

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area'**Thematic calls in the area of 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'**

(2004/C 158/04)

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 programme ⁽³⁾ (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 16 December 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 (referred to as the calls) comprises the present general part and the specific conditions that are described in the annexes. The annexes indicate in particular, the dates 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 Communities ⁽⁵⁾ (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 conditions of participation of the proposers will be verified within the framework of the negotiation of the indirect RTD action. Before that however, proposers will have signed a declaration stating that they do not fall under any of the cases given by Article 93(1) of the Financial Regulation. They will also have given the Commission the information listed in Article 173(2) of the Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002, of 23 December 2002, laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾.

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.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 294, 29.10.2002, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2002)4789, as modified by C(2003)577, C(2003)955, C(2003)1952, C(2003)3543, C(2003)3555, C(2003)4609, C(2003)5183, C(2004)433, and C(2004)2002, all decisions unpublished.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 355, 30.12.2002, p. 23.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

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. The Commission also makes available Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures ⁽¹⁾. These guides and guidelines, as well as the work programme and other information relating to the calls, can be obtained from the Commission via the following addresses:

European Commission
The FP6 Information Desk
Directorate General RTD
B-1049 Brussels
Internet address: www.cordis.lu/fp6

5. Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be submitted in accordance with the following procedures:

- as an electronic proposal via the web-based Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS ⁽²⁾), or
- on paper forms.

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

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be prepared off-line or on-line and submitted on-line. Part B of proposals for indirect RTD actions can only be submitted in pdf (portable document format, compatible with Adobe Version 3 or higher with embedded fonts). Compressed (zipped) files will be excluded.

The EPSS software tool (for off-line or on-line usage) is available via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu

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

Versions of proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on a removable electronic storage medium (eg, CD-ROM, diskette), by email or by fax will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may also be prepared and submitted using the forms in the guide for proposers (referred to as on paper), or using the off-line version of the EPSS.

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

Further details on the various proposal submission procedures are given in Annex J of the Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures.

6. Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on 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 services ⁽³⁾), 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

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.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions not satisfying the conditions relating to the minimum number of participants indicated in the call concerned will be excluded.

This also applies regarding any additional eligibility criteria given in the work programme.

8. In the case of successive submissions of the same proposal for an indirect RTD action, the Commission will examine the last version received before the closure date and time specified in the call concerned.

Where the same proposal for an indirect RTD action is submitted on paper and in electronic format (ie, on-line), the Commission will only examine the text submitted under the electronic format.

9. If foreseen in the relevant call, proposals for indirect RTD actions could be evaluated in the framework of a future evaluation.

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

⁽¹⁾ C(2003)883 of 27.3.2003, as last modified by C(2004)1855 of 18.5.2004.

⁽²⁾ The EPSS is a tool to assist proposers to develop and submit their proposals electronically.

⁽³⁾ Users of courier services that ask for the recipient's telephone number should give the following number: (32-2) 299 1233 (Mrs R Henry).

ANNEX 1

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area
2. **Activity:** Priority thematic area of research 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'.
3. **Call title:** Thematic call in the area of 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'.
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-LIFESCIHEALTH-4
5. **Date of publication:** 15 June 2004
6. **Closure date(s):** 9 September 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 4 million, broken down as follows:

Instrument	(EUR millions)
CA/SSA	4

8. **Areas called and instruments:** Proposals are invited for the following topic, which is described using a short title only. For the full title and definition of topic, applicants must refer to the Work Programme (Section 1.3 Technical Content). The evaluation of proposals will be based on the full definition of topic as described in the Work Programme. For the topic the instrument to be used is indicated.

Topic Ref.	Short Titles of Topics	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.2.0-9	Feasibility study for the coordination of national cancer research activities	CA/SSA

9. **Minimum number of participants⁽¹⁾:**

Instrument	Minimum number of participants
CA	Three independent legal entities from three different MS or AS, with at least two MS or ACC.
SSA	One legal entity from a MS or AS.

10. **Restriction on participation:** None.
11. **Consortia agreements:** Participants in CA or 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,
 - The evaluation process may involve 'remote' evaluation of proposals,
 - Applicants may be invited to discuss their proposal.
13. **Evaluation criteria:** See Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) for CA and SSA.
14. **Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:**
 - evaluation results: estimated to be available within some three months after the closure date,
 - contract signature: it is estimated that the first contracts related to this call will come into force by the end of 2004.

⁽¹⁾ 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.

ANNEX 2

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area
2. **Activity:** Priority thematic area of research 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'.
3. **Call title:** Thematic call in the area of 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'.
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-LIFESCIHEALTH-5
5. **Date of publication:** 15 June 2004
6. **Closure date(s):** 16 November 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 540 million, broken down as follows:

Instrument	(EUR millions)
IP or NOE	405 – 432
STREP or CA or area specific SSA	108 – 135
Strategic SSA across Thematic priority 1	8

8. **Areas called and instruments:** Proposals are invited in the following areas, which are described using activity codes only. For the full titles and definition of areas, applicants must refer to the Work Programme (Section 1.3 Technical Content). The evaluation of proposals will be based on the full definition as described in the Work Programme.

