

# The Spanish National FP6 Impact Assessment Studies

*Montserrat Torné Escasany*  
*Director General for International Cooperation*  
*Ministry of Science and Innovation*



# Content:

1. Spain in FP6
2. Background of the national FP6 impact assessment studies
3. Scope and methodology
4. Preliminary results and next steps
5. Conclusions



# 1. Spain in FP6



## 1. Spain in FP6

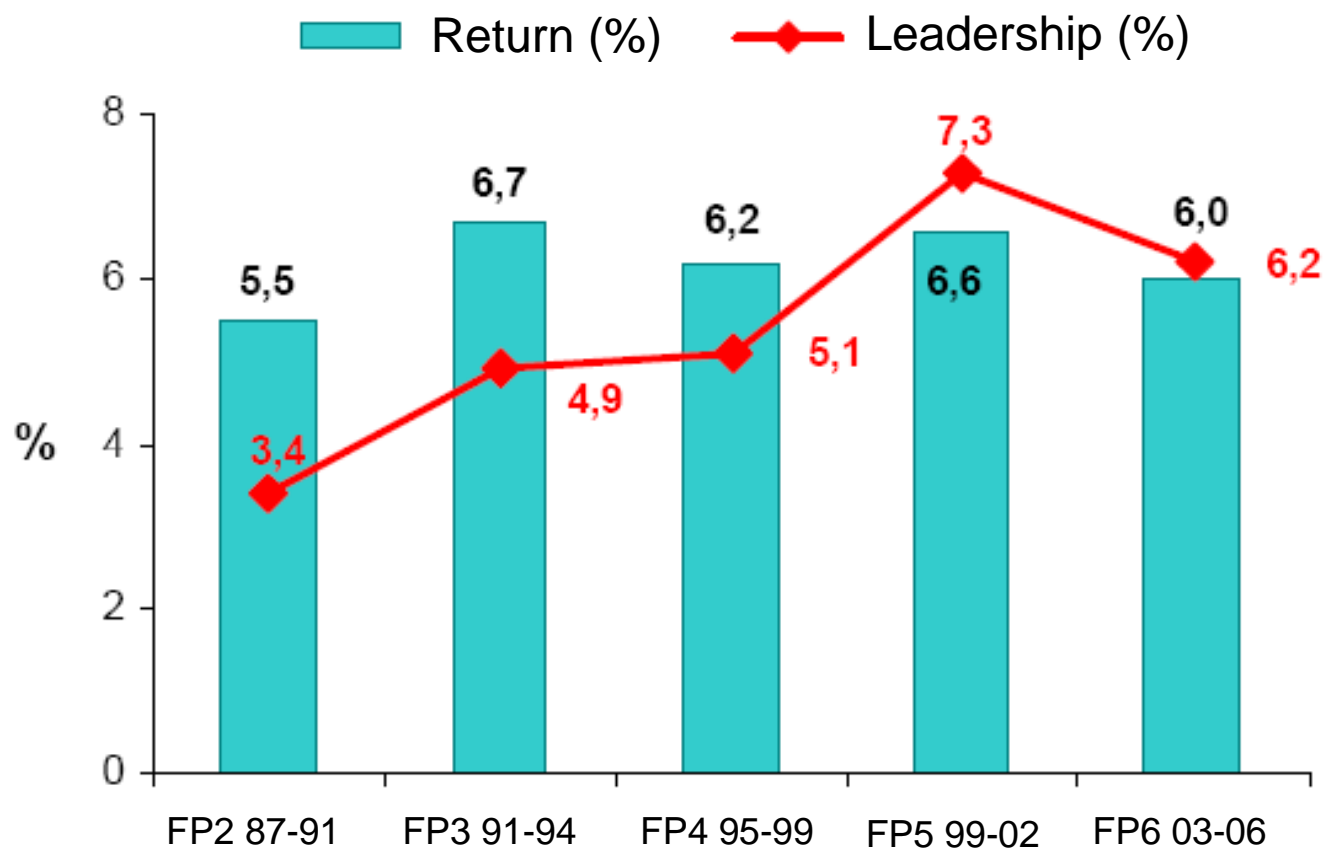
## Importance of FPs in Spain

- Framework Programms have played an evident role in helping to develop the research capacity in Spain
- In particular, FPs have been instrumental in internationalising the research teams in Spain
- Also, FPs have helped to place Spain among the major players as RTD performers in Europe
- Some facts follow →



