



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

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## OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES

### “COMPETITIVENESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP” AND REGIONS IN TRANSITION

NATIONAL STRATEGIC REFERENCE FRAMEWORK  
NSRF 2007-2013

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## CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER THE NATIONAL ACTION

**“COOPERATION 2011 – *Partnerships of Production and Research Institutions in Focused Research and Technology Sectors*”**



ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΝΩΣΗ  
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΤΑΜΕΙΟ  
ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑΚΗΣ ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΗΣ



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ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ

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## 1. INFORMATION ON THE ACTION

The Action supports the collaboration between Greek enterprises and research organisations through the joint implementation of research and technology projects that promote the “green” growth, competitiveness and extroversion of Greek enterprises and improve the quality of life of Greek citizens.

More specifically, the Action will provide funding for the implementation of R&T projects in specific sectors and activities which:

- (a) Are of interest to Greece’s production sector and will contribute –directly or indirectly– to the development of new or improved products and services and to the penetration in new markets.
- (b) Meet the needs of society and of various area-specific policies, such as energy policy and environmental policy.
- (c) Produce new knowledge that can be further utilised.

The present Call for Proposals refers to highly specific R&T sectors, selected on the basis of the demand by the Greek production sector for exploitable research and technological results, and covers all of Greece. It should be pointed out, however, that each transitional support Region and each one of the eight Objective 1 Regions has been allocated a specific funds within the Action’s total budgeted funds.

The total public expenditure of the present Call under the Action stands at **€68.32 million**. Of these, €10 million of public expenditure will be made available exclusively for projects in high-priority services sectors. The Action’s total budget is estimated at **€85 million**. Table 1 below shows the distribution of the public expenditure to the five (5) Regions in Transition and the eight (8) Objective 1 Regions (the latter being funded under EPAN-II). The difference between the total budget and the public expenditure is the private participation, which is expected to be covered by the beneficiaries themselves (mainly by the enterprises).

The public expenditure is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) of the European Union and by National Resources. The financing contributed by the ERDF is intended to stimulate economic, social and territorial cohesion through the reduction of regional imbalances and the support of structural improvements and adjustments in the regional economies, including the restructuring of industrial areas in decline.

Table 1: Public Expenditure Distribution by Objective 1 Regions and Regions in Transition (The amounts given in the column “Services” are part of the aggregate public expenditure which has been allocated for each Region for all activities and priority sectors under the Action).

TABLE 1: PUBLIC EXPENDITURE DISTRIBUTION BY OBJECTIVE 1 REGIONS & REGIONS IN TRANSITION			Services
		Public Expenditure	
Objective 1 Regions	OP “Competitiveness and Entrepreneurship” (EPAN-II) (E. Macedonia-Thrace, Thessaly, Epirus, N. Aegean, Crete, Ionian Islands, Peloponnese, W. Greece)	€ 23,540,000	€ 2,610,000
Regions in Transition	Attica	€ 18,290,000	€ 3,900,000
	Central Macedonia	€ 16,400,000	€ 2,070,000
	Western Macedonia	€ 600,000	€ 320,000
	Mainland Greece	€ 9,460,000	€ 1,100,000
	South Aegean Islands	€ 30,000	
	TOTAL	€ 68,320,000	€ 10,000,000

The Action is addressed to domestic partnerships between dynamic enterprises of all sizes, research centres, institutes, Tertiary Education Institutions, technological, public and other organizations, established to implement R&T projects in focused priority sectors. It is pointed out,

however, that the Action's key recipients (target groups) are enterprises –regardless of their size– and research institutions (Universities, Technical Education Institutes, Research Centres, Institutes). Other organisations will participate, with only a few exceptions, as end-users/recipients of the products/technologies/services to be developed.

The aid (public expenditure) granted to each beneficiary shall be borne as follows:

- (a) In the case of enterprises, by the Region where the beneficiary production unit or the beneficiary Branch is located and operates, irrespective of where the enterprise is officially registered.
- (b) In the case of Tertiary Education Institutions and Research Centres, by the Region where the respective School/Department/Institute is located and operates.

