



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE GENERAL XIII

Telecommunications, Information Market and Exploitation of Research

Directorate C: Telematics Applications

Sector: Telematics Applications for the Integration of Disabled and Elderly people

Brussels, 28 June 1995

Telematics Applications Programme

Telematics Applications for the Integration of Disabled and Elderly people (TIDE)

Subject: Call for Expression of Interest

Dear Potential Proposer,

The Telematics Applications Programme (1994-1998) focuses on the applications of information and/or communication technologies in areas of social interest, organised into sectors such as education training or health. The integration into society of disabled and elderly people is considered a general objective of the programme to be respected by all sectors. However, the specific sector 'Telematics Applications for the Integration of Disabled and Elderly people' (TIDE) will provide the maximum contribution to the realisation of this objective.

A call for proposals for the TIDE Sector will be opened on the 15th of September 1995 and close (contrary to the announcement in the Official Journal of the EU of 15th June 1995) on the 15th January 1996. Potential proposers should take note that:

- The call intends to focus on a *number of large projects* based on the integration of several areas and tasks (as defined in the document Background to the Workplan enclosed) into clusters. In addition there will be a number of small stand-alone projects and support actions addressing specific tasks of the Background to the Workplan document.
- While a response to this *call for expression of interest* is not compulsory, it is strongly recommended that intending proposers complete the expression of interest forms attached. The TIDE office will make available for public dissemination the non-confidential portion of the expression of interest forms. This will assist consortia to organise themselves to make a bid for the larger scale projects.

The attached information package provides the rationale and the description of clusters as well as of other types of work solicited. This can be used to help you decide on the type of work you wish to submit. The types of work solicited are as follows: **A:** large cluster-based proposal open to integration of modules covering cluster elements, **B:** small stand-alone proposal, and **C:** support action proposal. *For the purposes of this call for expression of interest, modules for integration in a large cluster-based proposal (Category A proposal) can be put forward.*

This information package provides forms for the *expression of interest call* (see attached forms) which intending proposers should return completed to the TIDE Office by the 15th September.

Those wishing to attend the Proposers Information Day should return the notification to participate as soon as possible to:

TIDE Office

European Commission, DG XIII/C5

Rue de la Loi, 200 (BU 29 3/13)

B-1049 Brussels

Fax: + 32 2 299 0248 or +32 2 295 1300

TIDE

INFORMATION ON EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

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INFORMATION ON THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

1. Introduction

The *call for expression of interest* has been introduced *before* the call for proposals opening on 15th September 1995 for two main reasons -

- to help potential proposers and interested parties to get in contact, form consortia and develop the proposals for large projects based on a cluster. The Commission will act as a facilitator to intending proposers by publishing and disseminating the public part of the expression of interest form.
- to improve the planning for the evaluation of proposals by providing a means of estimating the number of proposals particularly those for each of the areas of the workplan.

2. Types of work solicited

There are three categories of work which will be considered for Community support in the call for proposals. These are **A. Large cluster-based proposals; B. Small stand-alone proposals; and C. Support action proposals.**

For the purposes of the expression of interest, **Modules for integration in large cluster-based** proposals (i.e. into Category A proposals) can be offered. Such modules are intended as components of large cluster-based proposals.

A Large cluster-based proposals: A cluster is a combination of tasks which are organised in a coherent and meaningful manner in order to achieve a specific goal or a set of goals. Projects based on large cluster-based proposals are expected to make a major impact in the field. It is expected that they will be carried out by consortia including major players in the field across Europe and that they will be large in terms of effort and resources. These projects will be characterised by an integrative approach of several new and complementary developments (see description of modules below) and will involve comprehensive validation in real life situations i.e. either verifying or demonstrating¹ existing and emerging techniques and services. These validation projects, being nearer to the market in the development life cycle, should increase the possibility of the large scale exploitation of the project results in the medium term.

It is expected that these larger projects will increase the possibilities of sharing knowledge across the field in the Member States and will promote greater technological standardisation, modularity and interconnectivity. The integration of the

¹ *verification* is characterised by using a small but sufficient sample of users in a real-life situation to test the technical feasibility of the demonstrator and also yields preliminary findings on user acceptance. *demonstration* is characterised by a sufficiently large sample of users in a real life situation providing information on cost-effectiveness, user friendliness and similar issues, as well as testing the feasibility of the system when used on a large scale.

different elements firmly grounded in real life socio-economic and administrative contexts is required to achieve realistic solutions for end users - including service providers and carers. Above all, the large projects based on a cluster will have a synergistic effect by providing a comprehensive response to related user requirements. Clusters are intended to encompass different impairments and applications. These larger projects will be based on the integration of the areas and tasks presented in the attached "Background to the Workplan" document (CEC XIII/1364/95-EN, 21st March 1995). This document was drawn up by the panels of experts who participated in the planning exercise for the IV Framework Programme. Section 8 of the "Telematics Application Work-Programme" (pp 99-107), which is based on the "Background to the Workplan" document is also included².

