



GREEN ERA-HUB
on Agri-Food and Biotechnology



WHEAT
INITIATIVE

2025 Joint International Funding Call

Sustainable Production and Utilisation of Biomass

launched by:

The Green ERA-Hub

in collaboration with

the Wheat Initiative

Call Announcement V1.0 30th September 2025
Guidelines for Applicants

Key Dates

Call opens: 30th of September 2025

Information Webinar: 15th of October 2025, 9:30 am to 10:30 am CEST (Berlin, Germany)

Deadline pre-proposal submission: 28th of November 2025, 12:00 CET (noon, Berlin, Germany)

Launch full proposal submission: 5th of February 2026

Deadline full proposal submission: 25th of March 2026, 12:00 CET (noon, Berlin, Germany)

Evaluation and selection: March – May 2026

Letters to Applicants: June 2026



This project has received funding from the European
Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation
programme under grant agreement No101056828

History of Changes

| Version | Changes |
|------------------------|------------------|
| V1.0 30 September 2025 | Original version |
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Table of Contents

| | | |
|-----|---|----|
| 1 | Background | 7 |
| 2 | Main Objective and Scope..... | 7 |
| 3 | Call topics..... | 8 |
| 4 | Funding modalities and who can apply | 10 |
| 4.1 | Who can apply | 10 |
| 4.2 | Eligibility | 10 |
| 4.3 | Coordinator of the research project consortium..... | 12 |
| 4.4 | Funders..... | 13 |
| 4.5 | Submission tool..... | 13 |
| 4.6 | Partnering tool..... | 13 |
| 5 | Call procedure | 14 |
| 5.1 | Management of the Call..... | 14 |
| 5.2 | Schedule..... | 14 |
| 5.3 | Step 1 - pre-proposal..... | 15 |
| 5.4 | Changes from pre- to full proposal | 16 |
| 5.5 | Step 2 - full proposal..... | 17 |
| 6 | Expert evaluation procedure..... | 19 |
| 6.1 | General..... | 19 |
| 6.2 | Evaluation and selection of proposals..... | 19 |
| 6.3 | Proposal selection (Funding decision)..... | 21 |
| 6.4 | Ethics Evaluation | 22 |
| 7 | General Data Protection Regulations Issues..... | 22 |
| 8 | Obligations for funded projects..... | 23 |
| 8.1 | Negotiation of contract | 23 |
| 8.2 | Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation | 23 |
| 8.3 | Data sharing | 23 |
| 8.4 | Project monitoring and meetings | 24 |
| 8.5 | Data Management Issues | 24 |
| 8.6 | Ethics assessment..... | 25 |
| | Annex A1: Funders Contact Persons | 26 |
| | Annex A2: Overview of Funders' regulations..... | 27 |
| | Annex B: Required information for pre-proposal and full proposal..... | 28 |
| | Annex C: Template pre-proposal and full proposal..... | 29 |
| | Annex D: Data Management Plan | 38 |
| | Annex E: Template Letter of Financial Commitment | 40 |
| | Annex F: Work plan..... | 41 |

| | |
|---|----|
| Annex G: Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan | 46 |
| Annex H: Template CV | 48 |
| Annex I: Funders regulations..... | 49 |

Definitions and Tasks

| | |
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| Call | 2025 Joint International Funding Call "Sustainable production and utilisation of biomass" launched by Green ERA-Hub in collaboration with the Wheat Initiative. |
| Call Office | The Call Office is responsible for administrative support regarding the Call, call documents and procedures, submission platform and webinar. |
| Funder | Funders are organisations who give funding to the Call according to their Funder's regulations |
| Funders' Board (FB) | The FB consists of all Funders giving funding to the Call. The FB will take the final decision on the selection of projects based on the ranking list provided by the IEC and the availability of funds. |
| International evaluation committee (IEC) | The IEC consists of international experts in the fields of the topics of the Call. Members of the IEC will evaluate each proposal according to the evaluation guidelines (see also section 6 of this document). During the IEC meeting, the IEC will generate a ranked list of proposals. The FB will use the ranking list to select proposals with recommendation for funding. |
| Associated Partner | A Partner in a proposal, not requesting funding from a Funder, but providing a Letter of Financial Commitment in order to demonstrate the ability to undertake the proposed activities within the project. |

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------------|---|
| CDE | Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation |
| CV | Curriculum Vitae |
| DMP | Data Management Plan |
| EC | European Commission |
| ESR | Evaluation Summary Report |
| EU | European Union |
| FAIR | Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable |
| FB | Funders' Board |
| FCP | Funders' Contact Person |
| GEH | Green ERA-Hub |
| GDPR | General Data Protection Regulation |
| IEC | International evaluation committee |
| WI | Wheat Initiative |

1 Background

The **Green ERA-Hub (GEH)** officially started in September 2022 as a Coordination and Support Action of the European Commission under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme. It represents 15 currently active EU ERA-Net Cofunds and self-sustained initiatives in the field of agri-food and biotechnology. Among the main aims, the GEH builds on previous achievements and further enhance cross-sectoral collaboration between agri-food and biotechnology ERA-Nets by identifying common research and innovation priorities and addressing them in joint transnational funding of collaborative research projects. The 2025 Joint International Call is developed and funded by the partners of the GEH in collaboration with the WI.

The “Wheat Initiative” (WI) was launched in 2011 following an agreement between the Ministers of Agriculture of the G20 countries as “International Research Initiative for Wheat Improvement”. The WI now provides a framework to identify global strategic research and organisation priorities for wheat research. The WI fosters communication between members of the research community, funders and global policy makers, and aims at securing efficient and long-term investments to meet wheat research and development goals. It also initiates and supports activities to enhance communication and increase access of all to information, resources and technologies.

As a result of the alignment of various national and regional research programmes, the GEH has combined the research and innovation priorities of different ERA-Net initiatives to launch the 2025 GEH Joint International Funding Call. The WI supported GEH in the definition of the call scope and in the involvement of international funders.

2 Main Objective and Scope

The aim of this third Call of the GEH is to contribute to the **transformation** of today’s largely fossil resources-based economy **into a sustainable bio-based economy** that focuses on natural and renewable material cycles aiming to fully exploit the potential of a sustainable bio-based economy.

A truly sustainable bio-based economy is expected to contribute to environmental, social, and economic sustainability by substituting fossil resources, while avoiding negative impacts on land use, landscapes and ecosystems. Moreover, a key aspect of a sustainable bio-based economy is that its **full implementation should not affect global food security**. For all these reasons, competition around land and agricultural production for different purposes (food and feed, raw materials for manufacturing, energy) has to be avoided.

In this view, the conditions of both, production and utilisation of biomass, are crucial; they are key areas for research and innovation and should be considered as complementary elements. Production should **limit any environmental burden** and adapt to local conditions as much as possible, while ensuring quality and system resilience, whereas **utilisation needs to be efficient**, based on circularity and waste minimisation.

This Call funds projects that contribute to a sustainable, resilient, reliable, and affordable biomass production through innovative breeding methods for **improved crops** for sustainable and resilient food and feed systems (Topic A) or that enhance the **utilisation of non-eatable biomass** and/or intermediates from a wide range of sources for industrial purposes in a cascade use approach (Topic B).

3 Call topics

Topic A: Plant breeding for improved resilience & health of crops, environment, and soil

Crops are particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change. In addition, there is the need to reduce the environmental and financial burden of chemical inputs, both fertilisers and crop protection products. At the same time, the redesign of these systems offers great potential for the improvement of crop resilience, health and resource-use efficiency. A range of technological advances and resources have become available that offer new opportunities for enhancing crop yield and sustainable production. These include **extensive genomics resources** for our major crops and their wild relatives, novel insights into host-pathogen interactions, techniques for examining root development and architecture coupled with extensive information on the microbial populations, both beneficial and detrimental, associated with plant roots and areal tissues, and many other technologies. The further development of these technologies and their application to breeding across the full system of crop rotations and multiple seasons should help address the challenges facing future food production.

The scope includes projects focused on **temperate, rain-fed and irrigated cropping environments**. These farming systems are often characterised by cereal production, particularly wheat and barley, grown in rotation with Brassicaceae, grain legumes or other crops. Rotational grasslands (and diverse swards) and perennial crops are also included in the scope. Specific details on the range of crop species and other requirements can be found in respective national/regional funding annexes.

Topic A focuses on research efforts and approaches that will improve agronomic systems through genetic and innovative breeding methods for future-proofing crop varieties, possibly in combination with innovative and/or sustainable crop management practices, to address at least one of the goals indicated below:

- **Resilience**: improve abiotic and biotic stress resilience through novel approaches that integrate genetics with management practices across the cropping system.
- **Reduced inputs**: improve nutrient use efficiency and crop health while minimising the use of fertilisers, especially quickly soluble nitrogen fertilisers and chemical plant protection products.
- **Water use efficiency**: improve water use efficiency with respect to heat, drought, and salinity.

- **Agrobiodiversity and soil health:** preserve and improve soil function and health by promoting root and soil microbiome diversity and optimising plant root-soil-microorganism interactions.

Topic B: Biotechnological applications to improve the utilisation of biomass

This topic focuses on researching and developing novel, innovative, and sustainable biotechnological approaches towards a better utilisation of renewable biomass and/or intermediates.

In the context of this topic, **biomass is considered in a broad sense** such as biomass from agriculture, forestry, aquaculture including residues, side streams, waste from industry, and intermediates. Specific attention should be given to novel technologies and/or improved production methods for high value **non-food products** from biomass and/or intermediates. These improvements may aim to increase product value, enhance sustainability, improve end-product quality, or deliver other performance or environmental benefits. Innovations that reduce or reuse waste, enhance efficiency, and improve circularity should also be prioritised. Products include, but are not limited to, bio-based chemicals, bio-based and biodegradable plastics, textiles, paper products, and composite materials for broader industrial applications.

