



THE SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

The Sixth Framework Programme covers Community activities in the field of research, technological development and demonstration (RTD) for the period 2002 to 2006

GUIDE FOR PROPOSERS

New and emerging science and technology (NEST)

Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area

Call for proposals with two closure dates

Call identifier FP6-2003-NEST-A

Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREP)

Three different types of instrument are available to fund activities in NEST. These instruments are described in the brochure “The 6th Framework Programme in Brief” and on EUROPA at <http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/networks-ip.html> :

- Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREP)
- Coordination Actions (CA)
- Specific Support Actions (SSA)

This version of the Guide for Proposers concerns:

Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREP)

The structure required for a proposal, and the rules which will govern its evaluation, vary according to the type of instrument used and also may vary from call to call. It is entirely your responsibility to ensure you are using the correct version of the Guide for Proposers for the type of action and the call for which you are proposing.

Key recommendations for submitting a proposal to NEST

- **Priorities and objectives:** Check that your proposed work does indeed address research objectives as described in the current NEST Work Programme. Two basic action lines are open in the current Call: ADVENTURE and INSIGHT research projects. In addition, this call makes provision for Support Actions. Section I.2 of this Guide gives an introduction to NEST. Further information on NEST and its action lines can be consulted at: <http://www.cordis.lu/nest.htm>
- **Completeness:** Proposals must comprise a Part A, containing the administrative information (including partner and project cost details) on standard forms; and a Part B, containing the scientific and technical description of your proposal, (as described in Annex 2). Check that your proposal contains both parts. For outline STREP proposals, check that Part B is anonymous.
- **Use of correct forms and instrument:** The proposal forms for Part A and the structure of Part B vary according to the different instruments.
 - Check that you have chosen the correct contractual instrument for the type of work you are proposing (<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/find-doc.htm>).
 - Check in the Work Programme that the call is actually open for instruments of this type in the particular Research topic in which you propose to work.
 - Check on the call page that you are using the version of the Guide for Proposers specific for this instrument and call.
- **Eligible partnership:** Confirm that you and your partners are indeed eligible for participation in NEST. The minimum requirements for the makeup of your consortium can be found in the Work Programme and the call text, and organisations must have a registered legal existence.
- **Evaluation criteria:** All proposals are evaluated according to fixed blocks of criteria, depending on the type of instrument, which are described in the NEST Work Programme. Be sure that the material in your proposal clearly addresses each of the evaluation criteria used for this instrument. Be aware that there are threshold scores for the criteria which must be achieved; otherwise the proposal fails. For SSAs there is a threshold on the proposal's overall score. For outline proposals (ADVENTURE and INSIGHT STREP only) the evaluation will assess the proposal against a sub-set of three of the six blocks of criteria (relevance to the objectives, excellence and potential impact).
- **Ethical, safety and regulatory issues** : Clearly indicate any potential ethical, safety or regulatory aspects of the proposed research and the way they will be dealt with in your proposed project. An ethical check will take place during the evaluation and an ethical review will take place for proposals dealing with specific sensitive issues. Proposals will fail if they do not respect the ethical rules for FP6.
- **Gender issues:** If relevant, clearly indicate the way in which these issues are taken into account in your project (see Proposal Part B and Annex 4)
- **Presentation:** Proposals should be precise and concise. They should present the objectives and the expected results, how the participants intend to disseminate or exploit these results and how the project contributes to integrating and structuring the European research area. Proposals should assemble the necessary critical mass of activities, expertise and resources to achieve the proposed objectives.
- **Competition:** There will be strong competition. Therefore edit your proposal tightly, strengthen or eliminate weak points. Arrange for your draft to be evaluated by experienced colleagues, using the evaluation criteria for the type of action you are proposing, before sending it in. Then use their advice to improve it before submission.

- **Deadlines:** Call deadlines (closure dates) are absolutely firm and are strictly enforced. Proposals must be received by the Commission before or on the deadline as it is specified in the Call for proposals. Proposers are reminded that it is their own responsibility to ensure the safe delivery of their proposal.

Note : “Closure date” is the term used throughout this document, to refer to the deadline for proposals. Proposals that arrive after the first closure date will be evaluated in the evaluation round associated with the second closure date. PROPOSALS THAT ARRIVE AFTER THE SECOND CLOSURE DATE, WHICH COINCIDES WITH THE CLOSING DATE (DEADLINE) OF THE CALL, WILL BE INELIGIBLE. NO EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES WILL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION.

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New and emerging science and technology

Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREPs)

Specific information for Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREPs) in the 1st call of NEST published on 27th February 2003. Fixed deadline call

I Introduction

I.1 Structure and content of the Guide for Proposers

This Guide for Proposers contains the basic information needed to guide you in preparing a proposal.

It contains the proposal forms needed to prepare Part A of a proposal, and instructions on how to write Part B. Both parts are required to make a complete proposal. Incomplete proposals will be ineligible and therefore will not be evaluated.

It also describes other services which may be available for the proposers, like pre-registration, and the different support services. It contains references to other documents, reports, forms and software tools which are of assistance in the preparation of proposals.

Other documents which constitute, together with this guide, the **Information Package for Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREPs)** and which you will need to consult during the preparation of your proposal are:

- **The brochure “The 6th Framework Programme in Brief”.** This brochure gives a brief overview of FP6. It serves as a guide for navigating through the activities, funding schemes, thematic areas, types of instrument etc., allowing potential participants to better find their way through to the activity most suiting their ideas.
- **The current NEST Work Programme.** The Work Programme provides a detailed description of the content of the research topics/objectives which are open for proposals, and indicates which types of instruments may be used for each. It also gives an indicative timetable for NEST’s implementation (“roadmap”) and details on the evaluation criteria.
- **The Call for proposals** as published in the Official Journal of the European Communities. This will tell you which Research topics/objectives are open for proposals for Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREPs), and what are the address and deadline for proposal submission.

Additional documents which you should review are¹:

- **The Guidelines on proposal evaluation procedures (the “Evaluation Manual”).** This document describes the general principles and the procedures which will be used in the evaluation of proposals.
- **The NEST Guidelines for Evaluators.** This describes in detail how proposals will be evaluated in NEST. You may use the Guidelines for Evaluators as a checklist to ensure the quality of your proposal.
- All these documents, as well as additional information if any, may be found at:
http://fp6.cordis.lu/fp6/call_details.cfm?CALL_ID=56.

¹ These documents should become available in March 2003. They will be published on CORDIS at <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/>

- **The model contract for Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREPs), and its annexes.** This specifies the contractual terms and conditions to which your consortium will be expected to agree if your proposal is selected for funding.

The background document on the Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREPs). Full details of what a Specific Targeted Research Project (STREP) comprises and how such a project should be implemented are given at <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instruments.htm>

This Guide for Proposers does not supersede the rules and conditions laid out, in particular, in Council and Parliament Decisions relevant to the Sixth Framework Programme, the NEST activity, the Call for proposals or the Evaluation manual.

These documents are available at: <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/find-doc.htm>

1.2 Specific information for this call

NEST provides a means to anticipate scientific and technological opportunities and needs in new and emerging areas. It supports unconventional, exploratory research which cuts across or lies outside the thematic priority areas of FP6, in particular because it is highly interdisciplinary and/or multidisciplinary.

This call for proposals address two basic lines of action:

- *ADVENTURE projects* support research in new and emerging areas of knowledge and on future technologies, in particular in multidisciplinary fields, which is highly innovative and involves high (technical) risks.
- *INSIGHT projects* support research aimed at assessing new discoveries and newly observed phenomena, which may indicate important potential problems or risks to society.

In addition, the call makes provision for Support Actions which will be carried out to assist in the development and exploitation of NEST activities.

Reference documents on these activities are available on the NEST web-site <http://www.cordis.lu/nest.htm>.

STREP proposals for ADVENTURE and INSIGHT projects are submitted in a two-stage procedure: first a short outline anonymous proposal is submitted and if this short proposal is successful, proposers are invited to submit a full proposal (see II.1 below).

INSIGHT projects may also be **Co-ordination Actions**. In this case, proposals are submitted as full, non-anonymous proposals, and are evaluated in a single stage process.

Support Actions proposals are also submitted as full, non-anonymous proposals, and are evaluated in a single stage process.

