

**E**UROPEAN  
**S**CIENCE  
**F**OUNDATION

SETTING SCIENCE AGENDAS FOR EUROPE

# An introduction to the ESF, EUROCORES and the EUROCORES programme “EuroBABEL”

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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



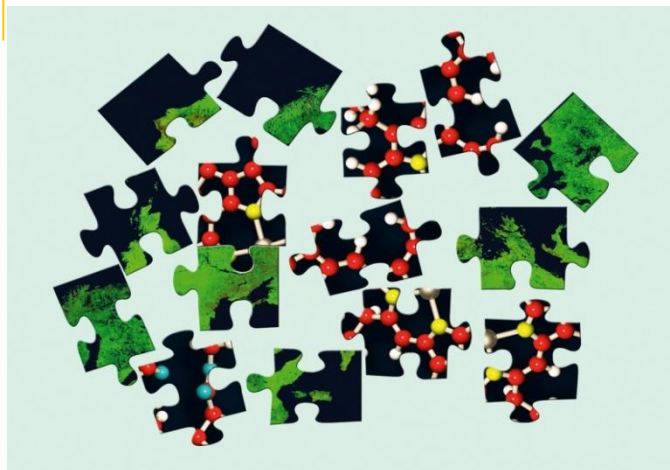
Through our activities, we serve the needs of the European research community in a global context.



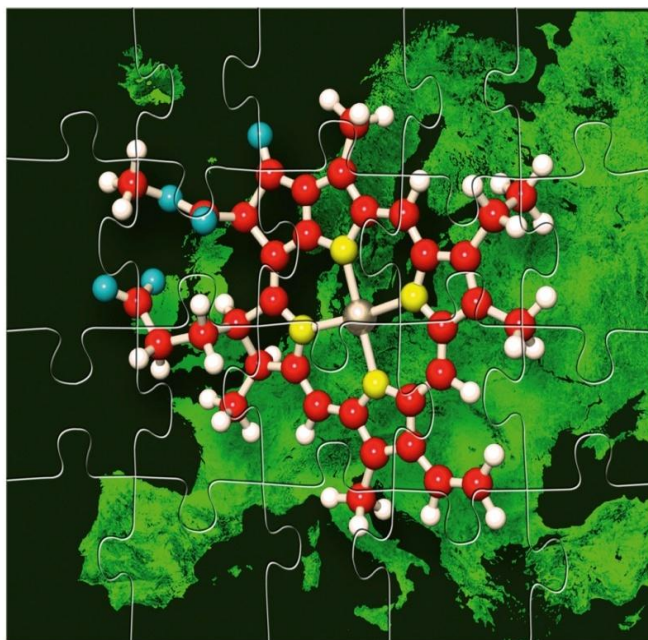
# *Part two: About EUROCORES*







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
- a research budget of 5-12 M€
- a running time of 3 years

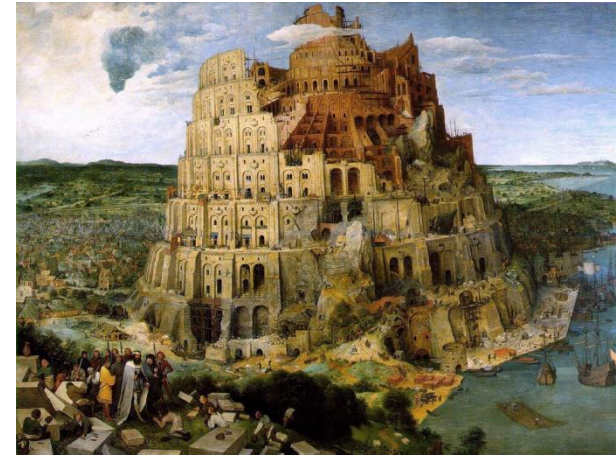


# EUROCORES - Where are we now?

- 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 EuroBABEL*



# EuroBABEL – Better Analyses Based on Endangered Languages

The overall aim of the EuroBABEL programme is to promote empirical research on underdescribed endangered languages that aims at changing and refining our ideas about linguistic structure in general and about language in relation to cognition, social and cultural organization in a trans-/ multi-disciplinary perspective.

Launch: September 2009

[www.esf.org/eurobabel](http://www.esf.org/eurobabel)



# EuroBABEL – Collaborative Research projects (CRPs)

- **The Kalahari Basin area: a ‘Sprachbund’ on the verge of extinction (KBA)**  
Project Leader: Tom Güldemann, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany
- **Referential Hierarchies in Morphosyntax: description, typology, diachrony (RHIM)**  
Project Leader: Dr. Katharina Haude, Universität zu Köln, Germany
- **Alor-Pantar languages: origins and theoretical impact (Alor-Pantar)**  
Project Leader: Marian Klamer, Leiden University, Netherlands



# EuroBABEL – Collaborative Research projects (CRPs) ctd

- **Ob-Ugric languages: conceptual structures, lexicon, constructions, categories - An innovative approach to creating descriptive resources for Khanty and Mansi - (Ob-Ugric languages)**

Project Leader: Elena Skribnik, Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität, Germany

- **Endangered sign languages in village communities (Villagesign)**

Project Leader: Ulrike Zeshan, University of Central Lancashire, United Kingdom





# EuroBABEL – Participating funding organizations



Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research



Der Wissenschaftsfonds.



Danish Agency for Science  
Technology and Innovation  
Ministry of Science  
Technology and Innovation



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

# EuroBABEL: where are we now?

The Launch Conference marks the start of the **Networking phase**:

- **Networking activities**
- **Teaching activities**
- **Dissemination activities**





[www.esf.org/eurobabel](http://www.esf.org/eurobabel)

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