



SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

Science-Policy Meeting on Fostering Regional Innovation through Anchors and Networks

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In focus

- Introduction to SSH and policy links
- SSH and regional dimension
- Future prospects in SSH

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Introduction to SSH

- Generating an in-depth, shared **understanding of complex socio-economic challenges** Europe is confronted with
 - e.g. in areas of growth, globalisation, innovation, regional and social cohesion, sustainability and environmental challenges, demographic change, migration and integration, quality of life, cultural issues, democracy and human rights
- Building **infrastructures** (data bases, indicators and modelling frameworks) and supporting **forward-looking activities**
- Establishing **social platforms to build research agendas about societal issues** with the scientists and stakeholders such as civil society organisations and policy makers
- In particular with a view of providing **an improved knowledge base for policies** and «**evidence basis**»

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SSH bases and policy links

- **«Europe 2020» Strategy**
- **European Research Agenda:** 3% target of GDP; building ERA, freedom of knowledge, responding to «grand challenges», «ERA Vision 2020» forward-looking/foresight activity
- **«Innovation Union» Europe 2020 Flagship Initiative**
 - Strategic approach: in partnership with Member States and the whole chain of innovation in focus
 - Tackles weaknesses: under-investment, fragmentation, unfavourable framework conditions
 - Builds on strengths: focus on societal challenges, broad concept of innovation, involves all actors
 - Creates «Innovation partnerships»: frameworks bringing together main actors and actions at EU and national levels, from research to market, around common objectives and targets

Available at [http:// ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/](http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/)

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SSH and regional dimension

- In FP7 SSH a **strong knowledge base** is being created on:
 - regional innovation and governance; globalisation and cohesion (incl. neighbourhood regions); territorial dynamics and change of paradigms and long-term forecast/foresight; adaptation to climate change; border issues; urban development (incl. third countries); rural development (incl. agriculture, land use and rural-urban issues)
- Important role of **regional foresight** (e.g. expert group EUROMED on Mediterranean foresight)
- Information on **FP7 SSH projects** on-line:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/research_en.html

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Relevant SSH research

- **SSH FP7 projects** with regional dimension of knowledge and innovation
 - FRIDA – role of **anchor firms** in regional innovation and networks
 - IAREG – **intangible assets** and regional economic growth
 - AEGIS - **knowledge-intensive entrepreneurship** and **innovation** and impact on growth and social well-being
 - SHRINK SMART – problems of **urban shrinkage** and related governance issues
 - PASHMINA – tools, models and indicators for **paradigm shifts in energy-transport-environment nexus**; land-use and **territorial functions**
 - DERREG - **rural regions** in pressure of **globalisation**
 - EUBORDERREGIONS – **cross-border interaction** in EU neighbourhood
 - **Several other projects on innovation:** GLOBINN, SCIFI-GLOW, INNODRIVE, INGENIUS, COINVEST, VICO, SELUSI, SERVPPIN...

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Future prospects in SSH

- **SSH calls open for 2011 - deadline 02/02/2011**
 - Societal Challenge «**Europe moving towards a new path of economic and social development**» (EU contribution min €6.5 - max €8.0 million);
 - Topic «**Addressing Cohesion challenges in Central and Eastern Europe**» (EU contribution max €2.7 million)
Full call information at http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/index_en.html
- **Indicative SSH Strategic Research Roadmap 2011-2013**
http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/future-research_en.html
 - Challenge: 10 years after enlargement: the single market and localisation/delocalisation of industrial activities in Europe
 - Topics: Research, innovation and creativity: European challenges and policies in the globalised world; old and new multinational companies facing a multi-polar world

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Important websites

http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/index_en.html

[http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?
fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage)

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html

**Thank you
for your attention!**

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