

# JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## Biotechnology for a sustainable bioeconomy

Deadline for submission of proposals:  
December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 13:00 h (CET)

# Call Announcement

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## Summary:

ERA CoBioTech (ERA Net Cofund on Biotechnology) announces its second international call in the field of biotechnology. The main purpose of the call is to contribute to the transformation of the global economy from a “fossil raw material-dependent economy” to a sustainable “bio-based economy”. Joint projects must have a **minimum of three** and a **maximum of six participants** applying for funding from a **minimum of three different ERA CoBioTech partner countries involved in this call**. A **maximum of eight partners** is acceptable if the **additional consortium partners are from any of these countries**: Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia and Turkey. Partners participating at their own expense count towards the maximum number of partners but not to the minimum number of participants. No more than two eligible partners requesting funding may come from the same country. The participation of one or more industrial partner(s) in the consortium is **strongly recommended, but not mandatory**. The call applies a one-stage-scheme with an opportunity for “rebuttal”.

- The deadline for submission of proposals is **December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (13:00 CET)**.

Projects are expected to start between September 2019 and February 2020, depending on the grant negotiations with the relevant national funding organisation(s). A harmonised starting date of all partners within a consortium is desirable.

**Table 1: Call timeline**

September 17, 2018	Call Pre-Announcement
October 16, 2018	Official Call Announcement
December 14, 2018 (13:00 CET)	Deadline for Proposal Submission
April 5, 2019	Information letters to the coordinators of project consortia
April 26, 2019	Rebuttal: deadline for submission comments to issues raised by IEP' reviews; responsibility of the project coordinator
June-July, 2019	Communication of the evaluation outcome to the applicants and start of grant negotiations
September 2019 - February 2020 at the latest, depending on the progress of grant negotiations	Start of the selected projects

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## Background

ERA CoBioTech brings together owners and managers of national and regional R&D&I programmes of EU Member States, associated states and non-EU countries with significant experience in research funding and coordination.

This call aims to attract proposals focused on biotechnology as a key enabling technology (KET) in the context of the bio-based economy. It tackles 21<sup>st</sup> century societal challenges such as decarbonisation of the economy and reduction of the reliance on fossil feedstocks. Therefore, funding provided by national and regional programmes (see [ANNEX 2](#)) will be combined to launch this joint call for multilateral research projects addressing “Biotechnology for a sustainable bioeconomy”.

ERA CoBioTech aims to connect research partners with different but complementary scientific and technological expertise to maximise resources and share risks, costs, and skills. A prerequisite for support of transnational projects via this call is the inclusion of different players within a value chain. Whenever appropriate, this will enable the newly developed products, technologies or services to reach the market efficiently. Partnerships between academic researchers, and commercial and non-academic partners in the fields of biotechnology will improve and accelerate technology transfer. It will also strengthen European efforts to achieve a sustainable industrial development.

The following funding organisations participate in this joint call for multilateral research projects:

- Service Public de Wallonie (SPW-DGo6), Belgium
- Agentschap Innoveren & ondernemen (Flanders Innovation and Entrepreneurship, VLAIO), Belgium
- Swiss Innovation Agency - Innosuisse, Switzerland
- Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF), Germany (managed by Projektträger Jülich GmbH (JUELICH), Germany)
- Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst (SMWK), Germany
- Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial, E.P.E (CDTI), Spain
- Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI), Spain
- Gobierno de Navarra (GN), Spain
- Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur (ETAg), Estonia
- Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), France
- Valsts Izglitības Attīstības Agentūra (VIAA), Latvia
- Norges forskningsråd (RCN), Norway
- Narodowe Centrum Badan i Rozwoju (NCBR), Poland
- Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii (UEFISCDI), Romania
- Фонд содействия развитию малых форм предприятий в научно-технической сфере (Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises) (FASIE), Russia
- Ministrstvo za izobrazevanje, znanost in sport (MIZS), Slovenia
- Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Araştırma Kurumu (TUBITAK), Turkey
- Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council within UK Research and Innovation (UKRI-BBSRC), United Kingdom

**Applicants are strongly advised to contact their funding organisation before submitting an application. For contact details see [ANNEX 1](#): National or regional contact persons.**

## Scope of the joint call

### Aim of the joint call

The aim of the call is to contribute to the **transformation of the global economy from a dependence on fossil raw materials to a sustainable bio-based economy.**

The submitted proposals must be multidisciplinary and include **at least two** of the following scientific approaches:

- **Synthetic biology** for the design and construction of new biological parts, devices, and systems, or re-design of existing, natural biological systems for useful purposes by use of (but not limited to) e.g. orthogonal bio-systems, regulatory circuits, minimal genome approaches and protocells.
- **Systems biology** for optimisation of biological processes, including investigation of regulatory mechanisms in intra- and intercellular processes for bio-production, modelling, development of new computational methods and other new methodologies.
- **Use of bioinformatics tools** (e.g. data standardisation, modelling, open repositories) for the identification and utilisation of metabolic pathways. Datasets can have different origins, e.g. appropriate datasets on genomics, phenomics, proteomics, metabolomics, transcriptomics etc.; mapping and exploitation of cellular processes and metabolic capacities for bio-production and for strain/variety improvement are also included.
- **Biotechnological approaches** (possibly in combination with chemical ones) to transform bio-based building blocks into molecules in a sustainable way.

### Project areas

Applications must be multidisciplinary and address **one of the two topics** as described below:

**Topic A – Microbial communities (natural or synthetic), co-cultures and cascades of microorganisms** for new products, value-added products and supply services as well as sustainable industrial processes.

**Topic B – Pure cultures, cell free systems and enzymes** for new products, value-added products and supply services as well as sustainable industrial processes.

Proposals should address the **sustainable production and conversion of different types of feedstocks and bioresources into value-added products** (e.g. bio-based materials, biofuels, biomedical products, flavours/fragrances, food/feed ingredients, pharmaceuticals, platform chemicals, pulp/paper products, textiles), or the **development or improvement of sustainable industrial processes and supply services** (e.g. upstream and downstream design, scale-up of biotechnological processes, systems approaches to bioprocesses and process development, gas fermentation).

Feedstocks and bioresources include, but are not limited to, syngas, waste and residues from households, agriculture, forestry, industrial by-products, and alternative raw materials.

Projects are expected to have a TRL (technology readiness level) ranging between 2 and 6 and should increase their initial TRL by 2 levels during the lifetime of the project (see also definitions in [ANNEX 3](#)).

- The inclusion of one or more industrial partner(s) and end-user(s) or stakeholder(s) is **strongly recommended, but not mandatory**.
- As with previous funding calls, all projects will be expected to include aspects relating to Communication and Dissemination ([ANNEX 4](#)), Data Management ([ANNEX 5](#)) and “Responsible Research & Innovation” (RRI), see [ANNEX 6](#). ERA CoBioTech has made a commitment to ensure that the programme is in line with the concept of ‘RRI’. This is to ensure that the programme develops in ways that address meaningful societal demands and foster environmental sustainability and social justice. As part of this commitment, projects must ‘build-in’ investigation of the social, environmental, philosophical or political dimensions of their research. This may include, but is not limited to, collaborative work with partners outside the natural sciences and engineering.
- **Previously unsuccessful ERA CoBioTech grant proposals must not be directly resubmitted in their original version.** Resubmissions will only be considered if the proposal has been substantially improved. All proposals are checked in the peer review administration process to identify any direct resubmissions. Resubmitted proposals must be declared as such, and include details on the modifications which merit their re-consideration.
- All project partners should contribute to and benefit from an equitable and balanced cooperation.
- Results of collaborative projects must be shared within the research consortium through a controlled process that adequately protects and equitably allocates intellectual property rights used in, and generated during, joint research and development.
- Each **proposal** must include a max. two-page Communication and Dissemination Plan, detailing how a two-way dialogue with different public and stakeholder groups will be pursued. For more information see [ANNEX 4](#): Communication & Dissemination.
- Additionally, each **proposal** will include a mandatory, max. two-page TRL plan on how higher TRLs will be achieved during the project lifetime or as a result of it (TRL definition: [ANNEX 3](#)). Ideally the engagement of industry (if applicable, see Table 2) to achieve a higher TRL can be described (e.g. the provision of tools, trainings, etc.) here.
- Participation in this call will require high quality Data Management (DM) standards to ensure the overall sustainability of biotechnology research and its expected outcome(s). All applying consortia have to dedicate a section of their **proposal** to DM within the project (mandatory, max. two pages). More information on Data Management requirements within this call is given in [ANNEX 5](#): Data Management. Please check the [www.submission-cobiotech.eu](http://www.submission-cobiotech.eu) web page for supporting webinars.

**Table 2: Summary of funding options and restrictions**

Please also read and follow the “National or regional regulations and guidelines and eligibility criteria”, as detailed [ANNEX 2](#)

The participation of an industrial partner is recommended for Topic A and B. Please note, that some (but not all) funding organisations require the involvement of an industrial partner in “their” national/regional share of a consortium (see table below).

Funding Organisation	Country	Indicative <i>total</i> national/regional funding (up to x M€)		Research topics excluded from funding	Funding of: universities (HES), research organisations (REC), companies (PRC)	Maximum funding per project partner (M€)	Additional documents required	Funding of PhD students possible	Any other national / regional restrictions (Start/end date of projects)
		Topic A	Topic B						
SPW-DGo6	BE	1		none	yes	N/A	Walloon request for funding form	No	At least one Walloon company mandatory in the consortium
VLAIO	BE	1		none	HES : no, REC : no, PRC : yes	0.5	Additional document for valorization of the project results in Flanders (see national regulations)	no	See national regulations
Innosuisse	CH	0.86		none	In accordance with national rules and conditions	N/A	In accordance with national rules and conditions	yes	See national criteria and conditions
BMBF	DE	1.5	-	Applications in ● Topic B ● Medicine & clinical research ● bioenergy	yes	none	see national rules and eligibility criteria (ANNEX 2)	yes	see national rules and eligibility criteria; consulting with the national contact person prior to submission is essential
SMWK	DE	1.5		none	HES: yes, REC: yes, PRC: no	none	none	yes	See Saxon guidelines The projects must start no later than 31.12.2019
ETAg	EE	0.3		none	All	0.15	Confirmation Letter by the Host Institution	Through regular salaries, no scholarships	The projects must end no later than 31.12.2022. See also national eligibility criteria
CDTI	ES	0.5		none	Only industrial partners can be funded. Universities and research institutions can take part under subcontracting by Spanish companies	No maximum funding per partner but there is a minimum budget per partner of 0.175	National documents have to be submitted to CDTI. For additional information, please see National ANNEX (ANNEX 2)	NO	See national regulations and eligibility criteria.
AEI	ES	0.7		none	Only HES and REC.	0.15 / 0.2 (coord)	According to national rules and conditions	yes	See national eligibility criteria
GOV OF NAVARRE	ES	0.1		none	In accordance with national rules and conditions	0.1	According to national rules and conditions	yes	See national eligibility criteria

Funding Organisation	Country	Indicative <i>total</i> national/regional funding (up to x M€)		Research topics excluded from funding	Funding of: universities (HES), research organisations (REC), companies (PRC)	Maximum funding per project partner (M€)	Additional documents required	Funding of PhD students possible	Any other national / regional restrictions (Start/end date of projects)
ANR	FR	0.75		none	yes	0.25	none	yes	See national eligibility criteria.
VIAA	LV	0.42		none	yes	0.21	none	yes	See national regulations and eligibility criteria
RCN	NO	1.4	-	Topic B	Yes	The total sum of the budgets of the Norwegian participants in each proposal must be limited to 0.520.	None	yes	See national requirements in annex 2
NCBR	PL	0,6		none	HES – yes, REC – yes, PRC – only in their R&D capacity	See national rules	no	See national rules	See national rules
UEFISCDI	RO	0.3		none	yes	0.2 / 0.25	none	yes	See UEFISCDI regulations
FASIE	RU	0.4		none	Only PRC. HES and REC can be sub-contractors of the PRC.	0.2 per project	The Russian applicant must submit the national application at online.fasie.ru. Applicants are encouraged to contact FASIE for details.	No	See ANNEX on National Regulations
MIZS	SI	0.63		none	All (in accordance with national regulations and state aid rules)	0.21 per project (regardless of no. of Slovenian partners in the project)	National documentation to be sent only after the completion of transnational call	Yes (tuition costs are not eligible)	See national regulations and criteria and refer to the MIZS website.
TUBITAK	TR	1		none	only companies can be funded	N/A	successful projects should apply for national funding program	no	none
UKRI -BBSRC	UK	2.23 (exchange rate in August 2018; equals £2m) UKRI-BBSRC contribution is capped at £2 million.		UK aspects of projects must be within the remit of BBSRC ( <a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/bbsrc">www.gov.uk/government/organisations/bbsrc</a> ). Food, animal feed and medical applications are excluded (pharm. precursors, antibiotics and recombinant biologics are acceptable)	Only Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Research Council Institutes (RCIs) and selected Independent Research Organisations (IRO) which are normally eligible to apply for BBSRC grants.  No funding of industrial partners possible.	no restrictions Budgets of UK partners have to comply with the requirements of full economic costs.	Successful applicants will be required to submit an additional form through the Je-S system. Additional guidance will be provided.	no	See national regulations and eligibility criteria

