

### Topic

HEALTH-2007-1.3-1: Novel alternative testing strategies for use in pharmaceutical discovery and development

### Funding Scheme

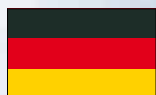
Collaborative Project (Large-scale integrating project)

### Project coordinator

Klinikum der Universität zu Köln

### Project Duration

April 2008 – March 2013



 ProteoSys

ESNATS is a Collaborative Project funded in the first HEALTH call of the Seventh EU Framework Programme (FP7). It aims at developing a novel toxicity test platform based on embryonic stem cells (ESC), especially human ESC (hESC), to accelerate drug development, reduce R&D costs and propose a powerful alternative to animal tests (3 Rs).

<b>Klinikum der Universität zu Köln</b>	DE	Uni	Nederlandse Organisatie voor Toegepast-Natuurwetenschappelijk Onderzoek TNO	NL	RC
Commission of the European Communities – DG JRC	BE	RC	The University of Edinburgh	UK	Uni
University of Newcastle upon Tyne	UK	Uni	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	BE	Uni
Université de Genève	CH	Uni	Technische Universität München	DE	Uni
Forschungsges. für Arbeitsphysiologie und Arbeitsschutz e.V.	DE	RC	ARTTIC SAS	FR	SME
European Consensus Platform on 3R Alternatives to Animal Experimentation	BE	RC	The School of Pharmacy, University of London	UK	Uni
The Automation Partnership (Cambridge) Limited	UK	SME	N.V. Organon	NL	LSE
OÜ Quretec	EE	SME	Läkemedelsverket / Medical Products Agency	SE	RC
<b>ProteoSys AG</b>	DE	SME	H Lundbeck A/S	DK	LSE
Université de Liège	BE	Uni	In Vitro Testing Industrial Platform	ES	RC
Avantea srl	IT	SME	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	DE	RC
Cellartis AB	SE	SME	Edinethics Ltd.	UK	RC
Cell Cure Neurosciences Ltd.	IL	SME	Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Universität Hannover	DE	Uni
Universität Konstanz	DE	Uni	F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Ltd.	CH	LSE
National Biological Standards Board	UK	RC			

ProteoSys was founded in March 2000 in Mainz and Tübingen between scientists from the cell biology and proteomics fields and from the engineering and physical sciences, financed by private and institutional investors. ProteoSys is a systems biology company

## INTERVIEW

### How did you experience the project proposal phase?

**Markus Bucher (ProteoSys):** "Since ProteoSys has participated successfully in a number of FP5 and FP6 projects, we have already gained a good reputation all over Europe. This successful networking made us to a reliable contact for organisations searching for proteomics, biomarker analyses and systems biology.

During the proposal phase the tasks as one participant of many was manageable. Since the ESNATS management was and is in the hands of a specialised organisation, the communication was clear and, as long as the requested tasks were fulfilled, the work was assessable. Even though science is the most important aspect of such a project, a good administration is a further prerequisite".

### How did you experience the negotiation phase?

**Markus Bucher (ProteoSys):** "Up to 75% of the RTD expenses are covered by the project's budget. Through this measure, the participation for an SME becomes very attractive. The negotiation is a necessary and important stage before the actual project starts. During this stage – guided by the coordinator – it is possible to bring in ideas and concepts.

From the administrative side, sometimes it is not easy to understand the tasks and requirements, especially because a new framework programme always creates a new terminology and new regulations. Nevertheless, the negotiation phase is an important step in the development of a collaborative project.

### Do you have any suggestions for other SMEs/Academia that would like to get involved in such projects?

**Markus Bucher (ProteoSys):** "Do not feel discouraged by the rules and regulations. Get in contact with the several contact points (like e.g. National Contact Point Life Sciences, KoWi). Use the networks that you already have to get in touch with organisations that are involved in international projects".



Markus Bucher