



A Case Study of High Risk Foundational Research in Italy

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Abstract

A case study of high risk research in the field of organic optoelectronics has been presented and discussed in the frame of available national and European funding schemes. The strategy of a mixed academic-industrial partnership to set a new ground of development in the field of hybrid optoelectronics and photonics has been outlined and the evaluation reports of proposals submitted in response to specific calls for long term and visionary research has been analyzed. Despite the exploratory nature of the research activity, key aspects for a successful evaluation have been the participation to the project of an industrial partner (especially at European level), and the previous experience of the coordinator in managing multi-partners project. These issues have been critically analyzed and proposed as discussion items in view of the definition of evaluation criteria of future funding schemes of high risk and visionary research. The output of this high risk research activity has been briefly reviewed and the novel application opportunities opened in this quickly moving field have been finally discussed.

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