

## **Exploration of International Cooperation**

*The objective of this programme is to stimulate international collective research. It enables associations to establish international consortia and to perform joint research projects.*

Due to European legislation and globalisation of the economy many sectors are nowadays dealing with technological issues which cannot be dealt with on a national level alone. Associations need to work together across the border to find common solutions.

The scheme 'Exploration of International Cooperation', part of the IPC programme, provides subsidy to Dutch sectoral organisations/associations to:

- find associations abroad to build an international consortium;
- set-up a joint plan for collective research;
- perform a collective research project by assigning research tasks to research organisations;
- disseminate research results to the SMEs in the sector.

The subsidy covers two phases:

1. Exploratory phase: setting up of an international project consortium and collective research plan
2. Collective research phase: carrying out the collective research plan

Programme open: 1 April 2011

Submission deadline: 11 November 2011

Available budget: 700.000 euro for the entire scheme. 'First-come, first-served' principle.

Subsidy: 50% with a maximum of 150.000 euro (of which max. 20.000 euro for labour, travel and accommodation expenses).

Project duration: max. 20 months from submission.

Associations from other countries do not receive subsidy from the Dutch programme; they have to apply for funding in their own country.

The costs of the Dutch association may not exceed 80% of the total costs of the international project.

Involvement of SMEs during the collective research phase is a requirement (for example in a steering committee).