

Eco-Innovation

Business Environmental day

Ljubljana, Slovenia

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***UNIONCAMERE VENETO
EUROSPORTELLI***

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UNIONCAMERE DEL VENETO - EUROSPORTELLLO

Eurosportello Veneto coordinates the activities of Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) for the Northern East of Italy, and cooperates with:

- The EU Commission and the other EU institutions
- The 500 members of Enterprise Europe Network
- The Veneto Region
- The national and regional system of the Chambers of Commerce
- The Brussels Delegation of Unioncamere Veneto
- APRE (Agency for the Promotion of European Research)

Eco-Innovation



- **The Programme**
- **Projects funded by the initiative**
- **Call for Proposals 2013**
- **Best Practices**

Eco - Innovation

- **Any form of innovation** aiming at significant and demonstrable progress towards **sustainable development**.
- **Eco-innovation projects** aims to reduce the environmental impact of production processes and services.

The Programme

Eco-Innovation supports innovative products, services and technologies that make better use of resources, while reducing Europe's ecological footprint.

The Programme

Involves organisations that have developed an environmental product, service, management practice or process which has a proven track record, yet is not fully marketed due to residual risks.

The Programme

- Support innovation among SMEs
- Improve competitiveness of SMEs
- Foster environmentally friendly production processes
- Enhance the efficiency of the use of resources



The Programme

Current priority areas:

- 1. Material recycling**
- 2. Sustainable building products**
- 3. Food & drinks applications**
- 4. Water sector**
- 5. Green business**

Area 1 - Materials Recycling

- **Implement waste sorting and treatment methods** to improve the quality of recycling materials such as construction, industrial, household, electrical and electronic waste;
- Encourage the **design of innovative products** using recycled material and facilitate material recycling;
- **Multiply business innovations** that strengthen the competitiveness of the recycling industries

Area 2 – Sustainable Building Products

- Use of environmentally-friendly construction materials and innovative manufacturing processes;
- Use of construction products and related processes that **reduce consumption of resources.**

Area 3 – Food & drink sector

- **Innovative products, processes and services** that reduce environmental impact and maximise resource efficiency;
- More efficient **processes that reduce waste and increase materials recycling** and recovery;

Area 4 - Water

- **Water efficient processes, products and technologies;**
- **Water and wastewater treatment;**
- **Smart distribution systems** aiming at saving water, chemicals, energy and materials.

Area 5 – Greening business

- **Greening of production** and clean production processes;
- **Substitution of materials** and increased use of secondary raw material;
- Gradual innovation by **introducing re-manufacturing mechanisms** and innovative repairing services.

Projects

- The projects are **selected through annual calls for proposals.**
- They receive grants covering up to **50% of the eligible project costs.**
- The money can be used to fund actions including equipment and infrastructure as well as materials, processes, techniques and methods linked with the innovative action.

Requirements

- **show clear and substantial benefits** in support of Europe's environmental policy objectives
- provide significant **replication**, wider application and broader marketability;
- demonstrate a **European added value** and international project dimension;
- be **cost-effective** delivering higher quality through appropriate effort levels;

Applying for funding

- Applicants have to reply to an official 'call for proposals' which is published annually by the **EACI** on this **website**.
<http://ec.europa.eu/eaci/>
- The call documents set out the criteria for funding and include the official documents each applicant has to provide.

Call for Proposals 2013

- Support Eco-innovative projects in different sectors which aim at the **prevention or reduction of environmental impacts** or which contribute to the optimal use of resources;
- The European Commission **grants up to 50% co-funding to finance green ideas**: the total budget available for the 2013 Call is almost 31.6 Million euros;
- **Deadline: 5 September 2013.**

Eligibility

- This call is open to all legal persons that are based in eligible countries;
- **priority** will be given to **Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)**;
- clusters of applicants and projects which demonstrate a European added value and have a high potential for market replication are strongly encouraged.

What will be funded?

Specific priorities are being set up:

- **Materials Recycling**
- **Sustainable Building Products**
- **Food and Drink Sector**
- **Water**
- **Greening business**

Project steps

1. Setting up the project: contract negotiation
2. Keeping tabs: reporting
3. Funding: payment

Step 1 - Contract negotiation

- The **EACI** and the **project coordinator** negotiate the legal terms for the project;
- The terms of the project are set out in a **model grant agreement** which have to be signed by the EACI and the participants before the project begins;
- Participants may have to provide financial guarantees from a bank or an approved financial institution.

Step 2 – Reporting obligation

The parties have to submit financial and technical **progress reports** at different stages of the project to help both parties keep track of progress and enable the EACI to ensure that public funds are used properly.

Step 3 - Funding

- **First pre-financing**

Projects receive pre-financing totaling **30% of the EU grant** within 45 calendar days from the date when the signed grant agreement and all the mandates are officially received by the EACI.

Step 3 - Funding

- **Second pre-financing**

The coordinator may request a second pre-financing payment if the first 30% of the total budget have been used. **Total pre-financing may not exceed 60% of the EU grant.**

Step 3 - Funding

- **Final payment**

Once the project has been completed the coordinator may request the final payment, the balance. The request must be accompanied by the final technical and financial report.



Best Practices

NUMIX

High performance Lightweight aggregate for concrete from the recycling of urban waste

- Programme area: PLASTIC WASTE RECYCLING
- Duration: 01/07/2009 – 30/06/2012
- Budget: € 1.275.556 (EU contribution: 52.4%)
- Contract number: ECO/08/239110/SI2.535262
- Website: http://eaci-projects.eu/eco/page/Page.jsp?op=project_detail&prid=42



- **Benefits:**

- Reduction of the plastic waste destined to landfill and incineration
- production of eco-sustainable products for building field.



- **Results:**

- Realization of a final product made of recycled plastic waste that could be a valid substitute in the building sector
- Reduced water consumption for the lightweight concrete
- Patenting of new building materia

AGRIPORT

Agriculture reuse of polluted dredged sediments

- Programme area: Recycling
- Duration:04/06/2009 - 03/06/2012
- Budget:EUR 1 393 454 (EU contribution: 49%)
- Contract number:Eco/2008/239065
- Website: http://eaci-projects.eu/eco/page/Page.jsp?op=project_detail&prid=30



- **Benefits:**

Eco-sustainable and economical solution to recycle slightly polluted dredged sediments from ports into reusable soil using phyto-remediation process.



- **Results:**

- Optimisation of the process and costs to decontaminate dredged sediments using plants
- Estimated 1% of the European market reached within 2 years after the end of the project
- Creation of job opportunities



**Thank you for your
attention!**

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