

**PROVISIONAL\* WORK PROGRAMME 2007**

**COOPERATION**

**THEME 1**

**HEALTH**

***(European Commission C(2006) XXXXX)***

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This provisional work programme is subject to formal confirmation following the entry into force of the 7<sup>th</sup> EC Framework Programme and the Specific Programme Cooperation

## II CONTENT OF CALLS IN 2007

### I. BIOTECHNOLOGY, GENERIC TOOLS AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR HUMAN HEALTH

This activity aims at developing and validating the necessary tools and technologies that will make possible the production of new knowledge and its translation into practical applications in the area of health and medicine.

#### 1.1. HIGH-THROUGHPUT RESEARCH

The objective is to catalyse progress in developing new research tools for modern biology including fundamental genomics that will enhance significantly data generation and improve data and specimen (biobanks) standardisation, acquisition and analysis. The focus will be on new technologies for: sequencing; gene expression, genotyping and phenotyping; structural and functional genomics; bioinformatics and systems biology; other “omics”.

**Expected impact:** The development of groundbreaking technologies will support the competitiveness of Europe in the areas of genomics and proteomics, and their applications are expected to have a great impact in medicine and in the biotechnology industry (namely SME's). Proteomics techniques will help overcome bottlenecks in the investigation of protein functions in cells leading to a better understanding of biological processes in health and disease, and fostering European research excellence. New sequencing techniques should greatly reduce the cost of sequencing and genotyping and lead to wider applicability, e.g. in the clinic. An integrated genetic variation catalogue would be an immense boon to bioresearch, in areas such as: general understanding of human physiological processes in both health and disease; the ability to better analyse population genetic studies; the diagnosis and treatment of disease. An important goal is to achieve effective linkage between datasets in different areas (such as general genetic variation, cancer, cardiovascular disease, published studies, specific populations and pharmacogenomics) thereby enabling scientific results to be integrated across the entire corpus.

*Topics for first call, deadline 19 April 2007:*

- **HEALTH-2007-1.1-1: Unifying human and model organism genetic variation databases.** The focus should be on developing a data and analysis structure by creating a hierarchy of bioinformatics grid-linked databases, tools and standards, centred on a generalised existing or novel genome browser. This major European initiative should integrate and link databases that contain genotype to phenotype relationships with the aim of creating a large integrated genetic variation catalogue. This should facilitate functional genomics research for human health and where relevant should take into account international perspectives in the field. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project).
- **HEALTH-2007-1.1-2: Temporal and spatial proteomics to study biological processes relevant to human health.** The project should address defined important biological questions by gathering information (structural and kinetics) on networks of cellular proteins. The project should integrate the excellence in Europe into a major multidisciplinary and collaborative effort aiming at developing innovative solutions to methodological bottlenecks. The data obtained will provide the basis for modelling the biological process involved. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project).
- **HEALTH-2007-1.1-3: Groundbreaking techniques for DNA sequencing and genotyping.** The aim is to develop new tools for sequence decoding and genotyping that

would allow for much wider use of these technologies. This ambitious project should integrate the critical mass of multidisciplinary expertise, including chemistry and engineering, needed to develop and validate these new techniques. The project should utilise the dynamics and specificity of biological molecules. The tools developed should increase the sensitivity, rapidity and efficiency of existing tools or even replace them with new concepts. The project should facilitate the development of an apparatus or bundling of technologies that would allow for routine use outside the laboratory and include validation of results. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project).

*Topics for second call, deadline 18 September 2007:*

- **HEALTH-2007-1.1-4: SME-driven collaborative research projects for developing tools and technologies for high-throughput research.** The focus should be on developing and improving tools and technologies for: cell based assays, sequencing; gene expression, proteomics, genotyping and phenotyping; structural genomics; bioinformatics and systems biology; metabolomics, other “omics”. These SME-driven projects should be specifically designed to encourage industry, preferably SME efforts towards research and innovation. The expected project results should clearly be of interest and potential benefit to SME(s). All consortia should have at least 40 % of the requested EC contribution budget going to SMEs. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative projects (Small or medium-scale focused research projects targeted to SMEs).

**1.2. DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS AND MONITORING**

The objectives are to develop visualisation, imaging, detection and analytical tools and technologies for biomedical research, for prediction, diagnosis, monitoring and prognosis of diseases, and for support and guidance of therapeutic interventions. The focus will be on a multidisciplinary approach integrating areas such as: molecular and cellular biology, physiology, genetics, physics, chemistry, biomedical engineering, nanotechnologies, microsystems, devices and information technologies. Non- or minimally- invasive and quantitative methods and quality assurance aspects will be emphasised.