II. Proposal preparation

II.1 Two stage submission as applied in NEST

Proposals for Specific Targeted Research Projects (STREPs) in NEST are submitted in two stages. In the two-stage procedure, proposers initially present their idea to the Commission as an outline proposal. The outline proposal is an anonymous proposal of maximum five pages of technical content, which addresses the objectives to be achieved, and the methodology and impact of the work. Anonymous means that the names of researchers and organisations should not appear in the text (Part B of the proposal). Proposer names and affiliations are thus given in Part A of the proposal only. The outline proposal is submitted to the address set out in the Call for proposals as published in the Official Journal of the European Commission. Proposals must be received by the Commission by the relevant closure date of the call.

Independent experts will evaluate the submitted outline proposals, following the evaluation criteria as described in the NEST Work Programme.

After evaluation of the outline proposal, Co-ordinators of successful OUTLINE proposals will be invited to submit a FULL proposal by a deadline specified in the invitation letter. Full proposals that arrive after this deadline will be ineligible. Full proposals will also be evaluated by independent experts following all evaluation criteria.

Favourable evaluation of the outline proposal does not oblige the proposers subsequently to submit a FULL proposal, nor does it commit the Commission to supporting a subsequent project.

II.2 Consortium composition

Proposals must be presented by a consortium comprising a minimum number of mutually-independent legal entities (organisations or individuals) established in different Member States of the EU or Associated States, of which a certain number must be Member States or Associated candidate countries. The default minimum numbers defined in the rules for participation are at least three independent legal entities established in three different EU Member States or Associated States of which at least two must be established in Member States or Associated candidate countries. Any changes to these minimum numbers are set out in the Call for proposals.

The EU Member States are: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Portugal, United Kingdom.

International organisations of European interest¹, and the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) are considered on the same footing as legal entities established in a Member State.

The candidate countries are: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey. All of these countries have signed memoranda of understanding associating them to FP6². Other countries which are associated to the 6th Framework programme are: Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland³. Potential participants should confirm the exact situation of all these countries at the FP6 International Cooperation website (see Section VII).

¹ International organisations, the majority of whose members are European Community Member States or Associated States and whose principal objective is to promote European scientific and technological cooperation.

² At the time of writing, the association to FP6 has come into force for all of them with the exception of the Czech Republic for which the ratification process is still ongoing.

³ At the time of writing, the ratification process for Israel and Switzerland is still ongoing.

Organisations from any other country may additionally take part, provided the above minimum requirements have been met. Organisations from certain other countries may receive a Community financial contribution, as defined in the Rules of Participation in FP6 (see address in Section VII).

Co-operation with international organisations with intergovernmental agreements is welcomed. Co-operation with organisations in INCO target countries is encouraged (see address of INCO web page in Section VII).

II.3 Structure of a proposal

A proposal has two parts. Full details about preparing these parts are annexed to this Guide.

- **Part A** is a set of forms which collect necessary administrative information about the proposal and the proposers e.g. proposal name, proposers' names and addresses, brief description of the work (abstract of the work), total funding requested by type of activity, etc. This information will be encoded in a structured database for further computer processing to produce statistics, evaluation reports etc., and also to support the experts and Commission during the evaluation process.
- **Part B** comprises a structure or list of headings which should be followed to describe the scientific and technical content of a proposal (see Annex 2), rather than a pre-prepared form. It describes among other things the nature of the proposed work, the participants and their roles in the proposed project. It describes the reasons for carrying out the work, and the benefits which would come from it.

Any additional material sent with the proposal (company brochures, supporting documents and reports, videos etc.) will be disregarded. In proposals submitted electronically, other embedded material or hyperlinks to other documents will be disregarded.

II.4 Proposal language

Proposals may be submitted in any official language of the European Union. If your proposal is not in English, a translation of the proposal would be of assistance to the evaluators, and an English translation of the abstract must be included in Part B of the proposal.

II.5 Proposal pre-registration

Proposers are strongly encouraged to pre-register their intention to submit a proposal (title and acronym), no matter whether they intend to submit electronically or on paper. Proposals are pre-registered via the Internet, at the call page for NEST (see address in Section VII).

NEST covers a wide variety of fields of research. Pre-registration is therefore vital to ensure that proposals can be properly evaluated using the appropriate specialist expertise.

II.6 Electronic proposal submission system

An electronic proposal submission system will be available from early 2003 **via the call page** to help you prepare your proposal. This tool may be used directly online to prepare and submit a proposal, or alternatively, it may be downloaded to prepare a proposal offline. In this case, once the proposal has been prepared with the tool, it may be either sent: electronically via the tool, or via CD-ROM or diskette, or on paper, as preferred by the proposers.

Use only the version of the proposal preparation tool which is prepared for **this instrument in this call in NEST**.

II.7 Pre-proposal check

No facility for a pre-proposal check is provided for NEST

III Submission of proposals

Proposals to NEST may be submitted online via the Internet, or may be sent on electronic media (CD-ROM, diskette) or on paper to the address indicated in the Call for proposals.

III.1 Electronic submission

The proposal coordinator must register his/her intention to prepare a proposal by visiting the web-page set up for this purpose (to be reached via the Call page, see address in chapter VII). In return, he/she receives by post a coordinator login and password as well as a partner login and password. The coordinator may now access the electronic proposal submission system (EPSS) in order to fill in administrative forms and upload files containing the contents of the proposal. On upload, the EPSS performs a check for computer viruses. If any virus is detected, the coordinator is informed of the fact and that the upload has been refused. It is the proposal coordinator's responsibility to ensure that infected files are deleted or that viruses are removed before the file can be uploaded.

Once they have received their login and password from the coordinator, proposal partners may access and edit their individual administrative forms and view all other parts of the proposal. Only the coordinator may compile and edit the proposal contents.

File formats accepted by the Commission for the proposal contents are PDF ("portable document format", version 3 or higher with embedded fonts) and RTF ("rich text format"). The submission of other file formats is at the risk of the proposers. Other file formats will only be accepted if they can be read and printed. In the case that this is not possible, the proposal may be rejected. Parts of proposals that cannot be printed will not be used for evaluation purposes.

Once the proposal is complete, the coordinator submits it by entering his/her login and password. On submission, the EPSS performs an initial check on eligibility and informs the coordinator of any apparent eligibility problems with the proposal. This check does not replace the eligibility check carried out by the Commission and the coordinator may decide to submit the proposal even when apparent eligibility problems have been indicated by the EPSS.

Once successfully submitted, the coordinator receives a message that indicates that his/her proposal has been received and accepted for submission. The coordinator may continue to modify his/her proposal and submit revised versions overwriting the previously submitted one up until the call closure, but will not be able to modify the proposal after call closure. Proposal files successfully submitted, but which later turn out to contain computer viruses or which are unreadable or unprintable, will be excluded.

Failure of your proposal to arrive in time for any reason, including communications delays, is not acceptable as an extenuating circumstance.

III.2 Submission on CD-ROM or diskette

The EPSS also comprises a software tool for preparing proposals off-line. The coordinator may download this tool to fill in forms and attach the proposal content file(s). The same restrictions on file formats apply as for the on-line submission method. Submission may then be carried out in three ways:

- by registering as set out above to use the on-line preparation and submission system and then uploading and submitting the files via the on-line system;
- by using the off-line tool to write files to CD-ROM or diskette, which are then delivered before the call closure to the address given in the call for proposals;
- by using the off-line tool to prepare a paper copy of the proposal, which is then delivered before the call closure to the address given in the call for proposals.

When using the second method, the proposal coordinator is required to include a paper copy of the proposal in the package with the CD-ROM/diskette. The paper copy is only used for processing and subsequent evaluation if the electronic media are unreadable or if the files on the media are found to contain a computer virus. A proposal submitted on CD-ROM or diskette which is unreadable or which contains a computer virus will be excluded if a paper copy is not included in the same package.

III.3 Submission on paper

III.3.1 Procedure

Proposal Part A – Complete the forms electronically using the proposal preparation tool, then print out the completed forms for submission. Alternatively, you may use the forms annexed to this Guide, photocopying extra copies of the form A2 as necessary for the number of partners in your proposal.

