

# FET Flagships

*Large-scale long-term initiatives  
leveraging excellence  
around a unifying scientific goal*

## FET Flagships are...

**Ambitious, large-scale, science-driven research initiatives** that aim to achieve a **visionary goal**. The scientific advance should **provide** a strong and broad basis for future **technological innovation** and **economic exploitation** in a variety of areas, as well as **novel benefits for society**.

### Ambitious goals require extensive cooperation

Certain research goals are so ambitious that they are beyond the reach of any single national or EU funded research initiative. Only by **mobilising the best researchers Europe-wide via a shared vision towards a clearly defined unifying goal**, and by supporting them over a long period, can such objectives be reached.

### A recognised need

The **objective of reinforcing research in future and emerging technologies (FET)** was expressed in the EC communication COM (2009) 184 'Moving the ICT frontiers', and was endorsed by the Competitiveness Council in early December 2009. The Communication highlights as one **key action** the **launch** of at least two **FET Flagship Initiatives by 2013**.

## Facing great scientific challenges together

Research activities of European and national programmes would be aligned and work together to **meet a common scientific challenge, in pursuit of a unifying goal**. As new public-public partnerships, FET Flagships would represent a powerful new instrument in **shaping and building the European Research Area**.

## Federated effort for breakthrough magnitude

To provide lasting support at a level which allows a concerted effort towards fulfilling a grand ambition, FET Flagships are envisioned to run for at least 10 years, with a budget of up to 100 M€ per year, per initiative. This scale can only be achieved through cooperation between the European Framework and National research programmes. The overarching nature and magnitude of these initiatives implies that **they can only be realised through the federated effort** of the European research community and institutions, national and regional funding agencies, and where appropriate, with the participation of global partners and industry.

## The time for action is now

To implement a joint effort of such a grand scale requires a **great amount of preparation** in terms of **developing key ideas** by the scientific community, devising **operational mechanisms**, defining and implementing a **legal framework**, and most of all, establishing the **political and financial support** of stakeholders. The EC is fostering coordinated progress in each of these areas.



<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/programme/fet/flagship>



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## FET Flagships - Roadmap towards 2013

- April 2009 EC Communication 'Moving the ICT frontiers', COM(2009) 184
- Dec 2009 Endorsement of FET Flagships by COMP Council
- 2010 Open consultation with the scientific community  
Setup of stakeholder Working Groups. Study on FET Flagships
- June 2010 First joint Scientific / Policy Forum on FET Flagships
- July 2010 Opening of Call for FET Flagship Preparatory Actions
- Jan 2011 Selection of 6 FET Flagship Preparatory (Pilot) Actions via a competitive call for proposals
- May 2011 Official launch of the Pilot Actions at the *fet*<sup>11</sup> presidency event by EC Vice-President Neelie Kroes
- 2011 Preparation of legal framework, governance and funding models
- Dec 2011 Flagship Pilots mid-term presidency event with participation of scientific, policy, and international stakeholders
- May 2012 Completion of the Pilot Actions: finalised design and established feasibility of the FET Flagship Candidates
- 2012 /13 Selection of two FET Flagships
- 2013 Launch of first FET Flagships

## 6 FET Flagship Preparatory (Pilot) Actions funded by the European Commission

### **FuturICT**

The FuturICT Knowledge Accelerator

### **Guardian Angels**

Guardian Angels for a Smarter Life

### **ITFoM**

IT Future of Medicine

### **Graphene**

Graphene-Driven Revolutions in ICT and Beyond

### **HBP**

Human Brain Project

### **RoboCom**

Robot Companions for Citizens

The preparatory work of the 6 Flagship Pilots is assisted by the Support Action **FLEET**

You are invited to contact the Flagship Preparatory (Pilot) Actions for potential collaboration if your research could contribute to their objectives

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