

Calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area"

1. In accordance with Decision No 1513/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 June 2002, concerning the sixth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European Research Area and to innovation (2002 to 2006)¹, the Council adopted on 30 September 2002 the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area" (2002-2006)² (referred to as "the specific programme").

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the specific programme, the Commission of the European Communities (referred to as "the Commission") has adopted on 9 December 2002 a work programme³ (referred to as "the work programme") setting out in greater detail the objectives and scientific and technological priorities of the specific programme, and the timetable for implementation.

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 5 November 2002, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in, and for the dissemination of research results for, the implementation of the European Community Sixth Framework Programme (2002 to 2006)⁴ (referred to as "the rules for participation"), proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted under the terms of calls for proposals.

2. The present calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions comprise the present general part and the specific conditions that are described in the annexes. These annexes indicate in particular, for each call, the date(s) of closure for the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions, an indicative date for the completion of the evaluations, the indicative budget, the instruments and the areas concerned, the evaluation criteria for the evaluation of proposals for indirect RTD actions, the minimum number of participants, and any applicable restrictions.
3. Natural or legal persons fulfilling the conditions stated in the rules for participation and that do not fall under any of the exclusion cases in the rules for participation or in Article 114(2) of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁵ (referred to as "the proposers") are invited to submit to the Commission proposals for indirect RTD actions subject to the conditions in the rules for participation and in the call concerned being fulfilled.

The European Community has adopted an equal opportunities policy and, on this basis, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals for indirect RTD actions or participate in the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions.

4. The Commission makes available to proposers guides for proposers relating to the calls which contain information on the preparation and the submission of a proposal for an indirect RTD action. These guides, as well as the work programme and other information relating to the calls, can be obtained from the Commission via one of the following addresses:

¹ OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1.

² OJ L 294, 29.10.2002, p. 1.

³ Commission Decision C(2002)4789, unpublished.

⁴ To be published.

⁵ OJ L248, of 16.9.2002, p. 1.

For the specific programme, with the exception of the priority thematic area of research "Information Society technologies" :

*European Commission
The FP6 Information Desk
Directorate General RTD
B-1049 Brussels, Belgium*

Email address: fp6@cec.eu.int

Internet address: www.cordis.lu/fp6

For the priority thematic area of research "Information Society technologies":

*European Commission
The IST Information Desk
Directorate General INFSO
B-1049 Brussels, Belgium*

Email address: ist@cec.eu.int

Internet address: www.cordis.lu/ist

5. Proposals for indirect RTD actions are submitted preferably in electronic format, either on CD-ROM or on diskette. In any case, proposals for indirect RTD actions may also be prepared and submitted using the forms in the guide for proposers (referred to as on "paper").

Once the software tool within the electronic proposal submission system (EPSS) is available before the closure date in the relevant call, proposals for indirect RTD actions may be prepared off-line or on-line and submitted on-line⁶. The EPSS software tool will be available via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu.

6. Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on CD-ROM, diskette, or paper by post must be received by the Commission at the following address, and labelled as follows:

"FP6 - Research Proposals"
(Call identifier: ...)
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

For deliveries by hand or by representatives (including by private courier), the delivery should be to the following address, and labelled as follows:

"FP6 - Research Proposals"
(Call identifier: ...)
European Commission
Rue de Genève, 1
B-1140 Brussels

⁶ For information, the software tool for off-line preparation of proposals for indirect RTD actions should be available at the earliest in January 2003. The tool for on-line preparation and submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions should be available at the earliest end-February 2003.

In both cases, proposals for indirect actions submitted on CD-ROM or on diskette must be accompanied, in the same envelope, by an identical paper version.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted either on CD-ROM or on diskette which are incomplete⁷, illegible⁸ or contain viruses will be excluded if a complete corresponding paper version has not been supplied.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be submitted on-line⁹ via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on-line and which are incomplete¹⁰, illegible¹¹ or contain viruses will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on paper and which are incomplete¹² will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted by email¹³ or by fax will be excluded.

7. Proposals for indirect RTD actions have to reach the Commission at the latest on the closure date and at the time specified in the call concerned. Proposals for indirect RTD actions arriving after this date and time will be excluded.

If foreseen in the relevant call, they will be taken up in the framework of a future evaluation.

