



eco-innovation
WHEN BUSINESS MEETS THE ENVIRONMENT

Public overview on the selected projects in Call 2012 CIP Eco-Innovation

First application and market replication projects

EACI

Unit 3: Eco-Innovation - Market Replication

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I. Short summary of the submission

284 proposals have been submitted in the Call 2012; 284 of them were considered eligible for CIP Eco-Innovation. The number of submitted proposals in the Call 2012 is similar to that of the Call 2011. A good coverage of countries was achieved in the Call 2012, involving 916 participants from 31 countries. Italy and Spain are in the lead both regarding the number of proposals and the number of participants. Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Finland, Estonia, Cyprus and Albania did not participate in any of the submitted proposals.

The Call 2012 notably succeeded in covering the priority given to small and medium-sized enterprises (SME), a group generally difficult to approach by Community funding. Around 67% of the participants are SMEs in the submitted proposals and 64% in the selected. This rate of nearly 70% has been constant for the last calls. Concerning the legal status of participants, the vast majority (78%) are organisations from the private sector, either commercial or non-profit. Only 7% of the proposals did not have an SME in the consortium.

The response of the market covered the five priority areas established in the Call 2012 with the highest share on Green Business (33%), followed by Recycling, Water, Buildings, and Food and Drink. Proposals that do not fit in any of these sectors are grouped in the category "Others". Within the Green Business sector, 7% of the proposals were sorted as Clean Production.

After the final approval, 50 proposals were selected for funding, but due to the available budget (34,83 M€) only ~45 of them will actually enter into negotiations for the time being.

II. Sectors covered on the selected Projects¹

Selected projects are distributed among the five sectors. The sectors Green Business (38%) and Water (20%) have received the highest numbers of proposals, while the sectors Food and Drink, Recycling and Buildings cover 18%, 14% and 8% respectively.

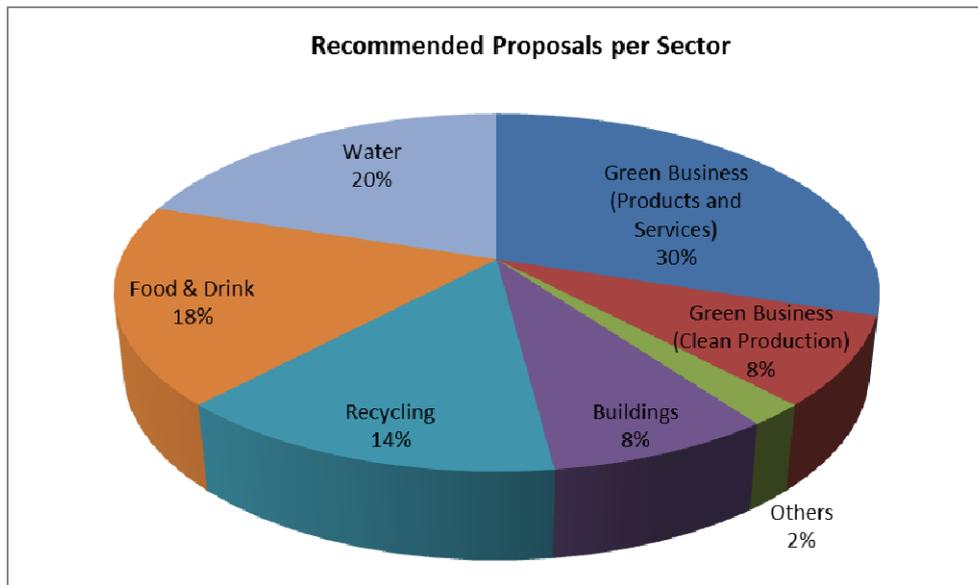


Figure 1: Selected projects by sector.

The selected projects will undertake the actions in various areas, increasing resource efficiency (raw materials, water and energy) and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, waste, toxicity and general pollution while being economically feasible and attractive. Projects will cover the innovation aspect in processes, products and also services with a significant share of process innovation.

¹ Recommended and Reserve list.

III. Countries covered in the selected projects

Altogether 25 countries are covered by the selected projects, see figure 2. As visible by comparing figures 2 and 3, there are important differences among the number of beneficiaries by country² in participation and also in approval rates. These figures need to be taken with prudence as statistics on small sampling can easily show big variability.

