Some thoughts on funding models

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EASN

- *Very general*
- *Not complete*
- *Not only related to Brussels policy – but “transnational”*
- *Partially “provocative” – just to stimulate discussions under good colleagues*

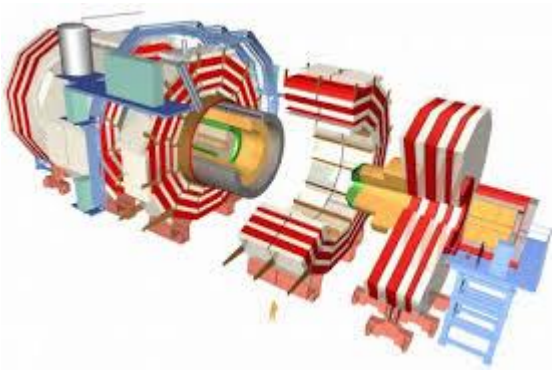
Once Upon a Time ….

… Universities were essentially financed by budgets

… Freedom of academic research

… Industry research by investments from “turn over”

Specific “missions” enabled “projects”

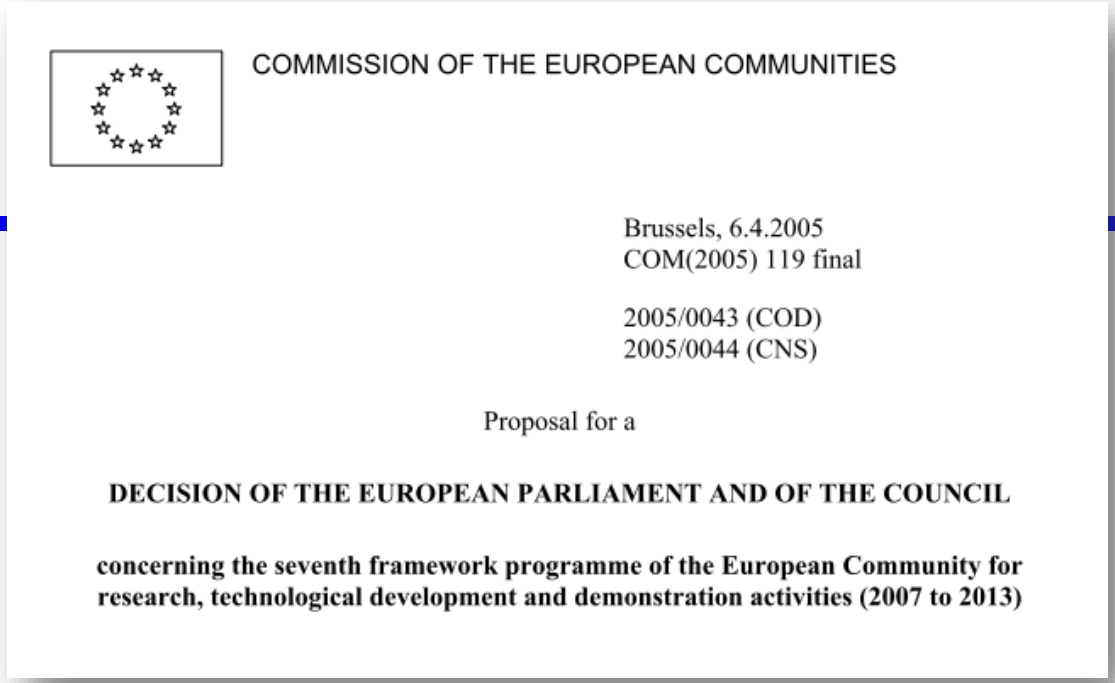


In 2018 … everything is a project, requiring at all levels, incl. local, national, European …

- Diverse advisory councils
- Continuous submission of “only excellent” proposals
- Numerous evaluations/juries/panels/…
- Reports
- Continuously changing funding rules
- ….

It this efficient? What can we do about it?

Consistency



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 6.4.2005
COM(2005) 119 final

2005/0043 (COD)
2005/0044 (CNS)

