



**Call for Proposals: "EU-India Research and Innovation Partnership",
Publication Ref: EuropeAid/135-474/DD/ACT/IN**

Publication of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1: I am writing this mail in order to kindly ask you some information about the setting up of the consortium. In particular, could you please tell me the number of partner required (if any?).

A1: The grant contract will be awarded to a qualified consortium, involving one or several research oriented entities (consortium with minimum one entity in India) – point 2.1.1 of the guidelines on p.3. In order to build the necessary partnership between the EU and India, it is expected that the consortium will be composed of at least one Indian entity and one European entity.

Q2: Could you please send us a model template for the concept note and the full submission report? Also regarding the calls for India, I wanted to ask which organization is acting as an extension of European commission in India handling the calls.

A2: The templates are all indicated on the website:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&nbPubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&se archetype=RS&aofr=135474>

The European Union Delegation to India represents the European Union in India.

Q3: Concerning the call for proposals EU-India Research and Innovation Partnership-EuropeAid/135-474/DD/ACT/IN, I would like to know if public and private universities can participate in the call as applicants.

A3: Indeed, public and private universities are eligible (point 2.1.1 of the guidelines), as they are considered as operators in the public sector.

Q4: The call mentions six Lots. Our project idea addresses two of these Lots, namely (i) Environment and (V) Health. Is it technically possible to submit a proposal addressing two Lots.

A5: Please refer to point 2.1.4 of the guidelines, on p.6, "Number of applications and grant per applicant". It is possible for the same entity to submit one application for each lot.

Q6: Section 2.1.4. 'Eligible actions' mentions ineligible actions within the scope of this call. Against the background that the minimum required duration of a proposed project should be 48 months and the max. amount of funding is 333.333 EUR, my colleagues and I were wondering if you could specify what kind of actions are eligible?

A6: Please refer to point 2.1.4 of the guidelines, on p.6 'types of activity' describes the actions that are eligible.

Q7: Section 1.3. 'Financial Allocation' mentions that the applicant is supposed to finance the balance from sources other than the European Budget or the European Development Fund. Could you please specify if this includes in-kind contribution?

A7: Please refer to point 2.1.5 on p.8. Contribution in kind is ineligible to be included in total contribution (EU+applicants).

Q8: Section 2.1.1 Eligibility of applicants

Does a National Research Institution or a University qualify as public sector operator and therefore satisfies the Applicant's Eligibility criteria?

Does a Government of India Institution, as the Office of Principal Scientific Adviser to Government of India or the National Informatics Centre qualify as public sector operator and therefore satisfies the Applicant's Eligibility criteria?

A8: A National Research Institution or a University are eligible.

A Government of India Institution is eligible.

Q9: Is it considered relevant for the evaluation to address all the three mentioned activities: *Setting up of EU-India cluster-to-cluster partnerships in the areas of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda with particular focus on sustainable environment and water, bio-economy, agriculture, energy and transport, health, and information and communication technologies.*

Supporting visibility, mutual understanding and awareness actions to facilitate EU-India cooperation on research and innovation;

Setting up individual mobility schemes for European researchers and innovators (e.g. post-graduate, and post-doctoral, engineers, innovation managers, entrepreneurs) working in research and innovation entities within a cluster in Europe to move from Europe to India. The individual mobility schemes should be an integral component of the cluster-to-cluster partnerships.

Or is it possible to focus on specific ones (e.g. the first two in the list) without being affected in the evaluation?

A9: All three mentioned activities should be addressed by the proposal, especially the individual mobility schemes.

Q10: One of my academic colleagues is interested in applying to the EU-India Research & Innovation Partnership grant scheme. I would like to ask about the funding scheme. How the fund is distributed between the Grant beneficiary and affiliated (European University and Indian University)? Is it 50%-50% or there is no restriction on this and based on the effort puts on the project?

A10: The distribution of funds is the responsibility of the consortium.

Q11: We would like to submit a proposal for this call. Both of us work in the broad area of road engineering. I would like to find out from you whether such area would come under the announced lot of "Transport". Can you elaborate little more on the areas under which one can submit proposal under TRANSPORT?

A11: Transport covers all the areas described on the following webpage: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/transport/>.

Q12: Regarding the call 135-474, point 2.1.1., it is not clear if public universities can be eligible. Please, could you clarify if we are eligible?

A12: Yes, public universities are eligible.

Q13: What does the term **cluster to cluster partnership** exactly mean in the context of the call? Could you give us an example?

A13: An innovation cluster is a geographical concentration of firms including competitors, suppliers, distributors, and customers; usually around scientific research centers and universities. The successful bidder will bring together clusters from Europe and from India.

Q14: Can we address or **combine different lots/thematic areas** in one proposal, e.g. looking at the environmental impacts of energy use or at the transport - energy nexus?

A14: Lots cannot be combined; you may submit one application for each lot. However, each topic may have cross-cutting themes.

Q15: Is there a reason why **Universities and Research Institutes** are not explicitly mentioned as eligible applicants in paragraph 2.1.1 as is the case for the eligibility of affiliated entities in paragraph 2.1.2?

A15: No, Universities and Research Institutes are eligible applicants.

Q16: Am I eligible to send my project independently as PI of the project with my mentors as permanent faculty of AIIMS?

A16: The grant contract will be awarded to a qualified consortium, involving one or several research oriented entities (consortium with minimum one entity in India) – point 2.1.1 of the guidelines on p.3. In order to build the necessary partnership between the EU and India, it is expected that the consortium will be composed of at least one Indian entity and one European entity.

Q17: We would like to know, if it would be possible to subsidize the labor costs and consumables or only the subsidy is applicable for travel/exchange and materials, etc.

I kindly request you to let us know this key information at the earliest possible and based on this information, we would be able to frame the project in a much efficiency manner.

A17: There is no subsidy available on any cost.

Q18: Is it possible to have a collaboration with United Kingdom under this partnership.

A18: Yes.

Q19: from my reading of the materials, since it is a mobility project, it is expected that only one EU-based institute fulfilling the requirements would submit the proposal. Is that assumption correct?

A19: That assumption is incorrect. The applicant does not necessarily have to be European. The guidelines stipulate in point 2.1.1. that the applicant must "be established in a Member State of the European Union European Union/the EEA/an official candidate country, one of the SAARC Member States or any other eligible country stipulated in the EC regulation no. 1934/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 establishing a financing instrument for cooperation with industrialised and other high-income countries and territories."

Q20: We have some confusion regarding the eligibility of the applicants. Can you please let us know if the following partners will be eligible to submit a proposal?

Partner 1: Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, India

Partner 2: University of Cyprus, Cyprus

A21: Universities and Institutes are eligible applicants

Q21: Ideally what should the concept note include- in terms of content/headings?

What supporting documents we need to send along with the concept note?

The templates and supporting documents are all indicated on the website:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome&PubliList=15&orderby=upd&orderbyad=Desc&se archetype=RS&aofr=135474>

Q22: I understand that one original and three copies must be sent to the postal address pointed out, but when it says that an electronic version of the Concept Note must also be submitted. Where do we have to send it? Is there any application as for the 7FP projects? Or we have to send it by email? If that case to which address?

A22: The electronic copy can be sent on a CD ROM as indicated in the guidelines in point 2.2.2 or on a pen drive. Both paper and electronic versions must be sent to the same postal address:

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