**Expected impact:** Developments should particularly have an impact on non-invasive prediction, diagnosis, monitoring and prognosis of diseases. Projects should develop the necessary principles up to the demonstration of proof of principle of specific methodology. If appropriate they should also help evaluate therapies, develop new ones (such as new medicines, and gene and cell therapies) and support, plan and guide therapeutic interventions. All applications should be of benefit to patients and many should involve European industry, in particular SMEs.

*Topics for first call, deadline 19 April 2007:*

- **HEALTH-2007-1.2-1: Development of a hybrid imaging system.** The aim is to develop a novel hybrid imaging system combining two or more different biomedical imaging modalities into a single system for concurrent measurement with the different modalities. Examples could be PET/MRI, MRI/Ultrasound, Ultrasound/Optical. The system should advance multi-modality imaging or enable new types of therapeutic intervention, and should be tested in preclinical studies with a view towards translational medicine. Special emphasis will be given on quantitative technologies. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative projects (Small or medium-scale focused research projects with maximum EC contribution of € 6,000,000/project).
- **HEALTH-2007-1.2-2: Novel optical methodologies for detection, diagnosis and monitoring of disease or disease-related processes.** The aim is to develop novel

methodologies that make use of light to aid in detection, diagnosis and/or monitoring of disease or disease-related processes. The methodology should provide *in vivo* functional information (e.g. blood flow, oxygenation, metabolism) or quantitative analysis of disease progression. It should make use of new and/or advanced approaches in optics (such as coherence, polarisation, tomography, non-linear processes or photon statistics) in order to improve the sensitivity, resolution and quantitation of optical imaging methods. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative projects (Small or medium-scale focused research projects with maximum EC contribution of € 6,000,000/project).

- **HEALTH-2007-1.2-3: Novel targeted imaging probes for early *in vivo* diagnosis and/or evaluation of response to therapy** (in coordination with NMP-2007-4.0-4 in Theme 4). The aim is to develop highly sensitive agent(s) for established *in vivo* imaging modalities able to report and quantify cellular and/or molecular events in several major disease states or disease processes. The proposed procedure should be preclinically tested, including assessment of biodistribution. Potential toxicity and biocompatibility aspects should be considered in the early stage of agent design, in view of potential clinical translation. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project).
- **HEALTH-2007-1.2-4: *In vivo* image-guidance for cell therapy.** The aim is to develop and validate imaging tools for novel cell therapies (e.g. immune cells or stem cells) allowing tracking of cells and assessment of cell fate (e.g. viability, differentiation, migration) and therapeutic effects, that could be tested in animal models with a view towards translational medicine. The developed tools should provide specific and quantifiable information with respect, for example, to cell homing, functional read-outs, tracking of differentiation or immune system response. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project).

Topics for second call, deadline 18 September 2007:

- **HEALTH-2007-1.2-5: Standardisation and improvement of pre-analytical procedures for *in vitro* diagnostics.** Provide pan-European quality assurance schemes and guidelines for pre-analytical procedures such as sample collection, handling, transportation, processing and storing of clinical samples. Tissue samples, blood samples and perhaps other specimens should be considered. The project should focus both on the standardisation of existing pre-analytical procedures and on the identification of critical steps in the pre-analytical procedure which need further development and improvement. It should also include training aspects. Involvement of industry is highly recommended. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project).
- **HEALTH-2007-1.2-6: High throughput molecular diagnostics in individual patients for genetic diseases with heterogeneous clinical presentation.** The project should lead to the development of new diagnostic tools exploiting the knowledge of the human genome in combination with advanced read-out technology. Deliverables must be the development of a high throughput, sensitive, reliable and especially cost effective diagnostic test per disease category, which displays clear advantages over currently available diagnostic strategies. Special attention should be given to disease categories with heterogeneous clinical presentation, and/or locus heterogeneity, such as primary immunodeficiencies, muscle disorders, growth deficiencies, hearing or vision impairments and hemoglobinopathies. The project must address quality assurance issues and validation aspects, and should offer opportunities for industrial exploitation, preferably through SMEs. **Funding scheme:** Collaborative projects (Small or medium-scale focused research projects).

