Getting support in FP7: you are not alone

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Getting Assistance – The NCPs

- National Contact Points are structures established by governments of the EU member states and the states associated to the Framework Programme.

- NCPs form the main structure for providing guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in FP7.

- NCPs give personalized support on the spot and in proposers’ own languages.

- NCPs appointed for the Themes of FP including a Legal & Financial NCP.

- The NCPs can be found at: cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp_en.html
The Role of NCPs

• Guiding principles for setting up the NCPs system in FP have been agreed by representatives of all countries involved

• Tasks of NCPs
  – Informing, awareness raising
  – Advising, assisting and training
  – Signposting and Feedback
Range of Services

**Information Stream**
- FP promotion
- Customer training on FP
- Call monitoring
- Call promotion
- Call results monitoring

**Mediation Stream**
- Customer attraction
- Project / Profile Identification
- Clarification of terms
- Search drafting (outward)
- Utilise NCP tools
- (Inward) PS retrieval
- Dissemination
- Matching

**Advice Stream**
- Proposal preparation
- Progress monitoring
- Negotiations with EC
- GPF preparation
- “After sales” services

**Consultancy**
How can one benefit?

• **Guidance** on choosing theme and funding schemes

• **Advice** on administrative procedures and contractual issues

• **Partner search** - Build your Consortium
Guidance

• Assist you through the labyrinth of FP7 documentation
  – Where to find information
  – How to use it

• Assist in the choice of the topic/call

• We may contact directly the appropriate EC officer in order to double check.
Advice

• On administrative procedures and contractual issues
  – proposal preparation, contract negotiations, execution of your project.

• Interpret the meaning of EC concepts and how to reflect on them in your proposal.

• Provide assistance and information on
  – funding schemes,
  – rules of participation,
  – model grant agreements,
Partner Search

• An important pre-requisite for a promising funding application is a suitable consortium of project applicants.

• Usually, project consortia must have a minimum of three partners from three Member States or Associate countries.

• NCPs are the main channels you can use in the search for partners
Thematic Networks

• NCPs are appointed per FP theme (e.g. ICT, NMP, TRANSPORT, etc.)

• All the NCPs in a single theme constitute the Thematic Network

• Collaboration among the NCPs in the Networks in order to provide better services and tools to our clients
Cooperation between the networks

• Knowledge sharing regarding
  – thematic work programmes and
  – best practices

• @ EC info days, regional info days, conferences,..
  – Joint booths
  – Joint brokerage events → support to partner search
ETNA: European Transport NCP Alliance

- Thematic Network of TRANSPORT NCPs
- Coordinator: TUV Rheinland (D) / David Doerr
- Consortium:
  14 consortium partners...
  ...who develop services and activities for the entire NCP-network

www.transport-ncps.net
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  T  + 49 221 / 806 4156
  M  + 49 172 / 2167 139
ETNA: Support through CORDIS partner search

- **PROMOTION OF ‘RECOMMENDATIONS’ MECHANISM AT NATIONAL/EU LEVEL**
- **PUBLICATION OF EVENTS/INITIATIVES OF COMMON INTEREST ON ‘CALENDAR’**
- **CREATION OF ‘BLOGS’ ON SPECIFIC TRANSPORT RELATED ISSUES (eg. HORIZON2020)**
ETNA tools

- ETNA standardized forms available online (profiles, partner searches)
- PS navigation structured on the basis of WP structure (activity/area/topic)
- Brokerage event organized/sponsored by ETNA (registration and feedback)
• The Thematic Network of ICT NCPs

• Coordinator: German Aerospace Center Germany
  – Contact: mohsine.chefki@dlr.de

• Consortium:
  – 25 Beneficiaries from MS, AS & 3rd countries
  – 88 representatives from 75 countries

http://www.ideal-ist.eu/representatives
NCP support to proposers

- **Proposer support – learning, mentoring, toolbox**
  
  **Aim:** the design of a toolbox of support measures and its implementation

- **Proposal development support**
  
  **Aim:** offer support to the proposers from Ideal-ist’s enhanced quality team

- **Event & networking support**
  
  **Aim:** support and/or organise international brokerage events, offer focussed support to EU12 participants
Proposer support: Learning, Mentoring, Toolbox

• **Training Services**
  – develop training modules
  – offer trainings (e.g. linked to brokerages)

• **Expert Advisory**
  – Analysis of RO documents – calls, non-papers, esrs
  – Networking intelligence
  – Info on work programme preparations at RO level
Proposal development support

• Partner search – quality team feedback
  – Checking incoming PS
  – Offering valuable feedback for improvement

• Full proposals - in depth feedback and check by red team as evaluators
  – Workshop to exchange experience about full proposal checking (marketing, selecting proposals, confidentiality, selecting experts, organizing reading, feedback etc.)
  – Proposal checking before each call – starting Call 10
PS System – how does it work?

http://www.ideal-ist.eu/partner-search/pssearch

**Step 1:** Proposer inserts a new Partner Search online

**Step 6:** PS is closed & Proposer fills in feedback form

**Step 2:** PS is checked by local representative & Quality Team according to subjective & objective criteria:
- Quality Label

**Step 3:** PS is published & distributed to subscribers of national mailing list (~85,000 contacts)

**Step 4:** Potential partner send EOIs (Expression of interest) to proposers (on avg. 50 per PS)

**Step 5:** Proposer replies to EOIs (Standard reply form) & chooses partner(s) to build consortium (98% success rate)
NMP TeAm

- Thematic Network of NMP

- Coordinator: PRAXI Network / Dr Apostolos Dimitriadis
  adimi@help-forward.gr

- Consortium:
  15 Core Members (NMP NCPs) - (“beneficiaries”)
  All the other NMP NCPs are Associated Members

www.nmpteam.com
Tools for the benefit of the network's clients:

- Partner Search Facility,
- website.

Organisation of brokerage events to maximise networking opportunities for our clients

Help all NCPs to have the appropriate tools to assist their clients (quick e-guides & factsheets etc.)
The NMP TeAm Partner Search Facility

- Through the website [www.nmpteam.com](http://www.nmpteam.com)
- An on-line database where labs and companies can post their Partner Search / Offer;

- Validated by NCPs (each NCP for their country / sub-theme)

- Will make connections with the new CORDIS

- Free access to all with contact details (of NCP also)
Anyone can register and submit a partner search or a partner offer. The partner search / offer is validated by NCP. The partner search / offer is becoming public. Ability to search with respect to NMP Call, keywords, country, old profiles.
Mark the date

- NCP networks organize or participate to brokerage events linked to key international events, in the coming months:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Type of event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPP</td>
<td>EC Infoday + Brokerage</td>
<td>09-10/07/2012</td>
<td>Brussels, BELGIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>EC Infoday + Brokerage</td>
<td>18-19/07/2012</td>
<td>Brussels, BELGIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT/PPP</td>
<td>EC Infoday + Brokerage</td>
<td>26-27/09/2012</td>
<td>Warsaw, POLAND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(NMP)</td>
<td>EuroNanoForum</td>
<td>June 2013</td>
<td>Dublin, Ireland</td>
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</tbody>
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Thank you!

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