
European Commission

Directorate General Economic and Financial Affairs

The Joint Harmonised EU BCS Programme: Forthcoming call for proposals

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Purpose

- All grant agreements concluded under current calls for proposals will end on 30 April 2008
- The new call for proposals will cover the BCS activity for 3 years: 1 May 2008 – 30 April 2011
- New call for proposals will cover all surveys and all Member States and candidate countries (Croatia, Turkey and FYROM)



Purpose (cont.)

- The objective is to conclude:
 - one framework partnership agreement per beneficiary for the full 3 years, and
 - 3 specific grant agreements covering 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11



Indicative calendar

- Call to be published by **June 2007 at the latest** (after the modified Financial Regulation comes into force)
- Proposed date for submission of applications: **mid September 2007**
- Evaluation and selection of the proposals completed by **December 2007**



Indicative calendar (cont.)

- Two originals of the framework partnership agreements will be sent to the successful applicants for signature by **February 2008**
- On receipt of the signed originals, Commission will sign and return one original to beneficiary by **mid March 2008**
- Two originals of specific grant agreements will be sent to beneficiaries for signature by **mid April 2008**
- On receipt of the signed originals, Commission will sign and return one original to beneficiary by **30 April 2008**



Main technical requirements

- Use of the harmonised questionnaires
- Respect of a common timetable
- Survey design: largely left to the discretion of the institutes

New:

- Respect of the international guidelines on the conduct of BCS – will play a role in the selection of the proposals



Financial requirements

- DG ECFIN's Aide-memoire on the financial management of grant agreements
- Presentation by Derek Pullinger

