



MANUNET TRANSNATIONAL CALL 2010

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS



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1. What is MANUNET?

MANUNET is a network of Governments under the European 6th Framework Programme targeted towards achieving 4 co-ordinated calls in order to finance R&D in Manufacturing.

MANUNET is funding transnational research projects in the field of Manufacturing by offering coordinated calls from the participating regional & national governments.

The main objective of MANUNET is to empower the European Manufacturing sector (preferably SMEs) by establishing cross-border partnerships through the mentioned co-ordinated calls. Added regional/national value through this transnational co-operation is one of the critical success factors for transnational project support within the MANUNET ERA-NET frame.

2. CALL ANNOUNCEMENT

2.1. Objectives and Topics

The strategic objective of the MANUNET Call 2010 is to enhance the competitiveness of Europe's Manufacturing Industry by supporting the funding of Manufacturing research projects performed by enterprises and their strategic partnerships. Projects will typically be smaller than projects submitted to the EU Framework Programme and they will benefit from accelerated funding decisions.

The funding objectives of the call are trans-national application oriented and high risk R&D projects related to Manufacturing. The project proposals must clearly demonstrate:

- Transnational, collaborative R&D with a significant degree of innovation and scientific and technical risk;
- Market orientation;
- The application and practical use of Manufacturing technologies;
- Expertise of the project partners in their respective fields of competence;
- Added value through transnational cooperation;
- Scale of impact and the market positioning of the applicant.

The MANUNET Call 2010 for proposals is a generic call including all fields in Manufacturing, structured in the following topics:

- Information and communication technologies for manufacturing including industrial robotics;
- Environmental and energy technologies;
- Knowledge-based engineering technologies (computer-aided engineering and design, automated manufacturing, product lifetime management, etc.);
- Adaptive manufacturing technologies: processes for removing, joining, adding, forming, consolidating, assembling;
- Other technologies/products related to the manufacturing field.

However, the respective regional/national thematic programme focus must be taken into account. To obtain detailed programme priorities it is strongly recommended to check Annex 1 or contact your regional/national funding agency (see Annex 2).

2.2. Eligible Project Structure

All MANUNET projects should be designed on the following principle:

- Consortia consisting of **at least 2 independent SMEs belonging to 2 participating countries, or 2 regions in different countries.**
- Large companies, academic research groups, universities or other public organisations may also participate according to their regional/national financing regulations, as long as there are 2 independent SMEs belonging to 2 participating countries, or 2 regions in different countries.
- The composition of the consortium should be efficient in size in order to accomplish the objectives proposed. However, we expect small medium projects with no more than 4 or 5 partners.

2.3. Project Budget and Size

No overall budget limits have been defined at MANUNET level, but regional/national limits regarding the level of funding will apply. Efficient and small to medium size consortia projects are expected (2-3 countries).

2.4. Project Duration

The project duration is not restricted, but approximately 2/3 year projects are recommended. Regional/national limits regarding the duration of projects will apply.

2.5. Dates and Deadlines

ACTION	Date
Call announcement	December 2009
Call open	7 th January 2010
Deadline for pre-proposals	24 th March 2010
Deadline for full proposals	7 th July 2010
Communication of the evaluation results	October 2010
Start of projects	Contact national/regional agency

2.6. Funding Rules

Each partner in a project must be aware of the funding rules of the corresponding regional/national funding programme.

Information about the specific funding rules of each region/country participating in MANUNET Call 2010 is provided in Annex 1. For more detailed information, please contact your regional/national contact person (see Annex 2).

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The MANUNET application process will be in 2 phases:

3.1. First phase: Pre-proposals

Submission: In the first phase (mandatory for all applicants), the Coordinator of the project has to submit on-line on the MANUNET website (www.manUNET.net) a pre-proposal in English. The pre-proposal form is available on the MANUNET website.

Content of the pre-proposal form: The pre-proposal form briefly addresses summary, consortium description, project merits, cost calculation and results and exploitation.

Evaluation: The pre-proposals will be evaluated locally and internationally. The international evaluation will be performed by the Transnational Coordination Team (TCT). After deadline for pre-proposals, the MANUNET Transnational Coordination Team gives advice to the project coordinators and recommends/does not recommend the submission of full proposals.

In order to submit the pre-proposal on-line, coordinators will have to register a new account. MANUNET Team will give the coordinator access to the web site where coordinators will be able to enter the requested data and submit the pre-proposal form. Please, bear in mind that access will not be given automatically (except the last days before the deadline). Therefore it may take a few days (depending on the date of registration) to have access to the on-line submission web application.

