



## Main Features

### Expert Words

7<sup>o</sup> Framework Programme (7FP) was launched by the European Commission

How is 7<sup>o</sup> Framework Programme (FP7) structured?

European technology platform for global animal health

Technology Platform of the Industrial Biotechnology Platform

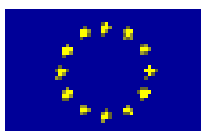
## SPAS NEWS

Projects and Events of Interest

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International Food Fairs

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Welcome to the 3 SPAS newsletter which is regularly disseminated in order to keep you up to date in interesting achievements, news and events related to the agrofood sector.

**SPAS: “SMEs Virtual Platform on Agro-Food Sector to access the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes”**

Proposal Contract n° ETI-EC-023339-SPAS

**SPAS** is an initiative promoted by a consortium of **13 organisations** coming from 9 different European countries, and **supported by the European Commission** within the **6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme (FP6)**.

The SPAS Project will create a **pool of enterprises of the agro-food sector** in order to promote **technological cooperation** among companies, and support **research and innovation activities**.

The aim of SPAS is to **encourage small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to take part in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programmes** through new instruments like **Integrated Projects (IP)** and **Networks of Excellence (NoE)**. The participation will be focused on new and on-going projects, paying particular attention to calls for proposals and calls for tenders.

For more information please visit the “**SPAS**” website: [www.spas-project.eu](http://www.spas-project.eu)

## Expert Words

### 7<sup>o</sup> FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME (7FP) WAS LAUNCHED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION!!!

The EU's largest ever funding programme for research and technological development, the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), was launched on 1 January. The FP7 run for the period 2007 to 2013, and the FP7 for nuclear research activities (Euratom) for 2007 to 2011.

With a total budget of €50.521 billion, FP7 will run for ~~of~~ seven years. An additional €2.7 billion has been earmarked for the Euratom programme on nuclear research, which will run for five years. In real terms, there are 40 per cent more funds on average per year.

The proposal provides new impetus to increase Europe's growth and competitiveness, recognising that knowledge is Europe's greatest resource. The programme places greater emphasis than in the past on research that is relevant to the needs of European industry, to help it compete internationally, and develop its role as a world leader in certain sectors. More information [www.cordis.europa.eu/fp7](http://www.cordis.europa.eu/fp7)



## HOW IS 7<sup>th</sup> FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME (FP7) STRUCTURED?

The European Community part of FP7 is organised in four programmes corresponding to four basic components of European research:

### ▪ **Cooperation**

Support will be given to the whole range of research activities carried out in trans-national cooperation, from collaborative projects and networks to the coordination of national research programmes. International cooperation between the EU and third countries is an integral part of this action.

This action is industry-driven and organised in four sub-programmes:

- **Collaborative research** will constitute the bulk and the core of EU research funding
- **Joint Technology Initiatives** will mainly be created on the basis of the work undertaken by the European Technology Platforms
- **Coordination of non-Community research programmes**
- **International Cooperation**

### ▪ **Ideas**

This programme will enhance the dynamism, creativity and excellence of European research at the frontier of knowledge in all scientific and technological fields, including engineering, socio-economic sciences and the humanities. This action will be overseen by a European Research Council

### ▪ **People**

Quantitative and qualitative strengthening of human resources in research and technology in Europe by putting into place a coherent set of **Marie Curie actions**.

### ▪ **Capacities**

The objective of this action is to support research infrastructures, research for the benefit of SMEs and the research potential of European regions (Regions of Knowledge) as well as to stimulate the realisation of the full research potential (Convergence Regions) of the enlarged Union and build an effective and democratic European Knowledge society.

For more information see [www.cordis.europa.eu](http://www.cordis.europa.eu) and [www.spas-project.eu](http://www.spas-project.eu)

## EUROPEAN TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM FOR GLOBAL ANIMAL HEALTH - VISION 2015

A "European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health" was launched on 16 December 2004 in Brussels. The platform led by industry brings together the veterinary pharmaceutical industry, biotechnology companies, livestock producers, research institutions, universities, regulatory authorities and the financial world. It is supported by Development Commissioner Louis Michel, Science and Research Commissioner Janez Potocnik and Health and Consumer Protection Commissioner Markos Kyprianou. The initiative is being set up to deliver new or improved tools, in particular vaccines and diagnostics, for the control and prevention of major animal diseases both in the developing world and in Europe.