Proposal Part B – Prepare a text document following the outline supplied in Annex 2:

- each page of Part B **must** be numbered (preferably in the format “page X of Y”).
- each page of Part B **must** be headed with the acronym you have chosen for your proposal.

III.3.2 Preparing your proposal for submission

Your proposal should be submitted as one complete unbound Part A and one complete unbound Part B.

The Commission will reproduce the number of copies needed by the evaluators, therefore.

- **Print your proposal on white A4 paper (80 g/m²)**
- **Print on one side of the paper only; no two-sided copies please**
- **Do not convey information using colour; the copies will be made in black and white**
- **Do not use glossy or surfaced paper**
- **Do not include paper clips or staples**
- **Do not include front or back covers of plastic, card etc.**
- **Do not bind your proposal**

You are strongly advised to securely retain an additional complete unbound copy of your proposal.

III.3.3 Packaging and delivery

The complete set of proposal documentation should be placed in an envelope or envelopes marked “Commercial-in-confidence” with the following information on each:

- NEST
- FP6-2003-NEST-A
- The proposal acronym

If you use more than one envelope, please mark them clearly 1 of X, 2 of X etc.

The envelope(s) should then be sealed within an overall packaging, which should be addressed to the Commission office for receipt of proposals as given in the Call for proposals.

The proposal may be sent by mail, by special delivery service or delivered by hand, but **must** arrive at the specified address no later than the deadline given in the Call for proposals.

If you are submitting more than one proposal:

Submit each proposal separately. **Never mix two different proposals in a single package.**

III.3.4 Errors in submitted proposals

If after sending your proposal you discover there has been a **serious error which will affect its evaluation** (wrong address, missing pages, missing parts.....) and the call deadline has not yet passed, you should at once contact the NEST Information Desk, the coordinates of which are given below.

Once the deadline has passed, however, we can accept no further additions, corrections or re-submissions. The last version of your proposal received before the deadline is the one which will be evaluated, and any later material will be disregarded.

III.4 Deadline for reception

To be eligible, proposals must be **received** by the Commission before or on the deadline at the address specified in the call.

Proposers are reminded that it is their own responsibility to ensure the safe and timely delivery of their proposal.

III.5 Acknowledgement of receipt

Once a proposal has been received and registered by the Commission, the Acknowledgement of receipt will be either returned electronically in case of electronic submission, or despatched to the proposal coordinator in case of paper (CD-ROM/Diskette) submission.

All proposers who have submitted a proposal to NEST will receive an acknowledgement of receipt promptly on receipt of their proposal and at least within 3 weeks of the relevant closure date. **Proposers who have not received an Acknowledgement of receipt by that time should urgently contact the NEST Information Desk.**

The sending of an Acknowledgement of receipt by the Commission does not imply that a proposal has been accepted as eligible for evaluation.

Note: The electronic message given by the EPSS system after electronic submission does not constitute the official Acknowledgement of receipt.

IV Evaluation and negotiation

IV.1 Proposal evaluation

All proposals that fulfil the eligibility criteria and which, where relevant, fulfil the anonymity requirement, will be evaluated by independent experts. The experts will apply the blocks of criteria and corresponding detailed criteria as described in the NEST Work Programme. They will work in compliance with the official Guidelines for evaluation and selection of Proposals, and more specifically within the procedural framework described in the NEST Guidance for evaluators.

The remit of NEST is to operate in “New and Emerging” areas of science and technology, which “cut across or lie outside” the Thematic Priorities. Proposals in areas of research falling within one or other of the Thematic Priorities, as set out in the framework programme, are therefore not within the scope of this call. This is irrespective of the topics of focus and/or the instruments specified in any currently open calls under the Thematic Priorities.

OUTLINE STREP PROPOSALS - **anonymous**

- The objective of the stage 1 evaluation is to retain those proposals that have the highest relevance to the NEST activity (the “spirit of ADVENTURE” or the objectives of INSIGHT), while being of a sufficiently high scientific / technical quality and having high impact.
- Independent experts, will evaluate the OUTLINE proposals against criteria given in the Call for proposals, following the procedure outlined in the NEST Guidance for evaluators.
- All proposers will receive an Evaluation Summary Report (ESR) with the outcome of the evaluation normally within 3 months after the relevant closure date.
- Proposers of ineligible or unsuccessful proposals will subsequently receive a formal notification of a Commission decision not to retain their proposal.
- Proposers of successful proposals will be invited to submit a FULL proposal.

FULL STREP PROPOSALS – **non-anonymous**

- The objective of stage 2 is to make a thorough evaluation of FULL proposals against the full set of criteria, to retain and rank the proposals that are of the best overall quality and relevance.
- Independent experts, will evaluate the FULL proposals against criteria given in the Call for proposals, following the procedure outlined in the NEST Guidance for evaluators.
- All proposers will receive an Evaluation Summary Report (ESR) with the outcome of the evaluation normally within 3 months after the relevant closure date.
- Proposers of ineligible or unsuccessful proposals will subsequently receive a formal notification of a Commission decision not to retain their proposal.
- Proposers of successful proposals will be invited to start negotiation.

The experts will prepare an Evaluation Summary Report on each proposal which will later be sent by the Commission to the proposal coordinator. The experts will make a list of the proposals ranked in order of merit for consideration by the Commission.

The experts' conclusions are examined by the Commission with the support of the relevant programme Committee, which comprises representatives of Member and Associated States.

Successful proposals that involve ethical issues will go through an ethical review prior to the contract negotiation. This may raise issues that may need clarification prior to or during the negotiations.

IV.2 Contract negotiations

If the proposal has been successful in the evaluation and has been retained for possible funding, contract negotiation will start through an official letter sent by the Commission, in a timeframe starting approximately 3 months after the relevant closure date (after the relevant deadline for full proposals).

Negotiations apply at two levels: scientific & technological and administrative & financial.

The officials conducting these negotiations on behalf of the Commission will be working within a predetermined budget envelope for the proposal and also within the framework of any recommendations which the experts may have made concerning modifications to the work presented in the proposal.

Some project coordinators may be asked to come to Brussels to facilitate the negotiation. They should be ready to participate in one or more meetings which would take place shortly after receiving the official letter sent by the Commission.

Proposers should familiarise themselves well before these meetings with the content of the model contract for this instrument, and its annexes. This contract can be downloaded from the Internet (see address in Section VII).

Before a negotiation can begin, the Commission may request certain legal and financial information on participating organisations (Legal documents and financial viability checks are not requested from public organisations, only from all private non-profit and private participants). All participants in the proposals should familiarise themselves at an early stage with the documentation they will need to provide if they are successful and the Coordinator must ensure on behalf of the consortium that the correct documentation is sent to the Commission. This information must be made available with the submission of the Contract Preparation Form. The information required is fully described in detail in the Contract preparation forms (see address in Section VII).

In particular, the Commission may ask for a copy of the document that legally establishes each organisation in the consortium.

It is not mandatory that participants in projects selected under this call conclude a consortium agreement although such agreements are strongly recommended. The Consortium agreement should be finalised as early as possible, and at the latest at the same time as the contract. A checklist to assist in drawing up a Consortium agreement is available on the Internet (see address in Section VII).

Proposers should also note that the European Commission's Science and Society Action Plan places an onus on all recipients of Community funding through the framework programme to systematically disseminate to the public information that will raise awareness of the scientific work being undertaken and the benefits to society that are likely to accrue.

If the negotiation is successful, a Commission Decision approving the funding is foreseen in a timeframe starting 7 months after the relevant closure date. The project may begin work in accordance with the provisions in the contract signed with the Commission regarding the project start date.

In the event of budget availability (due e.g. to failure of negotiations of initially-selected proposals, or to negotiations concluded at a lower level of funding than originally anticipated), proposers from a short reserve list may be contacted to start negotiations.

V. Check list for proposers

For **ELECTRONIC** submission of your proposal you must check the following:

- Are both parts of your proposal, Part A and Part B fully completed?
- Is your Part B prepared in the approved file format (PDF or RTF), including no material in other formats? For outline proposals, is it anonymous?
- Have you virus-checked your complete proposal, using up-to-date anti-virus software?
- Do you have all the necessary authorisations from each member of the consortium to submit this proposal on their behalf?
- Last but not least: have you made all possible arrangements to ensure that the proposal arrives at the Commission before the deadline?

