

- *Third and Fifth Specific Programs:* The Joint Research Centre's non-nuclear and nuclear programs, involving EU-funded research which takes place within the JRC, which is an EU entity managed by the Commission's DG-Research.

The FP6 Thematic Priorities are:

- Genomics and biotechnology for health
- Information Society technologies
- Nanotechnologies, intelligent materials, and new production processes
- Aeronautics and space
- Food safety and health risks
- Sustainable development
- Citizens and Governance in an open European knowledge-based society

The new instruments for FP6 are; *networks of excellence, integrated projects and joint schemes* (the so-call "Article 169" mechanism). The EC has the latitude to decide which instruments will take precedence in given thematic areas. For an overview of the new instruments, see: <http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/research/nfp/networks-ip.html>

*Networks of Excellence* are to encourage better integration of Europe's research capacities (<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/research/nfp/pdf/provisions-implement-net-excel.pdf>). The *Integrated Projects* will mobilize a critical mass of R&D resources to meet defined objectives and yield required research, development, demonstration and training results (<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/research/nfp/pdf/provisionsimplementingip.pdf>). The *Joint Schemes* mark the first use of Article 169 of the Treaty, which states, "the Community may make provision, in agreement with the member states concerned, for participation in research and development programs undertaken by several member states". While IPs and NOEs seek to integrate individual researchers and institutions, this instrument seeks to integrate national programs. Each Joint Scheme will require a co-initiative by national programs and the EC, and a complex co-decision process involving the Council and the European Parliament.

*Specific targeted research projects and coordination actions* represent evolved forms of the FP5 instruments. They will be used to provide a smooth transition to the new instruments, a so-called "stairway to excellence", which will be especially important for the participation of smaller nations and institutions. This stairway will be subject to an independent evaluation in 2004, and may be used degressively as FP6 proceeds.

Under FP6, the Rules for Participation containing the legal conditions governing participation and liability, funding, and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) will be simplified. Thus instruments will be simplified and streamlined, overheads minimized for all concerned parties (e.g. EC, applicant, contractor), and procedures accelerated, especially the time required to put contracts in place. There will also be steps taken to provide greater flexibility and adaptability and to balance public accountability with greater management autonomy for research initiatives.

As in FP5, the EC will retain no ownership of IP despite its co-funding. SMEs will retain full ownership of IP, since research organizations operating on their behalf receive funding for their services. A strong emphasis is placed on use and diffusion of IP. Proposed IP elements under FP6 include:

- removal of distinction between types of participants (e.g. primary contractors, other contractors, etc)
- more limited access rights (e.g. removal of the clause whereby any participant in a project could claim access to resulting IP)