Topic **B** includes (but is not restricted to):

- Innovative biotechnological conversion technologies (possibly in combination with chemical or biochemical ones) to transform bio-based building components into high-value products in a sustainable way.
- Metabolic engineering including targeted optimisation and modification of microbial production strains and biological processes, including the modification and optimisation of metabolic pathways and their regulation.
- Use of bioinformatics tools for the identification, modification and utilisation of metabolic pathways, such as those useful for bio-production and strain/variety improvement (e.g., data standardisation, machine learning approaches, modelling, open repositories, remote sensing monitoring systems, Internet of Things, and Artificial Intelligence).
- Where necessary, projects may include, next to the biotechnological approach, also novel technologies and approaches for biomass pre-processing.

Ambitions for all proposed projects

The projects should fall within Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 1-5, although they are not necessarily required to cover the whole range. Implementation of the project must result in an increase of at least one TRL level. Industry engagement is strongly encouraged, but not mandatory, and should be adequate for the TRL range of the project and, if appropriate, ensure technology transfer to market by actively responding to market demand (market pull), and aligning innovations with industry needs to accelerate adoption and impact.

According to the specific thematic focus and to the goals of each proposal, the following cross-cutting approaches are encouraged:

- Enhancing interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral collaboration research.
- Adopting a multi-actor approach (MAA), engaging with stakeholders (as appropriate to the research stage and in order to technologically advance the project).
- Valorising the potential of remote regions, encouraging cross-border collaboration.
- Providing Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Techno-Economic Analysis (TEA) (as appropriate to the research stage and in order to technologically advance the project).
- Seeking solutions also suited to niche or small-scale biomass and intermediates, valorising local supply chains.

4 Funding modalities and who can apply

The Funders of the Call are listed in Table 1. The funding for transnational projects will be based on a virtual common pot instrument. This means that research partners (applicants) of projects, that will be selected for funding, will receive the distinct grant separately and directly from the national/regional Funder supporting the Call, according to their legal terms and conditions for project funding (see Funders' regulations).

4.1 Who can apply

Universities and other higher education institutions, public research institutions, private non-profit organisations, and private companies can apply, subject to the Funders' regulations and eligibility criteria. Research consortia should consist of a minimum of three Partners seeking funding from at least three different countries. Research consortia partners ineligible to receive funding from any of the Funders can be part of research consortia, if they bring in their own funding and submit an appropriate "Letter of Financial Commitment" (see Annex E). These will be termed Associated Partners. However, Associated Partners cannot serve as Coordinators, their contribution should not be essential to the project's successful implementation, and they will not count toward the minimum number of Partners.

4.2 Eligibility

All proposals must meet the general eligibility criteria, as well as the applicable Funder-specific eligibility criteria.

The general eligibility criteria are:

- **Pre-proposals must be submitted by 28th of November 2025, 12:00 CET (noon, Berlin, Germany) via the online submission platform (see also section 5.3 for pre-proposal submission details).**
- **Full proposals must be submitted by 25th of March 2026, 12:00 CET (noon, Berlin, Germany) via the submission platform (see also section 6.3 for full proposal submission details).**

- Proposals must be written in English.
- Proposals must be complete and in accordance with the procedure and must be submitted via the online submission platform. Full proposals must include a Workplan, incl. detailed a description of work packages and Gantt Chart (12 pages, 5MB), a Data Management Plan (DMP) (two pages, PDF, see [Annex D: Data Management Plan](#)), a Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan (two pages, PDF, see [Annex G: Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan](#)) and an ethics self-assessment as part of the application. See also [Annex B: Required information for pre-proposal and full proposal](#)".
- Consortia must include at least three eligible Partners requesting funding from **at least three** different Funders' Board member **countries** who contribute funds to the Call. Associated Partners do not count towards the minimum of three Partners.
- In order to achieve balanced partnerships, the budget that can be requested by Partners from one country cannot be more than 70% of the total requested budget for the project. Some Funders also have funding limits, please check the Funder's regulations.
- The same person cannot serve as a Coordinator for more than one proposal. Some agencies may prohibit the same person from participating in more than one proposal, please check Funders' regulations.
- Each applying consortium must be led by a project coordinator, who must be from an organisation requesting funding from a Funder of this Call (i.e., not an Associated Partner).
- The minimum project duration is 24 months, and the maximum is 36 months (please check the Funders' regulations for exceptions).
- Proposals that include Associated Partner(s) must include a Letter of Financial Commitment (see [Annex E: Template Letter of Financial Commitment](#)) for each Associated Partner in the pre-proposal phase. If proposals include Associated Partner(s) **the absence of the letter(s) will result in the rejection of the entire proposal**.
- In general, there is no maximum number of consortium Partners, however, consortia with more than 5 Partners must justify the necessity and manageability of the project. Associated Partners count to the consortium size.

In addition, Funders eligibility criteria must be respected, and the proposed research project must be consistent with the Funders thematic priorities of the Funder. Funders requirements are described in the Funders' regulations (see under Call Documents at <https://www.submission-greenerahub.eu/call3/>). The Funders may require additional documents according to their own organisational regulations (please, check the relevant Funders' regulations).

Failure of one applicant to meet any of the eligibility criteria, including the Funders eligibility criteria, will result in rejection of the entire proposal. Also, inclusion of a non-eligible Partner without a Letter of Commitment (see Annex E) will result in the rejection of the entire proposal.

Applicants are strongly advised to contact their Funders Contact Person (FCP) before submitting a proposal (see [Annex A1: Funders Contact Persons](#)).

After the closing date, the Call Office will carry out the general eligibility check of the proposals with respect to the criteria listed in this section. Proposals not meeting the minimum requirements will be rejected by the Call Office, following consultation with the Funders' Board (FB). The members of the FB will then check the proposals against Funders' eligibility criteria as described in the Funders' regulations.

Only proposals complying with both sets of criteria (general eligibility criteria and Funders eligibility criteria) will be forwarded to the evaluation procedure.

The results of the eligibility check will be communicated by the Call Office to the project coordinators before the evaluation phase of the Call.

4.3 Coordinator of the research project consortium

Each research project consortium needs to appoint a project coordinator. The project coordinator has the following role and responsibilities:

- make sure that the Funders' regulations and funding modalities of all Partners involved are met by confirmation of the partners themselves to ensure the eligibility of the entire project;
- lead the consortium throughout the application procedure and be responsible for the correct pre-proposal- and proposal submission. The Coordinator should be the one who creates an account for the proposal in the online submission platform;
- be responsible for the overall project coordination and act as the central contact point for the consortium during the full lifespan of the research project;
- inform the Call Office about any event that might affect the implementation of the project;
- ensure that all work is carried out to a high standard and meets contractually bound deliverables and milestones presented in the proposal and approved by the Funders;
- be responsible for sharing all information with consortium partners;
- be responsible for monitoring data and timely delivery of project reports.

The project coordinator will not be responsible for the financial management of project funding, which shall be handled directly between the consortium partners and their corresponding Funders.

4.4 Funders

The following Funders provide funds to this Call and altogether form the Funder Board.

Table 1: List of Funders of the Call

| Country | Funder | Acronym |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Belgium | Fund for Scientific Research - FNRS | F.R.S.- FNRS |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republic of Srpska | MAFWMRS |
| Germany | Bundesministerium für Forschung, Technologie und Raumfahrt (BMFTR) | BMFTR (JÜLICH) |
| Ireland | Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine | DAFM |
| Ireland | Agriculture and Food Development Authority | TEAGASC |
| Luxembourg | Luxembourg National Research Fund | FNR |
| United Kingdom | Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council | BBSRC |
| United Kingdom | Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs | DEFRA |
| Uruguay | Instituto Nacional de Investigación Agropecuaria | INIA-UY |

4.5 Submission tool

Submission of pre- and full proposals will be carried out using an online submission platform, where applicants will find all information necessary for the preparation and submission of proposals. The submission platform is available at <https://www.submission-greenerahub.eu/call3/>

An online webinar will be organised on the 15th of October 2025 between 9:30am and 10:30am CEST for all interested applicants. Content of the webinar will be an overview of all relevant aspects of the Call and a short introduction to the submission platform.

4.6 Partnering tool

In addition, a partnering tool is attached to the submission platform, where project partnerships can be offered or searched for.

5 Call procedure

5.1 Management of the Call

The Call Office and Technical Helpdesk will be operated by Project Management Jülich (Germany):

| Name | Contact Details |
|------------------|--|
| Josefine Kant | ptj-geh-call-office@fz-juelich.de |
| Christian Breuer | |
| Petra E. Schulte | |

5.2 Schedule

The Call will follow a two-step procedure. A full proposal can be submitted only if the pre-proposal has been selected and the respective invitation to submit a full proposal has been sent to the Coordinator by the Call Office. The preliminary call timeline is given in the table below.

Table 2: Preliminary call timeline.

| Item | Date |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Pre-announcement | End of August 2025 |
| Launch of the call | 30 th of September 2025 |
| Webinar for applicants | 15 th of October 2025 |
| Deadline for the submission of pre-proposals | 28 th of November 2025 |
| Eligibility check and review by the IEC | December 2025 – January 2026 |
| Selection of decision letters sent to coordinators | 4 th of February 2026 |
| Launch full proposal submission | 5 th of February 2026 |
| Deadline for full proposal submission | 25 th of March 2026 |
| Eligibility check and evaluation of full proposals | Mid od May 2026 |
| Ethical evaluation | May 2026 |
| Decision letters sent to coordinators | June 2026 |

5.3 Step 1 - pre-proposal

5.3.1 Submission

The objective of a pre-proposal is to present the project idea and the consortium without providing a detailed work plan. A template for the pre-proposal with explanations is provided in [Annex C: Template pre-proposal and full proposal](#). The template of the pre-proposal is provided for general guidance, however, it is strongly recommended to start working directly in the submission tool from the beginning. The Coordinator will be responsible to enter, upload and collect the necessary information and to submit the proposal. A validation function in the tool will allow to check, if all mandatory information has been completely collected.

Following submission, pre-proposals will be checked against the general and applicable Funders eligibility criteria as defined in the respective regulations (See section 4.2, [Annex A2: Overview of Funders' regulations](#) and [Annex I: Funders' regulations](#)). Pre-proposals that do not pass the eligibility check may be rejected, at the discretion the Funder Board.

Only eligible pre-proposals will be evaluated.