8. In the case of successive submissions of a proposal in the same format, the Commission will examine the last version received before the closure date and time specified in the call concerned.

In the case where the same proposal for an indirect RTD action is submitted on paper and electronic format (CD-ROM, diskette, on-line), the Commission will only examine the text submitted under the electronic formats.

9. In all correspondence relating to the concerned call (eg, when requesting information, or submitting a proposal for an indirect RTD action), proposers are invited to cite the relevant call identifier.

⁷ All proposals for indirect RTD actions must contain two parts: the forms (Part A) and the content (Part B).

⁸ Proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted in PDF ("portable document format", version 3 or higher with embedded fonts) or RTF ("rich text format").

⁹ See footnote 6.

¹⁰ See footnote 7.

¹¹ See footnote 8.

¹² See footnote 7.

¹³ This does not include proposals for indirect RTD actions that have been submitted on-line.

ANNEX 15

1. **Specific Programme:** Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area
2. **Activity:** Priority thematic area "Sustainable Development, Global Change and Ecosystems"; Sub-Priority "Global Change and Ecosystems"
3. **Call title:** Thematic call in the area of "Global Change and Ecosystems"
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2002-Global-1
5. **Date of publication:** 17 December 2002
6. **Closure date(s):** 8 April 2003 at 17:00 (Brussels local time)
7. **Total indicative budget:** 170 Million €, broken down as follows

Instrument ¹⁴	€ (millions)
IP and NOE	140
STREP and CA	25
SSA	5

¹⁴ IP = Integrated project; NOE = Network of excellence; STREP = Specific targeted research project; CA = Coordination action; SSA = Specific support action

8. Areas called and Instruments:

Area	Topic	Instrument
Area 6.3.I: Impact and mechanisms of greenhouse gas emissions and atmospheric pollutants on climate, ozone depletion and carbon sinks	6.3.I.1.a)	IP and NOE
	6.3.I.2.a)	IP and NOE
	6.3.I.4.a)	IP and NOE
	6.3.I.5.a)	IP and NOE
	6.3.I.6.a)	IP and NOE
Area 6.3.II: Water cycle, including soil-related aspects	6.3.II.1.1.a)	IP and NOE
	6.3.II.1.2.a)	IP and NOE
	6.3.II.2.1.a)	IP and NOE
	6.3.II.2.2.a)	IP and NOE
	6.3.II.3.1.a)	STREP and CA
Area 6.3.III: Biodiversity and ecosystems	6.3.III.1.1	NOE
	6.3.III.1.2	NOE
	6.3.III.1.3	IP and NOE
	6.3.III.1.4	STREP and CA
	6.3.III.2.1	STREP and CA
Area 6.3.IV: Mechanisms of desertification and natural disasters	6.3.IV.4.1	IP and NOE
	6.3.IV.1.a)	STREP and CA
	6.3.IV.2.a)	IP and NOE
Area 6.3.V: Strategies for sustainable land management, including coastal zones, agricultural land and forests	6.3.IV.2.b)	IP and NOE
	6.3.V.2.2.a)	IP and NOE
Area 6.3.VIII: Cross-cutting issue: Sustainable Development concepts and tools	6.3.VIII.1.a)	STREP and CA
	6.3.VIII.2.a)	STREP and CA
	6.3.VIII.2.b)	STREP and CA
Specific Support Actions	(See "Specific Support Actions" section for details)	SSA

9. Minimum number of participants¹⁵:

Instrument	Minimum number of participants
IP, NOE, STREP and CA	<u>3 independent legal entities from 3 different MS or AS, with at least 2 MS or ACC</u>
SSA	1 legal entity 1 from a MS or AS

10. Restrictions to participation: None.

11. Consortia agreements:

- Participants in IP and NOE are required to conclude a consortium agreement.
- Participants in STREP, CA, and SSA resulting from this call are encouraged, but not required, to conclude a consortium agreement.

12. Evaluation procedure:

- The evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure
- Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously

13. Evaluation criteria:

See Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) per instrument.

14. Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:

- Evaluation results: estimated to be available within two to three months after the closure date;
- Conclusion of first contracts: it is estimated that the first contracts related to this call will signed before the end of 2003.

¹⁵ MS = Member States of the EU; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States; ACC = Associated candidate countries.
Any legal entity established in a Member State or Associated State and which is made up of the requested number of participant may be the sole participant in an indirect action.