

### **Call title: Research for SMEs Call 3**

- **Call identifier:** FP7-SME-2010-1
- **Date of publication:** 30<sup>th</sup> July 2009
- **Deadline:** 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009, at 17.00.00 h (Brussels local time)<sup>1</sup>
- **Indicative budget<sup>2</sup>:** EUR 136.84 million<sup>3</sup>
- **Topics:** the call is open to all research fields

Activity/ Area	Topics called	Funding Scheme
<b><u>2.1 Research for SMEs</u></b>	<b>The call is open to all research fields<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Research for the benefit of specific groups (in particular SMEs)</b>

- **Eligibility conditions**

- The general eligibility criteria for the different funding schemes are set out in Annex 2 to this 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 following additional eligibility criteria apply in this call:
  - At least 3 participants must be independent SMEs established in at least 3 MS or AC.
  - At least 2 participants must be RTD performers<sup>5</sup> independent from any other participant.

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<sup>1</sup> The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months

<sup>2</sup> The final budget awarded to this call may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the call.

<sup>3</sup> Under the condition that the preliminary draft budget for 2010 is adopted without modifications by the budget authority.

<sup>4</sup> Research proposals within the scope of Annex I of the EURATOM Treaty, namely those directed towards nuclear energy applications, should be submitted to relevant calls under the EURATOM 7th Framework Programme.

<sup>5</sup> As defined in art.2 of Regulation (EC) No 1906/2006 of 18 December 2006 laying down the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in actions under the Seventh Framework Programme and for the dissemination of research results (2007-2013): "*RTD performer*" means a legal entity carrying out research or technological development activities in funding schemes for the benefit of specific groups as identified in Annex III to Decision No 1982/2006/EC".

- **Evaluation procedure:** the evaluation will follow a single stage procedure; proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.

The evaluation criteria and scoring scheme are set out in annex 2 of the work programme

Please note that for this call, the threshold for the Potential impact criterion will be 4 (instead of 3) and, as a consequence, the overall threshold will be 11 (instead of 10).

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 Commission may instruct the experts to disregard any pages exceeding these limits.

Furthermore, the procedure for establishing the priority order for proposals with the same score for this call will differ from Annex 2 as follows: the first step (point 'i') making reference to topics is suppressed, and point "ii" (now point 'i') indicates that the proposals will be prioritised first according to the scores for the criterion impact and, when these scores are equal, according to the scores for the criterion scientific and technological excellence (ref. Guide for Applicants).

- The following additional evaluation criterion apply in this call:

Within the Description of Work in the proposal, the rules on dissemination and use, including intellectual property rights management and the settlement of internal disputes, are described. In particular, the Description of Work should contain provisions related to the remuneration of the RTD-performers especially if different from the default regime, clearly indicating the ceiling for remuneration agreed within the consortium and the related consequences in terms of allocation of ownership and use and dissemination rights.

- **Indicative timetable:** evaluation results estimated to be available within 3 months after closure date. Grant agreement signature: it is estimated that the first grant agreements related to the call will come into force 6 months after the closure date.

The objective is that all grant agreements will have been completed 9 months after the closure date.

- **Consortium agreements**

The participants will be required to submit a signed consortium agreement before the signature of the grant agreement.

It addresses issues such as the internal organisation of the consortium and the management of the Community financial contribution.

- The forms of grants and maximum reimbursement rates which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to the Capacities work programme
- A reserve list of proposals will be established

- **Use of flat rates for subsistence costs:**

In accordance with Annex 3 of this work programme, this call provides for the possibility to use flat rates to cover subsistence costs incurred by beneficiaries during travel carried out within grants for indirect actions. For further information, see the relevant Guides for Applicants for this call. The applicable flat rates are available at the following website: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/find-doc\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/find-doc_en.html) under 'Guidance documents/Flat rates for daily allowances'.