## 2. GOALS OF THE ACTION – ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCING

The goals of the Action are: to improve the competitiveness and extroversion of enterprises and the quality of life; to strengthen the links between research and production; to support the adoption of interdisciplinary approaches; to strengthen research capacities and specialisation; and to improve international cooperation through networking and collaborations with organisations in European and other countries. An additional core intention of the Action is to encourage the undertaking of R&T activities by the private sector and, in general, to increase the private-sector funds directed to R&TD through the increase of the private participation contributed to the projects. To this end, the present Call seeks to achieve a private participation in excess of 25% of the total budget for the Action. At the project level, the private participation should be at least 20% of the total project budget.

The Action also has the following specific objectives:

- To concentrate efforts and resources on focused R&T sectors which are important to the economy and to society, in tandem with the development of specialised personnel and infrastructures and, in general, of R&D excellence and of products/services that are competitive at the global level.
- To develop new knowledge –including new technologies– or joint research resources, in order to improve Greek and, in general, European competitiveness or address significant social or environmental needs.
- To support projects adopting primarily an interdisciplinary approach and seeking to achieve specific results which in turn are used to develop or improve products, processes, services or policies, with the active participation of the Greek production sector.
- To promote “green” growth.

The activities eligible for financing under the Action are the following:

- (a) R&D actions:
  - a.I Actions expressing the core project scope and seeking to bring about a significant development beyond the current state of affairs in the corresponding know-how (basic and industrial research); and
  - a.II Experimental development/demonstration to confirm the “commercial” viability of new technologies which, although possessing some financial advantage, cannot be made commercially available readily.
- (b) Technical feasibility studies (primarily in preparation of experimental development actions).
- (c) Obtaining protection of Industrial Property Rights (IPRs) for SMEs and research organisations.
- (d) Actions for promotion, dissemination, participation in international conferences and networking, primarily in the framework of international collaborations, of work for monitoring international developments in areas related to the scope of the projects, and of participation in corresponding international networks.

It is a mandatory requirement for all projects to comprise R&D actions in the form of basic and/or industrial research (a.I) and/or in the form of experimental development/demonstration (a.II).

Actions under categories (b) and (c) above are optional and relate to the scope and objectives of the projects, while actions under category (d) should be foreseen more or less in all projects.

### 3. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PRIORITY SECTORS

The present Action focuses on ten (10) science and technology priority sectors (subject areas / fields etc.), under which proposals are to be funded.

The following is an indicative distribution of the public expenditure by R&T priority sector:

- A. Between €6 and €8 million for the following sectors: (a) Pharmaceuticals/Cosmetics; (b) Food/Drinks; (c) Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Biotechnology; (d) Advanced Materials; and (e) Environment.
- B. Between €4 and €6 million for the following sectors: (a) Chemical processes; (b) Information Technology and Telecommunications; (c) Energy; (d) Safety.
- C. €10 million for the sector of Services.

The individual research sectors and their respective research scopes are as follows:

#### ***Pharmaceuticals/Cosmetics***

##### Indicative research scopes:

- Optimisation of drug delivery devices.
- Development of new, high value-added and highly exportable pharmaceutical and cosmetic products.
- Exploitation of plant capital (domestic or otherwise) in the development of drugs, parapharmaceutical products and cosmetic products of vegetable origin.

#### ***Food/Drinks***

##### Indicative research scopes:

- Health nutrition: development of products and services, consumer behaviour.
- Development of high value-added foods and of new products to meet specific needs and preferences, and clinical studies related to these products.
- Applications of “Green” Technologies in the Food Industry.

#### ***Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Biotechnology***

##### Indicative research scopes:

- Organic farming and livestock production.
- Applications of “Green” Technologies in the primary sector.
- Utilisation of biotechnology for sustainable production and management of the natural, marine and animal capital.

#### ***Chemical processes in industry***

##### Indicative research scopes:

- Development of new chemical processes, “greener” technologies and production processes towards zero-waste (solid, liquid and gas) industrial production.
- Use of Renewable Raw Materials (RRM) and natural products (renewable resources) to create new products.
- Applications of nanotechnology in chemical and other products for improved performance.