### III IMPLEMENTATION OF CALLS

- Call identifier: FP7-HEALTH-2007-A
- Date of publication: 22 December 2006<sup>34</sup>
- Deadline: 19 April 2007, at 17.00, Brussels local time<sup>35</sup>
- Indicative budget: €628 million from 2007 budget<sup>36</sup>
- Topics called:

| Activity/Area   | Topic  | Funding scheme   |
|---|--|--|
| 1. BIOTECHNOLOGY, GENERIC TOOLS AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR HUMAN HEALTH |  |  |
| 1.1. HIGH-THROUGHPUT RESEARCH   |  |  |
| 1.1.  | HEALTH-2007-1.1-1: Unifying human and model organism genetic variation databases.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 1.1.  | HEALTH-2007-1.1-2: Temporal and spatial proteomics to study biological processes relevant to human health.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 1.1.  | HEALTH-2007-1.1-3: Groundbreaking techniques for DNA sequencing and genotyping.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 1.2. DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS AND MONITORING                                  |  |  |
| 1.2.  | HEALTH-2007-1.2-1: Development of a hybrid imaging system.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 1.2.  | HEALTH-2007-1.2-2: Novel optical methodologies for detection, diagnosis and monitoring of disease or disease-related processes.                              | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 1.2.  | HEALTH-2007-1.2-3: Novel targeted imaging probes for early in vivo diagnosis and/or evaluation of response to therapy.                                       | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 1.2.  | HEALTH-2007-1.2-4: In vivo image-guidance for cell therapy.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 1.3. PREDICTING SUITABILITY, SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF THERAPIES             |  |  |
| 1.3.  | HEALTH-2007-1.3-1: Novel alternative testing strategies for use in pharmaceutical discovery and development.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 1.3.  | HEALTH-2007-1.3-2: Bottlenecks in reduction, refinement and replacement of animal testing in pharmaceutical discovery and development.                       | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 1.3.  | HEALTH-2007-1.3-3: Promotion, development, validation, acceptance and implementation of QSARs (quantitative structure-activity relationship) for toxicology. | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 1.3.  | HEALTH-2007-1.3-4: Alternative testing strategies for the assessment of the toxicological profile of nanoparticles used in medical diagnostics.              | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 1.3.  | HEALTH-2007-1.3-5: In silico modelling for ADMET outcomes.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 1.4. INNOVATIVE THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES AND INTERVENTIONS                  |  |  |
| 1.4.  | HEALTH-2007-1.4-1: Development and production of new generation antibodies.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 1.4.  | HEALTH-2007-1.4-2: Innovative approaches for the development of vaccines for young children.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 1.4.  | HEALTH-2007-1.4-3: Immunotherapy of human food allergies.  | Collaborative project (Small or  |

<sup>34</sup> The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of publication.

<sup>35</sup> At the time of the publication of the call, the Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

<sup>36</sup> Under the condition that the preliminary draft budget for 2007 is adopted without modifications by the budget authority.

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|  |  | medium-scale focused research project)                                 |
| <b>2. TRANSLATING RESEARCH FOR HUMAN HEALTH</b>  |  |  |
| <b>2.1. INTEGRATING BIOLOGICAL DATA AND PROCESSES: LARGE-SCALE DATA GATHERING, SYSTEMS BIOLOGY</b> |  |  |
| <b>2.1.1. Large scale data gathering</b>   |  |  |
| 2.1.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.1-1: Networking biobanking initiatives across Europe: developing standards and norms for existing and future human sample biobanks.                    | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.1-2: Molecular epidemiological studies in existing well characterised European (and/or other) population cohorts.                                      | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.1-3: Comparative studies of genetic variation in humans: towards a reference population in Europe.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.1-4: Characterisation and variability of the microbial communities in the Human Body   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.1-5: Structure-function analysis of membrane-transporters and channels for the identification of potential drug target sites.                          | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.1-6: High throughput analysis of lipids and lipid-protein interactions.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.1-7: Genome-wide association studies in mammalian non-rodent models for the identification of genes relevant to human health and disease.              | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| <b>2.1.2. Systems biology</b>  |  |  |
| 2.1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.2-1: A system approach to eukaryotic unicellular organism biology.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.2-2: Modelling of T-cell activation.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.2-3: Fundamental approaches to stem cell differentiation.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.2-4: Developing an integrated in vitro, in vivo and systems biology modelling approach to understanding apoptosis in the context of health and disease | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| <b>2.2. RESEARCH ON THE BRAIN AND RELATED DISEASES, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND AGEING</b>               |  |  |
| <b>2.2.1. Brain and brain-related diseases</b>   |  |  |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-1: Stroke and mechanisms underlying ischemic brain damage.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-2: Coding in neuronal assemblies.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-3: Neurobiology of anxiety disorders.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-4: Memory loss: underlying mechanisms and therapy.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-5: From basic spinal mechanisms to spinal cord disease and trauma.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-6: Neuron-glia interactions in health and disease.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| <b>2.2.2. Human development and ageing</b>   |  |  |
| 2.2.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.2-1: Novel approaches to reconstitute normal immune function at old age.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.2.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.2-2: Termination of developmental processes and their reactivation in adult life.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.2.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.2-3: Biomarkers of ageing.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.2.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.2-4: Increasing the participation of elderly in clinical trials.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 2.2.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.2-5: Research on human development and/or healthy ageing across the EU   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |

