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EU - BUILDING AN INNOVATION UNION

The Strategic Forum for International Science & Technology Cooperation

Fostering International Collaborations in Ocean Sciences

Brussels, 14 September 2011

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Outline

- The Strategic Forum for International Science & Technology Cooperation (SFIC)
- Main objectives
- The US pilot initiative

Strategic Forum for International S&T Collaboration (SFIC)

- A high-level forum of Member States' and Commission representatives to increase coordination of international cooperation activities between MS and between the EU and MS
- established in December 2008
- chaired by a MS representative
- reports annually to the Council and the Commission

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Strategic Forum for International S&T Collaboration (SFIC)

Mandate

- Share information: cooperation policies, programmes, instruments
- Identify common objectives and priorities
- Coordinate activities of a similar nature implemented by MS and the EU ('variable geometry')
- Propose joint initiatives
- Network MS' and the Commission's scientific advisors in key third countries

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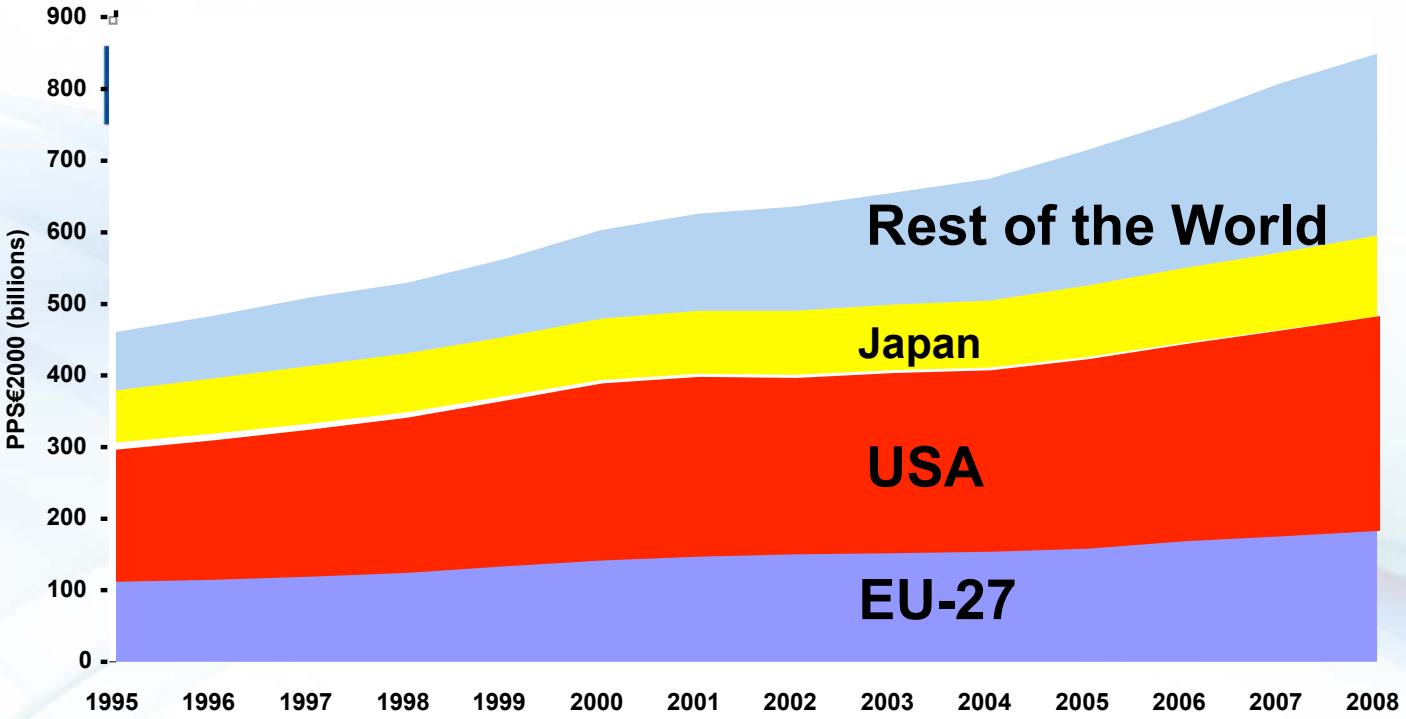
Why cooperating with Member States?

- Increased **globalisation** and emergence of **new powers** (China, India, Brazil etc.)
- Need for global cooperation to address key **societal challenges**
- Need to **source knowledge globally** to remain competitive
- **Fragmentation** and duplication of activities and resources in the EU and its MS
- **New impetus** given by the Treaty of Lisbon, EU2020 Strategy and Innovation Union Flagship Initiative

