

**TENTH JOINT TRANSNATIONAL CALL FOR NETWORK PLUS WITHIN
THE JOINT PROGRAMMING INITIATIVE ON ANTIMICROBIAL
RESISTANCE**

“JPIAMR Network Plus 2020”

Final Version (24/01/2020)

The JPIAMR member countries contributing funding are:

1. **Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR)** – Canada
2. **French National Research Agency (ANR)** - France
3. **Ministry of Health (It-MOH)** – Italy
4. **Ministry of Education and Science (IZM)**- Latvia
5. **The Research Council of Norway (RCN)** - Norway
6. **National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII)** – Spain
7. **Swedish Research Council (SRC)** – Sweden
8. **The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMw)** – the Netherlands

JPIAMR NETWORK JOINT CALL SECRETARIAT (JCS)

is hosted by Italy, Ministry of Health with advisory support from Canada, Canadian Institutes of Health Research
networkpluscall2020@sanita.it

DEADLINES

February 10th, 2020, 14.00 CET – CALL FOR PROPOSALS OPEN

April 6th, 2020, 17.00 CET – DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Link to electronic proposal submission: https://ptoutline.eu/app/jpiamr_np_2020

For further information on JPIAMR, please visit our website: <http://www.jpiamr.eu/>

Table 1. Summary of the call

Type of funding	“Jointly funded national Network” model
Area	Network Plus 2020
Focus	The intent of the call is to support networks to plan and implement activities related to connecting and bridging partnerships, enabling global access of AMR related tools and knowledge, facilitating data sharing and supporting capacity building leading to awareness and scientific innovation, under a One Health approach.
Applicant	The main applicant is the Network coordinator from a research organisation located in one of the countries participating in the call. Both new and established networks are eligible to apply. The application of an established network is subject to National rules (see Annex A)
Network coordinator	The coordinator has appropriate skills to lead the proposed network within the focus of the call
Co-coordinator	A co-coordinator can be assigned in the case that a Network receives funding from two independent funding agencies. The coordinator and co-coordinator are jointly responsible for reporting to their National funding agencies.
Network partners	A Network needs to be composed of at least six (6) partners from at least six (6) different countries. The Network is encouraged to consider gender and geographical diversity (EU13/LMIC) in the Network partners.
Funding period	12 or 24 months (plus 2 months for report writing)
Funding	€50,000-100,000 per year per Network for one to two years (Depending on Funding agency)
Opening of the call	10 th February 2020
Closing of the call	6 th April 2020, 17.00 CET
Evaluation Panel	10 th June 2020
Decision	End July and early September 2020
Start of the Network	End of 2020/early 2021
Submission of Network Report	Report must be submitted within 2 months after the termination of the grant period. For grants with a 12 month duration reports should be submitted by the 12 months: 31st March 2022, and grants with a 24 month duration should submit reports by the 31 st March 2023.

The Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPIAMR) is comprised of 27 member nations that align to coordinate national research funding and coordination of multi-sectorial AMR research on a global scale. JPIAMR supports collaborative action for filling knowledge gaps on antimicrobial resistance with a One Health perspective. As well as accelerating the discovery of new antibacterial products, JPIAMR also supports research to better understand how resistance develops and spreads in the environment as well as the development of diagnostic tools, improved surveillance and intervention methods, and implementation of smarter strategies for using antibiotics in healthcare and agriculture. JPIAMR coordinates national public investments and funds transnational research and activities through the implementation of a shared JPIAMR Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA). The six priority topics of the JPIAMR SRIA – therapeutics, diagnostics, surveillance, transmission, environment and interventions – provide the basis for JPIAMR joint actions. To date JPIAMR has supported 61 projects and 31 Networks with funding exceeding 80 million Euro in its joint calls.