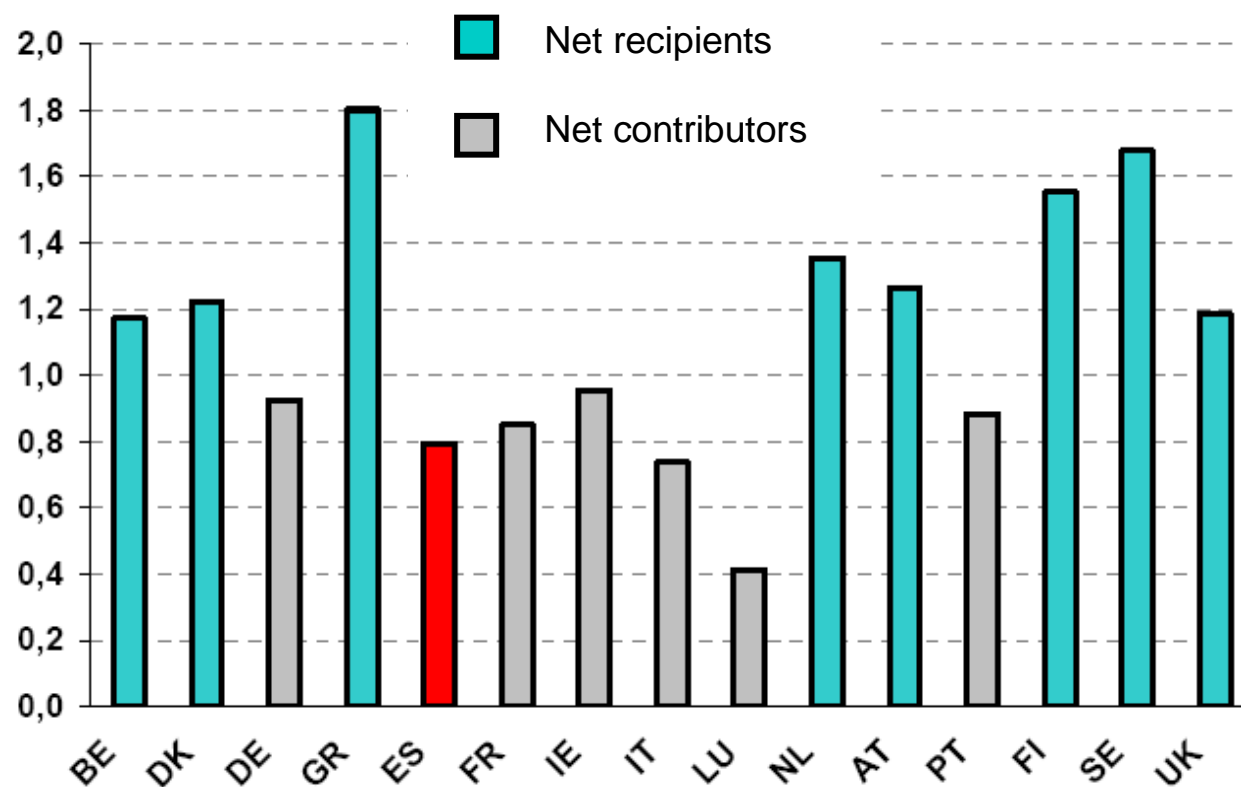
# 1. Spain in FP

Development of return and coordination from FP2 to FP6



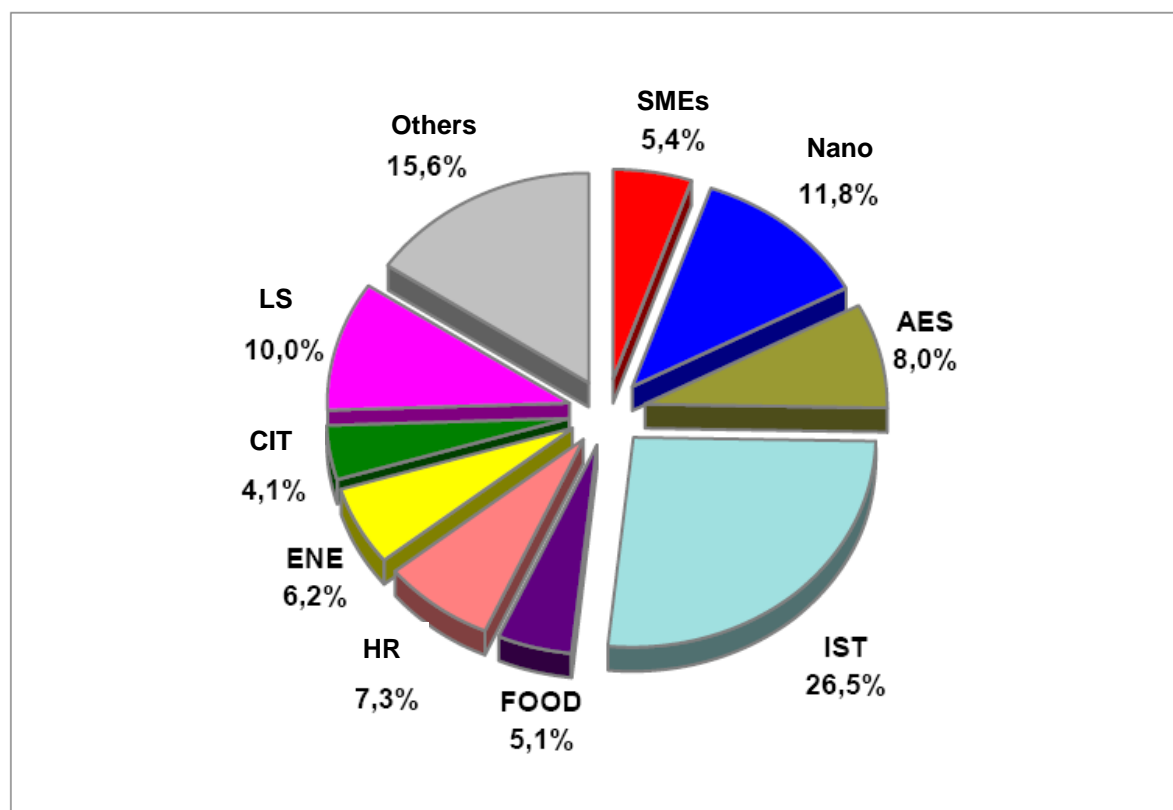
# 1. Spain in FP6

## EU15 - Spanish participation in FP6



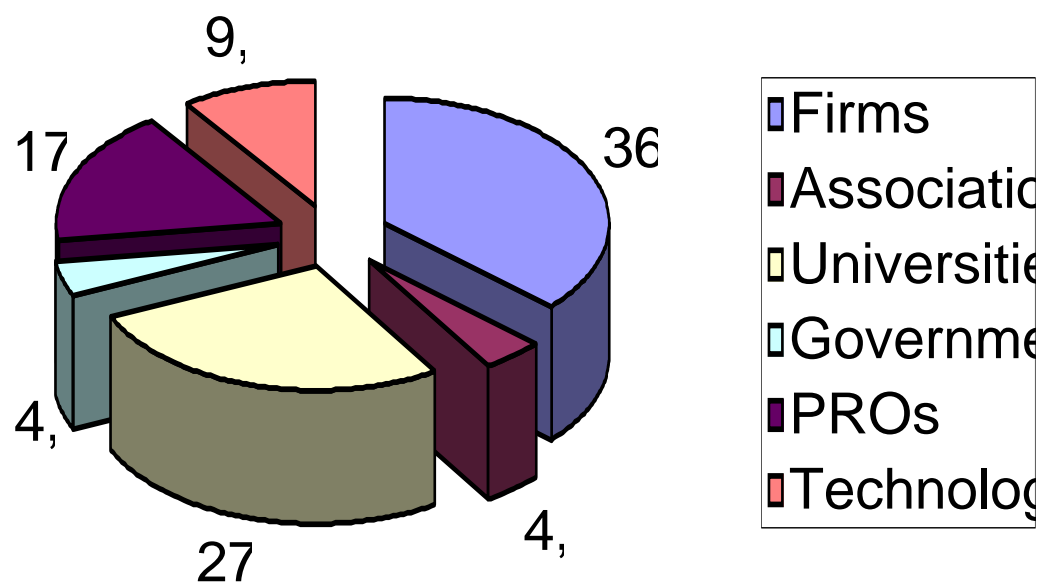
# 1. Spain in FP6

## Percentage of return in FP6 Thematic Priorities



# 1. Spain in FP6

## Return by type of organisation





## 1. Spain in FP6

## Importance of FPs in Spain

- Beyond these quantitative indicators, FPs have also made possible the **emergence of new research areas** in Spain, which have not been existing before, e.g. :
  - Earth observatory research
  - Transport research
  - All “e-” research areas: e-health, e-content, e-government...
- These research areas have consolidated throughout time.