All pre-proposals have to be submitted by the deadline indicated at the start of this document. The pre-proposal comprises the information as outlined in [Annex B: Required information for pre-proposal and full proposal](#) and indicated in [Annex C: Template pre-proposal and full proposal](#).

All relevant data for pre-proposal submission are clearly marked within the submission platform and will be also explained during the Webinar. This step is mandatory to apply for this Call and hence to submit the full proposal.

Applicants who do not submit a pre-proposal by the deadline cannot submit full proposals.

5.3.2 Evaluation

Eligible pre-proposals will be evaluated against the two equally weighted evaluation criteria Excellence and Impact, whereas full proposal will be evaluated against all three criteria as described in section 6.2.1. The evaluation procedure will be conducted as described in section 6.

5.3.3 Selection

The selection of pre-proposals will be decided by the Funder Board (FB) based on the two ranking lists (one for each topic), Evaluation Summary Reports (ESR), and the availability of funds (see section 5.3.3 and [Annex A2: Overview of Funders' regulations](#)). The Coordinators of the selected pre-proposals will be invited via email to submit a full proposal; the invitation letter may include requirements to be respected for the submission of the full proposal. The Coordinators of pre-proposals that are not selected will also be also informed accordingly by the Call Office. All letters will include the ESR prepared in response to the pre-proposal.

5.4 Changes from pre- to full proposal

Pre-proposals will be sorted as either fully eligible, not eligible, or provisionally eligible. Coordinators of ineligible and provisionally eligible pre-proposals will receive a written explanation. For provisionally eligible pre-proposals, this will include a detailed description of mandatory requirements to be fulfilled at full proposal submission. If the mandatory requirements are not fulfilled, provisionally eligible pre-proposals will be declared ineligible and will not be invited to the full proposal stage.

All change requests must be formally submitted via e-mail to the Call Office and to the relevant Funder.

Since change requests may take time to be processed, they should be made as early as possible during the full proposal submission phase.

The following changes between the pre- and full proposal stage are permitted but always require prior approval from the relevant Funder(s) and the Call Office, as described below for each case.

5.4.1 Changes of budget

The deadline for changes in the budget is 30 calendar days prior to full proposal submission.

All changes to a partner's budget are managed directly between each partner in a consortium and its respective Funder. After the FCP and the partner come to an agreement, the Call Office must be informed and the changes will be implemented in the submission platform by the Coordinator.

The amount of requested funding of each partner in a full proposal may be lower, but not higher than in the pre-proposal. Requesting more funding at the full proposal stage is allowed only in very exceptional cases and requires the written consent of the relevant Funder.

5.4.2 Change of project Coordinator

Changes to the Coordinator (PI and organisation) will not be permitted. In exceptional cases, the Funder Board may approve a change of Coordinator. In such cases, a change request must be submitted to the Call Office. The Call Office will forward the request to the FB for a decision.

5.4.3 Changes to the consortium composition - Partners

Changes to the consortium (addition, removal, and substitution of a partner) are generally not allowed. Only in exceptional and justified cases, can such changes be accepted. Any changes to the consortium composition must be processed by the Call Office in the submission platform at the full proposal stage.

All types of requests to change partners in the consortium must be formally submitted via e-mail to the Call Office and to the relevant Funder(s). For example, when a new partner is joining the consortium, the request should be sent to the Funder from whom the new partner intends to request funds from. The deadline for any such request is 30 calendar days prior to

full proposal submission deadline. Any changes must be formally submitted and need to contain following minimal information:

- Reason for the change, e.g. request from the invitation letter
- Contact data of the partner who needs to be removed and/or the new partner
- For new partners: Budget figures of requested funding
- If applicable, description of the tasks to be performed by the new Partner

Regardless of the type of change, the eligibility criteria (section 4.2) must be respected. The final decision will be made by the relevant Funder, taking into account the Funder's oversubscription factor.

Changes to the consortium may also be included in the detailed description of mandatory requirements provided in the invitation letter for full proposal submission.

All new partners must comply with the applicable Funders' regulations. If a new partner is declared ineligible at the full proposal stage, the entire consortium may be deemed ineligible, and the proposal may not be evaluated.

It is the responsibility of the Coordinator to ensure that a new partner is eligible to receive funding from the relevant Funder. This includes checking whether the proposal is compatible with the Funder's funding programme.

5.4.4 Changes to the consortium composition – Associated Partners

Adding and/or removing an Associated Partner does not require the Funder approval but the change request must be submitted to the Call Office. The deadline for any such request is also 30 calendar days prior to the full proposal submission deadline. Requests can be submitted by e-mail to the Call Office using the minimum required information (see changes of Partners). Please note that it is compulsory to submit a **Letter of Financial Commitment** for any Associated Partner ([Annex E: Template Letter of Financial Commitment](#)).

5.5 Step 2 - full proposal

5.5.1 Submission

The project coordinator is responsible for the timely submission of the full proposal via the online submission system <https://www.submission-greenerahub.eu/call3/>, following the invitation to submit.

The full proposal comprises the information as outlined in [Annex B: Required information for pre-proposal and full proposal](#). A template for the full proposal with explanations is provided in [Annex C: Template pre-proposal and full proposal](#).

Before the submission of a full proposal, the Coordinator should ensure that all consortium partners requesting funding from this Call are eligible for support from their respective Funders.

For additional partners who are not eligible for funding from any of the Funders (Associated Partner), the Coordinator has to ensure that each partner possesses the required financial assets to fulfil their tasks within the project via a Letter of Financial Commitment (see [Annex E: Template Letter of Financial Commitment](#)). The absence of the letter may result in the rejection of the entire proposal.

Funders' eligibility criteria, as defined in the respective Funders' regulations ([Annex I: Funders' regulations](#)), must be respected, and the proposed research project must align with the Funder's thematic priorities. The Funders may also require additional documents in accordance with their own regulations.

The failure of any Partner or Associated Partner to meet the general eligibility criteria, including the Funder's eligibility criteria, may result in the rejection of the entire proposal.

If specified in the Funder's regulations, Partners are advised to consult their FCP to clarify any uncertainties regarding compliance with the applicable Funder regulations before submitting a proposal ([Annex A1: Funders Contact Persons](#)).

After the submission deadline, the Call Office will carry out a general eligibility check of the proposals against the criteria listed in section 4.2. Proposals not meeting the requirements may be rejected by the Call Office, following consultation with the Funder Board. The members of the Funder Board will evaluate the proposals against their Funder's eligibility criteria as described in the Funders' regulations.

Full proposals complying with both sets of criteria (general eligibility criteria and Funders' eligibility criteria) will advance to the evaluation procedure.

The application can be updated and resubmitted as many times as needed until the submission deadline, but not afterward. Applicants should note that the online submission system may experience high traffic volumes in the last hours before the submission deadline. It is therefore highly recommended to submit the final version of the proposal well in advance of the deadline to avoid any last-minute technical problems. Requests for extensions of the deadline due to last-minute technical problems will not be considered.

5.5.2 Evaluation

Full proposals will be evaluated by the IEC against the three equally weighted evaluation criteria Excellence, Impact, and Implementation as described in section 6.2.1. The procedure will be conducted as described in section 6.

The outcome of the evaluation process and the funding decision will be communicated to the Coordinators by the Call Office. ESRs will be provided to the Coordinators. The Coordinators are responsible for forwarding all of the information to their Partners and Associated Partners. Following receipt of the funding decision, the Coordinator and all the Partners and Associated Partners involved in a successful proposal must initiate all necessary steps for the project start, as described in section 8.

5.5.3 Selection

The selection of full proposals is the sole responsibility of the Funder Board and will be conducted based on the ranking lists per topic and on the availability of funds.

6 Expert evaluation procedure

6.1 General

The FB will establish an International Evaluation Committee (IEC) that has the following mandate:

- Provide the peer review evaluation of proposals, based on the evaluation criteria outlined in section 6.2;
- Provide a written summary of each proposal to explain the evaluation decisions to the FB. The summary will be provided to the applicant by the Call Office;
- Provide a ranking list of project proposals based on the evaluation scores.

A Chair will coordinate the work of the IEC. The IEC members will be independent of the Funders and applicants involved in this Call. The Call Office will ensure that no conflict of interest exists between the IEC members and the proposals evaluated. For this purpose, the IEC members will be required to sign a Conflict of Interest and a Declaration of Confidentiality form. The online evaluation tool will include a feature that prevents access to a proposal if an IEC member declares a Conflict of Interest.

Throughout the entire process, strict confidentiality will be maintained regarding the identities of the applicants and the content of the proposals. The proposals will be only read by the FB members, the IEC members involved, and the Call Office. Furthermore, all collected data will be handled in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (see section 7).

Eligible proposals will be evaluated online by a minimum of three international experts per proposal. The experts will then meet and agree on consensus scores for each proposal.

6.2 Evaluation and selection of proposals

Each proposal will be evaluated independently by at least three IEC members. Each member will independently apply the evaluation criteria and score the proposals as described in sections 6.2.1 and 6.2.2, respectively. Following the independent evaluation, a rapporteur will summarise the individual evaluations and write a draft ESR, which will be used to present the proposal at the IEC meeting. During the IEP meeting, all proposals will be introduced and evaluations presented. The IEC members will discuss each proposal and will reach a consensus on the scores for each proposal. Based on the scores, two ranking lists of proposals will be compiled, one ranking list per Topic. Rapporteurs will, based on the discussions, consolidate and finalise the ESR. The ranking lists and the ESRs will be shared with the FB.

6.2.1 Evaluation criteria

The reviewers will evaluate the proposals in accordance with the scope and call topics described in this Call Announcement (see sections 2 and 3), and using the three equally weighted evaluation criteria (including sub-criteria) described below.

The three equally weighted evaluation criteria are:

1. Scientific excellence

The excellence of the proposal will be assessed by evaluators based on the following points:

- a) Clarity and relevance of the objectives
- b) Soundness of the concept
- c) Credibility of the proposed methodology
- d) Quality and expertise of the consortium as a whole
- e) Degree of novelty and innovation of the proposed approach, and extent to which the work goes beyond the state of the art, demonstrating innovation potential (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models)
- f) Appropriate application of systems thinking, interdisciplinary approaches, and, where relevant, use of stakeholder knowledge/involvement and consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content

2. Relevance and potential impact

This evaluation criterion will focus on (a) the relevance of the proposed project to the Call, including its scope and the topics (see section 2 and 3), and (b) the potential impact of the project.