Since 2016, JPIAMR has launched three Network calls:

- Call 4 (2016): Maximising Existing and Future Research Efforts and Resource Alignment to Combat AMR
- Call 7 (2018): Surveillance
- Call 8 (2018) Building the foundations of the JPIAMR-VRI

Networks were directed to enhance resource alignment and maximize existing and future efforts to combat AMR with the production of, for example, white papers, prospective views, guidelines, and/or best practice frameworks in order to identify key questions to be addressed or identify potential solutions to overcome barriers to AMR research studies.

1. Introduction

The growing resistance of microbes to previously effective therapeutic interventions is rapidly becoming a public health crisis. Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) has now escalated to the point where some of the bacteria causing infections are resistant to most, if not all, available antibiotics. This global crisis has garnered the attention of world leaders and spurred efforts to find effective solutions. To date, JPIAMR has held three calls for Networks. The first covered all priority topics of the JPIAMR Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, while the two other calls focused within the areas of Surveillance and Building the Foundations of the JPIAMR-Virtual Research Institute ([JPIAMR-VRI](#)). Networking is recognised to be an important aspect of the JPIAMR-VRI, a platform to increase coordination, improve visibility of the AMR research base and facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity development across the globe, covering the full One Health spectrum. Networks are encouraged to consider the incorporation of their activities within the JPIAMR-VRI.

2. Aim of the Call

2.1 Focus of the Call

The intent of the call is to support networks to design and implement ways to support AMR research considering at least one of the six strategic areas of the JPIAMR Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda: Therapeutics, Diagnostics, Surveillance, Transmission, Environment and Interventions, as described in the JPIAMR Roadmap activities³, those ideas could include any of the following:

- Connect AMR researchers bridging geographic and research fields
- Facilitate access to scientific information and infrastructures
- Provide avenues for sharing of AMR knowledge, data, infrastructures and facilities and perform meta-studies
- Build capacity around AMR Research
- Increase awareness and visibility of the issue of AMR
- Use scientific evidence and increase scientific excellence in innovation to inform policy and guideline makers
- Develop social and economic approaches for the study of interventions, transmission, environment and translation to the market
- Improve optimal health economic models related to AMR challenge

2.2 Focal areas of the network

Networks should develop and implement activities focusing on AMR within the domains of Human health, Animal health and the Environment. The Networks are encouraged to bridge multiple One Health areas as needed. Networks may build upon new or existing global collaborations/partnerships.

Up to two successful Networks will be allocated additional funding of up to €50,000 to organise the start-up meeting in early 2021 to align the Networks (including meeting logistics, travel and accommodation costs for Network Coordinators from all funded Networks) and also for the final and common review workshop (early-mid 2022). To receive funding for these activities applicants must complete section VII of the application form for Organisation of Joint Network Workshops. Meetings will be organised with coordinating support from the JPIAMR Secretariat. These Networks will be responsible for writing the start-up and final Workshop report based on the discussions and outcomes at the workshop. Each funded Network must be represented (by either the Coordinator or another member) at both the start-up meeting and the common review workshop to present their plans, implemented results and recommendations.

2.3 Characteristics and mode of operation

Networks will receive funding from one or multiple funding agencies. In the case that one funding agency provides funding, all national requirements for that agency must be met. In the case where funding is received from multiple sources, including co-funding or supplementary funding of Networks, the national funding rules for each funding country must be followed for individual activities conducted in each individual funding country.

Co-funding refers to Networks where multiple funding sources for networking activities has been received and awarded to two Coordinators.

Networks must complete their work into the maximum period established of twelve (12) or twenty-four (24) months after the funding start date. The final report must be submitted, at the latest, two (2) months after the final established date.

2.4 Eligibility

The funded Networks must bring together/align organisations from as many disciplines and sectors as needed. The Networks must develop national and international collaborations and partnerships that involve representatives from as many [JPIAMR member countries](#) as possible. Network partners from countries outside the JPIAMR membership are also encouraged.

