



Research Success Stories



February 2012

Good partners, good chances for success

With the project Khresmoi, the University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland in Sierre coordinates a 10 million Euro project, funded by the European Commission. An essential ingredient for its success: a good network.

"I think that finding really good partners with very specific competencies for a project to be funded by the European Commission is the main challenge for universities of applied sciences", says Henning Müller, the coordinator of the Khresmoi project. A challenge, but also an opportunity, because "if you find renowned partners who submit the proposal with you, chances are better that it is accepted. And the more successful you are with such projects, the more visibility you gain, and the more likely it is that your future proposals will be accepted."



Prof Henning Müller
HES-SO
Khresmoi Coordinator

projects before the proposal was drawn up. They started with a raw idea for a joint project, they waited until a call from the European Commission seemed to fit their idea, and then they detailed and fashioned their idea in order to fit the call and to make it as appealing as possible to the European Commission – and not only to the Commission, it would seem: the aim of Khresmoi is to develop a system that

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Developing an idea strategically

The members of the "core team" of Khresmoi already knew each other from other

collects and makes sense of biomedical information and makes it freely, quickly and

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Khresmoi stands for "Knowledge Helper for Medical and Other Information users". It aims at automatically collecting the most up-to-date medical information from various sources (journals, websites, books, images), automatically making sense of all of this information and automatically making it easily and quickly available to the general public, to doctors and to radiologists according to their expertise. The system will be multilingual and include a search for images so that, for example, radiologists can find X-ray images similar to those of a particular patient and then find what the diagnoses for these similar images were.

easily available in several languages. Knowing one's partners is also key to success, says Henning Müller: "If you know your partners, you know how they work and you know that you can rely on them. It is not only factual knowledge and reputation that is important but also social competence."

Benefits and drawbacks

Participating in such a project has several benefits: It obviously provides a secure financial basis for four years of work, it raises the institution's visibility on a European and international level and therefore makes it easier to acquire more funding in the future. Being, in addition, the coordinator of such a project has the benefit of considerable influence over the general direction of the project.

The main drawback is the administrative workload. However, the European Commission compensates administrative costs more generously than costs for scientific work – which makes the paperwork not more interesting, but at least financially more attractive.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Project Name:	KHRESMOI (Knowledge Helper for Medical and Other Information users)
Research Area:	Intelligent Information Management (ICT-2009.4.3)
Coordinating Institution:	University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland in Sierre
Number of partners:	12
Start Date - End Date:	2010/09/01 – 2014/08/31
Duration:	48 months
Project Cost/Project Funding:	10.560.000 €/ 8.040.000 €
Contract Type:	FP7: IP (Integrated Project), Collaborative project

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www.sbf.admin.ch/htm/themen/international

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