E&I Funding Dump

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Introduction

- As it was a recurring theme throughout we (PPTAP) thought it was worth having a quick discussion about R&D funding structures in the UK and how the community might like it to look

- At UK E&I workshop we had a few contributions looking at organisations elsewhere to get us thinking about how things could/should work in the UK

- Looked at:
  - CERN
  - INFN
  - US
  - Germany
  - CMS Serenity

- Aware that we are at the end of a long few days (and it is Friday afternoon)

- Will quickly pick out some discussion highlights and then open for discussion

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Highlights

- CERN/INFN seem to work well as centralised organisation handling R&D activities and assigning tasks results in more coherent/successful collaboration
  - Coordinated Italian submission to AIDA – no similar thing in UK

- Two stage R&D funding in Italy seems successful
  - Initial 150-300k for 3 years (not covering people)
  - Followed by call for 1M for 3 years (20% used can cover people)
  - For example, SEED project followed by ARCADIA

- Reliability and continuity needed (so calls can be predicted and prepared for)
  - Clear path for concept then conclusion

- German model has overheads going back to university as cash
  - Not going to change UK financing models
  - BUT the cash this provides to German institutes allows them to do chip submissions from a generic institute pot rather than as part of a project

- Feeling that there are lot more post-docs in Germany
  - Pyramid of academic-postdoc-students not there in UK

- RD53/Serenity setup works very well
  - Institutes "buy-in" to the collaboration with clear tasks and understanding of future technical support
  - All about coherence and consolidating effort effectively
  - Ongoing technical support "post-glamour" can be a burden – spinouts?

- The whole training/knowledge for the future thing is not quite leading to big pots of money
  - Need tangible ideas/examples
  - Need an R&D plan!

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