

# Training and Cooperation in Applying for EU Funding to Support Technical Innovation

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# EU Programmes for Research and Innovation

- 7th Framework Programme (FP7) (2007-2013)

Most areas of Research and Development



- CIP Competitiveness & Innovation Programme

Encouraging implementation of technical solutions in specific areas



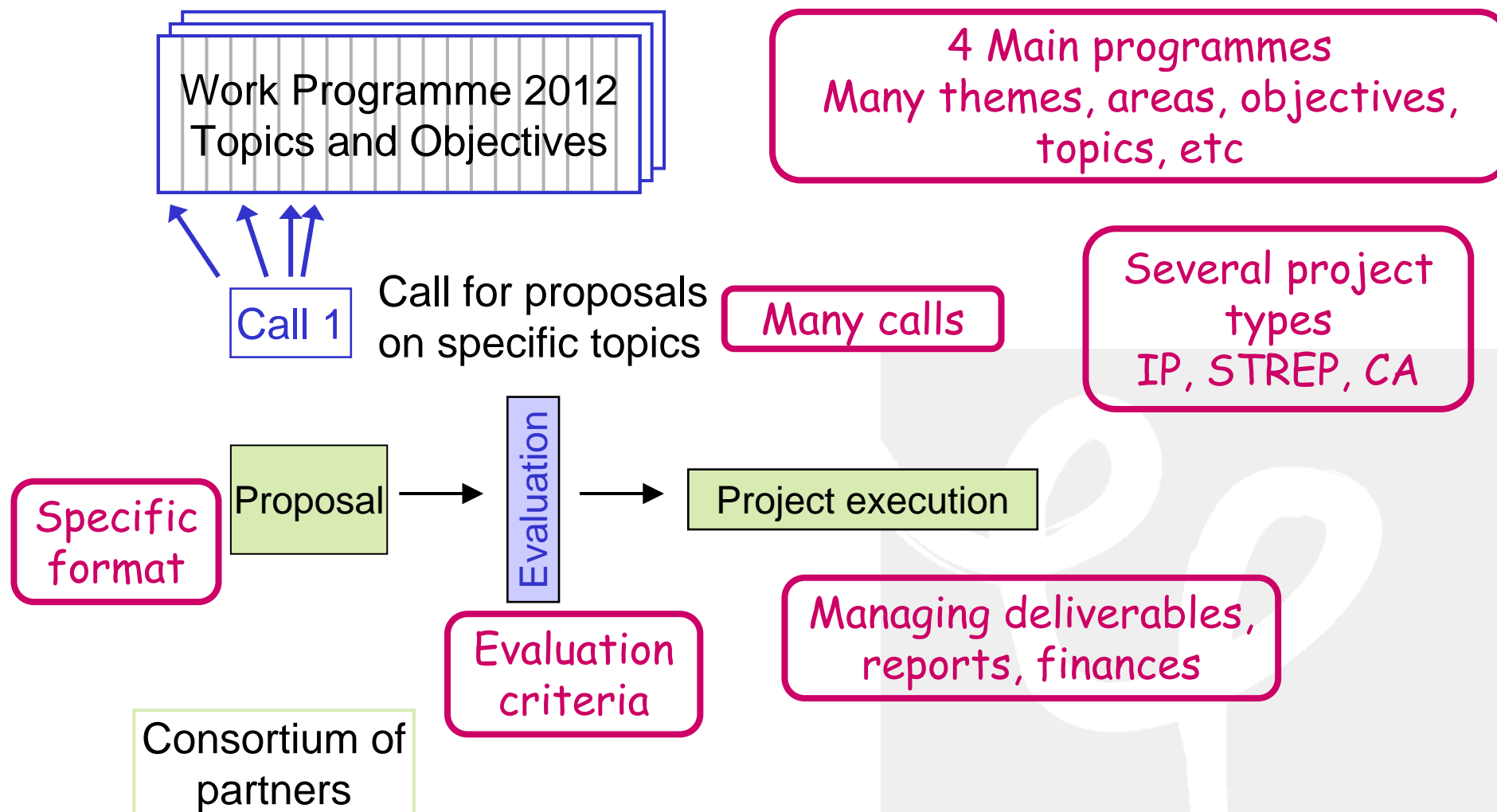
- Structural Funds

Organised locally; can include improving capacity for industry, education, health, etc.



**European Union**  
Cohesion Policy

# Application Procedure (Example: FP7)



# Problems in Accessing EC Funding

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- **Complexity**
  - Which programme to apply for
  - How to write an effective application (proposal)
  - Requirements for financial reporting
- **Competition**
  - Stiff competition ~ 20% success rate
- **Continuity of existing consortia**
  - The same key organisations are successful
  - It is difficult to break into the club of such organisations

# Support to overcome problems

## Complexity

Matching idea to an appropriate Work Programme / Call for Proposals

## Competition

Writing a clear proposal which explains your idea, its strengths and its relevance to the Call

