

FET Flagships

*Large-scale long-term initiatives
leveraging excellence
around a unifying scientific goal*



FET Flagships are...

Ambitious large-scale, science-driven, visionary research initiatives that aim **to achieve a scientific breakthrough**.

The scientific advance should **provide** a strong and broad basis for future **technological innovation** and **economic exploitation** in a variety of areas, as well as **novel benefits for society**.

Ambitious goals require extensive cooperation

Certain research goals are so ambitious that they are beyond the reach of any single national or EU funded research initiative. Only by **mobilising researchers Europe-wide via a shared vision towards a clearly defined unifying goal**, and by supporting them over a long period, can such objectives be reached.

A recognised need

The **objective of reinforcing research in future and emerging technologies (FET)** was expressed in the EC communication COM (2009) 184 'Moving the ICT frontiers', and was endorsed by the Competitiveness Council in early December 2009. The Communication highlights as one **key action the launch** of at least two **FET Flagship Initiatives by 2013**.

Federated effort for breakthrough magnitude

To provide lasting support at a level which allows a concerted effort towards fulfilling a grand ambition, FET Flagships are envisioned to run for at least 10 years, with a budget of up to 100 M€ per year, per initiative. This scale can only be achieved through cooperation between the European Framework and National research programmes. The overarching nature and magnitude of these initiatives implies that **they can only be realised through the federated effort** of the European research community and institutions, national and regional funding agencies, and where appropriate, with the participation of global partners and industry.

Facing great scientific challenges together

Research activities of European and national programmes would be aligned and work together to **meet a common scientific challenge, in pursuit of a unifying goal**. As new public-public partnerships, FET Flagships would represent a powerful new instrument in **shaping and building the European Research Area**.

The time for action is now

To implement a joint effort of such a grand scale requires a **great amount of preparation** in terms of **developing key ideas** by the scientific community, devising **operational mechanisms**, defining and implementing a **legal framework**, and most of all, establishing the **political and financial support** of stakeholders. The EC is fostering coordinated progress in each of these areas.



For further information please contact:
<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/programme/fet/flagship/>



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FET Flagships - Roadmap towards 2013

- April 2009 EC Communication *'Moving the ICT frontiers'*
- Dec 2009 Endorsement of FET Flagships by COMP Council. Opening of online consultation for ideas
- Jan 2010 Start of FET Flagship study to design and validate legal and operational frameworks
- Early 2010 Open consultation with the scientific community on initial ideas, including workshop event on January 22nd
 - 2010 Setup of FET Flagship Science Forum and the Member States Working Group
- June 2010 First joint scientific / policy event (Science Forum)
 - 2010 Launch of a competitive call to support comprehensive FET-F pilots (5-6 preparatory actions, each focusing on a Flagship challenge)
- 2010-2011 Preparation of instrumental framework
 - 2011 Implementation of FET Flagship Pilots: design and establishment of feasibility for high-potential candidates
 - 2012 Selection of FET Flagships
 - 2013 Launch of first FET Flagships

You are invited to:

- Submit a description of your FET Flagship idea to the online consultation for sharing and discussing it with the scientific community
- Contact those who have submitted an idea relevant to your own for mapping potential collaboration
- Participate in the FET Flagships Science Forum to represent your science community and take part in the setup of the FET Flagship Initiatives