- B Small stand-alone proposals:** The primary objective of this type of project is the development of a new technological device, system or technologically based service. Projects will be similar in size to those carried out under the current TIDE Bridge Phase. Stand-alone proposals can be based on individual (or small groupings of) tasks, can include topics at an early stage of development, or can even involve some degree of basic research. Issues such as strong innovativeness, narrow focus or commercial considerations, could make their inclusion in a large cluster-based project premature or unfeasible.
- C Support action proposals:** Expressions of interest are also invited for the actions listed as "*support actions specific to telematics for disabled and elderly people*" in the Background to the Workplan document enclosed.

Modules for integration in large cluster-based proposals: For the purposes of the expression of interest, **modules** for integration as components of Category A proposals, are solicited. A module is likely to constitute a workpackage or group of workpackages which will be integrated in a coherent manner into a large cluster-based projects (Category A). When preparing proposals, those intending to put forward large cluster-based proposals should be open to integrate modules put forward by others. Modules can cover aspects of research, development, demonstration, validation or management; corresponding to one or more tasks of a cluster.

Examples of possible combinations of tasks into clusters are presented in Annex 1.

3. Provisional Budget

The total Community funding available for the call for proposals is expected to be **40 MECU**. Large cluster-based projects are encouraged.

² Note re 'cluster' concept = the cluster is made by the Consortium presenting a proposal. It is therefore an autonomous process previous to the evaluation. The Commission does not intend to induce any 'clustering' work after the evaluation.

4. Eligibility

- Transnational consortium with at least 2 non-affiliated legal entities from different Member States of the European Union, or one partner from the EU and another partner from a country formally associated with the * IV Framework Programme.
- Duration: work may last a maximum of 3 years.
- Technology application and development proposals have at least 2 independent industrial enterprises from different Member States.

5. Evaluation criteria

Evaluation criteria for the call will be published later with the complete information package but will include at a minimum the following:

- strong transnational co-operation
- early and continuous user involvement
- potential for real problem-solving
- demonstration validation potential (where relevant)
- capacity for exploitation
- added value for autonomy and quality of life
- feasibility and coherence of the integration of tasks and areas (where relevant)
- close conformity with the aims and scope of the programme
- technical soundness
- innovative approaches, solutions and applications
- realistic budgeting and value for money
- co-ordinating partners of large integrated projects will need to demonstrate considerable management experience and capability and deep and comprehensive knowledge of the Assistive Technology field.

* Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada**, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland (with financial support), Israel**, Latvia, Liechtenstein (with financial support), Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Norway (with financial support), Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine.

** Provided the appropriate agreement has entered into force in time.

International organisations, such as the WHO, UNESCO, ESA or CERN, may participate in consortia and receive funding on a case-by-case basis.

6. Indicative schedule of call for proposals

closing date for expression of interest	15 September
opening of call for proposals	15 September
TIDE Proposers Information Day in Brussels	9 October
expressions of interest forms - Part 1 published*	9 October
closing date for call	15 January 1996

7. Proposers Information Day

An information day will be held on the 9th of October in Brussels. The agenda will cover basic information about the call and there will be informal workshops in order to help potential proposers to meet one another. If you wish to participate please complete the enclosed form - *Notification of intent to participate in the proposers/information day*. Send this by fax to the number indicated on the form as soon as possible as places will be limited and a 'first come, first served' system will operate in case of overbooking. You will be informed in advance if your request to attend cannot be accepted. The information day will start at 10 am and will take place at the following address:

LADA building
Rue Maurice Charlent, 53
B-1160, Bruxelles/Auderghem

8. Electronic access to TIDE information

The forthcoming TIDE activities related to the present Call for Expression of Interest and future Call for Proposals will be supported and integrated by CORDIS (Community Research and Development Information Service -see attachment A in Information Package).

* A booklet containing the returned *expression of interest [form 1, public part]* will be distributed at registration for the Information Day which will take place 7 to 9pm on 8th October and 8 to 10 am on 9th October 1995. This booklet will also be available on request from the TIDE Office in October.

