

CALL TITLE: ENERGY INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH STAFF EXCHANGE SCHEME

- **Call identifier:** *FP7-ENERGY-2011-EXCHANGE*
- **Date of publication:** 20 July 2010
- **Deadline:** 16 November 2010 at 17.00.00, Brussels local time¹
- **Indicative budget:** *EUR 3 million* of the 2011 budget².
- All budgetary figures given in this work programme are indicative. The final budget awarded to this call, following the evaluation of proposals, may vary up to 10% of the total value of this call.
- **Topics called:**

Activity/ Area	Topics called	Funding Schemes
ACTIVITY ENERGY.10: HORIZONTAL PROGRAMME ACTIONS		
AREA ENERGY.10.2: OTHER HORIZONTAL ACTIONS	ENERGY.2011.10.2-1: Pilot International Researcher Exchange in the field of energy research (US and Japan)	<i>Support for training and career development of researchers</i>

Eligibility conditions

- The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 to the Work Programme and in the guide for applicants. Please note that the completeness criterion also includes that part B of the proposal shall be readable, accessible and printable.
- The minimum number of participating legal entities required for this call is summarised in the table below:

Funding Scheme	Minimum conditions
Support for training and career development of researchers	Consortia composed of at least two independent " <i>research organisations</i> " established in at least two different Member States or Associated countries, and one or more " <i>research organisation</i> "s located in either the US or Japan.

Additional Eligibility Requirements:

In addition to minimum eligibility criteria, proposals must contain partners from either the US or Japan. The potential participants in this action are energy research entities from the EU, US and Japan. These will form a *partnership* that will implement a reciprocal *exchange programme*, by seconding and/or hosting eligible researchers A *partnership agreement* in this action shall be established either on the one hand between a *consortium* of a at least two independent participants established in at least two different EU Member States or Associated Countries, and one or more *partner organisation(s)* located in the US or on the other

¹ The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

² Under the condition that the draft budget for 2011 is adopted without modification by the budgetary authority.

between a *consortium* of at least two independent participants established in at least two different EU Member States or Associated Countries, and one or more *partner organisation(s)* located in Japan.

For full details concerning these conditions you must refer to the core text of the work programme and the guide for applicants.

Evaluation procedure

Proposals will be evaluated in line with the Commission 'Rules on Submission of Proposals and the Related Evaluation, Selection and Award Procedures'.

A proposal that contravenes fundamental ethical principles, fails to comply with the relevant security procedures, or which does not fulfil any other of the conditions set out in the specific programme, the work programme or in the call for proposals shall not be selected. Such a proposal may be excluded from the evaluation, selection and award procedures at any time. Details of the procedure to be followed are given in the Commission rules mentioned above.

In accordance with article 15 of the rules for Participation for the 'Cooperation' specific Programme proposals are evaluated on the basis of the following three criteria: (i) S/T quality, (ii) Implementation, (iii) Impact.

Note: Evaluation scores will be awarded for each of the criteria, and not for the sub-criteria. Each criterion will be scored out of 5.

The evaluation criteria and scoring scheme are set out in the table below.

1. Scientific and/or technological excellence (relevant to the topics addressed by the call) (award)	2. Quality and efficiency of the implementation and the management (selection)	3. The potential impact through the development, dissemination and use of project results (award)
Soundness of concept and quality of objectives	Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures Quality of relevant experience of the individual participants	Contribution, at the European [and/or international] level, to expected impacts listed in the work programme under relevant topic/activity
Objective and relevance of the joint exchange programme	Quality and mutual benefit of the transfer of knowledge	Relevance of the proposed partnership to the area of collaboration and for the ERA
Scientific quality of the partners	Adequacy and role of staff exchanged with respect to the transfer of knowledge	Potential to develop lasting collaboration with eligible Third country partners.
Complementarities/synergies between the partners	Capacities (expertise/human resources/facilities/infrastructure) to achieve the objectives of the planned cooperation	

	Appropriateness of the plans for the overall management of the exchange programme	
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For each criterion marks from 0 to 5 will be given, with the possibility of 0.5 point scores. Successful proposals must pass the minimum thresholds as follows:

	Minimum threshold
S/T quality	4/5
Implementation	3/5
Impact	2/5
Overall threshold required	12/15

- Proposal page limits: Applicants must ensure that proposals conform to the page limits and layout given in the Guide for Applicants, and in the proposal part B template available through the EPSS. The experts will be instructed to disregard any pages exceeding these limits.
- The minimum font size allowed is 11 points. The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 15 mm (not including any footers or headers).
- A single-stage submission and evaluation procedure will be used.
- Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
- Proposals will be evaluated remotely.
- The procedure for prioritising proposals with equal scores is described in annex 2 of this work programme.
- A maximum two projects could be funded between EU and US entities and a maximum two projects could be funded between EU and Japanese entities.

Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:

- Evaluation results are estimated to be available within 6 months after the deadline for submission.
- Grant agreement signature: expected from within 9 months after the deadline for submission.

Consortia agreements: Participants in actions resulting from this call are required to conclude a consortium agreement.

Forms of grants and maximum reimbursement rates:

The fixed EU contribution is 2000 EUR per exchanged staff member per month. This amount should cover the cost of travel and subsistence of the exchanged staff. Networking actions, management costs and overheads related to the execution of the exchange may also be included in the contribution.

Further details on the forms of grants and maximum reimbursement rates which will be offered are specified in the call topic and the guide for applicants.

Additional point to be considered

A maximum of two projects can be funded between EU and US entities and a maximum of two projects can be funded between EU and Japanese entities.

Dissemination:

Grant agreements of projects financed under this call for proposals will include the special clause 39 on the "Open Access Pilot in FP7". Under this clause, beneficiaries are required to make their best efforts to ensure free access to peer-reviewed articles resulting from projects via an institutional or subject-based repository.