

Call title: Activities of International Cooperation-ERA-NET and ERA-NET PLUS

- **Call identifier: FP7-INCO-2007-3**
- **Date of publication: 2 October 2007**
- **Deadline: 12 February 2008, at 17:00:00, Brussels local time**
- **Revised indicative budget^{1,2}: 11³ MILLION EUR**

Activities called:

<i>Activity/ Area</i>	<i>Funding Schemes</i>
3.Supporting the coordination of national policies and activities of Member States and Associated States on international S&T cooperation Areas:	
3.1 ERA-NET "International Cooperation"	
3.1.1 preparatory actions for ERA NET	Coordination and support action (supporting)
3.1.2 ERA-NET	Coordination and support action (coordinating)
3.2 ERA-NET PLUS "International Cooperation"	Coordination and support action (coordinating)

Minimum number of participants⁴ as set out in the Rules for Participation:

Funding scheme	Minimum conditions
Coordination and support action (coordinating)	At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.
Coordination and support action (supporting)	At least 1 independent legal entity

¹ Additional information on the budget available for this call may be found at http://cordis.europa.eu/inco/home_en.html

² An amount of 11 M€ is given to this call budget from the 2008 budget. This is under the condition that the preliminary draft budget for 2008 is adopted without modifications by the budget authority.

³ Including costs for evaluators

⁴ MS = Member States of the EU; AC = Associated country. Where the minimum conditions for an indirect action are satisfied by a number of legal entities, which together form one legal entity, the latter may be the sole participant, provided that it is established in a Member State or Associated country.

Evaluation procedure:

- A one-stage submission procedure will be followed.
- Proposals may be evaluated remotely.
- The evaluation criteria (including weights and thresholds) and sub-criteria together with the eligibility, selection and award criteria, for the different funding schemes are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme.

For the evaluation of ERA-NET (area 3.1.2) and ERA-NET Plus (area 3.2) proposals, the general criteria and thresholds applicable to Coordination and Support Actions given in Annex 2, are modified as follows:

1. *Scientific and/or technological excellence - Quality of coordination (Threshold 4/5 instead of 3/5)*

- The management should be supported by a suitable governance structure involving the participating organisations at an appropriate level.

2. *Quality and efficiency of the implementation (Threshold 3/5)*

- In reference to the applicable work programme, does the proposed ERA-NET / ERA-NET Plus action pool the necessary resources between national programmes and the Community and does it represent the most appropriate type of public funding for this pre-defined area?

3. *Potential impact (Threshold 3/5)*

- The participants should be the key actors within their national or regional research systems.
- The ERA-NET activities should lay the foundations for a durable cooperation between the partners involved.
- Is there a clearly identified and agreed European added value through a variable geometry approach?

Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable: Evaluations are expected to be carried out during the month of March 2008. It is expected that the contract negotiation for the shortlisted proposals will start in June 2008.

Consortia agreements

Consortia agreements are recommended but not mandatory for the ERA-NET actions.

Particular requirements for participation, evaluation and implementation:

See part on eligibility in the description of the activity 3 in the Work Programme. In particular, the ERA-NET Plus proposals require programme owners or programme managers from at least 5 different Member or Associated States to plan a single joint call with a clear financial commitment from the participating national or regional research programmes.

The indicative budget should be apportioned between ERA-NET and ERA-NET Plus projects.

Forms of grants:

The forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to this work programme.