#### ***Advanced Materials***

##### Indicative research scopes:

- Development of high value-added new/composite/“smart” environment- and health-friendly materials with improved qualities.
- Nanomaterials for development of high value-added innovative products with improved qualities (e.g. coatings, adhesives, cosmetics, plastics, textiles).
- Nano/micro-electronics, sensors and semiconductor technologies.

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**Information Technology, Telecommunications and Automations**Indicative research scopes:

- Electronic games with a focus on their educational and scientific role.
- “Green” Wireless Networks. Technologies for the development of low-energy consumption wireless systems, powered by renewable energy sources.
- Wireless sensor networks, energy management for low consumption, interconnection of objects, data synthesis from heterogeneous sensors.
- Research and Application of Business Intelligence and Knowledge Management Systems through the use of Automations in Industry.

**Energy**Indicative research scopes:

- Development-utilisation of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) for heating-cooling, electricity production and agriculture. Combined systems.
- Gasification of bio-fuels in the framework of “green” growth.
- Energy storage, especially of RES. Hybrid technologies.

**Environment**Indicative research scopes:

- Development of environment-friendly technologies and methods for management/utilisation of agricultural, industrial and urban solid/liquid waste and greenhouse gases, aimed at reducing the environmental footprint and/or producing new, high value-added products.
- Socioeconomic impacts of climate change.

**Safety**Indicative research scopes:

- Environmental safety, management and monitoring applications.
- Secure communication networks and interoperability, security of exchanges.
- Utilisation of earth observation data and telecommunications and navigation technologies for border security.

**Services**HealthIndicative research scopes:

- Electronic management of health units.
- Research into IT applications in the health and welfare sector.
- Personalised and preventive medicine.
- Personalised provision of medication – pharmacy organisation.

Financial/Business servicesIndicative research scopes:

- Research into the interoperability of heterogeneous information systems for providing electronic services.
- e-commerce.
- Management models, effective management of human resources in enterprises and social benefit organisations.

Tourism/CultureIndicative research scopes:

- e-tourism
- Visitor information and management.
- Showcasing, restoration, protection and preservation of cultural heritage (includes monuments, works of art, archaeological sites, collections and archives).

TransportIndicative research scopes:

- Intelligent transport systems, quality management and assurance.
- Sustainable and environment-friendly transport to develop the tourist economy.

#### Primary production

##### Indicative research scopes:

- Remote plant protection services.
- Crop production electronic book

#### Environment and cities

##### Indicative research scopes:

- Integrated Early Warning Systems for large population groups in emergencies.

## 4. ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS – AID LEVELS

Submission of proposals in response to the present Call is open to partnerships (Consortia) of production-commercial enterprises of all sizes, research centres, institutes, Tertiary Education Institutions, technological, public and other organisations, for the implementation of R&T projects in focused manufacturing and services sectors.

The key characteristics of these Consortia are presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Characteristics of projects to be financed by the Action

	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	PROJECT DURATION	BUDGET RANGE
R&T Projects for products & procedures / processes	4-8 participants Min. 2 enterprises in 4-5 participants Min. 3 enterprises in 6-7 participants Min. 4 enterprises in 8 participants	24-36 months	From €400,000 to €2,000,000
R&T Projects for Services	3-5 participants Min. 2 enterprises in 3-4 participants Min. 3 enterprises in 5 participants	24-36 months	From €300,000 to €800,000

In the case of projects involving the application of new technologies in “green” growth, the budget may be as high as €3,000,000. Projects involving the application of new technologies are defined as those seeking to apply and/or disseminate new techniques, processes or products for which the research and technological development stage has –to a large extent– been completed and/or those seeking to promote new applications of established techniques, processes or products. These projects should be structured as demonstrations on a pilot scale or as pilot applications and should aim to demonstrate the technical feasibility and/or economic viability of new technologies via their first-time application on a sufficiently large scale.