Annex 1

Examples of possible clusters

A cluster is a combination of tasks, contained in the "Background to the Workplan" document [CEC XIII/1364/95-EN, 21st March 1995], which are organised in a coherent and meaningful manner in order to achieve a specific goal or a set of goals. Provided below are just some examples of possible clusters. Other clusters based on combinations of tasks and areas of the workplan can be proposed. Clustering involves putting together tasks and areas not projects (i.e. clustering is a process preliminary to the evaluation of project proposals by the Commission). A large cluster-based project may be constituted from any number or practical combination of the tasks and areas. Large cluster-based projects are expected to include **modules**. A module is likely to constitute a workpackage or group of workpackages put forward for integration into large cluster-based project proposals. Please take into account:

- **The integrative capacity of the consortium**, especially the capacity to run large RTD projects and the ability to organise demonstrations and validations in real life settings is crucial.
- **Comprehensive solutions** addressing the requirements of **different user groups** (people with disability; older people; their respective families and care givers) as relevant, in the context of real-life situations.
- The various **standards, technical compatibility and interoperability** of the devices and systems proposed;
- The high degree of **collaboration, complementarity and compatibility** required for the effective exploitation of results between industrial partners, service providers, and users. Due consideration must be given to the industrial-commercial links internal to a consortium.
- **The role of the users** will be of paramount importance in defining connections among tasks and areas that respond to the reality of their needs.
- The consortium must demonstrate the **know-how and capacity** to address the **service delivery context(s)** relevant to the cluster.

Example clusters presented here, have been formed on the basis of the realities of the interrelations amongst: 1) industrial, commercial and market forces and networks of companies and service providers; 2) the demand trends and user requirements emerging from real life situations and their relation to the infrastructure involved in the development, uptake and use of assistive devices and services.

The following example clusters are put forward (see Diagram 1). The aim of each cluster is outlined. Related tasks (see Annex 2) from the "Background to the Workplan" document are also shown below.

I *Improving Communication and Information*

Aim: To facilitate people with communication disabilities (children, adults or older people) engage in remote and face to face communication, and access and enjoy information and communication technologies and related services. This includes using existing and emerging signal processing and acoustic speech technologies to help people of any age with speech and hearing impairments to produce and receive acoustic messages.

II *Developing and Demonstrating Technologies and Services for Autonomy in the Home and in Institutional Settings*

Aim: To develop and demonstrate technologies and services which allow older people and people with disabilities, carers etc. to optimise their autonomy and quality of life in the home and institutional settings.

III *Enhancing Manipulation and Control*

Aim: To demonstrate the integration of new and existing applications and developments which assist older people and people with disabilities perform functions relating to environmental control and manipulation (moving, fetching, carrying, grasping etc.) and so support them in carrying out day to day tasks in a more autonomous way.

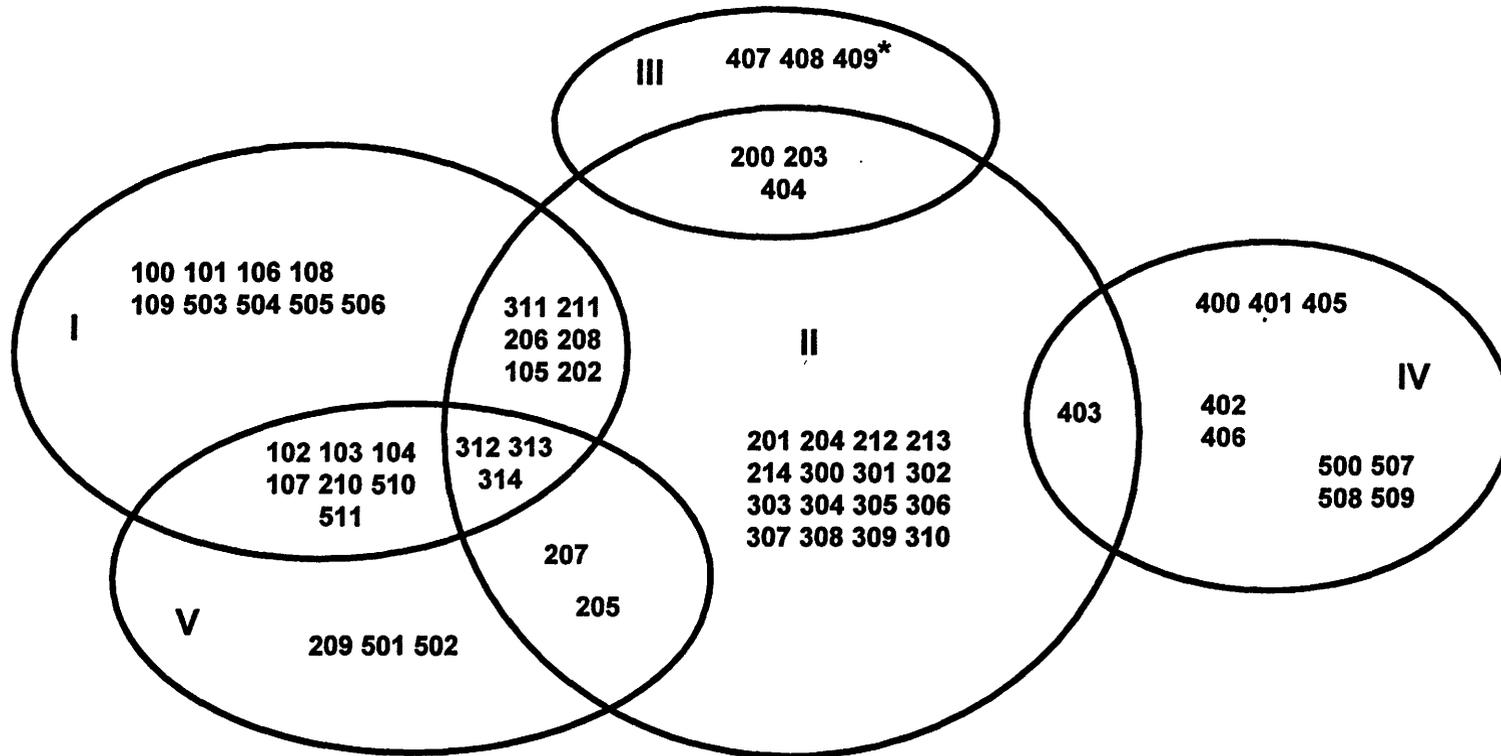
IV *Improving Navigation, Mobility and Transport*

