

Call Title: Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies - SMALL

- **Call identifier:** *FP7-NMP-2009-SMALL-3*
- **Date of publication:** 19 November 2008
- **Deadline:** For *Small or medium-scale focused research projects* - first stage: 17 February 2009 at 17.00.00 (Brussels local time)
- **Indicative budget¹:** **EUR 39 million² in 2009.** An amount for the 2010 budget is expected to be added to this call for which a new financing decision to cover the budget for that year will be requested at the appropriate time.
- **Topics called:**

Activity/ Area	Topics called	Funding Schemes
Nanosciences and converging sciences	NMP-2009-1.1-1 Nanobiotechnology: Applying life science principles as model for new nanotechnology-based mechanisms, processes, devices and/or systems	<i>Small or medium-scale focused research projects</i>
Nanotechnologies and converging technologies	NMP-2009-1.2-1 Nanotechnology for harvesting energy via photovoltaic technologies	
	NMP-2009-1.2-2 Molecular factory: manufacturing objects with predictable and controllable properties	
Mastering nano-scale complexity in materials	NMP-2009-2.1-1 Nano-structured materials based on graphene	
Novel material and bio-inspired materials	NMP-2009-2.3-1 Biomimetic gels and polymers for tissue repair	
Coordinated activities and international cooperation	NMP-2009-2.6-1 Novel membranes for water technologies (SICA)	
Adaptive production systems	NMP-2009-3.2-2 Adaptive control systems for responsive factories	

- **Eligibility conditions:** The minimum number of participating legal entities for all funding schemes is set out in the Rules for Participation. For Small or medium scale focused research projects the minimum conditions to participate are: 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.

In addition to the general eligibility criteria, which are given in Annex 2 of the work programme, for the Small or medium scale focused research projects, which require typically an

¹ The budget for this call is indicative. The final total budget awarded to this call, following the evaluation of projects, may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the call.

² Under the condition that the preliminary draft budget for 2009 is adopted without modifications by the budgetary authority.

EC contribution of EUR 1 to 3 million, the **maximum** EC funding requested **must not exceed EUR 4 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.

The following topic has specific eligibility criteria:

- **NMP-2009-2.6-1 Novel membranes for water technologies:** it is a Specific International Cooperation Action (SICA) targeted to African and/or Mediterranean countries, for which the minimum participation is of at least 4 independent legal entities. Of these, two must be established in different Member States or Associated Countries and the other two must be established in different targeted regions/countries.

- **Evaluation procedure:** For Small or medium-scale focused research projects the evaluation shall follow a two-stage procedure. The first stage proposal, of a maximum of 10 pages (font size 12) should focus on the S&T content and on clear identification of the intended results, their intended use and the expected impact (economic, social, environmental, etc.) and 2 additional pages to describe the consortium and the estimated financial resources involved. It will be evaluated on the basis of two evaluation criteria, i.e.: *scientific quality and expected impact*. Stage 1 proposals will be evaluated remotely. Stage 1 proposals shall be submitted at the closure date mentioned above. Coordinators of retained proposals in stage 1 ('go' proposals) will be invited to submit a complete proposal that will be then evaluated against the entire set of evaluation criteria. The closure date of the second submission will be specified in the invitation to submit the complete proposal. The indicative closure date is: 22 July 2009.

In order to ensure industrial relevance and impact of the research effort, the active participation of industrial partners represents an added value to the activities and this will be reflected in the evaluation.

For this call, implemented via a two stage procedure, the following criteria and thresholds are applied:

- Evaluation criteria and thresholds for stage 1 proposals:

Stage 1 proposals are evaluated on the basis of the following two criteria: **S/T quality and 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	4/5
Impact	3/5
Overall threshold required	8/10

- Evaluation criteria and thresholds for stage 2 proposals:

Stage 2 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	4/5
Implementation	3/5
Impact	3/5
Overall threshold required	12/15

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**

The following topic has a specific selection criterion:

NMP-2009-1.1-1 Nanobiotechnology: Applying life science principles as model for new nanotechnology-based mechanisms, processes, devices and/or systems: In order to avoid overlapping with Theme 2 activities, proposals covering the following research areas will not be selected under Theme 4 – NMP: smart nano-biotechnology devices to study biomolecule dynamics in real time, nanobiotechnology for functionalised membranes, bio-interfaces for environmental applications, analysis of the ethical, safety, regulatory and socioeconomic aspects of nano-biotechnology (excluding nanomedicine), as well as analytical tools for the characteristic of nano-particles in the food matrix.

- **Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:** Evaluation Stage 1 proposals: March/ 2009; Evaluation stage 2 proposals: September 2009. Evaluation results: estimated to be available within two months after the closure date. A reserve list of projects might be established.
- **Consortia agreements:** Participants are required to conclude a consortium agreement.
- **Forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates** for projects funded through the Cooperation work programme are given in Annex 3 of this work programme.