



Instituut voor de Aanmoediging van Innovatie
door Wetenschap en Technologie in Vlaanderen



**Samenwerkingsverband tussen IWT Vlaanderen en
het Departement Economie, Wetenschap en Innovatie van de Vlaamse Overheid**

Het programma Research for the benefit of SMEs

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Research for the benefit of SMEs

Het programma Research for the benefit of SMEs

Research for the **benefit** of SMEs:

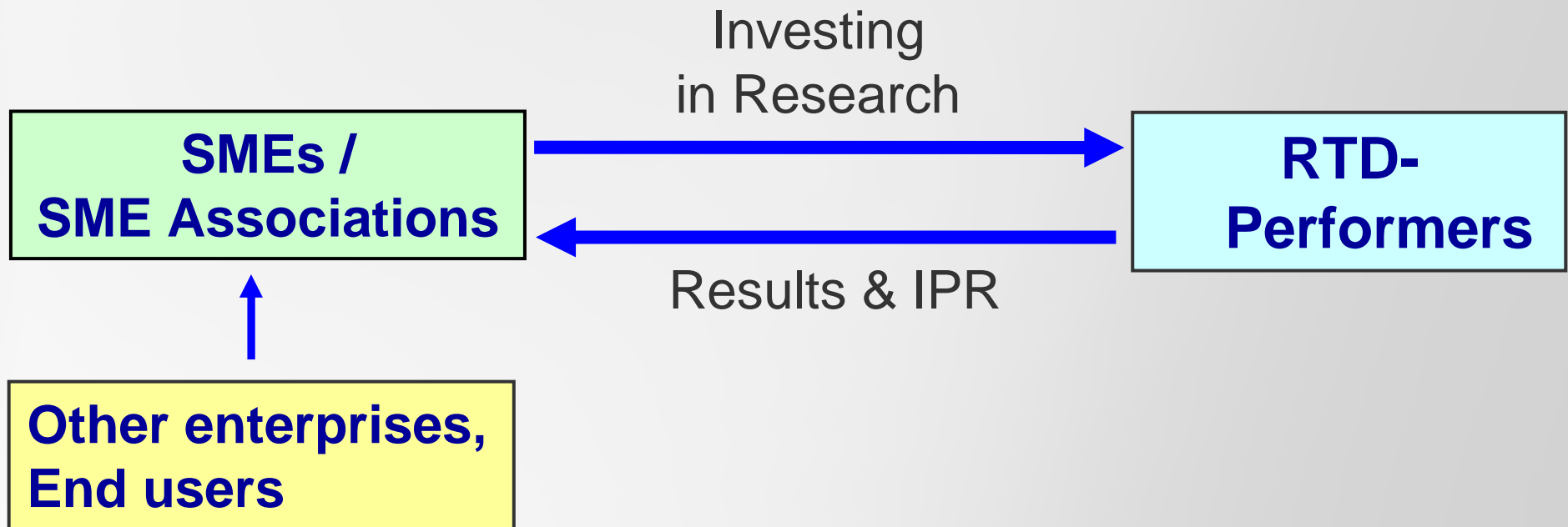
- Research for SMEs
- Research for SME Associations

Research for the benefit of SMEs: target group

Het programma Research for the benefit of SMEs

- Research for SMEs: supporting small groups of innovative SMEs to solve common or complementary technological problems;
 - **low to medium technology SMEs** with little or no research capability
 - research performing SMEs that need to *outsource* research to complement their core research capability
 - Research for SME associations: supporting SME associations and SME groupings to develop technical solutions to problems common to large numbers of SMEs in specific industrial sectors
 - SME associations representing their members and their common technical problems
- Both schemes will follow a **bottom-up approach**, no thematic focussing

Principle: Outsourcing scheme "customer-seller" relationship



Key Features of the two Schemes

Het programma Research for the benefit of SMEs

	Research for SMEs	Research for SME associations
Duration	1-2 years	2-3 years
Number of partners	5-10	10-15
Total project budget	0.5 – 1.5 M€	1.5 – 4 M€
Activities	R&D, demonstration, management, other activities	R&D, demonstration, management, other activities

Funding Scheme: calculation of the EC contribution

Part. No.	TYPE	Estimated eligible costs (whole duration of the project)					Value of EC contribution
		RTD [75%]	DEMO [50%]	MANAG [100%]	OTHER [100%]	TOTAL	
1	SME	260.000	0	70.000	20.000	350.000	285.000
2	SME	260.000	0	0	20.000	280.000	215.000
3	SME	260.000	0	0	20.000	280.000	215.000
4	RTD			0	20.000	20.000	20.000
5	RTD			0	20.000	20.000	20.000
6	OTH	0	50.000	0	0	50.000	25.000
Total		780.000	50.000	70.000	100.000	1.000.000	780.000

