

Consultation Session – Work in Groups

Please form groups of four. There are three different roles in each of the groups:

Consultant: You have a counselling session with one of your clients, who has a great research idea. Also, your client has already identified a topic in the Work Programme. Please give advice on how your client can participate, and which issues should be considered.

Client: You are a top researcher in your country, but you have no experience with the framework programme. You are interested in specific aspects of FP7, and seek advice in order to decide whether you are going to participate or not.

Observer (2 Persons): You observe the consultation session. If you want, you can take notes, but do not give any advice yourself. One of you is going to be the rapporteur of the group.

After the consultation session (20 min), the observers give feedback to client and consultant on how they experienced the consultation session (15 min).

Discuss in your group: Are there open questions? What was difficult and what was easy? Write down your findings on a poster, which the rapporteur will present in the plenum after the group work.

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Project Ideas:

1. You are a South African company in the food processing sector. You have developed a new preservation technology that conserves more vitamins and helps to save energy at the same time.

You have heard about FP7 and the topic "KBBE-2009-2-3-03". You are not sure if the framework programme is the right choice for you, and how you could participate. You are also interested in funding rates and the financial framework of the projects.

For example, you could ask:

What are the advantages and disadvantages of participating in FP7?

What are the funding rates for RTD? What is the difference to Demonstration?

What kind of work is included in Management Activities?

What is the difference between direct and indirect costs? How do I calculate them?

2. You are a researcher from an Egyptian University. Your focus of research is nutrition, especially in children.

A British colleague has sent you an email, asking you if you want to join her proposal for topic "KBBE-2-1-03". You have no idea about the framework programme and want to get an idea about the basic rules of FP7. Coming from a non-European country, you are also wondering about what your role in the project might be, and how you can make an efficient calculation of your costs in the project.

For example, you could ask:

How can I participate in FP7? Does it make a difference that I am from a non-European country?

How do I calculate my personnel costs? How do I calculate Person Months, and what are indirect costs? How about travel costs?

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3. You are a researcher from Indonesia, an expert on the field of the porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome. You have been approached by European researchers to join their consortium for topic "KBBE-2009-1-3-01". You are not sure what the framework programme can do for you, and why the coordinator wants you to opt for a "flat rate". You want to know what your other options are, and how much reporting you will have to do if the proposal is successful.

For example, you could ask:

What are the advantages and disadvantages of participating in FP7?

What is a flat rate, and what other options do I have?

What type of reports will I have to send? Are time records necessary?

4. You are a small SME from Mauritius, working in marine biotechnology. You have heard about topic "KBBE-2009-3-2-01" and you would like to join a consortium.

You are wondering how you could find partners, what the funding rates would be, but also how your Intellectual Property Rights would be ensured in such a project.

For example, you could ask:

How can I find partners? What are the funding rates for RTD? What is the difference to Demonstration? Is travel funded a 100%?

What is a Consortium Agreement? What should I do in order to ensure my IPR?

5. You are a researcher from China, one of the top experts in nanobiotechnology.

You are especially interested in topic "KBBE-2009-3-6-02" and are even thinking about coordinating such a project. You are wondering if this is possible and how you could write a winning proposal. Also, you are wondering about the time scale of your undertaking.

For example, you could ask:

Can I be a coordinator? When writing the proposal, what do I have to consider? Is "Impact" just as important as the scientific excellence of the proposal?

How much time should I reserve for proposal writing? Are the page limits strict?

How do they evaluate? How long will it take to do the negotiations?

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