



How do National Contact Points work? Conveying information to and from national stakeholders

**European Forum on Epilepsy Research
Dublin**

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National Contact Point FP7 Health

National Support Network



- Cabinet Committee on STI set targets for Ireland
 - €600 million for FP7 ~ Health Target 1.25%
 - Ireland FP6 ~ €200 million (70% to Higher Education)
- National Support Network was established to maximise participation in FP7 of Irish researchers and SMEs



National Support Network



- Established in 2006
- Director: Imelda Lambkin, Enterprise Ireland
- Network of NCPs and National Delegates across thematic areas (formally nominated by DJEI)
- NCPs/NDs in thematic areas in national agencies
- One nominated Delegate per thematic area e.g. Health, Environment
- There can be more than one National Contact Point per thematic area
- Legal & Financial NCP
- Meet once per month





- ▶ FP7 in Ireland
- ▶ Legal and Financial
- ▶ Who can help you?

- ▶ Financial Assistance
- ▶ Brussels Office
- ▶ Find a call

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Welcome to FP7 Ireland

Ireland's National Support Network for FP7 in Ireland has welcomed the announcement of the final and biggest ever set of calls for proposals for research by the European Commission under its Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). [Read more](#)

Ireland's Minister for Research & Innovation welcomes latest European Commission figures which show that to date researchers from Ireland have been awarded €430m under the EU Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development [Read more](#)

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New to FP7?

[What is FP7? The quick guide](#)

FP7 Network Video Clips:

- ➔ [What's in the name?](#)
- ➔ [How does it work?](#)
- ➔ [Why FP7?](#)

Getting started for:

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Leading Ireland's Participation In FP7



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National Support Network



- Advise FP7 applicants: give hands on support in all aspects of proposal preparation
- Financial Support to applicants
 - Travel Supported – grants up to a maximum €400/day
 - Coordination Support – grants up to a maximum €12,500
- Influence and represent Ireland's interest at European level
- Monitor and analyse Ireland's participation in FP7



How National Contact Points help!

Promote funding opportunities as follows:



- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Targeting high potential applicants• Discuss project ideas• Advise eligibility, technical issues, ethics• One to one meetings/phone/email• Liaise with European Commission for FP7 Health theme• Help with partner searches for projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentations – Universities, hospitals, research centres• Refer applicants to relevant EU Scientific Officer when necessary• Give background material for topics• Pre-submission proposal review (feedback on draft proposals)• Webinars• Workshops• Regular newsletter |
|---|--|



Health NCPs for Ireland



- **Kay Duggan-Walls**
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- **Ciaran Duffy**
Enterprise Ireland
Ciaran.duffy@enterprise-ireland.com
- **Patricia Clarke** (National Delegate)
Health Research Board
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- **Meet regularly – meetings/teleconference/email**



Influence and Represent 1



- National Delegate (hosted by HRB) sits on the Programme Committee – NCPs are nominated as experts
 - Represents Ireland's interest to EC
 - Feed into Health Work Programme
- NCP and ND work closely together: information flow, liaising with research community

Formal & informal input

- Formal input at face-to-face meetings and written input
 - Template form for priority suggestions: year round input allowed from research community
 - Delegate submits formal input in autumn as requested by EC: research priorities and other concerns
 - Request feedback on draft Work Programme by key researchers – depending on priorities that year
 - Submit topic amendments to EC



Influence and Represent 2



- Informal input
- Facilitate contact between research community and EC:
 - Delegations to Brussels
 - Workshops
 - Contact with EC Scientific Officers
 - Become an Evaluator

Note:

- ✓ Identify priority research from a National perspective that research community in a strong position to compete for, natural fit with Framework areas
- ✓ Researchers proposing ideas should have a strong network in Europe already to request support from other member states
- ✓ Research ideas should be framed appropriately
- ✓ Know what has previously been funded – EC unlikely to fund similar topics/projects in consecutive years



