

Within these areas of focus, the EU has specific objectives for its relationship with its Member States, the Associate and Candidate Countries, Mediterranean and Balkan partner countries, Russia and the Newly Independent States, developing countries, emerging economies and industrialized nations.

International cooperation has been restructured under FP6. The INCO (International Cooperation) program, which began in 1994 and received 475 million Euros under FP5, will not be continued under FP6. Instead, approximately 300 million Euros is allocated to "Specific international cooperation activities", with an emphasis on the Associated and Candidate countries, the Mediterranean and Balkan states, and Russia and the Newly Independent States. Another 300 million Euros will be embedded in the thematic priority budgets, but earmarked for international cooperation. Here, the focus will be heavily on developing countries, and the funding for such cost-sharing projects will ultimately be available on a diminished basis.

FP6 fully integrates the Candidate Countries: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia, Cyprus and Malta. While these nations are not yet full members of the EU, they were eligible for FP5 participation and under FP6, they will also be able to lead consortia. In fact, they can form consortia without the participation of any of the actual Member States.

Insofar as Canada is concerned, the EU's objective is to share resources in the pursuit of scale, high-quality joint research such that costs are reduced, risks mitigated, benefits enhanced and fairly distributed, and the EU's political, economic and humanitarian goals advanced. As in FP5, Canadian participants must largely be self-funded (e.g. obtain their funding in Canada). EU funding for Canadians will be rare and contingent on the fundamental nature of their participation in the research action in question. The mechanism for such funding will be the 300 million Euro international component of the budget lines for the thematic priorities.

A portion of the funding attributed to "Human Resources" under the Structuring of the ERA will be used to facilitate researcher mobility. In essence, the EU will encourage the migration of skilled researchers to the Member States through financial incentives. There will also be provisions for aiding the repatriation of Member State researchers who are working outside EU.

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