For **PAPER** submission (including submission on CD-ROM or diskette which must include a paper version) of your proposal you must check the following:

- Are both parts of your proposal, Part A and Part B fully completed?
- For outline proposals, is Part B anonymous?
- Is each page of your proposal headed with the proposal acronym?
- Is each of the pages numbered (page X of Y)?
- Is your proposal prepared as one complete unbound single-sided paper copy (plus one additional copy for you to hold in reserve)?
- Is the copy of the proposal placed in an envelope, marked "Commercial-in-confidence, with the following information:
 - "NEST"?
 - FP6-2003-NEST-A?
 - The proposal acronym?
- If you used more than one envelope, are they numbered 1 of X, 2 of X, etc., with each clearly marked as described above?
- Is the complete set of proposal documentation placed in a package, correctly addressed using the address given in the Call for proposals ?
- Is the outside of the package marked "NEST" ?
- Do you have all the necessary authorisations from each member of the consortium to submit this proposal on their behalf?
- Last but not least: have you made all possible arrangements to ensure that the proposal arrives at the Commission before the deadline?

VI. Support to proposers

VI.1 NEST Information Desk

European Commission
The NEST Information Desk
Directorate General Research
B-1049 Brussels

Email: rtd-nest@cec.eu.int
Fax: +32-2-299.31.73
Web: www.cordis.lu/nest

**Links to all the necessary information to prepare a proposal are available on the NEST page for
FP6-2003-NEST-A (see Section VII)
Proposers should periodically check this for latest information**

VI.2 Partner search facilities

The Commission's CORDIS server offers a number of services and information sources which may be useful in partner search for participation in this priority, as well as a list of organisations which have already expressed an interest in participating in the call (see addresses in Section VII).

VI.3 National Contact Points

NEST supports a network of National Contact Points (NCPs), which can be helpful to organisations from their country both in general advice (particularly on preparing proposals) and in finding partners from other countries. Organisations should contact the NCP of their own country for further information (see CORDIS at: <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/ncp.htm>).

VI.4 Information Days

EU Member States and Associated States frequently organise Information Days, where those interested in proposing may attend for a presentation of NEST and of the general Framework Programme, to obtain documentation, to ask questions and to meet potential consortium partners.

The latest information on planned Information Days is obtainable on the Internet (see address in Section VII).

VI.5 The Intellectual Property Rights Helpdesk

The IPR-Helpdesk has as its main objective to assist potential and current contractors taking part in Community funded projects on Intellectual Property Rights issues, and in particular on Community diffusion and protection rules and issues relating to IPR in international projects. Another objective is to raise awareness in the European research community on IPR issues, emphasising their European dimension.

It operates a free helpline offering a first line assistance on IPR related issues. The helpline is run in English, French, Italian, German and Spanish.

Website

<http://www.ipr-helpdesk.org>

Helpline (detailed queries)

ipr-helpdesk@ua.es

tel +34 96 590 97 18

fax +34 96 590 97 15

Representative office (general information)

tel +32 2 649 53 33

fax +32 2 647 59 34

ipr-helpdesk@global-eu.com

VII. References

Potential proposers could consult the following documents:

Legal decisions

Decision on the Framework Programme	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/decision/
Rules of Participation in FP6	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/participationrules/
Specific decision "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area (includes NEST)	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/specificprogrammes/

Call page for FP6-2003-NEST-A

Call announcement	http://fp6.cordis.lu/fp6/call_details.cfm?CALL_ID=56 .
Brochure "The Fp6 in Brief"	
Guides for Proposers	
Work Programme 2003/04	
Evaluation Manual	
Guidelines for Evaluators	
Organisations expressing interest in this Call	
Electronic Proposal Submission Service	To be announced
Proposal Part A : activity codes	http://fp6.cordis.lu/fp6/activitycodes.cfm
Proposal Part A : keywords thesaurus	http://fp6.cordis.lu/fp6/keywords.cfm
Proposal Part A : instruments	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instruments.htm

Supporting information

CORDIS FP6 service	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/
National Contact Points	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/ncps.htm
Information Days and other events	http://www.cordis.lu/events/
IPR helpdesk	http://www.ipr-helpdesk.org
CORDIS partner search facility	http://partners-service.cordis.lu/
Innovation Relay Centres:	http://irc.cordis.lu
International cooperation	http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/index_en.html (general site)
Rules on ethics	http://fp6.cordis.lu/fp6/ethic-rules/
Science and Society action plan	http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/science-society/action-plan/action-plan_en.html
Guidelines on techniques for science communicating with the public	www.cordis.lu/fp6/society.htm ; available from 15 March 2003
European Investment Bank	http://www.eib.org/ (EIB general information) http://www.eif.org/ (EIF general information)

Contractual information

Consortium agreement checklist	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/consortiumchecklist/
Contract preparation forms	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/contractpreparation/
Model contracts	http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/modelcontract/

Annexes

Annex 1 - Proposal Part A: Forms and instructions

Annex 2 - Proposal Part B: Guidelines for drafting

Annex 3 - Ethical rules for FP6 projects

Annex 4 - Integrating the gender dimension in FP6 projects

Annex 1 - Proposal Part A: Forms and instructions

Proposal Submission Forms



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
6th Framework Programme for
Research, Technological
Development and Demonstration

**Specific Targeted
Research or Innovation
Projects**

A1

Proposal Number ¹	Proposal Acronym ²
------------------------------	-------------------------------

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSAL			
Proposal Title ³ (max. 200 char.)			
Duration in months ⁴	Call (part) identifier ⁵		
Activity code(s) most relevant to your topic ⁶			
Keyword code 1 ⁷			
Keyword code 2 ⁷			
Keyword code 3 ⁷			
Free keywords ⁸			
Abstract ⁹ (max. 2000 char.)			

For a proposal to be considered as complete, all questions must be answered. If a field is not applicable to you, please enter -.

Proposal Submission Forms



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
6th Framework Programme for
Research, Technological
Development and Demonstration

**Specific Targeted
Research or Innovation
Projects**

A2

Proposal Number ¹		Proposal Acronym ²	
------------------------------	--	-------------------------------	--

INFORMATION ON PARTICIPANTS

Participant number ²⁶					
Participant organisation					
Organisation legal name ¹¹					
Organisation short name ¹²					
Legal address					
PO Box ¹³		Postal Code ¹³		Cedex ¹³	
Street name and number ¹³					
Town ¹³			Country ¹⁴		
Internet homepage					
Activity Type HE, RES, IND, OTH ¹⁵				Legal Status GOV, INO, JRC, PUC, PRC, EEIG ¹⁷ , PNP ¹⁶	
If Legal Status "PRC", specify ¹⁸					
Is the organisation a Small or Medium-Sized Enterprise (SME)? ¹⁹					YES/NO
Are there dependencies between the organisation and (an)other participant(s) ? ²⁰					YES/NO
If yes, participant number		If yes, participant short name			
Character of dependence SG, CLS, CLB ²¹					
If yes, participant number		If yes, participant short name			
Character of dependence SG, CLS, CLB ²¹					
If yes, participant number		If yes, participant short name			
Character of dependence SG, CLS, CLB ²¹					
Person in charge²²					
Name		First name(s)			
Title ²³		Sex: Female=F, Male=M ²⁴			
Department/Faculty/Institute/ Laboratory name					
Address (if different from above)					
PO Box ¹³		Postal Code ¹³		Cedex ¹³	
Street name and number ¹³					
Town ¹³			Country ¹⁴		
Phone 1 ²⁵		Phone 2 ²⁵			
e-mail			Fax ²⁵		

Previously submitted similar proposals or signed contracts? ¹⁰					YES/NO
If yes, programme name(s) and year					
If yes, proposal number(s) or contract number					

For a proposal to be considered as complete, all questions must be answered. If a field is not applicable to you, please enter -.

