



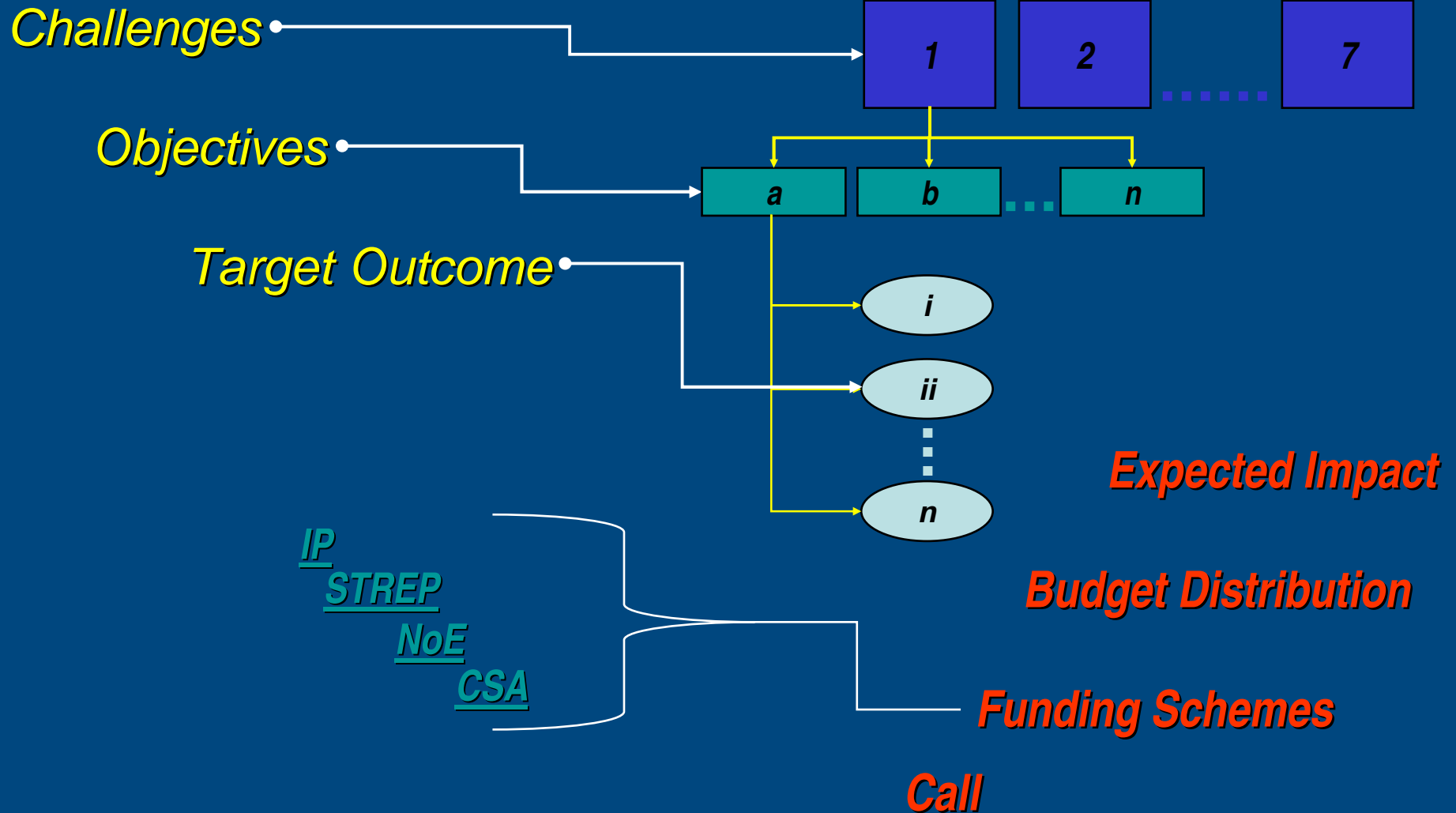
*European Commission  
Framework Programme 7*

**General introduction**

# Outline

- EU Projects
- Work Programme Structure
- Participation Process
- Useful Tips
- Finding the right Partners
- Getting Support
- National Contact Points
- Conclusion
- ICT Call 2