For an application to be eligible:

1. Networks must involve at least six (6) partners from at least six (6) different countries.
2. Network must be led by an individual from an eligible organisation within one of the JPIAMR countries participating in the call (in accordance with the terms and conditions of the relevant national funding organisations, see Table 3 Network funders). This individual should have the skills, competence and commitment to drive a collaborative and output-directed process.
3. Individuals cannot act as Network Coordinator for more than one (1) JPIAMR Network in the present call.
4. Individuals are allowed to be Partners of more than one (1) JPIAMR Network in the present call, according to National rules (see Annex A).
5. Members can be added to the Network as it develops further if additional expertise/knowledge is of benefit to the Network.
6. In the course of the JPIAMR peer review process, merging of related Networks applying on similar and complimentary topics may be suggested. Additional synergies will be explored at the start-up meeting.

Networks are encouraged to consider:

- the facilitation of the upbringing of young generation of researchers (PhD and postdocs) and new investigators.
- gender and geographical diversity (EU13/LMIC) in the Network partners.

For additional eligibility requirements, please refer to rules of the national funding agencies (Table 4) and for queries contact the individuals listed in Table 3.

2.5 Expected outputs

The Networks should be guided by a clear project plan and conclude work including the implementation activities within the given funding period. Applicants should describe both planning and implementation activities in the application in order to be eligible for funding. Networks are allowed to hire a resource to cover administrative tasks related to the management of their Network, subject to specific terms and conditions of each participating funding organisation.

Networks are required to produce outcomes in the form of a final standard report as well as additional supporting documents including, for example, but not limited to plans, prospective views, guidelines, and/or best practice frameworks. Reports should be submitted no later than two (2) months after the end of the funding period. The reports will be published on the JPIAMR website. JPIAMR supports open access of data and the documents from the networks linked to the JPIAMR-VRI will be published on the [JPIAMR-VRI website](#) and platform.

Beneficiaries of the grant commit to submit the following:

- An outline for inclusion in the start-up Network meeting
- An abstract and outcomes summary for inclusion in the final workshop report
- A final evaluation online report for JPIAMR monitoring within two (2) months of the conclusion of the funding period.

Dissemination of results (in any form, including electronic) must display the JPIAMR logo ([JPIAMR quick guide for dissemination](#)) and logo of the respective Funding Agency/Agencies. Including the following text: *“This Network has been supported under the framework of the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance and have received funding from the ... (Funding Agency)”*.

It is recommended that Networks invite at least one (1) JPIAMR member or respective funding Agency member to their organised workshops or meetings (at least once during the Network funded period) as observers at the JPIAMR member’s expenses and not the expense of the Network.

3. Application

3.1 Funds available and form of support

Approximately €890,000 will be available to fund up to 10 Networks under this call (see Table 4). Funding decisions will be based on the quality of the applications received with regards to the evaluation criteria.

Each Network selected for funding will be funded by the funding agency from the country where the institution of the Coordinator is located according to its national rules. To optimize the committed budget (for example, to avoid the unexpended budget), the CSC will accept the possibility of changing the Coordinator with one of the other Network partners whose funding agency has not utilised their budget. Funding will always be allocated in accordance with national standards. All national guidelines and application requirements must be followed.

The Network would need to initiate work at the end of 2020/start of 2021 for a time period of 12 to 24 months (plus 2 months to deliver the final report). A Consortium Agreement will be signed by all participants in the network, if required by national funders.

Each Network coordinator can apply for a **minimum of €50,000 and a maximum of €100,000** over a two-year period for support of its activities¹ (see Table 4 for equivalent amounts in foreign currencies).

Table 2: Possible budget applications:

Budget	Timeframe	Note
50,000€ per timeframe	1 year	*
50,000€ per timeframe	2 years	*
100,000€ per timeframe	1 year	*
100,000€ per timeframe	2 years	*
200,000€ per timeframe	2 years	CIHR only

*see ANNEX A for more funding Agency details

Additional funding will be available for Networks offering to organise the start-up and/or the final common review workshops. The additional funding must be used to cover the costs of the workshop, including travel and accommodation of all Network coordinators/representatives, or additional funding for participation of a Network member from one of the funding countries (according to National rules (see Annex A)

Network funding does not provide support for:

- direct research activities or equipment;
- the salaries of investigators;
- Student grants.

