

European Research Update Archive – August-December 2008

Week ending Friday, 12 December 2008

European Research Update will be back in January 2009.

- **Published 9 December 2008, Call for Proposals: Research Infrastructures.**
Deadline: 17 March 2009
The European Union has launched a call for proposals for Research Infrastructures to support Framework Programme 7 activities. These Calls include: a Scientific Information Repository; supporting cooperation for all research infrastructures in all areas of science and technology; and policy development in the context of international cooperation for e-Infrastructures. [For more information, visit the CORDIS website.](#)
- **Published 8 December 2008, Call for Tenders: "European Communications and Outreach Campaign on Biodiversity - Phase 1".** Deadline for requesting information, 19 January 2009. Deadline for applications, 2 February 2009.
The European Commission, Directorate-General for Environment, has published a call for tenders for a project regarding the European communications and outreach campaign on biodiversity. The objectives of this tender are to develop a campaign graphic identity and also develop a communications strategy on biodiversity focusing on the new Member States. [For more information see the DG Environment web page.](#)
- **Published 26 November 2008, Call for Tenders: "Study on the Contribution of Culture to local and regional economic development as part of European Regional Policy.** **Deadline: 12 January 2009**
The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency has published a call for tenders for the provision of a study on the contribution of culture to local and regional economic development as part of European regional policy. The study must give an overview on how and to what extent culture has been integrated into the regional development strategy since 2000 in the framework of the European regional policy (last programming period 2000–2006 as well as the current programming period 2007–2013 of the Structural Funds). [For more information visit the EACEA website.](#)

Week ending Friday, 28 November 2008

- **Published 25 November 2008, Call for Short-Term Travel Grant Applications: Body-Size and Ecosystem Dynamics: Integrating Pure and Applied Approaches for Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecology to Support an Ecosystem Approach (SIZEMIC).** **Deadline: 31 December 2008.**
The European Science Foundation's Research Networking Programme SIZEMIC is inviting applications for short-term Travel Grants for early-stage researchers (PhD, Post-Doc) to visit foreign institutions to pursue research activities (new data synthesis, modelling and/or literature reviews) addressing its primary aims. SIZEMIC aims to foster new research on size-based approaches to understand ecosystem structure and processes. The network is particularly concerned to develop synergistic research activity across traditional boundaries, such as theoretical/field-based research, terrestrial/aquatic ecosystems, pure/applied ecology. For more information, visit [the ESF website.](#)
- **Published 19 November 2008, Call for Proposals: Energy.** **Deadline: 29 April 2009**
The European Commission has launched 3 calls for proposals for the ICT Thematic Priority under the FP7 Co-operation Programme. This includes one new joint call with the Energy theme. Topics cover areas such as solar photovoltaic cells, use of biomass, improving coal-fired power stations and optimising energy grids. See the [CORDIS website](#) for more information.
- **Published 19 November 2008. Call for Proposals: European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grants.** **Deadlines: 25 March, 15 April and 6 May 2009**
The European Research Council has published details of its Advanced Researcher Grant under the 2009 Ideas Work Programme of the 7th EC Framework Programme

for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities. Three separate calls exist in the areas of Physical Sciences and Engineering; Social Sciences and Humanities, and Life Sciences, and different deadlines are in place for each. See the [CORDIS website](#) or the [ERC website](#) for more information.