The aim of the Technology Platform is: To facilitate and accelerate the development and distribution of the most effective tools for controlling animal diseases of major importance to Europe and the rest of the world, thereby improving human and animal health, food safety and quality, animal welfare, and market access, contributing to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Vision paper available in: [http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/pdf/etpgah\\_vision2015\\_paper-final\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/pdf/etpgah_vision2015_paper-final_en.pdf)

## WELFARE QUALITY PROJECT. Call for proposals for tasks in the 4th Sub Project

Welfare Quality® (WQ) aims to link societal concerns and market demands with welfare science to develop reliable on-farm monitoring systems, product information systems, and practical species-specific strategies to improve animal welfare. SP4 is co-ordinating a number of future projects in the areas of: A web based information resource / A technical information resource / consumer studies / Socio Economic Studies 'On Farm' Implementation Studies / Views of users on the welfare assessment results / Consultation system on welfare assessment results. These projects are open to tender from interested parties, both from existing partners in the Welfare Quality® project, and from new partners. See <http://www.welfarequality.net/everyone/36619>  
If you are interested in take part in this call don't hesitate to contact us: [spas@spas-project.eu](mailto:spas@spas-project.eu) or your SPAS country partner [www.spas-project.eu](http://www.spas-project.eu)



## Focus

**SPAS launch a Virtual Factory in agrofood industries**

**SPAS presentation at the Food Quality and Safety Research: First Results from FP6.**

**Improving collaboration with agro-food related European Technology Platforms and SPAS Projects**

**Successfully involvement of SME in GOODFOOD (6 FP Integrated Project) by the SPAS consortia**

**SPAS dissemination in relevant fora in Valladolid (Spain)**

**Promote your project ideas in SPAS project**

## SPAS News

### **SPAS launch a Virtual Factory in agrofood industries**

The 'Virtual Factory' a decision support tool for SMEs who wish to improve their food processing, will soon be available in the SPAS website [www.spas-project.eu](http://www.spas-project.eu). At this moment you can access it at <http://www.atoapps.nl/virtualfactory/spas/>

### **SPAS presentation at the Food Quality and Safety Research: First Results from FP6.**

On the 12th of December 2006 the SPAS project coordinator (BESEL) has promoted the SPAS project in the event.

The **Food Quality and Safety Research: First Results from FP6** conference has attracted 180 participants from research institutions and councils, industrial associations, advisory bodies and policy makers.

SPAS activities, features and result, has been disseminated to the participants.

### **Improving collaboration with agro-food related European Technology Platforms and SPAS Projects**

One of the SPAS objectives is the bidirectional approach between the technology platforms and the SPAS SMEs participant → Information about European Technology Platforms is contained in the SPAS website ([www.spas-project.eu](http://www.spas-project.eu))

### **Successfully involvement of SME in GOODFOOD (6 FP Integrated Project) by the SPAS consortia**

GoodFood is a 4-year integrated project co-funded by the EC with the strategic objective of contributing to the new generation of analytical methods based on Micro and Nano Technology solutions for the safety and quality assurance of the complete food chain. GOODFOOD launched a call for new partners in Nov 06. SPAS partnership promote GOODFOOD participation among the SPAS SMEs. Finally one SME involved in SPAS was selected by the goodfood partnership.

### **SPAS DISSEMINATION IN RELEVANT FORUM IN VALLADOLID (ES)**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2006, the SPAS Spanish team have presented the SPAS project in a relevant forum target the improvement of the international I+D+I in Castilla and Leon. (Spain)

In the forum the Spanish National Contact Point has participated, and authorities from the Regional Government.

Also SPAS has been promoted in IBERWINE (Madrid International Wine 2005).