For more information on the application process please see the [JPIAMR Guideline for Applicants](#).

3.2 Submission of proposals

The application form for this call is available on the [JPIAMR website](#), and on [the online submission tool](#).

Applicants will be required to complete the following:

- Network and Applicant Summary
- Rationale for the Proposed Network
- Objectives and Mode of Operation
- Composition of Network, specifying supplementary funded partners
- Implementation Plan
- Outcomes and Deliverables
- Justification of Budget, including supplementary funding

¹ Funding of Networks through this call does not support future funding.

- Organisation of Joint Network Workshops (if applicable)
- Applicant and Host Organisation description
- Dissemination process
- If the project can be linked to the JPIAMR-VRI, the description of how the results should be integrated in the JPIAMR-VRI Digital Platform

Submission of proposals will be done using the Application Form provided. The system will be opened by **February 10th, 2020**. Application forms must be submitted by the Network's coordinator on the online submission website no later than **17.00h (CET) on April 6th, 2020**. Proposals will not be accepted after this time. The general timeline of the call can be seen in Table 1.

Refer to Table 4 for specific and additional national rules and requirements.

3.3 Contact persons

The only official communication line of the proposal is between the Joint Call Secretariat and the Network Coordinator. The Network Coordinator will be the person contacted by the Joint Call Secretariat during the application procedure, so the Coordinator must forward the information to the other partners of the Network. Each funding organisation has national contact persons who can be contacted for information about the specific national requirements (see Table 4).

Table 3. Funding Agencies and National Contacts

Country	Funding organisation	Contact person	National Contacts Email
Canada	CIHR	CIHR Contact Center Édith Brochu	support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca Edith.Brochu@cihr-irsc.gc.ca
France	ANR	Déborah ZYSS	JPI-AMRCalls@agencerecherche.fr ; Deborah.ZYSS@agencerecherche.fr
Italy (Joint Call Secretariat)	It-MOH	Maria Josè Ruiz Alvarez	mj.ruizalvarez-esterno@sanita.it
Latvia	IZM (Ministry of Education and Science)	Uldis Berkis	Uldis.Berkis@IZM.gov.lv
Norway	The Research Council of Norway	Sonja Prehn/Dyveke Hetland	sp@rcn.no dhe@rcn.no
Spain	ISCIII	Marina Moreno	Marina.moreno@isciii.es
Sweden	SRC	Kristian Haller	Kristian.Haller@vr.se
The Netherlands	ZonMw	Linda van Gaalen	jpiamr@zonmw.nl

4. Evaluation

4.1 Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by a peer review panel (PRP) composed of international experts and will be assessed according to three evaluation criteria:

1. Excellence

- a. Importance of Network aims, including the question it seeks to address, and appropriateness of activities in meeting these aims.
- b. Competence and experience of key experts/organisations in the field(s) of the proposal (previous work in the field, expertise).

2. Quality and efficiency of the implementation

- a. Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including detailed process description, well-defined output, milestones and time plan, appropriateness of the allocation of roles of participants, tasks, resources and governance.
- b. Appropriateness of the collaboration plan including Network communication and coordination.
- c. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the Network (rational distribution of resources in relation to Network activities, coordinator responsibilities and time frame).
- d. If the proposal can be linked to the JPIAMR-VRI, the appropriate description of the results implementation should be included.
- e. Participation of LMIC and EU13 is encouraged but not mandatory. *If applicable: Clarity of rationale for integration of collaborators within the Network, including:*
 - i. LMIC or/and EU13 representatives.
 - ii. Multiple areas of One Health

3. Impact

- a. Added value of Network: Potential of the expected output to guide and/or support AMR research.
- b. Feasibility and sustainability of the expected output considering the innovative catalytic ideas and strategic plans presented.
- c. Extent to which the Network clearly demonstrates the potential for members to achieve greater impact through collaboration.
- d. If the proposal is linked to the JPIAM-VRI, the appropriate description of the results on the impact should be included.

