

Call title: ENVIRONMENT 2012: TWO-STAGE

- **Call identifier:** FP7-ENV-2012-two-stage
- **Date of publication:** 20 July 2011
- **Deadline:** First stage: 20 October 2011¹ at 17.00.00, Brussels local time
- **Indicative budget²:** EUR 217 million³

Table1. Indicative budget breakdown by challenge/activity:

Challenge/activity	Indicative budget (EUR million)
6.1 Coping with climate change	48
6.2 Sustainable use and management of land and seas	38
6.3 Improving resource efficiency	50
6.4 Protecting citizens from environmental hazards	42
6.5 Mobilising environmental knowledge for policy, industry and society	39

The budget for this call is indicative. The final budget awarded to actions implemented through calls for proposals may vary:

- The final budget of the call may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the indicated budget for each call; and
- Any repartition of the call budget may also vary by up to 10% of the total value of the indicated budget for the call.

¹ The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

² A reserve list per indicative will be constituted if there is a sufficient number of good quality proposals. It will be used if extra budget become available.

³ Under the condition that the draft budget for 2012 is adopted without modification by the budgetary authority.

• **Topics called for the FP7-ENV-2012-two-stage call:**

Challenge/Topics called	Funding Schemes and additional eligibility criteria
Challenge 6.1 Coping with climate change	
<i>ENV.2012. 6.1-1 Seasonal-to-decadal climate predictions towards climate services One or more proposals can be selected.</i>	<i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 9 000 000</i>
<i>ENV.2012.6.1-2 Development of advanced techno-economic modelling tools for assessing costs and impacts of mitigation policies One or more proposals can be selected.</i>	<i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 6 000 000</i>
<i>ENV.2012.6.1-3 Strategies, costs and impacts of adaptation to climate change One or more proposals can be selected.</i>	<i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 6 000 000</i>
Challenge 6.2 Sustainable use and management of land and seas	
<i>ENV.2012.6.2-1 Exploration of the operational potential of the concepts of ecosystem services and natural capital to systematically inform sustainable land, water and urban management One or more proposals can be selected.</i>	<i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 9 000 000 Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 15% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.</i>
<i>ENV.2012.6.2-2 Assessing global biological resources: the European contribution to the Global Earth Observation Biodiversity Observation Network⁴ (GEO BON) Up to one proposal can be selected.</i>	<i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 9 000 000 Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 15% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.</i>
<i>ENV.2012.6.2-3 Innovative tools for understanding and integrated assessment of Good Environmental Status (GES) of marine waters ('The Ocean for Tomorrow') Up to one proposal can be selected.</i>	<i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 9 000 000 Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 15% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.</i>

⁴ This topic will provide knowledge and information on biological resources complementary to the actions conducted in GMES initiative (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) e.g. GMES Land Monitoring Services.

<p><i>ENV.2012.6.2-4 Management and potential impacts of litter in the marine and coastal environment ('The Ocean for Tomorrow') Up to one proposal can be selected.</i></p>	<p><i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 3 000 000 Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 15% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.</i></p>
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6.3 Improving resource efficiency

<p><i>ENV.2012.6.3-1 Innovative resource efficient technologies, processes and services One or more proposals can be selected.</i></p>	<p><i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 30% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.</i></p>
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6.4 Protecting citizens from environmental hazards

<p><i>ENV.2012.6.4-1 Improving the resilience of society to catastrophic natural hazards through new risk-management partnerships One or more proposals can be selected.</i></p>	<p><i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 6 000 000</i></p>
<p><i>ENV.2012.6.4-2 Long-term monitoring experiment in geologically active regions of Europe prone to natural hazards: the Supersite concept⁵ One or more proposals can be selected.</i></p>	<p><i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 6 000 000 Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 15% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.</i></p>
<p><i>ENV.2012.6.4-3 Integrating environmental and health data to advance knowledge of the role of environment in human health and well-being in support of a European exposome initiative One or more proposals can be selected.</i></p>	<p><i>Collaborative Project The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 9 000 000</i></p>

⁵ This topic will conduct long-term monitoring experiments in European areas prone to geohazards complementary to the actions conducted in the GMES initiative (Global Monitoring for Environmental and Security) e.g. GMES emergency management services.
<http://supersites.earthobservations.org/main.php>

6.5 Mobilising environmental knowledge for policy, industry and society

<p><i>ENV.2012.6.5-1 Developing community-based environmental monitoring and information systems using innovative and novel earth observation applications⁶</i> <i>One or more proposals can be selected.</i></p>	<p><i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project</i> <i>The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 9 000 000</i> <i>Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 30% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.</i></p>
<p><i>ENV.2012.6.5-2 Demonstration and exploitation of most promising prototypes and tools derived from European research activities</i> <i>One or more proposals can be selected.</i></p>	<p><i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project</i> <i>The requested European Union contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 3 000 000</i> <i>Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 30% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.</i></p>

- **Eligibility conditions:**

- The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 of this work programme, and in the Guide for Applicants. Please note that the completeness criterion also includes that part B of the proposal shall be readable, accessible and printable.
- Standard minimum number of participating legal entities for all funding schemes used in the call, in line with the Rules for Participation are indicated below.

