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(Notices)

COMMISSION

Call for proposals for the Euro-Mediterranean regional programme for local water management issued by the European Commission

(2002/C 2/03)

1. Publication reference

EuropeAid/113202/C/G/

2. Programme and financing source

Programme title: Euro-Mediterranean regional water programme for local water management.

Financing source: MEDA regional indicative programming (budget line B7-4100).

3. Nature of activities, geographical area and project duration

The Euro-Mediterranean regional water programme for local water management aims at the enhancement of regional cooperation in the areas of sustainable and integrated management of water resources. The relevant type of interventions are stipulated in the Ministerial Declaration and Action Plan of the 1999 Turin Euro-Mediterranean ministerial meeting on local water management. The priority issues identified therein include six identified areas of action and four horizontal themes as follows:

Areas of action

- I. Integrated management of local drinking water supply, sanitation and sewage.
- II. Local water resources and water demand management (quantity and quality) within catchment areas and islands.
- III. Prevention and mitigation of the negative effects of drought and equitable management of water scarcity.
- IV. Irrigation water management.
- V. Use of non-conventional water resources.
- VI. Preparation of national and local scenarios for the period until 2025 that enable precise objectives to be set and actions to be taken for sustainable water management.

Horizontal themes

- A. Strengthening institutional capacities and training.
- B. Exchange of information and know-how.
- C. Transfer of know-how and technology.
- D. Awareness raising, mobilisation and promotion of commitment of the population.

Submitted project proposals shall aim at the implementation of horizontal themes within specific topics relevant to one or more areas of action. For details, see the 'Guidelines for applicants' referred to in point 12.

Geographical area: The beneficiary countries are the 12 Euro-Med partners (1) (at least two shall be targeted in each specific project) given the regional nature of the programme and its implementation in selected areas on their territories.

Maximum project duration: Four years.

4. Overall amount available for this call for proposals

The total budget available for the present call for proposals is EUR 32,6 million.

5. Maximum and minimum grant amounts

- (a) Minimum grant by Community funding for a project: EUR 1 million.
- (b) Maximum grant by Community funding for a project: EUR 5 million.
- (c) Maximum proportion of project costs to be covered by Community funding grant: 80 %.

6. Maximum number of grants to be awarded

It is anticipated that approximately 10 to 15 projects will be financed in the framework of the present call for proposals.

⁽¹) Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestinian territories, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey.

7. Eligibility: who may apply

Non-profit public and private organisations established in one of the European Union Member States in consortia with similar type of organisations established in MEDA countries and territories. Participation, either as an applicant or as a partner, is allowed in only one consortium. International organisations can participate in various consortia through funds to the project's own contribution and/or as implementation partners at their own cost (for details see guidelines for applicants). In order to prevent any conflict of interest, any organisation, which benefits from other funding by the Community budget in the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean regional water programme is not eligible to participate under any capacity in a project consortium.

Proposals should be presented by a consortium composed of at least two organisations from different European Union Member States and at least two, or ideally more, organisations from different MEDA countries and territories. Roles and responsibilities among the consortia members shall be indicated in a relevant memorandum of understanding for each proposal.

The **leader organisation submitting the proposal** (the applicant) would have to be based in an EU Member State for legal and accounting purposes and be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the programme, not acting as an intermediary.

8. Provisional notification period of results of the award process

November 2002.

9. Award criteria

For administrative compliance and eligibility criteria as well as for technical and financial evaluation criteria see the guidelines for applicants' referred to in point 12.

10. Application format and details to be provided

Applications must be submitted using the **standard application form** attached to the guidelines for applicants mentioned in point 12, whose format and instructions must be strictly observed. For each application, the applicant must submit **one signed original** and **five copies of the relevant documents described in the application form** (also in electronic version).

Language: proposals shall be presented in English or French.

11. Deadline for applications

Submission deadline: 12.00 on 31 May 2002.

Any application <u>received</u> by the contracting authority after this deadline will not be considered. The above deadline refers to the confirmed physical submission of applications to the Commission services and not to the postmark on the application envelope.

12. Detailed information

Detailed information on this call for proposals is contained in the guidelines for applicants, which are published together with this notice and all relevant documentation in its English version on the following Internet website of the European Commission's EuropeAid Cooperation Office:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl

Before submitting your query in the abovementioned website please select the following criteria: 'Programme Box' — MEDA, Status — Open, Type — Grants, Countries — All.

The French version of the guidelines for applicants will be published as soon as available.

Any questions regarding this call for proposals should be sent to:

For technical issues

E-mail: Rodney.Standring@cec.eu.int

Fax (32-2) 295 56 65.

For financial and contract management issues

E-mail: Gian-Luca.Bombarda@cec.eu.int

Fax (32-2) 296 35 95.

The time limit for questions is 21 calendar days prior to the submission deadline.

All applicants are encouraged to consult the above Internet web page regularly before the deadline for applications since the Commission will publish the most frequently asked questions, corresponding replies as well as other pertinent information.

Provision is made for the organisation of an information meeting to be held in the premises of the EuropeAid Cooperation Office in Brussels, where the contracting authority shall address collectively questions from interested applicants. Further information on the exact date and venue of this meeting shall be published in due time on the website of this call for proposals.