3.2. Second phase: Full Proposals

Submission: The Coordinator of the project has to submit the full proposal on-line in English. The full proposal template can be downloaded from the MANUNET website.

Content of the full proposal form: The specific template for the full proposal contains the following sections: summary, consortium description, description of work, cost calculation and results and exploitation. More details are expected with explanations in depth. The full proposal gives an overview of the whole project and describes all national project parts.

Evaluation: MANUNET aims at providing a transparent, fast and straight forward assessment of the submitted project proposals. Thus, the regional/national evaluation will be carried out in cooperation with the MANUNET Transnational Coordination Team.

Coordinators of the projects eligible for the second step of the MANUNET assessment procedure will be able to access the web application in order to submit the full proposal. The data entered in the first phase will be kept, although changes will be possible. The pre-proposal form will also be available but only for consultation.

4. DECISION

4.1. Decision Process

After the evaluation phase, the MANUNET Transnational Coordination Team prepares an agreed list of projects recommended for funding.

4.2. Funding

4.2.1. Contract

Funding contracts are dealt directly between the project partners and their national/regional funding agencies (programme owners).

4.2.2. Start and Installments

A consortium agreement between the project partners is required for funding (after final funding decision). The purpose of the consortium agreement is to clarify:

- responsibilities of the partners;
- decision processes inside the project;
- management of any change of partners, in agreement with regional/national rules;
- IPR issues.

5. MONITORING

5.1. Regional/National Project Monitoring

The progress of each individual contract will be monitored by the respective regional/national agencies. The respective coordinating agency will perform a leading role in the project monitoring.

5.2. Change in Active Projects

Any substantial change in an ongoing project must be reported immediately to the involved agencies. The project partners should be aware that changes might have effects on funding.

Annex 1: Funding programmes

- **Asturias:** Companies performing R&D in Asturias. Up to 80% Grant. 150.000 € minimum eligible budget required. Universities and research or technology Centres as subcontractors. www.idepa.es
- **Austria:** Applicants might be enterprises, research institutes and also individual researchers and inventors. Grant or loan (depending on the degree of innovation, technological risk, potential of realisation and economic performance) of up to max. 50 % of the complete project costs. www.ffg.at/content.php?cid=8
- **Basque Country:** Only companies financed (universities and research centres as subcontractors). Max. 250,000€ per partner per year. Up to 50% grant (SMEs), up to 40% grant (large companies). http://www.industria.ejgv.euskadi.net/r44-569/es/contenidos/ayuda_subvencion/gaitek_2005/es_8857/es_gaitek.html; www.spri.es/idi/idi/
- **Catalonia:** Small, medium and large companies can be funded. Private research centres, universities and other public research entities registered in Catalonia can participate as subcontractors. Funding is provided as a grant. Eligible expenses for the Catalan part of the MANUNET project from 150.000€ to 350.000€. Large companies, maximum of 50% of the costs of research activities and 25% of the costs of development activities can be funded; Medium companies, maximum of 60% of the costs of research activities and 35% of the costs of development activities can be funded; Small companies, maximum of 70% of the costs of research activities and 45% of the costs of development activities can be funded. 2 years- long projects. <http://www.acc10.cat/ACC10/cat/ajuts-financament/>
- **Estonia:** Companies, research centres and universities financed. Applied research projects can apply 60-75% grant - product development projects 35-50%. <http://www.eas.ee/index.php/for-the-entrepreneur/innovation/product-development-grant>

