Call for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on ‘Promotion of innovation and encouragement of SME participation’ (1998 to 2002)

Call identifier: INN/00/02

(2000/C 165/10)

1. In accordance with the Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 December 1998, concerning the fifth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration (RTD) activities for the period 1998 to 2002 (1) (hereinafter referred to as the fifth framework programme), and with the Council Decision of January 25, 1999, adopting the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on ‘Promotion of innovation and encouragement of SME participation’ (1998 to 2002) (2) (hereinafter referred to as the specific programme), the European Commission hereby invites proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme.

In conformity with Article 5 of the specific programme, a work programme (3), specifying detailed objectives and RTD priorities and an indicative timetable for their implementation, was drawn up by the European Commission to serve as the basis for implementing the specific programme. The objectives, priorities, indicative budget and types of indirect RTD actions referred to in this call notice correspond to those set out in the work programme.

2. This call relates to proposals, specified under point 4 of this call, called by a fixed deadline following which evaluation will take place. Proposals not having met this deadline will not be considered under this call notice.

3. The specific programme is implemented through indirect RTD actions as provided for in Annexes II and IV to the fifth framework programme and in Annex III to the specific programme.

Evaluation and selection criteria and modalities relevant to this call are given in the fifth framework programme, the specific programme, the Council Decision of 22 December 1998, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities and for the dissemination of research results for the implementation of the fifth framework programme (4) (hereinafter referred to as the rules for participation and dissemination), the work programme. The fifth framework programme ‘Manual of proposals evaluation procedures’ (5), along with its annex on this specific programme, and the European Commission Regulation on the implementation of the rules for participation and dissemination (6), provide further details.

Information on these rules and on how to prepare and submit proposals is given in the guide for proposers, which can be obtained, along with the work programme and other information relating to this call, from the European Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Innovation Help Desk
DG Enterprise/C.3
Office EUFO 2286
Rue Alcide de Gasperi
L-2920 Luxembourg
E-mail: innovation@cec.eu.int
Fax (352) 43 01-320 84
Internet: http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/src/cont-cec.htm

4. Those eligible to participate in indirect RTD actions under the specific programme are hereby invited to submit proposals that address the following part of the work programme:

**Innovating regions in Europe network and regional innovation strategy projects in newly associated countries (NAC)**

The scope of the call is to:

(a) provide a platform for all European regions which are interested in regional innovation strategies, policies and schemes to exchange experience and get access to good practice;

(b) help regions in NAC to develop regional innovation systems through appropriate partnerships with EEA countries.

The indicative budget available for this call is EUR 9.25 million of Community contribution from the specific programme.

Proposals are invited to be submitted in one step.

Deadline for receipt: 15 September 2000.

(2) OJ L 64, 12.3.1999, p. 91.
(4) OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 46.
5. Proposals must be sent on or before the deadline applicable to that type of indirect RTD action by one of the following methods:

— by post, preferably registered, as confirmed by the postmark, to:

European Commission Research Proposal Office (ORBN 8) Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200 B-1049 Brussels

— by courier (¹) or hand-delivered, as confirmed by acknowledgement of receipt, by 17.00 (Brussels local time) to:

European Commission Research Proposal Office Square Frère Orban/Frère Orbanplein 8 B-1049 Brussels

Please mark envelopes with appropriate call identifier.

— by electronic submission, the details of which are given in the guide for proposers. When packaging a proposal for electronic submission, two files are created. The first is a small validation file which provides basic information on the proposal and a unique identification code. This validation file must be received by the European Commission on or before the deadline specified above. The second file contains the proposal and must be received unmodified, as verifiable from the unique identification code, not later than 48 hours after that deadline.

(¹) For courier services that require a telephone number for the recipient, please use (32-2) 296 02 45.

Proposals sent by post must be posted on or before the applicable deadline. Proposals received by the European Commission up to 10 working days after this deadline will be accepted if both sent by post and clearly postmarked on or before the deadline. Proposals sent by courier service or hand-delivered must be received on or before the deadline.

Proposers are requested to use only one of the methods, described above to submit proposals, and to submit only one version of any given proposal. In the case of an eligible proposal being received in both paper and electronic formats, only the electronic version will be evaluated.

6. In all correspondence relating to this call (eg, when requesting information, or submitting a proposal) please make sure to cite the relevant call identifier.

In submitting a proposal, either on paper or electronically, proposers accept the procedures and conditions as described in this call and in the documents to which it refers.

All proposals received by the European Commission will be treated in strict confidence.

According to the rules for participation and dissemination and the European Commission regulation for implementing them, Member States and Associated States may have access, on presentation of a reasoned request, to useful knowledge which is relevant to policy-making. This knowledge must have been generated by those RTD actions supported as a result of this call and which addressed a part of the work programme specified as eligible for such access.

The European Community pursues an equal opportunities policy and, in this context, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals or to be involved in their submission.

Notification of delay for the publication of the second call for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on Improving the Human Research Potential and the Socio-Economic Knowledge Base

Research Training Networks

(2000/C 165/11)

The second call for proposals for Research Training Networks for which the publication was initially foreseen on 15 June 2000, in accordance with the work programme (¹), specifying detailed objectives and RTD priorities and an indicative timetable for their implementation drawn up by the European Commission to serve as the basis for implementing the specific programme, will be published at a later date.