

The Conference "Research Connection 2009", organised by the European Commission, has recently finished in Prague.

Can the internet based tool EFAMT® Grant Wizard contribute to solving the administrative financial issues, when managing and reporting the finances in grant funded projects?

This year's conference "Research Connection 2009" has opened the doors to over 2000 researchers, scientists and innovators. The main focus of the conference was the numerous funding opportunities for R&D projects. The European Commissioner Janez Potočnik has addressed the public by pointing out that "the research is the base for European growth and wealth and main challenge in today's globalisation". Several debates and six forums were divided by different R&D subjects.

Over 250 researchers, scientists and entrepreneurs have participated at the forum "Managing finances and reporting in grant funded projects". The main focus of the forum was discussing main issues when managing grant funded projects and sharing best practices. It is evident that the challenges depend mainly on the role, which a participant "plays" in the project; that is why the subject was presented at three different levels:

- main issues and best practices of project partners (presented by Leyla Arsan, Turkey)
- main issues and best practices of project partners (presented by Sasha Kenney, Slovenia)
- main issues and best practices of the entire organisations, which are simultaneously managing several grant funded projects (presented by Tone Birkenes, Norway)

Some common issues have been pointed out, namely:

- a. insufficient understanding and complexity of the rules (at European as well as organisational level) and
- b. the time needed to prepare project reports.

As a general best practice, which is applied in international projects, is an introduction of "administrative-financial coordinator", who acts as a coordinators right hand and solves all the issues connected to administration and finances in the project.

In addition, the use of on-line tools, which are intended for the sole purpose of financial management of grant funded projects, is also recommended.

More information: http://ec.europa.eu/research/conferences/2009/rtd-2009/index_en.cfm

At the conference, RR & CO. Knowledge Centre Ltd. has launched the newest version of **EFAMT® Grant Wizard**, a tool for administrative financial management of grant funded projects (www.efamt.eu), which is, according to Forum 6, one of the biggest challenges when dealing with research projects.

Also, at the conference, **Ms. Mateja Rudolf**, the General Manager of RR & CO. Knowledge Centre Ltd., has been representing the **European Association of Research Managers and Administrators** (EARMA) as a newly appointed secretary. The Association is focused on advancing the discipline of research and administration since 1995 (www.earma.org).

Additional information: Samo Faganeli, Marketing Director, samo.faganeli@rr-co.eu



RR & CO.
Knowledge Centre Ltd.
Dunajska cesta 20
SI-1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia

phone: +386 (0)1 432 41 91
fax: +386 (0)1 431 71 48
info@rr-co.eu

www.rr-co.eu
www.rr-co.si
www.eu-partners.eu
www.efamt.eu



KN • WLEDGE CENTRE

EU PARTNERS



If you prefer not to receive emails from us, you can unsubscribe by sending an email with subject "unsubscribe" to info@rr-co.eu.