National Annex: Germany – BMBF

Partner:
Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung / Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

Purpose of funding:
Announcement of the BMBF on guidelines for the funding of transnational research projects aiming at the scientific and technological cooperation on the field of plant genomics, within the transnational "PLANT-KBBE" programme, in the context of the national GABI-initiative and embedded in the national framework programme „Biotechnology" ("Biotechnologie – Chancen nutzen und gestalten).

This announcement serves the establishment of transnational research projects between partners from Germany, France, and Spain which are funded by the BMBF, the ANR (in France) and the MEC (in Spain), respectively. With the announcement the already existing international collaboration between industrial enterprises and academic researches shall be expanded and transferred to a higher level. The objective of the BMBF is to preferably fund R&D-activities where industry and academia collaborate. These collaborative research projects shall involve a high degree of innovation and scientific as well as technological and/or economic risks. Preference shall be given to collaborative research projects which are application-oriented as well as based on public-private partnerships and which are under the leadership of industrial enterprises. Partners from other, preferably European countries might be associated with established trilateral consortia.

Eligibility and legal basis for funding:
Eligible for funding are industrial enterprises, universities, and non-university research institutes, located in Germany. Funding will be granted only country-wise, meaning, that each country will finance its participants only. Applicable references regarding different rates of funding and accounting principles for industrial enterprises, universities, and non-university research institutions can be found in the respective national announcement, published in the federal bulletin (Bundesanzeiger, December 28th, 2007), which is the only legally binding document for applicants requesting funding by the BMBF. Funding rates will be in accordance with the European State Aid Rules.

At the start of a project the partners of a collaborative research project have to conclude a Consortium Agreement which has to be in line with the respective BMBF guidelines. On request of the Project Management Organisation in Jülich (PtJ) this Consortium Agreement has to be presented. In order to address this issue adequately the funding partners have jointly prepared and agreed about a model CA that will be provided as electronic attachment to the international call text and its use will be highly recommended to all consortia [for more information, please, contact Dr Frank Wolter (PLA$_{for\ GABI}$, Tel.: +49-(0)228-9858163, fwolter@bdp-online.de)].

Further instructions:
The project leader (applicant 1) of a consortium that includes participants applying for funds at the BMBF is obliged to forward an identical electronic copy of the full proposal not only to the Call Secretariat (in Spain) but at the same time to the PtJ. All other documents needed at later stages of the procedure, such as formal applications, regulations, guidelines, further instructions and conditions etc, can be found at the internet http://www.kp.dlr.de/profi/easy/index.htm or can be ordered directly from PtJ. Once the final decision on funding has been made and communicated to the participants, the applicants from German institutions or companies will be invited by PtJ to formally apply. For the preparation of a formal application the use of the electronic application system "easy" (http://www.kp.dlr.de/profi/easy/) is highly recommended.

National Call Co-ordination:

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