Monitor and analyse



- Health Research Group
- FP7 Funders Forum (bi annual)
 - Participation
 - Researchers
 - NSN members
- Amount leveraged from National funding
- On target for €600m by end 2013 ~ €503million
- Health exceeded target of 1.25% ~ 1.7%



Ireland's Results FP7 Health



- 490 participations
- 28 successful coordinators
- 117 successful partners
- 15.5% funding ~ 4 clinical trials projects
- Total funding in FP7 Health - €77.68m



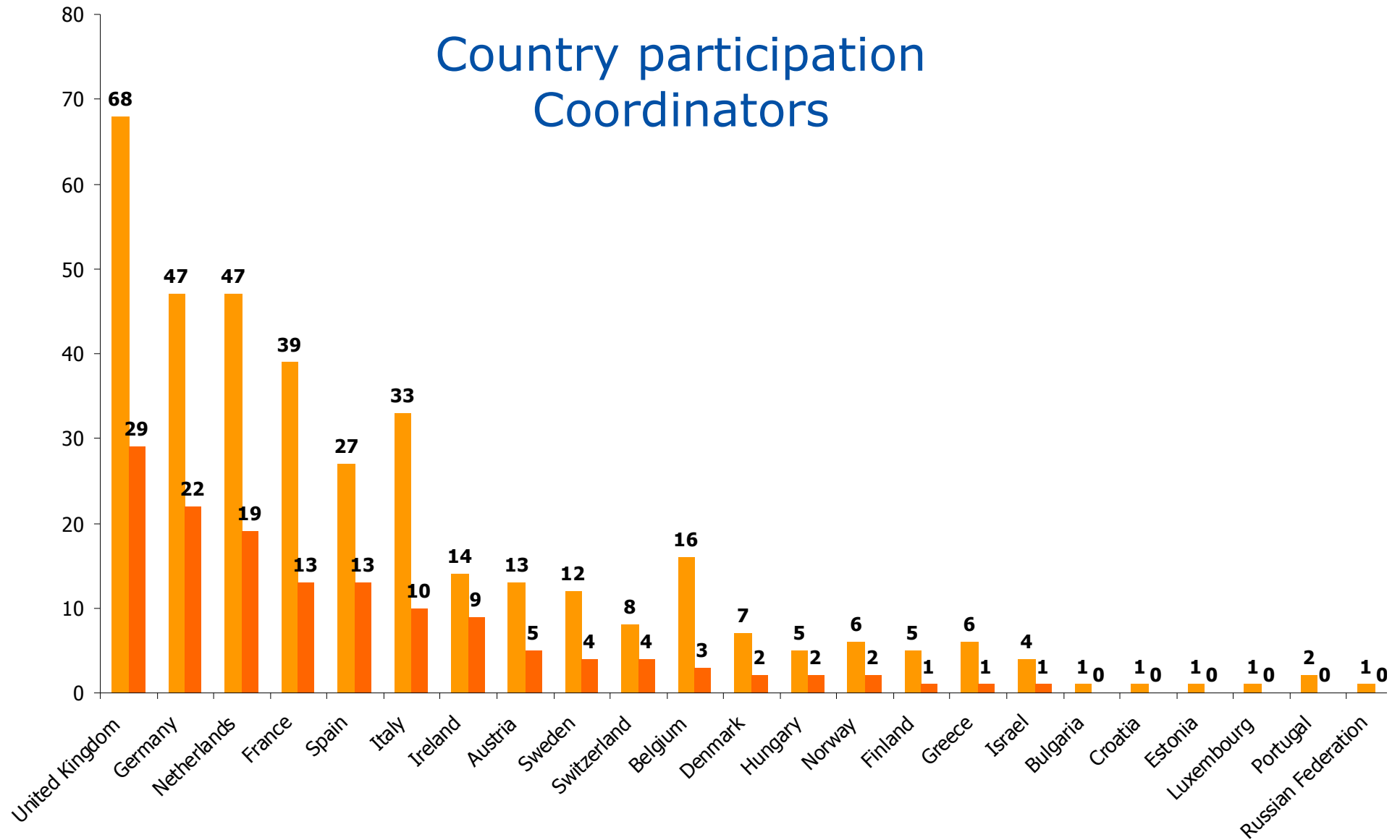
Ireland's FP7 Health Participation 2007-2013 €77.68m