# Work Programmes Structure



# Funding Schemes – IP

- **Purpose:** Ambitious objective driven research with a ‘programme approach’
- **Target audience:** Industry (incl. SMEs), research institutions. Universities – and in some cases potential end-users
- **Typical duration:** 36-60 months
- **Optimum consortium:** 10-20 participants



# Funding Schemes – STREP

- **Purpose:** Objective driven research more limited in scope than an IP
- **Target audience:** Industry incl. SMEs, research institutes, universities
- **Typical duration:** 18-36 months
- **Optimum consortium:** 6-15 participants



# Funding Schemes – NoE

- **Purpose:** Durable integration of participants' research activities
- **Target audience:** research institutions, universities, mainly indirectly: industry – through governing boards etc
- **Typical duration:** 48-60 months (but indefinite integration!)
- **Optimum consortium:** 6-12 participants



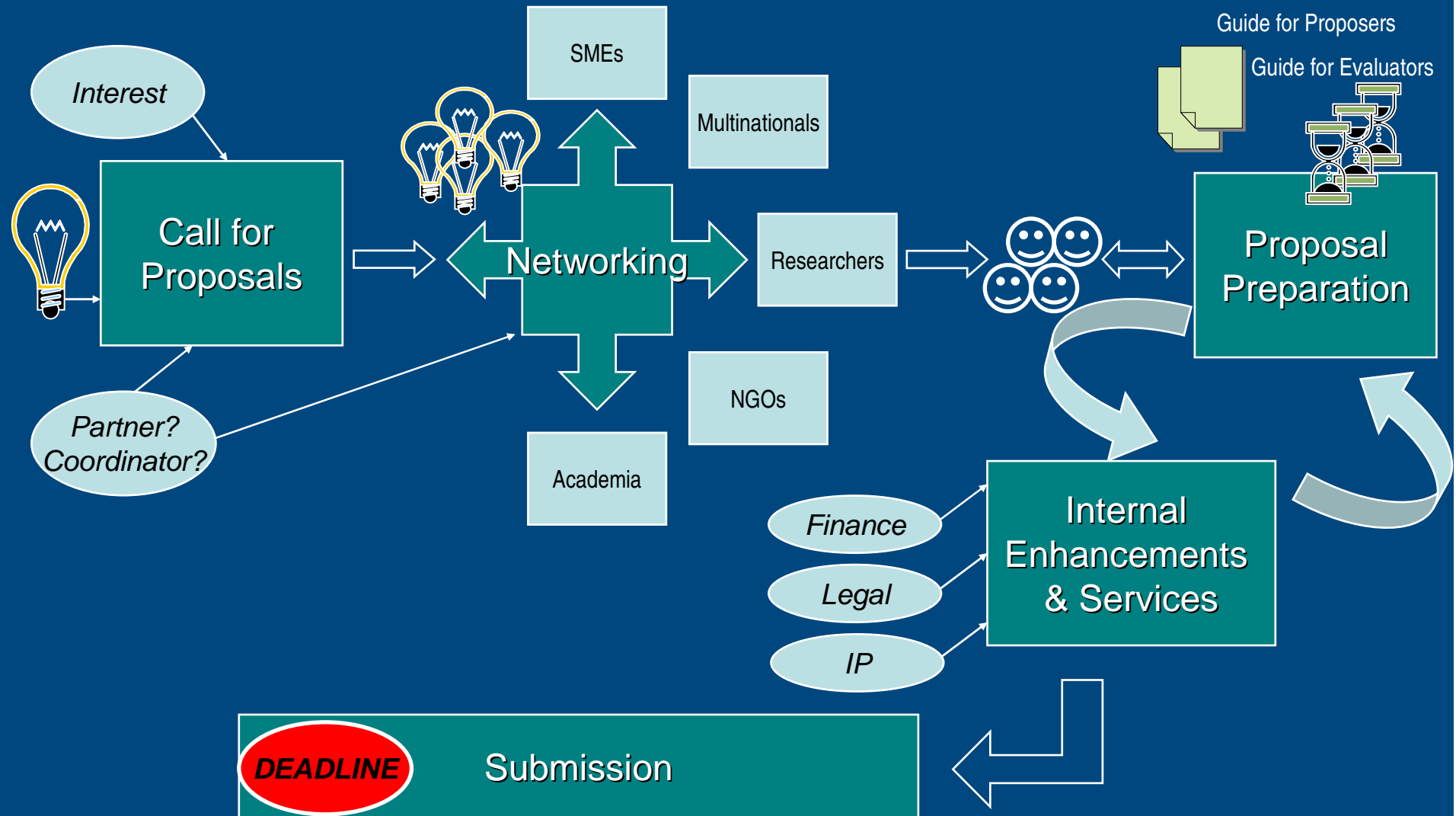
# Funding Schemes – CSA

- **Purpose:** Coordination of research activities and Support to programme implementation, preparation of future actions, dissemination of results
- **Target audience:** research institutions, universities, industry incl. SMEs
- **Typical duration:** 18-36 months (CA); 9-30 months (SSA)
- **Optimum consortium:** 13-26 participants (CA); 1-15 participants (SSA)



