

EuroNanoMed promotes European collaborations and innovations in nanomedicine

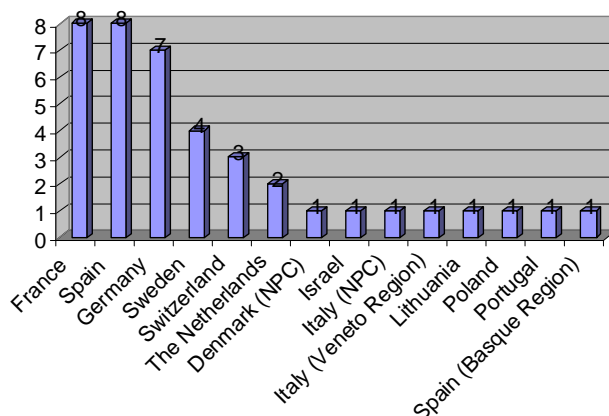
The EuroNanoMed ERA-net has decided to support innovative research and development projects, corresponding to a total project cost of 17 M€. 8 transnational projects will be supported in the EuroNanoMed first call for proposals, corresponding to a success rate of 44%. The call was launched to promote collaborative and interdisciplinary research consortia.

EuroNanoMed was created to bridge the gap between academic research and industries as well as clinical applications. This is expected to shorten the time from research results to the clinical and/or industrial application for the benefit of the patient. In May 2009, a first joint call for proposals opened to all key players in each of the 18 partner regions/countries. The call focused on the three main subfields of Nanomedicine: *diagnostics, targeted delivery and regenerative medicine*. The applications were evaluated by external reviewers and a final ranking list was established by a peer review panel. The global assessment i.e. scientific, technical, translational and/or commercial potential decided the allocation of funds by the EuroNanoMed consortium.

The chair of the international peer review panel, Professor Frank Barry, points to the high quality of the selected projects, their international competitiveness and their innovative potential.

- "The projects address very significant medical needs with high quality science and technology and will develop an industrial vision for new and effective patient applications", says Professor Barry.

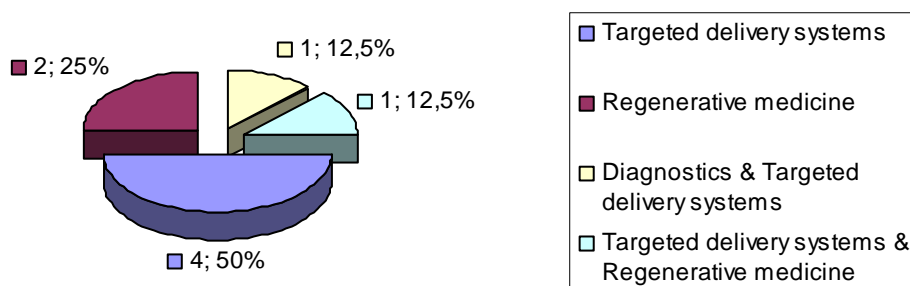
Number of partners selected for funding per Country



Applications from all three strategic research priorities reached high scores in the evaluation, and several applications combined two fields in their approach.

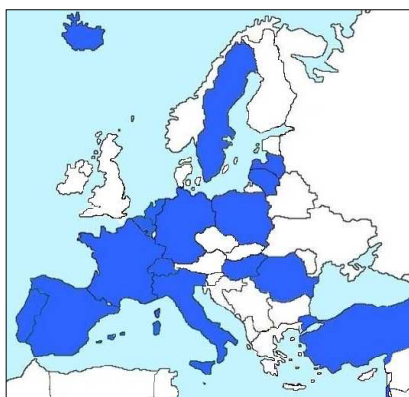
- "It is encouraging that regenerative medicine, which was previously viewed as an emerging technology, is now competing with more mature areas", says Associate professor Karin Forsberg Nilsson, chair of EuroNanoMed Network Steering Committee.

Number of projects selected per area



EuroNanoMed has gathered the support of an impressive number of 24 governments, ministries and agencies from 15 EU Member States and Associate Countries, as well as from 3 regions. The total budget dedicated to the EuroNanoMed calls for proposals represent approximately 15 % to 20 % of the sum of their national/regional budgets allocated to nanomedicine applications.

-"This is a unique commitment towards the creation of the European Research Area", says Dr. Pierre-Noël Lirsac, EuroNanoMed coordinator, and continues: "No other national or European tool has the same flexibility to support transnational RTD project with the same efficiency."



Nanomedicine is the application of nanotechnology to medicine and healthcare. The field takes advantage of the physical, chemical and biological properties of materials at the nanometer scale to be used for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of diseases. Given the immense potential impact of nanomedicine on public wellbeing and on economic growth, the field is of considerable strategic importance for Europe.

The **EuroNanoMed** ERA-NET initiative comprises 24 partners from 18 countries/regions. EuroNanoMed aims at fostering the competitiveness of European nanomedicine players through the support of trans-national collaborative and multidisciplinary Research and Technology Development (RTD) projects with participants from **academia**, **clinical/public health communities**, and **industry** (particularly small and medium-sized enterprises).

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