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| 2.3. TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN MAJOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES: TO CONFRONT MAJOR THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH |  |   |
| 2.3.1 Anti-microbial drug resistance including fungal pathogens                                      |  |   |
| 2.3.2. HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis  |  |   |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-1: HIV/AIDS Drug Discovery and Preclinical Development.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-2: Highly innovative approaches for research into host-pathogen interaction in tuberculosis.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-3: Development of fast tests for the diagnosis of Multi-Drug-Resistant strains of HIV, malaria and tuberculosis and of latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI).                                       | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-4: Addressing knowledge gaps in pregnancy malaria.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-5: Paediatric formulations of drugs against HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)                        |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-6: New HIV Vaccines inducing broadly-reactive neutralising antibodies.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 2.3.3. Potentially new and re-emerging epidemics   |  |   |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-1: Development of broadly protective influenza vaccine candidates.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-2: Identifying immunological mechanisms of protection for influenza vaccines.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-3: Standardisation of immunological assays including surrogate markers for evaluation of new influenza vaccines in clinical trials.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)                        |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-4: Innovative point-of-care diagnostic tests for influenza.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project targeted to SMEs) |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-5: Development of additional treatment strategies for patients suffering from highly pathogenic influenza.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-6: Development of pandemic influenza containment and mitigation strategies.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-7: Supporting highly innovative interdisciplinary research on influenza.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-8: Influenza research in collaboration with Asian partners.  | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)            |
| 2.3.4. Neglected infectious diseases   |  |   |
| 2.4. TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN OTHER MAJOR DISEASES  |  |   |
| 2.4.1. Cancer  |  |   |
| 2.4.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-1: Translating the knowledge on non-coding RNAs linked to the aetiology of cancer into novel diagnosis and therapy strategies.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-2: Translating clinical 'omics'-technology (genomics, proteomics, metabolomics) into innovative cancer biomarkers aiding in early diagnosis, prognosis and treatment selection of cancer patients. | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-3: Genomic instability and genomic alterations in pre-cancerous lesions and/or cancer.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-4: Novel cancer screening methods.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-5: Optimising research on end of life care of cancer patients.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination action)                                   |
| 2.4.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-6: Understanding and fighting metastasis.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |

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| 2.4.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-7: Improving targeted drug delivery to cancer cells for cancer therapeutics other than gene therapy.     | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-8: Developing high-throughput bioassays and models for human cancers in lower species.                   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.2. Cardiovascular disease                          |  |  |
| 2.4.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.2-1: Molecular basis of the inflammatory response and associated vascular remodelling in arteriosclerosis. | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.4.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.2-2: Vascular remodelling in aneurysmal disease.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.4.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.2-3: Combating stroke.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.4.3. Diabetes and obesity                            |  |  |
| 2.4.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-1: Early processes in the pathogenesis of type 1 diabetes and strategies for early prevention.           | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-2: Combined forms of diabetes in children.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-3: Insulin resistance as a key factor in the development of diabetes and metabolic syndrome.             | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-4: Pathophysiological mechanisms related to excess fat.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-5: A road-map for diabetes research.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 2.4.4. Rare diseases                                   |  |  |
| 2.4.4.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.4-1: Natural course and pathophysiology of rare diseases.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.4.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.4-2: Research capacity-building in the field of rare diseases.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 2.4.5. Other chronic diseases                          |  |  |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-1: Osteoarthritis.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-2: Inflammatory bowel disease.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-3: Osteoporosis: signalling pathways in bone formation and homeostasis.                                  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-4: Genetic factors of Osteoporosis.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-5: Intervertebral disc degeneration: prevention and repair.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-6: Innovative concepts in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease pathogenesis (COPD).                     | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-7: Hearing impairment and degeneration.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-8: Impairment of touch and proprioception at old age.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 2.4.5.   | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-9: Visual impairment and degeneration.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 4. OTHER ACTIONS ACROSS THE HEALTH THEME               |  |  |
| 4.1. COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTIONS ACROSS THE THEME |  |  |