Proposal Submission Forms



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
6th Framework Programme for
Research, Technological
Development and Demonstration

Specific Targeted Research or Innovation Projects

A3

Proposal Number ¹		Proposal Acronym ²	
------------------------------	--	-------------------------------	--

Financial Information (Specific Targeted Project)									
Parti- cipant n ²⁶	Cost mode ²⁷	RTD ²⁸ or innovation-related ³⁰ activities		Demonstration activities ²⁹		Management activities ³¹		Total	
		Costs	Requested grant to the budget ²⁷	Costs	Requested grant to the budget ²⁷	Costs	Requested grant to the budget ²⁷	Costs	Requested grant to the budget ²⁷
1									
(Sub-)Total ³²									

Please use additional copies of form A3 if the number of lines is not sufficient

Form A3: page ... of ...

For a proposal to be considered as complete, all questions must be answered. If a field is not applicable to you, please enter -.

How to complete the proposal submission forms

Introduction

This document provides guidance on how to complete the attached administrative forms. These forms will be an integral part ('Part A') of your proposal for a Specific Targeted Research or Innovation Project. Proposals may be submitted either electronically or on paper. **You are strongly advised to prepare and submit your proposal electronically** (for the procedure see chapter "Electronic submission" of the guide for proposers).

How to complete the forms

- The co-ordinator fills in form A1 and A3;
- The participants (including the co-ordinator) fill in one A2 form each.

Subcontractors are not required to fill in the A2 form and are not listed separately in the A3 form.

Explanatory notes are attached. Forms A1 to A3 submitted on paper may be machine-read at the Commission, so to avoid misreading of your proposal details, we would kindly ask you to read and follow these notes carefully. Please keep forms A1 to A3 as clean as possible and do not fold, staple or amend them with correction fluid. Enter your data only in the white space on the forms, and do not type outside the boundaries as the data then may be truncated in the Commission's database. For questions requiring a choice between different boxes, please enter X in the appropriate space. In case of paper submission, you may find it easier to do this by hand in black ink, rather than try to line up a single typed character. For numbers, (amount, duration, etc.), please round to the nearest whole number. Do not insert any character or space to separate the digits in a number. Please remember to indicate the proposal short name (acronym) in all sheets of the forms (part A) where indicated, and on every page of the other parts, including any annexes. All costs must be given in euro (and not kilo euro) and must exclude value-added tax (VAT).

1 Proposal number

The proposal number will be assigned by the Commission on submission. Please leave the field empty.

2 Proposal Acronym

Provide a short title or acronym of no more than 20 characters, to be used to identify the proposal. The same acronym should appear on each page of the proposal (part A and part B) in order to prevent errors during its handling.

3 Proposal Title

Give a title no longer than 200 characters that should be understandable also to the non-specialist in your field.

4 Duration

Insert the estimated duration of the project in full months.

5 Call (part) Identifier

The call (part) identifier is the reference number given in the call or part of the call you are addressing, as indicated in the publication of the call in the Official Journal.

6 Activity code(s) most relevant to your topic

Please insert the code for the activity of FP6 that is addressed by your proposal (for the list see <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/activitycodes>) If you consider that your proposal aims at more than one activity of FP6, you can indicate several codes, starting with the most relevant one (maximum three).

7 Keyword codes from thesaurus

Choose maximum 3 codes for keywords characterising your project from the hierarchical list available at <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/keywords>.

8 Free keywords

In addition to the keywords from the hierarchical thesaurus, you have the possibility to freely choose additional words characterising your project (maximum 100 characters including spaces, commas etc.).

9 Abstract

You should not use more than 2000 characters. The abstract should, at a glance, provide the reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of the proposal and how the objectives will be achieved and their relevance to the objectives of the Specific Programme and the Work Programme. This summary will be used as the short description of the proposal in the evaluation process and in communications to the programme management committees and other interested parties. It must therefore be short and precise. Please use plain typed text, avoiding formulae and other special characters. If the proposal is written in a language other than English, please include an English version of the proposal abstract in part B.

10 Previously submitted similar proposals or signed contracts

If one or several of the participants have submitted or are in the process of submitting the same or a similar proposal to other public funding programmes insert YES, else NO. If yes, give the programme name, year of submission and proposal number or contract number.

11 Organisation legal name

Official name of participant organisation. If applicable, name under which the participant is registered in the official trade registers.

12 Organisation short name

The short name chosen by the participant for this proposal. This should normally not be more than 20 characters and the same should be used for the participant in all documents relating to the proposal.

13 Address data

Fill in only the fields forming your complete postal address (e.g. if the P.O. Box is sufficient, you do not have to give a street name). If your address is specified by an indicator of location other than a street name and number, please insert this instead.

14 Country

Insert the name of the country as commonly used.

15 Activity Type

Please insert the abbreviation for the activity type most appropriate to the organisation (only one), according to the following explanations:

- **HE-Higher Education:** organisations only or mainly established for higher education/training, e. g. universities, colleges
- **RES-Research:** organisations only or mainly established for carrying out research activities
- **IND-Industry:** industrial organisations private and public, both manufacturing and industrial services – such as industrial software, design, control, repair, maintenance;
- **OTH-Others:** Organisations not fitting in one of the above categories

16 Legal status

Please insert only one abbreviation from the list below, according to the following explanations:

GOV: Governmental (local, regional or national public or governmental organisations e. g. libraries, hospitals, schools);

INO: International Organisation (i. e. an international organisation established by national governments);

JRC: Joint Research Centre (the Joint Research Centre of the European Community);

PUC: Public Commercial Organisation (i. e. commercial organisation established and owned by a public authority) ;

PRC: Private Commercial Organisation including Consultant (i. e. any commercial organisations owned by individuals either directly or by shares);

EEIG: European Economic Interest Group;

PNP: Private Organisation, Non Profit (i. e. any privately owned non profit organisation).

17 Legal Status: If "EEIG"

If the organisation is a European Economic Interest Group you have to add a sheet to part B of the proposal listing the members of the group (legal names, addresses, dependencies). This is necessary to verify if the proposal meets the eligibility criterion of minimum partnership.

18 Legal Status: 'If 'PRC', Specify'

If you are a Private Commercial Organisation (PRC), please indicate the type of organisation (e.g.: SA, LTD, GmbH, independent person etc.).

19 Small or Medium Sized Enterprise (SME)

To be regarded as an SME, your organisation must have:

- less than 250 full time equivalent employees

and

- an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 40 million **or** an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 27 million,

and

- must not be controlled by 25% or more by a company which is not an SME (on the issue of control, see note 20).

If all the above conditions apply to the organisation insert YES, else NO.

20 Dependencies between participants

Two participants (legal entities) are dependent on each other where there is a controlling relationship between them:

- A legal entity is under the same direct or indirect control as another legal entity,

or

- A legal entity directly or indirectly controls another legal entity,

or

- A legal entity is directly or indirectly controlled by another legal entity.

Control:

Legal entity A controls legal entity B if:

- A, directly or indirectly, holds more than 50% of the share capital or a majority of voting rights of the shareholders or associates of B,

or

- A, directly or indirectly, holds in fact or in law the decision-making power in B

Direct or indirect holding of more than 50% of the nominal value of the issued share capital in a legal entity or a majority of voting rights of the shareholders or associates of the said entity by public investment corporations, institutional investors or venture-capital companies and funds shall not in itself constitute a controlling relationship.

Ownership or supervision of *legal entities* by the same *public body* shall not in itself give rise to a controlling relationship between them.

21 Character of dependence

Insert the appropriate abbreviation according to the list below to characterise the relation between your organisation and the other participant(s) you are related with:

- **SG:** Same group: if your organisation and the other participant are controlled by the same third party
- **CLS:** Controls: if your organisation controls the other participant
- **CLB:** Controlled by: if your organisation is controlled by the other participant

22 Person in charge

Please insert in this section the data of the main scientist or team leader in charge of the proposal for the participant. For participant number 1 (the co-ordinator), this will be the person the Commission will contact concerning this proposal (e.g. for additional information, invitation to hearings, sending of evaluation results, convocation to negotiations).

23 Title

Please choose one of the following: Prof., Dr., Mr., Ms.

24 Sex

This information is required for statistical purposes. Please indicate with an F for female or an M for male as appropriate.

25 Phone and fax numbers

Please insert the full numbers including country and city/area code. Example +32-2-2991111.