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- **France:** Loans for SMEs and other enterprises up to 2000 employees (no interest rate, reimbursable in case of success). Variable funding rate. Types of institutions eligible for funding: National SME up to 2000 employees, national academic lab if involved in a consortium with at least one eligible French enterprise, and foreign SME when it is a subcontractor. Types of institutions NOT eligible for funding: national and foreign large industry.
www.oseo.fr/votre_projet/international/aides_et_financements/partenariats_technologiques
 - **Israel:** The competitive R&D fund supports industrial competitive R&D projects through grants covering up to 50% of the eligible innovation costs. Grants are mostly allocated to SMEs and can include some other types of organizations as sub-contractors. www.matimop.org.il
 - **Lower Austria:** Companies, research centres and universities financed. RD projects up to 50% funding. Industrial research up to 25%. Experimental development for SMEs possibilities for additional 10%. Grant or loan, depending on the type of organisation. www.wirtschaftsfoerderung.at
 - **Navarra:** Companies, research centres and universities financed. Companies up to 50% grant (33% average). No minimum/maximum eligible budget required.
[http://www.navarra.es/home_es/servicios/ficha/2896/Ayudas-a-proyectos-de-investigacion-desarrollo-e-innovacion-\(I-D-i\)](http://www.navarra.es/home_es/servicios/ficha/2896/Ayudas-a-proyectos-de-investigacion-desarrollo-e-innovacion-(I-D-i))
 - **Northern Ireland:** Under EU R&D&I guidelines, Grant for R&D is available (up to 80%) to companies for collaboration, depending on size of company, type of research & need for assistance. No partner company can be responsible for more than 70% of total eligible costs. No aid maxima and no maximum project duration.
http://www.investni.com/index/grow/research_and_development/grant_for_r_d.htm
 - **Piedmont:** SMEs financed (large companies, universities and research centres only as subcontractors) for industrial research or experimental development within manufacturing. Piedmontese companies must have at least 20% of the participation (if there are more than one Piedmontese SME in the project, the share of 20% must be held for at least one). No company in the project (Piedmontese or not) can sustain more than 70% of total eligible costs.

Piedmontese component of project: minimum budget 50,000€. Grant up to 50%. Maximum grant per project 450,000€. Projects must be realized within 36 months from grant assistance.

<http://www.regione.piemonte.it/industria/leggi/bandomanunet.htm>

- **Romania:** 2nd National Plan for RDI, Program "Partnerships in S&T priority areas". Research institutes, universities, research companies, research centres financed. Type of funding: grant. Budget for the 2009 call: 1.200.000€. Maximum budget per Romanian part in a project: 600.000€. Maximum duration of a project: 3 years. www.cnmp.ro/int
- **Slovakia:** Only universities financed. Companies and research centres only in cooperation with universities. 15,000-20,000€ grant per project per year. http://projekty.kvs.sjf.stuba.sk/manunet_call_2007/Index.php
- **Slovenia:** Companies, research centres and universities financed. Co-financing 60% small enterprises, 50% medium enterprises and 40% big enterprises. RTO-s and universities 40%. 250.00€ is available for each year of founding. Maximum 60.000 per project, per year can be claimed. <http://www.mvzt.gov.si>
- **Switzerland:** The participating programme is focused on the promotion of innovative, application oriented research projects. Funding allowed only for projects consisting of a project partnership between a public research institute/University partner and at least one application oriented industrial partner. Only the salaries of the public research institute/University partner will be funded up to 50% of the project costs. www.kti-cti.ch ; www.bbt.admin.ch/index.html?lang=en
- **Turkey:** TUBITAK provides grants for international or national innovative research and development projects proposed by industrial companies and SMEs settled in Turkey. Project personnel costs, equipment, software, travel, subcontractors and material costs are eligible. The support rate %50-60 for large companies and %75 for SMEs. No project budget/duration limit at application. www.teydeb.tubitak.gov.tr/

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- **Tuscany:** Only SMEs financed (universities and research centres as subcontractors). Total budget 1,000,000€. Maximum contribution 200,000€ per partner per project. Maximum duration 24 months. Priority to ICT district. Food sector excluded. www.innovazione.toscana.it

 - **Wallonia:** Large companies, academies and research centers can be funded. Maximum funding is: 60-80% grant for SMEs, 50-60% grant for large companies, 100% grant for academia and 75% grant for research centres. Maximum projects length: 36 months. www.recherche-technologie.wallonie.be

 - **Western Greece:** Only SMEs funded (universities and research centres as subcontractors or consortia members up to 40% of budget). Grant up to 50% in total. Maximum project duration 24 months.

Annex 2: Participating Bodies

Region/Country	MANUNET member	Contact details
Asturias (Spain)	IDEPA	Paz Palacio @ paz@idepa.es ☎ +34985980020
Austria	FFG	Stefan Kreppel @ Stefan.Kreppel@ffg.at ☎ +430577551212
Basque Country (Spain)	Basque Government Innobasque	Andere Goirigolzarri @ agoirigolzarri@innobasque.com ☎ +34944209488
Catalonia (Spain)	ACC1Ó (CIDEM COPCA)	Noemí Moya @ nmoya@acc10.cat ☎ +34935674904 Mar Pérez @ mperezbl@acc10.cat ☎ +34935674889
Estonia	EAS	Kristjan Tiik @ kristjan.tiik@eas.ee ☎ +3726279799
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Israel	MATIMOP	Sharon Zimmerman @ sharonz@matimop.org.il ☎ +97235118186
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