

How to obtain EC grant funding - reflections from a coordinator

Prof Suzanne L Dickson
Dept Physiology/Endocrinology
Institute of Neuroscience and Physiology
The Sahlgrenska Academy at the University of Gothenburg.

EU grants Coordinated

GHS and Aging



3 M€

5 European Partners
1999-2002

“HEALTH”

DIABESITY



11.7 M€

27 European Partners
2004-2008

“HEALTH”

NeuroFAST



6 M€

13 European Partners
2010-2014

“Food”

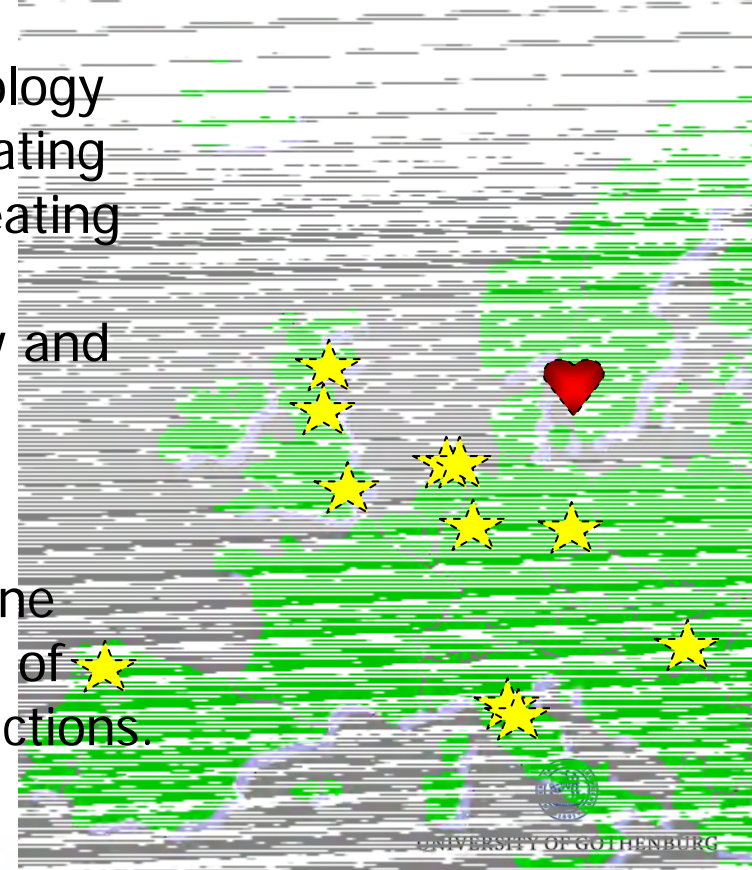
NeuroFAST: European added value

EU Framework 7 Integrated Project involving 12 partners drawn from 7 member states.

Twelve institutions coordinated from Gothenburg University: 10 Universities, one Research Institute and one SME.

Clinical competence: Clinical psychology and epidemiology, human genetics relating to eating disorders, human nutrition, eating and addictive behaviour disorders, endocrinology and neuroendocrinology and human brain imaging.

Preclinical competence: basic mechanisms of eating behaviour and addiction, endocrine and neuroendocrine regulators, stress and the mechanisms of opiate dependence, and cannabinoid actions.