Week ending Friday, 14 November 2008

- **Published 12 November 2008. EVENT: UKRO ERC Advanced Grants: Information and Proposal Writing**
The United Kingdom Research Office (UKRO) in its capacity as the UK National Contact Point (NCP) for the European Research Council (ERC) is holding a series of information events for UK-based researchers considering applying. Ten half-day sessions will be held at five university venues across the country between 28 November and 17 December 2008. The sessions are particular aimed at researchers who intend to apply. For more information and to book, please visit the UKRO ERC website, <http://www.ukro.bbsrc.ac.uk/erc/>
- **Published 7 November 2008, Call for Proposals: COST Actions. Deadline: 27 March 2009**
COST invites researchers throughout Europe to submit proposals for research networks and use this unique opportunity to exchange knowledge and to embark on new European perspectives. COST's main objective is to stimulate new, innovative and interdisciplinary scientific networks in Europe. COST activities (Actions) are carried out by research teams to strengthen the foundations for building scientific excellence in Europe. This continuous call is thematically open. COST invites proposals for new COST Actions contributing to the scientific, economic, cultural or societal development of Europe. Proposals playing a precursor role for other European programmes involving young groups' ideas are especially welcome. Since 1971 COST brings together research teams in different countries working on specific topics. It finances networking of nationally funded activities in supporting meetings, conferences, short term scientific exchanges and outreach activities. COST supports the networking of specific research themes (COST does NOT fund research projects themselves). Currently more than 200 Actions are supported. Every year approximately 50 new Actions will be approved. On average financial support of some € 100.000 p.a. as grant for normally 4 years can be expected. For more details, [see the COST website](#)
- **Published 6 November 2008, Call for Proposals: Grants for actions in the field of urban mobility Deadline: 31 March 2009**
The European Commission, Directorate-General for Energy and Transport, intends to award grants to actions in support of the development of sustainable mobility policy for urban agglomerations. These actions should promote the objectives of sustainable urban mobility, as set out in the Green Paper Paper 'Towards a new culture for urban mobility', adopted by the Commission on 25 September 2007 (COM (2007) 551). In this Green Paper, the Commission announced its intention to follow up with an Action Plan on urban mobility in 2008. The actions to be selected must be in line with the approaches set out in the Green Paper on urban mobility: more fluid and less polluted towns and cities, more intelligent and more accessible, and safer and more secure urban transport. They should also contribute to the implementation of the Action Plan on urban mobility. Please see the [DG Energy and Transport web page](#) for more information.

Week ending Friday, 31 October 2008

- **Published 29 October 2008, Call for Tenders: Framework contract — assistance with drawing up and implementing the EU information and communication policy, principally, but not exclusively, in the field of development cooperation. Deadline: final date for requesting documents, 17 December 2008; application deadline, 12 January 2009.**
The EU seeks assistance with drawing up and implementing its information and communication policy, principally, but not exclusively, in the field of development

cooperation. This call is divided into four "lots", each lot involving different aspects of the work e.g. developing audio-visual information products; organising conferences, exhibitions and other events; and developing the relevant internet sites. For more information, visit the DG [Development's website](#).

- **Published 20 October 2008, Call for Proposals: Marie Curie European and International Reintegration Grants.** **Deadlines: 31 December 2009, with interim cut-off dates on 2 April and 8 October 2009**

The **European Reintegration Grant** action aims at assisting experienced researchers in the (re)integration into a research career after a trans-national mobility experience within the frame of the Marie Curie actions. The action encourages the researchers to build on their trans-national mobility period in the context of a coherent professional project and to promote the perspectives of the development of their research career.

The **International Reintegration Grant** aims to reinforce the attractiveness of Europe by encouraging European researchers who have carried out research outside Europe for at least three years, to reintegrate in a Member State or in an Associated country in order to contribute to European research and transfer the knowledge they have acquired in a third country, by offering them the opportunity to capitalise on their experience in Europe. It is aimed at countering European brain drain to third countries. It should also allow the development of lasting co-operation with the scientific and/or industrial environment of the third country from which they have returned.

For more details of both schemes, see [the CORDIS website](#).

