

Call for proposals to extend existing contracts under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on 'Energy, environment and sustainable development' (1) part B: Energy' (1998 to 2002) to include partners from the 'newly associated States' (NAS)

Call identifier: Energie NAS

(2001/C 240/08)

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 (2) (hereinafter referred to as the fifth framework programme), and with the Council Decision of 25 January 1999, adopting the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on 'Energy, environment and sustainable development, part B: Energy' (1998 to 2002) (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 actions referred to in this call notice correspond to those described 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 notably through indirect RTD actions as provided for in Annexes II and IV of the fifth framework programme and in Annex III of 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), and the work programme. The fifth framework programme manual of proposal 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 (7), which can be obtained, along with the work programme and other information relating to this call, from the European Commission using one of the following addresses:

— For information on proposals to extend existing contracts managed by DG TREN:

European Commission
Directorate-General TREN B/2
Energy Info-desk
DM 24, 7/40
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
B-1049 Brussels
E-mail: tren-energyRTDinfo@cec.eu.int
Fax (32-2) 295 43 49
Web: <http://www.cordis.lu/eesd>

— For information on proposals to extend existing contracts managed by DG RTD:

European Commission
Energy Info-desk
MO 75
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
B-1049 Brussels
E-mail: helpline-energy@cec.eu.int
Fax (32-2) 296 06 21
Web: <http://www.cordis.lu/eesd>

(1) OJ L 64, 12.3.1999, p. 58.

(2) OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 1.

(3) Commission Decision C(1999) 606 of 17.3.1999, as last modified by Commission Decision C(2001) 2356 of 31.7.2001.

(4) OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 46.

(5) Commission Decision C(1999) 710 of 24.3.1999, as last modified by the Commission Decision C(2000) 3643 of 4.12.2000.

(6) OJ L 122, 12.5.1999, p. 9.

(7) July 2001 version.

Important: Proposers are **strongly recommended** to submit a pre-proposal check (forms available in the guide for proposers). Pre-proposal checks will not be accepted later than six weeks before the deadline for this call.

4. Those eligible to participate in indirect RTD actions under the specific programme are hereby invited to submit proposals for research and technological development projects, demonstration projects, combined RTD/demonstration projects, thematic networks and concerted actions that address Annex V of the work programme. The updated version of the work programme can be obtained from the following website: <http://www.cordis.lu/eesd>

This call concerns exclusively the extension of currently running 'Energy, environment and sustainable development part B: Energy' contracts by new participants from the NAS: Bulgaria, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia. One or more new partners from NAS may be included in the extension.

The indicative budget available for this call is EUR 5 million. Support will only be considered for the extension of existing 'Energy, environment and sustainable development part B: Energy' contracts to include partners from NAS.

The additional participants should clearly add value to the existing projects. The duration of the existing contract should be such that an extension to partners from NAS is useful. It is recommended that the minimum remaining duration of the existing contract is of at least one year, running from 14 December 2001.

Proposals can be submitted for all activities of the programme 'Energy, environment and sustainable development part B: Energy'.

Proposals for partnership extension should be submitted by the co-ordinator, acting on behalf of all the participants in the existing project, together with the new participant(s) from the NAS.

5. Proposals must be received by the Commission no later than 5 p.m. (Brussels local time) on 14 December 2001 by one of the following methods:

— Post, courier⁽¹⁾ or hand-delivered to the following address:

'ENERGIE-NAS'

The Research Proposal Office (ORBN 8)
Square Frère Orban/Frère Orban-plein 8
B-1040 Brussels;

- 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 not later than 5 p.m. (Brussels local time) on the deadline for receipt specified in annex. The second file contains the proposal and must be received unmodified, as verifiable from the unique identification code, not later than 48 hours after this deadline.

Proposers are requested to use only one of the methods, described above, by which 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 (e.g. when requesting information, or submitting a proposal) please make sure to cite the applicable call identifier: 'Energie-NAS'.

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.

⁽¹⁾ For courier services that require a telephone number for the recipient, please use (32-2) 298 42 06.