	FP7 Call 1 2007A	FP7 Call 2 2007B	FP7 Call 3 2009	FP7 Call 4 2010	FP7 Call 5 2011	FP7 Call 6 2012	FP7 Call 7 2013
					Second Stage	Second Stage	Second Stage
Number of individual participations	74	93	71	62	58	58	74
- Partners	71	82	64	49	48	44	63
- Coordinators	3	11	7	13	10	14	11
Successful coordinators	0	4	1	7	3	10 [‡]	3
Successful partners[¥]	17	15	13	9	20	21	22
Project Success rate	24%	24%	TS*50% [§]	TS* 80% [§]	TS* 40.9%	Innov1 [#] 42.5%, Innov2 ^{&} 60%	Innov1 [#] 43% Innov2 ^{&} 0%
EU success rate	17%	20%	TS*42% [§]	TS* 41% [§]	TS* 41% [§]	Innov1 [#] 39%, Innov2 ^{&} 42%	Innov1 [#] 35% Innov2 ^{&} 32%
Total Budget available	€637m	€549m	€591m	€628m	€662m	€657.6m	€819.3m
Total Funding to Ireland	€6m	€5.88m	€4.4m	€17.4	€13.6	€18.6	€11.8

** TS = Two stage , [§] at second stage, [#] Innovation 1 call, [&] Innovation 2 call (SME focused), [¥] Some projects have multiple Irish Partners,
[‡] Highest success rate for coordinators in EU (71.4%)

2012 call

Country participation Coordinators



EC proposals for NCP Structure in Horizon 2020



Objective

- ❖ Support service at national level will be a vital part of the implementation of Horizon 2020, providing on-the-ground advice, in the local language
- Services should be organised and run on a highly professional basis, and should be clearly accessible to all potential clients irrespective of sector or discipline

