

FP7 Capacities Work Programme: Part 2 - research for the benefit of SMEs

Call Fiche

Call title: Research for SME Associations Call 1

- **Call identifier:** FP7-SME-2007-2
- **Date of publication:** 22 December 2006
- **Closure date:** 01 June 2007 (first stage), at 17.00 h (Brussels local time)
- **Indicative budget:** €10 Million¹
- **Topics called:** call is open to all research fields

Activity/ Area	Topics called	Funding Scheme
<u>2.2 Research for SME Associations</u>	The call is open to all research fields	Research for the benefit of specific groups (in particular SMEs)

- **Evaluation procedure:** 2-stage procedure. The first stage will consist of an outline proposal of not more than 12 pages providing the essential aspects of the proposed project. For proposals which successfully pass the first stage, co-ordinators shall be requested to provide a full proposal. The closure date for the submission of the full proposal (stage2) will be detailed in the request (indicative closure date: November 2007). Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously. The evaluation of the first stage proposals will be limited to the criteria "S&T quality" and "Impact" and may be carried out entirely by a remote evaluation procedure.
- The evaluation criteria and sub-criteria (including weights and thresholds), together with the eligibility, selection and award criteria, for the different funding schemes are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme.
- **Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:** results of stage 1 evaluation will be available within three months after closure date. Proposers of successful proposals post first stage evaluation will be asked to submit a stage 2 proposal with a specified deadline around November 2007.
Contract signature: it is estimated that the first contracts related to this call will come into force 12 months after the first stage closure date.

¹ Under the condition that the preliminary draft budget for 2007 is adopted without modifications by the budget authority. An amount from the 2008 budget is expected to be added for which a new financing decision to cover the budget for that year will be requested at the appropriate time.

- **Consortium agreements**

The participants will be required to submit a signed consortium agreement as a deliverable in the early stage of the project to further detail information already reflected in the Technical Annex to the contract.

It addresses issues such as the internal organisation of the consortium, the management of the Community financial contribution, rules on dissemination and use, including intellectual property rights management, settlement of internal disputes. In particular, it 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. This information is meant to be fully reflected in the Technical Annex to the contract.

- **Particular requirements for participation, evaluation and implementation:**

- At least 3 independent SME Association/Groupings established in 3 MS or AC, otherwise 1 participant must be a European SME Association/Grouping established in a MS or an AC. This Association/Grouping must be made up of a minimum of 2 independent legal entities established in 2 MS or AC. SME associations/groupings are legal persons, composed mostly of and representing the interests of SMEs and/or physical persons having the same kind of activities.
- At least 2 participants, must be RTD performers (having the capacity to carry out research at the request of the Association(s)/Grouping(s)), independent from any other participant
- At least 2 participants must be SMEs (other enterprises or end-users) established in 2 MS or AC

- See Annex 3 for the form of grant and maximum reimbursement rates

- A reserve list of proposals will be established