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| 4.1.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.1-1: Reinforcing the network of National Contact Points (NCP) for the Seventh Framework Programme under Health Theme by promoting trans-national co-operation.                  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 4.1.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.1-2: Promoting participation of high-technology research intensive SMEs, operating in the biomedical engineering and other medical technology sectors relevant to Health Theme. | Coordination and support action (Support action)                       |
| 4.1.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.1-3: Assessment and valorisation of project outcome for high-technology and research intensive SME participating to Framework Programmes of Research in the healthcare sector.  | Coordination and support action (Support action)                       |
| 4.1.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.1-4: Identifying patients' needs in the clinical trials context.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 4.1.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.1-5: Science communication actions.   | Coordination and support action (Support action)                       |
| 4.1.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.1-6: Initiatives to foster dialogue and debate on health research issues of interest to the public.   | Coordination and support action (Support action)                       |
| 4.1.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.1-7: Studies on impact of EU legislations on health research and related developments and applications.   | Coordination and support action (Support action)                       |
| <b>4.2. RESPONDING TO EU POLICY NEEDS</b> |   |  |
| 4.2.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.2-3: Research to assess the economic dimension of occupational health and safety.   | Coordination and support action (Support action)                       |
| 4.2.                                      | HEALTH-2007-4.2-4: Health statistics and rare events.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |

- **Evaluation procedure:**

- The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme.
- A one-stage submission procedure will be followed.
- Proposals may be evaluated remotely.
- The evaluation criteria (including weights and thresholds) and subcriteria, together with the eligibility, selection and award criteria, for the different funding schemes are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme.

- **Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:**

Evaluations are expected to be carried out during the months May-July 2007. It is expected that the contract negotiations for the shortlisted proposals will be opened in July/August.

- **Consortium agreements: Participants in Large-scale integrating projects are required to conclude a consortium agreement.**

- **Particular requirements for participation, evaluation and implementation:**

**It is important to note that the following funding thresholds will be applied as eligibility criteria and that the proposals which do not respect these limits will be considered as ineligible:**

- **Small or medium-scale focused research projects: the requested EC contribution shall not exceed € 3 million unless otherwise indicated in the topic description.**
- **Large-scale integrating projects: the requested EC contribution shall be over € 6 million and not exceed € 12 million unless otherwise indicated in the topic description.**

The minimum number of participating legal entities required, for all funding schemes, is set out in the Rules for Participation and presented in relevant parts below.

| Funding scheme   | Minimum conditions   |
|--|--|
| Collaborative project  | At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.   |
| Collaborative project for specific cooperation actions dedicated to international cooperation partner countries (SICA) | At least 4 independent legal entities. Of these, 2 must be established in different MS or AC. The other two must be established in different international cooperation partner countries |
| Co-ordination and support action (coordination action)   | At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.   |
| Co-ordination and support action (support action)  | At least 1 independent legal entity  |
| Research for the benefit of specific groups, such as SMEs  | At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.   |

For Small or medium-scale focused research projects targeted to SMEs all consortia should aim at having 40 % of the requested EC contribution budget going to SMEs.

- The forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to the Cooperation work programme.

**Call identifier: FP7-HEALTH-2007-B**

- **Date of publication: 4 May 2007<sup>37</sup>**
- **Deadline: 18 September 2007, at 17.00, Brussels local time<sup>38</sup>**
- **Indicative budget: €0 million from 2007 budget<sup>39</sup>**
- **Topics called**

