

# Information Note



heefs

Higher Education European Funding Services

## Competitiveness & Innovation Programme Entrepreneurship & Innovation Programme

## 2010 Work Programme

### Background

The Entrepreneurship & Innovation Programme (EIP) forms a part of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP). It aims to support innovation and SMEs through a variety of measures which include the following:-

- Access to finance for SMEs in different phases of their lifecycles, contributing towards technological development, innovation and eco-innovation, technology transfer and the cross border expansion of business activities;
- Business services, through the Enterprise Europe Network;
- Support for improving innovation policy through transnational networking and exchange of best practice;
- Eco-innovation pilot and market replication projects for the testing in real conditions of innovative products, processes and services aimed at reducing environmental impacts, preventing pollution or achieving a more efficient use of natural resources;
- Support for innovation and SME policy making, analytical and awareness raising activities on certain industrial sectors, SMEs or innovation policy etc.

### 2010 Work Programme

The EIP budget for 2010 is around €335.3m, spread across the Programme's six objectives as follows:-

#### EIP Objective

	Amount
1. Access to finance for the start-up and growth of SMEs and investment in innovation activities	€169.3m
2. Creation of an environment favourable to SME cooperation	€76.7m
3. All forms of innovation in enterprises	€3.7m
4. Eco-innovation	€77.7m
5. Entrepreneurship and innovation culture	€4.7m
6. Enterprise and innovation related economic and administrative reform	€3.2m



Funds are to be allocated through a variety of means including directly to SMEs through the European Investment Fund; to existing partnerships, for example, members of the Enterprise Europe Network; and through calls for tenders and calls for proposals.

### Opportunities for HEIs

An analysis of the work programme reveals a number of potential opportunities that may be of interest to UK HEIs. The table below sets out the main opportunities, the amount of funding available and the proposed timetable for the announcement of calls.

Objective	Measure	Funding available	Type of call	Timetable for announcement
1	Improving policies on financing innovation and SMEs	€200,000 each tender	<b>2 Calls for tenders</b> 1. Collection of better data on business angel finance 2. Study on the effectiveness of policy measures combating the effects of the financial crisis on SME finance	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2010 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2010
2	Knowledge networks for the competitiveness and sustainability of European tourism	€1m	<b>Call for proposals</b> Grant rate of 75%	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2010
3	E-skills, ICT uptake and competitiveness	€300,000 €300,000 €200,000 €500,000	<b>4 Calls for tenders</b> 1. E-skills for ICT practitioners and entrepreneurs 2. E-skills and ICT professionalism 3. E-skills awareness raising activities 4. Study of the economic and business impact of future internet developments	All 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2010
4	Eco-innovation: First application and market replication projects	€35m	<b>Call for proposals</b> Grant rate of 50%	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010
5	Addressing challenges and opportunities on the way towards a low carbon economy	€1.5m	<b>Call for tender</b> For the establishment of an Industry sustainability monitor	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010
6	Promotion of entrepreneurship	€1m €100,000	<b>Call for proposals</b> Mentoring schemes for women <b>Call for tender</b> Sectoral study on SMEs access to markets	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010
7	Innovation policy actions	€1m €200,000	<b>2 calls for tenders</b> 1. Feasibility studies – future innovation policy development 2. International cooperation on innovation policy	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2010 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010
8	Follow-up and accompanying actions to the high level group on the competitiveness of the agro-food industry	€250,000	<b>Call for tenders</b> Multidisciplinary studies	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2010
<b>Support measures</b>	Studies	€2.6m	<b>Calls for tenders – up to 10 calls</b> Analyses of the structural and micro-economic factors affecting the competitiveness of individual sectors	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2010
	Impact assessments & evaluations	€1m	<b>Calls for tenders – up to 5 calls</b> Assessment of Community measure of relevance to competitiveness of enterprises	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010
	Conferences, meetings, study groups and technical support	€1.98	<b>Calls for tenders – up to 3 calls</b> To support dialogue among stakeholders to address challenges of the EU company	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010

**Further Information**

The Work Programme is available to download from the link below:-

[http://ec.europa.eu/cip/files/docs/eip2010\\_wp\\_annex\\_indicators\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/cip/files/docs/eip2010_wp_annex_indicators_en.pdf)

**Details of the calls for tenders and proposals will be provided in later editions of the HEEFS Bulletin.**