## Eligibility

Only proposals which meet all eligibility criteria will be considered for evaluation. National or regional regulations, guidelines eligibility criteria are given in [ANNEX 2: National or regional regulations, guidelines and eligibility criteria](#). In addition, all proposals must meet the following eligibility criteria:

### General eligibility criteria

- Projects must address the scope of the call as outlined in page 6. Proposals not addressing the scope of the call will be rejected. Additionally, applications should fit the specific remit of the national or regional regulations and guidelines and eligibility criteria of the respective funding organisations ([ANNEX 2](#)); it is strongly recommended that applicants contact their National/Regional Contact Persons (see [ANNEX 1](#)) before submission of a proposal.
- Proposals must be written in English and submitted till **December 14, 2018 (13:00 CET)** using the ERA CoBioTech submission website (<https://www.submission-cobiotech.eu/>).
- If national/regional forms are required, these must be submitted directly to the national/regional funding organisation (see [ANNEX 2](#), National or regional regulations and eligibility criteria) by the deadlines stated in [ANNEX 2](#).
- The project duration must not exceed 36 months.
- If a proposal does not meet the minimum number of partners (see below), exceeds the eligible maximum number of partners, or if one of the partners requesting funding is considered ineligible, the proposal will be rejected before entering the evaluation phase.
- Project outputs are expected to provide benefits to all partner countries. Consortia need to be balanced between countries, both in terms of number of partners and distribution of work and budget; such that all project partners contribute to and benefit from an equitable and balanced cooperation.
- The requested funding budget of each partner must not exceed national or regional funding limits, where applicable (for details, see "Table 2 Summary of funding options and restrictions" and "National or regional regulations and eligibility criteria" ([ANNEX 2](#))).

### Eligible funding recipients / consortium partners

- Funding is provided according to the "nationality principle". This means that each participating national/regional funding organisation funds its respective national/regional researcher(s) in a particular project consortium. Funding is subject to national or regional regulations and guidelines and eligibility criteria (see [ANNEX 2](#)). **ALL project partners must check their eligibility for funding prior to submission.**
- Consortia must include at least three eligible partners requesting funding from three different countries providing funds to this call. Consortia can involve a **maximum of six partners**. A **maximum of eight partners** is acceptable if the **additional consortium partners are from any of these countries: Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia and Turkey**. However, in any case, **no more than two partners requesting funding may come from the same country.**

#### Examples:

- Eligible: 1 partner from Germany, 1 from UK, 1 from Spain, 2 from France, 1 from Belgium, 1 from Romania, 1 from Russia;
- Eligible: 1 partner from Germany, 1 from UK, 1 from Spain, 2 from France, 1 from Belgium, 1 from Russia;
- Eligible: 1 partner from Germany, 1 from UK, 3 from France (whereof 2 only requesting funding, 1 participating in-kind), 1 from Belgium, 1 from Russia;

- Ineligible: 1 partner from Germany, 1 from UK, 1 from Spain, 2 from France, 2 from Belgium, 1 from Russia;
- Ineligible: 1 partner from Germany, 1 from UK, 1 from Spain, 1 from France, 1 from Russia, 3 from Poland;
- Ineligible: 3 partners requesting funding from Germany, 1 from UK, 1 from Spain, 1 from France;
- Partners from countries not participating in the call may participate in a project at their own expense, if their contribution is important to achieve the project goals. The coordinator should take steps to ensure that sufficient funds are secured from these additional partners, and evidence of the availability of funds should be provided prior to project submission (letter of support/commitment, template available at [www.submission-cobiotech.eu](http://www.submission-cobiotech.eu)). The same applies for partners of participating countries not requesting funding. **Partners participating at their own expense count towards the maximum number of partners but not to the minimum number of participants.**
- The project coordinator must be eligible and request funding for the proposed project from a funding organisation participating in this call (i.e. an organisation participating at own expense, cannot act as coordinator). In such a case the proposal will be declared ineligible and not forwarded to evaluation.
- The participation of at least one industrial partner in the consortium is strongly **recommended but not mandatory**. Large companies, small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs), non-commercial bodies and academic research groups / organisations may be part of a consortium, although some funders may not be able to fund industrial partners (see [ANNEX 2](#)). Please clarify the conditions under which an industrial partner is involved in the research consortium. Subcontractors can be included and are managed under the national or regional regulations and guidelines and eligibility criteria of the responsible funding organisation (see [ANNEX 2](#)).

Within a joint proposal, each group leader (for each partner organisation) will be the contact person for the relevant national or regional funding organisation. All research groups agree to abide by the rules and agreements of the ERA CoBioTech call.

## Financial modalities and funding prerequisites

The total budget available for this call is ~€15.3 M (Table 3). Funding is granted according to national or regional regulations (See [ANNEX 2](#) for details).

**Table 3: Available funding**

Country/Region		Funding Organisation	Estimated budget (up to €M)	
			Topic A	Topic B
Belgium		Service Public de Wallonie (SPW-DGo6)	1	
		Agentschap Innoveren & ondernemen (Flanders Innovation and Entrepreneurship, VLAIO)	1	
Switzerland		Swiss Innovation Agency - Innosuisse	0.86*	
Germany		Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung	1.5	No funding for Topic B
		Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst (SMWK)	1.5	
				
Estonia		Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur (ETAg)	0.3	
Spain		Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)	0.7	
		Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial (CDTI)	0.5	
		Gobierno de Navarra (GN)	0.1	
France		Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR)	0.75	
Latvia		Valsts Izglitības Attīstības Agentūra (VIAA)	0.42	
Norway		Norges forskningsråd (RCN)	1.4	No funding for Topic B
Poland		Narodowe Centrum Badan i Rozwoju (NCBR)	0.6	
Romania		Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii (UEFISCDI)	0.3	
Russia		Фонд содействия развитию малых форм предприятий в научно-технической сфере (Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises) (FASIE)	0.4	
Slovenia		Ministrstvo za izobrazevanje, znanost in sport (MIZS)	0.63	
Turkey		Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Araştırma Kurumu (TUBITAK)	1	
United Kingdom		UKRI-BBSRC	2.23*	
<b>Total Call Volume</b>			<b>15.29 M€</b>	
* The Euro figures are dependent on the actual exchange rate.				

## Application procedure

The application process is one-phased (only full proposal) including a rebuttal procedure. Throughout the whole process, the ERA CoBioTech Call Office ([era-ib@aei.gob.es](mailto:era-ib@aei.gob.es)) is the central communication point for all applicants.

The coordinators must submit proposals electronically via the ERA CoBioTech submission website (<http://www.submission-cobiotech.eu/>). The deadline for submitting proposals is **December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (13:00 CET)**. For technical issues please contact [ptj-cobiotech@fz-juelich.de](mailto:ptj-cobiotech@fz-juelich.de).

## Evaluation procedure

Proposals that are submitted correctly and within the deadline will be checked for eligibility. The eligibility check will focus on the “**General eligibility criteria**” (see page 9) and “**National or regional regulations, national or regional eligibility criteria**” (see [ANNEX 2](#)). The involvement of one or more **ineligible project partners will result in rejection of the entire project proposal**.

Eligible proposals will be peer-review evaluated by an international panel of experts with relevant expertise in the scientific fields concerned. Each expert is independent of any funding organisation involved in this call and no conflict of interest will exist in relation to the proposals evaluated. Each proposal will be reviewed by at least three external reviewers/experts. The composition of the international evaluation panel (IEP) is decided by the ERA CoBioTech Call Steering Committee.

Proposals will be evaluated according to the evaluation criteria given below:

### ● Excellence

- Clarity and pertinence of the objectives.
- Soundness of the concept.
- Credibility of the proposed methodology.
- Quality and expertise of the consortium as a whole.

### ● Impact

Extent to which the outputs of the project will contribute to impacts on:

- At least 2 of the 4 scientific approaches shown above (see page 6), that should be conveniently explained and justified throughout the proposal.
- Technological and economic development by describing an envisioned plan to achieve a higher TRL of the processes and technologies, especially how to achieve an increase of the TRL by 2 levels compared to the initial TRL.
- Non-academic and commercial partners, for instance through technological innovation and expanding the exploitation capabilities of potential industrial partners or involved end-users.
- Sustainability of biotechnology research and its outcomes, supported by a data management (DM) plan.
- ERA CoBioTech’s commitment to Responsible Research & Innovation (RRI), for instance through investigation and consideration of:
  - o The environmental aspects of transformation to a bio-based economy (e.g. through Life Cycle Assessment); and/or
  - o Interdisciplinary collaboration with social sciences and/or humanities researchers; and/or
  - o Other innovative approaches to RRI within the ERA CoBioTech Programme (please refer to the relevant annex of this document).
- Engagement with diverse public and stakeholder groups, through an efficient Communication and Dissemination Plan addressing also communication with the general public.

● **Quality and efficiency of the implementation**

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables.
- Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management.
- Complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.
- Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role.
- The project budget is appropriate to the planned work and allows the achievement of the project goals.

Evaluation scores will be awarded for each of the three main criteria. Sub-criteria are aspects that the expert will consider in the assessment of that criterion. Each criterion will be scored out of 5 (half scores are allowed) and equally weighted.

The 0-5 scoring system for each criterion indicates the following assessment:

- 0 - The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.*
- 1 - Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.*
- 2 - Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.*
- 3 - Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.*
- 4 - Very Good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.*
- 5 - Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.*

The **threshold mark** for individual criteria will be **3**. The overall **threshold mark**, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be **10**.

**Rebuttal stage**

The evaluation process provides applicants with the opportunity to reply to issues raised by the assessments of reviewers. Coordinators of proposals will get access to the to the anonymised questions and comments raised by the evaluators concerning their proposal. This stage allows applicants to comment on factual errors or misunderstandings that may have been committed by the reviewers while assessing the proposals and to reply to reviewers' questions. Proposal coordinators may submit a single response to the reviews via ERA CoBioTech submission ([www.submission-cobiotech.eu](http://www.submission-cobiotech.eu)) after receiving the reviews (see Table 1 "Call timeline"). This response is optional, i.e. no response does not exclude the proposal from the evaluation process.

Please note that issues not related to reviewers' comments or changes on the proposals (such as work plan, requested budget, etc.) will not be accepted and will not be taken into account by reviewers.

For more details, check "Guidelines for Applicants".

**International Evaluation Panel (IEP) meeting**

The reviewers will meet in an IEP meeting after receipt of the rebuttal document to discuss each proposal and will decide on one final ranking list of proposals recommended for funding. Based on the ranking list

and the available funding, the ERA CoBioTech Call Steering Committee will decide which projects will be funded.

Subsequently, the coordinators of the research consortia will be informed about funding decisions. Evaluation summaries will be provided. The coordinators of the research consortia are responsible for forwarding all information to their research consortium partners.

## Forms, guidelines and further information

All documents related to the call (Call Announcement, Guidelines for Applicants, National Contact Persons, Templates for Letters of Commitment etc.) are available on [www.submission-cobiotech.eu](http://www.submission-cobiotech.eu). As the participating funding organisations may have additional national or regional requirements and eligibility criteria, it is strongly recommended that applicants contact their respective national or regional funding organisations prior to submission of the proposal for further information (see [ANNEX 1](#)). For questions related to the submission of your proposal, please contact the ERA CoBioTech Call Office of this call ([era-ib@aei.gob.es](mailto:era-ib@aei.gob.es)). For technical questions regarding the submission tool please contact Project Management Juelich ([ptj-cobiotech@fz-juelich.de](mailto:ptj-cobiotech@fz-juelich.de)).