| Activity/Area  | Topic   | Funding scheme  |
|--|---|---|
| <b>1. BIOTECHNOLOGY, GENERIC TOOLS AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR HUMAN HEALTH</b>                   |   |   |
| <b>1.1. HIGH-THROUGHPUT RESEARCH</b>   |   |   |
| 1.1.   | HEALTH-2007-1.1-4: SME-driven collaborative research projects for developing tools and technologies for high-throughput research                                  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project targeted to SMEs) |
| <b>1.2. DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS AND MONITORING</b>  |   |   |
| 1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-1.2-5: Standardisation and improvement of pre-analytical procedures for in vitro diagnostics.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-1.2-6: High throughput molecular diagnostics in individual patients for genetic diseases with heterogeneous clinical presentation.                    | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| <b>1.3. PREDICTING SUITABILITY, SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF THERAPIES</b>                               |   |   |
| <b>1.4. INNOVATIVE THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES AND INTERVENTIONS</b>                                    |   |   |
| 1.4.   | HEALTH-2007-1.4-4: Development of emerging gene therapy tools and technologies for clinical application.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 1.4.   | HEALTH-2007-1.4-5: Gene therapy tools targeting the central nervous system.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 1.4.   | HEALTH-2007-1.4-6: Stem cell lines for cell-based therapies.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 1.4.   | HEALTH-2007-1.4-7: Development of stem cell culture conditions.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 1.4.   | HEALTH-2007-1.4-8: Stem cells for kidney regeneration.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 1.4.   | HEALTH-2007-1.4-9: Adding value to EU stem cell therapy research: scientific communication and future perspectives.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)                        |
| <b>2. TRANSLATING RESEARCH FOR HUMAN HEALTH</b>  |   |   |
| <b>2.1. INTEGRATING BIOLOGICAL DATA AND PROCESSES: LARGE-SCALE DATA GATHERING, SYSTEMS BIOLOGY</b> |   |   |
| 2.1.1. Large scale data gathering  |   |   |
| 2.1.2. Systems biology   |   |   |
| 2.1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.2-5: Multidisciplinary fundamental genomics and molecular biology approaches to study basic biological processes relevant to health and diseases. | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.2-6: Coordination and Support Actions in large-scale data gathering and systems biology.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)                        |
| 2.1.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.1.2-7: Traditional Chinese Medicine in post-genomic era.  | SICA: Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)                  |
| <b>2.2. RESEARCH ON THE BRAIN AND RELATED DISEASES, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND AGEING</b>               |   |   |

<sup>37</sup> The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of publication.

<sup>38</sup> At the time of the publication of the call, the Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

<sup>39</sup> An amount from the 2008 budget is expected to be added to this call for which a new financing decision to cover the budget for that year will be requested at the appropriate time.

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| 2.2.1. Brain and brain-related diseases  |  |  |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-7: Restorative approaches for therapy of neurodegenerative diseases.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-8: From mood disorders to experimental models.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                      |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-9: Neuronal mechanisms of vision and related diseases.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |
| 2.2.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.2.1-10: Childhood and adolescent mental disorders.   | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.2.2. Human development and ageing  |  |  |
| 2.3. TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN MAJOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES: TO CONFRONT MAJOR THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH |  |  |
| 2.3.1. Anti-microbial drug resistance including fungal pathogens                                     |  |  |
| 2.3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.1-1: Novel targets for drugs against Gram negative bacteria.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |
| 2.3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.1-2: Host-pathogen interactions in infections by Streptococcus pneumoniae.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |
| 2.3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.1-3: An integrated platform for development and clinical evaluation of point-of-care diagnostic devices for microbial detection, antibiotic susceptibility determination and biomarkers. | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                      |
| 2.3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.1-4: Molecular epidemiology to control nosocomial and community spreading of highly virulent multi-drug resistant strains of bacterial pathogens.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |
| 2.3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.1-5: Health and economic cost of antimicrobial resistance.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)             |
| 2.3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.1-6: Conference on genetic and biochemical tools for post-genomic physiological analysis of Staphylococcus, in particular MRSA.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)             |
| 2.3.2. HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis  |  |  |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-7: Network on HIV and anti-HIV drug resistance.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                      |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-8: HIV and Hepatitis co-infection.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)             |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-9: Blocking the transmission of malaria: the mosquito vector target.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-10: European network for study and clinical management of TB drug resistance.  | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                      |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-11: Support platform for the development of PRD vaccines   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)             |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-12: Highly innovative research in HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis between Indian and European partners.   | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-13: Coordination of European research activities with global initiatives, including Public-Private Partnerships.   | SICA: Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 2.3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.2-14: Next generation of researchers for HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and neglected infectious diseases.  | SICA: Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| 2.3.3. Potentially new and re-emerging epidemics   |  |  |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-9: Strengthening research on prediction, identification, modelling and surveillance of newly emerging infectious diseases in humans.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                      |
| 2.3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-2.3.3-10: Definition of research needs and priorities in Europe in the area of Emerging Infectious Epidemics.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)             |
| 2.3.4. Neglected infectious diseases   |  |  |

