

Information Note



heefs

Higher Education European Funding Services

**Competitiveness & Innovation Framework Programme
Enterprise & Innovation Programme**

Call for Proposals

1st Action Plan of the European Design Innovation Initiative

**Deadline: 10 October 2011
ENT/CIP/11/C/N03C021**

Background

In support of the Innovation Union Europe's 2020 flagship initiative; the European Design Innovation Initiative (EDII) and the European Design Leadership Board (EDLB), this call for proposals aims to support the Commission's efforts to improve the impact of innovation policies by speeding up the take up of design as a user-centred innovation tool in national, regional and EU innovation policies.

The main issues addressed by the call, include:-

- The development of a joint vision, joint priorities and joint actions for non-technological, user-centred innovation;
- Mainstreaming of design into innovation and better integration of design and user-centred innovation approaches into innovation projects, policy, support across Europe;
- Raising awareness of design and user driven innovation and the use of design for economic, environmental and social purposes;
- Improving the circulation of experiences and good practices in the area of user-centred innovation and design in innovation policy.

The budget for this call is €3m, it is expected to support 4 projects

Objectives of the Call



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The specific objectives of the call include:-

- To allow mutual policy-learning and transnational cooperation by testing the transferability of best practices (learning by doing) between experienced actors (such as universities) towards actors willing to become active providers of design innovation support services (such regional authorities etc)
- To mobilise national, regional and European support providers, in order to reach a level of acceptance of the positive impact of design innovation policy
- To raise awareness of end users (e.g. SMEs, business, public sector) of the strategic role of design in innovation and business processes – best practice etc
- To tap into creativity and expertise for support providers and policy makers
- To keep the Commission and the EDII updated on developments
- To have open platforms that will be able to disseminate the recommendations of the EDLB

Eligible activities might include, for instance:-

- Activities to foster greater integration of design in innovation services
- Establishment or connection of networks/platforms in different countries
- Establishment of transnational peer learning platforms for innovation programme managers
- Establishment of specialist networks/platforms
- Bilateral and multilateral exchanges of good practices and experiences
- Awareness raising activities among policy makers/SMEs
- Analytical work, for instance quantifying the potential values for entrepreneurs
- All projects are required to touch upon at least 2 of the activities above and must fulfil a requirement to 'disseminate to non-participating stakeholders'.

Technical Features

Scheduled start date for projects:	January/February 2012
Duration of projects:	24 to 36 months
Maximum grant per project:	€1m
Maximum grant rate:	75%
No of partners required:	At least 4 from 3 countries
Types of partners:	At least 1 partner must have solid knowledge of and/or experience in design innovation support services and or policy

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At least 2 partners must have a focus on innovation research, education and SME programmes and innovation policy making without specific design aspects, but are interested to become active in design innovation support

Selection Criteria

In addition to providing evidence that they have the necessary technical and financial capacity to deliver the project, applicants will be required to address the following selection criteria:-

Criteria	Percentage of points available
Relevance of the actions proposed	15%
Impact on target audience	
Tangible and sustainable impact	40%
Visibility and dissemination	15%
Quality of the proposed actions and management	20%
Budget and cost effectiveness	10%

Further Information

Further information about this call for proposals, including guidance notes and application forms can be obtained from:-

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=5292&lang=en&tpa=0&displayType=fo&fosubtype=p&ref=newsbytheme%2Ecfm%3Flang%3Den%26displayType%3Dfo%26fosubtype%3Dp%26tpa%3D0%26period%3Dlatest%26month%3D%26page%3D1