SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM - *EU*

Euratom of 1,260 million bring the global budget for research during 1999-2002 to 14,960 million euro. EU spending on RTD has gone up regularly, now reaching 4 % of the EU's total budget. The EU financial contribution covers a maximum of 50% of project costs, its purpose being to encourage the development of collaboration which will continue and evolve spontaneously. The main objectives are long term impact and the effects of synergy in terms of improved cooperation between teams.

FP5 is made up of four thematic programmes: (1) life sciences, (2) information society, (3) sustainable industrial growth, and (4) energy and the environment. Their "key actions" are intended to mobilise the scientific and technological disciplines - both fundamental and applied - required to address a specific problem, thus overcoming barriers between disciplines and organisations. Three horizontal programmes cut across all themes, namely: (1) confirming the international role of Community research; (2) promoting innovation and encouraging SME participation; and, (3) improving human research potential and the socio-economic knowledge base. See http://www.cordis.lu/fp5

In addition to FP5, there are other important programmes, initiatives and policies which support research at the European level, which are not managed by the European Commission, except for COST:

- **COST:** The European Co-operation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research, founded in 1971, has almost 200 Actions which cover basic and pre-competitive research as well as activities of public utility. COST involves nearly 30,000 scientists from 32 European countries. Eleven other countries including Canada participate in COST. See http://www.netmaniacs.com/cost/
- ESA: The European Space Agency, formed in 1974, replaces the ESRO satellite and ELDO launcher organisations. It has 14 member states. Canada takes part in some projects under a cooperation agreement, under the responsibility of the Canadian Space Agency to whom Canada's Science and Technology Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Paris reports on a daily basis. http://www.esa.int
- **EUREKA:** EUREKA, launched in 1985, has already changed the face of pan-European cooperative research and development. It is a framework through which industry and research institutes from 26 European countries and the European Union develop and exploit the technologies crucial to global competitiveness and a better quality of life. The bottom-up approach means that industrialists and researchers are free to choose their field. See http://www.eureka.be/home/index.html
- **ESF:** The European Science Foundation, established in 1974, counts 67 Member Organisations devoted to scientific research in 23 European countries. ESF brings scientists together in its scientific programmes, networks, exploratory workshops and European research conferences, to work on topics of common concern. Often long-term, ESF Scientific Programmes are financed by ESF Member Organisations who choose which programmes they will support à la carte. See http://www.esf.org/

Finally, there are European institutions or large scale facilities and programs that have an overarching influence on the European science and technology landscape, such as CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research created in 1952) and EMBL (the European Molecular Biology Laboratory established in the seventies). The Ariane and the Airbus