

R&D collaboration and output in the EU Framework Programmes

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R&D collaboration is widely acknowledged as an important source of innovative activity of organisations. Recent research has focused on the structure and dynamics of R&D collaboration networks and the influence of individual motives as well as political governance rules thereon (see, for example, the NEMO project). However, the link between R&D collaboration and output performance still remains weak and under-investigated – this being mainly due to the fact that data on research output (authors of publications and patents) is hard to trace back to collaboration data.

The objective of the Diploma project should be to identify actor-specific, project-specific and network-related factors that influence the output performance of R&D research carried out in EU Framework Programmes.

Data for the study can be taken from the sysres EUPRO database, and a survey of FP5 participants (conducted by AIT in 2007). This database contains detailed information on organisational characteristics, project participation, the quality of bilateral collaboration, and individual as well as joint project output (scientific papers and patents), based on self-assessment of the respondents. Discrete data and network analytical tools should be used to successfully carry out the study.

Applicants should have a background in innovation economics and statistical data analysis to be versatile in using software tools.

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