

CALL TITLE: HEALTH-2012-INNOVATION

Call identifier: FP7-HEALTH-2012-INNOVATION-1

Proposal submission and evaluation: two-stage procedure.

Date of publication: 20 July 2011

Deadline for stage 1 proposals: 04 October 2011 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)¹

Indicative budget: EUR 546 million from the 2012 budget²

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

The total 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.

Table 1: Indicative budget lines

ACTIVITY/AREA	Indicative budget (EUR million)
1. BIOTECHNOLOGY, GENERIC TOOLS AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR HUMAN HEALTH	
1.2 DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS AND MONITORING	85
1.4 INNOVATIVE THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES AND INTERVENTIONS	42
2. TRANSLATING RESEARCH FOR HUMAN HEALTH	
2.1. INTEGRATING BIOLOGICAL DATA AND PROCESSES: LARGE-SCALE DATA GATHERING, SYSTEMS BIOLOGY	
2.1.1 LARGE-SCALE DATA GATHERING	
2.1.1-1 (A-C) –OMICS FOR RARE DISEASES	38
2.1.1-2 VALIDATION OF -OMICS-BASED BIOMARKERS FOR DISEASES AFFECTING THE ELDERLY	39
2.1.1-3 STATISTICAL METHODS FOR COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF–OMICS DATA	
2.1.2 SYSTEMS BIOLOGY	70
2.2. RESEARCH ON THE BRAIN AND RELATED DISEASES, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND AGEING	
2.2.2 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND AGEING	36
2.3. TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN MAJOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES: TO CONFRONT MAJOR THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH	
2.3.2 HIV/AIDS, TB, MALARIA	54
2.4. TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN OTHER MAJOR DISEASES	
2.4.3 DIABETES AND OBESITY	36
2.4.4 RARE DISEASES	70
2.4.5 OTHER CHRONIC DISEASES	12

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

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

3. OPTIMISING THE DELIVERY OF HEALTHCARE TO EUROPEAN CITIZENS	
3.2 HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS	39
3.4 INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH SYSTEMS	18
4. OTHER ACTIONS ACROSS THE HEALTH THEME	
4.1 COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTIONS ACROSS THE THEME	7

Table 2: Topics called:

Activity/Area	Topics called	Funding Schemes and particular requirements
1 BIOTECHNOLOGY, GENERIC TOOLS AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR HUMAN HEALTH		
1.2 DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS & MONITORING		
1.2	HEALTH.2012.1.2-1: Development of technologies with a view to patient group stratification for personalised medicine applications.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated EU contribution going to SME(s) 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.</i>
1.4 INNOVATIVE THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES AND INTERVENTIONS		
1.4	HEALTH.2012.1.4-1: Innovative approaches to solid organ transplantation ³ .	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated EU contribution going to SME(s) 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.</i>
1.4	HEALTH.2012.1.4-3: Innovative Strategies for translation of stem cell based therapies in regenerative medicine (European Union-Australia cooperation).	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). Only up to one proposal can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated EU contribution going to SME(s) 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.</i>

³ Please consult also the text for clinical trials provided in the introduction to activity 2. Translating research for human health in this work programme on pages 9/10

1.4	HEALTH.2012.1.4-4: Targeted nucleic acid delivery as an innovative therapeutic or prophylactic approach ⁴ .	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated EU contribution going to industry including SME(s) 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.</i>
2 TRANSLATING RESEARCH FOR HUMAN HEALTH		
2.1 INTEGRATING BIOLOGICAL DATA AND PROCESSES: LARGE-SCALE DATA GATHERING, SYSTEMS BIOLOGY		
2.1.1 Large-scale data gathering 2.1.1.1 –Omics for rare diseases		
2.1.1.1	HEALTH.2012.2.1.1.1-A: Support for international rare disease research.	<i>Coordination and Support Action (supporting action). Only up to one proposal can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 2 000 000.</i>
2.1.1.1	HEALTH.2012.2.1.1.1-B: Clinical utility of -omics for better diagnosis of rare diseases.	<i>Collaborative Project (large-scale integrating research project). Up to two proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 12 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated EU contribution going to industry including SME(s) 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.</i>
2.1.1.1	HEALTH.2012.2.1.1.1-C: Databases, biobanks and 'clinical bio-informatics' hub for rare diseases.	<i>Collaborative Project (large-scale integrating research project). Only up to one proposal can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 12 000 000.</i>
2.1.1	HEALTH.2012.2.1.1-2: Validation of -omics-based biomarkers for diseases affecting the elderly.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (large-scale integrating research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 12 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated 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.</i>
2.1.1	HEALTH.2012.2.1.1-3: Statistical methods for collection and analysis of -omics data.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution</i>