26 Participant number

The number allocated by the consortium to the participant for this proposal. The **co-ordinator** of a proposal is always **number one**.

27 Requested grant to the budget and cost models¹

The **Community grant** to be requested for a proposal depends on the cost model applicable to each participant and on the costs for the different activities. Maximum contributions as percentage of the respective costs are as follows:

	Maximum grant as percentage of full costs (participants applying the FC or FCF model)	Maximum grant as percentage of additional costs (participants applying the ACF model)
RTD activities (see note 28)	50%	100%
Demonstration activities (see note 29)	35%	100%
Innovation-related activities (see note 30)	50%	100%
Consortium management activities (see note 31)	100% (up to a maximum percentage of 7% of the Community contribution)	100% (up to a maximum percentage of 7% of the Community contribution)

¹ Provisional, subject to the Commission decision on the Model Contract. Please check for updates on the CORDIS call page.

The **cost models** to be applied by the participants have to be chosen according to the following instructions:

- **FC**: a full-cost model in which all actual direct and actual indirect costs may be charged to the contract;
- **FCF**: a simplified variant of the full-cost model, in which all actual direct costs may be charged to the contract, together with a flat-rate rate of 20% of all these direct costs, excluding subcontracts, which will be deemed to cover all related indirect costs;
- **ACF**: an additional-cost model, covering all direct costs that are additional to the recurring costs of a participant (with the exception of consortium management for which recurring costs would also be eligible), together with a flat-rate of 20% of all these direct costs, excluding subcontracts, which will be deemed to cover all related non-recurring indirect costs.

The FC model will be open to all participants, except for international organisations, physical persons and those public bodies obliged to use the additional-cost model. The FCF model will be an option available only to SMEs.

The ACF model will be the only model available to international organisations and physical persons as well as to those public bodies obliged to use this model. It will also be an option open to any public body free to choose its cost model.

Where an entity has a choice of models, it may choose only one for all its participations in those indirect actions of FP6 where these models are relevant. SMEs, which initially opt for the FCF model may however change to FC for later contracts.

28 RTD activities

RTD activities are all activities directly aimed at creating new knowledge. They form the core of the Integrated Projects and Specific Targeted Research Projects.

29 Demonstration activities

Specific Targeted Research Projects may contain a demonstration component to prove the viability of new technologies that offer a potential economic advantage, but which cannot be commercialised directly (e.g. testing of product-like prototypes).

30 Innovation-related activities

Projects should include activities relating to the protection and dissemination of knowledge, and, when relevant, studies on the wider societal impact of that knowledge, activities to promote the exploitation of the results, and "take-up" actions. These activities are inter-related and should be conceived and implemented in a coherent way:

- **intellectual property protection**: protection of the knowledge resulting from the project (including patent searches, filing of patent (or other IPR) applications, etc.);
- **dissemination activities** beyond the consortium: publications, conferences, workshops and Web-based activities aiming at disseminating the knowledge and technology produced;
- **studies on socio-economic aspects**: assessment of the expected socio-economic impact of the knowledge and technology generated, as well as analysis of the factors that would influence their exploitation (e.g. standardisation, ethical and regulatory aspects, etc.);
- **activities promoting the exploitation of the results**: development of the plan for the use and dissemination of the knowledge produced, feasibility studies for the creation of spin-offs, etc, "take-up" activities to promote the early or broad application of state-of-the-art technologies. Take-up activities include the assessment, trial and validation of promising, but not fully established, technologies and solutions, easier access to and the transfer of best practices for the early use and exploitation of technologies. In particular, they will be expected to target SMEs.

31 Consortium management activities

Projects will require particular attention by the consortium to overall management and co-ordination issues. Over and above the technical management of individual work packages, an appropriate management

framework linking together all the project components and maintaining communications with the Commission will be needed. Depending on the size and scope of a project, a specially constituted management team with dedicated staff covering a range of skills may need to be set up.

Consortium management may include:

- co-ordination at consortium level of the technical activities of the project;
- the overall legal, contractual, ethical, financial and administrative management of the consortium;
- preparing, updating and managing the consortium agreement between the participants;
- co-ordination at consortium level of knowledge management and other innovation-related activities;
- overseeing the promotion of gender equality in the project;
- overseeing science and society issues, related to the research activities conducted within the project;
- obtaining audit certificates by each of the participants
- bank guarantees for SMEs (if applicable)

32 (Sub-)Total

If the number of lines in the table on form A3 is not sufficient for your consortium, please use additional copies of A3. Indicate at the bottom the total number of A3 sheets used and the number of each sheet. On each sheet, except on the last one, insert the total values per sheet. On the last sheet, insert the overall totals.

Annex 2 - Proposal Part B: guidelines for drafting

Instructions for preparing Part B of OUTLINE proposals **for Specific Targeted Research Projects in NEST** **(OUTLINE STREP)**

Part B of the proposal provides the scientific and / or technical information.

In addition to Part B, a proposal must also contain a Part A, containing basic information on the proposal and the consortium making the proposal. The forms for Part A are provided elsewhere in this Guide. Incomplete proposals are not eligible and will not be evaluated.

Specific targeted research projects (STREPs) are referred to in the NEST work programme. Complete details of their characteristics and their application within FP6 are at:

<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instruments.htm>

In NEST, research and project management activities can be funded through STREPs. Demonstration activities or training activities cannot be included among the eligible costs of projects.

Please note that part B of NEST OUTLINE STREP proposals must be anonymous.

Anonymous evaluation requires that the names of researchers and / or their organisations should not be given in the text. Wherever it is necessary to refer to individual partners, please refer to the number and activity type of the partner as specified in part A, form A2, point 15. For example: HE-1, IND-2, RES-3, OTH-4. **Proposals that do not follow this requirement cannot be evaluated.** Of course part A, which is never anonymous, will not be available to the evaluating experts.

Proposals will be evaluated against blocks of criteria that are published as part of the Work Programme and Call for proposals. The detailed criteria covered under these blocks differ between ADVENTURE and INSIGHT projects and differ between OUTLINE and FULL proposals.

OUTLINE STREP proposals, if retained, will subsequently give rise to FULL STREP proposals. The evaluators in the FULL STREP evaluation process will have access to the corresponding OUTLINE STREP proposals and the related evaluation dossiers, in order to verify consistency of objectives and ambition.

Front page

Proposal full title

Proposal acronym

Please give this in big capital letters and repeat the acronym at the top of every page

Date of preparation

Type of Instrument

in this case: STREP (Specific Targeted Research project)

Submission stage

In this case: OUTLINE proposal

Activity code addressed

In this case: NEST-2003-1 ADVENTURE

or: NEST-2003-2 INSIGHT

Duration of the project

Proposal abstract, copied from Part A

Please verify that the abstract is anonymous

If the proposal is not in English, please include an English translation of the abstract

Proposal Body, OUTLINE proposals

The total length of the proposal body should not exceed 5 pages.

There are no strict rules regarding the presentation of outline proposals for ADVENTURE and INSIGHT projects. The key point is that proposals must be clearly presented and make a convincing case that they meet the requirements for ADVENTURE and INSIGHT projects, and that they do not fall within the domains of research of the FP6 thematic priorities. Please ensure that this point is also reflected in the abstract.

ADVENTURE PROJECTS

Proposals of ADVENTURE projects should demonstrate that they match with the “spirit of ADVENTURE”: that the research is very novel, very ambitious, with high impact, and that the scientific approach is convincing and plausible.

The objectives and the anticipated project outputs must be clearly described. They should be highly challenging but not unrealistic, especially seen within the context of the duration of the proposed project and the resources foreseen.

A brief but adequate description of the worldwide state-of-the-art and a clear demarcation of the novel elements should support the claim to novelty of the proposed work. This should include any competing research approaches.

The scientific approach should be presented in sufficient detail to demonstrate that is capable of achieving the objectives, but there is no need for a detailed work plan. A realistic assessment of the main (technical) risk elements should be made.

The claim to impact should be supported by a realistic assessment of the risk / impact equation of the proposed project. It may be appropriate to indicate what further steps, assuming a successful project, would be necessary to actually achieve the impact.