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| 2.3.4.  | HEALTH-2007-2.3.4-1: Development of new tools to control infections due to parasites of the Trypanosomatidae family. | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)            |
| 2.3.4.  | HEALTH-2007-2.3.4-2: Development of a Leishmania vaccine.  | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)            |
| 2.3.4.  | HEALTH-2007-2.3.4-3: Bioprospecting for drug leads   | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)            |
| 2.4. TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN OTHER MAJOR DISEASES   |  |   |
| 2.4.1. Cancer   |  |   |
| 2.4.1.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-9: Innovative combination clinical trials for multimodal cancer therapy.                           | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 2.4.1.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-10: Role of inflammation in tumour initiation and progression.                                     | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 2.4.1.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-11: Epidemiology of gene-environment interactions involved in carcinogenesis.                      | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 2.4.1.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-12: Translating the hypoxic tumour microenvironment.   | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 2.4.1.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-14: Studying cancer aetiology in Latin America.  | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)            |
| 2.4.2. Cardiovascular disease   |  |   |
| 2.4.2.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.2-4: Congenital pathologies affecting the heart.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.2.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.2-5: Cell therapies for the treatment of heart ischemia.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.2.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.2-6: Organ imaging in CVD.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.2.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.2-7: Integrating pharmacogenomic approaches into the treatment of CVD.                               | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.3. Diabetes and obesity   |  |   |
| 2.4.3.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-6: Nutritional signals and the development of new diabetes/obesity therapeutic agents.             | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project targeted to SMEs) |
| 2.4.3.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-7: Markers and treatment for diabetic neuropathy complications.                                    | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.3.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-8: Geno- and phenotypical differentiation of type 2 subjects and monogenic subjects.               | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.3.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.3-9: Use of beta cell imaging in diabetes mellitus.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.4. Rare diseases  |  |   |
| 2.4.5. Other chronic diseases   |  |   |
| 2.4.5.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-10: Understanding and combating age-related muscle weakness.                                       | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 2.4.5.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-11: Translational research aiming for a treatment of urinary incontinence.                         | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 2.4.5.  | HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-12: Early processes in the pathogenesis of chronic inflammatory diseases.                          | Collaborative project (Large-scale integrating project)                                 |
| 3. OPTIMISING DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE TO EUROPEAN CITIZENS  |  |   |
| 3.1. TRANSLATING THE RESULTS OF CLINICAL RESEARCH OUTCOME INTO CLINICAL PRACTICE INCLUDING BETTER USE OF MEDICINES, AND APPROPRIATE USE OF BEHAVIOURAL AND ORGANISATIONAL INTERVENTIONS AND NEW HEALTH THERAPIES AND TECHNOLOGIES |  |   |
| 3.1.  | HEALTH-2007-3.1-1: Implementation of research into healthcare practice.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)                  |
| 3.1.  | HEALTH-2007-3.1-2: Self-medication and patient safety.   | Collaborative project (Small or   |

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|  |  | medium-scale focused research project)                                 |
| 3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-3.1-3: Patient Safety Research Network.  | Coordination and support action (Coordination action)                  |
| 3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-3.1-4: Improving clinical decision making.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-3.1-5: Better use of medicines.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-3.1-6: Continuity of clinical care.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.1.   | HEALTH-2007-3.1-7: Patient self-management of chronic disease.                                       | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| <b>3.2. QUALITY, EFFICIENCY AND SOLIDARITY OF HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS INCLUDING TRANSITIONAL HEALTH SYSTEMS</b>                  |  |  |
| 3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-3.2-1: Evaluation of disease management programmes.                                      | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-3.2-2: Health systems and long term care of the elderly.                                 | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-3.2-3: Mobility of health professionals.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-3.2-4: Health care human resource planning in nursing.                                   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-3.2-5: Clinician working time and patient safety.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-3.2-6: Health outcome measures and population ageing.                                    | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-3.2-7: Trends of population health.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.2.   | HEALTH-2007-3.2-8: European system of Diagnosis-related groups (DRG).                                | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| <b>3.3. ENHANCED HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION</b>   |  |  |
| 3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-3.3-1: Promoting healthy behaviour in children and adolescents.                          | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-3.3-2: Interventions addressing the gradient of health inequalities.                     | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-3.3-3: Public health interventions addressing the abuse of alcohol.                      | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-3.3-4: Evaluation of suicide prevention strategies across and within European countries. | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.3.   | HEALTH-2007-3.3-5: Improve vaccination coverage.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| <b>3.4. HORIZONTAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTIONS ACROSS "OPTIMISING THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE TO EUROPEAN CITIZENS"</b> |  |  |
| 3.4.   | HEALTH-2007-3.4-1: Disease networks of centres of reference.   | Coordination and support action (Support action)                       |
| 3.4.   | HEALTH-2007-3.4-2: Effectiveness of health investments.  | Coordination and support action (Support action)                       |
| 3.4.   | HEALTH-2007-3.4-3: Patient mobility and access to information.                                       | Coordination and support action (Coordination or                       |