⁴ Please consult also the text for clinical trials provided in the introduction to activity 2. Translating research for human health in this work programme on pages 9/10

		<i>per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated 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.</i>
2.1.2 Systems biology		
2.1.2	HEALTH.2012.2.1.2-1: Systems medicine: SME-driven research applying systems biology approaches to address medical and clinical needs.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 3 000 000. The project duration should be up to 2 years. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated 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.</i>
2.1.2	HEALTH.2012.2.1.2-2: Systems medicine: Applying systems biology approaches for understanding multifactorial human diseases and their co-morbidities.	<i>Collaborative Project (large-scale integrating research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 12 000 000.</i>
2.1.2	HEALTH.2012.2.1.2-3: Preparing for the future research and innovation activities in systems medicine.	<i>Coordination and Support Action (coordinating action). Only up to one proposal can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 3 000 000.</i>
2.2 RESEARCH ON THE BRAIN AND RELATED DISEASES, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND AGEING		
2.2.2 Human development and ageing		
2.2.2	HEALTH.2012.2.2.2-1: Integrative systems biology and comparative genomics for studying human ageing and/or most common age-related diseases.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated 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.</i>
2.2.2	HEALTH.2012.2.2.2-2: Investigator-driven clinical trials ⁵ for optimisation of management of elderly patients with multiple diseases.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated EU contribution going to SMEs is 15% or more of the total estimated EU</i>

⁵ Please consult also the text for clinical trials provided in the introduction to activity 2. Translating research for human health in this work programme on pages 9/10

		<i>contribution for the project as a whole. This will be assessed at the end of the negotiation, before signature of the grant agreement.</i>
2.3 TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN MAJOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES: TO CONFRONT MAJOR THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH		
2.3.2 HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis		
2.3.2	HEALTH.2012.2.3.2-1: Co-infection of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and/or hepatitis.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000.</i>
2.3.2	HEALTH.2012.2.3.2-2: Co-morbidity between infectious and non-communicable diseases.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000.</i>
2.3.2	HEALTH.2012.2.3.2-3: Prevention and treatment for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated 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.</i>
2.3.2	HEALTH.2012.2.3.2-4: Low-cost interventions for disease control in resource poor settings.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 3 000 000.</i>
2.4 TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN OTHER MAJOR DISEASES		
2.4.3 Diabetes and obesity		
2.4.3	HEALTH.2012.2.4.3-1: Innovative approach to manage diabetes.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated 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</i>

		<i>signature of the grant agreement.</i>
2.4.3	HEALTH.2012.2.4.3-2: Investigator-driven clinical trials ⁶ for type 1 diabetes research.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000.</i>
2.4.4 Rare diseases		
2.4.4	HEALTH.2012.2.4.4-1: Preclinical and/or clinical ⁷ development of substances with a clear potential as orphan drugs.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated EU contribution going to industry including SME(s) 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.</i>
2.4.4	HEALTH.2012.2.4.4-2: Observational trials ⁸ in rare diseases.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 3 000 000.</i>
2.4.4	HEALTH.2012.2.4.4-3: Best practice and knowledge sharing in the clinical management of rare diseases.	<i>Coordination and Support Action (coordinating action). Only up to one proposal can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 2 000 000.</i>
2.4.5 Other chronic diseases		
2.4.5	HEALTH.2012.2.4.5-2: Biomarkers and diagnostics for chronic inflammatory diseases of the joints and/or digestive system.	<i>SME-targeted Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated 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.</i>
3. OPTIMISING THE DELIVERY OF HEALTHCARE TO EUROPEAN CITIZENS		
3.2 QUALITY, EFFICIENCY AND SOLIDARITY OF HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS INCLUDING TRANSITIONAL HEALTH SYSTEMS		
3.2	HEALTH.2012.3.2-1: Improving the organisation of health service delivery.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals</i>