Aim: To improve existing solutions for getting around in the environment for older people and people with disabilities (including cognitive and sensory difficulties); including short and long distance mobility and transport, either personal or public, including wheelchairs, escalators, lifts, walking devices, vehicle adaptation, environmental adaptation, access to public transport and infrastructure etc. Assessment and rehabilitation procedures and tools for the restoration and enhancement of motor functions for motor-impaired individuals of any age, are to be considered in this cluster.

V *Addressing Training, Educational and Occupational Challenges*

Aim: Use of information and communication technologies to enhance training, educational and occupational opportunities for older people and people with disabilities and to overcome discriminatory barriers.

EXAMPLE OF ONE OF MANY POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS OF TASKS INTO CLUSTERS



TITLE OF EXAMPLE CLUSTERS

- I. Improving Communication and Information.
- II. Developing and Demonstrating Technologies and Services for Autonomy in the Home and in Institutional Settings.
- III. Enhancing Manipulation and Control.
- IV. Improving Navigation, Mobility and Transport.
- V. Addressing Training, Educational and Occupational Challenges.

* Arabic numbers refer to tasks in the "Background to the Workplan" (CEC, XIII, 1364 | 95 | EN).

Annex 2 List of Tasks from "Background to the Workplan" [CEC XIII, 1364/95/EN].

- Task 100 Accessing Current and Emerging Interpersonal Telecommunications
- Task 101 Access to Information and Other Resources
- Task 102 Computer Supported Group Activities
- Task 103 Support Systems for Multi-modal User Interaction
- Task 104 Intelligent and Adaptive User Interfaces
- Task 105 Dialogue Control Structures and Flexible Interaction Techniques
- Task 106 Methods and Tools for user-centred design of user interfaces for all
- Task 107 Innovative I/O devices for access to ICT Systems, Services and Networks
- Task 108 Relay Services and Mediation
- Task 109 Information retrieval and transfer to Disabled and Elderly People
- Task 200 Integrated Systems And Services
- Task 201 Integrated Tele-Services
- Task 202 Man-Machine Control Interfaces for Integrated Systems
- Task 203 Integration of Devices
- Task 204 Systems for Maintenance of Health
- Task 205 Training Systems for Daily Living
- Task 206 Systems for Free Movements of People
- Task 207 Services for Communication
- Task 208 Requirements of Users for Emerging Systems and Services
- Task 209 Tools to Support Training to promote involvement in Society
- Task 210 Systems Providing Access
- Task 211 Common Interest Groups
- Task 212 Modelling & Simulation Tools
- Task 213 Human Contact and Isolation
- Task 214 Bridges & Gateways to Existing Systems
- Task 300 Improving Access to Existing Databases and Knowledge-based Systems
- Task 301 Databases and Knowledge-base Systems for Service Support
- Task 302 Virtual Teams (Groupware Applications)
- Task 303 Mobile Support in Service Provision
- Task 304 Automation of Administrative Processes
- Task 305 ICT Support for the Management of Care Services
- Task 306 Social Support Services
- Task 307 Support Services for Activities of Daily Living (ADL)
- Task 308 Care Services
- Task 309 Security Services
- Task 310 Client-managed Care Packages
- Task 311 Network Services
- Task 312 Passive Networking and Limited Interactive Applications
- Task 313 Active Interaction applications with a high level of control
- Task 314 Information and Communication Technologies for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of relay and mediation services
- Task 400 Personal control for safe access to public transportation
- Task 401 Public Area Trolleys and Mobile Platforms
- Task 402 Go Anywhere Wheelchairs
- Task 403 Assistance with the Transfer of People with a Mobility Handicap
- Task 404 Personal Device Controller and Control Technology
- Task 405 Control of Facilities in Public Environments
- Task 406 Dynamic Postural Support Systems
- Task 407 Increased Usability and Affordability of Existing Intelligent Manipulator Systems
- Task 408 Navigational Support and Docking for Mobile Platforms and Manipulators
- Task 409 Domestic Assistance with Moving, Fetching and Carrying for People with Low to Medium Dependency
- Task 500 Systems for assessment and training of people with motor disability
- Task 501 Technology for the assessment, rehabilitation and training of people with communication disabilities
- Task 502 Technology for the assessment and training of people with mental disability (learning difficulties, affective and cognitive impairment)
- Task 503 Interactive Personal Communication Systems (IPCS)
- Task 504 Personal Information and Communication Management Systems (PICMS)
- Task 505 To improve and enable access to visual information
- Task 506 To enhance or enable access to speech information and other acoustic events
- Task 507 Systems for supporting restoration and enhancement of motor ability
- Task 508 Systems for the planning of rehabilitation of motor function
- Task 509 Information systems for design, fitting and maintenance of aids for restoration of motor function
- Task 510 Effective information systems for people with a learning disability
- Task 511 Rehabilitation technology for people with mental impairment seeking independence in activities of ordinary living and employment



