



Newsletter on EU activities in relation with eco-innovation funding

## MAY 2014 – N°4

### TIME LINE

- **15 November 2015:** ICT innovation for manufacturing SME / European Robotic Challenges. Deadline for the call for end-users. This is aimed to manufacturing companies, either SMEs or large Enterprises, looking for robotic solutions for their production environment ([more](#)).
- **10 September 2014:** deadline to submit proposals ([call](#)) with a view to selecting and designating a new KIC - Knowledge and Innovation Community - in each of the following thematic areas:
  - Innovation for healthy living and active ageing ; and
  - Raw materials: sustainable exploration, extraction, processing, recycling and substitution
- **1 August 2014:** deadline for EUREKA call for joint collaborative project proposals on technology & Innovation cooperation between Spain, Germany, France and the United Kingdom. Any technologies and applications are welcome as long as they have a strong market potential ([more](#))
- **3 July 2014:** info day in Brussels on the “Spreading excellence and Widening participation” Calls in Horizon 2020 ([registration](#) and [program details](#)).
- **30 June 2014:** ICT innovation for manufacturing SME / European Robotic Challenges. Deadline for the call for challengers. This aimed to research organizations, companies or even private persons ([more](#))
- **18 June 2014:** 1<sup>st</sup> Cutoff date for SMEs instrument phase 1
- **16 June 2014:** Launch of next LIFE call for projects ([more](#))
- **11-12 June 2014:** 12th SusChem Stakeholder Event - *Sustainable Chemistry: Always at the Forefront of Innovation in Brussels* ([registration](#))

### CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

- **LIFE:** The LIFE work programme 2014-2017 was adopted in March. The structure is twofold:
  - Sub-programme for environment (€ 1.347,1 million - 75 % of the budget)
    - o Environment & Resource Efficiency
    - o Nature & Biodiversity
    - o Environmental Governance & Information
  - Sub-programme for climate action (€ 449,2 million - 25 % of the budget)
    - o Climate Change Mitigation
    - o Climate Change Adaptation
    - o Climate Change Governance & Information

In addition to *traditional projects* (funding rate 60% for environment projects and 75% for nature projects), LIFE has introduced new categories of projects:

- *Capacity building projects:* financial support to the activities required to build the capacity of Member States with a view to enabling their more effective participation in LIFE (funding 100 % - one project per eligible Member State (only 15 are)).

- *Preparatory projects*: projects identified by the Commission to support specific needs for the implementation and development of EU environmental or climate policy and legislation (funding rate: 60%)
- *Integrated projects*: projects aiming at the implementation on a large territorial scale plans and strategies required by EU legislation in the areas of nature, water, waste and air. Typical budget will be around € 16 million. These projects are to be developed by Member States 'authorities with strong stakeholders involved (funding rate: 60 %). Technical assistance for preparing an integrated project can be funded (funding rate 60 % limited to € 100.000).

Deadline to submit proposals will probably be set in October 2014 except for integrated projects which will go through a 2-step application process: concept note in November 2014 and detailed proposal in April 2015.

The country quota system will only apply to environment projects up to 2017. For the rest, LIFE support will be allocated on the basis of merit only. Third country participation is possible in some circumstances.

## NEWS

- **Potential of clusters for cross-sector innovation**: Clusters are regional hubs of competences in a given industry or technology branch, representing a critical mass of actors from R&D, industry and other institutional contexts. They are seen as an essential trigger in innovation policy to make European SMEs more competitive. Maintaining and improving the competitiveness of clusters in Europe is the core aim of CLUSTRAT, an EU-backed project that brings together since October 2011 18 partners from eight European countries with the aim of cultivating cross-sector innovation and tapping the potential of clusters ([more](#)).
- **Selection of LIFE+2013 projects**: The European Commission has released the list of awarded projects under the LIFE+2013 call. It is presented on a country basis (Spain was awarded 68 projects!). For each project, details are provided on the project's purpose and contact person. ([more](#))
- **Call for expression of interest** for the establishment of a list of experts to assist the Executive Agency for Small and Medium - Sized Enterprises – EASME - with tasks in connection with the Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs – COSME ([more](#))

## RESOURCES

- The **Global Open Knowledge Hub** is being developed by seven research bodies in the developing world, along with the UK-based research charity the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and the US-based International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), to host their collections of thousands of development-related research documents and data sets. ([more](#))
- **European IPR Helpdesk**: how to manage intellectual property in H2020 at the grant preparation stage ([factsheet](#)).