3. Quality and efficiency of the Implementation

- a) Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including the extent to which the resources allocated to each work package are aligned with its objectives and deliverables
- b) Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk, ethical issues and data management
- c) Complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
- d) Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a defined role and sufficient resources within the project to fulfil that role
- e) Appropriateness of the project budget in relation to the planned work and the achievement of the project objectives

6.2.2 Scoring

Scores will be assigned for each of the three main criteria mentioned above. Each criterion will be scored on a scale of 0 to 5 (half scores are not allowed) and will carry equal weight.

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.

A consensus score is agreed upon for each criterion by the IEC members who evaluated the proposal. The consensus score will be obtained during the IEC meeting. For pre-proposals no threshold will be applied, for full proposals two thresholds will be applied with respect to the scores. **A threshold of 3/5** will be applied to each criterion; proposals with a mean score below 3.0 in any criterion will not be recommended for funding. **A threshold of 10** will be applied to the total score (sum of the three average scores per criterion); proposals with a total score below 10 will not be proposed for funding. All proposals will be ranked according to their final scores.

The outcome of the evaluation is irrevocable.

6.3 Proposal selection (Funding decision)

The Call Office will forward the two ranking lists of proposals, provided by the IEC, to the Funder Board (FB). The FB will convene to make the final decision on selecting transnational projects recommended for funding, based on the ranking lists and the available budget, with the aim of supporting as many high-quality projects as possible.

The outcome of the evaluation process and funding decision will be communicated by the Call Office to the project coordinators. **ESRs will be provided to the coordinators, who are responsible for forwarding all relevant information to the proposal partners.**

Upon the final decision by the FB, a list of funded projects will be published on the Green ERA-Hub [website](#), containing the following information from the proposals:

- Project title and project acronym
- Duration of the project

- Project Summary
- Total requested funding of the project
- Name and contact information of the project coordinator
- Country, organisation and participant name of each Partner.

6.4 Ethics Evaluation

Proposals that are selected for funding will be subject to a two-step Ethics Evaluation procedure.

Step 1: Ethics Screening

All the proposals, including their Ethics Self-Assessment (Ethics compliance) will be screened by an ethics evaluator. For each proposal, there are three possible outcomes from the screening:

- Full Ethics Clearance: no further actions needed
- Conditional Ethics Clearance: post-award conditions applied, on which the projects will have to report at mid and end-term
- Ethics Assessment: the proposal will have to undergo a full ethics assessment

Step 2: Ethics Assessment

In case it is recommended by the ethics evaluator, the proposal will have to undergo an in-depth analysis of the ethics issues identified. There are three possible outcomes from the screening:

- Full Ethics Clearance: no further actions needed
- Conditional Ethics Clearance: post-award conditions applied, on which the projects will have to report at mid and end-term
- No Ethics Clearance: proposal cannot be funded

Proposals that do not receive ethics clearance will not be funded. Proposals must be in line with Funder-specific research policies around Ethics and Responsible Research & Innovation (animal usage, biosecurity/managing risks from research misuse, trusted research).

7 General Data Protection Regulations Issues

All personal data offered for project applications, reviewers and expert assessments, mailing lists, tracking websites, registration for activities and events will be collected, stored and processed in accordance with the GDPR (Regulation EU 679/2016). For more information, please consult the privacy policy on the submission website (<https://www.submission-greenerahub.eu/call3/>).

8 Obligations for funded projects

8.1 Negotiation of contract

Once the Call Office sends the notification letter to the Coordinators communicating the funding decision, the Partners of projects recommended for funding will either be contacted by the Funders or must contact their respective Funders themselves, according to local regulations, to begin grant negotiations and complete the remaining steps required for the research project to start.

Each Funder will provide funding to its respective applicant(s) within the research project. Formal funding decisions are made by the participating Funders, and funding will be granted in accordance with their Funders' regulations and any specific ethical issues raised by the ethics evaluation procedure.

For certain Funders, a signed Consortium Agreement may be required before the release of organisational funds. It is strongly recommended that successful consortia negotiate and sign a Consortium Agreement before the project begins, as required by each Funder's regulations. The Consortium Agreement should address at least the following topics:

- Internal organisation and management of the consortium;
- Intellectual property arrangements;
- Settlement of internal disputes.

Support for the preparation of a Consortium Agreement can be found on the DESCA webpage (<https://www.desca-agreement.eu/desca-model-consortium-agreement/>).

8.2 Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation

A list of the funded projects will be published at the end of the Call. Therefore, applicants should be aware that the information from the proposals as listed under section 6.3 will be published for promotional purposes.

Each research project proposal must include a Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan of no more than two pages. (see [Annex G: Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan](#)). Funded projects are required to prepare an updated (or confirmed) 'plan for the dissemination and exploitation of results and communication measures' within the first six months of the project.

Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation of project-related information and results (e.g., oral/poster presentations in workshops or conferences, a webpage, scientific publications or public articles) must include a clear reference to **GEH and the WI, as appropriate**.

8.3 Data sharing

The GEH supports the European Commission's (EC) guidelines on open access publication of project results under the Open Science policy within Horizon Europe and previous programmes such as Horizon 2020. The main obligations are:

Open Access to Scientific Publications and to Underlying Data:

- All peer-reviewed scientific publications resulting from EC-funded projects must be openly accessible.
- The publication must comply with the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable).
- Be documented in a DMP.
- Publications and datasets must be shared through recognized repositories that support machine-readable metadata and generate a permanent identifier (such as a DOI or handle).
- The EC encourages the use of Europe PMC, Zenodo, arXiv, OpenAIRE, and other approved repositories.

If publications or data are not made open access in accordance with EC guidelines, project costs may be reclaimed, or funding for publication costs may be denied.

More information on the official guidelines is available on the European Commission website: [Open Access - European Commission](#).

8.4 Project monitoring and meetings

In addition to the reporting required by the Funder's regulations, reporting will be required at mid-term (M18) and at the end of each project (M36). This will consist of a project status report and in-depth monitoring survey to measure project progress and contribution to the overall aims of the Call. All project partners will have to deliver input for these reports.

In order to enhance knowledge sharing amongst the projects and dissemination of the project results, kick-off, mid-term and end-term meetings will be organized by GEH or other EU funded initiatives. At those meetings, the Coordinators shall represent their projects. Project coordinators should include the costs for attending the three mandatory joint network meetings (kick-off, mid-term, and end-term meeting) in their financial plan when submitting the proposal.

The monitoring will also include some budgetary guidance; however, binding reports on budgets and expenditures must be submitted to the respective Funder in accordance to its regulations.

Detailed information on the reporting and monitoring procedures as well as templates will be provided to the Coordinators of the funded projects in due course.

8.5 Data Management Issues

Where applicable, applicants must describe how the project partners will manage the research data generated and/or collected during the project. Each proposal must include a Data Management Plan (DMP) of no more than two-pages. Advice for preparing the DMP is provided in [Annex C: Template pre-proposal and full proposal](#) of this document. In addition, applicants must include an updated DMP as a distinct deliverable within the first

six months of the project. This deliverable will be updated throughout the lifetime of the project in order to reflect the current status of its data management planning.

8.6 Ethics assessment

Work involving the use of animals or humans should be carried out under the appropriate authorization, taking into account the European Union and national ethical requirements. To identify any potential ethical issues, applicants are required to complete an ethics self-assessment and provide the supporting documentation referenced in the ethics issues checklist. Please consult Horizon Europe Programme Guidance [How to complete your ethics self-assessment](#). If any ethical issues are expected to arise during the proposed project, these must be addressed in the full proposal.

The Horizon Europe Programme Guidance addresses in more detail, the following ethical issues: human embryos & fetuses, human beings, human cells or tissues, personal data, animals, non-EU countries, environment, health & safety, dual use, exclusive focus on civil applications. Applicants may also consult the European Commission's Guidance Note – Ethics and Food- Related Research¹, which outlines core ethical concerns in food-related research and includes an appendix addressing broader concerns in the field of food ethics.

In case activities undertaken in non-EU countries raise ethical issues, the applicants must ensure that the research conducted outside the EU is legal in at least one EU Member State.

¹ <https://repository.globethics.net/handle/20.500.12424/214240>

Annex A1: Funders Contact Persons

Table 3: List of FCPs.

| Country | Organisation | Name of FCP | Phone number | E-mail |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Belgium | FNRS | Florence Quist | +32 25049351 | international@frs-fnrs.be |
| | | Joël Groeneveld | +32 25049270 | international@frs-fnrs.be |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina | MAFWMRS | Ostoja Šinik | +38 765487743 | o.sinik@mps.vladars.rs |
| | | Slavica Samardžić | +38 765343978 | s.samardzic@mps.vladars.rs |
| Germany | BMFTR | Petra Schulte | +49 2461619031 | petra.schulte@ptj.de |
| | | Josefine Kant | +49 24616184689 | j.kant@ptj.de |
| | | Christian Breuer | +49 24616196929 | c.breuer@ptj.de |
| Ireland | DAFM | Ellen Durkin | +353 876283356 | ellen.durkin@agriculture.gov.ie |
| | | John Harrison | +353 874586821 | john.harrison@agriculture.gov.ie |
| | | Aidan Holohan | +353 873807504 | aidan.holohan@agriculture.gov.ie |
| Ireland | TEAGASC | Ridhdhi Rathore | +353 599183196 | ridhdhi.rathore@teagasc.ie |
| Luxembourg | FNR | Marie-Claude Marx | +352 691362821 | marie-claude.marx@fnr.lu |
| United Kingdom | BBSRC | Ruvimbo Gamanya | +44 07933386785 | Rue.Gamanya@bbsrc.ukri.org |
| | | Temiloluwa Daike | +44 20 4589 0250 | Temiloluwa.daike@bbsrc.ukri.org |
| United Kingdom | DEFRA | Andrew Cuthbertson | +44 2084152832 | andrew.cuthbertson@defra.gov.uk |
| Uruguay | INIA | Veronica Musselli | +59 899757061 | vmusselli@inia.org.uy |

Annex A2: Overview of Funders' regulations

Table 4 Overview of the Funders' regulations. The information presented here is provided without guarantee and serves as an indicative overview only.

