European Science Foundation

SETTING SCIENCE AGENDAS FOR EUROPE

EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Consciousness in a Natural and Cultural Context (CNCC)

An ESF EUROCORES (**EURO**pean **CO**llaborative **RES**earch) programmme

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Part one: About the European Science Foundation (ESF)

About ESF

80 Member Organisations (in 30 countries, beyond the European Union):

o Research funding organisations
o Research performing organisations
o Academies

About ESF

- Established 1974
- Independent, non-governmental
- Offices in Strasbourg and Brussels
- Budget: 45M€
- Networking Budget: 1-3B€
- Covering all research domains

Mission

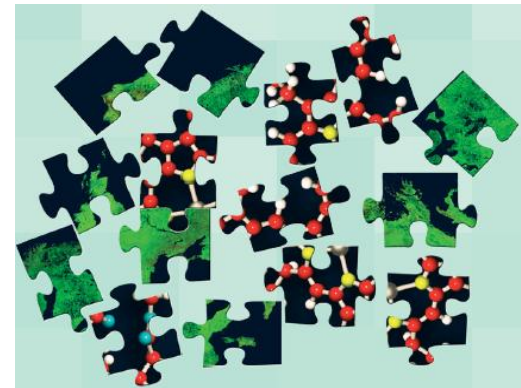To provide a common platform for our Member Organisations in order to:

» Advance European research
» Explore new directions for research at the European level

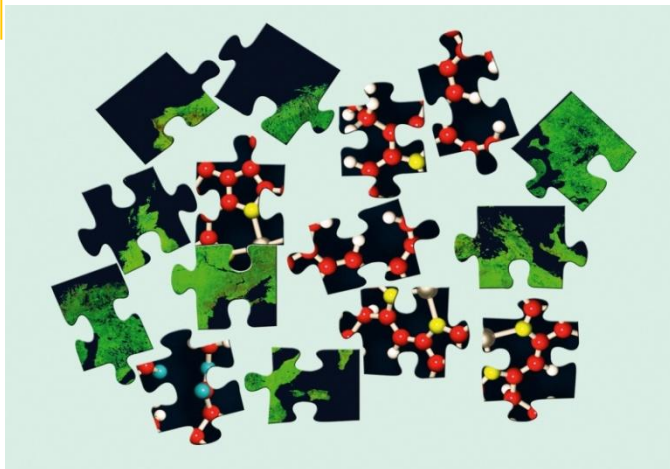Through our activities, we serve the needs of the European research community in a global context.
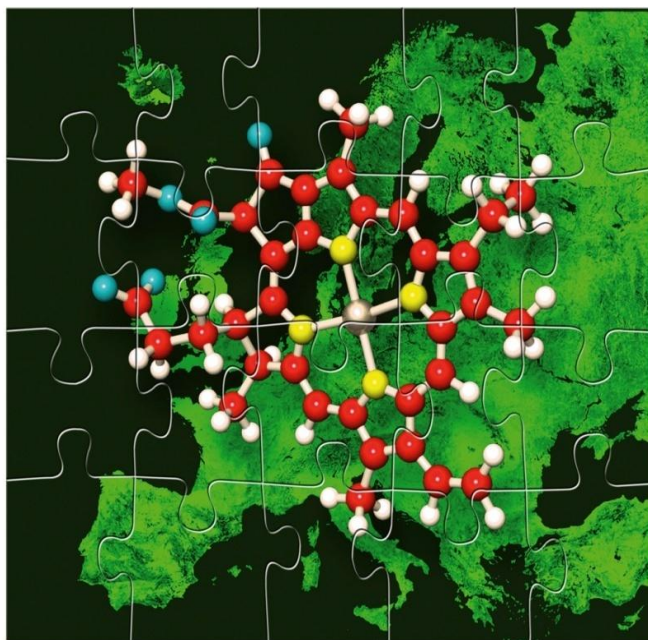
Part two: About EUROCORES