Subcontracting to RTDP, excl. VAT:

650.000

Maximum EC contribution = 110 % of subcontracting to RTDP

715.000

Requested EC contribution*:

715.000

Funding Rate at project level

71,5%

*lowest of the two values for the EC contribution

Example 1a: Research for SMEs

TYPE	Estimated eligible costs					EC contribution
	RTD [50%/75%]	DEMO [50%]	MANAG [100%]	OTHER [100%]	TOTAL	
SMEs	820.000	0	70.000	30.000	920.000	715.000
RTD			10.000	20.000	30.000	30.000
OTH	50.000	0	0	0	50.000	37.500
Total	870.000	0	80.000	50.000	1.000.000	782.500
Subcontracting to RTD, excl. VAT:						650.000
Maximum EC contribution = 110 % of subcontracting to RTD						715.000
Requested EC contribution*:						715.000
Funding Rate at project level						71,5%
[in comparison: FP6]						56,5%

*lowest of the two values for the EC contribution

Example 1b: Research for SMEs: increased outsourcing

TYPE	Estimated eligible costs					EC contribution
	RTD [50%/75%]	DEMO [50%]	MANAG [100%]	OTHER [100%]	TOTAL	
SMEs	820.000	0	70.000	30.000	920.000	715.000
RTD			10.000	20.000	30.000	30.000
OTH	50.000	0	0	0	50.000	37.500
Total	870.000	0	80.000	50.000	1.000.000	782.500
Subcontracting to RTD, excl. VAT:						720.000
Maximum EC contribution = 110 % of subcontracting to RTD						792.000
Requested EC contribution*:						782.500
Funding Rate at project level						78,3%
[in comparison: FP6]						56,5%

*lowest of the two values for the EC contribution

Example 1c: Research for SMEs: nice try ...

TYPE	Estimated eligible costs					EC contribution
	RTD [50%/75%]	DEMO [50%]	MANAG [100%]	OTHER [100%]	TOTAL	
SMEs	740.000	0	70.000	90.000	900.000	715.000
RTD			10.000	90.000	100.000	100.000
OTH	0	0	0	0		
Total	740.000	0	80.000	180.000	1.000.000	815.000
Subcontracting to RTD, excl. VAT:						740.000
Maximum EC contribution = 110 % of subcontracting to RTD						814.000
Requested EC contribution*:						814.000
Funding Rate at project level						81,4%
[in comparison: FP6]						63,0%

*lowest of the two values for the EC contribution

The transaction

Reflects the terms of the agreement reached within the consortium on:

- the **ownership** of foreground
- the **access rights** to be provided to any SME participant
- the **remuneration** paid by it to a RTD-performer



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Objectives of the action

- Helping SMEs (lacking an own research capacity) to outsource research with a view to strengthen their innovative capacity
- Supporting SME associations to develop, through outsourcing, technical solutions to problems common to a large number of SMEs
- Extend SME networks and enable better exploitation of research results.

Types and eligibility of participants

- SME participant
 - Staff headcount <250, and
 - Annual turnover <= €50 million, or
Balance sheet total <= €43 million
 - Wider scope of reference for partner enterprises or linked enterprises
- SME association/grouping
 - Groupings of SME members operating in a specific industrial sector/segment, chambers of industry/ commerce, etc. and purchasing the results for or with its members
- RTD performer
 - Legal entity carrying out the research (subcontractor)
- Other participants and end-users
 - To solve specific problems
 - Participate in a secondary role.

Coordinator

Who can be coordinator?

- Administrative and financial coordination can not be outsourced
- Coordinator needs to have sufficient financial capacity
- It is recommended that an SME or SME-AG is appointed as coordinator (SMEs in the driving seat).

However,

- RTD performers can be coordinator if SME(-AG)s lack the experience and know-how for a professional administrative and financial management of the project.
- “Other participant” may be entrusted (e.g. specialised in professional project management)

Eligibility of consortium

- **Research for SMEs**

- Min. 3 independent SMEs from 3 different MS/AS, excluding research centres/organisations/consultancy firms
- Min. 2 RTD performers independent from other participants
- Possibly other participants and end-users but in a secondary role

- **Research for SME associations**

- Min 3 independent SME-AG or one European SME-AG (the latter comprising min 3 independent legal entities of 3 different MS/AS)
- Min. 2 RTD performers independent from other participants
- Mandatory other participants (and end-users) of which minimal 2 SMEs.