



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Community research

# EC Research, Innovation and Cohesion Policies (CRIC): towards effective and efficient synergies The role of Regions

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„Les universités françaises et les évolutions des programmes communautaires pour la recherche“

CPU – CLORA – Brussels – 30<sup>st</sup> April 2009

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# Introduction

- Promotion of knowledge economy (through R&D and I) is central to the realisation of the **Renewed Partnership for Growth and Jobs (“Lisbon”)**
  - New challenges facing the EU (increasing complexity / Financial and economic crisis) call for **more structured and strategic mix** of Community, national and regional policies in order to strengthen **innovation**
- 
- **A need for effective and efficient synergies of action – a crucial role for Regions**

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# Respecting differences while achieving synergies (1/5)

- Community's Research, Innovation and Cohesion Policies (CRIC) have already established **common or complementary priorities, while respecting differences**
- Same objective:
  - **Creating more jobs and growth**

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# Respecting differences while achieving synergies (2/5)

- But through/with:

- different ways:

- ✓ Research: promoting excellence at international level

- ✓ Innovation: turning knowledge into business opportunities and new solutions for societal needs, including through process and organisational innovations affecting structures, processes and linkages between organisations

- ✓ Cohesion: promoting regional excellence

- Different legal basis (cf treaty) and implementation methods

- R&I: thematic specialisation / Cohesion: specific geographical areas; integrated approach



# Respecting differences while achieving synergies (3/5)

- **Complementarities are established for 2007-2013 :**

- 5 instruments:

- ✓ Research: FP7

- ✓ Innovation: CIP

- ✓ Cohesion: Structural Funds, ERDF [ESF] and EAFRD (Agriculture)

- offering greater potential for coordinated use (cf EC SWD – August 2007) within the same time-horizon

- possibility of use of the different instruments according to the development stage of a project



# The different EU instruments for R&D and I



**Multi-country research projects & joint actions (JTI, 169)**  
 Fellowships  
 Policy/Prog coordination  
 Capacity building /RSFF



**Multi-country Innovation networks**  
 Cluster, Monitoring  
 Support services  
 Policy development  
 Financial instruments



**Nat / regional programmes**  
 Research, capacity, SME, Cluster, TT, services ...  
 Entrepreneurship  
 Innovative ICT  
 Human Capital



Lifelong Learning Programme  
**Erasmus & Erasmus Mundus:**  
 Univ.Educ:Scholarships  
**e-learning Programme:**  
 ICT in schools  
**Leonardo** vocational training



**Environment:**  
 policy monitoring & development;  
 Projects on:  
 Air, Energy, Climate, Industry, Urban env., Soil, Waste, Water



**Rural development**



ec.europa.eu/fisheries  
**Fisheries & Aquaculture**

**Not EU research initiatives:**



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# More synergies requested

- But synergies can not be reduced to complementarities
- More synergies are needed:
  - Repeated in several Competitiveness Councils
  - Underlined by the EP
  - Stressed by the European Committee of Regions
  - Valuable contribution from various advisory groups / actors:
    - CREST
    - EURAB
    - ESFRI
    - ...

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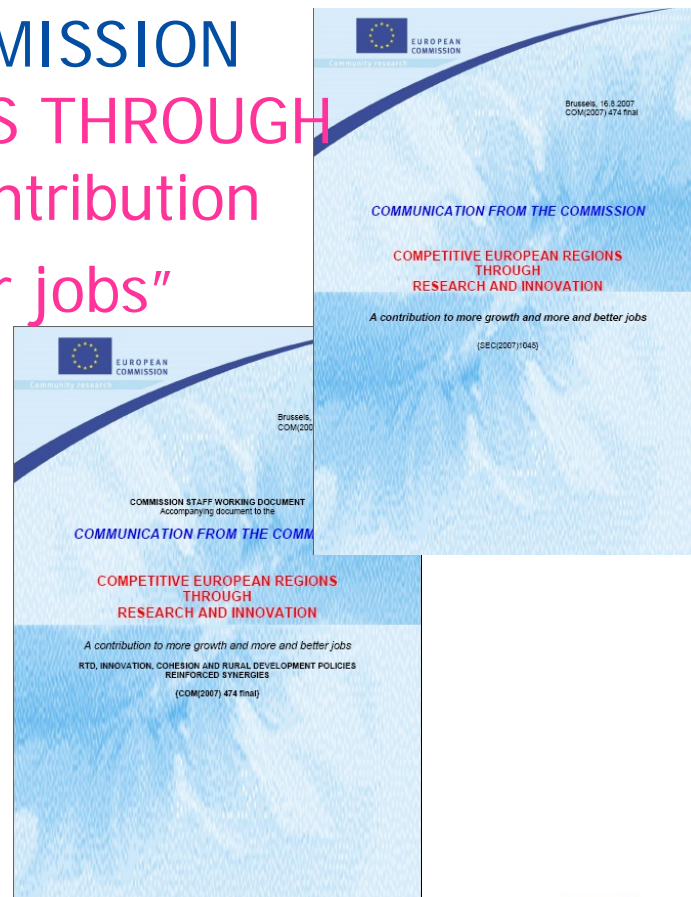
# August 2007 Communication

- COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION  
“COMPETITIVE EUROPEAN REGIONS THROUGH  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION: A contribution  
to more growth and more and better jobs”

*COM(2007) 474 final (16.08.2007)*

- COMMISSION Staff Working Paper

*SEC(2007) 1045 (16.08.2007)*



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# Towards more synergies (1)

- From synergies of design to **synergies of action**
  - **€86 billion** of Cohesion policy funding have been « earmarked » by MS for RD&I (from 386 OP)
  - **BUT more can be done at national and regional levels** in terms of :
    - ✓ coordinated use of the instruments to support R&D & I
    - ✓ improved information / communication
    - ✓ stimulation of actors

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# R&D & I allocation in Cohesion policy

- **€86 billion** in 386 OP, i.e. 25% of the total Structural Funds, are foreseen for R&D and Innovation.
- Of this amount:
  - €50 bn for research, technological development innovation in the narrow sense (in 340 OPs)
  - €8 bn for entrepreneurship (in 287 OPs)
  - €13 bn for innovative ICT (in 261 OPs)
  - €14.5 bn for developing human capital potential in the field of research and innovation (in 181 OPs) of which €940 million managed in REGIO
  - €2 bn for territorial cooperation
  - 73% for Convergence, 24% for Competitiveness & Employment
- **Massive increase** compared to 2000-2006 period:  
€26 billion (= 11% of the total SF budget) were invested in research and innovation in the broad sense, of which €10.7 billion in RTDI in the narrow sense
- Expected leverage effects (if identical to 2000-2006): **€235 billions**

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# Towards more synergies (2)

- EC as a **facilitator**
- It proposes **various actions** to make **better use of European funding**:
  - A **practical guide** to help research institutions and companies to identify the most appropriate source of funding for them.

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# The “Practical Guide”

- Draft officially presented in March 2008 (« Brdo Slovenian Presidency Conference on RI)
- Opened Consultation
- Published on internet (cordis) on September 8, 2008
- Next steps:
  - Translations in 23 languages (DE, FR, IT, ES and PL 12/2008)
  - Paper version
  - Website

[http://cordis.europa.eu/eu-funding-guide/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/eu-funding-guide/home_en.html)



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# Towards more synergies (3)

- It proposes **various actions** to make **better use of European funding**:
  - Improving information exchange with national/regional authorities so that they know what organisations receive FP7 and CIP grants , with a view to providing complementary support from national, regional and European funds.
  - Publication in Spring 2009 of success stories (good practice of synergies at regional level)
  - Regular events at which those involved in research, innovation and regional development can come together to share ideas, exchange best practices and access supports and advices.

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# Towards more synergies (4)

- Explore/develop new financial sources to support R&D & I: **loans and guarantees**
  - LGTT (CIP)
  - RSFF (FP7)
- Develop PPP
- Support Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)
- Towards more strategic impact of current CRIC instruments and reinforce complementarities
  - Examples: REgions for Economic Change; Regions of Knowledge (FP7) and Innova (CIP)