For more details, please refer to [Annex I: Funders' regulations](#).

| Country | Organisation | Universities | Research Institutes | Non-profit organisations | Private companies | other | Topic A | Topic B | Budget limit per project | Total funding |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---|---------|---------|---|---------------|
| Belgium | FNRS | Yes | Yes | No | No | | Yes | Yes | 300,000 € | 300,000 € |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina | MAFWMRS | Yes | Yes | No | No | | Yes | Yes | 5.000,00 € | 10,000 € |
| Germany | BMFTR | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | 500,000 € | 2,000,000 € |
| Ireland | DAFM | Yes | Yes | No | No | | Yes | Yes | 500,000 € | 1,000,000 € |
| Ireland | TEAGASC | Yes | Yes | No | No | | Yes | No | 124,000 € | 248,000 € |
| Luxembourg | FNR | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | under the conditions specified in the FNR eligibility rules | Yes | Yes | 300,000 € | 300,000 € |
| United Kingdom | BBSRC | Yes | Yes | No | No | | No | Yes | 24 months: 430,000 £ 36 months: £650,000 £ | 2,000,000 £ |
| United Kingdom | DEFRA | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | | Yes | No | 297,619 € | 595,238 € |
| Uruguay | INIA | No | No | No | No | The call will be restricted to INIA research teams | Yes | No | 100,000 € | 200,000 € |

Annex B: Required information for pre-proposal and full proposal

Table 5: Summary of required information for pre-proposal and full proposal.

Characters are counted including spaces.

| Section | Pre-Prop | Prop |
|--|----------|--------|
| Partner profile: contact data, CVs, description of tasks in the project, <i>2,000 characters</i> , up to 5 individual references | X | X |
| Statement (Consortia > 5 Partners), <i>1 page, 1MB, PDF-Upload</i> | | X |
| Project data: title, duration, topic (<i>incl. justification</i>) | X | X |
| TRL at begin and end, justification text: <i>3,000 characters</i> | X | X |
| Keywords: 5 | X | X |
| Project summary: <i>3,500 characters, 1-2 pages</i> | X | X |
| Project description <i>ca. 30,000 characters, 10-12 pages</i> | 10,000 | 30,000 |
| Workplan incl. detailed description of work packages & Gantt chart, <i>12 pages, 5MB, PDF-Upload</i> | | X |
| Data Management Plan, <i>2 pages, 1MB, PDF-Upload</i> | | X |
| Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan, <i>2 pages, 1MB, PDF-Upload</i> | | X |
| Ethical compliance, <i>questionnaire in the submission tool</i> | | X |
| Financial Plan, Requested Funding/own contribution in k€: Personnel, Travel, Consumables/Equipment, Subcontracts | X | X |
| Finance Comments, justification of costs | X | X |
| Letter(s) of Commitment, <i>no page limit, 4MB, PDF-Upload</i> | X | X |
| Evaluators (up to 2), who should not evaluate, (optional) <i>max 2,000 characters., not shown in Fact Sheet or to evaluators</i> | (X) | (X) |
| Additional literature References (optional), <i>2 pages, 1 MB, PDF-Upload</i> | | (X) |
| Figures (optional), (<i>jpg, png, gif</i>), <i>each max 2MB & 1200px x 675px</i> . | (3) | (6) |

Annex C: Template pre-proposal and full proposal

Please note that all information mandatory for pre-proposal are marked with an asterisk (*).

Project Coordinator/Partner profile*

- Contact details *
- CV of Coordinator/Partner*

Please use template provided in Annex H.

CV shall be uploaded as pdf file max. 1 page, Arial 11pt, line spacing 1.15, max. 1 MB

- Tasks within the project*
max 2,000 characters incl. spaces
- 5 references/publications (optional)
more can be provided as separate document in literature references
- Team members description and their relevant qualifications (optional)
max 2,000 characters incl. spaces

Statement to justify the consortium size (mandatory for consortia of more than 5 Partners)

Consortia with more than 5 Partners should justify the necessity and manageability of the project. Associated Partners count to the consortium size.

upload pdf file, 1 page, 1MB

Project data*

- Project title*
- Acronym*
- Expected project start date and end date*
- Topic addressed: Topic A, Topic B, including justification* *with max 3,000 characters incl. spaces*
- TRL at the start of the project, expected TRL at the end of the project, including justification* *with max 3,000 characters incl. spaces*

Keywords*

Supplementary keywords*

Max. 5 keywords related to your project, separated by comma

Project summary*

This summary might be used for Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation activities in case your project will be selected for funding. **Please make sure that it is publishable.**

max. 3,500 characters incl. spaces

Project description*

Pre-proposal: max. 10,000 characters incl. spaces

Full proposal: max 30,000 characters incl. spaces

Please provide your project description and use the following structure. The project description should:

- a) provide the state of the art,
- b) specify the expected project outputs/impacts and relevance to the call scope/topics,
- c) provide information of the workflow and the linkage of work packages between the project partners.

The project should be in line with the requirements stated in the call text. The space is limited to 10,000 characters including spaces for the pre-proposal and to 30,000 characters including spaces for the full proposal. Implementation of up to six graphics/images is allowed and possible (allowed formats are jpg, png or gif, max. resolution 1800x1280px, max. file size 2MB). No additional documents will be considered.

Work plan

Here you can upload your work plan as a PDF document. The work plan should clearly describe the individual work packages, tasks, deliverables and milestones of the project. The work plan must also include a Gantt Chart. The document must not exceed the length of 12 A4 pages (Arial 11pt, line pitch at least 1.15 - allowed file size: 5 MB, PDF file format, template available on submission website). Uploading of more than 12 pages is blocked by the online submission system.

Upload pdf file, max. 12 pages, Arial 11pt, line pitch 1.15, max. 5 MB

Data Management Plan

Please consider recommendations and checklist of questions provided in Annex D.

Upload pdf file, max. 2 pages, Arial 11pt, line pitch 1.15, max. 1 MB

Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan

Please consider recommendations and guiding information provided in Annex G.

Upload pdf file, max. 2 page, Arial 11pt, line pitch 1.15, max. 1 MB

Ethical Compliance

Please complete the ethical self-assessment questionnaire in the submission tool.

Proposals may be rejected from funding on ethical grounds if they do not comply with European and/or Funders Legislation

Ethics Issues table

| Question | Yes | No | Comment |
|---|-----|----|---------|
| 1. Human Embryonic Stem Cells and Human Embryos | | | |
| Does this activity involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)? | | | |
| Does this activity involve the use of human embryos? | | | |
| 2. Humans | | | |
| Does this activity involve human participants? | | | |
| Does this activity involve interventions (physical also including imaging technology, behavioural treatments, etc.) on the study participants? | | | |
| Does this activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the Clinical Trial Regulation (EU 536/2014)? (using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products) | | | |
| 3. Human Cells / Tissues (not covered by section 1) | | | |
| Does this activity involve the use of human cells or tissues? | | | |
| 4. Personal Data | | | |
| Does this activity involve processing of personal data? | | | |
| Does it involve the processing of special categories of personal data (e.g.: genetic, biometric and health data, sexual lifestyle, ethnicity, political opinion, religious or philosophical beliefs)? | | | |
| Does it involve profiling, systematic monitoring of individuals, or processing of large scale of special categories of data or intrusive methods of data processing (such as, surveillance, geolocation tracking etc.)? | | | |

| Question | Yes | No | Comment |
|---|-----|----|---|
| Does this activity involve further processing of previously collected personal data (including use of existing data sets or sources, merging existing data sets)? | | | |
| Is it planned to export personal data from the EU to non-EU countries? Specify the type of personal data and countries involved? | | | |
| Is it planned to import personal data from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? Specify the type of personal data and countries involved? | | | <i>If yes, please specify, max. 150 characters incl. spaces</i> |
| Does this activity involve the processing of personal data related to criminal convictions or offences? | | | |

5. Animals

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Does this activity involve animals? | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|

6. Non-EU Countries

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| Will some of the activities be carried out in non-EU countries? | | | <i>If yes, please specify, max. 150 characters incl. spaces</i> |
| In case non-EU countries are involved, do the activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethics issues? | | | |
| It is planned to use local resources (e.g. animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)? | | | |
| Is it planned to import any material (other than data) from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? For data imports, see section 4. | | | |
| Is it planned to export any material (other than data) from the EU to non-EU countries? For data exports, see section 4. | | | |
| Does this activity involve <u>low and/or lower middle income countries</u> , (if yes, detail the benefit-sharing actions planned in the self-assessment) | | | |

| Question | Yes | No | Comment |
|---|-----|----|---------|
| Could the situation in the country put the individuals taking part in the activity at risk? | | | |

7. Environment, Health and Safety

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to the environment, to animals or plants.(during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)? | | | |
| Does this activity deal with endangered fauna and/or flora / protected areas? | | | |
| Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to humans, including those performing the activity.(during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)? | | | |

8. Artificial Intelligence

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Does this activity involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence? (if yes, detail in the self-assessment whether that could raise ethical concerns related to human rights and values and detail how this will be addressed). | | | |
|---|--|--|--|

9. Other Ethics Issues

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration? | | | <i>If yes, please specify, max. 1,000 characters incl. spaces</i> |
|--|--|--|---|

Confirmation

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| I confirm that I have taken into account all ethics issues above and that, if any ethics issues apply, I will complete the ethics self-assessment as described in the guidelines How to Complete your Ethics Self-Assessment | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

Security Issues table

| Question | Yes | No | Comment |
|--|-----|----|---|
| 1. EU Classified Information (EUCI) | | | |
| Does this activity involve information and/or materials requiring protection against unauthorised disclosure (EUCI)? | | | |
| Does this activity involve non-EU countries which need to have access to EUCI? | | | |
| 2. Misuse | | | |
| Does this activity have the potential for misuse of results? | | | |
| 3. Other Security Issues | | | |
| Does this activity involve information and/or materials subject to national security restrictions? | | | <i>If yes, please specify, max. 1,000 characters incl. spaces</i> |
| Are there any other security issues that should be taken into consideration? | | | <i>If yes, please specify, max. 1,000 characters incl. spaces</i> |

