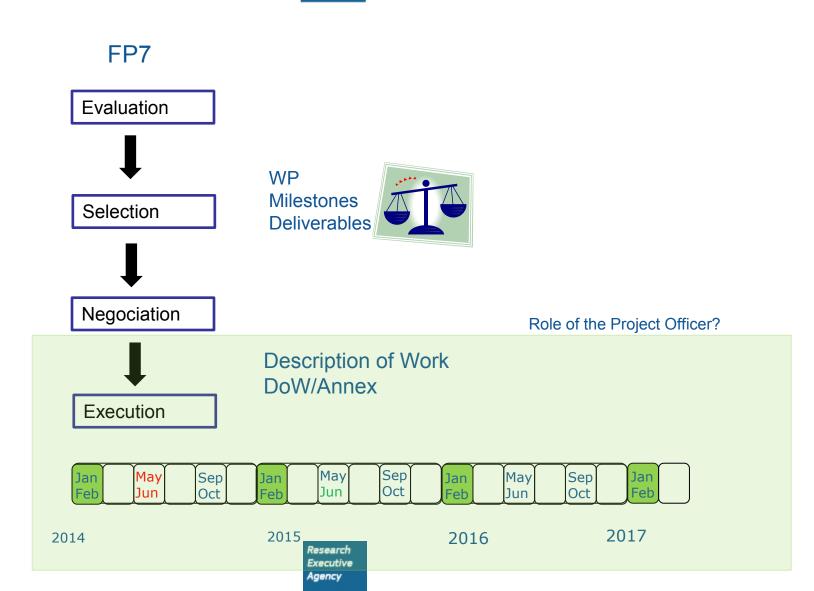


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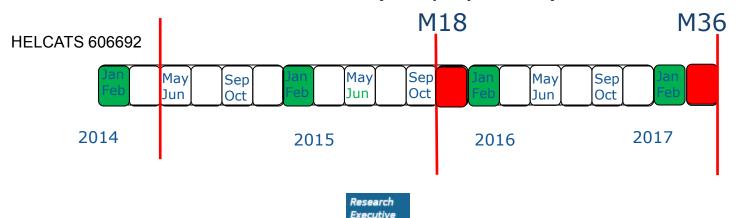
## Selection and Execution





### During the course of the project, the consortium submits:

- Deliverables according to the timetable specified in the DoW / Deliverables List
- A Periodic Report within <u>60 days</u> of the end of each reporting period (including the final reporting period)
- Review @ M18 (Payment) @ M36 (payment)
  - + Mid-Term Review TBD (No payment)



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### During the course of the project, the consortium submits:







### At the end of the project, the consortium submits:

A Final Report, within 60 days after project's end, comprising:

- A final publishable summary report covering results, conclusions and socio-economic impact of the project
- A plan for the use and dissemination of the foreground, to spread awareness
- A report covering the wider societal implications of the project, in the form of a questionnaire (gender equality actions, ethical issues, etc.)

After receiving the final EU payment, within 30 days, the coordinator shall submit a Report on the distribution of the Community financial contribution between beneficiaries.





In addition to formal reporting requirements, the Coordinator should also send a quarterly e-mail (roughly one page) to the Project Officer giving:

- Overview on status of the activities, progress made, problems encountered or foreseen(if any), way ahead
- Confirmation that the deliverables are in line with the work plan. And if not, elaborate on reasons and suggest corrective actions.

NB!

Be pro-active!

In case of problems/ questions do not hesitate to contact the Project Officer!



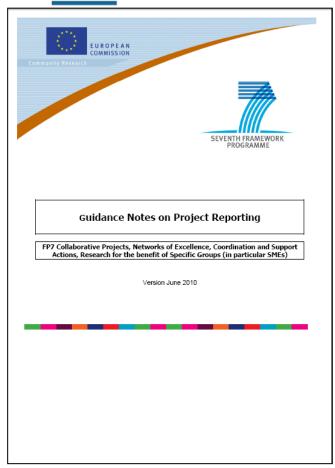


### Periodic Report – Closer look









ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/project\_reporting\_en.pdf







An overview (incl. publishable summary) of the work progress towards the objectives including reached milestones and submitted deliverables. It should also discuss the differences between work expected to be carried out and work that actually was carried out

A high level description on the use of the resources

A Financial Statement (Form C) from each beneficiary and summary financial report for the whole consortium

NB! Be consistent with the figures and explain any deviations from the DoW!





### How did you spend your budget? Any deviations from the DoW?

#### Personnel

The person-months should indicate the individual input of the experts and their position / qualification (not the identity/name). KEEP TIMESHEETS!

#### Other direct costs

The travel costs should include in a consistent manner: destination, number of persons travelling, amount and explanation (including dates).

