Research collaborative possibilities

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NOTE: THE RESEARCH IDEAS IN THIS PRESENTATION ARE HIGHLY SPECULATIVE AND NOT ALL THE POTENTIAL PARTNERS ARE SIGNED UP. PLEASE THEREFORE DO NOT QUOTE

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ResIST

Funding: EC FP7 – theme 8
Social Sciences and the Humanities

⌘ 8.2.2 Regional, territorial and social cohesion

Objective

The objective is to address challenges associated with rising inequalities within contemporary high-income societies, such as those of Europe, the USA, Canada and Japan.

Expected impact

Projects will advance the knowledge base that underpins the formulation and implementation of policies related to inequalities.

Topics:

SSH-2009 - 2.2.1. Social inequalities, their implications and policy options

Social inequalities have increased in many developed countries in the last decade or so, following a lengthy period of decline since the early 20th century or before. The objective of this topic is to understand the key aspects of this phenomenon and its impacts on society and to identify policy options for various actors. The evolution of inequalities of income and wealth and the emergence of new, or newly significant, forms of inequality, such as in access to education, are of primary interest in this topic. Research should address the social, cultural and political impact of this increase in inequalities. The implications for the longer-term should constitute an important part of the work. Research can look at the issues at one or more territorial levels but the overall impact on society should be addressed. The policy lessons that can be learned from these different societies, both for public policy and for other societal actors, should be identified. Comparison with developed countries outside Europe, notably USA, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada should be included.

Funding scheme: Collaborative project (small or medium-scale focused research project)

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⌘ 2.1.1. New socio-economic concepts, paradigm shift and territorial dynamics in a long term perspective

The development of economic and social concepts and tools is needed in order to address global changes in a long term time perspective (2030 – 2050). It will take into account the paradigm shift in the energy-transport-environment nexus and the land-use and territorial functions. The adaptation issues related to global changes (for example to environment/climate and societal changes) including the trade-off between adaptation and mitigation policies and measures will have to be addressed in terms of economic, social,historical, cultural and technological point of views, integrating the territorial and temporal dimensions. Relevant tools, in particular new generation of models and indicators, structuring and representing these concepts and dimensions, will have to be specified and subject of first development. The concepts and tools should also consider life styles changes and socioeconomic learning, environmental, natural resources limitations and other geopolitical issues.

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⌘   **2.1.2. Cities and sustainable development**

All the future population growth of the world is projected to take place in cities of the developing/emerging countries, which are undergoing rapid growth, much of it in slums, presenting major issues for sustainable development and related governance. The objective is to produce an enhanced understanding of the key issues for sustainable development of these cities, taking the economic, social, cultural, political and environmental aspects into account. The research should focus on cities with a population of 1 million or greater undergoing rapid growth in population. It should include an understanding of the agglomeration benefits and costs (socio-economic and environmental) in cities of various sizes. It should differentiate between the challenges faced by different kinds of city, such as between those with a very dissimilar economic base. The implications of the analysis for governance options in relation to sustainable development and for the policy of various actors should be brought out. Sustainable development should be considered in a broad sense. Cities from more than one world region should be included.

Funding scheme: Collaborative project (small or medium-scale focused research project) for specific cooperation action dedicated to international cooperation (China, India, Mexico, Brazil, African countries)

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⌘ 4.1.2. Geopolitics and the role of Europe in a changing world

Changes in geopolitics (with regard to political power, distribution of wealth and economic resources, border conflicts, civil and interstate wars) need to be addressed with due attention to the specific features of different countries and regions, and relations between them. 'Area studies' teams and institutions specialised in Asian, African, Latin American, Middle East, Mediterranean and/or Russian/CIS studies are insufficiently connected at European level. In addition cooperation between European and non-European scholars needs to be reinforced to allow for cross-cultural communication and avoidance of stereotyping. Networks of 'area studies' teams, either specialised in the same world region or wishing to analyse an issue across different world regions will be supported. The objective of 'cross regional' perspectives is to support the networking of these teams in order that they confront and share their approaches to international developments that may influence Europe's future (for example, the role of China in Africa and its implications for Europe) and to the prospects and limits of Europe's contribution to international peace and stability (e.g. EU role in promoting poverty eradication and democratisation).

