



4F CROPS – call KBBE-2007-1 Kick-off meeting

Brussels

01.07.2008

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DG Research/E2 «Biotechnologies»**





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4F CROPS

Future Crops for Food, Feed, Fiber and Fuel

“Survey and analyze all the parameters that will play an important role in successful non-food cropping systems in the agriculture of EU27 alongside the existing food crop system.”

A project at the core of the “food versus fuel” discussion; co-existence of food and non-food crops; socioeconomic parameters and environmental criteria.



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4F Crops Grant Agreement : State of play

- Validations
- Contractual details: GA
- Costs / payments / certifications
- Reporting



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Grant agreement enter in to force

- The final grant agreement will be sent out for signature by the coordinator.
- Once returned, the grant agreement will be signed by the AO and the prefinancing made.
- A proportion (normally 5% of the total EU contribution) of the pre-financing is retained to be passed to the Guarantee Fund as a guarantee against default.
- The signed grant agreement is sent back to the coordinator, and the project is now formally running.

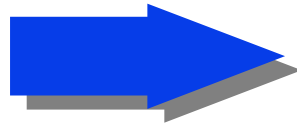


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MANAGEMENT

Commission



- **Scientific officer**

on behalf of the Commission Technical monitoring of the project.

Ensure the compatibility of the actual research work undertaken with the specified workprogramme

Interface between the partners and administration

- **Financial Manager**



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MANAGEMENT

Coordinator



▼ ***The Coordinator shall :***

! Ensure the scientific and financial management of the project

! Be the general liaison between the contractors and the Commission

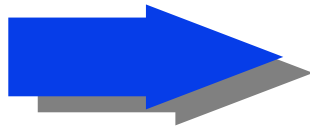


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MANAGEMENT

Coordinator



▼ ***Specific task :***

! Receive all payments and transfer the appropriate amounts to each contractor

! Submit all documents (Contract Negotiation Forms, **reports, cost statements**, requests for amendments)



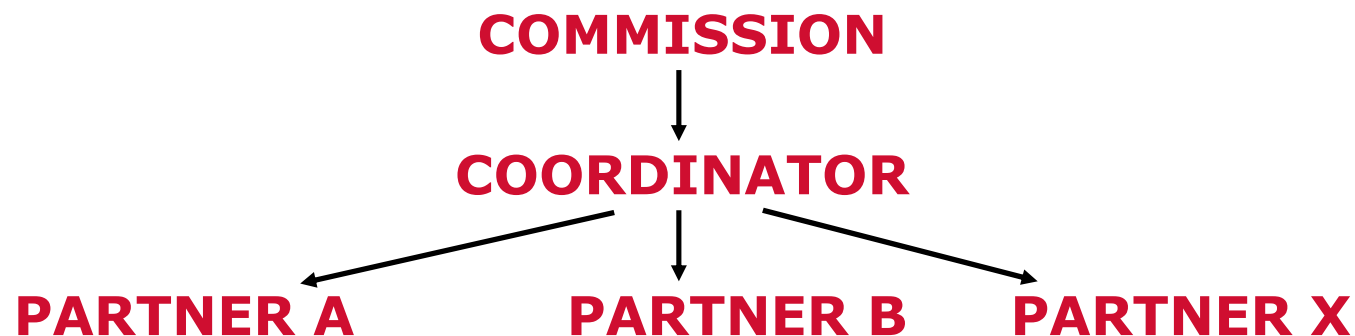
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PAYMENTS METHOD

Payments from the Commission to the project are made in trust, usually to the Coordinating Contractor

It is the Coordinator's responsibility to distribute funds to the other partners





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Payment modalities 4 F CROPS

Project duration 2 years, EC funding 994 382 €

- **Pre-financing** (80 %)
- **Interim payment after one year** payment of the accepted cost (retention 10%!)
- **Final payment** payment of the remaining accepted costs



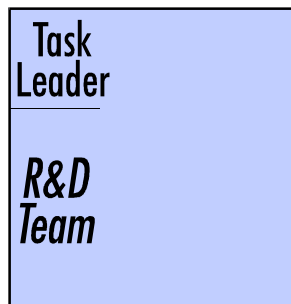
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REPORT PREPARATION PROCEDURE

**Individual
Partners**

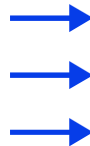
**Coordinator/
Project Office**



*Early reminders
about reports due*



*Issue
requests/
reminder*



Partner
Contributions



*Consolidate
technical and
financial data*



Consolidated
Report



Commission

Partners



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME





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Reporting (1)

- **Periodic reports** to be submitted by coordinator **60 days** after end of period:
 - overview of progress of the work, including a publishable summary report,
 - use of the resources and
 - Financial Statement (Form C)
- **Final reports** to be submitted by coordinator **60 days** after end of project:
 - publishable summary report, conclusions and socioeconomic impact,
 - covering wider societal implications and a plan on use and dissemination of foreground.



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Reporting (2)

- Commission has **105 days** to evaluate and execute the corresponding payment:
 - No tacit approval of reports
 - Automatic payment of interests (**NEW**)
- After reception Commission may:
 - Approve
 - Suspend the time-limit requesting revision/completion
 - Reject them giving justification, possible termination
 - Suspend the payment



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Eligible Costs

– Eligible

- actual*
- during duration of project (starting date important)
- in accordance with its usual accounting and management principles
- recorded in the accounts of beneficiary
- used for the sole purpose of achieving the objectives of the project

– Non-eligible

- (identifiable indirect taxes including VAT...)

* Average personnel costs accepted if :

- Consistent with the management principles and accounting practices **AND**
- they do not significantly differ from actual personnel costs = if identified according to a methodology approved by the Commission **(NEW)**



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Certification

2 types of certificates:

- **expenditure verification** – certificate on financial statements (CFS: FP6 “audit certificate”) (Form D)
- **system verification-** certificate on the methodology (Form E: indirect cost methodology)



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Certification

Summary:

- EC contribution $\leq 375.000\text{€}$: No certificate (not even at the end)
- EC contribution $> 375.000\text{€}$ Certificate has to be submitted:
 - CFS every time $> 375.000\text{€}$
 - If certificate on methodology: no interim CFS but at the end



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Amendments

- Coordinator requests amendments on behalf of the consortium
- Coordinator can accept an amendment proposed by the Commission
(NEW)
- For addition/withdrawal tacit approval after 45 days



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The Commission Project Team

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Thank you & I look forward
to be working you in future

