

Call for proposals for indirect actions under the multiannual Community Programme to make digital content in Europe more accessible, usable and exploitable (*The eContentplus Programme*)

(2005/C 223/10)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. Objectives and description

The European Commission has adopted a Work Programme and a call for proposals to implement the *eContentplus Programme* ⁽¹⁾.

The present call is open for proposals for indirect actions addressing the following areas and the following activities:

— Geographic information

3.1.1 Promoting the enabling infrastructure — Targeted Projects

3.2.2 Stimulating geographic content enrichment — A Thematic Network

— Educational content

4.2.1 Stimulating educational content enrichment — Content Enrichment Projects

4.2.2 Stimulating educational content enrichment — Thematic Networks

— Cultural content and scientific/scholarly content

5.1.1 Promoting the enabling infrastructure — Targeted Projects

5.2.1 Stimulating cultural and scientific/scholarly content enrichment — Content Enrichment Projects

5.2.2 Stimulating cultural and scientific/scholarly content enrichment — Thematic Networks

It is further open for proposals for indirect actions addressing the issue of

— Reinforcing cooperation between digital content stakeholders.

6.1.1 Public Sector Information — A Thematic Network

2. Eligible applicants

Participation in the *eContentplus* programme is open to legal entities established in the 25 Member States.

It is further open to legal entities established in the candidate countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey), if a bilateral agreement with the relevant country has been concluded to this effect. It may be opened to participation of legal entities established in EFTA States which are contracting parties to the EEA Agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway), in accordance with the provisions of that Agreement ⁽²⁾.

Participation of legal entities established in third countries and of international organisations is possible, without financial support from the Community.

3. Budget

The total budget earmarked for the cofinancing indirect actions is estimated at EUR 26,6 million.

⁽¹⁾ Decision No 456/2005/EC of 9 March 2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council adopting a multiannual Community Programme to make digital content in Europe more accessible, usable and exploitable (OJ L 79, 24.3.2005, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Up to date information on which countries are part of the programme is published on the *Official Journal of the European Union*. An up to date list is also available on the programme web site at: <http://europa.eu.int/econtentplus>.

4. **Deadline**

The deadline for **receipt** of proposals by the Commission is **24 November 2005 at 17h00 (Luxembourg local time)**.

5. **Further information**

The full text of the call for proposals and the application forms are available on the following web site:

<http://europa.eu.int/econtentplus>

All applications must comply with the specifications and conditions described in the full text of the call for proposals, the Work Programme and the Guide for proposers which are available in English on the Commission's abovementioned internet site. These include information on how to prepare and submit proposals.

The evaluation of proposals will be based on the principles of transparency and equality of treatment. It will be carried out by the Commission with the assistance of outside experts. Each submission will be assessed on the basis of the evaluation criteria set out in the *eContentplus* Work Programme.

All proposals received by the European Commission will be treated in strict confidence.