## 1. Spain in FP6

## Are these facts enough?

- All the above help us to measure the capacity of Spain to return our investment in Europe
- However, this is not sufficient to assess which other impacts (beneficial or not) have the FPs had on the Spanish RTD system
- Example:
  - In some areas a high return may hide a loss of exploitation rights of the results in favour of other non-Spanish partners in the projects (real case!)



## 1. Spain in FP6

## Need for impact assessment

- Therefore, traditional statistical information on participation and return rates do not provide all the relevant information for policy decisions
- There is a clear case for more and better impact assessment of the Spanish participation in Framework Programmes



## 2. Background of the Spanish FP6 impact assessment studies



## 2. Background

### National level

#### Needs

- To make evidence-based policy decisions on RTD priorities
- Understanding the influence of internationalisation of research on our RTD capacity and competitiveness



ENCYT

#### Actions

Undertaking **evaluation and impact assessment** initiatives in the Spanish RTD system



## 2. Background

## International development

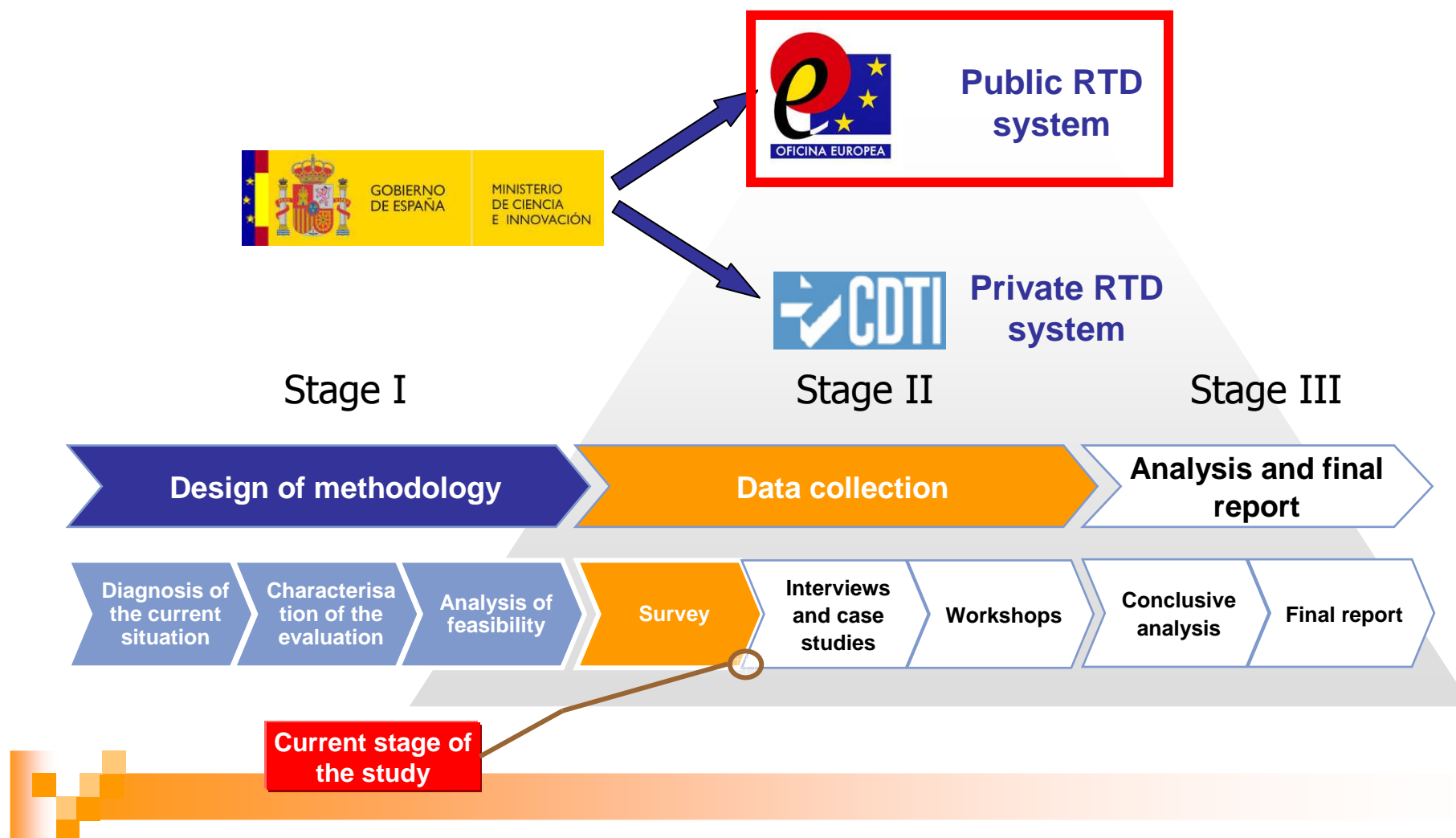
In 2007, four countries (France, Czech Rep., Sweden and Spain) initiated regular multilateral meetings:

