

Call Title: Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies – Coordinated call EU-USA 2010

- **Call identifier:** *FP7-NMP-2010-EU-USA*

- **Date of publication:** 30 July 2009

Deadline¹: For Collaborative Projects - Small or medium-scale focused research projects – 30 November 2009 at 17.00.00 (Brussels local time).

- **Indicative budget:** **EUR 6 Million²** by EC- NMP Theme. The budget for this call is indicative. The final budget of the call may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the indicated budget for the call. The following US funding agencies: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) are expected to make funding available for the US projects.

- **Topic called:**

Activity/Area	Topics	Funding Scheme
Health, Safety and Environmental impacts	NMP.2010.1.3-2 Modelling toxicity behaviour of engineered nanoparticles	Small or medium-scale focused research projects

- **Eligibility conditions:**

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

In line with the Rules for Participation, the minimum conditions to participate are: at least three independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.

Proposals which do not include coordination with an US project will be considered ineligible. Therefore, the EC project proposals must include detailed explanations about the proposal to be financed by the US funding agencies (EPA, NSF, NIOSH, NIEHS, USDA). Proposals will only be evaluated on the condition that the proposal related to their coordinated US project(s) has also been presented for funding to the US funding agencies concerned.

For each Small or medium scale focused research project, the maximum EC funding requested must not exceed **EUR 1 million**. Please note that the financial resources mobilised within a project will be assessed during the evaluation against the real work to be carried out in the project. Proposals must be submitted by using the European Commission Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS) available on CORDIS at www.cordis.europa.eu.

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

² Under the condition that the preliminary draft budget for 2010 is adopted without modifications by the budgetary authority.

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**

For this call, the evaluation shall follow a single-stage procedure. The proposals will be evaluated by a panel which may also include American experts.

- **Evaluation criteria and thresholds**

The evaluation criteria and sub-criteria to be applied to this coordinated call are given in Annex 2 of this 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 half-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

In order to ensure a more genuine EU-US cooperation, a balanced effort between the coordinated projects and research plan properly involving coordinated research activities between Europe and united States represent an added value to the activities and this will be reflected in the evaluation under the criteria 'Impact' and 'Implementation'.

In terms of reciprocity, non confidential abstracts of EC retained proposals will be made available to the US authorities.

See also Annex 2: Eligibility and evaluation criteria for proposals

In contrast with Annex 2, at Panel stage, the priority order of the proposals with equal overall scores will be established in accordance with 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 proposals are still tied, they will be prioritised on the basis of the work programme coverage.

- **Additional selection criterion**

Proposals will only be selected on the condition that their coordinated US project(s) will be funded by the US responsible funding agencies.

- **Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable**

Evaluation: Beginning of February 2010; Evaluation results: estimated to be available within three months after the call closure date. A reserve list of projects might be established. Negotiations will be carried out in parallel by the EC and the US funding agencies in order to have a simultaneous start of the respective grant agreements.

- **Consortia and coordination agreements**

Projects are required to conclude a coordination agreement with the participants in the coordinated project funded by the US funding agencies.

- **Use of flat rates for 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'.