

Application Guidelines for the New Measures That Should Be Taken by the Government for the Enhancement of International Competitiveness of Industry and for the Promotion of Establishment of Hubs for International Economic Activities in National Strategic Special Zones

Office for Promotion of Regional Revitalization, Cabinet Office

1. Purpose

Based on Article 5(7) of the Act on National Strategic Special Zones (Act No. 107 of 2013) and Basic Policies for National Strategic Special Zones (approved by the cabinet on February 25, 2014), we invite applications of proposals on new measures that the government should take to enhance international competitiveness of industry and to promote the establishment of hubs for international economic activities in National Strategic Special Zones.

2. Proposing entities

To collect wisdom from far and wide in the field, we invite applications of proposals from private business operators and local governments that will implement proposed projects. We welcome proposals jointly presented by two or more entities and proposals from abroad as well as proposals from single entities.

3. Application period

From July 18, 2014 to 5:00 p.m. on August 29, 2014

Proposals are evaluated upon receipt of them; some of them will be selected as a subject of interviews.

4. Summary of this invitation for proposals

We invite proposals that satisfy all of the following requirements:

(1) The proposal should be on a specific project that contributes to the

enhancement of international competitiveness of industry and the promotion of establishment of hubs for international economic activities in National Strategic Special Zones.

The proposal that satisfies one or both of the following requirements is also invited:

- a) The proposal on a project that is planned or assumed to be implemented in currently designated National Strategic Special Zones (six areas).
 - b) The proposal on a project that is planned or assumed to be implemented in other areas.
- (2) The proposal should specify a regulation/institutional reform necessary to implement the project described in (1). (The proposal that merely seeks a budgetary assistance will not be acceptable.)

*Please note that, as described in item (2), this invitation for proposals will not be directly linked to the designation of new National Strategic Special Zones but to ask for the specific proposals on regulation/institutional reform in National Strategic Special Zones.

5. Points of note concerning the matters to be described in the proposal paper

Please submit the proposal according to the attached proposal paper. The following requirements should be satisfied:

- (1) Regarding the phrase of 7) in the proposal paper “the contents of the regulations that make the project specified in 5) impossible or difficult to implement,” please describe specifically how the existing regulations obstruct the implementation of the project specified in 5), after identifying the legal basis specified in 6) to the extent possible.
- (2) The phrase of 8) in the proposal paper “The contents of the new measures proposed on regulation/institutional reform to 6) and 7)” includes not only the abolition of a particular regulation specified in 6) but also the specific revision of an existing regulation or the introduction of a new regulation

or system. The contents of the proposal described here should be specific.

6. How to submit the proposal

Proposals are accepted via email.

Please attach the proposal paper (the paper must be filled out) and all the files of reference materials and send it to the following email: i.kokkatoc@cas.go.jp

<Points to note>

- (1) An application email should be headlined “Proposal paper from XX (the proposing entity’s name)”

When a proposal is jointly submitted by two or more entities, the name to be indicated in the headline should be that of the person or organization specified as a contact in the proposal form.

- (2) The file name of the electronic data attached to the proposal paper should comprise the proposing entity’s name followed by the proposal title (e.g., “XX Company, XX Project”).

Please follow the rule described in (1) above when indicating the proposing entity’s name in the file name.

- (3) Reference materials converted into electronic form should be sent together with the proposal paper.

7. Contact

Invitation for Proposal Concerning National Strategic Special Zones, Office for Promotion of Regional Revitalization, Cabinet Office

Address: 6F Nagata-cho Joint Government Building, 1-11-39,
Nagata-cho, Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo 100-0014

Tel: 03-5510-2462

Email: i.kokkatoc@cas.go.jp

8. Points to note concerning the submission

- (1) Please note that, for any reason whatsoever, including delivery accident or

communication accident, any proposal that is arrived after the deadline is not accepted.

- (2) Please note that the proposal cannot be accepted if the flaw in the proposal is not corrected by the deadline of the application period.

In case the proposal is submitted in the last minute, it is difficult to correct the flaw in the proposal in time. Please submit the proposal as early as possible.

- (3) Please be reminded that the submitted documents such as reference materials will not be returned.

9. Handling of the proposals

The committee members of the National Strategic Special Zones working group will select the proposals and interview the proponents entitled. As for details, we will notify the entities to be interviewed.

After interviews with the ministries and agencies by the committee members of the working group, the final decision on the policies regarding the proposal will be made through the study and deliberation by the Growth Area Advisory Council.

Please note that, according to Article 38(1) of the Act on National Strategic Special Zones, the proposals that are considered to contribute to the promotion of structural reform stipulated in Article 2(2) of the Act on Special Districts for Structural Reform can be handled as the proposal on Special Districts for Structural Reform.

10. Reference

For the information on National Strategic Special Zones, please access the following Website.

<http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/tiiki/kokusentoc/index.html>