**All project partners are required to sign a Consortium Agreement (CA) before the official project start or no later than three months from the project start.** Supporting information can be found under [www.desca-2020.eu/](http://www.desca-2020.eu/). On request, the CA must be made available to the national or regional funding organisations, together with any other information required by national or regional regulations.

## Project monitoring and reporting

Project objectives must be reached within a maximum of three years.

Project coordinators are required to provide a mid-term and a final report as well as a non-confidential summary of the outcomes of their project for publication via the website ([www.cobiotech.eu](http://www.cobiotech.eu)) and the ERA CoBioTech newsletter. Hereby, ERA CoBioTech wants to reach out to the wider research community and interested public, therefore a summary of research results is needed that can be understood by a broader audience. ERA CoBioTech will provide a template for this summary on the submission website. Each funding body may require additional reporting or monitoring of the projects.

In addition, a kick-off, midterm and final seminar, in which project coordinators will present their projects, will be organised (Status Seminars). The costs for attending these Status Seminars should be covered by the requested project budget. The objective of the status seminars is the monitoring of the projects funded through ERA CoBioTech as well as providing opportunities for networking and future collaboration and communication with a broader community, i.e. the members of the “European Biotech Hub” established under ERA CoBioTech.

## ANNEX 1: National or regional contact persons

Country		Funding Organisation	National or Regional Contact Person (NCP)
BE		SPW-DGO6	Nicolas Delsaux <a href="mailto:nicolas.delsaux@spw.wallonie.be">nicolas.delsaux@spw.wallonie.be</a> +32-81-334-520, +32-473-556-174
		VLAIO	Marianne Claessens, scientific advisor, +32 2 432 42 09 <a href="mailto:marianne.claessens@vlaio.be">marianne.claessens@vlaio.be</a> Elsie Declercq, scientific advisor +32 2 432 42 78 <a href="mailto:elsie.declercq@vlaio.be">elsie.declercq@vlaio.be</a>
CH		INNOSUISSE	Alain Dietrich <a href="mailto:alain.dietrich@innosuisse.ch">alain.dietrich@innosuisse.ch</a> +41 58 464 92 87
DE		BMBF	Petra E. Schulte +49 2461 61-9031 <a href="mailto:petra.schulte@fz-juelich.de">petra.schulte@fz-juelich.de</a> Irina Kobrin +49 2461 61-3926 <a href="mailto:i.kobrin@fz-juelich.de">i.kobrin@fz-juelich.de</a> Christian Breuer +49 2461 61-96929 <a href="mailto:c.breuer@fz-juelich.de">c.breuer@fz-juelich.de</a>
		SMWK	Gabriele Süptitz +49-351-564-6422 <a href="mailto:gabriele.sueptitz@smwk.sachsen.de">gabriele.sueptitz@smwk.sachsen.de</a> or <a href="mailto:cobiotech@smwk.sachsen.de">cobiotech@smwk.sachsen.de</a>
EE		ETAg	Katrin Kello <a href="mailto:katrin.kello@etag.ee">katrin.kello@etag.ee</a> +372-731-7361 Margus Harak (budget issues and Mobilitas Plus programme) <a href="mailto:margus.harak@etag.ee">margus.harak@etag.ee</a>
ES		CDTI	Beatriz Torralba Prieto +34 915815502 <a href="mailto:beatriz.torralba@cdti.es">beatriz.torralba@cdti.es</a> María José Montilla +34 91 581 07 16 <a href="mailto:mariajose.montilla@cdti.es">mariajose.montilla@cdti.es</a>
		AEI	Manuel Sánchez-Blanco <a href="mailto:era-ib@aei.gob.es">era-ib@aei.gob.es</a> +34 916038447 Auxiliadora Prieto Scientific Advisor <a href="mailto:era-ib@aei.gob.es">era-ib@aei.gob.es</a>

		<b>GOBIERNO DE NAVARRA</b>	Sara Torres +34 848424518 <a href="mailto:storresl@navarra.es">storresl@navarra.es</a>
FR		<b>ANR</b>	Aurélie Paquirissamy +33-1-78-09-81-18 <a href="mailto:aurelie.paquirissamy@anr.fr">aurelie.paquirissamy@anr.fr</a> Liz Pons +33-1-78-09-80-49 <a href="mailto:liz.pons@anr.fr">liz.pons@anr.fr</a>
LV		<b>VIAA</b>	Linda Vecbiskena +371 67785402 <a href="mailto:linda.vecbiskena@viaa.gov.lv">linda.vecbiskena@viaa.gov.lv</a>
NO		<b>RCN</b>	Øystein Rønning, +4791623960 <a href="mailto:oro@rcn.no">oro@rcn.no</a>
PL		<b>NCBR</b>	Konrad Kosecki +48 22 39 07 460 <a href="mailto:konrad.kosecki@ncbr.gov.pl">konrad.kosecki@ncbr.gov.pl</a>
RO		<b>UEFISCDI</b>	Adrian Asanica +40744.45.00.11 <a href="mailto:adrian.asanica@uefiscdi.ro">adrian.asanica@uefiscdi.ro</a>
RU		<b>FASIE</b>	Olga Levchenko +74952313851 <a href="mailto:levchenko@fasie.ru">levchenko@fasie.ru</a>
SI		<b>MIZS</b>	Kim Turk Mehes +386(1)4784705 <a href="mailto:kim.turk@gov.si">kim.turk@gov.si</a>
TR		<b>TUBITAK</b>	Dilek Sahin +90-312-298 94 91 <a href="mailto:dilek.sahin@tubitak.gov.tr">dilek.sahin@tubitak.gov.tr</a>
UK		<b>UKRI-BBSRC</b>	Anja Berndt +44 (0) 1793-413251 <a href="mailto:cobiotech@bbsrc.ac.uk">cobiotech@bbsrc.ac.uk</a>

## ANNEX 2: National or regional regulations and eligibility criteria

### Belgium – SPW

Participating organisation: SPW-DGO6

Indicative Budget: 1.0 M€

National Contact Person(s):

Name: Nicolas Delsaux  
Tel.: +32 81 334 520; Mobile: + 32 473 556 174  
E-Mail: [nicolas.delsaux@spw.wallonie.be](mailto:nicolas.delsaux@spw.wallonie.be)



Wallonie



**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**

<https://recherche-technologie.wallonie.be/fr/menu/acteurs-institutionnels/service-public-de-wallonie-services-en-charge-de-la-recherche-et-des-technologies/departement-des-programmes-de-recherche/direction-des-programmes-federaux-et-internationaux/era-nets/les-era-nets.html>

Min.project duration: 12 months

Max. project duration: 36 months

Maximum funding per project: none

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

- SMEs, large industries, research centres and Universities are eligible;
- 40% of the Walloon budget must be allocated to an enterprise;
- The project cannot receive double funding;
- The budget for the Walloon partners should follow the SPW-DGO6 cost model;
- The funding rate will be the maximum allowed by the decree of the 3rd of July 2008;
- The beneficiary must have a stable financial situation;
- The beneficiary must have Operational offices in the Walloon Region;
- The project must add benefit to the regional economy;
- All information needed for evaluation should be available;
- A Walloon complementary funding request's form must be submitted to the SPW-DGO6.

Institutional thematic priorities: none

Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded: none

**Additional information:**

A Walloon complementary funding request's form must be submitted online to the SPW-DGO6.

## Belgium (Flanders)- VLAIO



Participating organisation:

Agentschap Innoveren & ondernemen (Flanders Innovation and Entrepreneurship)

Indicative Budget: **1 M€**

National Contact Person(s): Marianne Claessens, scientific advisor  
phone : +32 2 432 42 09  
e-mail : [marianne.claessens@vlaio.be](mailto:marianne.claessens@vlaio.be)

Elsie Declercq, scientific advisor  
Phone : +32 2 432 42 78  
e-mail : [elsie.declercq@vlaio.be](mailto:elsie.declercq@vlaio.be)

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

- Research projects : <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject>
- Development projects : <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/ontwikkelingsproject>

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

Projects may last from 6 to 24 months for development projects and 36 months for research projects.

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

The minimum and maximum funding per project follows the national rules of the funding scheme :

- For development projects : budget between 25 000 and 3 000 000 euro
- For research projects : budget between 100 000 and 3 000 000 euro

The maximum funding percentage is 25 – 60 % depending on the size of the enterprise and on the TRL level. The maximum funding per project is < 500 000 euro

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

The eligible partners are **Flemish enterprises** (with legal entity in Flanders). Minimum 1 Flemish enterprise needs to apply for funding. Enterprises can involve scientific partners and subcontractors in the project.

National priorities:

No priorities as long as the projects fit in the program (no thematic restrictions).

Focus on multi-actor approach in integrated projects. Flemish companies should calculate the economic benefits and valorization in Flanders for their part of the project.

Application for funding via Agentschap Innoveren en Ondernemen:

Information will be provided on the VLAIO website for applicants with additional templates to be completed.

Those completed templates are mandatory to check the national eligibility and must be sent to the Agentschap Innoveren en Ondernemen on the date of deadline of the pre-proposals. We kindly ask the applicants to apply for a meeting with the Agentschap Innoveren en Ondernemen ultimately 2 weeks before the deadline for submission to check the eligibility aspects.



## Switzerland – Innosuisse

<b>Participating Organisation:</b>	Swiss Innovation Agency – Innosuisse
<b>Indicative Budget:</b>	<b>1 M CHF (~0.86 M €)</b>
<b>National Contact Person(s):</b>	Alain Dietrich Tel.: +41 58 464 92 87 E-mail: <a href="mailto:alain.dietrich@innosuisse.ch">alain.dietrich@innosuisse.ch</a>
<b>Max. Project duration:</b>	3 Years
<b>Additional requirements:</b>	<b>Request to submit an Innosuisse application form</b>

Please note that – in parallel to the application on the European level (with the EU-Partners) – the Swiss Partners must submit an application (Innosuisse application form incl. the European application form) demonstrating the research work to be performed by the Swiss Partners.

The usual Innosuisse funding rules as stated in Art. 19 of the Federal Act on the Promotion of Research and Innovation of 14 December 2012 (RIPA, SR 420.1), in Art. 29 f. of the Research and Innovation Promotion Ordinance of 29 November 2013 (RIPO, SR 420.11), in Art. 3 – 10 of the Innosuisse Funding Ordinance of 20 September 2017 (SR 420.231) and in the Implementation provisions for Funding Projects of 16 November 2017 will apply for this call, i.e.:

- At least one Swiss implementation partner and one Swiss non-commercial research institution or higher education research center (e.g. university, Federal Institute of Technology, University of Applied Sciences) must be involved in a Innosuisse funded R&D project.
- The application must contain all information necessary for technical, scientific and economic assessment of the right to and amount of funding.
- Effective implementation of the research findings in favour of the economy and society may be expected.
- The implementation partner(s) has (have) to cover at least 50% of the project costs from the total project work of the Swiss partners. The implementation partner(s) must also provide a cash contribution to the research partner(s) in the amount of 10% of the requested Innosuisse funding. The cash contribution is part of the 50% contribution.
- There is no federal funding allowed to companies (implementation partner).
- The project has to focus on innovation. In general, no funding will be given to projects which propose marginal improvements of existing products, nor for projects with a purely basic research content.
- The criteria for proposal assessment are: innovative content of the project, quality of the project planning, quantitative goals and implementation plan to achieve the targeted economic or social benefit, competence of the project team to implement the project, contribution to sustainable development.
- The project must have quantified, measurable goals and a coherent and structured schedule with verifiable progress milestones.
- It must be based on a thorough appraisal of the current state of the relevant technology and on an evaluation of the corresponding and patent rights.
- A contract on intellectual property rights shall be concluded between the partners prior to the start of the project. A confidentiality clause should be included where necessary.
- At the end of the project, a plan must be presented showing how the results will be implemented.