Week ending Friday, 17 October 2008

- **Published 8 October 2008. Call for Proposals: Fuel Cells & Hydrogen Joint Technology Initiative.** **Deadline: 15 January 2009**

With growing concerns about climate change issues, increasing prices of oil and gas and Europe's strong dependence on imports, the development of a policy for a sustainable and secure energy system is a top priority for Europe. Hydrogen, as an energy carrier, and fuel cells, as efficient energy converters, may play an important role in this respect. However, a number of technical and non-technical barriers must be addressed before these technologies can become commercially available. The Fuel Cells & Hydrogen (FCH) Joint Technology Initiative (JTI) aims to define and implement a target-oriented research and development programme to support the broad market introduction of these technologies. The overall objective of the JTI is to speed up the development of hydrogen supply and fuel cell technologies with up to 5 years to the point of commercial take off for early market applications (e.g. handheld devices, portable generators); for stationary applications (domestic and commercial Combined Heat and Power); and for mass market roll-out of transport applications. This call includes opportunities for proposals in a number of areas within the larger topic. Please visit

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&all_id=172

- **Published 4 October 2008. Call for Tenders: Study on the protection of geographical indications for products other than wines, spirits, agricultural or foodstuffs.** **Deadline: 10 November 2008**

The European Commission is planning to conclude a contract to carry out a study on the protection of geographical indications for products other than wines, spirits, agricultural or foodstuffs. This will involve: the identification of 15 to 20 economically most significant EU non-agricultural products that enjoy protection at Member State level, either via a sui generis GI protection system, specific laws and/or case-law, or through registration of a collective or certification trademark; the identification of 5 to 10 economically most significant non-agricultural products from third countries including China, Russia, India, Switzerland and Brazil, protected at national level, either via a sui generis GI protection system, specific laws and/or case-law, or through registration of a collective or certification trademark; the identification of the relevant legal instruments used for the protection of such products; the collection of economic and market data related to the products; and the assessment of the main

differences, strengths and weaknesses in the protection systems identified, including positive aspects and difficulties in protection and enforcement of rights. For more information, see <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/centre/opportunities/tender/tender.htm>

- **REMINDER: Published 22 July, ERC New Starting Investigator Grants.** Deadline varies between 29 October and 10 December 2008 depending on the discipline applied for.

The European Research Council has published details of its Starting Independent Researcher Grant under the 2009 Ideas Work Programme of the 7th EC Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities. These grants support early career independent researchers of any nationality with:

- a scientific track record showing great promise
 - a ground breaking research proposal
 - 3-8 years experience since completion of PhD
 - a host organisation based in an EU Member State, an Associated Country, or being an International European Interest Organisation
- For more details please visit [the ERC website](#).

Week ending Friday, 3 October 2008

No new funding opportunities under FP7 have been published since the large number of new calls were announced on 3 September 2008. See the European Update for the week ending Friday, 5 September, below, for further information.

- **Published 1 October 2008. Call for Tenders: Feasibility Study of a Pan-European Pension Fund for Researchers.** Deadline for requesting documents, 4 November 2008; deadline for applications, 11 November 2008.
As foreseen in the 2008 'People' work programme, the contractor will study the legal, technical, and financial requirements for setting up a pan-European pension fund for EU researchers with existing legislation under the 2nd pillar such as the 'IORP Directive' and life-insurance-based pension arrangements that could best fit researchers' needs will also be analysed. Further information can be downloaded from the DG Research website, at http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/research/tenders/rtd-2008_s190-251056_en.cfm
- **Published 26 September 2008. Call for Pre-Proposals: European Partnership in Polar Climate Science (PolarCLIMATE).** Deadline for pre-proposals to be submitted is 24 October 2008; full proposals, if invited, are expected to be received by early March 2009.
The EUROPOLAR ERA-NET Consortium is launching the first Pilot Call for Pre-Proposals leading to potential Joint Projects to be undertaken within the PolarCLIMATE Programme. Following agreement with 20 ministries and funding organisations from 18 European Countries in Austria, France, Belgium, Bulgaria*, Czech Republic, Denmark*, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom*, the PolarCLIMATE Programme is expected to run for 3-4 years supported by national research funding. The Programme aims to support high quality transnational research at the European level in the Arctic and Antarctic. See <http://www.esf.org/index.php?id=5333> for more information.
- **Published 26 September 2008. Call for Members: European Commission invites scientists to join its Advisory Structure of Scientific Committees and Database of Experts.** Deadline for applications: 31 October 2008 for panels; no deadline for Database of Experts
The Commission appoints the members of the Scientific Committees (SCCS, SCHER, and SCENIHR) and those of the Pool of Scientific Advisors on the basis of their expertise, and who are expected to be well-established scientists with more than 10 years of professional experience and multi-disciplinary accomplishments. The Committees provide the Commission with high quality and independent scientific advice on matters related to consumer safety, public health, and the environment. Membership in the Database of Experts is open to all scientists who wish to

