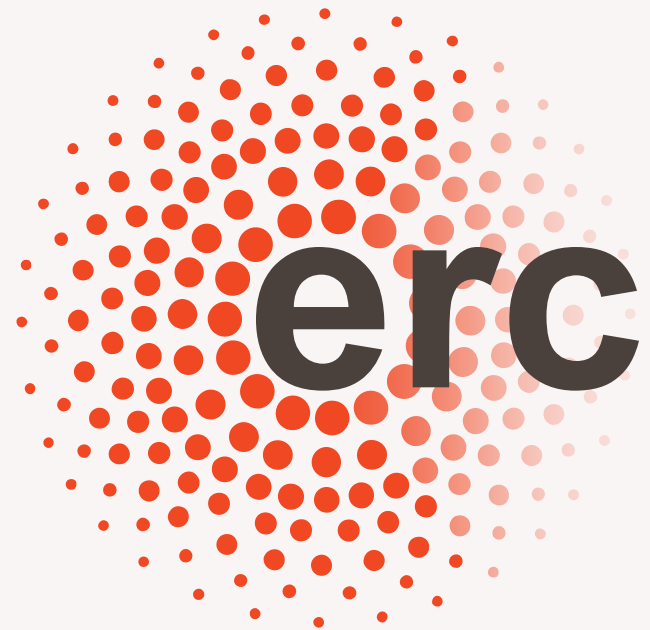


The management of ERC grants

Administrative and financial aspects of the ERC grants

Thierry Prost
ERC Executive Agency
Head of Grant Preparation Unit

Bratislava – 17/06/2013



overview of instruments

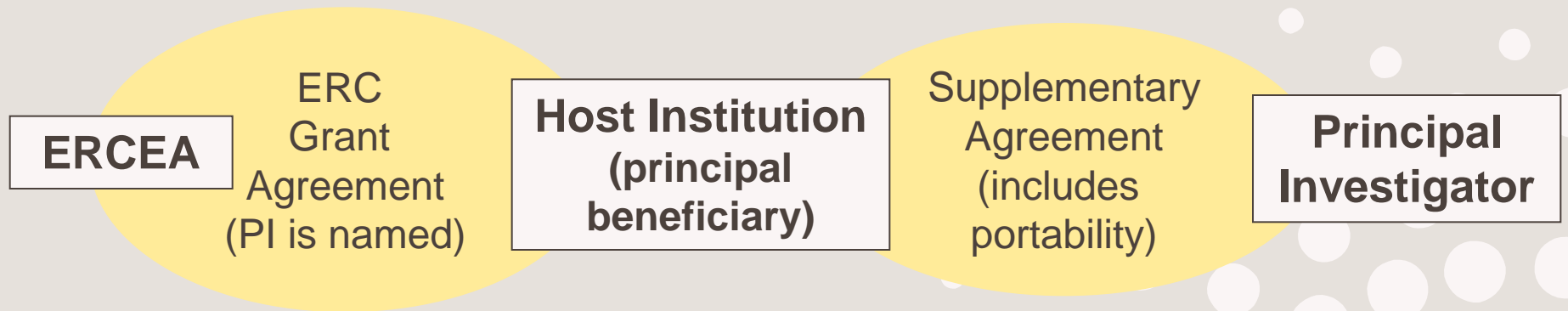
	maximum amount	duration (months)	min. nb of beneficiaries	nb of PI
Starting grant	1.500.000€ (+ 500.000€)	60	1	1
Consolidator grant	2.000.000€ (+ 750.000€)	60	1	1
Advanced grant	2.500.000€ (+1.000.000€)	60	1	1
Synergy grant	15.000.000€	72	1	2 to 4
Proof of concept	150.000€	12	1	1

common set of rules

(slightly different)

Contractual framework

Compared to other FP7 programmes the Principal Investigator has a specific place:



ERC Grant Agreement

➤ Core Grant Agreement

- Project title, PI's name, duration and reporting periods, start date, maximum envelope, bank account, contact persons
- ERC specificities:
 - *status of the "Principal Investigator"*;
 - *segregated reporting streams (scientific and financial)*
 - Financial reports: every 18 months + final
 - Scientific report: mid term + final

➤ Annex I: Description of Work

- ~ cut and paste of original proposal's text
- Includes budget table (estimated costs by categories and by periods)
- ERC specificity: *keeping project scope "as proposed and evaluated"*;

➤ Annex II: General conditions

Supplementary agreement (1)

The Host institution shall provide the PI with:

- administrative and scientific support
- adequate contractual conditions
- access to background and foreground
- scientific autonomy:
 - selection of team members
 - control over the budget
 - authority to deliver scientific reports to ERCEA
 - authority to publish

The Host institution shall not oppose to a transfer of the grant

Supplementary agreement (2)

The Principal Investigator shall:

- supervise the project
- report on science / contribute to financial reports
- inform in due time of any event / changes
- respect confidentiality and IPR rules
- acknowledge EU support

Financial principles

- **Reimbursement of real expenses up to a maximum envelope**
 - 100% of eligible costs + 20% overheads (except on subcontracts)
- **Pre-financing installed upon signature of the Grant Agreement**
 - 160% of an average period (e.g. 40% for a 5-year project)
 - of which a part (5% of total grant) is blocked on a Guarantee Fund
- **Payments made upon approval of 18-months financial reports**

Eligible costs

- **Actual and recorded in the accounts**
- **Incurred during the duration of the project**
- **Usual management and accounting practices**
- **Sole purpose of achieving project's objectives**
- **Indicated in the Description of Work**
- **not eligible:**
 - **Identifiable indirect taxes (e.g. VAT)**
 - **Provisions for possible future losses or charges**
 - **Exchange losses**
 - **Costs declared in relation with another EU-funded project**
 - **Excessive or reckless expenditure**

cost categories (1)

- Personnel (on the beneficiary's payroll)
- Equipment (only the depreciation and the % of use in the project)
- Consumables
- Travel (for beneficiary's staff)
- Other (examples):
 - costs of internal facilities (no overheads)
 - invited experts
 - publications

a 20% flat rate of indirect costs is added to the total

cost categories (2)

➤ Subcontracting

- services only, no research tasks
- competitive awarding
- market price

➤ Resources made available by third parties outside

- e.g. use of a major equipment or facility
- based on prior agreement
- costs only, no market price

excluded from the 20% indirect costs calculation

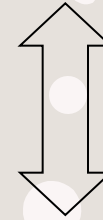
Time-to-Grant

➤ **Call deadline**



200-230 days

➤ **Finalisation of evaluation**



~20 days

➤ **Opening of granting process**



Median time:
100-120 days

➤ **Signature of the grant**



Guidance and templates

ERC website - <http://erc.europa.eu/>

The screenshot shows the ERC website homepage with the following elements:

- Header:** ERC logo, "European Research Council", "Supporting top researchers from anywhere in the world", search bar, and navigation menu (Home, Funding and Grants, Projects and Results, Media and Events, About ERC, Contact us).
- Main Content:**
 - Unbreakable materials on the horizon:** A 3D visualization of a material structure.
 - ERC News:** A list of recent news items with dates and titles, including "ERC President's Statement on outcome of Global Research Council" and "Share your views on the role of Social Sciences & Humanities".
 - Funding Opportunities:** A section with "NEWS", "OPEN CALLS", and "ONGOING EVALUATIONS" sub-sections, listing various ERC call types and deadlines.
- Footer:** A grid of links for "Funding and Grants", "Projects and Results", "Media and Events", and "About ERC", along with the European Commission logo and "Legal Notices".

Thank you for your attention!