For more details, please refer to the Innosuisse webpage using the following address:

<https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/start-your-innovation-project/innovationsprojekte.html>

**Prior to decide to participate in this call, applicants are kindly requested to contact Innosuisse.**

## Germany - BMBF

Participating organisation: BMBF/JUELICH



Indicative Budget: € 1.5 M€

### National Contact Person(s):

Name: Petra E. Schulte/ Irina Kobrin / Christian Breuer

Tel.: +49 2461 61-9031/ +49 2461 61-3926 // +49 2461 61-96929

E-Mail: [petra.schulte@fz-juelich.de](mailto:petra.schulte@fz-juelich.de) / [i.kobrin@fz-juelich.de](mailto:i.kobrin@fz-juelich.de) / [c.breuer@fz-juelich.de](mailto:c.breuer@fz-juelich.de)

### Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:

Information about „Nationale Forschungsstrategie BioÖkonomie 2030“ is provided under <https://www.bmbf.de/de/biooekonomie-neue-konzepte-zur-nutzung-natuerlicher-ressourcen-726.html>.

**Project duration:** proposed projects may last up to 36 months.

**Maximum funding per project:** there is no minimum and/or maximum funding per project

### Institutional eligibility criteria:

Applicants must be research groups from academia, universities, research organisations or industry. Enterprises, especially SMEs, may participate as partners provided they can prove their financial stability as described under “Additional information”). Enterprises must provide the relevant documents and information until December 14, 2018. Consulting with the national contact person ([ANNEX 1](#)) prior to submission is essential.

### Institutional thematic priorities:

BMBF will support projects within Topic A “Microbial communities (natural or synthetic), co-cultures and cascades of microorganisms for new products, value-added products and supply services and sustainable industrial processes” outlined in the Call Announcement. BMBF enforces the application of the FAIR data management approach.

### Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:

Explicitly excluded are applications in Topic B, medicine and clinical research and bioenergy.

### Additional information:

**German applicants are strongly recommended to contact their national contact points before submitting a proposal and to refer to the National Announcement which can be requested from the national contact points.**

BMBF funding of the second ERA CoBioTech call is provided as delineated in the national announcement “Richtlinie zur Förderung transnationaler Verbundvorhaben auf dem Gebiet der Biotechnologie im Rahmen des ERA-Net Cofund CoBioTech” published in October 2018, which can be found under <https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen> or requested from the national contact points.

Funding bases on §§23 and 44 BHO (Bundeshaushaltsordnung) and associated administrative regulations. The main items are as follows:

- Applications must be compatible with the above mentioned national announcement.
- The procedure ("Verfahren") is according to the above mentioned protocol (see Chapter "Application Procedure"). Funding will be awarded as non-repayable project grant.
- The funding regulations, the follow up and reporting of publicly funded projects are regulated according to the National Announcement "Richtlinie zur Förderung transnationaler Verbundvorhaben auf dem Gebiet der Biotechnologie im Rahmen des ERA-Net Cofund CoBioTech". Details on eligible costs are described in section 5 "Art und Umfang, Höhe der Zuwendung" of the National Announcement. Costs for data management are eligible, especially if the FAIRDOM data management approach is used. Additionally, reporting duties as delineated in this Call Announcement in the Chapter „Reporting requirements" must be respected as well.
- Eligible applicants are universities, research institutions and enterprises, especially SMEs, domiciled in Germany.
  - For universities intending to request the "Projektpauschale" in the frame of the present call, the project costs budgeted in the proposal must include this "Projektpauschale". In the proposal submission system ([www.submission-cobiotech.eu](http://www.submission-cobiotech.eu)) the "Projektpauschale" must be declared in the section "Finances" under "Overhead". Additional explanations can be put down in writing in the section "Comments on finances". More information is available in the "FAQ zur Projektpauschale": [www.foerderportal.bund.de](http://www.foerderportal.bund.de).
  - Research institutions, which receive basic financing, can be funded subject to specific conditions.
  - Enterprises must be registered in Germany and must be well established in Germany with plants, laboratories, employees, etc. The proposed project must add benefit to the national economy. In order to prove their financial ability to participate in the proposed project, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) have to submit, together with the electronic submission of the Proposal (documents received latest on 14.12.2018) the following documents:
    - ✓ Financial statement for the last two years (Jahresabschlüsse der letzten zwei Jahre)
    - ✓ Confirmation of the financial own contribution (Erklärung zur Aufbringung des Eigenanteils)
    - ✓ Business assessment (Aktuelle BWA)

The documents have to be submitted to:

Dr. Petra E. Schulte  
Projektträger Jülich  
Geschäftsbereich Bioökonomie  
PtJ BIO 7: Europäische Initiativen und Internationales  
Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH  
D-52425 Jülich  
Tel.: +49 2461 61-9031  
Fax: +49 2461 61-1790  
[petra.schulte@fz-juelich.de](mailto:petra.schulte@fz-juelich.de)

- Double funding is forbidden!
- In the case of a positive funding recommendation all German applicants will be asked to submit a formal national application. It is strongly recommended to use the electronic application system "easy-online" ([www.foerderportal.bund.de/easyonline](http://www.foerderportal.bund.de/easyonline)). Project start is envisioned not before January 2020.

## Germany – Free state of Saxony

**Participating organisation:** Saxon State Ministry for Higher Education, Research and the Art (SMWK)

**Indicative Budget:** 1.5 M€

**Regional Contact Person(s):**

Name: Gabriele Süptitz

Tel.: +49 351 564 6422

E-Mail: [gabriele.sueptitz@smwk.sachsen.de](mailto:gabriele.sueptitz@smwk.sachsen.de)

[cobiotech@smwk.sachsen.de](mailto:cobiotech@smwk.sachsen.de)

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**  
please contact the regional contact person

**Max. project duration:** 36 months

**Maximum funding per project:** no limitation

**Institutional eligibility criteria:** see Saxon guidelines

(Richtlinie des Sächsischen Staatsministeriums für Wissenschaft und Kunst zu Gewährung von Zuwendungen für Maßnahmen im Rahmen der wettbewerblichen EU-Förderprogramme für Forschung und Innovation (RL EuProNet) vom 7. März 2017)

**Institutional thematic priorities** SMWK will support projects within the entire scientific scope outlined in the Call Announcement

**Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:** All proposal within the scope outlined in the Call Announcement can be funded.

**Additional information:**

In the case of a positive funding recommendation, Saxon applicants will be asked to submit a regional application according to the related Saxon guideline.

## Estonia – ETAg

**Participating organisation:** Eesti Teadusagentuur / Estonian Research Council

**Indicative Budget:** 0.3 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

**Katrin Kello**

Phone: +372-731-7361

E-mail: [katrin.kello@etag.ee](mailto:katrin.kello@etag.ee)

**Margus Harak** (budget issues and Mobilitas Pluss programme)

Phone: +372-731-7343

E-mail: [margus.harak@etag.ee](mailto:margus.harak@etag.ee)

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:** [www.etag.ee](http://www.etag.ee)

**Maximum funding per project:** 150 000 €

### **Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Estonian Research Council (hereafter the Council) funds basic and applied research. Applied research is only funded as far as it does not refer to product development with commercial value and for marketing purposes.

Mobilitas Pluss programme is partly financed by the European Regional Development Fund. The project must comply with the rules set in the [Mobilitas Pluss decree](#) No. 1.1-2/15/481 of the Minister of Education and Research of 30 December 2015.

### **The following conditions apply to projects funded through the Mobilitas Pluss programme:**

**The Host Institution** (the final recipient) is the applicant to which the grant will be allocated. The Host Institution must be registered and located in Estonia. The Host Institution must declare that the project can be carried out within their premises and that it will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding. The Council shall enter into a grant agreement with the Host Institution.

**The Principal Investigator** is the researcher who will be responsible for the use of the grant and for the realisation of the project. The Principal Investigator:

- must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) from the date of the proposal submission through the date of the funding decision, or convert their ETIS publications table into a PDF and send it directly to the ERA-NET's contact point at ETAg;
- must hold a doctoral degree of an Estonian Higher Education institution or an equivalent academic degree. The degree must have been awarded by the submission deadline of the grant application, at the latest;
- must have published at least three articles which comply with the requirements of clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 3.1, within the last five years prior to the proposal submission deadline. International patents are equalised with publications of clause 1.1. Monographs (ETIS clause 2.1) are equalised with three publications mentioned in clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or less. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or in the compulsory military service, or has other serious grounds, the deadline of the publication requirement will be extended by the respective time.

**Senior research staff of the project** participates in the substantial performance of the project. They should hold at least master's degree or a respective qualification.

**The budget** of a proposal should consist of **research expenses** and **indirect costs**. **Only expenses made between the start date and the end date of the project (not later than 31.12.2022) are eligible.**

**Research expenses** consist of direct personnel costs, travel costs, other direct costs and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be relevant to carry out the project and respectively identifiable.

All eligible costs are set in the [Mobilitas Pluss decree](#).

**Remuneration** may only be paid out of the grant according to the time the staff participates in the grant project and their total salary cost.<sup>1</sup> **Scholarships** are not eligible.

**Travel costs** cover expenses for transport, accommodation and daily allowances.

**Other direct costs** are:

- consumables related to the project;
- costs for publication and dissemination of project results;
- costs for organising meetings, seminars or conferences;
- fees for participating in scientific forums and conferences;
- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for the implementation of the project and comply with the eligible costs as defined in the [Mobilitas Pluss decree](#).

**Subcontracting costs** should only cover additional or complementary tasks (e.g. costs for translation, analyses, etc.) to third parties. Core project research tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 10% of the total costs.

**Indirect costs** of the project amount to 15% of eligible **direct personnel costs** and should cover general expenses of the Host Institution and the Council. Two thirds (2/3) of the indirect costs will go to the Host Institution and one third (1/3) will be kept by the Council for checking the compliance of the costs with the rules of the European Structural Funds.

Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (copying machine or printer publicly used, phone bills, copying service, etc.) must be covered from the indirect costs.

**Double funding** of activities is not acceptable.

**Participants' personal expenses** or expenses not directly related to the project are not eligible.

If the applicant is a **private enterprise**, the [state aid form](#) must be filled in. No tax arrears are allowed on the proposal submission date.

If **human research or animal tests** are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the human research ethics committee or the animal testing permits committee must be submitted to the Council by the start of the relevant activities.

By applying for funding by ETAg the applicants agree to consider the relevance of **Nagoya protocol** for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration if applicable.

**APPLICANTS MUST COORDINATE THEIR PROPOSAL WITH THEIR HOST INSTITUTION AND ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO CONTACT THE NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS FOR PRE-ELIGIBILITY CHECK.**

A **check-list for Estonian applicants** can be found [here](#).

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<sup>1</sup> Comprising basic monthly salary, social security charges and other statutory costs.

## Spain - CDTI



- Participating organisation:** Centro Para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial (CDTI)  
<https://www.cdti.es>
- Indicative Budget:** 0.5 M€
- National Contact Person(s):**
- Beatriz Torralba Prieto  
+34 915815502  
[beatriz.torralba@cdti.es](mailto:beatriz.torralba@cdti.es)
- María José Montilla  
+34 91 581 07 16  
[mariajose.montilla@cdti.es](mailto:mariajose.montilla@cdti.es)
- Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**  
<https://www.cdti.es/index.asp?MP=101&MS=831&MN=2>
- Min. project duration:** 12 months  
**Max. project duration:** 36 months
- Maximum funding per project:** No restrictions apply for maximum funding per project but the minimum project budget per partner is 175,000€ (this figure applies to the partner budget not to the requesting funding).
- Institutional eligibility criteria:**
- Eligible entities: Companies established and carrying out R&D activities in Spain. Other entities such as universities, public research institutions, technological centers, and other private non-profit institutions could participate under subcontracting by Spanish companies.
- Eligible activities: Projects may comprise both industrial research as well as experimental development activities, and must represent outstanding scientific-technical quality and high innovative potential. The Spanish part of the proposed work plan must be developed in Spain. Management and dissemination activities are explicitly excluded for funding.
- Eligible costs:**
- *Personnel (intended exclusively for the RTD activities within the project).*
  - *Instrument and equipment costs, to the extent and during the period in which they are used for the RTD activities of the research project.*
  - *Contractual research costs, technical knowledge and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at market prices and costs for consulting and equivalent services intended exclusively for the research activity.*
  - *Other operating expenses, including costs for material, supplies and similar products, which result directly from the RTD activities of the research project; project audit (when applicable); Overheads.*
- Institutional thematic priorities:**

Any topic described within the Call Announcement can be funded by CDTI provided that the above eligibility criteria are met.

**Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:**

Only tasks related to either, technological industrial research or experimental development can be funded by CDTI. Management and dissemination activities are explicitly excluded for funding.