4.2 Scoring system of Networks

A scoring system from 0 to 5 will be used to evaluate the proposal's performance with respect to each of the different evaluation criteria:

0: Failure. The proposal fails to address the criterion in question or cannot be judged because of missing or incomplete information.

- 1: Poor.** The proposal shows serious weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.
- 2: Fair.** The proposal generally addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses that need correction.
- 3: Good.** The proposal addresses the criterion in question well but certain improvements are necessary.
- 4: Very good.** The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but small improvements are possible.
- 5: Excellent.** The proposal successfully addresses all aspects of the criterion in question.

Evaluation scores will be awarded for each of the three (3) main evaluation criteria. The threshold for funding for individual criteria will be three (3). The maximum score that can be reached from all three (3) criteria together is fifteen (15) points.

The evaluation of the proposals will be made based on the quality of the applications received and the best fit to the call and the JPIAMR-VRI. The review panel will consider high quality/fundable Network proposals and will provide a ranked list based on total score of Network proposals taking into account the quality of proposals. Given these conditions, it is possible, for a given topic, that none or several Networks will be funded, depending on the quality of the proposals received.

In the course of the JPIAMR peer review process, merging of related Networks applying on similar and complimentary topics may be suggested². Additional synergies will be explored at the start-up meeting.

Proposals may be recommended to implement changes according to the review in order to be eligible to receive funding.

4.3 Critical issues:

In the case where actions defined in the initial application are not finally implemented appropriately (milestones and time plan, appropriateness of the allocation of roles of participants, tasks, rational distribution of resources in relation to Network activities, coordinator responsibilities and time frame). Network coordinators must notify the respective funding agencies and JPIAMR Call secretariat immediately . Next to that the coordinator must provide an explanation in the final grant report.

² Negotiations regarding merging of Networks will involve the Network Coordinators and their respective national funding organisations.

ANNEX A: Summary of JPIAMR Network call funding commitments and eligibility.

Table 4. Participating Organisations, National Rules and Requirements, and Funding Commitments.

Please note that this is only a summary. Refer to the national websites and contact the respective national contact persons for full details.

Participant Organisation name	Country/region	Specific National/Regional rules	Eligible costs	Additional documents required	Funding commitments
CIHR	Canada	<p>The Canadian Applicant must be a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canadian and international non-governmental organizations (including community organizations and regional health authorities) with a research or knowledge translation mandate or - Learned societies, federations and national scientific organizations. <p>The Canadian grantee will administer its own funds through a grant agreement with CIHR. Industry and individuals are not eligible to apply.</p> <p>Canadian applicants must complete a CIHR application and submit it using ResearchNet. The deadline for submission of this application is the same as the Full Application deadline to Joint Action Secretariat. The purpose of this additional application to CIHR is to provide CIHR with an Operating Budget for the project, with the amounts quoted in Canadian dollars.</p>	Recipients should review the Use of Grant Funds section of the Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) Financial Administration Guide for a complete listing and description of allowable costs and activities.	Canadian recipients will be required to submit a final report	The maximum CIHR amount per Network is \$151.000* CAD per year for up two (2) years for a total of \$302.000* CAD per Network. CIHR has sufficient funds to support a maximum of two (2) Networks.
ANR	France	<p>The applicant must belong to a public research organisation such as EPST, EPIC, universities, university hospitals, non-university research institutes</p> <p>Additional eligibility rule: a network applying for ANR funding should have no more than 5 partners form a network</p>	See call requirements	No	€200,000 €50.000 for one year or €100.000for 2 years