Ethics Self-Assessment

Ethical dimension of the objectives, methodology and likely impact

In case you have identified ethical issues in questionnaire “Ethics Issue Table”, please explain in detail the identified issues in relation to:

- Objectives of the activity (e.g. study of vulnerable populations)
- Methodology (e.g. clinical trials involving children, protection of personal data, etc.)
- The potential impact of the activities (e.g. environmental damage, stigmatisation of particular social groups, political or financial adverse consequences, misuse, etc.)

max. 5,000 characters incl. spaces

Compliance with ethical principles and relevant legislations

In case you have identified ethical issues in questionnaire “Ethics Issue Table”, please describe how those issue(s) will be addressed in order to adhere to the ethical principles and what will be done to ensure that the activities are compliant with the EU/national legal and ethical requirements of the country or countries where the tasks are to be carried out. It is reminded that for activities performed in non-EU countries, they should be also allowed in at least one EU MS

max. 5,000 characters incl. spaces

Security Self-Assessment

Please specify: max. 5,000 characters incl. spaces

Financial Plan*

There are two tables: Requested Funding & Own Contribution. Please insert the requested budget **for all Partners** within the consortium into the appropriate columns within the submission platform. Also add own contribution(s) if applicable and **write a short explanation for each budget item in the section “Finance Comments”**. Please be aware that only the Coordinator can fill in the financial plan on behalf of the whole consortium.

Figure of the financial table as shown in submission system.

| Organisation name | Personnel | Travel | Consumables / Equipment | Subcontracts | Other | Requested Funding | Total Own Contribution | Total Costs |
|---|-----------|--------|-------------------------|--------------|-------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Institute of Coordinating Research Projects | 250 | 5 | 10 | 2 | | 292 | 5 | 297 |
| Overhead | 25 | | | | | | | |
| Institute of Plant Genomics | 200 | 2 | 10 | 0 | | 212 | 2 | 214 |
| Overhead | | | | | | | | |
| Institute of Biotechnology | 100 | 2 | 5 | 10 | | 140 | 7 | 147 |
| Overhead | 20 | | 1 | 2 | | | | |
| TOTAL | 595 | 9 | 26 | 14 | 0 | 644 | 14 | 658 |

Finance Comments*

Please justify the requested budget for all Partners within the consortium. If appropriate refer for specific Partners to specific Funders rules.

Letter(s) of Commitment (mandatory, if Associated Partners are involved in the proposal)

Partners who do not seek funding from the Funders listed in Table 1 (Associated Partner), may join the project at their own expense or with funding from another agency not contributing to the Call.

For each of these Partners, you have to upload a Letter of Financial Commitment via the Upload Field of the submission platform. If required, please use the template provided under Annex E and compile all Letters of Financial Commitment into one pdf file.

Please do not upload any other letter types unless required by your Funders regulations. Additional uploaded documents will not be considered.

Upload one pdf file, max. 2MB.

Evaluators (optional)

You may name a maximum of two experts who should not review your proposal because of conflict of interest.

Please enter the full name(s), affiliation (research institution, organisation) and reason for refusal of the expert(s).

max 2,000 characters incl. spaces

Additional literature References (optional)

Upload pdf file, max. 2 pages, max. 1 MB

Figures (optional)

For the pre-proposal you can upload up to 3 figures. For full proposals up to 6 figures are allowed. Please make sure to use the correct format (jpg, png or gif) and maximum size that is supported by the online submission system (max. 2MB and 1800px x 1280px). A detailed instruction on how to upload and implement figures within the text fields is provided in the submission system menu FIGURES. **Please check well in advance of the deadline that your figure is accepted by the submission platform.**

Upload up to 3, respectively 6 images (2 MB, 1800px x 1280px) as jpg, png or gif

Annex D: Data Management Plan

Template DMP - Please delete this textbox before submission

Your DMP should detail how the project partners will manage the research data generated and/or collected during the project.

Please do not forget to include an updated DMP as a distinct deliverable within the first six months of the project. This deliverable will evolve during the lifetime of the project in order to present the status of the project's reflections on data management.

Additional guidance on data management, including guidance for a DMP, is given in the guidelines on data management in the Horizon 2020 Online Manual, available at:

https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/open-access-data-management/data-management_en.htm (accessed 6th of August 2025)

The DMP must not exceed the length of two A4 pages (Arial 11pt, line pitch at least 1.15 - allowed file size: 1 MB).

Data summary

- State the purpose of the data collection/generation
- Explain the relation to the objectives of the project
- Specify the types and formats of data generated/collected
- Specify if existing data is being re-used (if any)
- Specify the origin of the data
- State the expected size of the data (if known)
- Outline the data utility: to whom will it be useful

FAIR Data - Making data findable, including provisions for metadata

- Outline the discoverability of data (metadata provision)
- Outline the identifiability of data and refer to standard identification mechanism. Do you make use of persistent and unique identifiers such as Digital Object Identifiers?
- Outline naming conventions used
- Outline the approach towards search keyword
- Outline the approach for clear versioning
- Specify standards for metadata creation (if any). If there are no standards in your discipline describe what type of metadata will be created and how

FAIR Data - Making data openly accessible

- Specify which data will be made openly available. If some data is kept closed provide rationale for doing so
- Specify how the data will be made available

- Specify what methods or software tools are needed to access the data. Is documentation about the software needed to access the data included? Is it possible to include the relevant software (e.g. in open source code)?
- Specify where the data and associated metadata, documentation and code are deposited
- Specify how access will be provided in case there are any restrictions

FAIR Data - Making data interoperable

- Assess the interoperability of your data. Specify what data and metadata vocabularies, standards or methodologies you will follow to facilitate interoperability.
- Specify whether you will be using standard vocabulary for all data types present in your data set, to allow inter-disciplinary interoperability. If not, will you provide mapping to more commonly used ontologies?

FAIR Data - Increase data re-use (through clarifying licences)

- Specify how the data will be licenced to permit the widest reuse possible
- Specify when the data will be made available for re-use. If applicable, specify why and for what period a data embargo is needed
- Specify whether the data produced and/or used in the project is useable by third parties, in particular after the end of the project? If the re-use of some data is restricted, explain why
- Describe data quality assurance processes
- Specify the length of time for which the data will remain re-usable

Allocation of resources

- Estimate the costs for making your data FAIR. Describe how you intend to cover these costs
- Clearly identify responsibilities for data management in your project
- Describe costs and potential value of long term preservation

Data security

- Address data recovery as well as secure storage and transfer of sensitive data

Other organisational/departmental procedures for data management

(if applicable)

Annex E: Template Letter of Financial Commitment

Template Financial Commitment(s) (LoC)

Please delete this box before submission!

This template should be used as evidence of the availability of funds by applicants who are: from partners ineligible to receive funding from any of the Funders participating in the Call or eligible, to receive funding from a Funder, but not seeking funding from a Funder.

***This document must be signed by
an authorised representative of the organisation.***

This letter must be submitted electronically with the proposal through the Online Submission Tool.

In case of failure to provide such a commitment in a proposal submission, an applicant could be regarded as ineligible and so will be the whole consortium.

Name and address of organisation providing funding.

Name and address of contact person

Call

Letter of Financial Commitment

Green ERA-Hub 2025 Joint International Funding Call

City, Date:

We hereby confirm that (Name of Organisation Providing Funding) commits to the proposal entitled (Proposal Name) to cover the costs needed for the participation of (Participating Organisation Name) in this project, should it be chosen for funding.

We acknowledge that this is a multi-year commitment and that any changes to this commitment will place the successful completion of the project in jeopardy.

Signed:

Name of Authorised Legal Signatory for the Organisation Providing Funding

In accordance with the proposal which is submitted by (coordinator name)

Annex F: Work plan

Template Workplan - Please delete this textbox before submission

This template includes all needed information for the requested Workplan. It should clearly describe the individual work packages, tasks, deliverables and milestones of the project.

- Staff effort per WP and partner
- Name of WP, duration, lead and contributors
- Use abbreviations for partner or use the numbering provided by the submission system
- Objectives and Description of the WP, if applicable divided into tasks
- Deliverables and milestones for this WP. Please stick to a reasonable number, minimize where possible; Deliverables = reports, documents or any other documentation, milestone = event, e.g. launching a website
- Risk and measures to mitigate the risk, please identify at least one risk per WP and describe, how this risk will be addressed.
- Respect the page limit of 12 pages (Arial 11pt, line pitch at least 1.15 - allowed file size: 5 MB, PDF file format) Uploading of more than 12 pages is blocked by this submission system.
- The work plan must also include a Gantt-Chart.