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|   |  | support action)  |
| 3.4.  | HEALTH-2007-3.4-4: Brokering research into policy.   | Coordination and support action (Support action)                             |
| 3.4.  | HEALTH-2007-3.4-5: A road-map for ageing research.   | Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)             |
| 3.4.  | HEALTH-2007-3.4-6: Health Services Research conference.  | Coordination and support action (Support action)                             |
| 3.4.  | HEALTH-2007-3.4-7: Mental health research conference.  | Coordination and support action (Support action)                             |
| 3.4.  | HEALTH-2007-3.4-8: Public Health intervention research conference.   | Coordination and support action (Support action)                             |
| <b>3.5. SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIONS FOR HEALTH SYSTEM RESEARCH</b> |  |  |
| 3.5   | HEALTH-2007-3.5-1: Epidemiological investigations into long-term trends of population health as consequence of socio-economic transitions, including life-style induced health problems. | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.5   | HEALTH-2007-3.5-2: Universal and equitable access to health care and health financing.   | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.5   | HEALTH-2007-3.5-3: Health care intervention research – optimising hospital care.   | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| 3.5   | HEALTH-2007-3.5-4: Health care intervention research – improving pre-natal and maternal care.  | SICA: Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project) |
| <b>4. OTHER ACTIONS ACROSS THE HEALTH THEME</b>                                   |  |  |
| <b>4.1. COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTIONS ACROSS THE THEME</b>                     |  |  |
| 4.1.  | HEALTH-2007-4.1-8: Promotion and facilitation of international cooperation in areas relevant to the objectives of this Theme.  | SICA: Coordination and support action (Coordination or support action)       |
| <b>4.2. RESPONDING TO EU POLICY NEEDS</b>   |  |  |
| 4.2.  | HEALTH-2007-4.2-1: Adapting off-patent medicines to the specific needs of paediatric populations.  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |
| 4.2.  | HEALTH-2007-4.2-2: Relative safety of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).  | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |
| 4.2.  | HEALTH-2007-4.2-5: Effectiveness of fiscal policies for tobacco control in Europe.   | Collaborative project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)       |

- Evaluation procedure:
  - The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme.
  - A one-stage submission procedure will be followed.
  - Proposals may be evaluated remotely.
  - The evaluation criteria (including weights and thresholds) and subcriteria, together with the eligibility, selection and award criteria, for the different funding schemes are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme.
- Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:
 

Evaluations are expected to be carried out during the months October-December 2007. It is expected that the contract negotiations for the shortlisted proposals will be opened in January 2008.
- Consortium agreements: Participants in Large-scale integrating projects are required to conclude a consortium agreement
- Particular requirements for participation, evaluation and implementation:

**It is important to note that the following funding thresholds will be applied as eligibility criteria and that the proposals which do not respect these limits will be considered as ineligible:**

- Small or medium-scale focused research projects: the requested EC contribution shall not exceed € 3 million unless otherwise indicated in the topic description.
- Large-scale integrating projects: the requested EC contribution shall be over € 6 million and not exceed € 12 million unless otherwise indicated in the topic description.

The minimum number of participating legal entities required, for all funding schemes, is set out in the Rules for Participation and presented in relevant parts below:

| <b>Funding scheme</b>  | <b>Minimum conditions</b>  |
|--|--|
| Collaborative project  | At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.   |
| Collaborative project for specific cooperation actions dedicated to international cooperation partner countries (SICA) | At least 4 independent legal entities. Of these, 2 must be established in different MS or AC. The other two must be established in different international cooperation partner countries |
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| Coordination and support action (support action)   | At least 1 independent legal entity  |
| Research for the benefit of specific groups, such as SMEs  | At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no two of which are established in the same MS or AC.   |

For Small or medium-scale focused research projects targeted to SMEs all consortia should aim at having 40 % of the requested EC contribution budget going to SMEs.

- The forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to the Cooperation work programme.