- To discuss a **common approach of impact assessment** of FPs on national level
- To raise **European-wide awareness** for national FP impact assessment studies
- To set the topic of impact assessment on the agendas of the respective **presidencies**



## 2. Background

## The Spanish FP6 IA studies



# 3. Scope and methodology





### 3. Scope and methodology

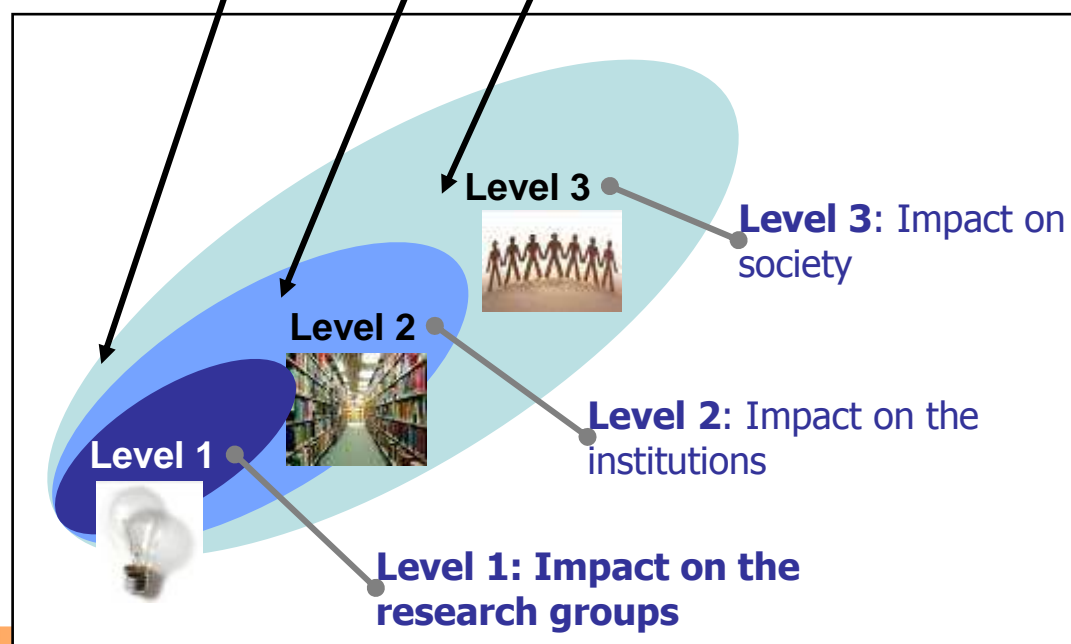
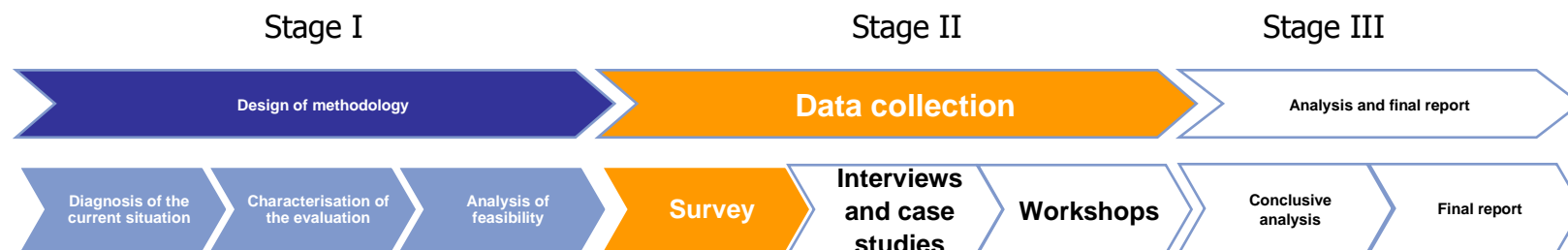
#### Scope of the study