(i) **Advanced genomics and its applications for health**

(a) *Fundamental knowledge and basic tools for functional genomics in all organisms*

Topic reference	Instrument
Gene expression and proteomics	
LSH-2004-1.1.1-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.1.1-2	IP
Structural genomics	
LSH-2004-1.1.2-1	IP
Comparative genomics and population genetics	
LSH-2004-1.1.3-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.1.3-2	IP
Bioinformatics	
LSH-2004-1.1.4-1	NoE
Multidisciplinary functional genomics approaches to basic biological processes	
LSH-2004-1.1.5-1	IP or NoE
LSH-2004-1.1.5-2	IP
LSH-2004-1.1.5-3	NoE
LSH-2004-1.1.5-4	NoE or IP
LSH-2004-1.1.5-5	IP
Across the area	
LSH-2004-1.1.0-1	STREP
LSH-2004-1.1.0-2	CA
LSH-2004-1.1.0-3	SSA

(b) *Application of knowledge and technologies in the field of genomics and biotechnology for health*

Topic reference	Instrument
Rational and accelerated development of new, safer, more effective drugs including pharmacogenomics approaches	
LSH-2004-1.2.1-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-2	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-3	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-4	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-5	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-6	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-7	SSA
Development of new diagnostics	
LSH-2004-1.2.2-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.2-2	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.2-3	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.2-4	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.2-5	SSA
LSH-2004-1.2.2-6	SSA
LSH-2004-1.2.2-7	SSA
Development of new in vitro tests to replace animal experimentation	
LSH-2004-1.2.3-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.3-2	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.3-3	SSA
LSH-2004-1.2.3-4	SSA
LSH-2004-1.2.3-5	SSA
Development and testing of new preventive and therapeutic tools, such as somatic gene and cell therapies (in particular stem cell therapies, for example those on neurological and neuromuscular disorders) and immunotherapies	
LSH-2004-1.2.4-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-2	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-3	NoE
LSH-2004-1.2.4-4	STREP

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-1.2.4-5	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-6	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-7	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-8	SSA
Innovative research in post-genomics, which has high potential for application	
LSH-2004-1.2.5-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.5-2	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.5-3	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.5-4	STREP

(ii) **Combating major diseases**(a) *Application-orientated genomic approaches to medical knowledge and technologies*

Topic reference	Instrument
General	
LSH-2004-2.1.0-1	SSA
Combating, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and rare diseases	
LSH-2004-2.1.1-1	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-2	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-3	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-4	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-5	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-6	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-7	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-8	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-9	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-10	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-11	CA
LSH-2004-2.1.1-12	CA/SSA
Combating resistance to antibiotics and other drugs	
LSH-2004-2.1.2-1	NoE
LSH-2004-2.1.2-2	STREP

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.1.2-3	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.2-4	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.2-5	SSA
LSH-2004-2.1.2-6	SSA
Studying the brain and combating diseases of the nervous system	
LSH-2004-2.1.3-1	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.3-2	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.3-3	STREP/CA
LSH-2004-2.1.3-4	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.3-5	CA/SSA
LSH-2004-2.1.3-6	SSA
LSH-2004-2.1.3-7	SSA
LSH-2004-2.1.3-8	SSA
Studying human development and the ageing process	
LSH-2004-2.1.4-1	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.4-2	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.4-3	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.4-4	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.4-5	SSA

(b) *Combating cancer*

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.2.0-1	NoE
LSH-2004-2.2.0-2	IP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-3	IP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-4	NoE
LSH-2004-2.2.0-5	IP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-6	STREP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-7	STREP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-8	STREP

(c) *Confronting the major communicable diseases linked to poverty*

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.3.0-1	IP/NoE
LSH-2004-2.3.0-2	IP

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.3.0-3	IP/NoE
LSH-2004-2.3.0-4	IP
LSH-2004-2.3.0-5	STREP
LSH-2004-2.3.0-6	STREP
LSH-2004-2.3.0-7	STREP
LSH-2004-2.3.0-8	CA
LSH-2004-2.3.0-9	CA

SSAs across Thematic Priority 1

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-3-1	SSA
LSH-2004-3-2	SSA
LSH-2004-3-3	SSA
LSH-2004-3-4	SSA
LSH-2004-3-5	SSA
LSH-2004-3-6	SSA
LSH-2004-3-7	SSA
LSH-2004-3-8	SSA

9. **Minimum number of participants⁽¹⁾:**

Instrument	Minimum number of participants
IP, NOE, STREP and CA	Three independent legal entities from three different MS or AS, with at least two MS or ACC.
SSA	One legal entity from a MS or AS.

10. **Restriction on 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,
- the evaluation process may involve 'remote' evaluation of proposals,
- applicants may be invited to discuss their proposal.

⁽¹⁾ 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

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 some four months after the closure date,
 - contract signature: it is estimated that the first contracts related to this call will come into force by the end of 2005.
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