FET facts and figures

The European Future and Emerging Technologies (FET) Programme promotes **long-term** & **high risk** research that aims to advance scientific and technological knowledge in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). FET projects target research breakthroughs that have the potential to radically transform our scientific and technological basis for tomorrow's society.

Some **165 projects** are currently funded by the FET research, which is now celebrating its **22nd** birthday. FET traces its history back early as 1989 when in ESPRIT II a specific sub-programme called BRA (Basic Research Actions) was launched, to be renamed FET in 1996.

FET research has contributed to Europe's leadership in areas like **quantum computing and communications, nanoelectronics, neuro- and bio- information science, advanced robotics and complex systems**. FET attracts many **top scientists** whose outstanding work throughout their careers has earned them international recognition. For example, partners in several FET-funded European research projects have received top rewards such as the *Nobel Prize in Physics* awarded to **Albert Fert (FR)** and **Peter Grünberg (DE)** in 2007 and to **Theodor Hänsch (DE)** in 2005. In 2008, the *Marie Curie Prize* was awarded for research on the effects of low and very low doses of ionizing radiation on human health and biotopes to **Andrea Ferrari** (project VIACARBON) and the *Isaac Newton Medal of the Institute of Physics* to **Anton Zeilinger** for his contributions to the foundations of quantum physics (project QAP).

FET is unique in providing both top-down and bottom-up approaches to long-term and high risk research funding, implemented through its Proactive (top-down) and Open (bottom-up) funding schemes, and pursuing additional activities focused on FET flagships, young explorers and high-tech research intensive SMEs.

FET in numbers

FET is part of the ICT subtheme of the EU Framework Programme for Research. Over the years, investment in FET has risen steadily. The current FP - the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) - has a total budget of **€9 billion** for ICT over 2007-2013. In 2008, around **8%** of the yearly expenditure was invested in FET research and it will rise to **10%** by 2013, which approximates to an almost doubling of FET's research funding in 2013 as compared to 2007.

Breakdown of FET funding since 1994 (*as of 04/05/2011*)

Years	Open Scheme	Proactive Scheme	Reactive Scheme	Total Projects	Total Funding
1994-1998	178 projects (€54m)	26 projects (€27m)	77 projects (€92m)	281	€173m
1999-2002	186 projects (€144m)	108 projects (€146m)		294	€290m
2003-2006	79 projects (€126m)	40 projects (€200m)		119	€326m
2007-2011	83 projects (€140m),	81 projects (€230m)		164	€370m
Total	526 projects (€464m)	255 projects (€603m)	77 projects (€92m)	858	€1161m

A typical FET collaborative research project (STREP) involves around **5-6 partners** and a funding of around **€1.6m over 3 years**. For the Young Explorers and high-tech sme calls, project funding is typically in the **€1m range**.

In the context of the globalization of research, Europe's research offers a system open to virtually any country in the world. All research projects include partners from at least three different European or associated countries. Not only is FET open to all European Member States, but it also attracts organisations from Canada, China, India, Japan, Russia and the US, among others.

For further information, visit FET on the web:
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/programme/fet_en.html