



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community Research

EU budget in health research close to €1 billion a year

Tackles a range of issues with a high impact on the health of European citizens, on global health issues and on the competitiveness of health industries.

- Fundamental knowledge in genomics, human development and ageing process
- Health biotech (including nanotechnology)
- Health related to food quality and safety
- Information and Communication Technologies applied to medicine
- Major diseases (cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, rare diseases, drug resistance, diseases of the nervous system, cancer, poverty related diseases, emerging epidemics)
- Health policy driven research
- Health infrastructures

EU health research projects support consortia gathering world class scientists, from different EU countries and other parts of the world, including from industry. The 3 main types of project are:

- **Integrated projects (IP):** large projects to address specific scientific and technological objectives typically with 20 participants, €10 million EU contribution for 4.5 years (~€110,000 per partner per year). These account for over half of funds.
- **Networks of Excellence (NoE):** large projects to integrate research capacities currently existing typically with 30 participants, €9 million EU contribution for 5 years (~€60,000 per partner per year). These account for over 15% of the funds.
- **Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREP):** small projects more focussed in their objectives typically with 8 participants, €2 million EU contribution for 3 years (~€85,000 per partner per year). These account for around 30% of the funds.

The average success rate of applicants for funding is around 23%.

There was a special effort to support **Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SME)**, in particular in health biotechnology: with around 15% of EU financial support going to the SME partners in research projects. This figure was more than doubled following a special call for proposals in 2005/2006.