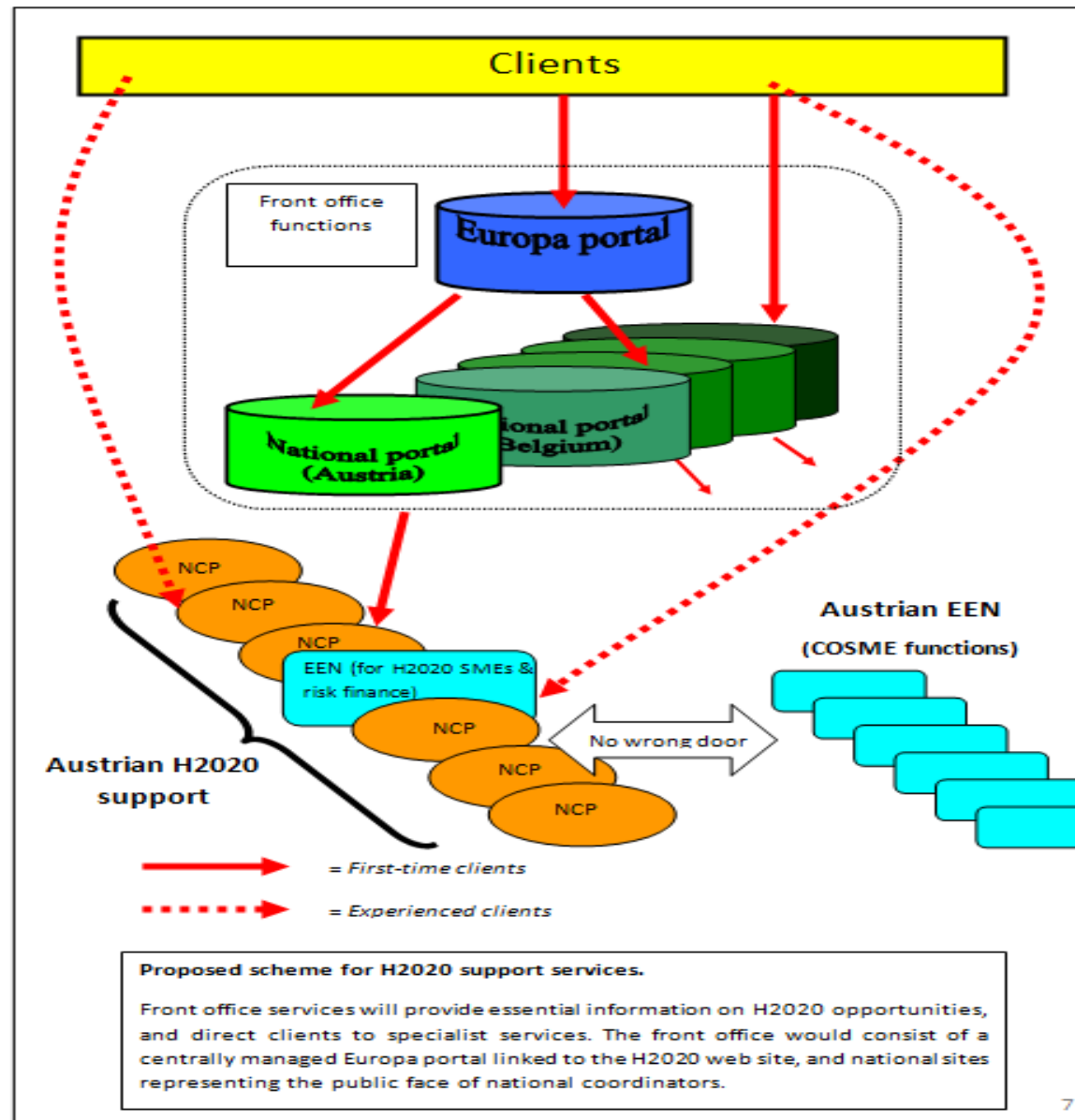


NCP role



- Must be expanded in line with the wider scope of H2020
- Structure to address specific objectives of H2020, including horizontal functions





Front Office functions



- EU and national level portals
 - Making integration of services explicit
 - The one-stop-shop
- National sites established according to agreed standards



Funding



- National level will remain primarily a national responsibility
 - Nonetheless, funding could be provided to support the front office functions
- H2020 support for cross-border networks



The role of Enterprise Europe Network EEN



- **Specialist support on:**
 - The new H2020 SME instrument
 - New H2020 debt and equity financing facilities
- **Knowledge of wider aspects of H2020**
 - Able to help SMEs as necessary throughout H2020
 - Directing to other services as necessary (e.g. 'challenge' NCPs)
- Fully embedded in the wider H2020 support structure
- Transitional arrangements needed for 2014



Standards and Guidelines



- Beefing-up the Guiding principles of FP7
- Should describe:
 - the respective roles and expectations
 - the structure
 - front office operations
 - Link between NCP and EEN
 - Principles for cross-border networks
- **Two important requirements**
 - Knowledge of opportunities across Horizon 2020 and beyond (e.g. COSME, cohesion), to enable efficient signposting
 - Obligation to reach out to all potential applicants, avoiding any hint of a 'closed club'



Monitoring



- A key function for maintaining and raising quality
- Recognising that NCPs remain a national responsibility
- Mechanism?
 - e.g. peer review?, monitoring the monitoring?
- Sanctions?



Training



- 'Big Bang' before launch H2020
- Emphasis on wider scope H2020
 - and the new constituents that must be reached



For further information contact



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