Funding scheme: Coordination and support action (coordinating action)

Funding: EC FP7 – theme 8 Social Sciences and the Humanities

- Deadline 12 January 2009 at 17:00 Brussels time
- Funding €55m across all call elements (many more than displayed here)
- Research projects are getting larger - usually max €2.7m but €3m in some cases
- Collaborative actions less than half that, and might be €100-200k
- Stress on adequate coverage of EU27 (plus outside EU as appropriate BUT manageable scale (8-10 partners mentioned)
- Building on European data sources (to be made publicly available on the web) and adding to them and indicators
- Building in Foresight – to be included in all projects in future
- Building in stakeholders and dissemination

Funding: EC FP7 – Capacities (INCO-NET) EU/Caribbean Research Collaboration

Call Objectives: Apart from … common activities, specific emphasis should be put on the following:

⌘ Increasing the cooperation between the research organisations and universities located in the OCTs, the overseas departments and other countries of the region;

⌘ Developing researchers' exchanges between the EU and the Caribbean region through the promotion of the People specific programme;

⌘ Promoting public-private partnerships and strengthening the participation of the private sector in innovation and knowledge transfer activities.

⌘ Strengthening co-ordination and complementarities with Community external policies, in particular with activities carried out by means of the European Development Fund (EDF) as well as with activities carried out by means of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) targeting the overseas departments.

Countries and territories: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, The Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines , Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba, Guadaloupe, Martinique, St Martin, St Barthelemy, French Guyana, Bermuda, Anguilla, Monserrat, BVI, Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos, Aruba, Netherlands Antilles.

Funding: EC FP7 – Capacities (Science in Society) Privacy and Emerging Fields of S&T: ELSA

Area 5.1.1.2 Research on ethics in science and technology

SiS-2009-1.1.2.1 Privacy and emerging fields of science and technology: ethical, social and legal aspects.

Description of topic: Ethical frameworks for new and emerging fields of science and technology increasingly must address the issue of privacy. This topic emerges as a theme across various new technologies, such as information technology, security technology, biometrics, biomedical technology and the prospective applications of particular nanotechnologies. At the same time it is a relevant policy issue for various sectors, such as the health sector and justice and homeland security. The consumer is also concerned, for example when confronted with Radio Frequency Identification Technologies (RFID) and surveillance technologies. New techniques, such as DNA research, smart cameras, data mining, etc., have made it easier than ever before to store and process large amounts of personal information.

The question arises whether the European citizen has sufficient knowledge of what information is stored for which purpose and for what period of time. Moreover, it is not evident that the citizen will have access to that information and, if appropriate, that he or she could modify the information. Our privacy protection is guided in part by European legislation which predates the emergence of new technologies. Possibly, some technologies are developed in an uncertain legal environment. How can the Charter on Fundamental Rights, in which privacy and data protection is mentioned, serve as a basis for possible further legislative action in this field?

Research on ethics can either address the Research and Technology Development phase or the application phase of new technologies. Research on privacy and new technologies should yield insights on how our understanding of privacy may change in the light of those technologies, and how privacy is weighed against other ethical values related to security and practical convenience. This research should not concentrate on a single technology, since the privacy issue will be shaped by the simultaneous use of various technologies and address relevant EC directives and national legislation.

Funding Scheme: Collaborative Projects (small or medium-scale focused research projects).

Expected Impact: to contribute positively to the quality of research in the field of ethics of new and emerging fields of science and technogy and to the early identification of ethical issues and their relevance for EC policy.

Work in progress on new projects: TEA

- A workshop this summer at the James Martin Institute in Oxford on **Technology, Equity and Accountability** (TEA) explored possible successor research to ResIST, bringing together Steve Rayner, Steve Woolgar, Javier Lezaun, Dan Neyland, Jerry Ravetz, Peter Healey and two ResIST colleagues from outside Oxford: Susan Cozzens (Georgia Tech) and Rob Hagendijk (University of Amsterdam).
- The group defined the following thematic objectives and a number of sensitising concepts, and are each bringing forward outline projects which will be shaped into a broad research programme proposal by the end of the calendar year. The thematic objectives are:
  - Reshaping/reconfiguring technology governance in the light of research on the dimensions of accountability, and how it is enacted in practice
  - Using accountability as a tool to interrogate technological projects:
    - how formed
    - how stabilised into dominant forms
    - how transferred/traded
    - role of indicators/regulation in these processes
    - related distribution of outcomes
  - Critically examining accountability relations embodied in current political and governance arrangements
  - Using the above as the base for proposals on technology governance that are more transparent and equitable within and between societies
- Participants agreed to submit individual summary proposals and some have been received

