

Call title: Smart Cities and Communities

- **Call identifier:** FP7-ENERGY-SMARTCITIES-2012
- **Date of publication:** 20 July 2011
- **Deadline:** 01 December 2011 at 17.00.00, Brussels local time¹
- **Indicative budget:** EUR 40 million²

Activity	Indicative Budget (EUR million)
ACTIVITY ENERGY.8 ENERGY EFFICIENCY AREA 8.8. SMART CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	40

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.

- **Topics called:**

Activity/ Area	Topics called	Funding Schemes
ACTIVITY ENERGY.8: ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SAVINGS		
AREA 8.8: SMART CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	Energy.2012.8.8-1: Strategic sustainable planning and screening of city plans	Coordination and Support Action (Coordinating Action)
	Energy.2012.8.8-2: Large scale systems for urban area heating and/or cooling supply	Collaborative Project with a predominant demonstration component

- **Eligibility conditions:**

The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 to 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.

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

² Under the condition that the draft budget for 2012 is adopted without modification by the budgetary authority.

The minimum number of participating legal entities required, for all funding schemes, is set out in the Rules for Participation. They are summarised in the table below³:

Funding scheme	Minimum conditions
Collaborative Projects	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
Coordination and Support Actions (coordinating action)	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
Coordination and Support Actions (supporting action)	At least 1 independent legal entity.

- 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.

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:

	Minimum threshold
S/T quality	3/5
Implementation	3/5
Impact	3/5
Overall threshold required	10/15

- 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.

³ MS = Member States of the EU; AC = Associated Country. Where the minimum conditions for an indirect action are satisfied by a number of legal entities, which together form one legal entity, the latter may be the sole participant, provided that it is established in a Member State or Associated Country.

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).

- The evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure.
- Where mentioned in the topic description, "predominant demonstration component" refers to the elements described in the Guide for Applicants.
- The procedure for prioritising proposals with equal scores is described below:

Ranked lists of proposals will be established for each activity. At the Panel stage, proposals with equal overall scores will be prioritised according to their scores for the S/T quality criterion. If they are still tied, they will be prioritised according to their scores for the Impact criterion. If any proposals are still tied, then overall Work Programme coverage will be used to decide the priority order. A reserve list will be constituted if there are a sufficient number of good quality proposals. It will be used if extra budget becomes available.

Additional information related to the evaluation of the criterion 'Implementation' can be found in the topic descriptions under the heading 'Additional information'.

- **Indicative timetable:** Evaluations are expected to be carried out in January 2012. It is expected that the negotiations with the proposals of the main list will open by March 2012, in view of signing the Grant Agreements by November 2012.
- **Consortia agreements:** Participants in Collaborative Projects are required to conclude a consortium agreement; participants in coordination actions are encouraged, but not required, to conclude a consortium 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". Under this clause, beneficiaries are required to make their best efforts to ensure free access to peer-reviewed articles resulting from projects via an institutional or subject-based repository, and to make their best efforts to ensure open access to these articles within six months⁴.

⁴ Further information: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/find-doc_en.html, http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/open_access, http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/scientific_information/.