# Participation

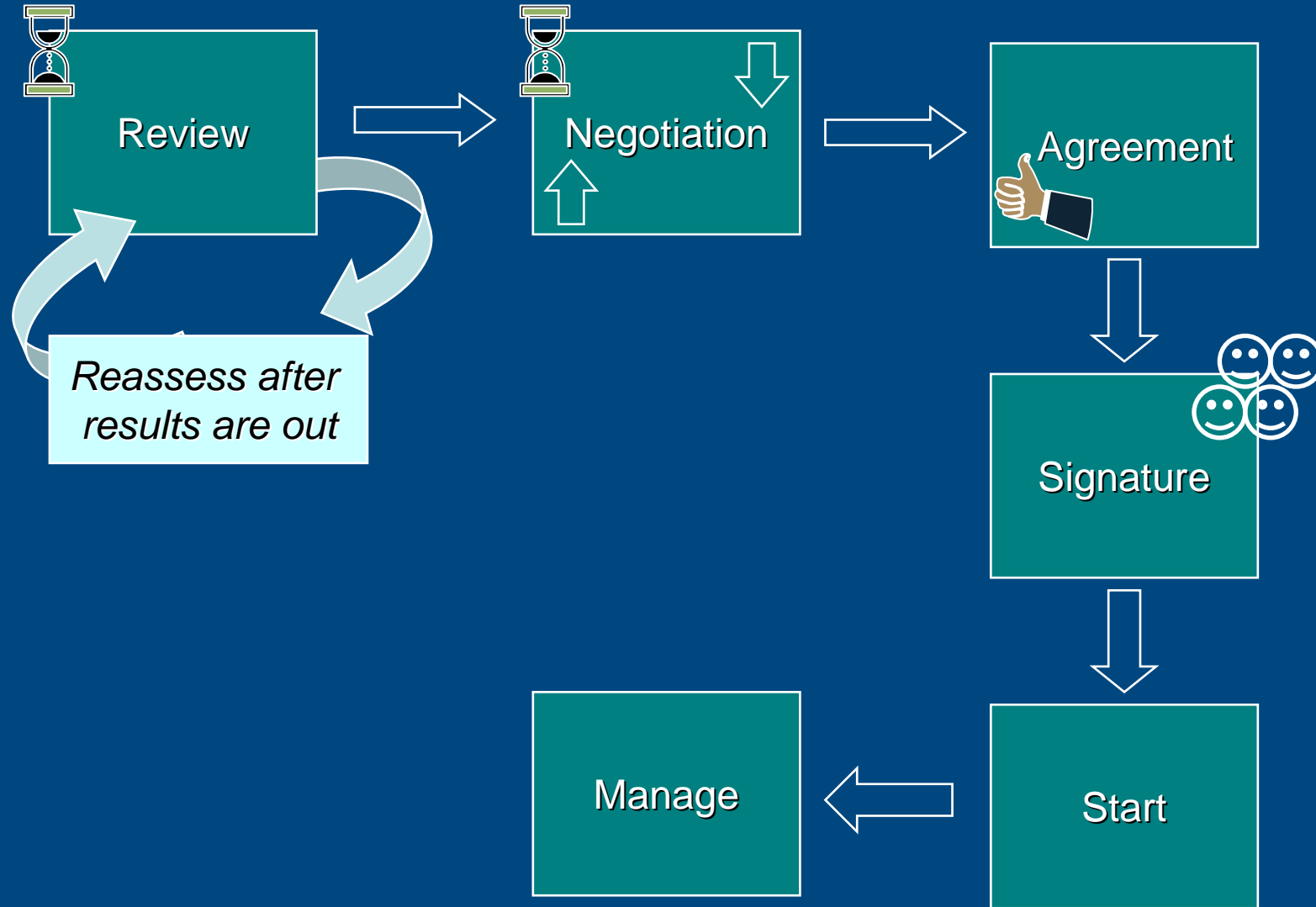
## Proposal Submission





# Participation

## Proposal Review



# Useful Tips

- Think Strategic – Do not see it as a money making machine
- Have a Cool, New and Innovative Idea
- Have a Strong Profile
- Be Realistic
- Be Selective – do not shoot anything that moves
- Be close to your business
- Set SMART Objectives

# Useful Tips *cont...*

- Learn from Past Experiences especially others'
- Read ALL documents including guide for reviewers
- Raise Issues early (IP, delivery, financial capability)
- Progress to milestones
- Track resources
- Conduct regular audits
- Find the right project and right partner
- Submit Early and Often when using EPSS

# Finding the Right Partner

- How ?
  - Networking
  - Be Proactive
  - Use resources (NCPs, Web, FP Projects...)
  - Refer to past Projects
- Who ?
  - Established entities
  - Technical Skills
  - Coordination Skills
  - Project Management Skills

# Getting Support

- FP7 Support
  - Supporting Website at <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict>
  - Helpdesk for Proposers' questions at [ict@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ict@ec.europa.eu)
  - Contact Person for Objectives in each call
  - Helpdesk for EPSS
- National Contact Points
  - The network of NCPs is the main structure to provide guidance and practical information
  - Personalised support during the project

# National Contact Points

- Established and financed by Member States
- Networked to all other NCPs in Europe
- One NCP for each area of FP7

# Role of the National Contact Point

- Offers a helpful and FREE service.
- Disseminates information on FP7.
- Maintains website and provide e-mail updates.
- Identifies opportunities for Malta in current calls.
