

“The Last Calls of the 7th Framework Programme for Research & Technological Development”

The Deloitte Grants & Incentives team attended an Information Day Event on 28 June 2012 in Nicosia, hosted by the Research Promotion Foundation. The main objective of this event was to provide information to interested parties in relation to the last Calls for Proposals of the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7), the EU's instrument for funding research in Europe, which is coming close to its end in 2013. The upcoming calls for proposals cover all four programmes, namely “Cooperation”, “Ideas”, “People”, and “Capacities” and most of them are expected to be announced on 10 July 2012. The “Cooperation” programme covers among others the activities “ICT for the Enterprise and Manufacturing”, “ICT for Creativity and Learning”, “Smart Cities and Communities”, “Eco-innovation”, “Energy Efficient Buildings” etc., while the “Capacities” programme covers Research for the Benefit of SMEs or SME Associations.

FP7 will give its place to HORIZON 2020, the new Framework Programme for Research & Innovation for the period 2014-2020 with an €80 billion budget, which is part of the drive to create new growth and jobs in Europe.

According to Alan Cross, an EC official who gave a presentation on the new programme, HORIZON 2020 constitutes a single programme bringing together three separate programmes/initiatives (FP7, Competitiveness & Innovation Programme, EU contribution to the European Institute of Innovation & Technology), coupling research to innovation; it focuses on societal challenges facing EU society (e.g. health, clean energy and transport) and offers simplified access for all companies, university, and institutes in all EU countries and beyond (via simpler rules for grants, simple evaluation criteria, a single set of rules, one funding rate etc.).

At the moment there are on-going Parliament and Council negotiations on EU budget 2014-20 and by the end of 2013 it is expected that the legislative acts on Horizon 2020 will be adopted by Parliament and Council, as Horizon starts on 1/1/2014 with the launch of its first calls. The official website of HORIZON 2020 is: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020>



For enquiries regarding the forthcoming FP7 calls for proposals, please contact the Grants & Incentives Unit: Tel. No. 25868611 or 25868612/ E-mail: eloucaidou@deloitte.com or cthemistocleous@deloitte.com

