



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Information Society and Media Directorate-General

Emerging Technologies and Infrastructures

New Infrastructure Paradigms and Experimental Facilities

**NSF/OECD Workshop "Social and Economic Factors Shaping the Future of the Internet"
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Position Statement: The European FIRE Initiative

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Within the Seventh Framework Programme (2007 – 2013) of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities, which has started in the beginning of this year, the European Commission is preparing the launch of the FIRE "Future Internet Research and Experimentation" initiative. This new experimentally driven approach of challenging the mainstream perceptions for the future internet development has two related dimensions:

- Experimentally-driven long term research on new paradigms for the future internet;
- Building a large scale experimentation facility by federating existing and new testbeds for future internet-related technologies.

The new initiative builds on the SAC "Situated Autonomic Communications" Initiative under Future and Emerging Technologies (FET), which supports a group of research projects with a total funding of around 30 M€; and on the Strategic Objective on Research Networking Testbeds with a total funding of another 30 M€. Both initiatives were started under the Sixth Framework Programme with projects running from 2006 to 2009.

The FIRE Initiative will be launched with a second wave of projects envisaged to start in early 2008 under the FP7-ICT objective "New Paradigms and Experimental Facilities". The Call is planned to be open from June to September 2007. The foreseen budget is 40 M€. The Call is focused on advanced networking approaches to architectures and protocols for the future internet as well as on interconnected testbeds and experimental facilities.

The FIRE experimental facilities are envisaged to profit from GEANT, the pan-European Gigabit research network. FIRE will include the development and testing of new security and privacy-enhancing technologies relevant for the future internet. Close collaboration between FIRE and initiatives in the US (FIND and GENI) as well as the Far East is planned.

Further details on the FIRE initiative will be made available through its website in the coming months.

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/fire>