A Path Through the Funding Maze: Funding Programmes for Language Technologies

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Points of Discussion

- Why investigating national/regional funding opportunities? Who will benefit?
- Which and where are funding programmes available for interested parties/stakeholders?
- How to get information and find support?
Why?

- H2020: Currently, no dedicated WP topics for LT
- H2020: Where space for LT, high competition
- CEF: Specific topics and conditions

= scarce funding for LT/LR/MT

Result:
EU funding programmes act as drivers, but are difficult to access. Therefore, additional resources must be identified.
Users of Funding Opportunities

- Companies active in MT
- Developers of other LT tools and solutions
- Researchers interested in developing market oriented LT or MT solutions
- Bi- or multilateral partnerships of the above
Identified Funding Programmes

- National/Regional
- ESIF
- EUREKA
- Eurostars
National/ Regional Funding

- R&I national programmes
- Programmes to enhance the performance of SMEs
- Regional support to enhance the performance of the region (often overlapping with ESIF)

**Benefits**
- Easier and shorter procedures
- Single applicant possible

**Challenges**
- Some countries have – scattered - regional opportunities e.g. Germany, France, Italy.
- Variations in funding schemes e.g. repayable grants vs. loans.
- Generally, lower % of funding due to state-aid rules
Funded by the European Union

**ESIF**-European Structural and Investment Fund in particular **ERDF**- European Regional and Development Fund

- Financing for member states/regions to ‘step up the ladder of growth, development and innovation.’
- Regional relevance and/or fit to S3 priorities
- Occasionally integrated with national/regional funding by certain countries to create mixed funding e.g. Germany, Spain, Portugal.

**Benefits**
- Single applicant possible

**Challenges**
- Not always transparent access to information
- Variations in funding schemes e.g. repayable grants vs. loans.
- Generally, lower % of funding due to state-aid rules
## Funding Programmes (3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EUREKA</th>
<th>Eurostars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Devoted to bottom-up market-near R&amp;D;</td>
<td>• Devoted to R&amp;D performing SMEs specializing in R&amp;D, bottom-up;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Supported by public national funding;</td>
<td>• Supported by public national funding and EU funding;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Not all EURKEA member countries have funds</td>
<td>• Not all Eurostars member countries have funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Conditions to obtain funds differ considerably, e.g. who can benefit;</td>
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<tr>
<td>%; type of support (grant, loan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• General bottom up approach is potentially suitable for LT/MT/LR</td>
<td>• Status may change annually once countries reconsider their financials to make funds available.</td>
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<tr>
<td>projects.</td>
<td>• General bottom up approach is potentially suitable for LT/MT/LR projects.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Minimum two partners from 2 different member countries</td>
<td>• Minimum two partners from 2 different member countries</td>
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</table>
Countries/ Regions with Funding Opportunities

- Funds available
- Funds available, but with some restrictions (e.g. regional)
- Few funds available, or only in the future
- No opportunities at the moment or No information obtained
ESIF Funding Opportunities

Map showing funding opportunities across European countries.
Eurostars Funding Opportunities

CONSORTIUM:

Funded by the European Union
Where to get information/support?

Funding Web Pages

http://www.lt-innovate.org/Lt-observe/public-policy-observatory/national-funding-opportunities

A Path through the Funding Maze: downloadable pdf:
http://www.lt-innovate.org/sites/default/files/National_regional_funding_opportunities_online_nov16.pdf
Live Demonstration

http://www.lt-innovate.org/Lt-observe/public-policy-observatory/national-funding-opportunities
AUSTRIA

NATIONAL/REGIONAL FUNDING

FFG basis programme for R&I projects: open to all beneficiaries, continuous submission scheme; already funded LT and LT-related projects in the past. At regional level: Vienna Business Agency: Innovative projects for start-ups; all kind of beneficiaries can participate.

National Funding Opportunities in Austria
Regional Funding Opportunities in Austria

ESIF FUNDING

Special programme “EFRE Top” for Austrian SMEs and LEs (exception Vienna); for industrial research, max. 50% funding up to 1MEUR; for experimental development, 25-40% funding up to 3 MEUR. Runs until 2020, administered by FFG (Austrian Funding Agency).

ESIF Funding Opportunities in Austria

EUREKA/EUROSTARS

EUREKA: Yes. SEs, MEs; LEs: Research Organization and Universities only as subcontractors.
Eurostars: Yes. SEs, MEs; LEs: Research institutes and Universities (only eligible if there is an Austrian SME in the consortium).

Eureka/Eurostar Opportunities in Austria

CONSORTIUM:

Funded by the European Union
ESIF opportunities in Austria:

Operational Programme:

Despite the federal character of Austria, it has one Operational Programme for the entire country. One funding line promotes the adoption of new technologies in SMEs, amongst others in the tourism sector. This may be an opportunity to provide multilingual end user tools to such SMEs.

$3$ priorities:

Priority topics of Austria include: ICT and service innovation (e.g. tourism). These may provide opportunities for LT.

Practical Information:

The Austrian research promotion agency FFG announced on 17 December 2015 a new funding programme for SMEs and large enterprises, based on ERDF funds: FFG (euro) (currently only in German).

For the period 2014-2020, 41 MEUR come from EFRE and additional 10 MEUR from FFG. Industrial research projects and experimental development projects can be submitted any time. Max. funding 50% (1) MEUR for industrial research projects and 25-45% (3) MEUR for experimental research. Austrian companies (except those based in Vienna) can apply for funds.

Contact:

EFRE website with contact data

Forms and documents

Links to all ESIF and related programmes (e.g. cross-border Interreg) in Austria.
Vademecum: 8 Steps to National/Regional Funding

1. Be clear about **WHAT** you want to do;
2. Establish **WHERE** the seat of your legal entity is located;
3. Decide **WHO** shall perform the project;
4. Get **INFORMATION** on funding programmes;
5. Establish good **COMMUNICATION** with local/regional/national funding agencies;
6. **IDENTIFY** the best suited funding programmes;
7. **ACTION** time: Write the proposal;
8. **MARKET** your success!
Thank you!

LT-Observatory
Observatory for LR and MT in Europe

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http://www.lt-innovate.org/lt-observe/public-policy-observatory/national-funding-opportunities