- Organises info days and training workshops.
- Helps in finding the right EC funding and partner.

# Role of the National Contact Point *cont...*

- Advises on joining consortia and proposal writing.
- Networks locally and abroad.
- Assists in partner searches.
- Offers one-to-one consultations & full confidentiality.
- Assistance of FP7 Documents and procedures



# National FP7 website

[http://www.mcst.gov.mt/index\\_fp7.aspx](http://www.mcst.gov.mt/index_fp7.aspx)

- Information on FP7
  - Calls
  - Events (Local & International)
  - FP7 Documents and Publications
  - List of NCPs and contact details
- Organisation Profiles and Success Stories
- Project Ideas and Partner Searches
- Direct link with other FP7 initiatives
- Direct link with Cordis – [www.cordis.europa.eu](http://www.cordis.europa.eu)

**DEMO**

# Cordis website

<http://cordis.europa.eu>

- Up-to-date information on European Research
- Information on past and current R&D activities
- Specific thematic and practical information
- Information on European funding for projects
- Partnerships and involvement in R&D activities
- Assistance and support
- Interactive services to promote your activities and projects
- Powerful search and automatic e-mail delivery services
- A library of R&D policy and practice documents

**DEMO**

# Conclusion

- FP7 is an important opportunity for the SMEs to get together, to build partnerships and reflect on the future developments of the field.
- Participation in FP7 projects is possible for SMEs, that are willing to look ahead and invest in future technology.
- It is critical to choose the right projects and partners and be very realistic about the opportunities
- The NCPs can provide help with FP7 information and advice, hand-holding, partner searches and contacts.