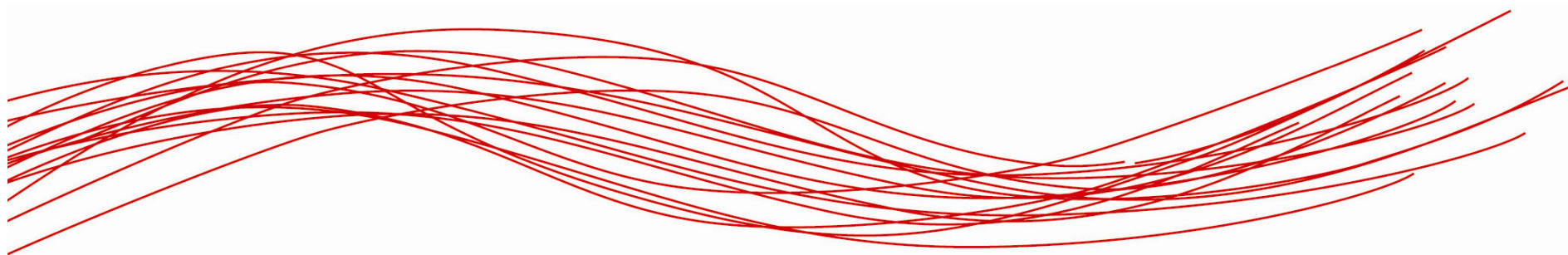


1st Fuel Cells and Hydrogen JU Call for Proposals



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Outline

- I. LEGAL FRAMEWORK
- II. PREPARATION, SUBMISSION and EVALUATION of PROPOSALS
- III. CONCLUSIONS

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PART I

LEGAL FRAMEWORK:

Council Regulation setting up the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking(*)

(*) EC N° 521/2008 of 30 May 2008

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Art.14 of the Annex to the Council Regulation

The FCH JU shall support RTD activities following **open and competitive calls for proposals**, independent evaluation, and the conclusion for each project of a Grant Agreement and a Consortium Agreement.

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First Call for Proposals

- × Published 8 October 2008
- × **Deadline** for applications on 15 January 2009
- × Indicative **budget** for the first call 28.1 M€
- × **Areas:**
 1. Transportation and Refuelling Infrastructure
 2. Hydrogen Production and Distribution
 3. Stationary Power Generation & CHP
 4. Early Markets
 5. Cross-Cutting activities
- × During the interim phase, the Commission shall be responsible for the JTI operations.

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Participation Conditions

- × Minimum **3** independent legal entities from **different MS/AC** (except for support actions)
- × At least **one legal entity** must be member of the **Industry Grouping** or **Research Grouping** in each project
- × In general, the **co-ordinator** will be IG/RG member
- × **All** legal entities and international organisations **can participate**
- × As a rule, **third country** participants are **not eligible for funding**

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Grant Agreement

The **Grant Agreement** shall:

- ✕ Govern the relationship between the project consortium and the FCH Joint Undertaking
- ✕ Provide the appropriate arrangements for the implementation of the RTD activities
- ✕ Provide the financial arrangements and the rules relating to Intellectual property rights policy

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Consortium Agreement

The **Consortium Agreement** shall:

- ✕ Govern the relationship between the participants in the project
- ✕ Provide the appropriate arrangements for the implementation of the Grant Agreement

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FCH JU Financial Contribution

Art. 15 (3) of the FCH JU Statutes states:

Upper funding limits shall be aligned to comply with those laid down by the FP7 Rules for Participation.

In case of lower levels of funding will be necessary to comply with the matching principles referred to in Article 12 (3), **the decreases shall be fair and balanced proportionally** [...] for all categories of participants in each individual project.

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Calculation of FCH JU Financial Contribution

Shall be based on the reimbursement of a percentage of eligible **direct costs** and on the form of a maximum reimbursement rate or a flat-rate for the reimbursement of **indirect costs**.

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Reimbursement of Direct Costs

- ✖ Based on a percentage of eligible direct costs, depending on the type of participant, funding scheme and activity (up to 50% or 75%)
- ✖ Aligned with FP7 upper funding limits, except for ‘Coordination and support actions’ (up to 50%) and “Other activities” (RTD funding limits)

Reimbursement of Direct Costs

Upper funding levels for reimbursement of direct costs

RTD	Industry (other than SME)	max 50%
Collaborative projects	SME	max 75%
Other activities	Non profit RO, Universities, PB	max 75%

Demonstration	Industry (other than SME)	max 50%
Collaborative projects	SME	max 50%
Coordination and Support actions	Non profit RO, Universities, PB	max 50%

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Reimbursement of Indirect Costs

- ✕ Either a maximum of **20%** of the direct eligible costs (*)
This option is mandatory for Industry.

