



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Brussels, 6 May 2014
9530/14
(OR. en)
PRESSE 268

Innovation investment package: private and public partnerships for research and innovation

The Council today¹ adopted the legal acts for a new generation of public and private partnerships that will allow large-scale, long-term innovation projects to be carried out under the umbrella of Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation framework programme.

The innovation investment package, which implements the Innovation Union strategy to stimulate the creation of growth and jobs, will contribute to pool research and innovation investments up to 22 billion € in sectors facing major societal challenges in the next seven years.

Public-private partnerships

Five public-private partnerships will be set up or further developed as Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs) in the fields of:

- bio-based industries ("BBI"), to develop new and competitive bio-based value chains that replace the need for fossil fuels and have a strong impact on rural development ([7691/14](#));
- aeronautics ("Clean Sky 2"), to reduce the environmental impact of the next generation of aircrafts ([7685/14](#));

¹ The adoption took place at a meeting of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council. It follows an agreement with the European Parliament.

P R E S S

- electronics ("ECSEL"), to keep Europe at the forefront of electronic components and systems and bridge the gap from research to market more quickly ([7692/14](#));
- fuel cells and hydrogen ("FCH 2"), to develop commercially viable, clean solutions that use hydrogen as an energy carrier and fuel cells as energy converters ([7689/14](#)); and
- innovative medicines ("IMI 2"), to improve European citizens' health and wellbeing by providing new and more effective diagnostics and treatments such as new antimicrobial treatments ([7678/14](#)).

The legal framework for the JTI is the setting up of joint undertakings under article 187 of the EU treaty, as a way of joining forces between the private sector and public administrations of the member states in order to achieve results that one country or company is less likely to achieve alone.

The Commission presented the communication on "Public-private partnerships in Horizon 2020: a powerful tool to deliver on innovation and growth in Europe" in July 2013 ([12344/13](#)).

Public-public partnerships

Four public-public partnerships will be further developed on research programmes jointly undertaken by member states with the participation of the Union in the areas of:

- active and assisted living, to improve the quality of life for the elderly and the availability of technology-based products and services ("AAL programme") ([PE-CONS 51/14](#));
- clinical trials in African countries, to contribute to the reduction of the social and economic burden of poverty-related diseases ("EDCTP2 programme") ([PE-CONS 54/14](#));
- metrology, to provide fit-for-purpose metrology solutions as well as measurement technologies addressing societal challenges such as energy, environment and health ("EMPIR") ([PE-CONS 53/14](#)); and
- research and development performing SMEs ("Eurostars-2" programme), to stimulate the competitiveness of innovative SMEs ([PE-CONS 50/14](#)).

The legal framework for establishing these partnerships is article 185 of the EU treaty, which states that the Union may make provision for participation in research and development programmes undertaken by several member states.

In practice, it implies that the participating member states associate their research efforts in which the EU promotes the voluntary integration of scientific, managerial and financial aspects. The EU provides financial support to the joint implementation of the national research programmes involved.

* * *

See also Commission factsheet: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-14-289_en.htm