⁶ Please consult also the text for clinical trials provided in the introduction to activity 2. Translating research for human health in this work programme on pages 9/10

⁷ Please consult also the text for clinical trials provided in the introduction to activity 2. Translating research for human health in this work programme on pages 9/10

⁸ Please consult also the text for clinical trials provided in the introduction to activity 2. Translating research for human health in this work programme on pages 9/10

		<i>can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 3 000 000.</i>
3.2	HEALTH.2012.3.2-2: New methodologies for health technology assessment.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 3 000 000.</i>
3.2	HEALTH.2012.3.2-3: Social innovation for active and healthy ageing.	<i>Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 3 000 000.</i>
3.4 INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH SYSTEMS		
3.4	HEALTH.2012.3.4-1: Research on health systems and services in low- and middle-income countries.	<i>Specific International Cooperation Action (SICA), Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project) target regions: All international cooperation countries (ICPC)⁹. One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per project: Maximum EUR 6 000 000. Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that consortia include a minimum of 6 different ICPC partners and a minimum of 2 EU/AC partner from different countries.</i>
4 OTHER ACTIONS ACROSS THE HEALTH THEME		
4.1 COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTIONS ACROSS THE THEME		
4.1	HEALTH.2012.4.1-1: Network to encourage knowledge transfer activity in FP-funded health research (especially in academic and governmental organisations).	<i>Coordination and Support Action (coordinating action). Only up to one proposal can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 2 000 000.</i>
4.1	HEALTH.2012.4.1-2: Training actions linked to intellectual property rights management and knowledge transfer.	<i>Coordination and Support Action (coordinating action). Only up to one proposal can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 2 000 000.</i>
4.1	HEALTH.2012.4.1-3: Support for Presidency events: Organisation of supporting actions and events related to the Presidency of the European Union.	<i>Coordination and Support Action (supporting action). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 100 000.</i>
4.1	HEALTH.2012.4.1-4: Communicating the benefits of European research to the general public.	<i>Coordination and Support Action (coordinating action). One or more proposals can be selected. Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 1 000 000.</i>
4.1	HEALTH.2012.4.1-5: Preparing the future for health research and innovation.	<i>Coordination and Support Action (supporting action). One or more proposals can be selected.</i>

⁹ The list of international cooperation partner countries (ICPC) is provided in Annex I to the Cooperation Programme <ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/icpc-list.pdf>

		<i>Additional eligibility criterion: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 500 000.</i>
4.1	HEALTH.2012.4.1-6: Setting health-related development goals beyond 2015.	<i>Coordination and Support Action (coordinating action). Only up to one proposal can be selected. Additional eligibility criteria: Requested EU contribution per action: Maximum EUR 2 000 000.</i>

Conditions for FP7-HEALTH-2012-INNOVATION-1

It is important to note that the basic conditions for eligibility must be met, such as the minimum number of participants (in most cases 3, except for SICA and SA) or the budget ceiling for the maximum requested EU contribution and in some cases a maximum project duration. However **there is no obligation to go beyond the minimum number of participants unless additional partners are needed to achieve the objectives of the project.** The **duration of the project** should be in line with the realistic planning of the project. The size of the **EU contribution** to the budget should also be in line with the needs of the consortia, within the maximum EU contribution, but not necessarily up to the maximum.

The quality, feasibility, implementation and impact of the proposed work as well as the match between the expertise of the consortium and the project goals are subject to the evaluation carried out by independent experts.

