

Annex D - Promotion of co-operation with Associated Candidate Countries

In this annex, Specific Support Actions will be implemented to stimulate, encourage and facilitate the participation of organisations from the Associated Candidate Countries (ACC) in the activities of the priority thematic areas. These will comprise information-, awareness-, and training activities; promotion of ACC competencies; support to researchers from these countries to participate in conferences and to prepare proposals; establishment and reinforcement of networks of high quality research centres between Member States and ACC, and between high quality research centres of ACC and within ACC; measures in support of SMEs in ACC to better participate; evaluation of RTD systems and RTD policies in a particular field; the screening of research establishments active in a particular field; and prospective studies aimed at defining research policies and organisation of research systems in a particular field.

Two types of calls are foreseen under this initiative: a general call covering all priority thematic areas (call fiche 1), and calls specific to the priority thematic areas (call fiches 2- ...).

It is important to note that the calls foreseen under this initiative do not replace any calls either on-going or foreseen under other parts of this work programme.

D. 1 General Call

The general call would aim at selecting one or more entities (public research body, public body of management, etc.) in each associated candidate country to:

- Network the NCPs (National Contact Persons)

Various networks exist in each country to disseminate information on the Sixth Framework Programme: NCPs (for each programme activity), liaison officers (persons in research centres), members of the committees, etc.

The aim would be to create a virtual network involving these people, to improve the distribution of information within both the associated candidate countries as well as the member states. This network could complement the "European Network of Mobility Centres" and would not support similar activities.

The action would also cover the organisation of meetings to exchange "best practices", as well as to assist researchers prepare proposals.

- Undertake individual actions for the SMEs

In order to facilitate the participation of SMEs in the priority thematic areas of FP6 the selected entities would be expected to carry out the following activities:

- Assist SMEs identifying the priority thematic areas and instruments most relevant to their particular research need;

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- Advise on administrative procedures and contractual issues (e.g. role and responsibilities of participants in a consortium, costs, rights and obligations of contractors, etc.);
- Assist SMEs in partner-search activities;
- Provide technical assistance to proposal preparation, particularly to SMEs willing to co-ordinate or to take any other active role in IPs and in NoEs;
- Advise SMEs in the creation of SME groupings aiming at becoming partners in EU proposals.

The Community contribution would be related to the number of eligible proposals submitted by the SMEs for a given country and will not exceed 5.000€ for each SME eligible proposal.

- Network high quality centres of research:

The selected public entity would network high quality centres of research and support for the operation of these networks in a scientific field involving the priority thematic themes.

The aim of the network would be:

- to mobilise the human and material resources existing in a given field in associated candidate country.
- to disseminate scientific information as well as the results of research;
- to greatly facilitate communication between the centres having similar scientific interest.

For that purpose, the following would be financed: meetings bringing together scientific persons covering certain thematic priority areas for the Sixth Framework Programme, so that they could co-ordinate their activities and, amongst things, carry out exchanges of the results and of personnel (visits and research stays in partner laboratories).

- Organise information events:

The involves the organisation of annual national information events to present the work programmes of the Sixth Framework Programme and the contents of the calls for proposal.

D. 2 Specific Call

This call aim to fund specific actions in the following thematic priority areas:

- Nano-technologies and nano-sciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials, and new production processes and devices
- Aeronautics and space

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- Food quality and safety
- Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems: Sustainable Energy Systems
- Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems: Sustainable surface transport

For the thematic priority areas of “Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health” and “Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems: Global change and ecosystems”, special actions will be launched later this year. For details of the actions launched by “Information Society technologies” and “Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society”, see chapters 2 and 7 of this work programme, respectively.

The call address the following:

- Organise conferences in the associated candidate countries, that would involve researchers from both associated candidate countries and member states.
- Organise brokerage events and seminars where researchers from the associated candidate countries can meet other researchers and scientists from the same sector from other associated candidate countries and from member states with a view to participating particularly in proposals for integrated projects and networks of excellence;
- Evaluation:
 - Evaluation of the policies in a given research field as well as of performing studies aimed at the establishment of useful elements for the definition of the research policies in this field;
 - Independent evaluations undertaken in individual sectors;
- The creation of detailed databases of researchers and research organisations in the candidate countries which contain information that would facilitate partner searching for the creation of consortia.

CALL FICHE 1

- 1) **Specific programme**: Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area
- 2) **Thematic priority/Domain**: All thematic priority areas
- 3) **Call title**: Specific Support Actions (SSA) for Associated Candidate Countries
- 4) **Call identifier**: FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-General
- 5) **Date of publication**¹: 26 March 2003
- 6) **Closure dates**²: 26 June 2003 at 17h00 (Brussels local time)
- 7) **Total indicative budget**: 9.000.000 €
- 8) **Area & instruments**:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
See Annex D, Section D.1 of the Work Programme	Specific support action

- 9) **Minimum number of participants**³:

<u>Instrument</u>	<u>Minimum number</u>
Specific support action	1 legal entity

- 10) **Restriction to participation**: None
- 11) **Consortium agreement**: Participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are not required to conclude a consortium agreement.
- 12) **Evaluation procedure**:

¹ The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of publication.

² Where the envisaged date of publication is anticipated or delayed (see footnote 1), closure date(s) will be adjusted accordingly in the published call for proposals.

³ MS = Member States of the EU ; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States ; ACC : Associated candidate countries – Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Rep., Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey.

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- 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 selection timetable**:

- evaluation results: 2 months after the relevant closure date mentioned in n°6
- contract signature: 6 months after the relevant closure date mentioned in n°6

CALL FICHE 2

1) **Specific programme**: Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area

2) **Thematic priority/Domain**:

- Nano-technologies and nano-sciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials, and new production processes and devices
- Aeronautics and space
- Food quality and safety
- Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems
 - (i) Sustainable Energy Systems
 - (ii) Sustainable surface transport

3) **Call title**: Targeted Specific Support Actions (SSA) for Associated Candidate Countries

4) **Call identifiers**:

- Nano-technologies and nano-sciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials, and new production processes and devices (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-*NMP*)
- Aeronautics and space (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-*Aero-Space*)
- Food quality and safety (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-*Food*)
- Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems: Sustainable Energy Systems (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-*Energy*)
- Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems: Sustainable surface transport (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-*Transport*)

5) **Date of publication**¹: 26 March 2003

6) **Closure dates**²: 26 June 2003 at 17h00 (Brussels local time)

7) **Total indicative budget**: up to 4.000.000 € with up to 1.000.000 € per priority thematic area.

8) **Area & instruments**:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
See Annex D, Section D.2 of the Work Programme	Specific support action

9) **Minimum number of participants**³:

¹ The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of publication.

² Where the envisaged date of publication is anticipated or delayed (see footnote 1), closure date(s) will be adjusted accordingly in the published call for proposals.

<u>Instrument</u>	<u>Minimum number</u>
Specific support action	1 legal entity

10) **Restriction to participation**: None

11) **Consortium agreement**: Participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are 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 selection timetable**:

- evaluation results: 2 months after the relevant closure date mentioned in n°6
- contract signature: 6 months after the relevant closure date mentioned in n°6

³ MS = Member States of the EU ; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States ; ACC : Associated candidate countries – Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Rep., Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey.