

# Information Note



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Higher Education European Funding Services

**Competitiveness & Innovation Programme  
Entrepreneurship & Innovation Programme**

**Call for Proposals**

**Sustainable Industry Low Carbon Scheme (SILC) I  
– Short-term innovation measures**

**Deadline: 30 August 2011**

**ENT/CIP/II/D/N02S00**

## **Background**

As part of its effort to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG), the Commission has launched the Sustainable Industry Low Carbon Initiative (SILC). The first stage of the initiative will last from 2011 to 2013 and aims at finding technological and non-technological innovation measures to reduce carbon-intensity for a wide range of industrial sectors.

The budget for the SILC comes from the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme which is managed by DG Enterprise and Industry under the banner of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme. The budget for this call is €2.85m, which is expected to support up to 3 projects.

## **Subject of this call for proposals**

The objective of this call is to support actions focussed on manufacturing and process industries covered by the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), so as to enable these industries to cope with the challenges of reducing their emissions whilst maintaining their competitiveness.

The call seeks sector specific and inter-sector industrial projects each of them carried out by a consortium of industrial stakeholders (and/or possibly in partnership with public or private organisations). The projects are to be financed jointly by the EU and the industrial stakeholders.



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SILC aims to develop and deploy innovative technological and non-technological measures that lead to a demonstrable and quantifiable reduction of specific GHG emission intensities. The budget for this call is €2.85m, which is expected to support up to 3 projects.

Illustrative examples of possible projects include:-

Technological innovation measures:-

- Advancement of mature and/or available techniques, resulting in higher GHG efficiency
- Development projects between industrial stakeholders and technology providers and/or **research institutions** on energy or waste recovery systems
- Development of newly matured technologies, or technologies that are used in some installations but where the effects on operation and maintenance in all installations are not clear
- Achieving the use of alternative fuels (e.g. biomass and the use of co-processing – substitution of primary fuel by waste)
- Achieving the introduction of biomass to conventional kilns and boilers
- Development of abatement techniques to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Development of abatement techniques to reduce N<sub>2</sub>O emissions

Non-technological innovation measures

- Deployment of measures which aim at reducing specific GHG intensities through increasing knowledge and competences, optimising systems, logistics or organisations
- Deployment of best practice measures, based on mapping of technological or non-technological options for process improvement in companies
- Mapping of suppliers with non-conventional solutions, the use of these technologies across Europe and practical demonstration
- Development and deployment of an educational tool to help improve the use of state of the art technologies
- Development and deployment of a model for how companies could access alternative forms of finance

The expected outcome of the SILC projects are technological and/or non-technological innovation measures which reduce the specific GHG emission-intensity of existing installations covered by the ETS and which can be implemented in the short term (i.e. immediately to 3 year time horizon) whilst not requiring further pilot or demonstration steps before their industrial implementation.

### Opportunities for HEIs

The above list is not exhaustive, but is provided in the guidance to provide an indication of the sorts of activities that might be undertaken. Clearly, there is potential for Universities and relevant research centres to be involved in projects. There is a clear intention, however, that the SILC initiative will be industry led and that each SILC project will be carried out by a consortium of at least 2 partners, one of which must be an operator of an installation covered by the ETS as of 2013.

This call may be of interest to colleagues in specific research centres or institutes concerned with development and implementation of solutions to GHG emissions. Colleagues in HEIs, would however, have to work closely with industrial partners and it should be the industrial partners that take the role of lead partner in any consortium application.

## Technical Features

- Projects must be submitted by a consortium consisting of at least 2 partners, 1 of which must be an operator of an installation covered by the ETS as of 2013
- Maximum grant rate is 75% of eligible costs
- Maximum grant contribution is €950k
- Scheduled start date for projects – December 2011
- Typical project duration is 12 – 24 months

## Further Information

Details of this call for proposals can be obtained from:-

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item\\_id=5161&tpa\\_id=1007&lang=en](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=5161&tpa_id=1007&lang=en)