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE GENERAL XIII

Telecommunications, Information Market and Exploitation of Research

Technological developments relating to telematics applications (networks and services)

Telematics networks and services applied to the integration of the disabled and elderly

Brussels, 21 June 1995

Telematics for the Integration of Disabled and Elderly People

Expression of interest forms

Please complete the attached *expression of interest forms - part 1 and 2* in order to register your expression of interest in the TIDE call for proposals. Closing date for expression of interest is **15th September**.

The response to the expression of interest forms is optional. It is recommended, however that intending proposers complete and return the forms.

The completed forms should be mailed or faxed to:

TIDE Expression of Interest

DG XIII.C.5. BU29 3/13

European Commission

Rue de la Loi 200

B-1049 Brussels

Belgium

Fax : +32 2 2990248 or + 32 2 2951300

PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Proposed Title or Acronym:

PART I OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR PUBLICATION AND GENERAL DISSEMINATION

1. DETAILS OF POTENTIAL PARTICIPANT

PUBLIC

NAME:

ORGANISATION:

ADDRESS:

COUNTRY:

TELEPHONE:

TELEFAX:

EUROKOM or other EMAIL address:

1.1 PARTICIPANT PROFILE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE OFFERED [5 lines max.]

Complete ALL separate forms for each intended proposal

Please specify NA where not applicable

PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Proposed title or acronym:

2. TYPE OF PROPOSAL, ROLE DESIRED WITHIN THE PROPOSAL, AREAS OF INTEREST. Refer to task numbers 100 to 511 in the document *Background to the Workplan* as appropriate. *

Choose one of forms *A, B, C* or *Module* & complete required information in box:

A. Interested in Putting Together a Large Cluster Based Proposal?

(please tick)

Cluster Name:

Planned Tasks to be Addressed (see document *Background to the Workplan* for Task Numbers):

Tasks for which Expertise is Sought:

*Tasks which are not in the document *Background to the Workplan* but fit within the scope of this document can be included

PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Proposed title or acronym:

MODULE FORM: Interested in a Module for Integration i.e. in being part of a Large Cluster-Based (Category A) Proposal? (please tick)

Cluster Name(s) (if relevant):

Tasks to be Addressed by Module (see document *Background to the Workplan*):

B. Interested in Small Stand Alone Proposal as (please tick box) **Leader**
or Participant **?**

Task(s) to be Addressed (see document *Background to the Workplan*):

PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Proposed title or acronym:

C. Interested in Support Action Proposal as (please tick box) **Leader** **or**
Participant **?**

Areas and Subareas (see document *Background to the Workplan*) to be addressed:

PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Proposed title or acronym:

3. ACRONYM AND TITLE OF PROPOSED WORK

4. DESCRIPTION OF WORK [one page or less]. Indicate in clear terms the overall aim of the proposal or module and its intrinsic value to the end user. For large cluster-based proposals, specify how you would integrate the tasks and manage the proposal.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE GENERAL XIII

Telecommunications, Information Market and Exploitation of Research

Telematics for the Integration of Disabled and Elderly People

Proposers Information Day

9th October, 1995

Please complete and return the form - Notification of intent to participate in the proposers information day to the TIDE office by fax as soon as possible.

