

Experiences and tools

Title:	Grants for grants for SMEs
Topic: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Practices for fostering higher participation in EU research funding programmes 2. Upgrading the system of Research and Innovation 	Practices for fostering higher participation in EU research funding programmes
Country:	Poland
Geographic level (regional or national)	National level
Organisation (Please include here the name and some background information).	Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PARP) - a government agency subordinate to the Ministry of Economy in Poland, providing support to entrepreneurs in the implementation of competitive and innovative projects. The primary objective of the PARP is to support development of entrepreneurship in Poland. Instruments provided by the Agency are financed by the State budget and European Funds.
What were the aims of the experience/tool?	<p>The instrument “Grants for grants for SMEs” was implemented by PARP in 2011-2013. Its’ aim was to increase innovativeness of small and medium sized companies through enhancing their participation in international innovation programs, including 7FP. It was assumed that each project is based on cooperation between SMEs and science institutions and other companies and this cooperation includes R&D activity.</p> <p>The support was given to the entrepreneur who was so called “a project coordinator” (max 18.750 EUR) or a partner (max 8.750 EUR) in the project application placed within the given international innovation programme. It was required that the PARP support may be assured only if the project application was formally approved by the institution managing a given international programme. Another requirement was that a least two partners from two different countries will be engaged in R&D activities with the project.</p> <p>The support was provided in a form of the grant that re-financed the cost (incurred) for preparation and placement of one project application within a single call for applications with an international innovation program. The instrument was funded by the Polish State budget.</p>

<p>In which part of the decision tree is the experience (see image at the end of the document)</p>	<p>After proposal submission (reimbursement of eligible costs)</p>
<p>Who were the beneficiaries or the target group?</p>	<p>small and medium-sized enterprises</p>
<p>Description of the experience of using the best practice: (Describe the operating experience with particular focus on the evolution of its development, end user experience).</p>	<p>On the basis of the instrument “Grants for grants for SMEs” implemented in 2011-2013 the new instrument was designed and proposed to be implemented in the coming years (2015-2020). The amount of the reimbursement will depend on the amount of expenses and role of each partner in the project (the coordinator/ a partner will receive more than other partners) like in previous tool.</p> <p>As the result of the experience reached, some changes are now being introduced to the new instrument. It will finance the whole innovation process, from the feasibility study, through R&D phase (including prototype and market replication) till the commercialization. Contracting will be executed at the beginning of the planning process. SMEs – beneficiaries could implement projects by themselves or within projects’ consortia.</p> <p>PARP is planning to propose a new component to this new instrument, so called grant supporting early stage of the implementation of the project, available only if the application was approved by the institution managing the international innovation programme and this institution has already invited the applicant to sign the contract. The previous tool hasn’t provided the support of this kind.</p>
<p>What is the period during which the experience/tool has been carried out?</p>	<p>2011-2013 (continuation of the instrument financed within structural funds planned for 2015-2020)</p>
<p>What were the results of this best practice? (Please provide any charts, data, statistics, etc. showing the results of the implementation).</p>	<p>Taking into account the effects of the instrument implemented during the period of 2011-2013 it can be said that the number of SMEs interested in participating in international programmes grew steadily.</p> <p>Also the knowledge of SMEs in the field of international programmes broadened, which in turn had positive effects on the number of companies interested in international innovation projects funded not only from the 7th Framework Programme, but also from <i>Polish-Israeli competition for R & D projects, Leonardo da Vinci, the Baltic Sea Region Programme etc.</i></p> <p>During the period of 2011-2013 the number of applications grew each year from just 12 to 35. Overall, PARP assessed 65 applications, concluded 54 agreements and paid more than 500 thousand EUR support.</p> <p>The entrepreneurs who were the beneficiaries of the “Grants for grants for SMEs” implemented by PARP in 2011-2013</p>

	<p>applied to international programs for more than EUR 16.7 m, of which 10 PARP beneficiaries were granted EUR 2.6 m (7 – 7 FP; 1- ERA NET; 1 – Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013; 1 – Leonardo da Vinci)). This is much higher amount compared to the support that was provided to those 10 entrepreneurs by the PARP, which was approx. EUR 67 thous. It also proves that a national instrument is a good tool when reaching for more demanding but at the same time providing much more funding opportunities – international program.</p>
<p>What is needed for the experience/tool to be successfully replicated?</p>	<p>Securing further financing (from structural funds)</p>
<p>Please include any references or bibliography here:</p>	<p>n/a</p>

The Decision Tree for Participating in Horizon 2020



Source: EURADA