contribute to the work of the Scientific Committees on an *ad hoc* basis, on specific issues, as members of working groups or on the occasion of hearings and workshops. For the Database of Experts, there is no application deadline and no requirement for a specific length of professional experience. For more information, visit http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/committees/call_expression_en.htm

Week ending Friday, 19 September 2008

No new funding opportunities under FP7 have been published since the large number of new calls were announced on 3 September 2008. See the European Update for the week ending Friday, 5 September, below, for further information.

- **Published 15 September. NEWS: Facilitating access to EU funding: a new practical guide**
The European Commission has published a new 'Practical Guide to EU funding opportunities for Research and Innovation'. In the multifaceted field of EU funding, this guide is intended to help stakeholders find the right funding programme for their projects in a user-friendly and comprehensive way. It provides a description of each programme including the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) and the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), as well as the Structural funds (European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund) and the Cohesion Fund, explaining their structures, their overall budgets, who is eligible and how to apply. For more information and to download the guide, see http://cordis.europa.eu/eu-funding-guide/home_en.html
- **Published 13 September. Call for Tenders: Study to assess fund-raising from philanthropy for research funding in European Universities. Deadline for requesting information, 17 October 2008. Deadline for applications: 24 October 2008**
As foreseen in the 2007–2008 capacities work programme of the 7th framework programme, this study will assess the importance of philanthropic funding in European universities in general, and specifically in support of university-based research. It includes an identification of universities active in fund-raising from philanthropic sources. Afterwards, data will be collected and analysed notably in terms of their fund-raising structure and cost, degree of success, forms of philanthropic support, funds allocation, strategies and tactics adopted to raise funds for research, positive/negative impacts associated with the receipt of philanthropic funding for research, success and failure factors. See [Tenders Electronic Daily](#) or the [DG Research](#) website.
- **Published 9 September. Call for Tenders: Study on Volunteering in the European Union. Deadline: 23 October 2008**
This study is intended to help the European Commission to better understand the national, regional and local realities of volunteering in the 27 EU Member States, including critical issues and challenges related to the volunteer, the voluntary organisation and services provided by them. It should enable the Commission to identify in which way the sector could contribute to help the EU achieve its strategic objectives in the economic and social fields (strategic goals, Lisbon agenda). The study should help policy-makers to determine the scope of possible future initiatives at the European level aimed at promoting volunteering. See [Tenders Electronic Daily](#) or the [Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency](#) website.

Week ending Friday, 5 September 2008

A large number of new Calls in a number of areas, including Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities, Health, Security, and the Environment have been issued by the EU in the last few days - see the [CORDIS news page](#) for further details or visit the [CORDIS Calls page](#). Deadlines fall between 31 October 2008 and 29 April 2009. The following are a small selection.

- **Published 3 September. Call for Proposals: Socio-economic Sciences and the Humanities (SSH). Deadline: 13 January 2009.**

A large number of areas are included in this call, with funding schemes including Collaborative Projects and Coordination and Support Actions. Topics range from education in the European Knowledge Society, Religion and Secularism across Europe, and Perspectives from outside the EU on human rights, democracy and peace. There are three call packages: see http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&c_all_id=152, http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&c_all_id=164 and http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&c_all_id=165

- **Published 3 September. Call for Proposals: Health. Deadline: 3 December 2008.**
A wide ranging call with a number of topics under which research can be carried out, including research on the brain and related diseases, human development and ageing; confronting major threats to public health; and enhancing health promotion and disease prevention. There are two call packages, see: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&c_all_id=140 and http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&c_all_id=141
- **Published 3 September. Call for Proposals: Security. Deadline: 4 December 2008.**
An extensive call including Coordination and Support Actions and Collaborative Projects including the following topics: information and knowledge management for the prevention of terrorism and organised crime; built infrastructure protection, and integrated comprehensive approaches to airport security. See http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&c_all_id=137.