TIDE Office Fax Numbers

+32 2 299 0248

+ 32 2 295 1300

PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE

PROPOSERS' INFORMATION DAY on OCTOBER 9th, 1995 in Brussels

1. **DETAILS OF SENDER**

NAME:

ORGANISATION:

ADDRESS:

COUNTRY:

TELEPHONE:

TELEFAX:

EUROKOM or other EMAIL address:

2. **AREAS OF INTEREST:**

(referring to the clusters defined in the Expression of Interest document and to the RTD tasks numbered 100 - 511 in the document *Background to the Workplan*)

ATTACHMENT A

ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO TIDE INFORMATION

The forthcoming TIDE activities related to the present Call for Expressions of Interest and future Call for Proposals will be supported and integrated by CORDIS (Community Research and Development Information Service - *see following pages*) using its network of RTD-related databases. While general information about TIDE can be found in several other CORDIS databases (*RTD-News, RTD-Results, etc.*), three CORDIS services are particularly relevant to the present Call:

1. CORDIS WWW HOME PAGE

The contents of the information package for the TIDE Expression of Interest will be available electronically via the CORDIS *World Wide Web* service. Access to it is free of charge and is possible with an Internet browser, using the address: (http://www.cordis.lu/cgi/build_doclist.pl). Interested parties may download the relevant information or request via the Web a hard copy of the information package.

2. CORDIS RTD-PROJECTS DATABASE

This database will include the synopses of the on-going TIDE Bridge phase projects. By studying this information, interested parties will be able to better assess the contents and the scope of the current TIDE programme and the structure of the existing consortia.

3. PARTNER SEARCH WITH CORDIS

Having received the present documentation, you are very likely to have been included in the extensive TIDE internal database of contacts in the Assistive Technology field. In order to facilitate the search for a partner in the new TIDE phase, this database will soon be available on CORDIS (*RTD-Partners*). The contents of the database will be generally available and are of low commercial sensitivity (name/address; type of organisation; disability of interest; technological area). Note that the information you supply in the Expression of Interest forms **WILL NOT BE INCLUDED** in the CORDIS database.

IMPORTANT: IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CORDIS RTD-PARTNERS DATABASE, PLEASE TICK BOX AND FAX URGENTLY TO THE TIDE OFFICE (+32 2 2990248):

No, I do not want to appear in the TIDE section of the CORDIS RTD-Partners database

Name:

Organisation:



CORDIS

Community Research and Development Information Service

A central source of information is crucial for any organization that wishes to participate in Community funded research programmes, seek partnerships and/or participate in the exploitation of results. It is important that all research policy makers and researchers in academic and industrial establishments alike are made aware of research possibilities, trends and projects being undertaken in the European Union. CORDIS, the Community Research and Development Information Service, addresses these issues by providing information on all EU Research and Technological Development (RTD) activities.

The CORDIS databases

At present CORDIS offers over 134,000 documents in ten databases.

RTD-News is updated daily and provides the latest news information on all aspects of Community RTD activities including current calls for proposals and tender, events, publications and activities in preparation. RTD issues, legislation and policies are covered, in addition to the regular updates on the progress and results of RTD programmes. *CORDIS focus* is a hard-copy extract of the articles held on the database and is available twice a month free of charge.

RTD-Partners enables researchers to identify suitable partners either for participation in Community RTD programmes or for other types of collaboration including commercial exploitation. The entries include a profile of the different organizations seeking partners, details of areas of expertise and specialization as well as the organization's size and location. They also include details of the types of partners and the nature of the collaboration sought. This database is updated every two weeks and currently holds over 17,000 potential partners. An electronic method of submitting RTD-Partners entries for other programmes is also available. By sending an e-mail message to cordis-cp@lcd.co.uk, you will automatically be sent an electronic form and guidelines on how to complete it.

RTD-Programmes contains information on all Community-funded research programmes as well as information on RTD-related Community programmes and initiatives in the fields of the environment, energy, information sciences, regional development, statistics, standardization, training, education, etc. The records include details of the programme structure and aims, current programme status, programme implementation, funding provided, Official Journal references and Commission programme contacts. Almost 400 programmes are covered including both ongoing programmes and programmes dating back to 1958. RTD-Programmes is updated every two weeks.

RTD-Publications contains abstracts and bibliographical information on publications, reports and scientific papers arising from Community research activities as well as other scientific and technical documents published by the Commission. The entries include a summary of the publication, a bibliographical references, classification by topic and project references. Publications are available through on-line ordering. The database is updated every two weeks and over 68,000 bibliographical references are currently covered. *Euroabstracts* is a monthly journal containing abstracts of new entries to the database and is available from the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities on subscription.