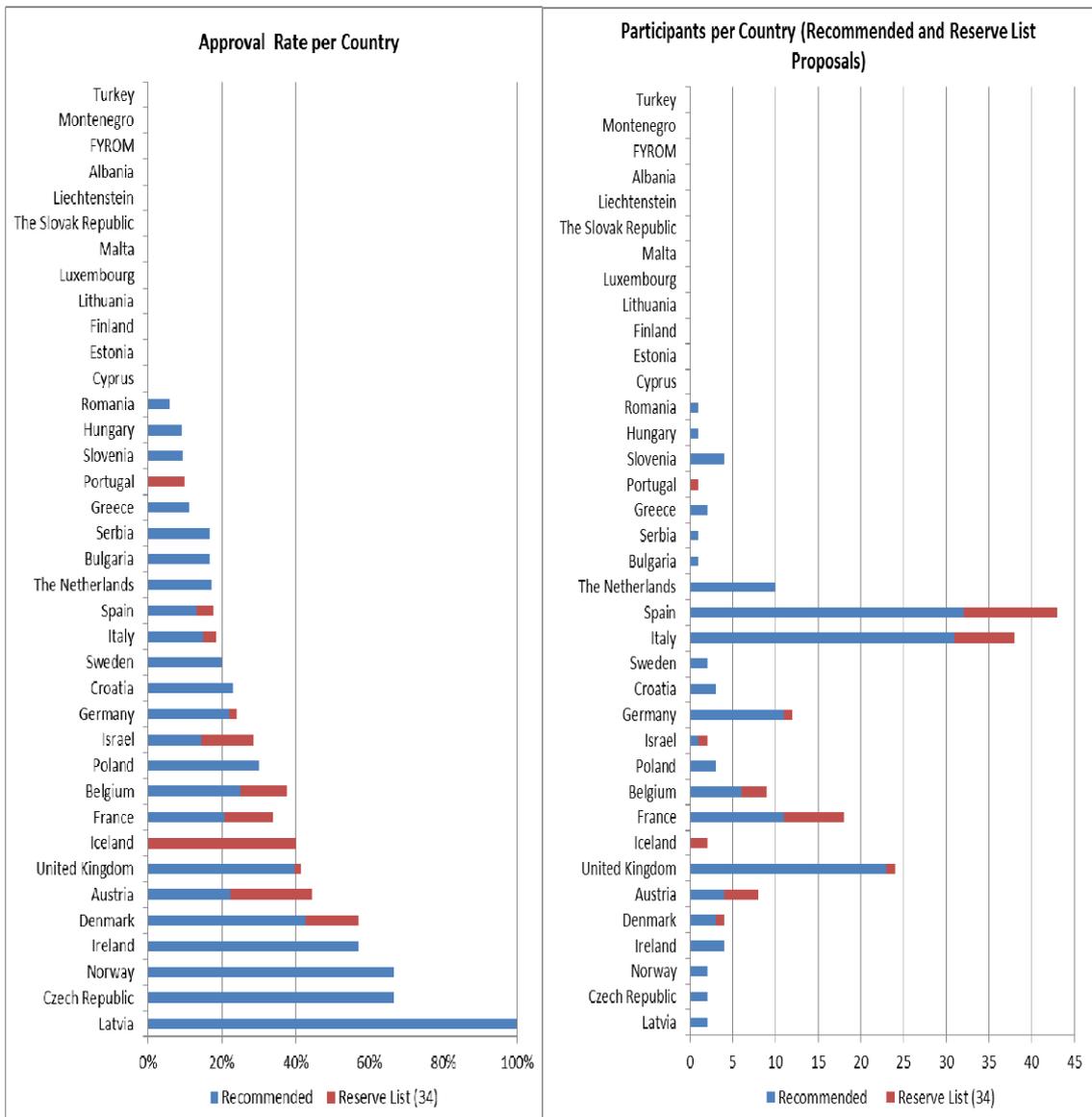


Figure 2: Approval rate per country.

Figure 3: Participants per country in the selected projects.

² Figures 2 and 3 consider "beneficiaries" and not proposals. In the 50 approved proposals there are 199 beneficiaries.

The Call 2012 did not require multi-national consortia but insisted on European added value as an award criterion. Around 80% of the selected projects originated from at least two countries. The average number of participants per proposal is 4, which is substantial considering that there was no legal obligation of multi-partnership. Only 20% are projects with only one participant.

IV. New players in EU arena

From the total of 199 participants in the selected projects, 59% have never received EU funding. From all the selected participants, 27% have received funding before through the European RTD Framework Programme. 3% have been involved in previous calls on Eco-Innovation, but this includes rejected proposals.