Funding scheme	Minimum conditions
Collaborative Project/ SME-targeted Collaborative Project	At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no 2 of which are established in the same MS or AC

- The eligibility criteria apply to both first and second stage proposals. At stage 1, only information provided in part A of the proposal will be used to determine whether the proposal is eligible with respect to budget thresholds, while part B will be used to check the number of eligible participants. At stage 2, part A will be used alone to determine these eligibility conditions.

⁶ This topic will explore new approaches to complete the global network of in-situ sensors necessary to monitor the environment complementary to the actions conducted in the GMES initiative (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security).

The following additional eligibility conditions apply in this call:

- It is important to note that the upper limits for requested EU contribution given per topic will be applied as an additional eligibility criterion and those proposals which do not respect these limits will be considered as ineligible.
- At stage 2, for topics ENV.2012.6.2-2, ENV.2012.6.4-2, the following additional eligibility criterion will be applied: Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 15% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.
- At stage 2, for topics ENV.2012.6.3-1, ENV.2012.6.5-1, ENV.2012.6.5-2, the following additional eligibility criterion will be applied: Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimate EU contribution going to SMEs is 30% or more of the total estimated EU contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement. Proposals not fulfilling this criterion will not be funded.

• **Evaluation procedure:**

- The evaluation criteria and scoring scheme are set out below and complemented by annex 2 to the Cooperation work programme.
- Proposal page limits: Applicants must ensure that proposals conform to the page limits and layout given in the Guide for Applicants, and in the proposal part B template available through the EPSS.
- The Commission will instruct the experts to disregard any pages exceeding these limits.
- The minimum font size allowed is 11 points. The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 15 mm (not including any footers or headers).
- A two-stage submission and evaluation procedure will be used.
- Experts will carry out the individual evaluation of proposals remotely.
- The procedure for prioritising proposals with equal scores is described in annex 2 of the Cooperation work programme.
- A ranked list will be drawn up for each indicative budget shown in the call fiche.

Additional information regarding evaluation criteria and procedures:

- Stage 1 proposals shall be submitted by the closure date mentioned above 20/10/2011 at 17:00.00, Brussels, local time. For successful stage 1 proposals, coordinators will receive an invitation to submit their full proposal instead of an *Evaluation Summary Report*. The closure date of the stage 2 submission will be specified in the invitation to submit the complete proposal. The indicative closure date for stage 2 is 15/02/2012 at 17:00.00, Brussels, local time.
- Stage 1 proposals are evaluated on the basis of their **S/T quality** and **Impact**. For each criterion marks from 0 to 5 will be given, with the possibility of 0.5 point scores. Successful proposals must pass the minimum thresholds as follows:

STAGE 1	Minimum threshold
S/T quality	4/5
Impact	3/5
Overall threshold	8/10

- Only proposals that will pass all thresholds will be invited to present a full proposal for Stage 2.
- Stage 2 proposals are evaluated on the basis of the following three criteria: **1. S/T quality; 2. Implementation; 3. Impact**. For each criterion marks from 0 to 5 will be given, with the possibility of 0.5 point scores. Successful proposals must pass the minimum thresholds as follows:

STAGE 2	Minimum threshold
S/T quality	4/5
Implementation	3/5
Impact	3/5
Overall threshold	11/15

- **Indicative timetable:** The stage 1 evaluation should be finalised at the end of December 2011. The evaluation of the stage 2 is expected to take place in March 2012. Overall evaluations results are estimated to be available within 3 months after the closure date for stage 2 proposals. It is expected that grant agreement negotiations for short-listed proposals will begin in May/June 2012.
- **Consortia agreements:** In line with the Rules for Participation and the Model Grant Agreement, participants in Collaborative Projects are required to conclude a consortium agreement prior to grant agreement.
- **The forms of grants and maximum reimbursement rates** which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to the Cooperation work programme.

- **Flat rates to cover subsistence costs:** In accordance with Annex 3 of this work programme, this call provides for the possibility to use flat rates to cover subsistence costs incurred by beneficiaries during travel carried out within grants for indirect actions. For further information, see the relevant Guides for Applicants for this call. The applicable flat rates are available at the following website: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/find-doc_en.html under 'Guidance documents/Flat rates for daily allowances'.
- **Dissemination:** Grant agreements of projects financed under this call for proposals will include the special clause 39 on the 'Open access pilot in FP7'. This includes the obligation on beneficiaries to ensure free access to peer-reviewed articles resulting from projects via an institutional or subject-based repository.