In addition to enterprises, whose participation is a key prerequisite (with their number depending on the total number of participant organisations), the term “participants” in the above table also includes research organisations (mainly Universities, Technical Education Institutes, research centres, institutes), public utilities, public services, industrial research and technological development companies, prefectural and local authorities, technological, non-profit and other interested organisations whose activities and goals are relevant to the scope and goals of the present Action/Call. Please note that the term “enterprise” means public- and/or private-sector enterprises operating under the legal form of Sociétés Anonymes (AE), Limited Liability Companies (EPE), General Partnerships (OE) and Limited Partnerships (EE), such as commercial and production enterprises with various activities and of all sizes, including SMEs<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Where mention is made of the term “SME” (small, medium-sized enterprises), the definition to be applied shall be the corresponding definition set forth in Commission Recommendation No 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003.

With regard to the information contained in the above table, the following are pointed out:

- In order for a proposal to be submitted, the Consortium participants must include both enterprises and research organisations.
- The proposed total budget of projects should lie between the lower and upper budget limits specified in the Action. Proposals whose budget is higher or lower than the upper or lower limit, respectively, shall be rejected during the preliminary examination.
- With regard to the number of participants, where the success of the project requires the cooperation of fewer or more organisations, depending on the case, than the numbers foreseen in the above table, the corresponding proposals may be examined if the necessity for the participation of such organisations in the specific project is documented.
- It is pointed out that organisations based abroad (enterprises, research and/or other organisations) may participate as partners under the following conditions:
  - (a) The restrictions concerning the minimum number of participants and enterprises per partnership and the minimum private participation amount (20%) are covered by organisations having their registered office and operating in Greece.
  - (b) Organisations from abroad are not financed by the project and cover their costs using their own funds (private participation).

In all cases, the participation of foreign organisations in the Consortium should result in mutual benefits for the Consortium participants as well as in benefits of a more general nature for the Greek economy, in accordance with the purposes and goals of the present Call.

- The implementation period of the proposed projects should comply with the durations given in the above table. Proposals whose implementation period is shorter than the minimum or longer than the maximum duration shall not be examined.
- The participation of an organisation whose budget or public expenditure is nil shall not be taken into account in calculating the total number of participants in the above table (with the exception of organisations based abroad).
- It is stressed that enterprises must have completed at least one financial year and must have published the corresponding balance sheet (or other equivalent financial information).

At the project level, the maximum aid level (public expenditure) shall be 80% of the total budget for the corresponding project, while the remaining cost (private participation) shall be borne by the beneficiaries in proportion to the aid to which each one of them is entitled (the minimum level of private participation shall be 20% and shall be covered by funds put up by the beneficiaries themselves, primarily by the enterprises). Detailed information on the aid levels by type of activity eligible for financing and by type of participant are given in Section 6. It is stressed that the annual private participation of an enterprise cannot be higher than 1/3 of its average turnover for the last three (3) years. Where an enterprise has published fewer than three balance sheets, the turnover amounts to be averaged will be those shown on the balance sheets published until the date of submission of the proposal.

For the purposes of the present Action, “research organisation” means an organisation, such as a University or research institute, irrespective of its legal status (under public or private law body) or way of financing, whose primary goal is to conduct basic research, industrial research or experimental development and to disseminate their results by way of teaching, publication or technology transfer. All profits must be reinvested in these activities, in the dissemination of their results or in teaching. Enterprises which influence such an organisation, in the quality of, for example, shareholders or members, shall enjoy no preferential access to the research capacities of such an organisation or to the research results generated by it.

- Under the present Action, the following may be considered as distinct organisations<sup>2</sup>:
  - Different Departments of a School in the same Tertiary Education Institution (Universities, Technical Education Institutes).

<sup>2</sup> It is pointed out that it is not mandatory for these organisations to participate in a Consortium and submit proposals as “distinct organisations”, since more than one Institutes, Laboratories etc. of the same University or Research Centre/Institute may form one participant-partner. In such a case, however, they shall participate as Divisions/Departments of the Institute or Research Centre to which they belong.



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- Different Institutes of the same Research Centre.
  - Different Divisions of the same Department of a School in the same Tertiary Education Institution.
  - Different Laboratories of the same Department of a Tertiary Education Institution or Institute.