**Additional information:**

Applicants are encouraged to contact CDTI's National Contact Persons for getting advice about national funding rules before submitting a proposal.

Additionally to the international application process, applicants requesting funding from CDTI must submit a proposal by way of the CDTI electronic submission system (<https://sede.cdti.gob.es/AreaPublica/home.aspx>). The proposal must include a detailed description, in Spanish Language, of the activities to be undertaken and their respective budget. Further guidance will be published on CDTI website. Applicants must indicate their VAT (CIF) number in all their respective applications (both international and national).

This information has to be submitted to CDTI no later the deadline for submitting proposals of this call

**Funding rules:** Specific financial conditions for ensuring the beneficiary's solvency could be required according to CDTI funding rules. CDTI will avoid double funding, and will not finance projects, or parts of projects, that have been already funded through other national, transnational or EU calls. CDTI will be responsible for making the final decision regarding the awarding of funds to those Spanish applicants aiming to receive CDTI's funding, taking fully into account the assessment of the national full proposal, the transnational evaluation of the collaborative project, the previous funds received by the participants for other related projects, the fulfilment of eligibility and funding rules, and the financial resources available. Further information is available on <https://www.cdti.es>

## Spain – AEI

**Participating organisation:** Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.7 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Manuel Sánchez-Blanco  
(Administrative and technical issues)

M. Auxiliadora Prieto  
(Scientific issues)

Telephone number: +34 91 603 8447

Email address: [era-ib@aei.gob.es](mailto:era-ib@aei.gob.es)

The Spanish legal entities granted are obliged by the regulations established in this APCIN call and by the funding limits specified below.

Call will be managed by the [Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia - Agencia Estatal de Investigación \(AEI\)](#)

**Min.project duration:** 3 years

**Max. project duration:** 3 years

**Maximum funding per project:** €150,000 per partner; €200,000 per Consortium Coordinator

The following funding limits are considered eligibility criteria by AEI. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared non eligible.

Only one Spanish partner will be accepted per proposal. When a Spanish legal entity participates in the proposal, the maximum funding is 150,000€ (additional 50,000€ when the project is coordinated by a Spanish PI).

### **Institutional eligibility criteria:**

The eligible institutions are non-profit research organisations as per national call “Programación Conjunta Internacional (PCI)” (or its equivalent), such as Universities, Public Research Institutions, Technological Centers, and other Private non-profit Institutions performing RDI activities in Spain.

### **Eligible applicants:**

- Spanish Principal Investigators must be eligible under the PCI call (or its equivalent) and must have experience as investigators in projects funded by the Plan Nacional I+D+i 2008-2011, the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2013-2016, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant international programmes.

### **Incompatibilities:**

- Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal under the Co-Biotech Joint Call 2018 nor in more than one proposal under the PCI national call (or its equivalent). In addition, Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in two consecutive PCI calls (or its equivalent). This must be taken into account when participating in different ERA-Net calls or other international initiatives.
- Principal Investigators must remain unchanged between the proposal of this transnational call and the PCI national call (or its equivalent).

### **Eligible costs:**

- Direct costs such as:
  - ✓ Personnel costs for temporary employment contracts (scholarships are not eligible).

- ✓ Current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination cost, and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
- Indirect costs (overheads) or clinical assays, proofs of concept, proofs of principle **are not eligible** for funding in the PCI call.

**Other funding criteria:**

Agencia Estatal de Investigación will avoid double funding and will not finance projects or parts of projects already funded through other national or EU calls.

- **Compliance with the funding limits will be considered under the eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible.**
- The final funding will take into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration, the participation of the industrial sector and the financial resources available.

Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge funding by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación: "Project (reference nº XX) funded by the State Research Agency through PCI (*or its equivalent*)".

**Additional information:**

Programación Conjunta Internacional (or its equivalent)

The applicants may consult the national regulation in the [Programación Conjunta Internacional 2018](#) for informative purposes.

**Useful links:** [Agencia Estatal de Investigación – Calls and Grants](#)

Spain – Government of Navarre



Participating organisation: Government of Navarre. Directorate General for Industry, Energy and Innovation.  
Ministry of Economic Development

Indicative Budget: 0.1 M€

Regional Contact Person(s):

Sara Torres Lizasoain  
Tel: +34 848427873  
[storresl@navarra.es](mailto:storresl@navarra.es)

Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:

*"Subvenciones a proyectos y actuaciones en cooperación suprarregional"*

Min.project duration: 12 months

Max. project duration: 36 months

Maximum funding per project: Maximum funding per project 0.1M €

Institutional eligibility criteria:

**Eligible entities:** Companies, universities, research institutions, technological centers established and carrying out R&D activities in Navarre.

**Eligible activities:** Projects may comprise both industrial research as well as experimental development activities, and must represent outstanding scientific-technical quality and high innovative potential. The Spanish part of the proposed work plan must be developed in Spain.

Eligible costs:

The following expenses will be eligible:

- a) Personnel expenses. The maximum eligible cost will be 40 euros.
- b) Expenses of the materials used in the project.
- c) Depreciation expenses of equipment, patents and utility models, to the extent and during the period in which these assets are used for the project.
- d) Expenses of external collaborations of Universities, Technological Centres and other companies that carry out R & D tasks related to the project and provide technical knowledge.
- e) Expenses derived from the use of Singular Scientific and Technical Infrastructures (ICTS) of national or European scope.
- f) Application fees for patents generated by the project. This expense will not be eligible for large companies.
- g) Other expenses directly related to the project and effectively applied to its realization, provided that they can be identified as specifically employed in the project and that they can be assigned individually to it. This section includes travel expenses.

The following expenses will not be eligible, even if they are related to the activities of the project:

- a) Personnel training expenses.
- b) Expenses related to the project documentation.
- c) The consultancy and certification expenses associated with the management of the project and the processing of grant applications.
- d) Administrative expenses and office supplies.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

Any topic described within the Call Announcement can be funded by Government of Navarre provided that the above eligibility criteria are met.

**Additional information:**

Applicants are encouraged to contact Government of Navarre's Regional Contact Persons for getting advice about regional funding rules before submitting a proposal.

## France – ANR

Participating organisation: Agence Nationale de Recherche (ANR)

Indicative Budget: 0.75 M€

National Contact Person(s):

Aurélie PAQUIRISSAMY  
+33 1 78 09 81 18  
[aurelie.paquirissamy@anr.fr](mailto:aurelie.paquirissamy@anr.fr)Liz PONS  
+33 1 78 09 80 49  
[liz.pons@anr.fr](mailto:liz.pons@anr.fr)Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information: <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr>

Maximum funding per project: 250 000 €

Institutional eligibility criteria:

Projects are expected to have an initial TRL (technology readiness level) ranging **between 2 and 4** and should increase their TRL by 2 levels.

A proposal must not be similar in whole or in part to any other proposal submitted to calls of the 2019 edition of the ANR work program (<http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/PA2019>), or to any previously granted project. The similar character is established when the proposals in question (in their totality or in part) describe identical main objectives, or result from a simple adaptation, and involve teams that are essentially identical.

Partners eligible for ANR financing:

ANR finances French public research organization or assimilated and industrial partners (please read the funding rules: <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/RF>).

A complete version of the French annex to the call can be found [here](#).

## Latvia – VIAA



**Participating organisation:** Valsts izglītības attīstības aģentūra (VIAA)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.42 M€

**National Contact Person (s):**

Linda Vecbiskena  
Tel. 00371 67785402  
E-Mail: [linda.vecbiskena@viaa.gov.lv](mailto:linda.vecbiskena@viaa.gov.lv)

**Name of the funding programme:**

National Programme „Support for Participation in European Union’s Research and Technology Development Programs” and Activity 1.1.1.5. „Support for International Cooperation Projects in Research and Innovation”

**Max. project duration:** 36 months

**Maximum funding per project:** EUR 210 000

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Following legal persons (as defined under Latvian law) are eligible for funding, except natural persons:

»R&D institutions (research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, research centres etc.) that are listed in the Registry of Research Institutions operated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia.

»Private entities that are registered in the Registry of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia and provide most of their R&D&I activities in the Republic of Latvia.

Types of costs that are eligible for funding: Direct Costs:

- » personnel costs,
- » other direct costs such as consumables, equipment (only depreciation costs), materials, events etc.,
- » subcontracts (up to 20% of the total direct costs)
- » travel costs.

Indirect costs can reach a maximum of 25% of the total direct costs. Upper funding limit is EUR 70 000 per year per project participant.

**Norway – RCN**

**Participating organisation:** Research Council of Norway (RCN)

**Indicative Budget:** 1.4 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**  
Dr. Øystein Rønning  
Tel: +4791623960  
E-Mail: [oro@rcn.no](mailto:oro@rcn.no)

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**  
BIOTEK2021 (<http://www.forskningsradet.no/biotek2021>)

**Additional information:**

The Research Council of Norway (RCN) participates through the national program Biotechnology for Innovation (BIOTEK2021) in call topic A only. Norwegian applicants who want to submit an application for topic B may do so, but will not receive funding from RCN.

RCN does not require a national application, but it should be clear from the common application what role the Norwegian partners would have and the size of their budget. The total sum of the budgets of the Norwegian participants in each proposal must be limited to 5 M NOK (520 000 EUR).

Universities and research organisations may receive funding according to the rules of Researcher projects (Forskerprosjekt) of RCN. In these cases up to 100% of total eligible costs may be funded.

Companies and commercial entities may receive funding according to the rules of Innovation Project for the Industrial Sector (Innovasjonsprosjekter i næringslivet) of RCN. In these cases up to 50% of total eligible costs may be requested if this funding is used to cover the costs of activities that fall completely within the R&D categories “fundamental research” or “industrial research” as defined in the state aid rules.

## Poland - NCBR

Participating organisation: Narodowe Centrum Badań i Rozwoju

Indicative Budget: 0.6 M€

National Contact Person(s):

Konrad Kosecki  
Tel. +48 22 39 07 460  
E-Mail: konrad.kosecki@ncbr.gov.pl

Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:

BIOSTRATEG "environment, agriculture and forestry"

Max. project duration: 36 months

Maximum funding per project: In relation to the budget limit (600 000 €) it is recommended that one project partner can require up to 200 000 €.

Institutional eligibility criteria:

Following entities are eligible to apply:

- Research organisations;
- Micro, Small, Medium and Large Enterprise.

The project consortium with Polish participation must include at least one Polish enterprise to be eligible for funding.

Organisation must be registered in Poland.

All proposals must be aligned with relevant national regulations.

The eligible costs shall be the following:

1. Personnel costs (researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the research project);
2. Costs of instruments and equipment, technical knowledge and patents to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;
3. Costs for buildings and land, to the extent and for the duration used for the research project; with regard to buildings, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice shall be considered eligible; for land, costs of commercial transfer or actually incurred capital costs shall be eligible;
4. Cost of contractual research, costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the research activity; this cost type cannot account for more than 70% of all eligible costs of a project; the subcontracting can be obtained from consortium partner only in justified case, this need will be verified by a national experts panel;
5. Other operating costs including costs of materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity;
6. Additional overheads incurred indirectly as a result of the research project; that costs cannot account for more than 25% of all eligible project costs; That costs (6) are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above (called x%) and the rest of direct costs, excluding subcontracting (4); It means  $6=(1+2+3+5)*x\%$ .

Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for universities or research organisations. In the case of enterprises, funding quota will be decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the size of the company, type of research/development, risk associated with the research activities and commercial perspective of exploitation. Organisation must be registered in Poland.

	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Micro/Small Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)	Up to 100 %
Experimental development	Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)	Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)	Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)	Up to 100 %

In any case only Applied Research and Experimental Development will be funded.

Other type of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) cannot be included into separated task.

All eligible entities, invited to submit Polish proposal are obliged to use the rate of exchange of The European Central Bank dated on the day of opening the call.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

No topic priorities

**Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:**

N/A

**Additional information:**

Applicants are advised that this annex is for general guidance only. For more detailed rules and regulations please refer to the national call announcement and contact the National Contact Person.

