

Call identifier: FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2011-1

- **Date of publication:** 20 July 2010
- **Deadline¹:** 25 November 2010, at 17.00.00, Brussels local time.
- **Indicative budget²:** EUR 163.45 million³

Line of action/Activity	Funding scheme(s)	EUR million indicative
1.1 Support to existing research infrastructures		
1.1.1 Integrating Activities	Combination of Collaborative projects and Coordination and Support Actions (CP-CSA)	103.95
1.2 Support to new research infrastructures		
1.2.1 Design Studies	Collaborative projects (CP) or Coordination and Support Actions - coordinating actions (CSA-CA)	20.00
1.2.3 Construction of new infrastructures (or major upgrades) - implementation phase	Combination of Collaborative projects and Coordination and Support Actions (CP-CSA)	30.00
1.3 Support to policy development and programme implementation	Coordination and Support Actions (CSA-CA or CSA-SA)	9.50

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

² The final budget of the call may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the 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.

³ Under the condition that the draft budget for 2011 is adopted without modifications by the budgetary authority

- **Topics called**

1.1.1 Integrating Activities

Social Sciences and Humanities

- INFRA-2011-1.1.1. Language Resources and Tools for cross-disciplinary research in social sciences and humanities.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.2. European Data Infrastructure for multidisciplinary research in the socio-economic behaviour of individuals and households, related to sustainability policy, climate change policy and environmental risk.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.3. Integrating Digital Archives and Resources for Research on Medieval and Modern European History.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.4. Integrating Archives for research on Contemporary European Social History.

Life Sciences

- INFRA-2011-1.1.5. Facilities and resources for multinational clinical trials.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.6. Facilities and resources for protein structure determination at synchrotron radiation sources
- INFRA-2011-1.1.7. Life sciences bio-molecular data resources and services.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.8. Facilities and resources for plant phenotyping.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.9. Facilities and services for livestock physiology and phenomics.

Environmental Sciences and Earth Sciences

- INFRA-2011-1.1.10. Research Infrastructures for Carbon Cycle Observations.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.11. Integrated non-CO2 greenhouse gas Observing Systems.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.12. Integrated observatories and centres for marine and freshwater biodiversity and for long-term ecosystems research.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.13. Research infrastructures for forestry research.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.14. Multidisciplinary Marine Data Centres.

Energy

- INFRA-2011-1.1.15. Research Infrastructures for thermo-chemical biomass conversion.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.16. Research Infrastructures for Hydrogen & Fuel Cells facilities.

Materials and Analytical Facilities

- INFRA-2011-1.1.17. Infrastructures for Neutron Scattering and Muon Spectroscopy.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.18. Synchrotron radiation sources and Free Electron Lasers.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.19. Laser sources.

Physics and Astronomy

- INFRA-2011-1.1.20. Research Infrastructures for hadron physics: Studying the properties of nuclear matter at extreme conditions.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.21. Research Infrastructures for advanced radio astronomy.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.22. Research Infrastructures for optical/IR astronomy.
- INFRA-2011-1.1.23. Research Infrastructures for astroparticle physics: High energy cosmic rays, multi-messenger approach.

1.2.1 Design Studies

- INFRA-2011-2.1.1: Design studies for research infrastructures in all S&T fields.

1.2.3 Construction of new infrastructures (or major upgrades) - implementation phase

- INFRA-2011-2.3.1: Implementation of common solutions for a cluster of ESFRI infrastructures in the field of "Social Sciences and Humanities".
- INFRA-2011-2.3.2: Implementation of common solutions for a cluster of ESFRI infrastructures in the field of "Life sciences".
- INFRA-2011-2.3.3: Implementation of common solutions for a cluster of ESFRI infrastructures in the field of "Environmental Sciences".
- INFRA-2011-2.3.4: Implementation of common solutions for a cluster of ESFRI infrastructures in the field of "Physics, Astronomy and Analytical Facilities".

1.3 Support to policy development and programme implementation

- INFRA-2011-3.1: ERA-NET supporting cooperation for research infrastructures in all S&T fields.
- INFRA-2011-3.2: Coordination actions, conferences and studies supporting policy development, including international cooperation, for research infrastructures in all fields of S&T.
- INFRA-2011-3.3: Study for the development of a possible future EU action on scientific instrumentation.

- **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.
- The minimum number of participating legal entities required, for all funding schemes, is set out in the Rules for Participation and presented in the table below.

Funding scheme	Minimum conditions
Collaborative Projects	At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.
Combination of Collaborative projects and Coordination and Support Actions (CP-CSA)	At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.
Coordination and Support Actions - coordinating action (CSA-CA)	At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.
Coordination and Support Actions - supporting action (CSA-SA)	At least 1 independent legal entity.

- For activity 1.1.1 (Integrating Activities) the following additional eligibility criteria apply in this call:
 - The requested EU contribution shall not exceed EUR 10 million with the exception of topics INFRA-2011-1.1.17 and INFRA-2011-1.1.18 where the maximum EU contribution is EUR 15 million.

- Proposals must address all the three categories of activities (*networking activities, trans-national access and/or service activities, and joint research activities*) of the I3 model as defined in Section VII.
- For activity 1.2.3 (Construction of new infrastructures – implementation phase) the requested EU contribution shall not exceed EUR 15 million.
- For ERA-NET proposals (topic INFRA-2011-3.1) the minimum number of participants is three independent legal entities which finance or manage publicly funded national or regional programmes and/or policy actions for research infrastructure. Each of these must be established in a different Member State or Associated country.