Geographic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Andalusia</li><li>• Catalonia</li><li>• Madrid</li><li>• Basque Country</li><li>• Valencia</li></ul>
Temporal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2002 – 2006: 6th Framework Program</li></ul>
Thematic areas FP6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology applied to healthcare</li><li>• Nanotechnologies and Nano-sciences</li><li>• Quality and food safety</li><li>• Sustainable development, planet change and ecosystems</li><li>• Citizen government in a Knowledge based society</li></ul>
Public RTD system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Universities</li><li>• Public Organisms for research</li></ul>



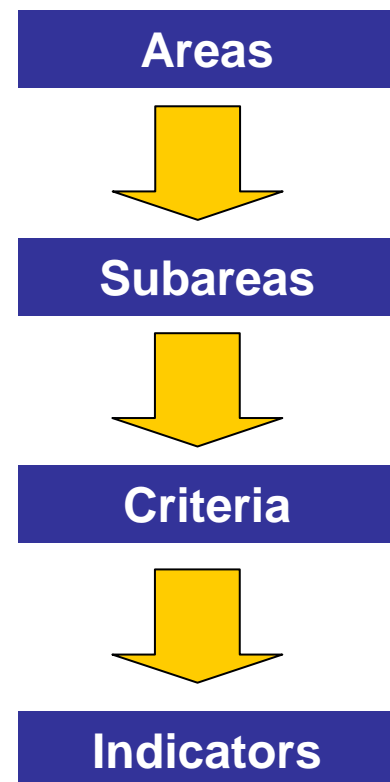
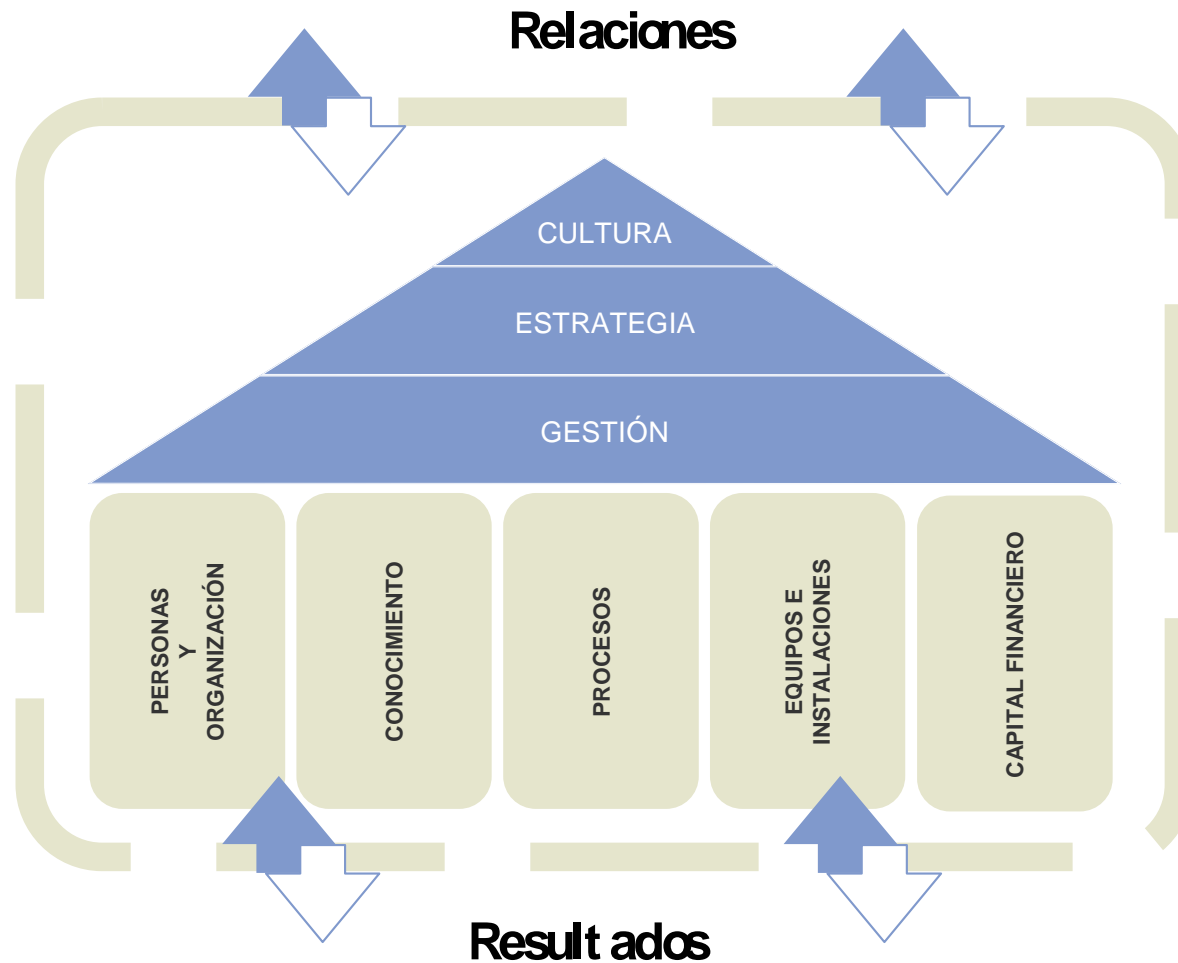
## 3. Scope and methodology