Week ending Friday 15 August 2008

- **Published 5 August. Call for Proposals: Science and Technology Fellowships, China. Deadline is 5 September 2008.**
EuropeAid invites applications for its science and technology fellowships - China. This activity aims at: promoting the mobility of EU researchers towards the Chinese research and development area to successfully develop meaningful and long-lasting contact; sustaining the links and research institutions. The fellowship programme is open to all disciplines. The fellowship offers: a monthly living allowance of 1.800 euros (£1.148); an installation allowance of 1.800 euros; reimbursement of international travels worth up to 3.000 euros; reimbursement of participation in one international conference at 2.500 euros. Please visit the [Science and Technology Programme in China home page](#).
- **Published 5 August. Call for Tenders: Statistical Services in the Field of Environmental Statistics and Accounts. Deadline for requesting information is 12 September 2008 and deadline for applications is 22 September 2008.**
Eurostat has developed and published indicators related to chemicals; these indicators shall be updated with data for 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. The proposed indicator on environmentally harmful chemicals shall be developed and calculated for the period 1995 to 2010. The requested indicator on apparent consumption of chemicals shall be developed and calculated. The supplemental indicators in the REACH baseline study shall be updated. All the developments will be dependent on data availability. [Please visit the Eurostate Home Page](#).
- **Published 4 August. Call for Tenders: Study on the Economic Benefits of Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PETs). Deadline for requesting information is 5 September 2008 and deadline for applications is 12 September 2008.**
Following the adoption of the Commission's Communication on promoting data protection by privacy enhancing technologies (PETs), COM (2007) 228 final on 2.5.2007, the aim of the study is to assess the economic impact of PETs. The study should cover both public and private sectors with a focus primarily on SMEs and

explore to what extent the deployment of PETs could be economically beneficial.
[Please visit Tenders Electronic Daily.](#)

Week ending Friday 1 August 2008.

- **Published 19 July, Call for Tenders: Study on how Member States deal with the memory of the crimes committed by totalitarian regimes in Europe.** **Deadline for requesting information is 9 September 2008 and deadline for applications is 15 September 2008.**

The aim of the study is to provide a factual overview of the various methods used by the Member States to deal with the issue of the memory of the crimes committed by totalitarian regimes in Europe. The study will cover the crimes committed by totalitarian regimes during the 20th century in the Member States of the European Union. Please visit [Tenders Electronic Daily](#).

- **Published 22 July, ERC New Starting Investigator Grants.** **Deadline varies between 29 October and 10 December 2008 depending on the discipline applied for.**

The European Research Council has published details of its Starting Independent Researcher Grant under the 2009 Ideas Work Programme of the 7th EC Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities. These grants support early career independent researchers of any nationality with:

- a scientific track record showing great promise
- a ground breaking research proposal
- 3-8 years experience since completion of PhD
- a host organisation based in an EU Member State, an Associated Country, or being an International European Interest Organisation

For more details please visit [the ERC website](#).

- **Published 28 July, Call for Tenders: Impact of Information and Communication Technologies on Energy Efficiency in Road Transport.** **Deadline for requesting information is 29 August 2008, and closing deadline is 5 September 2008.**

The European Commission, Directorate Components and Systems, has published a call for tenders for a project regarding the impact of information and communication technologies on energy efficiency in road transport. The main objective of the study is to perform an analysis on how ICT can contribute to CO2 reduction through innovative technologies. The study is intended to support the decision making process concerning policy actions by providing an assessment of the most important systems and models able to resolve some of the challenges related to clean and efficient mobility. For more information please visit [Tenders Electronic Daily](#)