Globalisation of knowledge



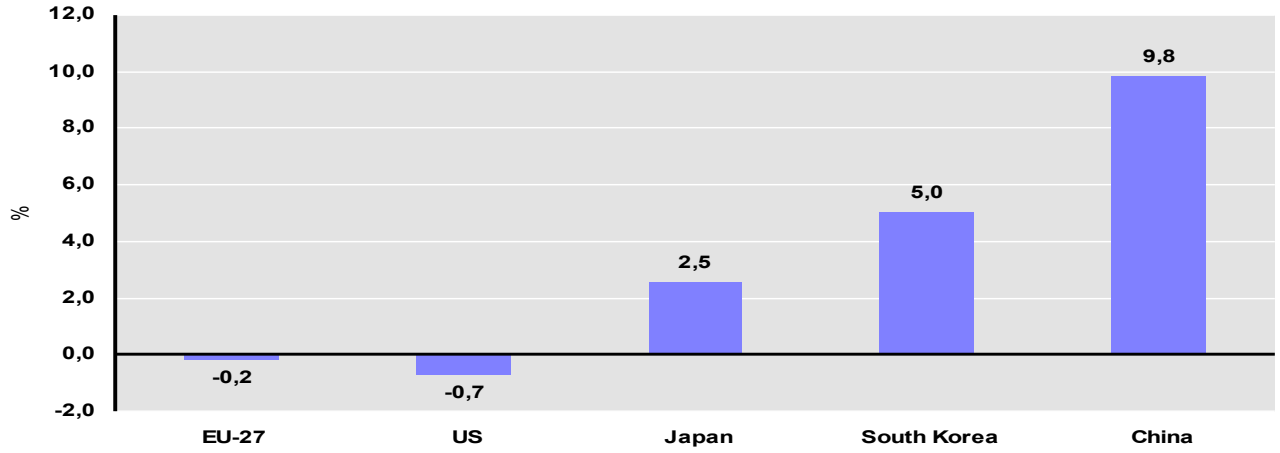
Declining EU share of knowledge production

Evolution of World R&D expenditure in real terms, PPS€ at 2000 prices and exchange rates, 1995-2008

Stagnating business R&D

Average annual growth as % of GDP, EU-27, US, Japan, South Korea & China, 2000-2007

Figure Private Expenditure on R&D as % of GDP (1) - average annual growth (%) in the major economies, 2000-2007 (2)



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SFIC
Pilot Initiatives

- India Pilot Initiative on ‘water and bio-resources related challenges’
- “Approaching China”
- The USA – cooperating with industrialised countries

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SFIC
Pilot Initiatives

India Pilot Initiative

- State of play
  - on '**water and bio-resources related challenges**'
  - conference in India in November 2010
  - Substantial **EU – India bilateral calls on water challenges** in FP7 2012 WP
  - **Multilateral calls** by New Indigo ERA-Net
  - EU-MS **information campaign** in India June 2011
- Next steps
  - **Opening up** of MS-India bilateral calls to other MS
  - Develop a **joint EU/MS Strategic Agenda** on water and bio-resources related challenges and other key areas e.g. energy and health
  - **India-EU/MS Ministerial meeting** in May 2012

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Approaching China

China: a more **coherent EU/MS strategy**

- State of play
  - Workshop to **share information on strategies**, programmes and instruments vis-à-vis China - May 2011
- Next steps (2011-12)
  - Establish **shared knowledge bases** on Chinese S&T systems, policies and strategies
  - A **shared roadmap for action**
  - Workshops on '**framework conditions for cooperation**' and 'setting priorities'

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Approaching the USA

USA - pilot initiative - a model cooperating with industrialised countries

- State of play
  - Analysis of **priorities, instruments, obstacles** and imbalances for MS/EU cooperation with USA
- Next steps
  - Build on existing dialogue platforms
  - Collect information and experiences of MS/EU cooperation
  - Workshop in autumn 2011

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IPTS analysis USA

Top 5 Priorities - cooperation with USA (no. of countries reporting them)

1. Energy & Renewables (incl. Energy Efficiency) (**20/23)**
2. Health, Medicine & Pharmaceutics (**18/23)**
3. Environment / Sustainable Technologies & Resource Management (**16/23)**
4. Technology/ ICT (**10/23)**
5. Nanotechnologies / Advanced materials / Space & Astronomy (**9/23)**

Important challenges/difficulties regarding S&T cooperation with US

Main challenges:

1. **Fragmentation of the US research environment**
2. **IPR & Technology transfer arrangements**
3. **Balanced cooperation - disproportion in resources and capacities**
4. **Overcoming legal obstacles**
5. **Different approach to S&T priority setting & funding schemes**

4.Challenges & Transnational Coordination - II

Areas of highest potential for value added SFIC transnational cooperation

1. Renewable energy sources and sustainable development
2. Global challenges - demographic changes, water & food security & health risks (i.e. population aging, pandemics, nutrition, water security, cancer)
3. Environment and climate change (incl. eco-innovations)
4. ICT, cyber security and future internet services
5. Advanced technologies (micro- & nano-technologies, biotechnology, health IT, nano-materials, intelligent manufacturing technologies, space, etc.)

4.Challenges & Transnational Coordination - II

Issues for joint framework settings of S&T activities with US (Ref. Q11.a)

1. Removing legal barriers for S&T cooperation
2. IPR
3. Multilateral coordinated calls with joint identification of priority areas
4. Global challenges, areas of common interest and joint actions with added value
5. Large-scale investment projects
6. Coordinated mobility schemes

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Issues for joint EU/ Member State cooperation vis à vis USA

- **Mutual opening of programmes**
- **Raising the attractiveness of Europe's research landscape**
- **Establishing a transatlantic space of open innovation**
- **Developing strategic intelligence**

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The floor is yours!

Thank you

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