### Data collection



### 3. Scope and methodology

## Areas of evaluation

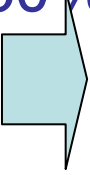


## 4. Preliminary Results and next steps



## 4. Preliminary results

### Interview

- Questionnaires response rate of 51% (judged as high for this type of studies)
- 60% of the projects under analysis still ongoing  
 only conclusions on immediate effects of participation in FP6 can be drawn.
- Realistic distribution of answers amongst the thematic areas:
  - The weight of Spanish participation by thematic priorities is reflected in the numbers of questionnaires answered.



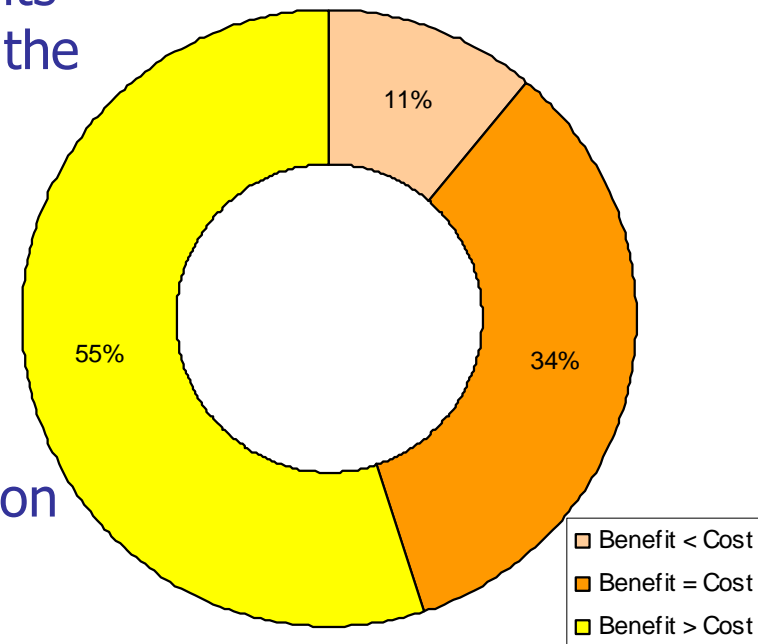
## 4. Preliminary results

### Benefits vs. costs

55% of respondents say that the benefits from participating were higher than the costs.

