

FP7-SME-2007-3 call Background, objectives and expected nature of proposals

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DG Research - Unit T4: SMEs





Background for the call SMEs in FP6

- •SME workprogramme: Main focus on Cooperative and Collective Research projects
 - → Portfolio of ~400 projects (473 mill €)

- Priority Thematic Areas
 - → 15% participation of SMEs in projects with a budget of 1.865 mill €





SME-3 call-Policy context

 SMEs are key for the implementation of the renewed Lisbon Partnership for economic growth and employment

 Reinforcement of measures for support of dissemination and exploitation (impact)





Objectives for support measures

Part of a comprehensive strategy to:

- Optimize SME participation in Community research framework programmes
- Optimize SMEs benefits from Community research framework programmes





Topics for the call

- Support to dissemination and exploitation of research results and exchange of good practices by e.g.:
 - a) clustering of projects on common topics to improve interaction and joint dissemination and exploitation activities and
 - b) developing and implementing strategies aiming at a reinforced exploitation of results.
- Contributing to the identification of priority research topics for SME associations, especially by establishing a dialogue with ETPs.



Nature of proposals

Activities (examples):

 Studies, fact finding, workshops, strategy development, monitoring and assessment, data access and dissemination, information and communication.

Participants:

 Organisations that are at the interface between research programmes and SMEs such as NCPs, IRC, Funding agencies, industrial federations, professional associations etc.