Romania - UEFISCDI

**Participating organisation:** Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii (UEFISCDI)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.3 M€ Euro

**National Contact Person(s):** Adrian Asanica  
Tel. +40744.45.00.11  
E-Mail: [adrian.asanica@uefiscdi.ro](mailto:adrian.asanica@uefiscdi.ro)

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:** Guideline for ERANET / ERANET Cofund projects - <http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/articole/4536/Pachet-de-informatii-ERANETERANET-Cofund.html>

**Max. project duration:** 36 months

**Maximum funding per project:** 0.2 / 0.25

The maximum funding for one project from the public budget is 250,000 Euro if Romania is the coordinator of the transnational project.

The maximum funding for one project from the public budget is 200,000 Euro if Romania is partner in the transnational project.

If there is more than one Romanian institution participating on the proposal, the total amount of 0.2/0.25 M€ should be divided.

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Legal entities established in Romania are eligible to get funding, i.e. public and private accredited universities, national R&D institutes, other research organisations, SMEs, large industrial enterprises with R&D activity within their domains.

We can fund only Romanian research teams.

For universities, public institutions, R&D national institutions funding rate is 100%, and for SMEs and Large companies, funding rates vary in accordance with state aid legislation.

**Institutional thematic priorities:** none

**Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:** NA

**Additional information:**

The Principal Investigator of Romanian team must hold a Ph.D. degree. This condition does not apply if the Romanian host institution is an enterprise according with the specific European and national laws.

One research team leader will participate only one time in a proposal within the trans-national call as responsible or coordinator.

No simultaneous funding is possible for more than one application under the same call.

The Principal Investigator of Romanian team is full time employed within the host institution with permanent position, with fixed term contract covering at least the duration of the project or has an agreement with the host institution for his/her employment at least for the duration of the contract.

It is forbidden to submit a proposal which seeks to fund activities already funded by other public sources.

The host institution does not have a seizure on its accounts; it has not been declared bankrupt or wound up; it has not made false declarations concerning its economic and legal statute; it has not broken other contract previously signed with a public contracting authority.

The host institution agrees to ensure the necessary administrative support, to provide access to all necessary resources/infrastructures, to support the project implementation in good conditions and to employ the members of the Romanian team, in respect of all legal provisions in force, if the project is selected for funding.

The following **categories of expenses** are eligible:

- A. Staff costs (researchers, technicians and support staff, including all corresponding state and social contributions; these contributions are subject to national regulations in force).
- B. Consumables (materials, supplies or similar).
- C. Equipments (in full compliance with state aid regulations), no more than 30% of the total funding from the public budget.
- D. Subcontracting (expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 25 % of the funding from the public budget). The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work.
- E. Travel expenses (in Romania or abroad, only for project teams members).
- F. Overheads (calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, travel expenses and logistics costs - excluding capital costs). Indirect costs will not exceed 20% of direct costs, excluding subcontracting.

Expenses are eligible if incurred after signature of the contract.

The [guideline](#) according to the National Plan for Research, Development and Innovation 2015-2020, for ERA-NET Cofund projects has to be consulted and respected by applicants.

## Russia - FASIE

**Participating organisation:** Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises (FASIE)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.4 M€

**National Contact Person(s):** Olga Levchenko  
Tel. +7 495 231 38 51  
E-Mail: [levchenko@fasie.ru](mailto:levchenko@fasie.ru)

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**

**Max. project duration:** 24 months

**Maximum funding per project:** 0.2

### **Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Only small companies according to the Russian law (Federal Law №209, Article 4): up to 100 personnel, up to 800 mln Roubles turnover and less than 49% participation of public, foreign and large companies. Special exception is made for „Skolkovo“ residents. Universities, research organisations and other public bodies can participate as subcontractors (with not more than 30% share received as a grant from FASIE being subcontracted).

Ideally, applicant should be a small company not younger than 1 year with a proved track record, IP, and a good turnover.

**Institutional thematic priorities:** none

### **Additional information:**

- **Which type of projects are eligible?**  
Technically and financially feasible R&D projects with an impact increase in the R&D company activities are eligible.
- **Which types of costs are eligible?**  
Personnel costs (up to 40%) , equipment (where applicable), subcontracting, some „other“ costs are eligible. Travelling/subsistence, IPR, marketing are not eligible. Those have to be covered from co-financing.  
50% of the amount of the grant provided by FASIE should be co-financed (7.5 million Roubles)
- **Funding is provided as grant/loan/capital loan/guarantee**  
Funding is provided as a grant.
- **Limits of funding per proposal**  
Maximum amount per proposal is 15 millions Rubles (the amount which can be provided by FASIE-equivalent of 200 000 EUR). Projects can last 18 or 24 months.
- **Other conditions**
  - The company which has an “open” contract with FASIE when applying for is not eligible;
  - The project must add benefit to the national economy and demonstrate added value from the international cooperation;
  - The project should demonstrate commercialization potential;
  - There is no legal limitation to the size and financial status of the company; however, preference will be given to the already established companies having proven record and a good turnover;
  - The company must have enough financial means to fund its own part of the project (50% of the amount of the grant) or, alternatively, find an investor;
  - Companies which received funding from FASIE previously will have to provide additional materials showing the effectiveness of the funded projects;
  - Russian applicant must submit a national application via the electronic submission system: [online.fasie.ru](http://online.fasie.ru)

Details of the program can be found here: <http://fasie.ru/programs/programma-internatsionalizatsiya/polozhenie-o-konkurse-mezhdunarodnye-programmy.php>

## Slovenia - MIZS

Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MIZS)  
Masarykova 16, 1000 Ljubljana

**All Slovenian applicants must refer to the guidelines for Slovenian applicants published on the MIZS webpage ([http://www.mizs.gov.si/si/javne\\_objave\\_in\\_razpisi/javni\\_razpisi/](http://www.mizs.gov.si/si/javne_objave_in_razpisi/javni_razpisi/)).**

**Legal basis – national regulation :** State Administration Act (Zakon o državni upravi (Uradni list RS, št. 113/05 - UPB4, 89/07 - Odl.US, 126/07 - ZUP-E, 48/09, 8/10 - ZUP-G, 8/12 - ZVRS-F, 21/12, 47/13, 12/14, 90/14 in 51/16)) - Article 16 and 39; Public Finance Act (Zakon o javnih financah (Uradni list RS, št. 11/11- uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 14/13 – popr., 101/13, 55/15 – ZfisP, 96/15 – ZIPRS1617 in 13/18)) - Article 106. j; Regulation on the procedure of standards and manners to allocate means for the promotion of the evolutionary programme and the preferential tasks (Uredba o postopku, merilih in načinih dodeljevanja sredstev za spodbujanje razvojnih programov in prednostnih nalog (Uradni list RS, št. 56/11)); Implementation of the Republic of Slovenia's Budget for 2018 and 2019 Act (Zakon o izvrševanju proračunov Republike Slovenije za leti 2018 in 2019 (ZIPRS 1819) (Uradni list RS, št. 71/17 in 13/18-ZJF-H)); Integrity and Prevention of Corruption Act (Zakon o integriteti in preprečevanju korupcije (Uradni list RS, št. 69/11 – uradno prečiščeno besedilo)); Resolution on the National Research and Development Programme 2011-2020 (Resolucije o raziskovalni in inovacijski strategiji Slovenije 2011-2020 (RISS) (Uradni list RS, št. 43/11)), Research and development Act (Zakona o raziskovalni in razvojni dejavnosti (Uradni list RS, št. 22/06 – UPB1, 61/06-ZDru-1, 112/07, 9/11,57/12-ZPOP-1A in 21/18-ZNOrg)); Decree on norms and standards used to determine funding for research activities financed from the Republic of Slovenia budget (Uredbe o normativih in standardih za določanje sredstev za izvajanje raziskovalne dejavnosti, financirane iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije (Uradni list RS, št. 103/11, 56/12, 15/14, 103/15, 27/17 in 9/18)); Rules on criteria for establishing compliance with the conditions for being the head of a research project (Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta, Uradni list RS št. 53/16); Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27. 6. 2014) (Okvir za državno pomoč za raziskave in razvoj ter inovacije (2014/C 198/01)); National scheme for state aid in Research and Development (Program za spodbujanje raziskav in razvoja Ministrstva za izobraževanje, znanost in šport na področju znanosti 2016-2020, št. 631-1/2016-1 z dne 8. 1. 2016); National strategy of open access to scientific publications and research data in Slovenia 2015-2020 (Nacionalna strategije odprtega dostopa do znanstvenih objav in raziskovalnih podatkov v Sloveniji 2015-2020, št. 60300-5/2015/5 z dne 3. 9. 2015).

**Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution:** research organizations as defined in the national [Research and Development Act](#) (Zakon o raziskovalni in razvojni dejavnosti – ZRRD). All participating institutions have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of research institutions (Informacijski sistem o raziskovalni dejavnosti v Sloveniji - Sicris).

**Eligibility of principal investigator and other research team members:** The project activities of the Slovenian partner have to be under the supervision of the primary investigator/primary researcher who fulfills the requirements for project leader as defined in Art. 29 of the national Decree on norms and standards used to determine funding for research activities financed from the Republic of Slovenia budget (Uredba o normativih in standardih za določanje sredstev za izvajanje raziskovalne dejavnosti, financirane iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije, Uradni list RS, št. 103/11, 56/12, 15/14, 103/15, 27/17 in 9/18) hereinafter: Decree on criteria and standards). The criteria are further determined in the [Rules on Determining the Fulfillment of Conditions for a Research Project Leader](#) (Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta). All participating researchers have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of researchers (Sicris) and must have available research hours.

**Eligibility of costs:** MIZS will fund all eligible costs of Slovenian researchers participating in successful transnational projects, recommended for funding in accordance with the *Decree on criteria and standards*. Eligible costs are defined based on the FTE value according to the Slovenian Research Agency's research project categorization (A, B, C or D based on the research conducted). Eligible costs must be directly related to the research conducted and should include personnel, material and equipment costs as elements of the FTE. Indirect costs are eligible. The value is calculated based on the FTE value of category A, B, C, or D research projects, under the condition that costs under each of the specific FTE elements are appropriately decreased (by a max. of 20% for indirect costs). Providing the

stipulated conditions are met, the Public Procurement Act (Zakon o javnem naročanju (Uradni list RS, št. 91/15 in 14/18) applies.

**Period of eligibility of public expenditures:** as of budgetary year 2020 until the end of the budgetary year 2023.

**Period of eligibility of expenditures on the project:** From the starting date of the transnational project stipulated in the consortium agreement for a period of 36 months, with a prescribed additional 30 day period for the payment of invoices related to the project costs. The period of eligibility of expenditures on the project can only start from the date the national contract enters into effect. The exact duration of the project will be defined in the contract between MIZS and the selected Slovenian partner, after the consortium agreement between the selected consortium partners enters into force.

**National funding:** max. 630,000 EUR including VAT

**Total requested funding per project:** for all Slovenian partners within one consortium must not exceed 70,000 € per year (210,000 € for the total project duration of 36 months).

**Type of research funded:** basic/applied – for Slovenian partner TRL range: 1-6. The type of research conducted by Slovenian researchers must be defined and explained in the project proposal (e.g. in the Comments on budget section).

**Funding:** 100 % for research organization (such as universities, public and private research institutes) whose financed activity is non-economic in accordance with the provisions of Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation. Wide dissemination of all research results on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis is required.

For research organizations whose financed activity is economic in accordance with the provisions of Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27. 6. 2014) and the national scheme for state aid in Research and Development: [Program za spodbujanje raziskav in razvoja Ministrstva za izobraževanja, znanost in šport na področju znanosti, št 631-1/2016-7, 8.1.2016](#), applies.

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities & research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	65 %	75 %	80 %	non economic 100 %
Industrial/Applied Research	65 %	75 %	80 %	non economic 100 %
Experimental development	-	-	-	-

**National contracting negotiations:** will commence after the projects are selected for funding on the level of the transnational call. National documentation, including evidence of the starting date of the transnational project (in the form of a Consortia Agreement or statement on the starting date by the transnational project coordinator), will be a prerequisite for signing the contract on national level. All Slovenian applicants are strongly advised to contact the Slovenian National Contact Person, Ms. Kim Turk Mehes before preparing proposals for application ([kim.turk@gov.si](mailto:kim.turk@gov.si); +386(1)478470).

