

GUIDELINES FOR TRAVEL GRANTS TO FACILITATE CONSORTIA BUILDING BETWEEN EUROPEAN AND ARGENTINEAN PARTNERS

The National Directorate of International Relations of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (MINCYT), through Project ABEST A/EU Phase II, calls for the submission for travel grants to facilitate consortia building between European and Argentinean Research, Development and Innovation (R+D+i) groups and / or Small and Medium Size Enterprises (SMEs) to participate in 7th Framework Programme project / networks, European Technology Platforms (ETPs), Joint Technology Initiatives (JTI) and /or Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).

1.- CALL PURPOSE

To finance travelling between October and December 2011 in order to facilitate consortia building between European and Argentinean R+D+i groups and SMEs in 7th Framework Programme (FP7) projects / networks, ETP, JTI or PPP.

2.- BUDGET ALLOCATED

Each funding request will include international airfares in economy class, domestic flights, medical insurance and living expenses up to seven days, according to the agenda of activities proposed.

3.- BENEFICIARIES

Funding must be requested by an European active researcher or research group of an R+D+i European institution or / and an European SME.

4.- APPLICATIONS CONTENT

Applications must include at least:

- a) Form for Travel Grants to Facilitate Consortia Building between European And Argentinean Partners.
- b) Description of the FP7 project / networks, ETP, JTI or PPP and the Call in which the applicant is intending to participate as partner or coordinator (1 page max.).
- c) List of institutions, SMEs and / or any other legally recognized entity participating in the consortium.
- d) Curriculum vitae of the researchers and / or authorities of the institution, SMEs or any other legally recognized European entities involved in the project (3 pages max. per CV).
- e) Letter of interest signed by the Argentinean counterpart /s in case Argentinean institutions are already contacted. If not, the Liaison
- f) Support letter of the authority of the European institution, SME and / or any other legally recognized entity in which the applicant carries out his / her current activities.
- g) Proposal of activities to be covered and main institutions to be visited during his / her staying in Argentina.
- h) Rationale for the involvement of the researchers, R+D+i group leaders or SMEs in the FP7 Call, ETP, JTI or PPP (1 page max.).

5.- DEADLINE

The deadline for the application submission is on September 9th, 2011 at 06:00 PM (Argentina local time). The proposal must be delivered to the following e-mail address: abest@mincyt.gov.ar CC: caversa@mincyt.gov.ar with subject "ABEST Phase II A/UE- 2011 Call".

6.- ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

The following are considered as eligible expenses:

- Airfares in economy class.
- Domestic Flights.
- Living expenses.

The daily travel stipend will be the equivalent of 50 Euros (€) in Argentinean Pesos (\$).

Once the application is approved by the Evaluation Committee, the corresponding airfare and the remaining expenses will be issued by ABEST A/EU Phase II project on September 19th.

7.- REPORTING

The application and other required documentation shall be submitted to the following e-mail address: abest@mincyt.gov.ar CC: caversa@mincyt.gov.ar with the subject "ABEST Phase II A/UE- 2011 Call - Spending Account".

8.- EVALUATION PROCEDURE

Applications will be evaluated by an ad-hoc Evaluation Committee of experts for each thematic area.

9.- EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following criteria will guide the evaluation procedure:

- a) Quality of the proposal.
- b) Background of the applicant and his / her working group.
- c) Background of counterpart researchers, R+D+I leaders or SMEs and their working groups.
- d) Degree of correspondence with the topic of the FP7 Call, ETP, JTI or PPP in which the applicant is intending to participate as partner or coordinator.
- g) Background of participation in Framework Programmes.
- h) Background of participation in programs or projects founded by the European Commission or European Members or Associated Countries.
- j) In the case of SMEs, fulfilment of the minimum requirements set by the European Commission to participate in FP7 (http://ec.europa.eu/research/sme-techweb/index_en.cfm)