

The European Perspective of Accelerator Research

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The EU support to the R&D on particle accelerators has been steadily increasing in the last 10 years, reaching about 6 MEUR/year in 2012/13. Among the reasons for this success are the good organisation of the community, the largely multidisciplinary scientific base, the healthy equilibrium between large laboratories and small universities, and the increasing impact of accelerators beyond basic science. The projects have usually a 4-year duration which allows an adaptation to the evolving scientific priorities; we are presently in the transition phase between the two generic accelerator R&D projects EuCARD and EuCARD-2, with EuCARD-2 including for the first time an important part on plasma-based acceleration. While EuCARD-2 will last until 2017, preparation is already starting for projects to be funded within the new Horizon-2020 EU program that starts in 2014 and aims at increasing the impact of basic science on the whole society.

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