STAFF EFFORT

Staff effort per Partner in person months for the entire duration of the project.

| Partner | WP1 | WP2 | WP3 | WP4 | WP5 | ... | Total |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----|------------|
| P1/Acronym | 36 | | 24 | | 12 | | 72 |
| P2/Acronym | 12 | 36 | | 12 | | | 60 |
| P3/Acronym | 12 | | 12 | | 12 | | 36 |
| ... | | | | | | | |
| Sum | 60 | 36 | 36 | 12 | 24 | | 168 |

WORK PACKAGE 1 – Name of WP 1

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--------------|-------------------|-------------|------------------|
| WP lead | P1 | Contributors | P2; P3; P5 | Start – End | M12 – M24 |
| Objectives | | | | | |
| Describe or list the objectives of this WP | | | | | |
| Description | | | | | |
| Task 1.1: Name of this task | | | | | |
| <u>Lead: P1, contributors: P2; P3; P4</u> | | | | | |
| Description of this task | | | | | |
| Task 1.2: Name of this task | | | | | |
| <u>Lead: P3, contributors: P2, P4, P5</u> | | | | | |
| Description of this task | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Deliverables | D1.1 – Name of Deliverable (M3) – P1 D1.2 – Name of Deliverable (M4) – P3 |
| Milestones | M1.1 – Name of milestone (M6) – P? |
| Risk & mitigation of risks | Risk 1.1 – Brief description of the risk and its mitigation Risk 1.2 – Brief description of the risk and its mitigation ... |

WORK PACKAGE 2 – Name of WP 2

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| WP lead | P? | Contributors | P?; P?; P? | Start – End | M?? – M?? |
| Objectives | | | | | |
| Describe or list the objectives of this WP | | | | | |
| Description | | | | | |
| Task 2.1: Name of this task <u>Lead: P?, contributors: P?; P?; P?</u> Description of this task | | | | | |
| Task 2.2: Name of this task <u>Lead: P?, contributors: P?, P?, P?</u> Description of this task | | | | | |
| Deliverables | D2.1 – Name of Deliverable (M?) – P? D2.2 – Name of Deliverable (M?) – P? | | | | |
| Milestones | M2.1 – Name of milestone (M?) – P? | | | | |
| Risk & mitigation of risks | Risk 2.1 – Brief description of the risk and its mitigation Risk 2.2 – Brief description of the risk and its mitigation ... | | | | |

WORK PACKAGE 3 – Name of WP 3

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| WP lead | P? | Contributors | P?; P?; P? | Start – End | M?? – M?? |
| Objectives | | | | | |
| Describe or list the objectives of this WP | | | | | |
| Description | | | | | |
| Task 3.1: Name of this task <u>Lead: P?, contributors: P?; P?; P?</u> Description of this task | | | | | |
| Task 3.2: Name of this task <u>Lead: P?, contributors: P?, P?, P?</u> Description of this task | | | | | |
| Deliverables | D3.1 – Name of Deliverable (M?) – P? D3.2 – Name of Deliverable (M?) – P? | | | | |
| Milestones | M3.1 – Name of milestone (M?) – P? | | | | |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Risk & mitigation of risks | Risk 3.1 – Brief description of the risk and its mitigation Risk 3.2 – Brief description of the risk and its mitigation ... |
|---------------------------------------|---|

WORK PACKAGE 4 – Name of WP 4

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| WP lead | P? | Contributors | P?; P?; P? | Start – End | M?? – M?? |
| Objectives | | | | | |
| Describe or list the objectives of this WP | | | | | |
| Description | | | | | |
| Task 4.1: Name of this task <u>Lead: P?, contributors: P?, P?, P?</u> Description of this task Task 4.2: Name of this task <u>Lead: P?, contributors: P?, P?, P?</u> Description of this task | | | | | |
| Deliverables | D4.1 – Name of Deliverable (M?) – P? D4.2 – Name of Deliverable (M?) – P? | | | | |
| Milestones | M4.1 – Name of milestone (M?) – P? | | | | |
| Risk & mitigation of risks | Risk 4.1 – Brief description of the risk and its mitigation Risk 4.2 – Brief description of the risk and its mitigation ... | | | | |

| M-> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | ... | M36 | |
|--------------------|------|------|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|-----|-----|--|
| WP1 - Name of WP 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T1.1 | D1.1 | | M1.1 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T1.2 | | D1.2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T1.3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T... | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP2 - Name of WP 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T2.1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T2.2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T2.3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T... | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP3 - Name of WP 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T3.1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T3.2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T3.3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T... | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP4 - Name of WP 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T3.1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T3.2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| T3.3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| T... | |
| WP - Name of WP | |
| T3.1 | |
| T3.2 | |
| T3.3 | |
| T... | |

Annex G: Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan

Information and template CDEP

Please delete this textbox before submission

There is no 'one-size-fits-all' template, however the CEDP should describe the main communication and dissemination channels as well as the respective target audience and exploitation plans for project outcomes and how they will contribute to project impact.

The plan should be able to answer the following questions clearly:

- *What are the objectives of your project and what do you want to achieve with your CDEP in relation to your project's objectives?*
- *Who are your priority audiences and why?*
- *When is the most appropriate time to engage with each audience and why?*
- *How does your CDEP create synergy with the rest of the project plan?*
- *How do you justify the budget allocated to each of our proposed actions? (Appropriate resources should be dedicated to the dissemination, communication and exploitation activities and the involvement of stakeholders.)*
- *How do you split the responsibilities (resources and actions) across the consortium?*

*To enhance dissemination of the project results, all project Coordinators should calculate the costs for their participation in **three mandatory joint network meetings (kick-off, mid-term and end-term meetings)** – in addition to or in parallel to their own project meetings – in their project plan. Please consider that all project partners must give proper reference to the Green ERA-Hub, WI and its 2025 Joint International Funding Call in any documentation published (in written, oral or electronic form).*

There are possibilities to get support and advice for your plan for dissemination, communication and exploitation, for example

https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/grant-management/dissemination-of-results_en.htm (accessed: 6th of August 2025) or https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/imgs/quick-guide_diss-expl_en.pdf (accessed: 6th of August 2025) or https://rea.ec.europa.eu/dissemination-and-exploitation_en accessed: 6th of August 2025).

The CDEP must not exceed the length of two A4 pages (Arial 11pt, line pitch at least 1.15 - allowed file size: 1 MB).

You may want to consider some aspects/ideas shown below (any other structure is welcome!):

Link of (your project's acronym) to the call scope

- How will your proposal help meet the objectives of the Call? Give detailed explanations.
- Objectives of the CDEP

Impact

- In what area do you expect to make an impact?
- What needs might be solved/met thanks to the results of your project?
- What outputs will be created?
- Where will the outputs be made available during and after the project?

Stakeholders and potential users of the results

- Make a list of potential stakeholder and/or users.
- When is the most appropriate time to engage with each audience and why?
- How will you contact them? Communication routes (national and international) such as scientific papers, posters, presentations, course or training materials, web-based tools, workshops, policy briefs, etc.

(If your stakeholders or users are committed from early on, they may help guide your work towards applications. They could come from the regional, national and international networks of the Partners in your consortium, or from the value chains they operate in. They could be involved as Partners in the project, or, throughout its duration, as members of an advisory board or user group tasked with testing the results and providing feedback.)

Distribution of work and budget allocated to activities

- Who is responsible for which action?

(Is the allocated budget eligible for the respective funding organisation?)

Annex H: Template CV

Template CV - Please delete this textbox before using this template

This template includes all needed information for the requested CV per Partner/Coordinator:

- Full name incl. academic titles
- Professional affiliations
- Up to 10 relevant publications
- Research grants awarded relevant for this topic

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

| Date | Position – Institution - Country |
|-------------------|--|
| MM YYYY – present | Full professor – Faculty Biology – University – UK |
| MM YYYY – MM YYYY | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

PUBLICATIONS

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of the article. Name of the Periodical, volume(issue), #–#. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

AWARDS

| Date | Award Title – Awarding Institution |
|---------|--|
| MM YYYY | Class President - NYU Stern School of Business |
| | |

Annex I: Funders regulations

FNRS - Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Florence Quist | international@frs-fnrs.be | +3225049351 |
| Joël Groeneveld | international@frs-fnrs.be | +3225049270 |

Funders' regulation

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|-------------------|-------|
| Total budget for this call | 300,000 € | | | |
| Maximum funding per project | 300,000 € | | | |
| Project duration | Min. 36 months | Max. 36 months | | |
| The following topics can be funded: | | | | |
| Topic A | | Topic B | | |
| Yes | | Yes | | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: F.R.S.-FNRS only funds Basic research (low Technology Readiness Level) carried out in a research institution from the “Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles”. The F.R.S.-FNRS will not fund industrial partners or any activity related to the private sector. Nevertheless, partners funded by the F.R.S.-FNRS can be in a consortium where there are also partners from the private sector. | | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: F.R.S.-FNRS only funds Basic research (low Technology Readiness Level) carried out in a research institution from the “Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles”. The F.R.S.-FNRS will not fund industrial partners or any activity related to the private sector. Nevertheless, partners funded by the F.R.S.-FNRS can be in a consortium where there are also partners from the private sector. | | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | | https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/financements/credits-et-projets/projets-internationaux-pint#pint-multi https://www.frs-fnrs.be/docs/Reglement-et-documents/International/FRS-FNRS_PINT-Multi-FR.pdf | | |
| Following types of partners are eligible for funding: | | | | |
| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
| Yes | Yes | No | No | |
| Any additional regulations, documents or information | | | | |
| All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations . | | | | |

Maximum amount of funding is 300 000 € for a total period of three years. If the project involves the recruitment of a PhD student, the project duration of the F.R.S.-FNRS sub-project could be up to four years. Since this is a co-financed call, this extra year should not be included in the proposal see III-B, Article 18, of the [PINT-MULTI regulations](#).

- Please note that personnel costs (III-B, Article 18) have an annual average cap of 80,000 € for this call.
- For “overhead” costs:
Operating expenses: up to 1% within the granted budget. This percentage should be included in the requested operating budget.
Personnel: up to 2% outside of the granted budget. This percentage will be paid upon reimbursement of expenses to institutions by the F.R.S.-FNRS.

Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding **must** provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application on [e-space](#) within 5 working days after the general deadline of **Green ERA HUB** to be eligible. Please select the “PINT-MULTI” funding instrument when creating the administrative application. Proposals invited to the second stage will be able to complete the pre-proposal form and provide information for the full proposal upon validation by the F.R.S.-FNRS.



