

CNCC Final Conference

2 - 4 Oct. 2009, Edinburgh

Funder's Session

Petra Grabner
Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
Social Science & Humanities

- In general bottom up as regards research topics, no thematically driven programmes formulated by the FWF:
- Choice of research topics is open to the research communities
 - Open competition of all disciplines
- ← Austria has a relatively small scientific community, not enough competition in all disciplines on the national level
- Counterbalanced by participation in international programmes

- EUROCORES programmes like CNCC are of particular importance for smaller countries such as Austria where the potential of highly competitive communities from different disciplines is limited
- Specifically strong groups – as for instance from the University of Salzburg in the fields of psychology and philosophy – benefit from cooperation that could otherwise not be realised if restricted to the exclusively national level
- The FWF dedicated a special report section to the Austrian CNCC group's research in the last annual report

- From the FWF's perspective, participation of the NSF was an extra asset
- For the future, expanding the scope should be established on a regular basis and extended to further countries like Canada, Australia, Israel or Japan, and in the long run to China, India and other rising countries in research

Suggestion II: improve visibility of national funding agencies

- We would welcome if the ESF would pay more attention to national funding agencies being not only mentioned but being more visible in their roles as core funders of EUROCORES programmes

The FWF welcomes the new EUROCORES programme „Understanding and Misunderstanding: Cognition, Communication and Culture“ which is currently under discussion and which would continue the activities within CNCC