EUROCORES Programme
European Collaborative Research

fragmented research strengths

new, integrated knowledge

EUROCORES Vision

Responsive mode
- Bottom-up, researcher-led identification of themes
- Consultation with funders
- Combines researcher's needs and strategic priorities

Funding agencies join forces
to support cutting edge trans-disciplinary, trans-national collaborative research; multi-perspective on complex / broad questions

Create critical mass in a global context:
New approaches,
new collaborations, new knowledge

EUROCORES - **Main Features**

- Multi-national research projects (research groups from at least 3 different participating countries)
- International competition
- Funding remains national
- ESF ensures quality control
- Provides flexible framework for collaboration of national funding agencies
- Investigator driven

A Eurocores programme typically involves
- 10-20 participating countries (CNCC 20)
- a research budget of 5-10 M€ (CNCC 5 M€)
- a running time of 3 years
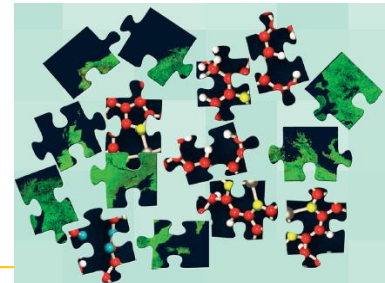
EUROCORES - **Where are we now?**

Ca. 200 programme proposals submitted

Ca. 40 programmes selected

Ca. 8.000 applications of Collaborative Research teams (CRPs)

Ca. 200 M€ funding

Ca. 70 funding organisations from ca. 35 countries, within and outside Europe
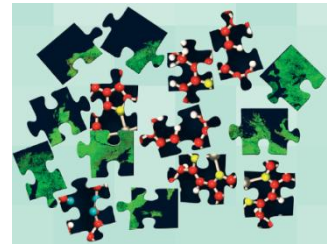
Part three: About CNCC

Consciousness in a Natural and Cultural Context (CNCC)

The EUROCORES programme CNCC offers a framework for researchers from the humanities, social and natural sciences to build joint research projects to approach the question of consciousness.

Running time:
November 2006 – November 2009

www.esf.org/cncc

CNCC – Collaborative Research Projects

- **Brain, Agency, Self, Intersubjectivity and Consciousness**
  Project leader: Andreas Roepstorff, University of Aarhus

- **Unconscious boundaries of mind; research into the extended mind hypothesis**
  Project leader: Tjeerd Jellema, University of Hull

- **The conscious experience of what is reachable: neural, behavioural, cultural and philosophical aspects**
  Project leader: Yann Coello, Université de Lille

- **Consciousness in Interaction. The Role of the Natural and Social Environment in Shaping Consciousness**
  Project leader: Cristiano Castelfranchi, ISTC - CNR, Roma

- **Metacognition as a precursor to self-consciousness: evolution, development & epistemology**
  Project Leader: Joëlle Proust, Institut Jean-Nicod, Paris