Partners for ERA-NET actions eligible to satisfy the above condition are:

- Programme owners: typically national ministries/regional authorities responsible for defining, financing or managing programmes and/or policy actions for research infrastructure carried out at national or regional level.
- Programme 'managers' (such as research councils or funding agencies) or other national or regional organisations that implement research infrastructure-related programmes and policy actions under the supervision of the programme owners.
- Programme owners (typically national ministries/regional authorities) which do not have a running or fully fledged programme or policy action at the moment of submitting an ERA-NET proposal, but which are planning, and have committed, to set up such a programme, are also eligible if their participation is well justified and adds value to the overall programme coordination. As such, countries or regions which have less diverse programmes (in particular new Member States and candidate Associated countries) will find their involvement in the ERA-NET scheme greatly facilitated.

Please note that research organisations or universities which are not programme/policy action owners or managers are not eligible partners for ERA-NET actions.

In addition to the minimum number of independent legal entities mentioned above, private legal entities (e.g. charities) which manage programmes may participate if their participation is well justified and adds value to the overall programme coordination.

Sole participants (as referred to in Article 10 of the Rules for Participation) may be eligible if the above-mentioned specific criteria for eligible ERA-NET partners are respected. A sole participant shall explicitly indicate which of his 'members' forming a sole legal entity is either a programme owner or programme manager in the proposed action and indicate for these members, the respective national/regional programmes which are at the disposal of the proposed ERA-NET action.

- Only information provided in part A of the proposal will be used to determine whether the proposal is eligible with respect to budget thresholds and/or minimum number of eligible participants.
- **Evaluation procedure:**
 - The evaluation criteria and scoring scheme are set out in Annex 2 of the 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 is 11. All margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 15 mm (not including any footers or headers).

- A one stage submission procedure will be followed.
- Experts will carry out the individual evaluation of proposals remotely.
- The procedure for prioritising proposals with equal scores is described below. It will be applied successively for every group of ex aequo proposals requiring prioritisation, starting with the highest scored group, and continuing in descending order:
 - (i) Proposals that address topics not otherwise covered by more highly-rated proposals, will be considered to have the highest priority.
 - (ii) These proposals will themselves be prioritised according to the scores they have been awarded for the criterion *impact*. If necessary, any further prioritisation will be based on other appropriate characteristics, to be decided by the panel, related to the contribution of the proposal to the European Research Area and/or general objectives mentioned in the work programme.
 - (iii) The method described in (ii) will then be applied to the remaining ex aequos in the group.
- Specific selection and award criteria for activities 1.1.1 and 1.2.3 are set out in section VII.2 and VII.3 replacing those of annex 2 to the Capacities work programme.
- For the evaluation of ERA-NET (topic INFRA-2011-3.1) the general criteria and thresholds applicable to Coordination and Support Actions given in Annex 2 are complemented by the following sub-criteria:
 - 1. *Scientific and/or technological excellence - Quality of coordination (Threshold 3/5)*
 - Level of ambition in the collaboration and commitment of the participants in the proposed ERA-NET action to coordinate their national/regional programmes and/or policy actions for research infrastructures.
 - 2. *Quality and efficiency of the implementation (Threshold 3/5) – no additional criteria*
 - 3. *Potential impact (Threshold 3/5)*
 - Contribution to establishing and strengthening a durable cooperation between the partners and their national/regional programmes and/or policy actions for research infrastructures.
- A reserve list may be produced of projects that pass the evaluation but fall below the available budget in case additional budget becomes available.
- **Indicative timetable:**
 - Evaluation results: estimated to be available within some 4 months after the closure date.
 - Grant Agreement signature: it is estimated that the first grant agreements related to this call will come into force before the end of 2011.
- **Consortia agreements:** Participants in activities 1.1.1 and 1.2.3 are required to conclude a consortium agreement.
- **The forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates** which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to the Capacities work programme.
- **Particular requirements for participation, evaluation and implementation** (not to be applied as formal eligibility criteria):

- For activity 1.1.1 (Integrating Activities) it is recommended that the duration of a proposal is 4 years and that at least one third of the EU contribution is allocated to the transnational access/service activities. In general, each topic corresponds to a given class of research infrastructures and consortia are encouraged to be as comprehensive as possible on a European scale to avoid competing proposals under the same topic.
 - For activity 1.2.1 (Design Studies) it is recommended that the duration of a proposal is 3-4 years with a requested EU contribution in the range of EUR 2 million to 5 million.
 - For activity 1.2.3 (Construction of new infrastructures (or major upgrades) – implementation phase) it is recommended that the duration of a proposal is 3-4 years. A proposal for a cluster of projects should include all the ESFRI projects in a given field (as defined in the topics) that have sufficiently progressed in their preparatory phase and that can demonstrate a clear commitment for their construction from Member States and International Organisations through e.g. letters from Ministries or signed Memoranda of Understanding.
 - For the topic "3.1 ERA-NET", it is recommended that the duration of a proposal is 2-3 years with a requested EU contribution in the range of EUR 1 million to 2 million.
 - For topic "3.2 Coordination actions, conferences and studies supporting policy development, including international cooperation, for research infrastructures in all fields of S&T" it is recommended that the duration of a proposal is 2-3 years with a requested EU contribution in the range of EUR 0,5 million to 1 million.
 - For topic "3.3 Study for the development of a possible future EU action on scientific instrumentation" it is recommended that the duration of a proposal is one year with a maximum requested EU contribution of EUR 0,5 million.
 - In the context of developing synergies and complementarities between FP7 and cohesion policy, projects applicants are encouraged to check the operational programme for Structural Funds applicable in their regions and to contact the related managing authorities for complementary or alternative support (see: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/atlas2007/index_en.htm).
- **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'.