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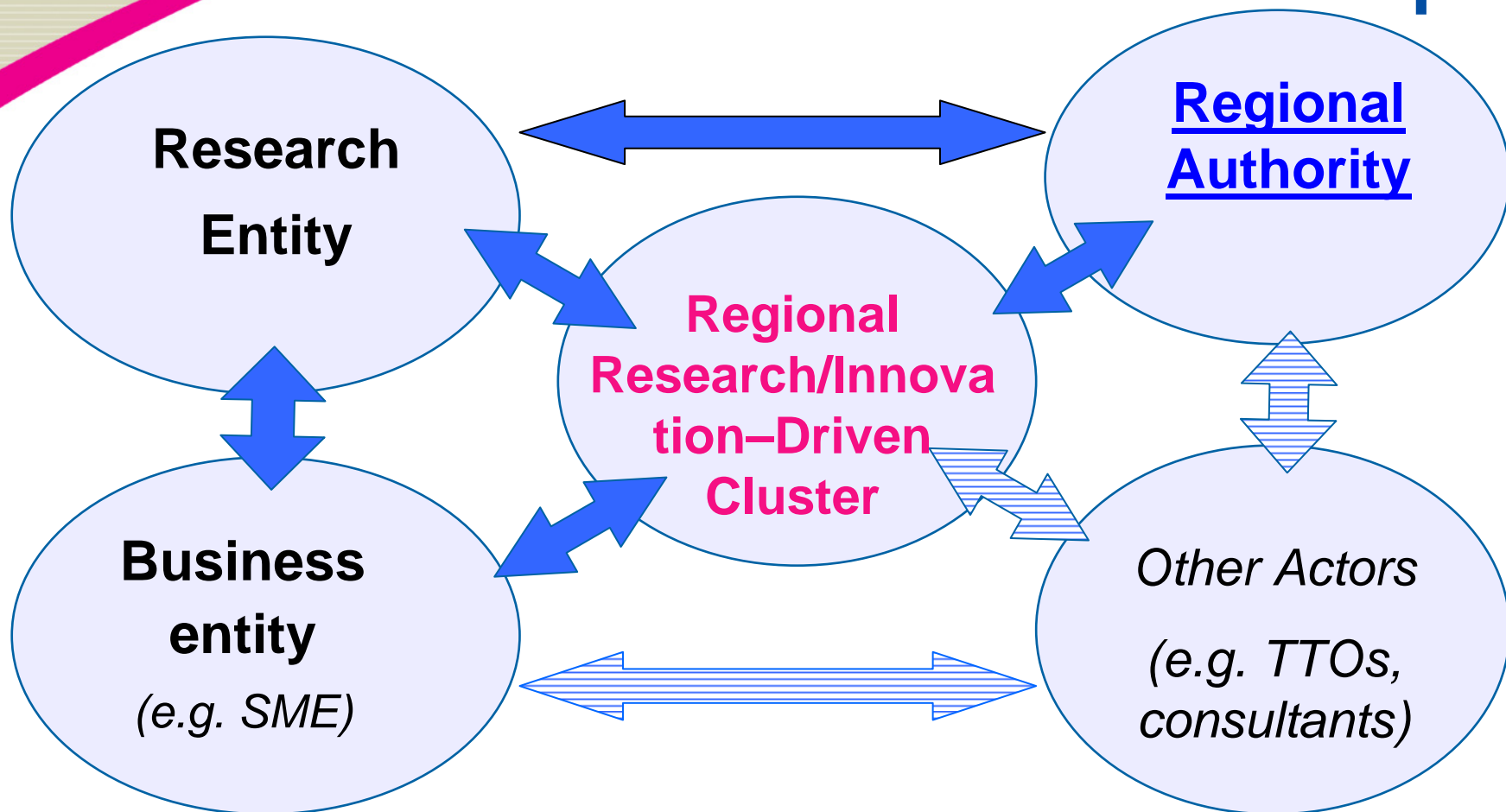
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# REGIONS of KNOWLEDGE

## Example



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# RoK expected impact

- **Regional economic growth and competitiveness** through the definition of strategies integrating research
- **Response to the needs of regional business communities**
- **Mobilisation of local, national and community funds** (including SF) to implement defined regional action plans in support of regional economic development
- Increase in and more effective **investment in R&D**
- **Inclusion** of more regions **into the ERA**

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# FP7 Rok - Activities

## Activities

- **Analysis**, development and accompanying measures for the implementation of research agendas
- **Mentoring** of regions with a less developed research profile for capacity building (compulsory)
- Initiatives to improve **integration**: definition of **joint action plans**, together with **business plans** – following SWOT analysis and definition of RTD needs
- Measures **towards the implementation of the JAP**
- **International cooperation** activities (optional)
- **Dissemination** activities

**Beware: Neither the implementation of the JAP nor any research can be funded under Regions of Knowledge**

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# Towards more synergies (5)

- Session on synergies between SF, FP7 and CIP during the Czech Presidency Conference « Research Connection » (7 and 8 April)
- [*Series of Workshops on 'Research funding and Structural Funds' under the Swedish Presidency*  
*Objective: national and regional authorities and other relevant stakeholders at the different levels (central, intermediaries & beneficiaries) to identify ways to translate the synergies of design of the instruments into synergies of action]*
- Conference during the Spanish Presidency on the effective and efficient use of SF for R&D and innovation, as well as complementarities/synergies with other sources of funding at EU (FP7, CIP, ...), national and regional levels (March/April 2010)

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# Conclusion

- R&D and Innovation as means for **more growth and more and better jobs**
- EC can not act alone (but facilitator): **Crucial role of [MS and] regions**
- **Efficient and effective synergies are possible. Let's prove it TOGETHER**

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# Thank you for your attention !



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