Benefits perceived:

- Increased knowledge-base
- More inter-disciplinarity
- Exploration of new ways of application of generated knowledge
- Develop new technologies
- Widened complementary technology areas
- Create sustainable research networks



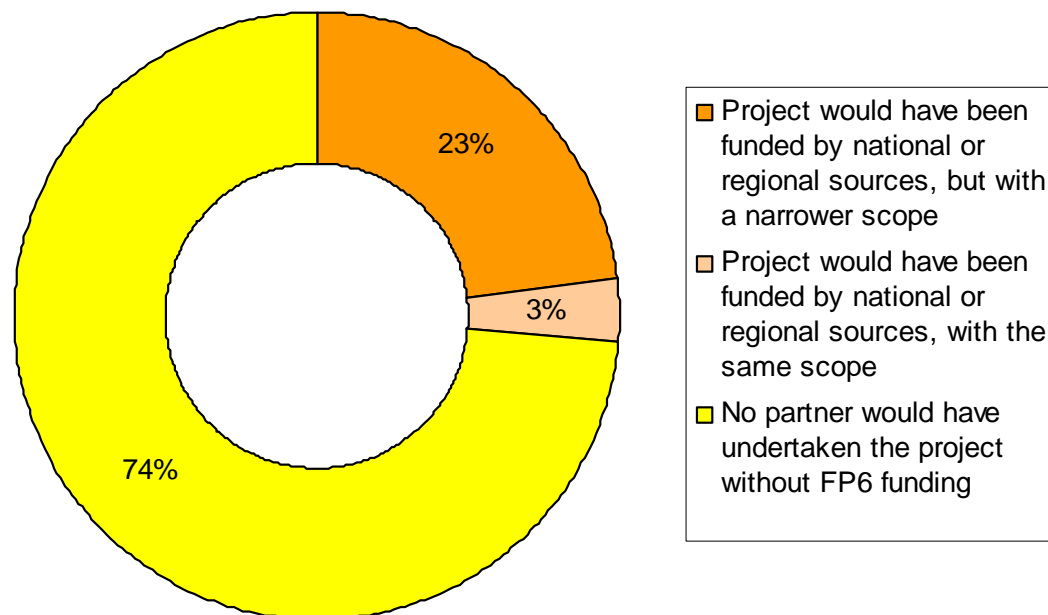
## 4. Preliminary results

## Additionality

Without FP6, 74% of the research wouldn't have been undertaken.

National/regional funding was not appropriate, because:

- the amount of funding required
- the participation of international partners.



**Output additionality:** the proportion of outputs that would not have been achieved without public funding.

## 4. Preliminary results

## Ownership

# National ownership of generated knowledge

- **Property rights** over generated knowledge in projects with Spanish participation...

In 86% of the cases, Spanish institutions have property rights over the knowledge generated in the project.

- **Commercial exploitation** of the generated knowledge in projects with Spanish participation...

In 50% of the cases, Spanish institutions participate in the exploitation of generated knowledge.





## 4. Preliminary results

## Next steps

- The presented results are the first data set which we received after analysing the questionnaires
- Currently, data exploratory analysis is being undertaken, in order to receive more outcomes of the questionnaires and to set the starting hypotheses for next steps..
- Next steps:
  - **Interviews** and case studies, for data collection at the institutional level.
  - **Workshops**, for selected cases with societal relevance.
  - **Final report**: conclusive analysis of all data sets (received through questionnaires, case studies, interviews), presentation through dedicated event.



# 5. Conclusions



## 5. Conclusions

### The outcomes of IA studies will deliver:

- Input to the agenda of the **Spanish presidency** in the first half of 2010.
- Adaptation and planning of future national and regional **RTD programmes**.
- Contribution to EC's mid-term **evaluation of FP7** in 2010.
- Valuable information for future **planning of FP8**.

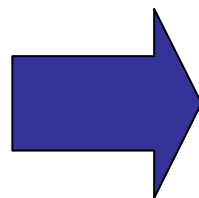


## 5. Conclusions

**Overall...**

***this is only the starting point.***

Ultimate  
goal



Intelligence system for  
strategic policy decisions  
in the long-term



## 5. Conclusions

**Finally, our conviction is that...**

...Investment in research and innovation has to be based on responsible policy decisions with appropriate tools, not only in times of financial crisis but also for the further development of ERA and knowledge based societies in our countries.



# Thank you.