Eligibility criteria for each proposal are checked by Commission staff before the evaluation begins. Proposals which do not fulfil these criteria will not be included in the evaluation.

Eligibility conditions (stage 1 and stage 2):

The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme, and in the guide for applicants for each funding scheme. Please note that the completeness criterion also includes that part B of the proposal shall be readable, accessible and printable.

Table 3: Standard minimum number of participating legal entities for all funding schemes used in the call, in line with the Rules for Participation and in the below format, unless otherwise specified in section II of the work programme.

Funding scheme	Minimum conditions¹⁰
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
Coordination and Support Action (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 Action (supporting action)	At least 1 independent legal entity.

¹⁰ These can differ for specific topics, please consult always the topic description in section II

Specific conditions for this call:

Collaborative project for specific cooperation Action (SICA) dedicated to international cooperation partner countries, topic HEALTH.2012.3.4-1	At least 8 independent legal entities. Of these, 2 must be established in different MS or AC. The other 6 must be established in different international cooperation partner countries (ICPC ¹¹).
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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 overall budget threshold (budget ceilings for requested EU contribution per project), 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.

The following additional eligibility criteria apply in this call:

- **At stage 1 and stage 2**, It is important to note that the upper limits (ceilings) for the requested EU contribution given per topic in section II of this work programme will be applied as an additional eligibility criterion and that proposals, which do not respect these limits, will be considered as ineligible.
- **At stage 2**, for topics requiring a certain percentage of EU funding going to SMEs or industry, the following additional eligibility procedure will be applied: Projects will only be selected for funding on the condition that the estimated EU contribution going to SME(s) or industry is at the threshold (or more for the project as a whole) as set out with the topic description in section II. *This will be finally assessed during 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 in annex 2 to 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 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.

¹¹ The list of international cooperation partner countries (ICPC) is provided in Annex I to the Cooperation Programme <ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/icpc-list.pdf>

Additional information regarding evaluation criteria and procedures:

- *For proposals failing to achieve a threshold for a criterion, the evaluation of the proposal will be stopped at the first criterion failing a threshold. Therefore for such proposals the ESR (evaluation summary report) will not contain marks and comments for the remaining criteria. Successful proposals must pass the minimum thresholds.*
- *In line with the objectives of each topic, additional evaluation criteria may be indicated in the work programme under the respective topic in section II.*
- *The following aspects will be considered for SME-targeted Collaborative Projects under the evaluation criterion relating to 'implementation':*
 - ➔ *Proposals are expected to have a substantial involvement of SMEs. As an indication of the expected level of involvement, evaluators should note that only proposals which fulfil the conditions as set out in the topic for the percentage of the estimated EU contribution going to SMEs will be eventually selected. This will be checked definitively at the end of any negotiation.*
 - ➔ *The leading role of SMEs with R&D capacities: the coordinator does not need to be an SME, but the participating SMEs should have a decision making power in the project management, and the output should be for the benefit of the participating SMEs and the targeted SME-dominated industrial communities.*
- ***Proposal ranking:*** *The series of priority lists will be prepared by the panels of external experts, per indicative budget line as set out in table 1 of this call fiche. The aspects taken into account for establishing a priority order for ranking of proposals are set out in annex 2 of the work programme.*

Stage 1 proposals

- *Stage 1 proposals must be submitted by the deadline mentioned above.*
- *Stage 1 proposals must follow the instructions set out in the guide for applicants and in the proposal part B template available through EPSS. Proposals should focus on the overall scientific and technological content and on clear identification of the milestones and deliverables to be reached (intended results), their intended use and the expected impact (scientific, economic, social, environmental, etc. and as set out in section II under each topic) in a maximum of 6 pages (excluding the cover page and the required tables). The maximum page limits of each section must be respected. The Commission will instruct the independent external experts (evaluators of proposals) to disregard any pages in excess of these limits. A minimum font size of 11 is required.*
- *Stage 1 proposals will be individually evaluated remotely by independent external experts and discussed in consensus meetings.*
- *Stage 1 proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the following two criteria: **Scientific/technological quality** and **Impact**. For each criterion, marks from 0 to 5 will be given, with the possibility of half-point scores. For proposals failing to achieve a threshold for a criterion, the evaluation of the proposal will be stopped at the first criterion failing a threshold. Therefore for such proposals the ESR (evaluation summary report) will not contain marks and comments for the remaining criteria. Proposals must pass the minimum thresholds as follows:*