Name: dr. Jernej Pikalo

Position: Minister

Place, Date: Ljubljana, 15.10.2018

## Turkey - TÜBİTAK

Participating organisation:	TUBITAK
Indicative Budget:	1.0 M€
National Contact Person(s):	Dilek Sahin Tel: 90 312 298 94 91 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:dilek.sahin@tubitak.gov.tr">dilek.sahin@tubitak.gov.tr</a>

### Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:

1509 International Industrial R&D Grant Program  
<http://tubitak.gov.tr/tr/destekler/sanayi/uluslararasi-ortakli-destek-programlari/icerik-1509-tubitak-uluslararasi-sanayi-ar-ge-projeleri-destekleme-programi>

Min.project duration: -

Max. project duration: -

Maximum funding per project: -

### Institutional eligibility criteria:

- Only industrial partners can be funded
- Universities and research institutes can take part as subcontractors or consultants
- At least one researcher (working in the company) who has at least a BS degree in the related technology field of the project should be included in the project team

Institutional thematic priorities:-

Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:-

### Additional information:

Turkish partners should apply to TÜBİTAK Technology and Innovation Funding Board to get their projects funded. The program that can be applied is the International R&D Grant Program (programme code: 1509). TÜBİTAK makes a national evaluation on the basis of the regulation and rules of the program. For further information please visit the above mentioned link and also see national call text on TÜBİTAK website.

- Only the industrial partners can apply to the program. Universities and research institutes are not eligible partners but they can take part as subcontractors or consultants.
- In the national evaluation, Turkish partner's contribution to R&D activities is the most important evaluation criteria. It is expected that Turkish partner involves in the R&D activities and the budget is prepared accordingly.
- National application is required simultaneously with the international application.
- There is no budget limit.

The funding volume is 75% for SME's and 60% for large companies. The projects duration can be maximum the international project's duration.

## United Kingdom –UKRI-BBSRC



UK Research  
and Innovation

**Participating organisation:** Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council within UK Research and Innovation (UKRI-BBSRC)

**Indicative Budget:** up to £2M

**National Contact Person:** Dr Anja Berndt  
E-mail: [cobiotech@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:cobiotech@bbsrc.ac.uk)  
Telephone: +44 (0)179 341 3251

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**

UKRI-BBSRC supports the ERA-Net CoBioTech call for proposals and encourages its community to apply for funding for collaborative research in the European Research Area through this call. Subject to scientific excellence, and all conditions of eligibility and peer review being fully met, UKRI-BBSRC anticipates a contribution of up to £2M to the call.

All UK components submitted to this call will be subject to standard UKRI-BBSRC funding criteria. The following guidance should be read in conjunction with the UKRI-BBSRC Grants Guide <https://bbsrc.ukri.org/documents/grants-guide/>.

Applicants are asked to contact the UKRI-BBSRC National Call Secretariat before starting to prepare proposals for submission (contact details above).

**Min. project duration:** n/a

**Max. project duration:** 36 months

**Maximum funding per project:** n/a

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Standard UKRI-BBSRC eligibility criteria, as described in the UKRI-BBSRC Grants Guide, will be applied to the UK component of applications submitted to this call. For detailed guidance, see Section 3 of the UKRI-BBSRC Grants Guide, <https://bbsrc.ukri.org/documents/grants-guide/>. Applications must be submitted by UK Research Organisations that are eligible to receive funding from UKRI-BBSRC. Information about eligible organisations is available at <https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/eligibility/>.

UKRI-BBSRC will fund the UK partner of any successful transnational collaboration. Applicants should note that the New Investigator scheme does not operate in this call.

All enquiries about eligibility should be directed to [eligibility@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:eligibility@bbsrc.ac.uk)

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

Research covering the development of generic methods for the production of high value chemicals such as pharmaceutical precursor molecules, antibiotics and recombinant biologics are within the scope of the call. If applicants are in any doubt, please contact the National Call Secretariat for further clarification. Proposals should be for a maximum of three years duration.

**Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:**

Under this call, research on food, food ingredients, animal feed and work of direct medical relevance is excluded.

**Additional information:**

The UK academic component of applications must fall within the remit of UKRI-BBSRC, which supports research into plants, microbes, animals and tools and technology underpinning biological research. While we expect projects to be multidisciplinary, the primary focus and challenges of the UK component of the project must therefore be biological rather than medical, social, environmental or on physical or chemical engineering. For more information on the research areas that UKRI-BBSRC funds see: <https://bbsrc.ukri.org/research/science-remit/>. If you are unsure if your proposal is within the remit of UKRI-BBSRC, please contact the National Call Secretariat.

UKRI-BBSRC strongly encourages industrial participation in projects under this scheme. UKRI-BBSRC is not able to fund industrial partners, and any costs incurred, direct or otherwise, by industrial partners cannot be met by UKRI-

BBSRC. For further information about collaborative partnerships, see Section 2 of the UKRI-BBSRC Grants Guide. The IPA and LINK schemes do not operate in this call.

Costs incurred by the UK academic partner as a direct result of working with the other consortium partners (such as visits to labs or exchange of materials) can be requested. Studentships will not be supported by UKRI-BBSRC as part of this call and students should not be included on the UK component.

The UK component of applications should be costed on the basis of full economic costing (fEC) as described in the UKRI-BBSRC Grants Guide. If the grant is awarded, UKRI-BBSRC will provide funding on the basis of 80% of fEC. Applicants must clearly justify all the requested resources. The submitting organisations must agree to find the balance of fEC for the project from other resources. Final awards from UKRI-BBSRC will be made in British Pounds (GBP); costs listed in the ERA CoBioTech application forms must be converted into Euros (EUR) using the exchange rate of  $\text{£1} = \text{€1.133}^2$ .

When preparing the budget in the ERA CoBioTech submission tool, UK applicants should follow the advice given in the tables below (At a glance – How to fill in the ERA CoBioTech Budget Plan).

For the UK component of successful proposals submitted this call, applicants will be required to submit an additional form through the Je-S system. Additional guidance will be provided to successful applicants. Grants will be subject to standard Research Council Grants Terms and Conditions (<https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/grant-terms-and-conditions/>).

Applicants requesting items of equipment costing over £10k should note that additional justification will be required when submitting the proposal through Je-S and that the Research Organisation will be expected to make a contribution to the cost of the equipment. Further information is available at <https://www.ukri.org/files/funding/tcs/equipment-guidance-pdf/>.

#### **National Call Secretariat**

Funding organisation: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council within UK Research and Innovation – UKRI-BBSRC

Postal address: Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 1UH, UK

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Dr Anja Berndt

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<sup>2</sup> European Central Bank average exchange rate May to August 2018

**At a glance – How to fill in the ERA CoBioTech Budget Plan (only for BBSRC applicants)**

**General Budget Overview**

Organisation Name	Personnel	Travel	Consumables/ Equipment	Subcontracts	Other	Requested Funding	Total Own Contribution	Total Costs
80% Research Council Contribution for:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directly Incurred Staff</li> <li>• Directly Allocated Investigators</li> <li>• Indirect Costs</li> <li>• Exceptions - Staff</li> </ul>	Directly Incurred Travel & Subsistence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directly Incurred Other Costs</li> <li>• Directly Allocated Estates Costs</li> <li>• Other Directly Allocated</li> <li>• Exceptions – Other Costs</li> </ul>	Directly Incurred Other Costs for subcontracting	Directly Incurred Other Costs	80% Research Council Contribution	20% Research Organisation contribution plus any other own contribution	
<b>Overhead</b>	<b>Do not use!</b>	<b>Do not use!</b>	<b>Do not use!</b>	<b>Do not use!</b>	<b>Do not use!</b>			

**Own Contribution**

Organisation name	Personnel	Travel	Consumables/ Equipment	Subcontracts	Other	Total Own Contribution
20% Research Organisation Contribution plus any other Own Contribution for:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directly Incurred Staff</li> <li>• Directly Allocated Investigators</li> <li>• Indirect Costs</li> <li>• Exceptions - Staff</li> </ul>	Directly Incurred Travel & Subsistence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directly Incurred Other Costs</li> <li>• Directly Allocated Estates Costs</li> <li>• Other Directly Allocated</li> <li>• Exceptions – Other Costs</li> </ul>	Directly Incurred Other Costs for subcontracting	Directly Incurred Other Costs plus any other Own contribution	20% Research Organisation contribution plus any other own contribution

## ANNEX 3: Technology readiness levels (TRL)

*(as defined in the HORIZON 2020 –Work Programme 2016-2017)*

- **TRL 1** -basic principles observed
- **TRL 2** -technology concept formulated
- **TRL 3** -experimental proof of concept
- **TRL 4** -technology validated in lab
- **TRL 5** -technology validated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
- **TRL 6** -technology demonstrated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
- **TRL 7** -system prototype demonstration in operational environment
- **TRL 8** -system complete and qualified
- **TRL 9** -actual system proven in operational environment (competitive manufacturing in the case of key enabling technologies; or in space)

## ANNEX 4: Communication and Dissemination

Communication and Dissemination of project results is requested through **various communication routes** including scientific papers, presentations at scientific conferences, workshops, poster sessions, etc. Proper **reference** must be given to ERA CoBioTech in all related publications, exhibitions, lectures and press information. Additionally, each project proposal should go beyond dissemination and envision how it will **communicate and reach out to a more general public**.

Each project has to submit a **Communication and Dissemination Plan** in the full proposal, specifying how the planned activities, including dissemination, communication and stakeholder interaction, will contribute to the impact of the project.

To fulfill the Communication and Dissemination Plan, funded projects must dedicate appropriate resources for communication and dissemination activities, which additionally have to include **attendance at events organized by ERA CoBioTech**:

- Attendance at seminars on three occasions: kick-off, midterm and final seminar of funded projects, in which your funded projects will be asked to communicate project content, aims and expected results in a way understandable to a general public.

For a well-elaborated Communication and Dissemination Plan, applicants are advised to:

- take into consideration also the EC guidelines on "[Communicating EU research and innovation guidance for project participants](#)"
- read the guidelines below on communication

### Communication and Dissemination– why is this important in planning, developing, delivering and evaluating a successful research project?

**Communication** is here defined as the work you do and the effort you put in informing and engaging with the wider public so they are aware of the issue your research is addressing, the question you are posing, the methods you are using to answer that question and the anticipated outcomes. Communication is an addition to '**dissemination**', the latter being focused on the production of scientific papers, posters and presentations at closed scientific congresses, and work with specialist stakeholder groups. Please include both communication and dissemination activities in your plan.

**Communication activities** may include activities, such as development of a website and/or app, media communications programme, social media programme, videos/podcasts, infographics/project literature, creative artwork/exhibition stands, quizzes / games / serious gaming, science fairs/open houses intended for wider audiences, meetings of targeted stakeholders, training for Consortium on aspects of communication. Please consult the national annexes of your respected funding agency for potential limitations to funding certain communication activities.

There are four clear reasons **why effective communication** is an essential element of any ERA CoBioTech funded research project:

- European tax-payers are providing the funding for your research and are interested in knowing where their money goes and that they are receiving 'value for money'.
- Communicating about the relevance of your research work and its potential outcomes to society and the everyday life of citizens will help ensure that your innovations – products, knowledge, thinking – are accepted and utilised by society – not ignored, nor opposed.
- Everyone is a citizen whether President, MEP, policy-player, teacher, student, entrepreneur or industrialist who watches TV, reads the news, accesses online sources and has interests beyond their immediate network. Effective communication raises awareness of your research project and

of the professionals working on it to mutual advantage, potentially laying the ground for more funding or support.

- ERA CoBioTech wishes to ensure that the projects it selects to fund make the best use they can of the 'results' each of them generate – that means ensuring that as many groups in society know about the excellent work that is being conducted and their potential results so they will be taken up by decision-makers in policy, industry or science itself creating impact. A Strategic communication plan utilising creative but accessible actions with measurable outcomes is required to deliver this.

### What is a Communication and Dissemination Plan?

It is a document that demonstrates that a Consortium has clearly thought through the rationale, target stakeholders, activities, timescales, budgets and measures incl. their key performance indicators of success behind the dissemination / communications activities it will implement as an integral part of its project plan.

Whilst each Communication and Dissemination Plan will be different, it is likely to consist of:

- a narrative (the rationale/ approach)
- a table which draws together information on priority target stakeholder groups and methods to reach them
- a timetable/GANTT chart
- a budget table with enough detail on each action/activity/product and its delivery
- a table pulling together the agreed key performance indicators or measures of success against each planned for activity.