**N.B.:** Each organisation may participate in only two (2) proposals in the proposal submission stage (in one proposal as Coordinator and in another proposal as Participant or, alternatively, in two proposals as Participant). Organisations which are Coordinators in proposals approved for financing under the Action “COOPERATION 2009” cannot submit again proposals as Coordinators but may only take part as Participants (in a maximum of two proposals). Consortia which have submitted a proposal which was not approved for financing under the Action “COOPERATION 2009” may submit it again with improvements, provided that such improvements are clearly described and fully documented.

- In every project, one of the Consortium participants shall be appointed as the Coordinating Organisation (Coordinator). The Coordinator is the joint representative of the organisations that establish the partnership (Consortium) in order to implement the project and assumes responsibility for the overall management of the project. In parallel, every beneficiary (Consortium partner) shall remain fully liable to the Intermediate Management Body (IMB) for the individual part of the project which it undertakes to implement. The Coordinator of the Consortium may be an enterprise (preferably, the enterprise with a substantial involvement / participation share) or a participating research organisation. To ensure optimal implementation of the projects, a Coordination Team shall be appointed (composed of three (3) to five (5) persons, depending on the project size and the number of participants), headed by a person coming from the Coordinator. Participation in the Coordination Team of the Scientific Supervisor<sup>3</sup> is mandatory, with the other participations referring to representatives of organisations with an important role in the project. The task of the Coordination Team shall be to ensure the cohesive implementation of the project (which must be considered as a uniform whole rather than as separate independent parts) and the achievement of the results sought. In this context, the Coordination Team shall be responsible for adapting the content and type of the collaboration and for adjusting the work schedule, when so required for the successful progress and completion of the project, and to replace a partner or nominated subcontractor, if that party is liable for causing delays in the implementation of the project.
- Where a submitted proposal involves the participation of large enterprises (those not falling under the applicable definition of SMEs), then, in order for such enterprises to be entitled to receive aid in accordance with the General Block Exemption Regulation, they must have analysed, by means of an in-house study, the viability of the aided project or activity, working on the assumption that the aid is granted as well as on the assumption that it is not granted. This study should confirm a substantial increase in the size or scope of the project, a substantial increase in the total amount that the beneficiary has paid for the aided project or activity or a substantial increase in the speed with which the project or activity in question is completed. A summary of this document should be submitted together with the proposal submitted for financing, and the relevant table in the corresponding Annex to the proposal should also be completed. It is stressed that the demonstration of the existence of such an incentive is a key requirement in order for large enterprises to be financed under the Action.
- If a project is approved for financing, the assignment by any beneficiary of the work assigned, as well as the claim for financing resulting from such assignment, is prohibited.

## 5. AID INTENSITY BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCING

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<sup>3</sup> If possible, it would be more effective for the Scientific Supervisor to come from the Coordinator.

The intensity of the aid is determined separately for each aid beneficiary and for each type of activity for which aid is received. Where the implementation of a project requires a combination of activities or types of research, the maximum aid intensity by beneficiary shall be calculated as the weighted average of the above percentages by type of activity/research carried out by the organisation. The share of the aid intensity in the total project is calculated as the weighted average of the aid intensity of all beneficiaries.

Where a project comprises several activities, each one of these shall be examined individually as to whether or not it falls under one of the categories listed below. To this end, it would be advisable for each Work Package to be matched either to one specific type of research (basic research, industrial research or experimental development) or to one of the other activities (technical feasibility study, obtaining protection of Industrial Property Rights).

## 5.1 Aid intensity for R&D projects by type of beneficiary/participant

Aid in this category refer to basic research<sup>4</sup> and/or industrial research<sup>5</sup> and/or experimental development<sup>6</sup>. The intensity of the aid by category of research, type of organisation and type of collaboration between organisations is presented below as follows:

- For enterprises, in Section 6.1.1.
- For research organisations, in Section 6.1.2.
- For technological and other organisations, in Section 6.1.3.