INSIGHT PROJECTS

Proposals for INSIGHT projects should demonstrate that they match with the objectives of the INSIGHT activity: that the research concerns new discoveries or newly-observed phenomena, that the approach is convincing and plausible, and that the results will be of significant value to strategic decision making.

The objectives and the anticipated project outputs must be clearly described. They should be realistic, seen within the context of the duration of the proposed project and the resources foreseen.

A brief but adequate description of the worldwide state-of-the-art and a clear demarcation of the novel elements should support the claim to novelty of the issue addressed. This should include any competing research approaches.

The scientific approach should be presented in sufficient detail to demonstrate that it is capable of achieving the objectives, but there is no need for a detailed work plan.

The claim to assist strategic decision making should be supported by a realistic assessment of the possible outcome of the proposed project. Any further steps, assuming a successful project, necessary to achieve the identified benefit should be clearly indicated.

RESOURCES (Common to ADVENTURE and INSIGHT)

Please take care to retain anonymity in this section.

Please note that the evaluators may comment on this point, but will not evaluate / assign marks. The objective of this provision is simply to give proposers feedback on the estimated resources.

Please provide information on the resources, total and per partner. Please specify personnel resources in terms of man-months, not in financial terms. Please provide information on estimated cost of any major sub-contracting or capital equipment (as a guideline, only if such cost would exceed 20% of a partner’s budget).

Sample data table:

Total estimated project cost: *** k€

Total requested grant to the budget: *** k€

Partner	Personnel resources (man-month)	Major direct cost (k€)
HE-1		
IND-2		
RES-3		
OTH-4		

**Instructions for preparing Part B of
FULL proposals for Specific Targeted Research Projects
in NEST
(FULL STREP)**

Part B of the proposal provides the scientific and / or technical information.

In addition to the detailed technical information provided in Part B, a proposal must also contain a Part A, containing basic information on the proposal and the consortium making the proposal¹. The forms for Part A are provided elsewhere in this Guide. Incomplete proposals are not eligible and will not be evaluated.

Specific targeted research projects (STREPs) are referred to in the NEST work programme. Complete details of their characteristics and their application within FP6 are at:

<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/instruments.htm>

In NEST, research and project management activities can be funded through STREPs. Demonstration activities, or training activities cannot be included among the eligible costs of projects.

Please note that part B of NEST FULL STREP proposals, in contrast to OUTLINE proposals, are NOT anonymous.

Proposals will be evaluated against blocks of criteria that are published as part of the Work Programme and Call for proposals. The detailed criteria covered under these blocks differ between ADVENTURE and INSIGHT projects and differ between OUTLINE and FULL proposals.

FULL proposals should be consistent with the corresponding OUTLINE proposals in their ambition and objectives. The evaluators in the FULL STREP evaluation process will have access to the corresponding OUTLINE STREP proposals and the related evaluation dossiers, in order to verify this consistency.

¹ In the event of inconsistency between information given in Part A and that given in Part B, the Part A version will prevail

Front page

Proposal full title

Proposal acronym

*Please give this in big capital letters and repeat the acronym at the top of every page
 It should be exactly the same as the corresponding OUTLINE proposal*

Date of preparation

Type of instrument

in this case: STREP (Specific Targeted Research Project)

Submission stage

In this case: FULL proposal

Activity code addressed

*In this case: NEST-2003-1 ADVENTURE
 or: NEST-2003-2 INSIGHT*

Duration of the project

Co-ordinator (*title/NAME / first name*)

List of participants

Please follow the table format, listing the co-ordinator first. The subsequent text can refer to each partner by the abbreviated name.

Number	Organisation name	Abbreviation	Town	Country
1				
2				
3				
...				

Co-ordinator e-mail

Co-ordinator fax

Contents page

Proposal acronym

Contents list with page numbers

Proposal Summary page

Proposal full title

Proposal acronym

Activity code addressed

*In this case: NEST-2003-1 ADVENTURE
 or: NEST-2003-2 INSIGHT*

Proposal abstract, copied from Part A

If the proposal is not in English, please include an English translation of the abstract

Proposal Body, FULL proposals

The total length of the proposal body should not exceed 20 pages, excluding the forms specified below, and workpackages. Please pay attention to the coherence of the overall document, so that duplication of information between sections is avoided.

B.0 Relation to the OUTLINE STREP proposal

Present briefly any relevant information on the development from the corresponding OUTLINE STREP to this FULL STREP proposal, and / or changes which may have been made in response to the evaluation (the ESR) of the OUTLINE proposal.

B.1 Scientific and technological objectives of the project and state of the art

Describe in detail the proposed project's S&T objectives. The objectives should be challenging but not unrealistic, achievable within the project - i.e. not through subsequent development - and should

be stated in a measurable and verifiable form. The progress of the project work will be measured against these goals in later reviews and assessments.

An adequate description of the worldwide state-of-the-art and a clear demarcation of the novel elements should support the claim to novelty of the proposed work. This should include any competing research approaches.

Describe in detail the proposed approach / methodology, and describe how it will enable the project to achieve its objectives.

B.2 Relevance to the objectives of NEST

Describe how the proposal addresses the objectives of the NEST activity, i.e. the spirit of ADVENTURE or the objectives of INSIGHT.¹

B.3 Potential impact

Describe the strategic impact of the proposed project, in relation to the ADVENTURE or INSIGHT requirements. In the case of ADVENTURE projects, indicate how the potential long term benefits are sufficiently large to justify the level of risk of the project. Describe the added-value in carrying out the work at a European level; as appropriate, indicate what account is taken of other national or international research activities.

B.3.1 Contributions to standards: If relevant, describe contributions to national or international standards which are foreseen resulting from the work of the project.

B.4 The consortium and project resources

Describe the role of the participants and the specific skills of each of them. Show how the participants are suited and committed to the tasks assigned to them; show the complementarity and the interactions between participants. Describe the resources, human and material, that will be deployed for the implementation of the project. Include a STREP Project Effort Form, as shown below, covering the full duration of the project. Demonstrate that the foreseen resources (personnel, equipment, finance...) are necessary and sufficient for success; indicate how the resources will be convincingly integrated to form a coherent project.

If any part of the work is foreseen to be sub-contracted by the participant responsible for it, describe the work involved and explain why a sub-contract approach has been chosen for it.

If one or more of the participants is based outside of the EU and Associated States, please explain the reason for their inclusion, and the level of importance to the objectives and deliverables of the project.

For the key personnel, please include a brief CV (not exceeding 30 lines, including references to a few most prominent publications). Explain briefly how the project contributes to the personal and institutional interests of the participants

B.5 Project management

Describe the organisation, management and decision making structures of the project. Indicate the main responsibilities. Describe the plan for the management of knowledge, and intellectual property. Describe the exploitation and/or dissemination plans for the results of the project.

B.6 Workplan

This section concisely describes the work planned to achieve the objectives of the proposed project. An introduction should explain the structure of this work plan and how the plan will lead the

¹ See NEST Work Programme and reference documents available on <http://www.cordis.lu/next>.

participants to achieve the objectives. It should also identify significant risks, and contingency plans, should these risks be realised.

The plan must be broken down into activities (research and management). Each activity should be broken down into workpackages (WPs) which should follow the logical phases of the project.

If possible, please group together all management activity into a single management workpackage.

Essential elements of the plan are:

- a) Work plan introduction – explaining the structure of this plan and the overall methodology used to achieve the objectives.
- b) Work planning, showing the timing of the different WPs and their components (Gantt chart or similar)
- c) Graphical presentation of the components showing their interdependencies (Pert diagram or similar)
- d) Detailed work description broken down into workpackages:
 - Workpackage list (use Workpackage list form below);
 - Deliverables list (use Deliverables list form below);
 - Description of each workpackage (use Workpackage description form below, one per workpackage):

Note: The number of workpackages used must be appropriate to the complexity of the work and the overall value of the proposed project. Each workpackage should be a major sub-division of the proposed project and should also have a verifiable end-point (normally a deliverable or an important milestone in the overall project). The planning should be sufficiently detailed to justify the proposed effort and allow progress monitoring by the Commission – the day-to-day management of the project by the consortium may require a more detailed plan.

Please do not include as deliverables the standard contractually required reports to the Commission. Please note that in general, tangible deliverables would be preferred over reports, except if the particular report has a clear role in the proposals dissemination strategy.