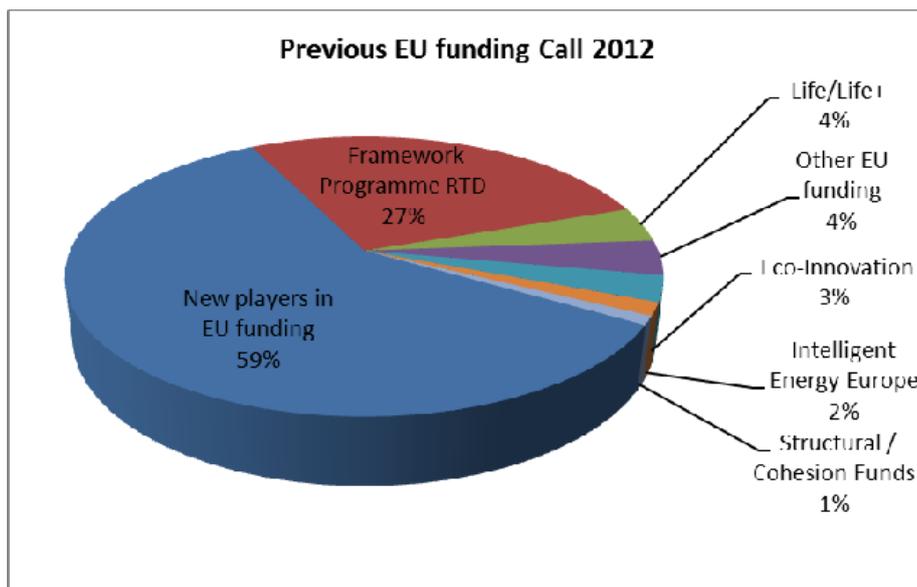


Figure 4: Previous EU funding.

V. Categories of participants and type of SMEs

Concerning the size of the participants in selected projects, 64% are SMEs, and 17% are large enterprises. This shows the important weight of the private sector in this Community instrument, which sums up to 81%. Universities/Research Organisations represent 19%. Only 3 of the selected projects do not involve any SMEs (~6%). See figures below.³

It is also worth to mention that, among SMEs, the vast majority is represented by micro and small enterprises (85%), a group difficult to attract to the Community funding⁴.

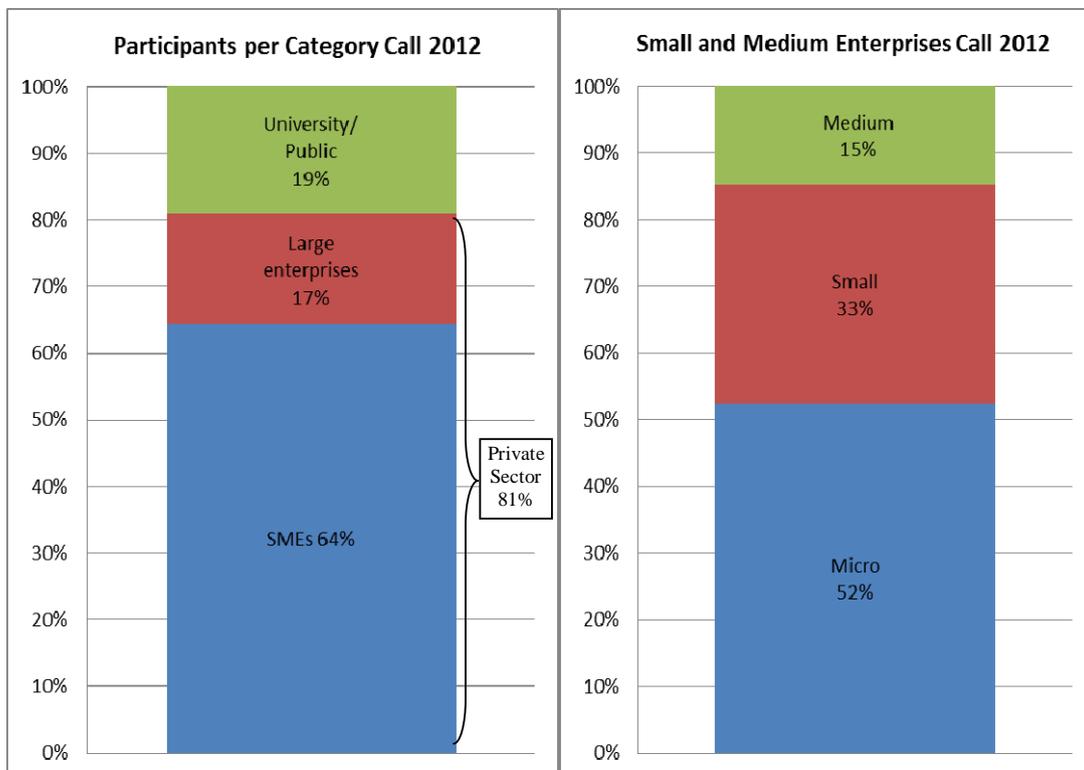


Figure 5: Participants per category in selected projects.

Figure 6: SMEs Breakdown.

VI. Conclusion

The fourth Call triggered a very good answer from the market. Eco-innovation market replication has well achieved its objective of reaching SME's.

The good response from the market puts the proposals under a big competition and results in funding 1 out of 6 submitted proposals.

The new ~45 projects under the Call 2012 – for which a grant will be prepared – will make a total of nearly 200 eco-innovation projects running.

³ The classification as SME is based on the indications by the participants themselves.

⁴ Definition of micro enterprise: less than 10 employees, lower or equal to 2 M€ turnover // definition of small enterprise: less than 50 employees, lower or equal to 10 M€ turnover. Indications by participants.