



The Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
(ACP Secretariat)

ACP Caribbean & Pacific Research Programme for Sustainable Development

Guidelines for grant applicants

10th European Development Fund

Reference: **EuropeAid/130381/D/ACT/ACP**

Deadline for submission of proposals: 31st January 2011

1. ACP CARIBBEAN & PACIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1.1 BACKGROUND

This call for proposals for the Caribbean and Pacific regions is part of the ACP Research for Sustainable Development Programme.

The Programme is in line with the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement (“The Cotonou Agreement”). Within its ‘Development Strategies’ the Cotonou Agreement calls for the “development of scientific, technological and research infrastructure and services, including the enhancement, transfer and absorption of new technologies”¹. It is also in line with the *European Consensus on Development* which states that the Community will increase its support to development-related research.²

Caribbean and Pacific (C&P) countries are generally lagging behind in research and development. Many countries do not have R&D strategies or long-term research programmes. Research and innovation in targeted specific areas is critical for the attainment of sustainable development in ACP countries and in particular for Small Islands. The inclusion of science and technology in the thinking about sustainable development is imperative not only for these countries to become more resilient to adverse impacts of climate change but also to become self-sufficient and to meet the MDGs, in particular the ‘eradication of extreme poverty and hunger’. Research is a horizontal issue to the extent that many poverty problems are also rooted in the absence of, or limited access to, knowledge and know-how.

The programme has been developed as complementary to other ACP and/or EU initiatives such as the EDULINK Programme, the ACP Science & Technology Programme and the FP7 Framework Programme for Research. It is further complemented by initiatives such as the ACP Water and Energy Facilities which, although not focused on research, provide capacity building as well as improved access to water and sanitation and to sustainable and affordable energy as well as by other bilateral and multilateral initiatives in research cooperation such as those sponsored for example by UNDP, CGIAR and ACIAR.

This programme will focus on support for research and innovation initiatives from ACP stakeholders. The targeted areas in the C&P countries to benefit from this new programme are Post-harvest and Agriculture, Renewable and Sustainable Energy, Water & Sanitation and Climate Change.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME AND PRIORITY ISSUES

The **Overall objective** of this Call for Proposals is to contribute to sustainable development of Caribbean and Pacific countries belonging to the ACP Group of States through research in science and technologies.

The **Specific objective** of this Call for Proposals is to support **research projects** in the fields of agriculture and post harvest, renewable and sustainable energy, water and sanitation and

¹ Article 23 (j).

² 2005, *The European Consensus on Development*, § 35: “The EU is fully committed to taking action to advance Policy Coherence for Development in a number of areas (...Trade, Environment, Climate change, Security, Agriculture, Fisheries, Social dimensions of globalisation, Employment and decent work, Migration, **Research and innovation**, Information, Transport and Energy).”

climate change, that contribute to the fight against poverty in the target countries and improve their resilience.

Expected Results

- Enhanced Food security and Food safety;
- Better adapted renewable and sustainable energy technologies;
- Improved integrated water resources and waste management;
- Improved Climate Change adaptation and mitigation technologies.

Priority areas

- (1) Agriculture and Post-harvest
- (2) Renewable and sustainable energy
- (3) Water and Sanitation
- (4) Climate change

1.3 FINANCIAL ALLOCATION PROVIDED BY THE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

The overall indicative amount made available under this call for proposals is EUR 4,800,000. The Contracting Authority reserves the right not to award all available funds.

Indicative allocation of funds

In order to ensure adequate geographical coverage, preference will be given to at least one proposal for each priority sector (see 2.1.3) in each of the two geographical regions (Caribbean/Pacific).

Size of grants

Any grant awarded under this Call for Proposals must fall between the following minimum and maximum amounts:

- minimum amount: EUR 250,000.
- maximum amount: EUR 500,000.

No grant may exceed 85 % of the total eligible costs of the action (see also section 2.1.4). The balance must be financed from the applicant's or partners' own resources, or from sources other than the European Union budget or the European Development Fund.

2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants: who may apply?
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- (1) In order to be eligible for a grant, applicants **must**:

- be legal persons³ **and**
- have their headquarters in a country belonging to the ACP Group of States or the European Union **and**
- be registered locally in (or have a ‘memorandum of understanding’ with) a Caribbean or Pacific country belonging to the ACP Group of States prior to the publication of this call for proposals **and**
- be able to demonstrate that they have been constituted and registered in accordance with the legislation in force in the country concerned at the time of the submission of an application **and**
- have at least a three-year record in the formulation and/or implementation of activities in research development, for which they will have to demonstrate their relevant expertise **and**
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with their partners, not acting as an intermediary **and**
- be able to demonstrate their experience and capacity to manage activities corresponding in scale and complexity to those for which a grant has been requested **and**
- have stable and sufficient sources of finance to ensure the continuity of their organisation throughout the implementation of the proposed action.

Institutions from Cuba and the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) may only participate in projects as associates, and cannot be final beneficiaries of the project from EDF funds.

3 Subject to the prior approval of the relevant services of the European Commission, grant applications may be eligible if submitted by entities which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law, provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf, and assume financial liability.