



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE

...Strengthening international science for the benefit of society...

REPORT OF THE CSPR ON THE ICSU GRANTS PROGRAMME



GOALS OF ICSU GRANTS PROGRAMME

Support new and innovative proposals

Support proposals targetting priority themes of ICSU

Encourage multidisciplinary joint proposals



CURRENT PRIORITY THEMES UNDER THE GRANTS PROGRAMME

1. Science & Technology for Sustainable Development
2. Capacity Building in Science Education
3. Dissemination of Information on Science & Technology
4. Emerging issues of Science & Technology



EVALUATION PROCEDURE

- CSPR reviews all eligible applications
- External expertise sought when necessary
- Proposals are graded based on:
 - * scientific quality
 - * relevance to priority themes of ICSU
 - * cost effectiveness & timeliness and
 - * capacity of the applicants to accomplish the work



EVALUATION PROCEDURE (contd.)

- Report of reviews are discussed by entire CSPR
- Approvals are made using the grade list
- A final recommendation is made to the ICSU Executive Board for approval



ENCOURAGING PARTNERSHIPS

- Idea of Lead / Supporting Applicants introduced in 2002 to encourage joint proposals. Starting 2004:
- Lead Applicants are
 - International Scientific Unions
 - Interdisciplinary Bodies / Joint Initiatives
- Supporting Applicants are
 - Scientific Associates
 - National Scientific Members
 - National Scientific Associates



SOURCES OF INCOME TOWARDS THE GRANTS PROGRAMME





FUNDING

- Budget for 2003 Grants \$ 850,000
- Total awards made \$ 852,800
- No. of eligible proposals received: 41

Category 1

16 applications	Requested :	\$ 1,525,975
5 applications	Awarded :	\$ 466,000

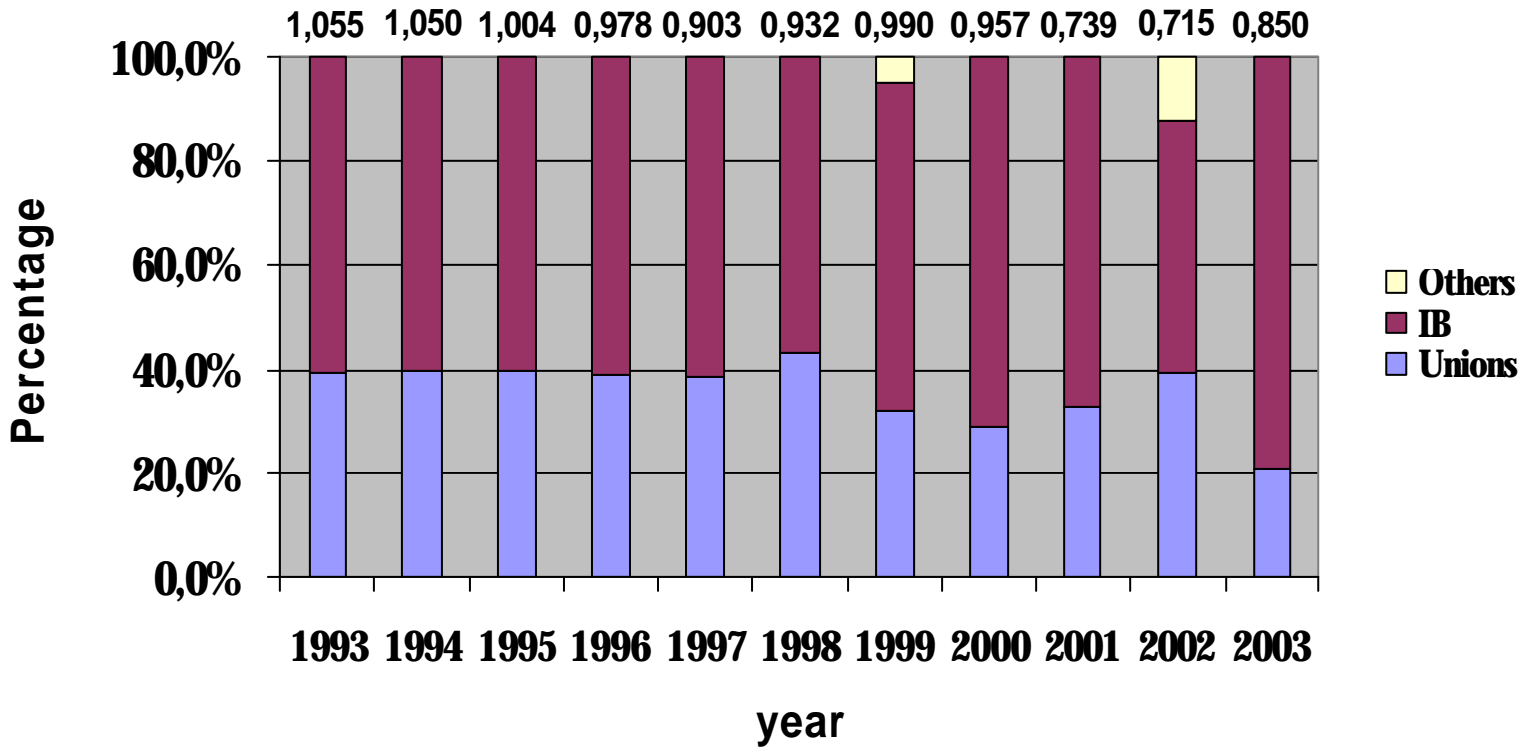
Category 2

25 applications	Requested :	\$ 929,400
10 applications	Awarded :	\$ 346,800

No 'A' graded proposal has yet been refused because of lack of funds.



GRANTS DISTRIBUTION TO UNIONS & INTERDISCIPLINARY BODIES (1993 - 2003)





REASONS FOR UNSUCCESSFUL PROPOSALS

Ineligible

- Proposals not within ICSU priority areas
- No eligible supporting applicants
- Requests for operational services / core support
- Setting up of websites
- Regular research proposals

General

- Insufficient information
- Unclear / unrealistic objectives
- Serious collaboration with relevant ICSU bodies not evident
- Too narrow or little focus



SOME GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

- Proposals should be 4-6 pages
- Joint preparation of proposals by partners

Detailed information needed on

- Relevance to priority themes of ICSU
- Justification for undertaking the project
- Budget
- Expected outcomes
- Allocation and management of resources



CONCLUSIONS

- The ICSU Grants Programme is now a fully competitive and peer reviewed programme
- It encourages interdisciplinary proposals in specific priority areas relevant to ICSU's mission.