B.7 Other issues

If there are ethical or gender issues associated with the subject of the proposal, show they have been adequately taken into account - indicate which national and international regulations are applicable and explain how they will be respected. Explore potential ethical aspects of the implementation of project results. Include the Ethical issues form given below.¹

Are there other EC-policy related issues, and are they taken into account? Demonstrate a readiness to engage with actors beyond the research to help spread awareness and knowledge and to explore the wider societal implications of the proposed work; if relevant set out synergies with education at all levels.

¹ See Annexes 3 and 4 for more information on the ethics and gender issues.

STREP Project Effort Form

Full duration of project

(insert person-months for activities in which partners are involved)

Project acronym -

	Partner 1 short name	Partner 2 short name	Partner 3 short name	Partner 4 short name	Partner 5 short name	etc	TOTAL PARTNERS
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Research/innovation activities							
WP name							
WP name							
WP name							
etc							
Total research/innovation							

Management activities							
Management							

TOTAL ACTIVITIES							
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Workpackage list (full duration of project)

Work- package No ¹	Workpackage title	Lead contractor No ²	Person- months ³	Start month ⁴	End month ⁵	Deliv- erable No ⁶
	TOTAL					

¹ Workpackage number: WP 1 – WP n.
² Number of the contractor leading the work in this workpackage.
³ The total number of person-months allocated to each workpackage.
⁴ Relative start date for the work in the specific workpackages, month 0 marking the start of the project, and all other start dates being relative to this start date.
⁵ Relative end date, month 0 marking the start of the project, and all ends dates being relative to this start date.
⁶ Deliverable number: Number for the deliverable(s)/result(s) mentioned in the workpackage: D1 - Dn.

Workpackage description (full duration of project)

Workpackage number		Start date or starting event:					
Participant id							
Person-months per participant:							

Objectives

Description of work

Deliverables

Milestones¹ and expected result

¹ Milestones are control points at which decisions are needed; for example concerning which of several technologies will be adopted as the basis for the next phase of the project.

Annex 3 - Ethical rules for FP6 projects

National legislation

Participants in FP6 projects must conform to current legislation and regulations in the countries where the research will be carried out. Where required by national legislation or rules, participants must seek the approval of the relevant ethics committees prior to the start of the RTD activities that raise ethical issues.

EC legislation

Participants must conform to relevant EU legislation such as:

- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU
- Directive 2001/20/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 April 2001 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the implementation of good clinical practice in the conduct of clinical trials on medicinal products for human use
- Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data
- Council Directive 83/570/EEC of 26 October 1983 amending Directives 65/65/EEC, 75/318/EEC and 75/319/EEC on the approximation laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to proprietary medicinal products
- Directive 98/44/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 1998 on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions
- Directive 90/219/EEC of 23 April 1990 on the contained use of genetically modified micro-organisms
- Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 March 2001 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms and repealing Council Directive 90/220/EEC

International conventions and declarations

Participants should respect the following international conventions and declarations:

- Helsinki Declaration in its latest version
- Convention of the Council of Europe on Human Rights and Biomedicine signed in Oviedo on 4 April 1997, and the Additional Protocol on the Prohibition of Cloning Human Beings signed in Paris on 12 January 1998
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Universal Declaration on the human genome and human rights adopted by UNESCO

Participants should take into account to the opinions of the European Group of Advisers on the Ethical Implications of Biotechnology (1991 –1997) and the opinions of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New technologies (as from 1998).

Protection of Animals

In accordance with the Amsterdam protocol on animal protection and welfare, animal experiments must be replaced with alternatives wherever possible. Suffering by animals must be avoided or kept to a minimum. This particularly applies (pursuant to Directive 86/609/EEC) to animal experiments involving species which are closest to human beings. Altering the genetic heritage of animals and cloning of animals may be considered only if the aims are ethically justified and the conditions are such that the animals' welfare is guaranteed and the principles of biodiversity are respected.

Ethical review at EU level

An ethical review will be implemented systematically by the Commission for proposals dealing with ethically sensitive issues, in particular proposals involving the use of human embryonic stem cells in culture. In specific cases, further ethical reviews may take place during the implementation of a project.

Fields of research which are excluded from the programme:

Certain field of research are excluded:

- Research activity aiming at human cloning for reproductive purposes;
- Research activity intended to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes heritable¹;
- Research activities intended to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer.
- Pending the establishment of further implementation provisions by the end of 2003 at the latest, the Commission will not fund research involving the use of human embryos or embryonic stem cells except for banked or isolated human embryonic stem cells in culture.

Information required from applicants on the ethical aspects of the proposed research project**A. Applicants are requested to fill in the following table**

Does your proposed research raise sensitive ethical questions related to:	YES	NO
• Human beings		
• Human biological samples		
• Personal data (whether identified by name or not)		
• Genetic information		
• Animals		

B. Applicants are requested to confirm that the proposed research does not involve:

- Research activity aimed at human cloning for reproductive purposes,
- Research activity intended to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes heritable;
- Research activity intended to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer;
- Research involving the use of human embryos or embryonic stem cells with the exception of banked or isolated human embryonic stem cells in culture².

Further information on ethics requirements and rules are given at the science and ethics website at http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/science-society/ethics/ethics_en.html.

¹ Research relating to cancer treatment of the gonads can be financed.

² Applicants should note that the Council and the Commission have agreed that detailed implementing provisions concerning research activities involving the use of human embryos and human embryonic stem cells which may be funded under the 6th Framework Programme shall be established by 31 December 2003. The Commission has stated that, during that period and pending establishment of the detailed implementing provisions, it will not propose to fund such research, with the exception of the study of banked or isolated human embryonic stem cells in culture.

Annex 4 - Integrating the gender dimension in FP6 projects

The European policy of equal opportunities between women and men is enshrined in the Treaty on European Union. Articles 2 and 3 establish equality between women and men as a specific task of the Community, as well as a horizontal objective affecting all Community tasks. The Treaty seeks not only to eliminate inequalities, but also to promote equality. The Commission has adopted a gender mainstreaming strategy by which each policy area, including that of research, must contribute to promoting gender equality.

The Commission recognises a threefold relationship between women and research, and has articulated its action around the following :

- women's participation in research must be encouraged both as scientists/technologists and within the evaluation, consultation and implementation processes,
- research must address women's needs, as much as men's needs,
- research must be carried out to contribute to an enhanced understanding of gender issues.

Promoting women does not mean treating them in the same way as men. Men's characteristics, situations and needs are often taken as the norm, and – to have the same opportunities - women are expected to behave like them. Ensuring gender equality means giving equal consideration to the life patterns, needs and interests of both women and men. Gender mainstreaming thus includes also changing the working culture.

We need to go a step further by questioning systematically whether, and in what sense, sex and gender are relevant in the objectives and in the methodology of projects. Many science and research projects include humans as subjects. There is no such thing as a universally neutral person. Because sex and gender differences are fundamental organising features of life and society, recognising these differences has important implications in scientific knowledge.

- Gender differences are relevant in health research for combating diseases, and in the fundamental research on genomics and its applications for health.
- In information technologies, gender disparities exist at user level and in the labour market. By assuming that information technology is neutral, biases can enter into technological research and development that can have a negative impact on gender equality.
- Gender-specific needs could be relevant to the development of materials for use in the biomedical sector.
- Gender differences could exist in the impact on health of food products, such as those containing genetically modified organisms. Gender may also be relevant in the epidemiology of food-related diseases and allergies.
- Gender differences are relevant in the design and development of sustainable technologies and in sectors such as transport.
- There are differences in gender roles and responsibilities, as well as in the relationship to the resource base, which are relevant to sustainable development research (land management, agricultural and forest resources, water cycle).
- Developments in the knowledge-based society and in the new forms of relationships between citizens and institutions in Europe have some significant gender dimensions.

Indications of relevant gender issues and suggestions on how the gender dimension can be integrated are available in the gender impact studies that were carried out during the Fifth Framework Programme in the following fields :

- life sciences
- information society
- energy
- environment
- international co-operation
- SME and innovation
- Mobility and socio-economic research.

The reports can be requested at rtd-sciencesociety@cec.eu.int.