### 5.1.1 Aid for R&D projects to enterprises

The maximum aid intensity by category of research and depending on the size of the enterprise and the number and type of collaborating organisations, is shown in Table 3:

Table 3: Aid intensities for R&D activities

Category of Research	Small enterprises	Medium-sized enterprises	Large enterprises
Basic Research	up to 100%	up to 100%	up to 100%
Industrial Research	up to 70%	up to 60%	up to 50%
Industrial Research, provided that one of the following three conditions is satisfied: 1. The project foresees the actual collaboration between a minimum of two enterprises which are independent of one another and the following conditions are met: (a) No individual enterprise carries more than 70% of	up to 80%	up to 75%	up to 65%

<sup>4</sup> **Basic research:** Experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct practical application or use in view.

<sup>5</sup> **Industrial research:** Planned research or critical investigation aimed at the acquisition of new knowledge and skills for developing new products, processes or services or for bringing about a significant improvement in existing products, processes or services. It comprises the creation of components of complex systems, which is necessary for the industrial research, notably for generic technology validation, to the exclusion of prototypes.

<sup>6</sup> **Experimental development:** Acquisition, combination, shaping and use of existing scientific, technological, business and other relevant knowledge and skills to produce plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services. May also include other activities aiming at the conceptual definition, planning and documentation of new products, processes and services. Activities may comprise producing drafts, drawings, plans and other documentation, provided that they are not intended for commercial use. The development of commercially usable prototypes and pilot projects is also included where the prototypes are necessarily the final commercial product and their development solely for demonstration and validation purposes is too expensive. In case of a subsequent commercial use of demonstration or pilot projects, any revenue generated from such use must be deducted from the eligible costs.

Category of Research	Small enterprises	Medium-sized enterprises	Large enterprises
<p>the eligible costs of the collaboration project; and</p> <p>(b) The project includes collaboration with at least one SME or is carried out in at least two different Member States;</p> <p>or</p> <p>2. The project foresees the actual collaboration between one enterprise and one research organisation and the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(a) The research organisation undertakes at least 10% of the eligible costs (on the total budget); and</p> <p>(b) The research organisation has the right to publish the results of the research project, to the extent that these are derived from the research it has conducted;</p> <p>or</p> <p>3. The results of the project are widely disseminated by means of technical and scientific lectures or of publications in scientific and technical journals or are made available in freely accessible storage archives (databases offering to all access to raw research data) or via open-source software which is available free-of-charge.</p> <p><u>N.B.</u>: In cases (1) and (2) above, subcontracting is not considered actual collaboration.</p>			
Experimental Development <sup>7</sup>	up to 45%	up to 35%	up to 25%
Experimental Development, provided that conditions (1) or (2) under the increased aid level for industrial research are satisfied (see above).	up to 60%	up to 50%	up to 40%

### 5.1.2 Aid for R&D projects to research organisations

The maximum intensity of the aid to research organisations may amount to 100% of eligible costs for every type of aided activity, if it follows from the submitted proposal that the aided activity falls under the research organisation's usual primary activities which do not constitute an economic activity and that the results of the aided project can be widely disseminated and any intellectual property rights resulting from the activity of the research organisation are under its exclusive ownership or even if the results are provided to the collaborating enterprise, their utilisation does not result in direct commercial products and benefits for the enterprise. The same shall apply if the revenue from economic activities of the research organisation, such as income from granting exploitation licences, from the creation of spin-offs and other forms of utilisation of the knowledge produced, are reinvested in the research organisation's primary activities. GSRT reserves the right to check, during a period of three years after the acceptance of the projects, using special experts' committees that it shall establish for this purpose, that any revenues which have resulted from the economic exploitation of the results of the financed projects are re-invested in the primary activities of the research organisations.

- If direct financial and commercial benefits result from its collaboration with an enterprise, the research organisation shall receive from the beneficiary enterprise a fee that corresponds to the market price for the intellectual property rights which result from its own activity in the framework

<sup>7</sup> The experimental production and testing of products, processes and services are also eligible, provided that these cannot be used or transformed to be used in industrial applications or commercially. Experimental development does not include the routine or periodic changes made to products, production lines, manufacturing processes, existing services and other operations in progress, even if such changes may represent improvements.

of the aided project and, where such rights do result, transfers these to the enterprises. In this case, no public expenditure shall be paid to the research organisation.