Proposal for a

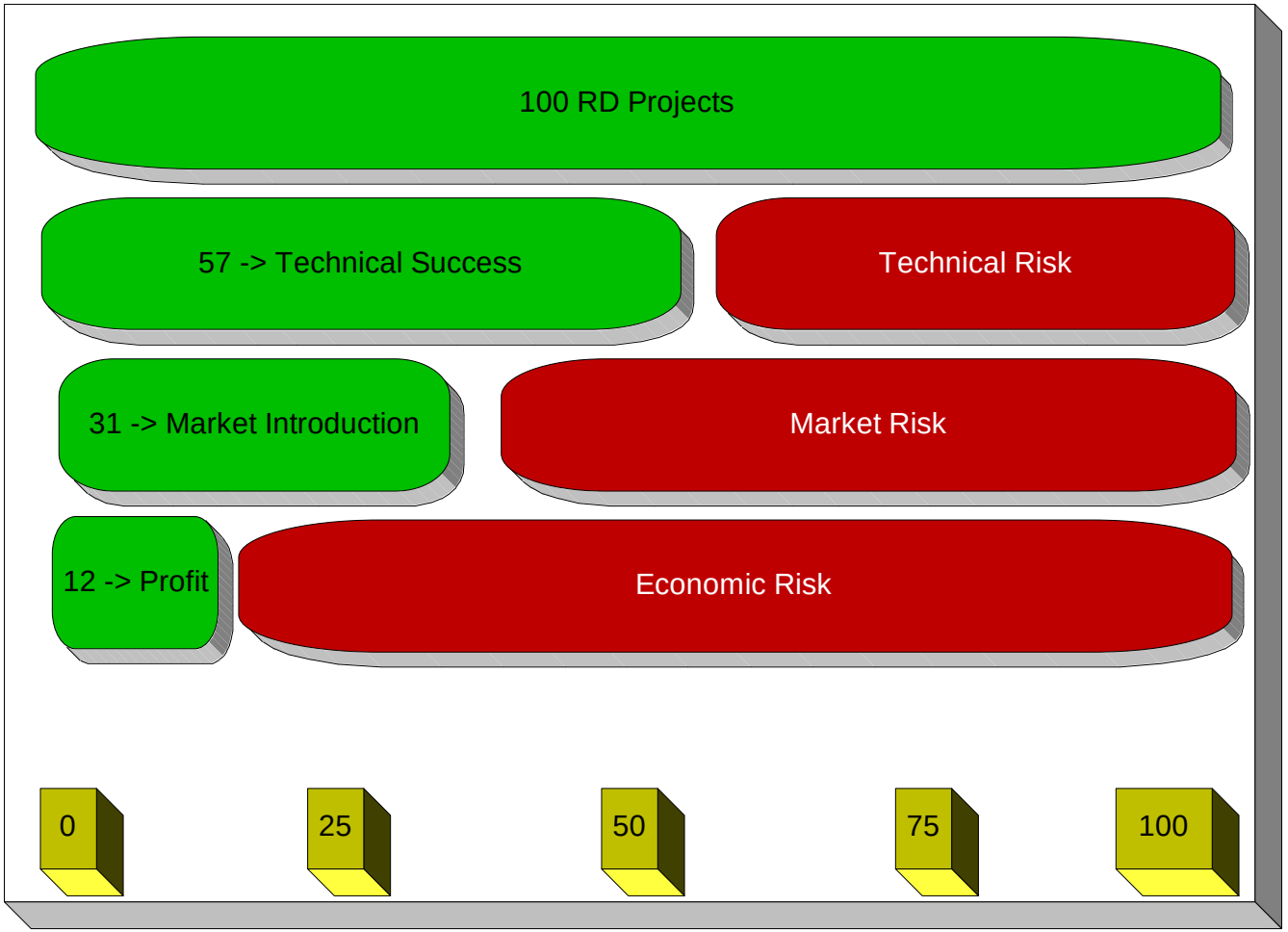
DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

concerning the seventh framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007 to 2013)

Collaborative research

Collaborative research will constitute the bulk and the core of EU research funding.

In a limited number of cases, the scope of a RTD objective and the scale of the resources involved justify setting up long term public private partnerships in the form of Joint Technology Initiatives. These initiatives, mainly resulting from the work of European Technology Platforms and covering one or a small number of selected aspects of research in their field, will combine private sector investment and national and European public funding,



MH Wagner, W Thieler: Wegweiser für den Erfinder - Von der Aufgabe über die Idee zum Patent, Springer, London, 2007.

products. In 2005, the Boston Consulting Group reported there was less than a 5% success rate in innovation. The Davis Research Group was able to shed some light on this decline by reporting that only 12% of growth initiatives are innovative "from the start." In other words, business owners

[http://www.creativethought.com, 2009]

5%

6%

der zahlreichen Innovationsideen nach, ergibt sich ein ernüchterndes Bild: Nur etwa 13 Prozent aller Neuproduktvorschläge erreichen das Stadium der Markteinführung und von den neu am Markt lancierten Produkten können wiederum nur rund 50 Prozent die in sie gesetzten Erwartungen zumindest in Teilen erfüllen. Von den "offiziell" vorangetriebenen Ideen wird nur rund jede sechzehnte ein kommerzieller Erfolg (6 Prozent).

[http://www.scinexx.de, 2007]

Yet even in Silicon Valley, the gold standard for entrepreneurialism, the success rate for new companies is modest. About 10 percent of new companies will make a significant and lasting impact on the economy. To increase the success rate we

[http://inpipeline.com, 2009]

4,5%

Although most companies invest heavily in R&D, the effects on bottom-line innovation are questionable. As noted previously, the success rate of innovation initiatives across all industries is only 4.5 percent. It is unlikely that this low rate is due to a lack of innovation processes or

[VanGundy, 2007]

"… Europe is good when turning money into knowledge,

but performs low when turning knowledge into money… "

Surprise????

- Support for transnational activities beyond/below "Brussels" – how e.g. a company in Latvia, university in Italy and a SME in Germany can equally collaborate.
- Some US funding schemes consider grants as gifts, much less proposal texts and reporting, ...
- "Subcontracting" versus "free research".
- Support open dissemination policy