Work in progress on new projects: Intelligence on Global Economic, Innovation and Social Trajectories (iGEIST)

Competitiveness amongst knowledge-economies is increasing sharply. The BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) alone represent huge social and cultural diversity, both between these countries and indeed within them. Their arrival on the competitive stage, together with intensifying competition between established economies, is likely to generate increased diversity in:

⌘   the products, services and markets targeted;

⌘   the combinations of institutional actors involved;

⌘   the definitions of the ethical, social and legal issues at stake, and the choices made in their governance;

⌘   the distributive implications within and between countries.

These four aspects may interact to form new innovation models, or become constitutive of, wider social, economic and political arrangements exhibiting different views of accountability. These may include new forms of public-private partnership as companies and governments seek to manage risk and opportunities.

This project brings together an interdisciplinary and international team to monitor and analyse these four elements in the development of the GRIN convergent technologies, and to run workshops for those from the public, private and non-governmental sectors involved in setting policy and regulatory processes to help them make informed choices.

The analysis will be done on the basis of work in four European and three non-European partners designed to tap into knowledge and policy issues in the global South, North, West and East:

⌘   the [depts.?] University of Amsterdam (including scientometric analysis of publication trends)

⌘   the Institute for Science, Technology and Innovation [or whatever JMI is called by then] in the Said Business School, University of Oxford – coordinating institution

⌘   Institute on Research, Innovation and Society (IFRIS), France

⌘   CES, University of Coimbra, Portugal

⌘   Consortium for Science Policy and Outcomes (CSPO), Arizona State University (Washington DC branch)

⌘   CREST [and/or STIAS], University of Stellenbosch

⌘   The Institute of Science, Technology and Society, (ISTS) the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development

Work in progress on new projects: EU/Caribbean Research Collaboration

Possible response to the project's formal Objectives:

In the context of the objectives of the EU-Caribbean Strategy for Growth, Development and Stability, and in close collaboration with EULARINET, CARIBNET's major objectives are to:

- ⌘ Establish a baseline profile of Caribbean research and development activity, and an innovation survey;
- ⌘ Through involving business, academic, and government stakeholders establish key priorities for research which will (a) respond to the specific opportunities and challenges of the Caribbean region (b) underpin the development of a Caribbean knowledge society as the basis of future balanced economic and social development;
- ⌘ Establish the joint definition of S&T cooperation priorities between EU MS, AS and Caribbean Partner countries as the base for immediate action and the establishment of a longer term collaborative platform on research;
- ⌘ Establish a competitive Caribbean-wide research fund to develop these priorities and respond to curiosity-driven research proposals;
- ⌘ Promote specific EU-Caribbean collaboration under FP7, in particular researcher exchanges under the People programme;
- ⌘ Through all these actions aim to embed in the region:
  - ⌃ sustained EU–Caribbean research links
  - ⌃ improved Caribbean research capacities
  - ⌃ systematic linkages between academic, governments, and business and industry in order to set and implement strategic aims, and improve the articulation of research, innovation and markets
  - ⌃ a core of critical academic expertise in science, technology to support future developments and provide capacity to track them through data series and specific evaluative studies

Possible partners: Oxford, Amsterdam, Coimbra, NIFU-STEP, French and Spanish partners (all in collaboration with national policy bodies) plus in the Caribbean: SALISES, University of the West Indies, University of Guyana, CARICOM, OECS, CCST, and the Caribbean Development Bank

SA's five grand challenges

- Farmer to pharma
- Space science & technology
- Energy security
- Global climate change science
- Human and social dynamics
  - Anticipate the consequences of change
  - Understand the cognitive and social structures that define change
  - Help people manage and adapt to change

A Study on ResIST?

- Proposal from Jingjing Zhang circulated on 27/10/08
- Studying projects at various stages of maturity so ResIST could still fit in (or she could study any line of new research)
- to what extent, and in what ways, does professional learning arise from academic dialogue within emergent networks?
- Methods: observation at meetings, semi-structured interviews
- Does this have your agreement?