Otherwise, i.e. if the project implemented by the research organisations is considered to be an economic activity and does not fall under the above cases, then the research organisations shall be able to be aided with a maximum aid intensity equal to that of enterprises, depending on the type of aided activity, as described in the preceding subsections. More specifically, the maximum aid to be received by the research organisation shall be calculated using the percentage foreseen for the type of enterprise (small, medium or large) benefiting from the results of its activity and/or from the type of research and/or from their weighted average. The remaining amount of the project budget (private participation) shall be covered by the research organisation's own funds.

For more details on what consists an economic and non-economic activity and on its direct or indirect financing, interested parties are referred to Item 3 of the Community Framework concerning State aid for Research, Development and Innovation (Commission Notice 2006/C 323/01), and the relevant opinion of the State Aid Unit of the Centre of International and European Economic Law (CIEEL), issued in response to a query submitted by the GSRT (Ref. MoKE 525/5-3-2009).

### **5.1.3 Aid for R&D projects carried out by technological and other organisations**

Technological organisations shall be financed depending on their status – i.e. in accordance with the provisions of section 6.1.1 if they are enterprises, and in accordance with the provisions of section 6.1.2 if they are research organisations.

The aid for the other organisations, such as public services, legal persons, local and prefectural authorities<sup>8</sup>, civil non-profit companies, societies, federations, associations etc., shall vary from 50% to 100%, depending on the specific case and the type of activity, for those organisations which fall under the restrictions regarding State aid<sup>9</sup>.

It is pointed out that the participation of other organisations should not exceed 3% of the total project budget.

This restriction shall not apply to:

- (a) Public Hospitals and their centres, when these participate in projects in the following sectors: Pharmaceuticals, Health Services.
- (b) Museums, when these participate in projects in the following sectors: Culture/Tourism Services.
- (c) The organisations under article 12 of Law 3297/23.12.2004.

## **5.2 Aid for technical feasibility studies**

The aid for technical feasibility studies refer to the financing of technical feasibility studies in preparation of industrial research or experimental development.

The maximum aid intensity by type of organisation is as follows:

- For SMEs, 75% of the eligible costs for studies in preparation of industrial research activities and 50% of the eligible costs for studies in preparation of experimental development activities.
- For large enterprises, 65% of the eligible costs for studies in preparation of industrial research activities and 40% of the eligible costs for studies in preparation of experimental development activities.

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<sup>8</sup> It is pointed out that development companies are considered to be enterprises and, consequently, the provisions of section 6.1.1 shall also apply in their case.

<sup>9</sup> For public organisations, including public hospitals and the organisations under article 12 of Law 3297/23.12.2004 belonging in this category, the percentage of the aid for non-economic activities may even reach 100%.

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- For research, public and other organisations, up to 100% in the case of non-economic activities. In the case of economic activities, the percentages to apply shall be those applicable to enterprises.

### 5.3 Aid for Industrial Property Rights costs for SMEs<sup>10</sup>

The aid for Industrial Property Rights costs refer to the costs incurred by SMEs or by public research and other organisations for obtaining and validating patents and other industrial property rights.

The aid intensity may be equal to that applicable to aids for research and development projects (Section 6.1.1), in relation to the research activities that initially led to the establishment of the industrial property rights in question.

## 6. COST CATEGORIES ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCING BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY

The intensity aid of one beneficiary for each type of activity is the same of all cost categories included in that activity. The beneficiary's own participation (if any) is also allocated to all cost categories using the same percentage, with the exception of personnel costs.

The cost categories eligible for financing are the following:

- (a) Aid for research and development projects, including experimental development
  - Personnel costs
  - Costs for instruments and equipment
  - Costs for buildings
  - Technology – know-how acquisition costs
  - Costs for contracted research (carried out by natural and legal persons)
  - Additional costs
  - Costs for consumables
- (b) Aid for technical feasibility studies.
- (c) Aid for Industrial Property Rights costs for SMEs.

## 7. PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

The procedure for the evaluation of proposals consists of the preliminary examination (as to the completeness/eligibility of proposals in relation to the terms and conditions of the Call), which is followed by the main evaluation and ranking of the proposals.