### **PROMOTE YOUR PROJECT IDEAS IN SPAS PROJECT WEBSITE.**

SPAS is providing assistance and support to those small and medium sized enterprises interested in finding or becoming a partner in a joint RTD project or Technology Platforms. As a specific support action SPAS offers to publish your search request via email to over 1,000 agro-food organisations. After publication, each idea will be listed on the SPAS website at [www.spas-project.eu](http://www.spas-project.eu), and directly promoted between the SPAS network.



## Projects and Events of Interest

### OPEN THE FIRST CALL FOR PROPOSAL UNDER THE SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME (FP7).

#### Agro-food sector. Research themes open in the first call

(Detailed information in the ANNEX)

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE ADREESS	FUNDING SCHEMES	AVAILABLE BUDGET
Activity 2.1: Sustainable production and management of biological resources from land, forest and aquatic environments	Large collaborative projects <sup>1</sup> and Networks of Excellence <sup>2</sup>	15.00 millions of euros
	Small collaborative projects <sup>3</sup> and CSAs <sup>4</sup>	67.00 millions of euros
Activity 2.2: Fork to farm: Food (including seafood), health and well being	Large collaborative projects and Networks of Excellence	32.50
	Small collaborative projects and CSAs	29.09 millions of euros
Activity 2.3: Life sciences biotechnology and biochemistry for sustainable non-food products and processes	Large collaborative projects and Networks of Excellence	35.00 millions of euros
	Small collaborative projects and CSAs	10.50 millions of euros
Activity 2.4: Other activities	Large collaborative projects and Networks of Excellence	0 millions of euros
	Small collaborative projects and CSAs	3.00 millions of euros

1. Large collaborative project. research projects carried out by consortia with participants from different countries, aiming at developing new knowledge, new technology, products, demonstration activities or common resources for research. Budget 3-6 millions €

#### 2. Networks of Excellence.

Support for a Joint Programme of Activities implemented by a number of research organisations integrating their activities in a given field. Budget 3-6 millions €

3. Small collaborative project. research projects carried out by consortia with participants from different countries, aiming at developing new knowledge, new technology, products, demonstration activities or common resources for research. Budget < 3 millions €

#### 4. CSA. Coordination and support actions.

Support for activities aimed at coordinating or supporting research activities and policies. Budget < 1 million €

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**IF YOU ARE A SME, AND INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN THE FP7. PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT US!!!**

[spas@spas-project.eu](mailto:spas@spas-project.eu)

More information in [www.spas-project.eu](http://www.spas-project.eu)

### Links of Interest

#### SMEs for Food

[www.smesforfood.org](http://www.smesforfood.org)

Food safety From the farm to the fork

[http://ec.europa.eu/food/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/index_en.htm)

European Commission Agrinet Portal.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/index_en.html)

European Food Safety Authority

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en.html>

Plants for the Future Technology Platform.

[www.plantTP.com](http://www.plantTP.com)

Welfare

Quality@:

<http://www.welfarequality.net/everyone/36619>

### Calendar of Events

(Quarterly)

20 and 23 March 2007

Improving Sustainability in Organic and Low Input Food Production Systems Stuttgart, Germany.

<http://www.ecoweblog.elr.dk>

SusChem

5th Stakeholder Meeting, 8 March 2007, Brussels.

<http://www.suschem.org>

"Perspectives for Food 2030" conference will take place on 17-18 April 2007.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/biosociety/news\\_events/events\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/biosociety/news_events/events_en.htm)

International Bioenergy Forum for Southeast Europe Sofia, Bulgaria, 2007.04.25-26.

<http://viaexpo.com/congress-ee-vei/eng/booking-form.php>

15th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, Berlin, Germany, 2007.05.07-11.

[http://www.conference-biomass.com/Biomass\\_2007/welcome.asp](http://www.conference-biomass.com/Biomass_2007/welcome.asp)

### International Food Fairs

Barcelona Degusta

2-5 May 2007

[www.barcelonadegusta.com](http://www.barcelonadegusta.com)

Alimentaria Lisboa.

27-30 May 2007

<http://www.alimentaria-lisboa.com>