



EU2009.CZ

České předsednictví
v Radě EU

Czech Presidency
of the Council of the EU

Présidence tchèque
du Conseil de l'UE

2009

EUFORDIA Conclusions and Recommendations

The **EU**ropean **FO**rum on **R**esearch and **D**evelopment **I**mpact **A**ssessment (EUFORDIA) was held under the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU in Prague on 24 - 25 February, 2009. The conference was organized by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and the Technology Centre of the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic. The conference was attended by more than 260 participants.

EUFORDIA dealt with:

- the recent 6th Framework Programme (FP6) ex-post evaluation organized by the European Commission
- examples of national FP6 impact assessment studies from Sweden, Spain and the Czech Republic
- methodological issues concerning impact assessment and evaluation of R&D programmes
- world-wide experiences with R&D programme evaluation

Following the presentations and a panel discussion, the participants arrived at the conclusions listed below:

1. The FP6 evaluation report demonstrates the progress made by the European Commission in recent years in developing its approach to the evaluation of the RTD Framework Programmes (FP). EUFORDIA welcomes the FP6 evaluation report and lends its support to its recommendations.
2. Getting robust data on the FPs in terms of participation and results is the foundation for any evaluation. EUFORDIA invites the European Commission to establish a database of project results, which, to the possible extent, should be based on open access and available so that independent experts can carry out further studies and analyses.
3. With a view to increase comparability and compatibility between the evaluations of national R&D programmes, EUFORDIA encourages the Member States to further strengthen their collaboration in this field by exchanging "good practices" concerning issues such as methods for conducting research evaluation studies or the definition of appropriate indicators.
4. EUFORDIA encourages the Member States to continue and extend efforts to conduct national studies assessing the impact of the Framework Programmes within the context of ERA. These studies should also aim at understanding the structuring effect of the FPs on their national research and innovation systems.

5. EUFORDIA emphasizes the need to look more closely at the relationship between the Framework Programmes and the Structural Funds, their interactions, the effect of synergy and impacts on both research outcomes and the building of research capacity.
6. Setting out the intervention logic of the EU FPs in an explicit manner is a prerequisite for an effective evaluation of the results of public R&D spending and its European added value. EUFORDIA encourages the Commission to set out the intervention logic for the different parts of the FP8 in due time for the decisions that are to be taken by the European Parliament and the Council. This could be done in the framework of the Commission's "ex-ante impact assessment". In addition to the findings of the FP6 ex-post evaluation completed in 2009 and of forthcoming FP7 interim evaluation, this "ex-ante impact assessment" could also take account of the national impact assessments carried out by the Member States.
7. EUFORDIA calls on the Member States and the European Commission to clearly and explicitly acknowledge, when designing new R&D programmes the extent to which this work is based on evaluation results.