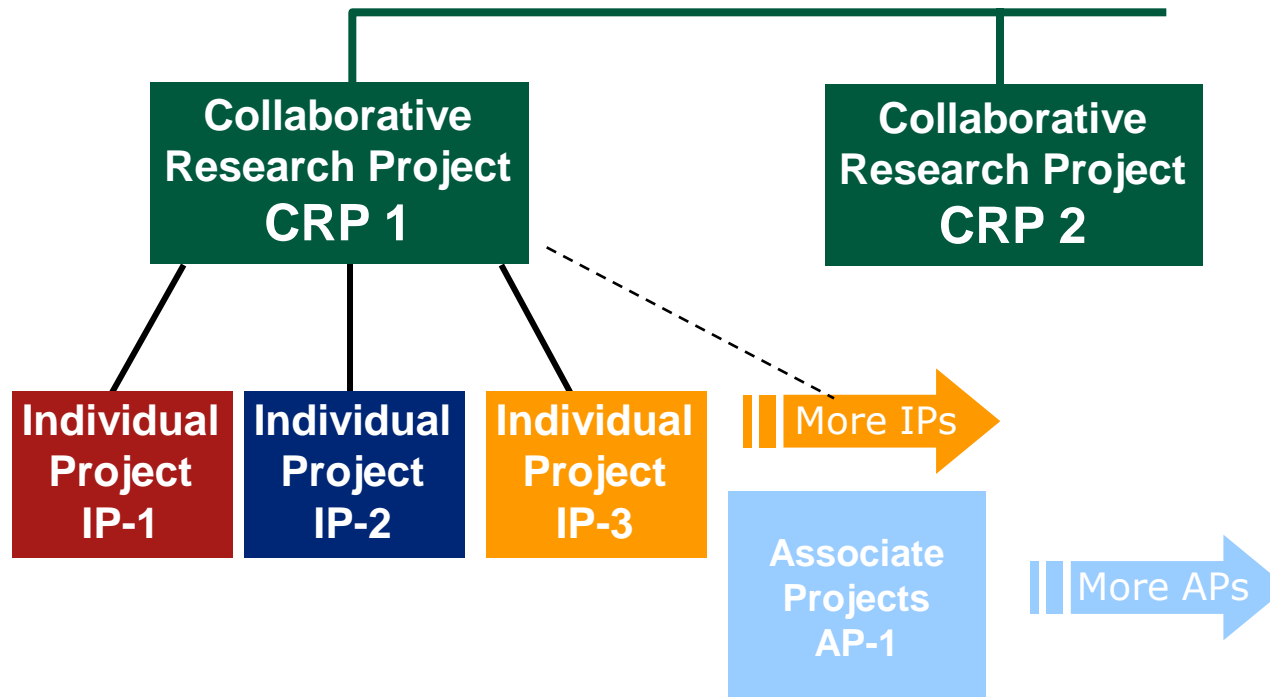# CNCC – Participating funding organizations

EUROCORES - Networking

Aim:
- Enhance existing collaborations;
- Identify new and strategic partnership opportunities;
- Explore aspects of the programme which are not covered by the funded projects

EUROCORES Programme

Collaborative Research Project **CRP 1**

Collaborative Research Project **CRP 2**

Individual Project **IP-1**

Individual Project **IP-2**

Individual Project **IP-3**

More IPs

Associate Projects **AP-1**

More APs

CNCC – Examples Networking Activities

- CNCC Launch Conference
  12-14 November 2006, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Workshop "Perception, Interaction and Consciousness"
  3 July 2007, Bristol, UK
- Conference "Fallibilities, illusions and metacognition",
  12-13 July 2007, Paris, France
- CNCC Session at the conference "Cognition: Embodied, Embedded, Enactive and Extended"
  20-24 October 2007, University of Central Florida, US

"CNCC Final Conference", Edinburgh, 1-4 October 2009

CNCC – Examples Networking Activities

- Series "Self and Other in Social Neuroscience and Philosophy of Mind", 23-24 November 2007, London, UK, 26-28 October 2008, Alghero, Italy
– Workshop "Boundaries of what the mind can reach"
    28-29 February 2008, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
– CNCC session at "Toward a Science of Consciousness"
    8-12 April 2008, Tucson, Arizona, US

CNCC – Examples Networking Activities

– Final "CNCC Essay Award"
  27 June 2008, Edinburgh, UK

– Summer school "Social Cognition and Social Narrative"
  7-13 July 2008, San Marino

– Session "Consciousness in Context" at the European Science Open Forum 2008, 20 July 2008, Barcelona, Spain

– Short Term visits

CNCC – Final Conference

From the programme booklet:

"The CNCC Final Conference brings all CNCC projects together after three years of intensive research collaborations."

"An important outcome of the CNCC programme is that the programme as a whole has proven to be more than the sum of its parts. To present this added value, the CNCC Final Conference is structured around 5 sessions that each addresses a research question that lies on the interface of various CNCC projects. In each session, speakers from two or more Collaborative Research Projects will present their views. In this way, the conference goes beyond the work that has been carried out in the various projects and points towards new directions for research."

Wishing you a successful meeting!

www.esf.org/cncc

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