		that was already funded in previous JPIAMR network calls. Please see additional participant modalities : http://www.anr.fr/JPI-AMR-WG-surveillance-2020			
It-MOH	Italy	Only scientific institutes for research, hospitalisation and healthcare (istituti di ricovero e cura a carattere scientifico pubbliche privati, IRCCS) are eligible.	See call requirements	No industrial partners are eligible. In order to expedite the eligibility-check process, the Ministry of Health will grant an eligibility clearance to the applicants prior to the submission of the pre-proposals. To this end, it is mandatory that the applicants fill out and return a pre-eligibility (Italy_MOH_form_NETWORKCALL_eligibility_2018) check form through IRCCS scientific Directorate or Regional Office Health Research using WFR System 10 days before submitting their pre-proposals to the Joint Call Secretariat.	€100,000
IZM (Ministry of Education and Science)	Latvia	Only scientific institutions can be funded, they must be registered in the Registry of Research Institutions operated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia, and should correspond to the definition of Research and knowledge dissemination organisation according to the Regulation 651/2014. Latvia will fund only participants in networks (no coordinators). No economic activity allowed for Latvian partner.	Direct costs: Personnel costs for meta-research / research standardisation / statistical research on existing data Costs of organising a workshop in Latvia (catering, special invited experts – outside of network, printing, copying, meeting rooms) Travel costs to network events for the Latvian partner Indirect costs: up to 25% of the direct costs exempt all kind of subcontracting and external services	The Latvian partner should submit to IZM all the documents required for funding	Latvian partner organisation in a network can claim max 10.000 EUR/year. Two Latvian participants in a network are treated as one. Maximum participation in two networks can be

		IZM can fund only the Latvian partner due to nature of the funds used in call. Therefore, the Latvian partner should conclude an agreement with the network coordinator, based on simplified DESCA, to secure efficient participation and correspondence to the objective of the network.			supported up to 2 years. Total budgetary commitment is 40.000 EUR
RCN	Norway	Eligibility of the experts - See guidelines: http://www.forskingsradet.no/en/General_application_requirements/1184159007037	See call requirements	No	€200.000
ISCIII	Spain	Eligible institutions: - Hospitals, primary health care or public health settings of the Spanish - National Health System - Accredited Health Research Institutes - CIBER or CIBERNED - Intramural ISCIII	See call requirements Overheads: up to 21% of the direct cost.	No	€100.000
SRC	Sweden	Eligible applicants: Individual researcher holding a PhD. Only researchers at an administrating organisation approved by the Swedish Research Council may apply. Please refer to general applicant eligibility requirements. The applicant may not have an on-going JPIAMR network grant funded by the Council, at the start of the grant period. See national call texts for all national requirements.	Costs associated with international network building and collaboration, such as: 1) travel costs, food and accommodation, insurance 2) joint seminars, courses or workshops 3) joint publications and other joint information dissemination 4) joint conferences. The grant may not be used for scholarships, research or salaries for performing research activities.	Swedish partners/network coordinators selected for funding by the SRC will be asked to submit a copy of the Network application using the Swedish Research Council's application system Prisma.	SEK 1 million, approximately €100 000
ZonMw	The Netherlands	Only research originations according to EC Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01) are eligible for funding.	Costs associated with international network building and collaboration, such as: 1) travel costs, food and accommodation, insurance	Awarded projects will need to deliver a Consortium Agreement and a Data Management Plan.	€100.000 in total, with the possible budget applications of €50.000 per

		<p>See https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/NL/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52014XC0627%2801%29 ZonMw has a legal obligation to determine whether a (co)applicant qualifies as a "research organisation" according to EU state aid legislation. For that purpose each legal entity that is a (co)applicant of a ZonMw grant under this funding scheme, and does not qualify as a university under the Dutch The Higher Education Act, will receive a letter with a request for additional information. Please note that without the timely and complete submission of the requested information, ZonMw cannot determine the status of the (co)applicant involved and therefore will not be able to award the grant application.</p>	<p>2) joint seminars, courses or workshops 3) joint publications and other joint information dissemination 4) joint conferences. The grant may not be used for scholarships, research or salaries for performing research activities. Overhead costs are not eligible.</p>		<p>year for one year or €50.000 per year for two years per network.</p>
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