



Trend Chart on Innovation in Europe

GR 12

General presentation of the measure/scheme/action/regulation

Country

Greece

Geographical coverage, national or regional (state region)

(National)

Title of the measure

Co-financing Programme - SYN / Πρόγραμμα Συγχρηματοδοτήσεων - SYN

Information Source/Reference

General Secretariat for Research and Technology – Ministry of Development

Overview (nature, main goals)

The programme was launched in 1992, covers scientific and technological sectors and aims at developing direct co-operation between the scientific and economic bodies of the country, in order to solve specific problems that these face and to exploit research results. A project in SYN 96 has two phases. The first one concerns the research work and the second a pilot application.

Action Plan objective addressed by measure

III.4. Co-operation Research/Universities/Companies

Administering agency

[General Secretariat for Research and Technology - GSRT / Ministry of Development](#)

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Name of the manager(s) responsible for the implementation of this measure with address, fax, phone

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Description of Scheme

General Information

Reference to legal basis (e.g. act, public document, ...)

Operational Programme of Research and Technology (EPET II), measure 2.2.

Does the measure receive central funding or regional funding?

Central

Start date

1992

Expected date of completion

12/2001

Previous measure (name, date, links with the current measure)

No.

Reasons for launching/modifying the new measure

The creation of a mechanism to commercially exploit public research results.

Have any of the main features of the measure/scheme/action/regulation changed during its implementation

SYN 96 differs from SYN 92 in the structure. SYN 96 has two phases. Each phase has a different contractor. In the first phase the contractor is the research foundation, while in the second the contractor could be the user.

What is the predominant role of the government?

Provider of co-funding, administrator.

Organisation and Implementation

Organisation and Structure

During the call of proposals launched in 1996, 116 proposals have been approved by a

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two stage evaluation and finally 110 operated. In the first stage the typical preconditions were examined, while in the second stage the experts evaluated the research content of the projects, the methodology, the ability the user-body to exploit the results and the status of the applicants. Two interdependent experts, who are specialists in the subject of the proposal, carried out the evaluation. A Scientific Committee commented these results. Finally, an Expert Committee examined the comments and the results of the Scientific Committee. The projects are structured in two phases. The first phase will cover the execution of a research project by the research-body. The second phase will cover the application of the research results by the user. The financing of the second phase by the GSRT takes place after an evaluation. In this evaluation the good practice of the first phase and the perspectives of the results implementation by the user, during the second phase, are taken into consideration. The total duration of the projects should not exceed 30 months (15 months for the first and 15 months for the second phase). In some cases an exclusion of 6 months can be granted without increasing the budget.

What are the criteria for eligibility?

Eligible bodies: The research body should be a public research organisation. The user can be a public or a private organisation. The user and the research body should have a formal relationship. Selection criteria: The criteria of the experts' evaluation in the first phase are a. Trustworthiness of the proposed bodies (30%), b. Documentation of the proposal (30%), c. Exploitation of the results (40%). If the co-funding percentage of the user for the first phase is more than 50%, this will be taken into consideration.

What is the mode of delivery of the measure?

The programme is delivered as a competitive grant. Concerning SYN 96 the financing of the projects by the GSRT takes place in two phases: A. During the first phase, the research body has contractor duties. The maximum, up to which the GSRT will participate in the total project budget in this phase, may reach a level of 5.000.000 Drachmas (14.7 Euros). At the same time, co-financing is required with a percentage of at least 50% of the total cost of the phase, provided by the user. In the total budget of this phase, the research body's participation should also be calculated in terms of remuneration of permanent or temporary personnel, equipment, consumables or other expenses that are considered necessary for the execution of the project. B. During the second phase, the research body and the user as well as eventually other bodies interested in exploiting the research results, constitute a group of collaborating bodies. The user body may then undertake contractor duties. The total financing by the GSRT for this phase can not exceed 25 million Drachmas (73.500 Euros); in relation to the total cost of the project, that may correspond to up to 50% of the project. The rest (50% and more) of the project's total budget in this phase should be covered by the user. The first instalment by the GSRT is effected when the user contributes his own funds. The second instalment will happen after the evaluation of the first stage.

Financing : Overall budget allocated to the measure

The total budget of the programme is 4.438.042.759 Drachmas (13.053.000 Euros) and the public contribution is 1.973.362.950 Drachmas (5.804.000 Euros).

Financing : expenditure per year

The public contribution per year is: 1998: 175.374.736 Drachmas (EURO 574.672), 1999: 289.947.060 Drachmas (EURO 850.908), 1/1/2000-30/9/2000: 378.420.171 Drachmas (EURO 1.110.550).

Financing : other budgetary sources (additional financing)

No.

Results

Result Measurement

What are the main indicators for the measurement of the results ?

Number of successful projects.

Where an evaluation has taken place, what were the main results achieved?

An official evaluation was made in 1999. The final conclusion of the evaluation is that our Programmes, with much better results, already cover the area that SYN intended to cover. More specifically, PAVE covers the part of strategic and problem solving research. PEN covers basic research, EKVAN covers pre-competitive research. According to the result of the evaluation, SYN should be terminated after the competition of the ongoing project. With regard to the fulfilment of the objective of SYN concerning the utilisation of research results, it could be channelled elsewhere, for example through a mechanism for the promotion of the research results, specifically those close to the development of a prototype. This mechanism could also help researchers to find sponsors who could utilise the research results, and who would fund part of the activities, like development of a business plan for the utilisation of the results, development of an industrial scale prototype testing of the research results, etc.

If no official evaluation has been undertaken, have there been any indicators of success?

N/A

Observations

Which mechanisms seem to function well in the measure?

The co-operation between a research centre and a private company seems to function better than the co-operation between a research centre and a public company.

Which mechanisms seem to be less successful in the measure?

The financial mechanism was not adequate. Delays were observed because the user bodies did not pay their financial contribution on time. There was a delay in the submission of the final reports.

Are there any other measures planned or in operation as a follow up to this measure? Direction of the planned measures? Objectives? Target groups?

The follow up of the measure will be the new PENED programme (2000), which is a combination of YPER, SYN and PENED measures. In this measure the user contribution will be 20% of the total budget. PENED 2000 results to a PhD.

