

**Press release**  
**Date: 03.11.2010**

**THE ERNEST NETWORK HAS LAUNCHED THE ERNEST JCP  
(JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS) IN THE RESEARCH AREA  
'SUSTAINABLE TOURISM'**

*This initiative brings together the academic and the tourist industry research teams in order to develop innovative, more sustainable tourist products, capable to enhance the competitiveness of the European tourism sector.*

*Deadline for submission is December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 18:00 CET time.*

The ERNEST Network has launched a joint call for interregional Collaborative Research Projects in the research area "sustainable tourism" with the aim to create collaborative, trans-national research opportunities to respond to the Europe major challenges related to tourism sustainability and competitiveness. ERNEST is an ERA-NET initiative established and funded under the ERA-Net Scheme of the European Commission for the period September 2008 – August 2012.

The joint call covers research funding which must focus on interregional and trans-national research in the selected themes and must have an European-added value. The initiative brings together the academic and the tourist industry research teams in order to develop innovative, more sustainable tourist products, capable to enhance the competitiveness of the European tourism sector. A similar multidisciplinary and international approach in the field as the one developed in ERNEST JCP does not yet exist.

The beneficiaries of this joint call are eligible organizations (tourist SMEs, local public administrations, research organizations – full details in regional calls<sup>1</sup>) operating in the ERNEST regions participating to the call, namely: Basque Country and Catalunya from Spain, Emilia Romagna and Tuscany from Italy.

Successful proposals require the building of consortia of two or more partners based in two or more different ERNEST joint call countries.

The proposals have to be submitted electronically to the e-mail:  
[jc.secretariat@ernestproject.eu](mailto:jc.secretariat@ernestproject.eu) until **December 20, 2010**.

To see the full details of the call, please consult the following web address:  
[www.ernestproject.eu](http://www.ernestproject.eu)

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<sup>1</sup> There are some differences in the list of beneficiaries eligible for single regional calls – for this reason the potential applicants have to verify to be eligible with their regional contact before applying for the ERNEST JCP

Before applying, please read carefully the call, the theme specifications and guidelines for applicants - all the documents are downloadable below. All applicants should contact the regional agencies in order to verify the eligibility of their proposal (contacts of the regional funding bodies participating in the ERNEST Joint Call are contained in the 'Funding Programmes' annex).

[ERNEST Joint Call for proposal](#)

[Annex I Funding Programme](#)

[Annex II Extension of Research Topics](#)

[Strategic Research Topics and Regional research priorities](#)

[Annex III Evaluation guidelines](#)

[Application Form](#)