### The elements of a Communication Plan that will demonstrate clarity of thought and planning are likely to be:

- Evidence that the whole Consortium are 'on board' with the plan and that all partners will support the actions
- Focus on purpose/objective of each selected dissemination/communication action – Who is it for? What do we want to happen as a result?
- Clarity on the messages that the project wishes to communicate overall and to specific groups
- Clear understanding of what success looks like for each action
- Description of the method to be used for delivery
- Utilisation of resources and talents within the consortium
- Realistic assessment of the potential impact of each action
- Built-in time points for review and adjustment
- Appropriate focus on internal communications within the Consortium
- Appropriate utilisation of the services and channels provided by the EC

### The Plan should be able to answer the following questions clearly:

- What are the objectives of our Communication Plan?
- Who are our priority audiences and why?
- When is the most appropriate time to engage with each audience and why?
- How does our Communication Plan create synergy with the rest of the project plan?
- How do we justify the budget allocated to each of our proposed communications actions?
- How are we splitting responsibility for the resources and actions across the Consortium?

For ERA CoBioTech applications the expected minimum requirements of the Communication plan are:

- A max. two A4 page document

- A narrative on approach/rationale/contribution to the project
- A list of priority stakeholders, messages, actions & timetable
- Key performance Indicators / measures of success

A Sample Approach to a Stakeholder Table (key part of any communication plan)

The issue: we need to ensure that more young people know how to code

Why: to improve their personal employment prospects

Impact: overall economic benefit

Communication Plan – Priority Stakeholders & Actions				
Priority Stakeholder Group	What message/info	How to communicate?	When?	Success measures
Priority 1: Policy players in Education & Business	Resources required for upper schools to deliver next generation of IT stars	-Create Consensus White Paper to present to Ministers and special Committees - Secure political Ambassadors - One on one briefing meetings -Articles in business press	From Day One – complete by end of Year One	Number of one on one meetings  Questions in Parliament  Media coverage
Priority 2: Head-teachers/ Governors/ Proprietors of colleges	Need trained teachers to deliver the training required plus 'Train the Trainers facilities'	-Articles in the specialist education media  -Identify and contribute to LinkedIn groups  -Attend/speak at specialist meetings  -Create database of interested parties & send occasional	Years One & Two	Number of active enquirers (no on database)  New courses set up  Evidence of internal cascade of issue/action  Active recruitment & allocation of resources  Capture of success stories for use in newsletter  Media coverage
Priority 3: Teachers of students 14 -18	Become active in a new area of teaching – professional opportunity  Training available	-Articles in teacher press  -Social media activity: IN, twitter etc.	Years Two & Three	Pick up of places on training courses  Appointments in schools/ colleges
Priority 4: Students 14-18	Coding is cool  See what you can do with it – it's fun but it can be profitable too  Demand that you are given resources and guidance to help yourself	-Recruit student ambassadors who can code  -Let them loose to use social media/channels as they choose (provide resources if needed)  -Support with an event – Coding Convention template (to be taken up in many places) with col coding paraphernalia  -Create matching events for students with business to demo relevance to lives/future prospects	Years Three/Four	Number of active ambassadors with 'followers'  Number of new students learning code  Number of successful Conventions & matching events

## ANNEX 5: Data Management

Data Management is an essential component to the success of projects using systems/synthetic biology approaches and/or bioinformatic tools. Representatives from academia, industry, funding agencies, and scholarly publishers designed and jointly endorsed a concise and measurable set of principles referred to as FAIR Data Principles<sup>3</sup> with the intention to provide a guideline for reusability of data holdings. Four foundational principles – Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability and Reusability– are a necessity of data management. The EC recently published Guidelines on [FAIR Data Management in Horizon 2020](#).

Fulfilling the FAIR principles needs the use of software platforms that enable capturing, cataloguing, and annotating data, associated with well documented SOPs, and supports interlinking data from specialized, as well as local collections. Moreover, in a systems approach, well annotated models (including parameters) must be catalogued and interlinked with relevant data. Each project should have one single starting point starting at which one can find out everything about the project.

Participation in this call requires fulfilling the FAIR principles, including the use of a cataloguing platform as described above. Therefore, research data and non-data assets like algorithms, tools and workflows or metadata produced in the projects funded under this call must be:

- machine-readable
- citable
- must be published in a registered repository
- interlinked with other project outcomes in a cataloguing platform. Privacy sensitive data that cannot be published needs to be catalogued, such that the creator of the data can be easily found for possible questions and collaboration. Data that is subject to Intellectual Property for Patents needs to be recorded and published in due course.

The repository must be registered in as a “trustworthy repository” in e.g BioSharing or re3data (Registry for Research Data Repositories). For this, resources of existing community knowledge and data management platforms in Europe shall be preferably used.

**The projects must consider the cost of Data Management in their proposals. The help given to the applicants should enable them to (i) properly estimate what cost will be incurred by performing FAIR Data Management, and (ii) provide a section in the template for proposals, in which some guiding questions help the applicants to answer the most relevant and pressing Data Management questions to the reviewers.**

The [Guidelines on FAIR Data Management in Horizon 2020](#) provides a Data Management Plan Template addresses to: 1) Data Summary, 2) FAIR Data, 3) Allocation of resources, 4) Data Security, 5) Ethical aspects, 6) Other issues..

Answering the questions, applicants will identify and resolve key questions about their data, models, SOPs and associated metadata. The Data Management plan will outline how data flows and the requirements on data, metadata, storage and data transfer throughout the project and beyond the project.

The costs associated to the Data Management plan (e.g. travel expenditures of staff to Data Management training; salary costs of staff curators; costs of servers, storage, archiving and backup) must be derived from this and clearly presented.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.nature.com/articles/sdata201618>

Guiding questions include the following:

*Generate and Store*

- Who will generate the data/model/SOP?
- Who will receive the data/model/SOP?
- What does the user need from the generator?
- Where will you store data/model/SOP?
- How much storage capacity will you need short term?
- How will you transfer it?
- How much will you keep for longer? Who is responsible for this step?
- How will the data be made available for processing?

*Curate*

- Who will curate the data/model/SOP?
- How will the data/model/SOP be interlinked?
- How is data tracked through processes?
- How are versions of models and SOPs tracked?

*Access*

- Are you allowed to share data?
- Where, when and how will you make the data/model/SOP available?
- Which public archives will you deposit your data/model/SOPs in?
- How will you make the project's data/model/SOPs available in a unified way through a one-stop single starting point starting at which one can find out everything about the project?

While developing answers for the proposal, it will also become clear who is **responsible as a contact person**, for which parts of the Data Management of the project. This helps in defining whom to choose as Data Management contacts for the Data Management, and who would make sense for cross-project Data Management meetings.

**Please note that Data Management is an ongoing activity of iterative improvement and adaptation rather than something that can be finished in one short effort. The Data Management plans must reflect this.**

All of these points are relevant both in systems biology and systems. In *addition* to the points addressed in the checklist, the work with privacy sensitive data needs to be addressed. For the purposes of the proposal it makes sense to consider two groups of data: privacy-sensitive and privacy-insensitive data, and consider these independently, as well as considering:

- How can privacy sensitive data become privacy insensitive
- How can privacy insensitive data become privacy sensitive during the project's run time.

## ANNEX 6: Responsible Research & Innovation

The successful technologies and innovations that ERA CoBioTech aims to produce will need to be more than just technical: they will be successfully embedded into social, environmental and political worlds. This means that they will have to be a part of social change. There is much evidence to suggest that it is challenging to predict exactly how such change comes about. Instead of attempting to address these questions after a technology is rolled out, it is sensible to try to 'design-in' consideration of the social, environmental, economic, political and cultural dimensions to technologies as they are being conceived, designed and tested.

If this process of 'innovation governance' is done well, ERA CoBioTech can help to produce new scientific knowledge, new technologies and innovations that are more democratic, more environmentally sustainable and that address more meaningful societal demands than may otherwise be the case. If such technologies and innovations actively design-in the insights and knowledge of public and stakeholder groups, they are more likely to be 'socially robust' because they will accommodate questions that may arise later in their development.

There are many forms of 'innovation governance' but the most prominent, and arguably best-developed, is 'Responsible Research & Innovation'. There are many national and transnational frameworks for Responsible Research and Innovation<sup>4</sup>, but it is these broad goals of producing more useful, more thoughtful and more democratic innovations that are most important to follow.

Implementing Responsible Research and Innovation requires a multi-level approach that is attentive to different sites of innovation governance – universities, companies, policy arenas. This means that responsibility must be a collective one; researchers are not the only ones responsible for developing innovations. ERA CoBioTech acknowledges this and is working to develop programme-level mechanisms for Responsible Research and Innovation.

At the project level this call supports a wide range of methodologies that will investigate the social, environmental, political, regulatory, historical, ethical or cultural dimensions of such research. ERA CoBioTech is conscious of the fact that technologies and innovation are products of social processes, meaning that attention may be best directed towards the laboratory, project or institutional cultures that produce them. Consortia should develop an approach that is best-suited to their topic and available expertise. The following approaches may be particularly appropriate to this call.

### *Interdisciplinary collaboration.*

Social sciences and humanities scholars may be interested in collaborating with you. Researchers in Science and Technology Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Geography, Socio-legal studies, History, Environmental Studies, and others may each bring new insights and expertise to the questions

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<sup>4</sup> See for instance: Research Council of Norway:

<https://www.forskningradet.no/servlet/Satellite?cid=1254020095535&pagename=VedleggPointer&target=blank>, UK EPSRC: <https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/framework/area/>, and the European Commission: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/responsible-research-innovation>

raised by your project. Their research may focus on the social and political dimensions of the project. These may include, but are not limited to, questions about translational pathways, dual-use, interdisciplinarity, biosafety, biosecurity, intellectual property or changing cultures of work in the life sciences. Some of the most innovative and productive research in this space has attempted to build collaborative research endeavours that value the contributions of both the social and natural sciences, for instance by creating spaces for reflection and discussion informed by data from each discipline.

### *User and public engagement*

The practice of discussing the outputs and benefits of science with members of the public is widespread and supported within many funding programmes. However, there are still relatively few opportunities to integrate public and stakeholder insights and knowledge into the design of research programmes. This is a challenging goal and takes careful consideration and appropriate resources but ERA CoBioTech welcomes approaches that attempt to achieve it in collaboration with social scientists.

### *Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)*

LCA is an internationally standardised methodology ([ISO 14040: 2006](#)) that helps to quantify the environmental pressures related to goods and services (products). By attempting to account for the full life-cycle of the product, LCA helps to identify the trade-offs and potential areas for improvement<sup>5</sup>. The applicants in this ERA CoBioTech call may use and are encouraged to seek to advance the development of [LCA](#) or another robust methodology to assess the environmental implications of products, processes and technologies that may be developed or improved within the project.

### *Other forms of assessment*

Environmental aspects are only one dimension of products, processes and technologies in development; other aspects can be assessed through tools beyond LCA. There are many well-established methodologies, including but not limited to: foresight studies; real time technology assessment; value sensitive design; user-driven design; critical design; techno-moral vignettes; citizen forums; co-production research; integrated assessment; alternatives assessment; multi-criteria mapping; socio-technical integration research; and a wide range of approaches within History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, Innovation Studies, Science and Technology Studies, Sustainability Science or Empirical Bioethics.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ipp/lca.htm>

## Questions to consider when developing your consortia proposal

The following questions may be helpful to consider when developing your proposal:

### *Core questions and assumptions*

- What is the central idea of your project?
- Are there any assumptions that underpin it and that would affect its success?
- Are there any kinds of knowledge that would help address those assumptions?
- Does your university or organisation have researchers working on the social, political, ethical or environmental dimensions of the life sciences?

### *Integration*

- Is it possible to develop a set of shared research questions for all your collaborators at the outset?
- Does the most important question revolve around research in the lab or some other site (such as the pathways for translation, regulation, or the environment)?
- Are there particular points in time or sites where input and exchange would be particularly valuable?
- Is it valuable for the RRI component to extend over the life of your project?
- Is it possible for insights from the social, environmental, or legal research to inform the outcomes of your project? Can you demonstrate this?

### *Support & flexibility*

- Can you demonstrate that the RRI research is resourced appropriately?
- Are there any extra resources, such as travel and networking, that you require from the CoBioTech programme to support your RRI project?
- Is it possible for your consortia proposal to adapt to changing developments within the project over time?