The evaluation of proposals shall be carried out by experts' committees assisted by international judges/evaluators. After this, the experts' committee shall formulate the final recommendation which will be submitted for approval to the Minister of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs.

Each evaluation criteria is marked on a scale of 0 to 4 points.

In detail, the evaluation criteria are as follows:

### A. Quality-reliability of the partnership (weighting coefficient: 30%)

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<sup>10</sup> In addition to SMEs, these aids also apply to Research Organisations, provided that in the framework of the proposal submitted they do not pursue an economic activity on the basis of section 6.1.2.

(Experience of the participating organisations and individuals, adequacy of the infrastructures of the participants, suitability of the project's organisational structure and management procedures).

B. Scientific and Technological quality of the proposal (weighting coefficient: 30%)

(Quality and innovative nature / excellence of the proposal, effectiveness of the proposed methodology-technology, feasibility and clarity of deliverables).

C. Contribution to the economy and productivity of the country and impacts on the operation-evolution of the participating enterprises (weighting coefficient: 40%)

(Contribution of the project to excellence and to the competitiveness of the economy at the national and/or European and/or global level. Assessment of the capability of the participating enterprises to exploit the project's results and improve their products and/or processes).

The total mark of proposals is calculated as the sum total of the marks obtained for each criterion, multiplied by the corresponding weighting coefficient for that criterion.

## 8. APPROVAL – FINANCING

After the evaluation procedure by the subject area / sector-specific committees is concluded, the proposals will be ranked in a table in decreasing order of their mark by subject area / sector.

In the case of a proposal the participants in which include beneficiaries from different "Regions", the Public Expenditure allocated to each beneficiary shall be charged to the ROP of the Region from which each beneficiary comes, based on the ranking of the proposals and on the available Public Expenditure by Region, as the latter is shown in Table 1 (Section 1). At the next step, a table shall be drawn up showing the Public Expenditure breakdown by "Region", depending on the geographical location of the participants.

In this table, proposals shall be ranked on the basis of their total mark (starting with the proposal which received the highest mark), until the Public Expenditure available under the ROP of each Region is exhausted.

After the completion of the procedure for the evaluation of proposals and the approval of the list of projects to be financed, a Project Technical Fiche will be drawn up for each project in collaboration between the staff of the Intermediate Management Body (IMB) and the Project Coordinator, and shall be followed by the issue of the decision approving the inclusion of the project for financing under the Action.

## 9. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals shall be submitted electronically via the Internet and shall be drawn up in the English language using a relevant electronic form. Submission of the proposals shall take place under the responsibility of the Coordinators, who must take care to ensure their timely and valid submission and the completeness of the documents accompanying them.

The electronic platform for the submission of proposals has been uploaded and is available at: <https://apps.gov.gr/minedu/synergasia/>.

The above address may be used for registration with the electronic platform.

Instructions on how to submit proposals electronically are contained in the electronic submission platform. For technical assistance concerning the electronic submission platform, interested parties may address their queries to the following electronic address: [synergasia@minedu.gov.gr](mailto:synergasia@minedu.gov.gr).

Detailed information on the Action is supplied in the Guide for Applicants, which is available from the GSRT website ([www.gsrt.gr](http://www.gsrt.gr)).

Proposals may be submitted from the day following the date of publication of the present Call and until **25/07/2011** (closing date) at 14:00.

## 10. COMMUNICATION

Interested parties may address their queries to:

GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY  
Research Programmes Support Directorate  
14-18 Messogion Ave.  
115 10 ATHENS  
PO BOX 146 31

Dr Dimitrios POUTOUKIS, Tel.: 210 7458136, E-mail: [dpoutoukis@gsrt.gr](mailto:dpoutoukis@gsrt.gr)

A Notice of the present Call for Proposals shall be published in the Greek newspapers "TO VIMA", "KATHIMERINI" and "AGGELIOFOROS", on the website of the GSRT ([www.gsrt.gr](http://www.gsrt.gr)) and of the NSRF ([www.espa.gr](http://www.espa.gr)), in newspapers abroad and on the websites of international research organisations.

The Minister of  
Education, Lifelong Learning & Religious Affairs

ANNA DIAMANTOPOULOU