

# The EC Support to Design New Research Infrastructures

## The L-SURF Case



INERIS



STUVA



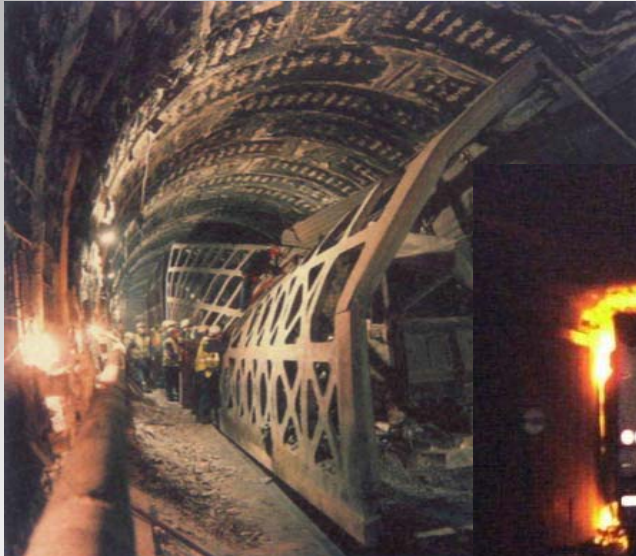
# What is L-surF?

- **L-surF stands for**

**L**arge-**S**cale **U**nderground **R**esearch **F**acility  
on Safety and Security

- **Design study within the Sixth Framework Programme of the European Union**
- **Cooperation of 6 European leading Institutes on safety and security for underground facilities**

## Why L-surF?



(AFP PHOTO)

**Severe accidents and terrorist attacks in underground infrastructures**

## Why L-surF?

**Various EC RTD programmes on safety in underground infrastructures within the 5th framework programme worked on these issues, such as**

- **FIT (Fires in Tunnels)**
- **DARTS (Durable and reliable Tunnel Structures)**
- **Virtualfires**
- **Uptun (Cost-effective, sustainable and innovative upgrading methods for fire safety in existing tunnels)**
- **Safe-T**
- **etc**

## Why L-surF?

**EC 5th framework RTD programmes showed:**

- **highly fragmented and unstructured ‘research industry’ with very many local and national ‘players’**
- **a lot of RTD work can’t be carried out nationally**
- **European-wide coordination and harmonization of RTD-work, training and education is imperative**
- **large (real) scale tests and RTD work are imperative**
- **no according test and research facilities are available**
- **such a facility can be set up only on a European approach**

## **EC Funded Design Study**

**But:**

**How to overcome these identified shortcomings?**

**A thorough analyse of all relevant aspects was imperative.**

**Mean:**

**Design study for a new infrastructure is the perfect tool.**

**L-surF is a Design Study**

- **Duration: 3 years (Mar 2005 – Feb 2008)**
- **Budget: approximately 3.3 Mio €**
- **Specific Support Action (SSA)**

# Scope of Design Studies

**The Design Study responds to all aspects of a new RI:**

- **constructional lay-out of a facility for large (real) scale tests**
- **evaluation of research needs and RTD – activities**
- **definition of training, education and cooperation activities**
- **description of integration process for national facilities thus restructuring and improving the relevant EU competence showing ways for using RTD funds more economically**
- **manners to raise the funds for setting up of the facility**
- **a business plan for the new RI**
- **construction of a new European research facility (next phase)**

## Legal entity

**If the results of the Design Study are put successfully into reality, they certainly will**

- **bring an entire new quality into the RTD, training and education in the field of safety and security in Europe**
- **reshape and harmonize the European Research Area**
- **play a major role in RTD, training and education in Europe in the field of safety and security for enclosed spaces**

**The setting up of a legal entity is part of the study.**

## Actual State

### Bottom-up approach through a Design Study

- was the right approach
- allows to carefully work out the relevant issues

**but it needs now corresponding top-down activities**

- **7th framework programme of the EC for RTD**
- **EU Security Strategy: 'A Secure Europe for a better World'**
- **Security and Space as theme of 'Cooperation'**
- **Creation of new research infrastructures (based on ESFRI) as theme of 'Capacities' – needs a long time!**

**Thank you for your attention !**