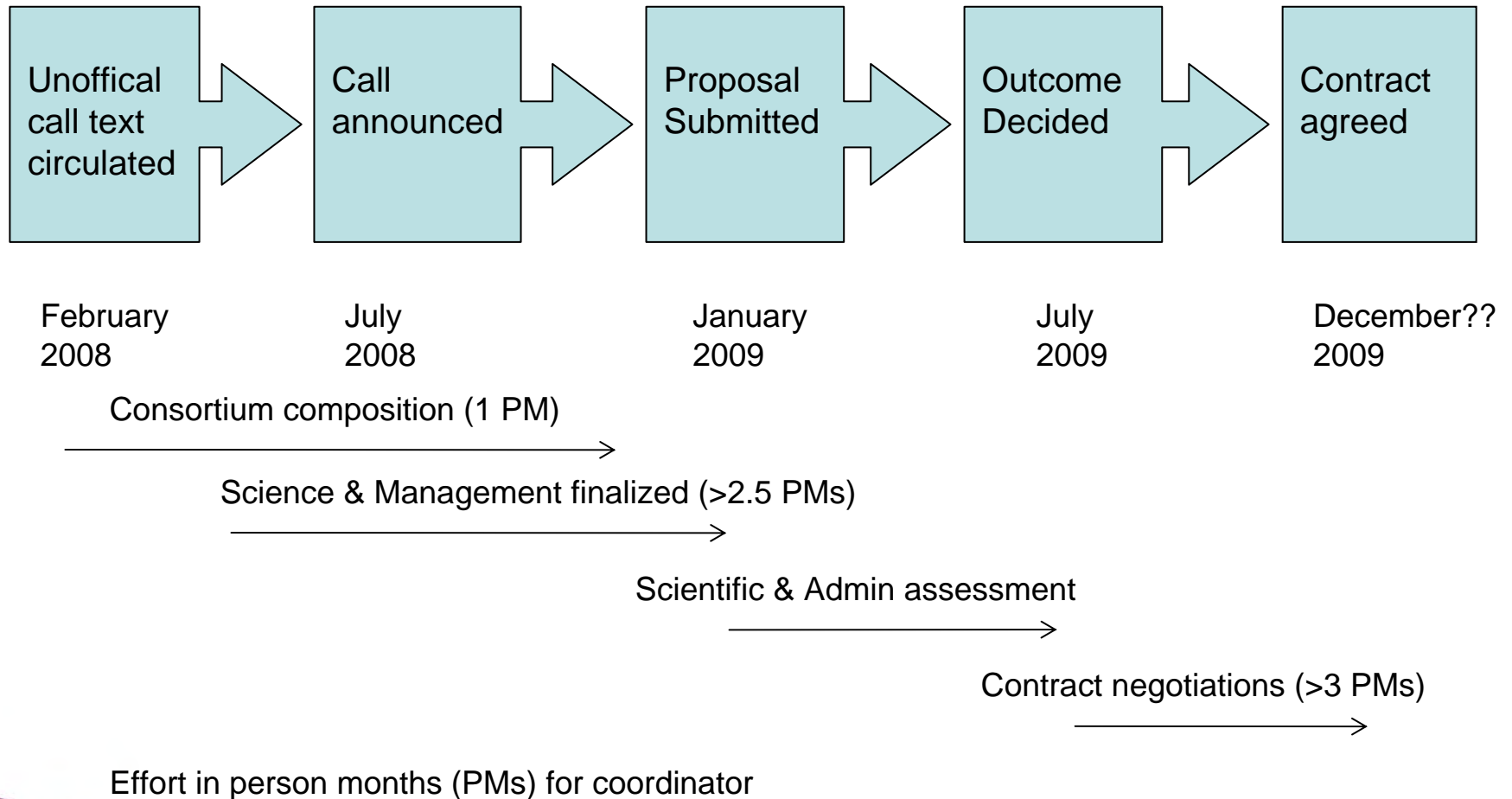
Structure of the 7th framework programme



Cooperation

1. Health, € 6050 million
2. Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology, € 1935 million
3. Information & communication technologies, € 9110 million
4. Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials & new production technologies, € 3500 million
5. Energy, € 2300 million
6. Environment, € 1800 million
7. Transport, € 4180 million
8. Socio-economic Sciences and the Humanities, € 610 million
9. Space, € 1430 million
10. Security, € 1350 million

The application process



"CALL TEXT" → *NeuroFAST*

KBBE-2009-2-2-01: Stress, addiction and eating behaviour

Call: FP7-KBBE-2009-3

Eating behaviour and addiction share common neurobiological regulation mechanisms, regions of the brain controlling action, neurochemical pathways and reward reinforcement systems. They are strongly influenced by mood and socio-psychological stress situations. The aim of this topic is to broaden the basic knowledge on the complex neurological and (socio-) psychological interrelations between stress, eating behaviour and addiction (including to alcohol). In particular, strong links should be built between human nutritionists and research communities working on the basic principles of eating disorders and addiction. This research will, in particular, contribute to a better understanding of the addictive properties of individual food components and/or combinations thereof in certain foods or diets, of the potential effects of food components on prevention of addiction and of the socio-psychological reasons leading to eating disorders. It will also elucidate how typical stress situations in 'modern life' trigger disadvantageous eating patterns and addiction to certain foods. Potential gender differences will be addressed.

Funding scheme: Collaborative Project (large scale integrating project)

Expected impact: The European added value lies in building up the necessary critical mass in several fields of expertise and strengthening European research capacity in this area to provide sound scientific support to European public health policies. The European dimension is critical to development and use of new and harmonised methodologies in this area. Socio-psychological analysis of determinants of food addiction and, among others, current trends and motivations for youth drinking will provide scientific support for European public health policies. Europe's cultural diversity will have to be taken into account and links established between health and social and economic development at European level in order to gain a better understanding of addiction patterns and their potential adverse effects.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IS 72 PAGES IN LENGTH

From proposal to contract



Examples to be presented:

Workpackage

Logical Framework

Management Structure

Ethics



- ◆ Need to incorporate ethics permissions (including numbers) for every experiment, including numbers of subjects/animals for a 5 year work plan.
- ◆ Need to summarize all clinical and basic ethics filed in different languages and under different national procedures and legal guidelines.
- ◆ Plans for ethics applications need to be submitted and updated during the project.

Reporting

- ◆ Regular reports submitted to the Commission, providing protocols and data of results.
- ◆ Requires a full time administrator to compile these.
- ◆ Requesting and integrating information from Partners all over Europe can be hard work!
- ◆ Financial reporting often requires audit certificates. Financial reports need to be prepared at the end of each reporting period and are assembled by our EC office.

The good news!



The EC have a lot of money to give to research.

The activities provide good opportunities for collaboration with leading experts across Europe.

Integrated projects typically run for 5 years. Good level of support (not just salary).