RTD-Projects provides details of individual project contracts being carried out within various Community-funded programmes. The entries include project description and aims, programme references, current status and details of the main contractors and other partners. Over 22,800 projects are covered and the database is updated every two weeks.

RTD-Results contains information on research projects requiring further development as well as results and prototypes arising from Community and other RTD research that are awaiting commercial exploitation. The entries include a description of the research results, details of the contributing organization, requirements for further research funding, prototype availability, commercial potential and contact details. Over 11,000 results are covered in the database, which is updated every two weeks. A selection of results is also available in a new hard-copy brochure which is published every quarter.

RTD-Comdocuments provides details of COM (Commission) and SEC (Secretariat-General) documents. These are documents sent by the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament and other Community bodies as

part of the Community decision-making and legislative processes. The database is updated every two weeks and there are over 770 documents currently covered in the database.

RTD-Acronyms is a compact dictionary of acronyms and abbreviations relating to Community research programmes and projects as well as organizations carrying out activities in the field of RTD. Over 4,400 acronyms are explained in the database, which is updated every two weeks. An updated dictionary of acronyms extracted from the database will be available in the near future.

RTD-Contacts contains details of all main contact points at both national and EU levels that are able to provide information, assistance or advice on Community RTD and related programmes. Over 4,700 contact points are covered. The database is updated every two weeks.

RTD-Expressions of Interest (EoI) is the newest of the CORDIS databases providing details of organizations and individuals responding to the calls for expressions of interest issued by the Information Technologies (IT) and Telematics Applications programmes. Proposers for the IT programme can submit their entries electronically via the CORDIS World Wide Web (WWW) server. To date, over 480 expressions of interest for both programmes have been submitted.

CORDIS facilities

There are a number of different facilities available within CORDIS. The standard CORDIS databases are available through ECHO (the European Commission Host Organization) and can be accessed using a menu system or the Common Command Language (CCL). CORDIS is also available via a new, easy to use Windows-based interface called Watch-CORDIS, on CD-ROM (updated every three months), and through a range of relevant publications such as *CORDIS focus* and *Euroabstracts*.

The service has recently been extended to include the CORDIS WWW server on Internet. This provides information about CORDIS, full text documents including the work programmes and information packages for calls for proposals as well as a link to the CORDIS databases on ECHO.

Accessing the services

In order to use the CORDIS facilities on ECHO you should either register as a user with the CORDIS Helpdesk or access the new ECHO on-line registration system. The following options are available:

- Direct dialing using a telephone line: +352-420347 using 300 - 9600 bps (even parity, 7 data, 1 stop)
- PSDN/PSS/PAD (packet switching data network connection e.g. X.25 or X.28): NUA (Network User Address): 0270448112, or for the UK only, A9270448112 (even parity, 7 data, 1 stop)
- Internet: Users should "telnet" to ECHO.lu (actual command is telnet echo.lu)
- Academic research networks of RARE/COSINE: Select the EuropaNET (formerly LXI) or the PSS option and dial following NUA (for EuropaNET): +204-370-310099

In order to register for CORDIS on-line, the user types the public access code "ECHO". Once connected to ECHO, an opening menu invites the user to choose a language option. The user then selects option 9 for online registration. A registration form will be displayed which, when completed, will provide the user with a personal password. User documentation and a CORDIS reference manual will then be sent by mail.

The CORDIS WWW service can be accessed on the Internet using browser software (e.g., Mosaic) and the command: <http://www.cordis.lu/>.

Further Information

If you would like further information on CORDIS services, publications, and products, or if you need any assistance when using the service, please contact the CORDIS Helpdesk:

CORDIS Postal Address

European Commission Host Organisation
CORDIS Customer Service
BP 2373 - L-1023 Luxembourg

CORDIS Help desk

Telephone: +352-3498-1240
Fax: +352-3498-1248
E-mail: helpdesk@cordis.lu



Looking for a research Partner?

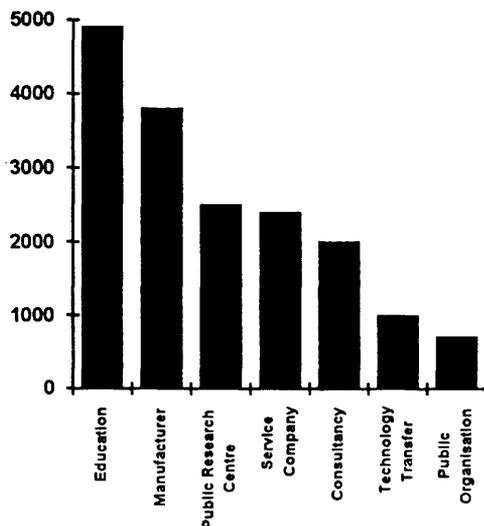
FINDING POTENTIAL PARTNERS

It is often difficult to identify suitable partners for collaboration, particularly from another country. Whether you are looking for a partner at the pre-proposal stage for one of the Programmes under the European Commission's 4th Framework Programme or looking for a partner for a joint venture, the RTD-Partners database can help you.