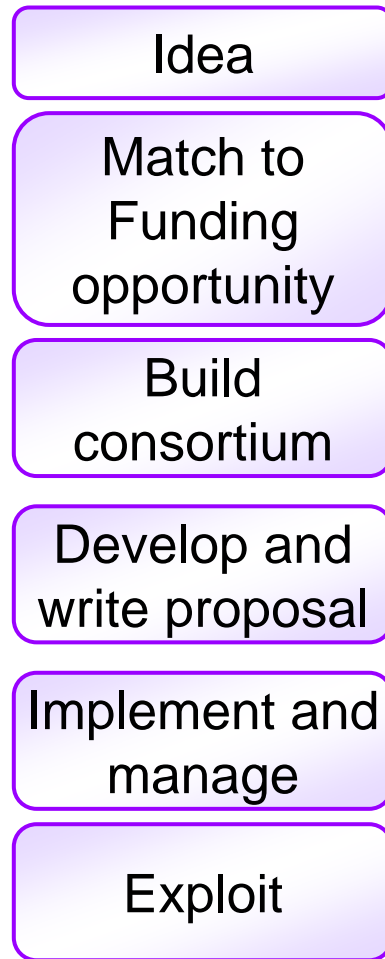
## Consortia

Help in identifying key partners to produce a strong and balanced consortium

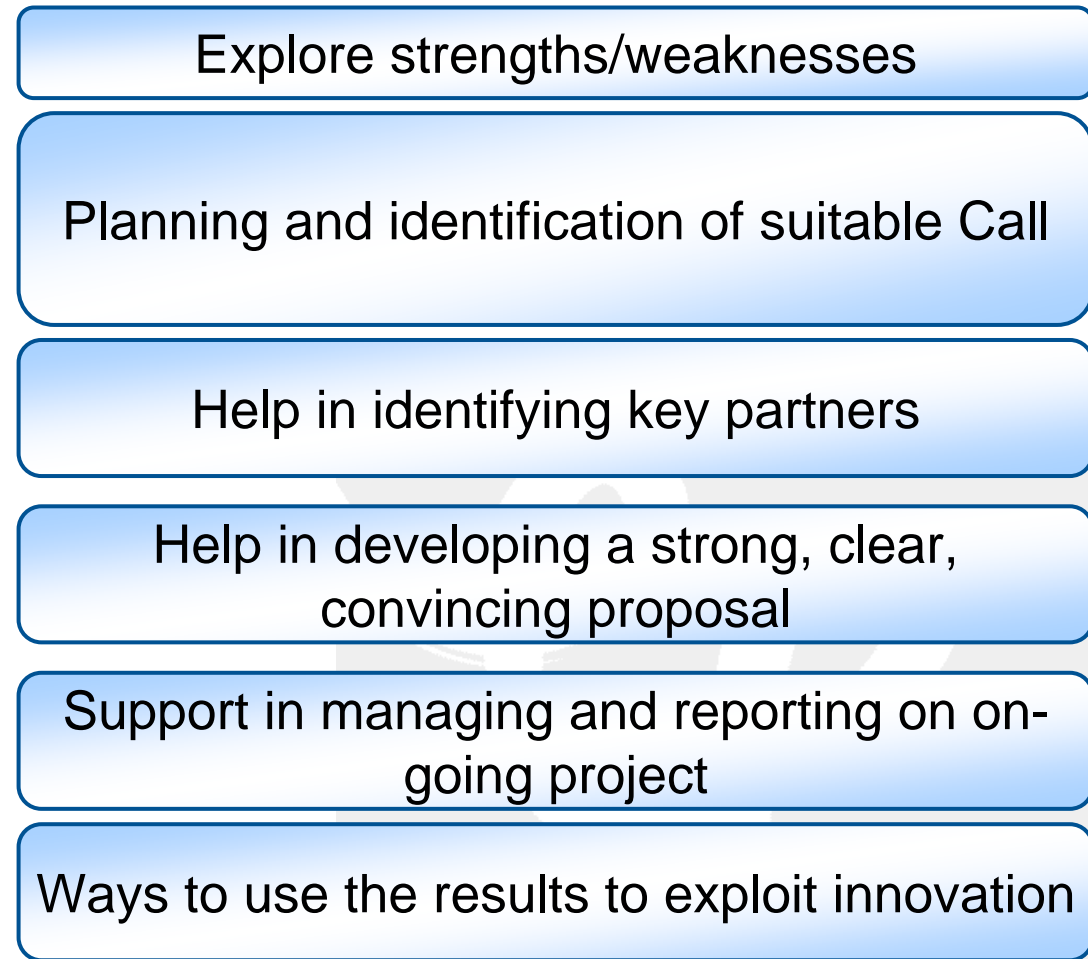


# Support (2)

## *Proposal Development*



## *Support available*



# Sources of information / support

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- Provision of information
  - EC web-sites and information days
  - National contact points for each area
- More specific help
  - Ad hoc consultancy - talk your initial idea through
  - Training courses in developing a proposal, etc
  - Comments and advice on draft proposal
  - Partnership in on-going project management
- Who can help?
  - Colleagues with experience in your organisation
  - Experts with experience outside your organisation

# Training Courses

**Example:** “Enhancing Success in European-funded Research Proposals”  
(Europlan training course for Bulgarian Academy of Science and Sofia University)

## Content:

- Preparation
- Identifying a call
- Building a consortium
- Developing a workplan
- Writing a clear proposal
- Avoiding ambiguity in English
- The evaluator’s perspective
- Ongoing management



## The trainers:

- Previous work in EC
- Experience in evaluation
- Experience in project management



## Training course options:

- Duration: e.g. 3, 2, or 1-day courses
- Standard or customized for participants
- Hands-on exercises, or simpler lecture style
- For single group, or open to all



# Training Options

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- Basic lecture style - presenting standard principles
- Flexible course - adjusted to specific needs of an organisation (e.g. the degree of background knowledge assumed)
- Course duration (brief overview, 1, 2, 3-days, etc.)
- Smaller groups - to facilitate questions
- Extent of individual, pair or group exercises
- Pre-course preparation

# Summary - Training and Cooperation

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- Find the most appropriate people to provide the help you need to:
  - Identify the opportunities and find possible partners
  - Develop a strong proposal matching objectives of Call
  - Write clear and convincing proposal documentation
  - Undertake on-going management of successful proposals

**Thank you for your attention!**

# Contact Details

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