Table 4: Thresholds for evaluation criteria for first stage

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

- *All Proposals passing all thresholds will be retained at stage 1.*
- *Coordinators of proposals retained at stage 1 (proposals passing the evaluation thresholds) will be invited to submit a complete proposal (stage 2 proposal) that will then be evaluated against the entire set of evaluation criteria. In line with the objectives of each topic, additional eligibility criteria may be indicated in the work programme.*

Stage 2 proposals

- *The deadline for submission for stage 2 proposals will be specified in the invitation to submit. The **indicative deadline** for stage 2 proposals is in February 2012.*
- *Stage 2 proposals are evaluated on the basis of the following three criteria: **Scientific/technological quality and Implementation and Impact.***
- *For each criterion, marks from 0 to 5 will be given, with the possibility of half-point scores. For proposals failing to achieve a threshold for a criterion, the evaluation of the proposal will be stopped at the first criterion failing a threshold. Therefore for such proposals the ESR (evaluation summary report) will not contain marks and comments for the remaining criteria. Proposals must pass the minimum thresholds as follows:*

Table 5: Thresholds for evaluation criteria for second stage

Criterion	Minimum threshold
S/T quality	4/5
Implementation	3/5
Impact	3/5
Overall threshold	12/15

- *In line with the objectives of each topic, additional evaluation criteria may be indicated in the work programme under the respective topic in section II.*
- *The following aspects will be considered for SME-targeted Collaborative Projects under the evaluation criterion relating to 'implementation':*

- ➔ *Proposals are expected to have a substantial involvement of SMEs. As an indication of the expected level of involvement, applicants and evaluators should note that only proposals which fulfil the conditions as set out in the topic for the percentage of the estimated EU contribution going to SMEs will be eventually selected. This will be checked definitively at the end of any negotiation.*
- ➔ *The leading role of SMEs with R&D capacities: the coordinator does not need to be an SME, but the participating SMEs should have a decision making power in the project management, and the output should be for the benefit of the participating SMEs and the targeted SME-dominated industrial communities.*

Proposal ranking at stage 2:

- ***For stage 2:** There will be differing numbers of proposals short-listed according to the topic description in section II.*
- *However, there may be topics for which no proposals are of sufficient quality to be selected for funding, as there will be competition within topics and between topics on the basis of the quality of the proposals.*
- ***For stage 2:** The Commission ranked lists of proposals to be retained for negotiation will be based on the priority list established by the panel of independent external experts taking into account the budget available for each budget line (as indicated in this call for proposals). For each budget line, a number of proposals below the indicative budget cut-off line on the Commission ranked list may be kept on a reserve list to allow for eventualities such as the failure of negotiations on grant agreements, the withdrawal of proposals, budget savings agreed during negotiation, or the availability of additional budget from other sources.*

Indicative timetable for Stage 1 and 2: The stage 1 evaluation should be finalised by mid December 2011. The evaluation of the stage 2 is expected to take place in March 2012. Overall evaluation results: 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 would begin in May 2012.

Consortium agreements: Participants in collaborative projects with a requested **EU-contribution higher than EUR 3 000 000** are required to conclude a consortium agreement. For collaborative projects with a requested **EU-contribution up to EUR 3 000 000** a consortium agreement is not mandatory but recommended. For **coordination and support actions** a consortium agreement is not mandatory.

Forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates for projects funded through the Cooperation work programme are given in Annex 3.

Flat rates to cover subsistence costs: In accordance with Annex 3 to 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.