THE RTD-PARTNERS DATABASE

The RTD-Partners database is provided by the Commission as part of CORDIS (Community Research and Development Service) and is available on ECHO (The European Host Organisation). Although it can be used for other types of partnerships, one of its main functions is to help organisations to identify potential partners for participation in European Commission funded programmes. A major advantage of the database is that it covers all types of organisations and all programmes and sectors of research.

RTD-Partners contains entries from the following types of organisation (categories are not mutually exclusive) :



PROMOTE YOUR PARTNERSHIP REQUEST THROUGH RTD-PARTNERS

You can use RTD-Partners to inform potential target partners from throughout Europe of your organisation and collaboration requirements by giving them information on:

- The Programme in which you are interested in participating
- Details of collaboration sought
- Expertise of your organisation
- Your organisation's type, size and background
- Contact details
- Details of required partner

SEARCHING THE DATABASE

Whether you are looking for a manufacturer in Belgium, a public research centre in Germany or a university in Greece, the RTD-Partners databases can help you to identify specific partners according to the following criteria:

- with specialised R&D expertise
- by subject area-by country-by region
- specifying their programme of interest and giving details of specific project interest themes.

CURRENT INTEREST

The RTD-Partners database now contains over 17000 partnership requests from organisations located in the EU and throughout the world. A considerable and growing number of organisations consult the database for over 900 hours every month. Many organisations have already found the RTD-Partners to be an extremely useful tool for finding partners, particularly for calls for proposals. According to feedback a significant number have already formed some kind of partnership which resulted from their entry being in the database.

PLACING ADDITIONAL ENTRIES ON THE RTD-PARTNERS DATABASE

To place an additional entry on RTD-Partners or if you wish to change your current entry significantly, it is necessary to complete an entry form. An electronic version of the form can be obtained by sending a message to the E-mail address given at the foot of the page.

There is no need to include any text in the mail message as the system will respond automatically. The completed form can then be returned to CORDIS by e-mail for rapid inclusion in the database. A paper version of the form can be obtained by sending a fax to the address given below. Please mark clearly on your form whether you wish it to be an additional entry or whether you wish it to replace an existing entry.

DATABASE PROCEDURES

Once the RTD-Partners form has been sent to CORDIS, it is then processed rapidly and the information included in the RTD-Partners database. Your organisation's partnership profile will then be available, using both free-text and coded searching, to the large number of organisations who currently search RTD-Partners on their own or their client's behalf.

The entry can be placed on the database for a specific call for proposals for a specific programme but can remain on the database for other purposes by adapting the entry. The RTD-Partners database is updated on a continuous basis and entries can be updated or new data submitted at any time.

ACCESSING THE RTD-PARTNERS DATABASE ON CORDIS

CORDIS offers a user-friendly, menu-driven system accessible via PC and modem. An easy to use Windows-based interface is also now available. The database can be searched using a variety of criteria to enable interested partners to find contacts which match the profile you are seeking as accurately as possible.

To access the CORDIS facilities you should either register as a user with the CORDIS help-desk or access the new ECHO on-line registration system to obtain a password. Once connected to ECHO, the user types the public access code "ECHO" which will provide access to an on-line registration form which, when completed, will provide the user with a personal password.

To access ECHO, the following options are available:

- Direct dialling using a telephone line :+352-420347 using 300 - 9600 bps (even parity, 7 data, 1 stop)
- PSDN/PSS/PAD (packet switching data network connection e.g. X.25 or X.28):
NUA (Network User Address):0270-448112, or for the UK only, A9270448112 (even parity, 7 data, 1 stop)
- Internet: Users should "telnet" to ECHO. lu
- Academic research networks of
RARE/COSINE: Select the EuropaNET (formerly IXI) or the PSS option and dial the following NUA (for EuropaNET): +204-370-310099

CORDIS WORLD WIDE WEB (WWW)

Various full text documents can be accessed on the Internet using browser software (e.g. Mosaic and Netscape) and the command:
<http://www.cordis.lu>

Accessing as well as contributing to RTD-Partners on CORDIS is free of charge.

For further information please contact the following:
CORDIS Customer Service, European Commission Host Organisation,
BP 2373 L-1023 Luxembourg
Tel: +352 3498-1240
Fax: +352 3498-1248
E-mail address for general enquiries: helpdesk@cordis.lu
E-mail address for an RTD-Partners entry form: cordis-cp@lcd.co.uk