- ✕ Or a Flat rate of **20%** of the direct eligible costs (*)

(*) excluding subcontracting costs and the costs of resources made available by third parties which are not used on the premises of the beneficiaries.

FCH JU Financial Contribution

Upper funding limits are maximum levels

- ✕ As Industry's contribution shall match Community's contribution, **actual funding levels might be lower.**
- ✕ Matching funds will be assessed at call level
- ✕ When needed, "the decreases shall be fair and balanced proportionally" for all categories of participants in all projects of the same call.

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PART II

PREPARATION, SUBMISSION and EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

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Before Preparing the Proposal

Check **reference documents**:

- ✕ Annual Implementation Plan 2008 (description of topics, funding schemes, eligibility, evaluation criteria, timetable etc.)
- ✕ Guide for Applicants (how to submit a proposal)
- ✕ Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS) “Users Guide”.

Before Submitting the Proposal – Check List

- ✗ Does your planned work address the **topic** open in the call?
- ✗ Is your proposal **eligible**?
- ✗ Is your proposal **complete**?
- ✗ Are you applying for the right **funding scheme**?
- ✗ Do you have the agreement of all the members of the **consortium** to submit the proposal on their behalf?
- ✗ Is the **coordinator** a member of the IG or RG?. If not, please explain and justify it.

Eligibility Criteria

Minimum conditions that a proposal must fulfil to be retained for evaluation.

- ✕ Submission before the deadline.
- ✕ Minimum number of eligible, independent participants.
- ✕ At least one member of the IG or RG in the consortium.
- ✕ Completeness of the proposal.
- ✕ In scope, addressing a topic in the call.

Evaluation

- ✗ Following the “FCH JU Rules for submission of proposals, and the related evaluation, selection and award procedures”.
- ✗ Carried out by **independent experts**
- ✗ Selection of experts is based on high level expertise and appropriate competences. Furthermore, a balanced mixture of academic/industrial background, countries of origin and gender is to be respected.
- ✗ Experts sign **confidentiality** and **no-conflict of interest** declarations.

Evaluation Criteria

Divided into three **main criteria**:

- × **S&T Quality** (including relevance to the topic of the call)
 - × Concept, objective, work-plan
- × **Implementation** (operational capacity of participants)
 - × Individual participants and consortium as a whole
 - × Allocation of resources
- × **Impact**
 - × Contribution to expected impacts listed in AIP
 - × Plans for dissemination/exploitation

Evaluation

- ✕ Ranking will be done within activity areas.
- ✕ Proposals for different topics with equal overall score will be prioritised according to programme coverage.
- ✕ For the same topic, prioritisation will be according to:
 - ✕ Scientific and Technological Excellence
 - ✕ Impact
- ✕ Single stage evaluation

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After Evaluation

- ✕ Following results of the evaluation, the FCH JU Programme Office draws up a final list of proposals for possible funding.
- ✕ **Governing Board** approves the list of proposals intended to be selected for funding, including the suggested financial contribution for each proposal, taking into consideration the matching funds required for the call.
- ✕ Opening negotiation letters are sent.
- ✕ If negotiations are concluded successfully, the selection decision is adopted by the **Governing Board**, prior to the signature of the Grant Agreement.

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Indicative Timing

- ✕ 8 October 2008 Publication of the Call for proposals
- ✕ 15 January 2009 Closing of the Call
- ✕ February Evaluations
- ✕ March / April Governing Board approves list of proposals intended to be selected
- ✕ April / May Opening negotiations
- ✕ September Selection decision adopted by the Governing Board and Signature of Grant Agreements

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PART III

CONCLUSIONS

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Recommendations

- ✕ Read the reference documents before preparing the proposal.
- ✕ Chose your partners carefully to cover the needed expertise.
- ✕ Check your proposal against the check list provided in the Guide for Applicants.
- ✕ Do not wait until the last moment to submit the proposal.
- ✕ Do not hesitate to ask for help or further information.

First FCH JU Call for Proposals

**Publication of the Call and
reference documents are available at:**

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm>

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Conclusions

- ✕ This is joint venture, a new kind of “body”, a new experience for all
- ✕ Following lessons learnt in the first call for proposals, adjustments could be done, if necessary
- ✕ **Cooperation, coordination** and **contributions** from all members of the IG, RG and from the EC are needed to make this initiative successful. **Patience** is also of value.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION ☺**

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