



# EU funded research on the potential health effects of EMF



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**Meeting of DMF research programme  
Berlin, 18 June 2008**



## Main Commission services addressing EMF issues

### Funding of research

- **Research DG (DG RTD)**
  - ✓ **Environment Directorate – since 2007**
  - ✓ **(previously Biotechnologies, Agriculture, Food Directorate)**
- **Information Society and Media DG (DG INFSO)**
  - ✓ **Components and Systems Directorate**

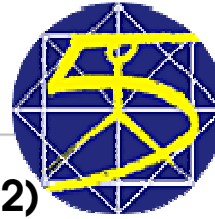
- **health issues**

### Policy making

- **Health and Consumers DG (DG SANCO)**
- **Employment DG (DG EMPL)**
- **Enterprise DG (DG ENTR)**
- **Environment DG (DG ENV)**

- **public health**

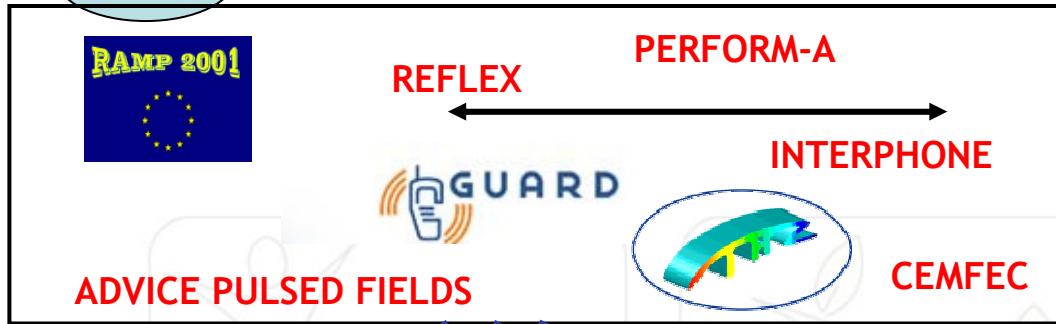
- **occupational health**



# EMF & Health projects in past Framework Programmes

12 M€

FP5 (1998-2002)

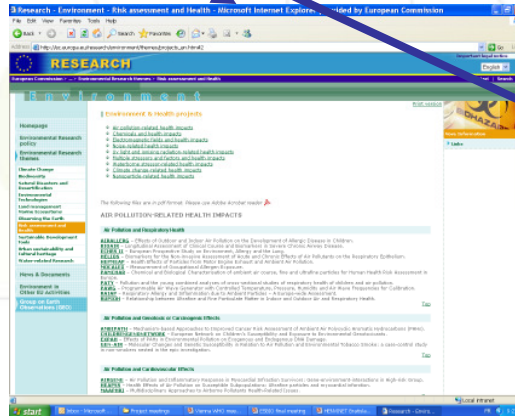


FP6 (2002-2006)

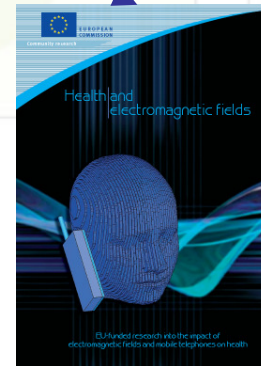
4 M€



[http://ec.europa.eu/research/environment/pdf/env\\_health\\_projects/env\\_health\\_brochure.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/environment/pdf/env_health_projects/env_health_brochure.pdf)



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[http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/quality-of-life/pdf/emf\\_brochure\\_and\\_sheets\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/quality-of-life/pdf/emf_brochure_and_sheets_en.pdf)



In press



# Topics/projects selected from first calls for proposals



**FP7  
(2006-2013)**

**Environment**  
(including Climate change)

Environment and Health  
sub-activity

**PROPOSED TOPIC**

**ERA-NET for  
environment  
& health**

Health impacts  
of exposure to  
radiofrequency fields  
in childhood and  
adolescence

Databases  
based on European  
cohort studies  
and their exploitation for  
advancement of  
knowledge  
of environment-  
health relationships

Improved exposure  
assessment  
to wireless  
communication  
devices

**ERA-ENVHEALTH**  
Coordination of  
national  
E&H  
research  
programmes  
€2M

**1 project  
selected**

**1 project  
selected**

**Call  
to be published  
in July**



## Risk assessment – SCENIHR

- ✓ **The Scientific Committee for Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks (SCENIHR) produced an opinion in March 2007**
- ✓ **Update ongoing, due end 2008**
- ✓ **Large gaps remaining in scientific evidence**
- ✓ **Identification of research priorities**



## Risk assessment – EMF-NET

- ✓ **The EMF-NET project has provided support to risk assessment**
- ✓ **Fast Response Team**
- ✓ **Identification of priorities for future research**
- ✓ **Project closing in August 2008**
- ✓ **Proposed follow-up submitted under the Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)**





**COST BM 0704:**

## **Emerging EMF Technologies and Health Risk Management**

- ✓ **Just starting – not research**
- ✓ **Structure to help researchers in the field of EMF & Health share knowledge and information**
- ✓ **Encourage multi-laboratory collaboration**
- ✓ **Training of early-stage researchers in EMF & health**
- ✓ **Facilitate identification of technological change**
- ✓ **Identify impact of new applications on the levels and spectral nature of EMF exposure of people and possible health effects**



## Conclusions

- ✓ **The Commission recognises that more research on the potential health impacts of EMF is needed to improve science-based policy making**
- ✓ **A wave of research is now coming to an end and a new wave must be prepared**
- ✓ **Concording advice from the SCENIHR and EMF-NET**
- ✓ **Enough resources must be mobilized**
- ✓ **Coordination with WHO needed**
- ✓ **The EU Framework Programme for research will be the main source of funding at the EU level.**
- ✓ **The Public Health Programme of DG SANCO may fund coordination activities**





# Thank you for your attention!

