Introduction to research funding

Managing knowledge for growth in an ageing Europe
Public research programmes for business and academia

Speaker: Dott. Giorgio Clarotti, Research Policy Officer, European Commission

Location and date: Polo Scientifico e Tecnologico Fabio Ferrari, Povo di Trento, Via Sommarive, April 19, 20 2011, room A207-203-222, 10:30-12:30 14:30-16:30

Seminar programme

The course will focus on public programmes fostering research and innovation, both in academia and in businesses. It will mainly address the European Union efforts for stimulating growth and innovation, linking the EU 2020 growth strategy to smart knowledge generation and exploitation, using public research programmes and innovation in companies as well as in social services.

It is aimed both at students in science/engineering and in business/economy as it will attempt to make a link between economic and social competitiveness of societies, and public research/innovation programmes. Such programmes increasingly aim at generating and fostering the exploitation of knowledge devoting resources to address major societal challenges.

Managing publicly funded research and innovation projects, or public programmes funding these projects, also requires the knowledge of the rules developed by the programming agencies. These have been evolving over years and greatly differ from country to country.

What is more important to determine priorities for managers of research and innovation is to understand the rationale which generated these programmes as well as the drivers on which these rationales are based.

This course follows the guidelines set by recent evidence based policy making practices. The main policy drivers are identified, then the current situation is analysed putting into evidence the main policy options. Finally, the EU (European Union) chosen policies and their rationale are given. Understanding these elements and rationale should allow public or private managers to steer and orient their research and innovation policies.

It will comprise four modules to be delivered in four 2 hour courses:
1. The XXIst Century challenges and the European Union 2020 Growth Strategy
   - Major drivers for change in the XXIst century
   - The rationale of the EU2020 strategy of the European Union
   - Growth and innovation in the European Union – The Innovation Union Flagship

2. The 7th EC Research Framework Programme (2006-2013) – A tool for growth and innovation
   - EU research, the story so far
   - European strength and weaknesses in research
   - The Cooperation programme
   - The Capacities programme
   - The People programme
   - The Ideas programme – the European Research Council
   - Managing the EC research Framework Programme

3. Public programmes for research and innovation in the European Research Area
   - Why investing public funds in research and innovation programmes ?
   - Towards a more structured European Research Area
   - Co-ordination of research in Europe, towards Joint Programming of research and the Innovation Union

4. Managing research and innovation in small businesses (SMEs)
   - Research and Innovation in small businesses
   - SME Public research programmes
   - Innovation in an ageing EU, addressing societal challenges
   - Innovation in the world


Giorgio CLAROTTI: BIOGRAFIC NOTE

Giorgio Clarotti is a policy officer for the European Commission in the Research and Innovation DG. Since 2005 he is developing and/or managing actions encouraging collaboration between national research programmes (ERA-NET scheme, Art.169 Initiatives, Joint Programming of research...) to strengthen the European Research Area.

He has a PhD in Biomedical Engineering (Montpellier and Tübingen Universities) and has been working for the European Commission since 1991, where he developed a research programme on medical materials and technologies (Brite-Euram) and then measures fostering research for and by small businesses (SME).

He was in charge of Communication for the Employment and Social Affairs DG of the Commission from 2002 to 2004. In 2001, he was part of the team that drafted the EU White Paper on Governance (rapporteur on Network Governance).