Durable Equipment (e.g. computer)? Consumables?

NB! Full price and the depreciation value should be stated. Durable equipment is subject to depreciation, according to the national accounting rules of each partner

### Subcontracting

As per the DoW except for minor subcontracts.





## Periodic Report - Use of resources (cont.)

### Travel - Participation in conferences, WS and other events etc.

- The participation can be charged to a project ONLY if justified by a presentation of the project activities and results
- The participation "just to listen and network" cannot be charged to a project
- The participation of several project partners and/or several representatives of the same partner has to be clearly justified
- Be prepared to provide the Project Officer with a copy of the submitted paper and/or the presentation and the event agenda (as supporting documents to the Periodic Report)

#### Please see the Financial Guidelines at:

ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/financialguide\_en.pdf





### Review process – Closer look





The REA may initiate a (techical) Project Review <u>at any time</u> during the implementation of the project but usually the reviews are held following the end of each reporting period

- Usually the review takes place 3 weeks after the submission of the Periodic Report
- Participation TBD on a case-by-case basis; usually at least the Coordinator and the WP leaders
- REA is assisted by independent external reviewer(s)
- The external reviewer(s):
  - gives external advice to the REA on the project for the period in question
  - assists the REA by recommending any reorientation that may be required



### Project Review (cont.)



### The external reviewer(s) assess:

- the degree of fulfilment of the project work plan and the related deliverables;
- the beneficiaries' contributions and integration within the project etc.
- the continued relevance of the objectives;
- the resources utilised in relation to the achieved progress;
- the management procedures of the project;

The Coordinator will be informed on the outcome in the form of a Review Report. See templates:

ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/
docs/project review en.pdf

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#### Guide to Financial Issues relating to FP7 Indirect Actions

Version 16/01/2012

#### Dicelaimo

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This guide is aimed at assisting beneficiaries. It is provided for information purposes only and its contents are not intended to replace consultation of any applicable legal sources or the necessary advice of a legal expert, where appropriate. Neither the Commission nor any person acting on its behalf can be held responsible for the use made of these guidance notes.

### Project Review (cont.)



Following the receipt of Reports and Deliverables and the Review the REA may:

Approve the reports and deliverables: REA disburses the corresponding payments within 105 days of their receipt unless the time-limit, the payment or the project has been suspended.

Suspend the time limit if reports/deliverables have not been supplied, are incomplete, unclear or raise doubts concerning the eligibility of costs claimed.

Suspend the payment at any time for the amount intended for the beneficiary(ies) concerned: for details see Article II.5 of Annex II (General conditions) to the grant agreement.

Reject the reports and/or deliverables by giving an appropriate justification and, if appropriate, start the procedure for termination of the GA.



### Interim Payments are linked to submission of:

- A complete and correct Periodic Report;
- Deliverables; and
- Electronic (and signed) Form Cs

One the Reports and Deliverables are approved, the REA will disburse the corresponding payments within 105 days



### Payments (cont.)



Payments are linked to the actual costs incurred by the beneficiaries

No proof of costs has to be given to REA, "just" detailed explanation

If one partner overspends, the consortium agrees how much this partner can claim as EU contribution, i.e. - full amount if the overspending is due to anticipated work, OR

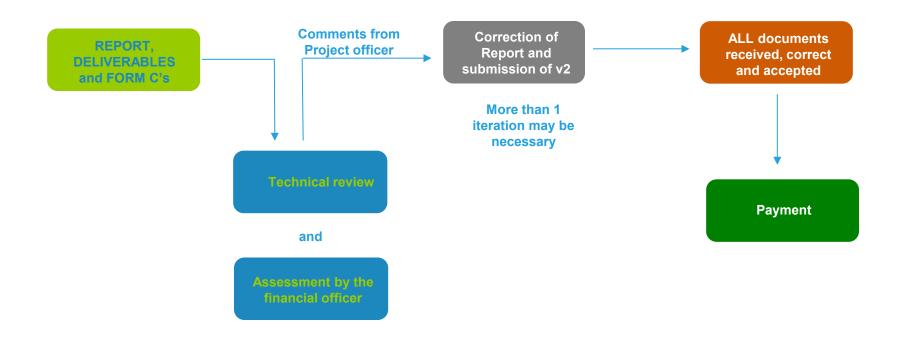
- only the budget share agreed for the reporting period and lower than the amount which could be claimed.

Payments to the beneficiaries are at the responsibility of coordinator.

The coordinator does not have to provide any proof of transfer to beneficiaries during the life-time of the project (shall only submit a report on the distribution of the financial contribution between beneficiaries within 30 days after receipt of the final payment).









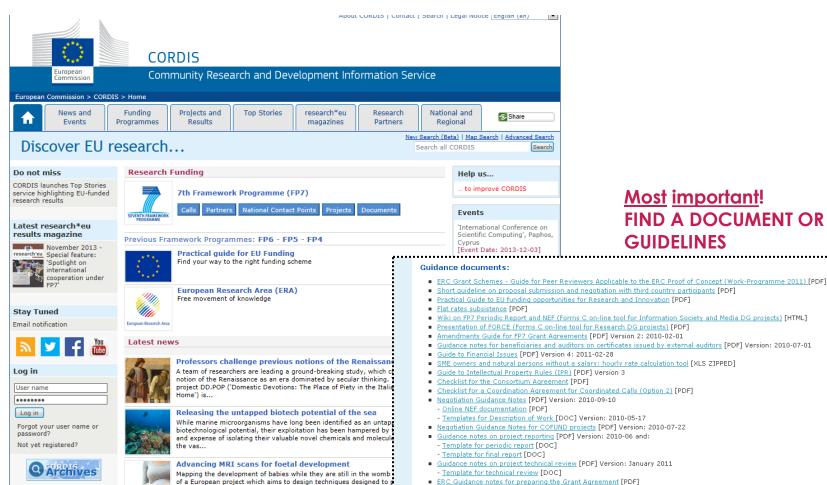
### Where to find documents?

Where to find documents?





#### http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/



■ ERC Guides for Grant Holder ( Part I & Part II) [PDF]

applicants at the start of the negotiation period

Programme 2011) [PDF]

■ ERC Grant Schemes - ERC Guide for Peer reviewers Applicable to the ERC Starting Grants and Advanced Grants (Work-

Marie Curie Actions Negotiation Guidance Notes are tailored by individual actions and will be distributed to successful

problems earlier, and develop appropriate therapies. The dHCP ('Dev

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The coordinator and/ or the person in charge of the administrative and financial issues in the coordinating organisation must read at least the following documents:

- Guide to Financial Issues
- Guidance Notes on Project Reporting
- Amendments Guide for FP7 Grant Agreements





### Prefinancing

- If 2 reporting periods: 60% of EU contribution
- If 3 reporting periods: 160% of the average EU contribution per period
- Paid to the coordinator within 45 days following the date of entry into force of the Grant Agreement

#### Guarantee Fund

- 5% of maximum EU contribution
- At the <u>final</u> payment, the amount contributed to this Fund shall be returned to the beneficiaries via the Coordinator
- NB! No collective financial responsibility in FP7 as was the case in FP6 (still collective scientific responsibility)





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# Legal aspects: Amendment and Information letters





- An amendment allows the parties to modify the Grant Agreement (GA) during its lifetime.
- An amendment to GA is a legal act modifying the commitments initially accepted by the parties and which may create:
  - new rights,
  - impose new obligations on the; or
  - modify significant parts of the GA (incl DoW).



See: <a href="ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/amendments-ga">ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/amendments-ga</a> en.pdf







### When should the Coordinator submit an Amendment request?

- If any GA provision needs to be modified and / or
- In case of <u>major/ significant</u> modification to the DoW

#### When is an Information Letter sufficient?

- Changes to contact point/ authorised representative, legal address/ name
- In this case the LEAR of the concerned beneficiary should update the information in the Participant Portal

#### NB!

Beneficiaries are allowed to transfer budget between different activities and between themselves without an amendment, if:

- the amounts are minor and the needs are clearly justified
  - the work is carried out as planned in the DoW (i.e. output and max EU contribution remain)
    - the Project Officer agrees <u>upfront</u>





### **Publication Issues**





The beneficiaries shall, throughout the duration of the project, take appropriate measures to engage with the public and the media about the project and to highlight the EC financial support.

Any publicity, including at a conference or seminar or any type of information or promotional material must specify that the project has received EC research funding and display the European emblem.

Any publicity made by the beneficiaries in respect of the project must specify that it reflects only the author's views and that the Community is not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.



### Publications issues (cont.)



All publications shall include the following statement:

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme ([FP7/2007-2013]) under grant agreement no [606692]

(see Article II.30. of the Grant Agreement).

During and after the project, the coordinator shall provide references and an abstract of all scientific publications relating to foreground at the latest two months following publication (see Article II.30. of the Grant Agreement).

As part of the Final Report, the coordinator will be required to submit a full list of publications relating to foreground of the project.

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### Helpdesk for IT related questions:

EC-FP7-IT-HELPDESK@ec.europa.eu

Tel: +32 2 29 87288 (08:30 - 16:30 CET)





#### I wish you a lot of success!

European Commission Research Executive Agency

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