MAFWMRS - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Ostoja Šinik | o.sinik@mps.vladars.rs | +38765487743 |
| Slavica Samardžić | s.samardzic@mps.vladars.rs | +38765343978 |

Funders' regulation

| | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| Total budget for this call | 10,000 € | | | |
| Maximum funding per project | 5,000 € | | | |
| Project duration | Min. 24 months | | Max. 36 months | |
| The following topics can be funded: | | | | |
| Topic A | | Topic B | | |
| Yes | | Yes | | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: | | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: | | |
| - | | - | | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | | | | |
| Following types of partners are eligible for funding: | | | | |
| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
| Yes | Yes | No | No | |
| Any additional regulations, documents or information | | | | |
| | | | | |



BMFTR - Bundesministerium für Forschung, Technologie und Raumfahrt

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Petra Schulte | petra.schulte@ptj.de | +492461619031 |
| Josefine Kant | j.kant@ptj.de | +4924616184689 |
| Christian Breuer | c.breuer@ptj.de | +4924616196929 |

Funders' regulation

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|-------------------|-------|
| Total budget for this call | 2,000,000 € | | | |
| Maximum funding per project | 500,000 € | | | |
| Project duration | Min. 24 months | | Max. 36 months | |
| The following topics can be funded: | | | | |
| Topic A | | Topic B | | |
| Yes | | Yes | | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: | | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: | | |
| - | | - | | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | | Nationale Bioökonomiestrategie (NBÖS) “ Nationale Bekanntmachung ” | | |
| Following types of partners are eligible for funding: | | | | |
| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| Any additional regulations, documents or information | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">German applicants have to refer to the National Announcement (“Nationale Bekanntmachung”) where all national requirements and legal aspects for funding are defined (Homepage - Bekanntmachung - BMFTR) and they are strongly recommended to contact their Funder Contact Persons before submitting a proposal.Non-profit organisations have to contact the Funder Contact Persons to approve eligibility.BMFTR funding of this 3rd Green ERA-Hub Call is provided as delineated in the National Announcement “Nachhaltige Produktion und Nutzung von Biomasse” (Homepage - Bekanntmachung - BMFTR). | | | | |

- German applicants who are eligible to receive “Projektpauschale” **must** make sure, that this is drawn in the section “Finances” under “Overhead”. Additional explanations are to be added in the section “Comments on finances”. Please note that the maximum funding per project of 500,000 € includes the “Projektpauschale” where applicable. In case you are eligible to receive the “Projektpauschale” please make sure that your total budget figure does not exceed the maximum funding of 500,000 €. More information on who is eligible to receive the “Projektpauschale” is available in the “FAQ zur Projektpauschale”: <https://foerderportal.bund.de> and included in the “Nationale Bekanntmachung”.
- The maximum funding per projects of 500,000 € relates to the maximum funding of all German applicants within one consortium.
- Funding bases on §§23 and 44 BHO (“Bundeshaushaltsordnung”) and associated administrative regulations. The main items are as follows:
 - At the time of payment of a grant, the existence of a permanent establishment or place of business (company) or other institution serving the non-commercial activity of the grant recipient (university, non-university research institution, state and federal institutions with research tasks) in Germany is required.
 - The procedure is according to section 7 (“Verfahren”) of the National Announcement.
 - Funding will be awarded as non-repayable project grant as delineated in section 5 “Art und Umfang, Höhe der Zuwendung” of the National Announcement.
 - The funding regulations, the follow up and reporting of publicly funded projects are regulated according to the National Announcement “Nachhaltige Produktion und Nutzung von Biomasse” and NKBF 2017, NABF and BNBest-mittelbarer Abruf-BMBF, respectively. Additionally, reporting duties as delineated in this Call Announcement in the section 8 “Obligations of the funded projects” must be respected as well.
 - Research institutions, which receive basic financing, can be funded subject to specific conditions.
 - **Private companies must be registered in Germany.** Regarding the BMFTR funding of private companies in Germany, please refer strictly to the relevant information included in the National Announcement (section 3 “Zuwendungsempfänger”). The proposed project must be beneficial 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 the following documents to the contact person written below together with the electronic submission of the proposals (documents received latest on 28th November 2025):
 - 1) Financial statements for the last two years (Jahresabschlüsse der letzten zwei Jahre)
 - 2) Confirmation of the financial own contribution (Erklärung zur Aufbringung des Eigenanteils)
 - 3) Business assessment (Aktuelle BWA)

The documents have to be submitted to: ptj-geh-call-office@fz-juelich.de



DAFM - Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|---------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Ellen Durkin | ellen.durkin@agriculture.gov.ie | +353 876283356 |
| John Harrison | john.harrison@agriculture.gov.ie | +353 874586821 |
| Aidan Holohan | aidan.holohan@agriculture.gov.ie | +353 873807504 |

Funders' regulation

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|-------------------|-------|
| Total budget for this call | 1,000,000 € | | | |
| Maximum funding per project | 500,000 € | | | |
| Project duration | Min. 36 months | | Max. 36 months | |
| The following topics can be funded: | | | | |
| Topic A | | Topic B | | |
| Yes | | Yes | | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: | | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: | | |
| - | | - | | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-agriculture-food-and-the-marine/collections/research-and-bioeconomy/ | | | |
| Following types of partners are eligible for funding: | | | | |
| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
| Yes | Yes | No | No | |
| Any additional regulations, documents or information | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grant applications will only be accepted from approved Irish RPOs (see section 4 of the Call Guidelines for Irish Applicants)The grant request by Irish RPOs must not exceed the maximum funding per project as set out above.Address at least one of the scientific areas related to the call scope (as set out in the central Call announcement/documents under the Green ERA-HUB 2025 Joint International Funding Call) | | | | |

- Avoid duplication of recent national and international research work already funded or ongoing that incorporates the scope of the scientific topic areas in the Green ERA-HUB 2025 Joint International Funding Call.
- Closely align with relevant national policy and foresight documents including but not restricted to Food Vision 2030, IMPACT 2030, Programme for Government, Ag-Climatise, Climate Action Plan 2025, and Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Agriculture, Climate Action Plan 2025, the Review of Organic Food Sector and Strategy for its Development 2019-2025, CAP Strategic Plan Ireland Strategic Objective 6, Crops 2030 Strategy, and National Strategy for Horticulture 2023-2027.
- Applications that do not adhere to these criteria will be deemed ineligible and in such cases the application will not proceed for expert review.

Eligible Funding Partners:

Please note: Project partners that are not eligible for funding are encouraged to participate on an in-kind or self-financing basis.

Teagasc Funding:

It is not mandatory for Irish applicants to request grant funding from both DAFM and Teagasc.

Where grant funding is sought from Teagasc by way of the Walsh Scholarship this must be stated clearly in the Budget Comments section of the pre-registration/full proposal application forms.

The grant funding from Teagasc must be in the form of €124,000 for a four-year Walsh Fellowship-funded PhD this MUST be identified in the budget as „Requested Funding“ unless otherwise stated and confirmed in the application. – please refer to the ‘Funding Rules’ (Section 5) of the Guidelines for Irish Applicants and to the Teagasc website (Teagasc Walsh Scholarship Programme) for more details on how the Walsh Scholarship funding is structured.

Importantly, if you avail of a Walsh Scholarship, the funding related to the direct consumables, overheads and equipment directly for the student must be budgetted from the DAFM funding amount.

Call Guidelines for Irish Applicants:

Please see the ‘Call Guidelines for Irish Applicants’ located on the “Open Calls” section of the DAFM website which sets out in more detail the rules for Irish applicants seeking grant-aid under the Green ERA-HUB 2025 Joint International Funding Call and must be read in conjunction with the requirements set out in this National Annex and the Call Announcement of the Green ERA-HUB 2025 Joint International Funding Call.

Further Information:

Applicants should note that the discussions and decision regarding the eligibility of any Irish applicants to the Call or on the final selected projects is taken by DAFM only.

TEAGASC - Agriculture and Food Development Authority

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Ridhdhi Rathore | ridhdhi.rathore@teagasc.ie | +353599183196 |

Funders' regulation

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---|-------------------|-------|
| Total budget for this call | 248,000 € | | | |
| Maximum funding per project | 124,000 € | | | |
| Project duration | Min. 36 months | | Max. 36 months | |
| The following topics can be funded: | | | | |
| Topic A | | Topic B | | |
| Yes | | No | | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: | | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: | | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | | https://teagasc.ie/about/research-innovation/the-walsh-scholars-programme/ | | |
| Following types of partners are eligible for funding: | | | | |
| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
| Yes | Yes | No | No | |
| Any additional regulations, documents or information | | | | |
| <p>It is not mandatory for Irish applicants to request grant funding from both DAFM and Teagasc. Where grant funding is sought from Teagasc by way of the Walsh Scholarship this must be stated clearly in the Budget Comments section of the pre-registration/full proposal application forms. The grant funding from Teagasc must be in the form of €124,000 for a four-year Walsh Fellowship-funded PhD this <u>MUST</u> be identified in the budget as „Requested Funding“ unless otherwise stated and confirmed in the application. – please refer to the ‘Funding Rules’ (Section 5) of the Guidelines for Irish Applicants and to the Teagasc website (Teagasc Walsh Scholarship Programme) for more details on how the Walsh Scholarship funding is structured.</p> <p>Importantly, if you avail of a Walsh Scholarship, the funding related to the direct consumables, overheads and equipment directly for the student must be budgetted from the DAFM funding amount.</p> <p>It is not mandatory to include a Teagasc staff member as an applicant on the project, but it is mandatory to have a Teagasc staff member as a co-supervisor for the student.</p> | | | | |

This must be agreed with the Teagasc co-supervisor in advance of pre-proposal submission and the Teagasc co-supervisor must be named in the Budget Comments section.

Overheads are not available for the Teagasc Walsh Scholar.

Note that while the maximum duration of the project is 36 months, there is potential student scholarship funding for 48 months. In this case, the work related to the overall project should be completed in 36 months, with the remaining 12 months used for writing-up thesis and other final research activity.

For the avoidance of doubt, as Teagasc is both a funder of this call and a potential applicant to the call, the following provisions have been put in place to manage conflict of interest:

1. Teagasc has not been involved in drafting the scope of the call

Teagasc will not have any involvement in the evaluation of the call or in the decisions on which projects get funded. During the evaluation process, decisions on Teagasc funding will be made by DAFM.

FNR - Fonds National de la Recherche

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Marie-Claude Marx | marie-claude.marx@fnr.lu | +352691362821 |

Funders' regulation

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Total budget for this call | 300,000 € | | | |
| Maximum funding per project | 300,000 € | | | |
| Project duration | Min. 24 months | | Max. 36 months | |
| The following topics can be funded: | | | | |
| Topic A | | Topic B | | |
| Yes | | Yes | | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: Eligibility for proposals is determined by the FNR regulations in force on the submission date: All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the FNR INTER guidelines and in the FNR General rules and Regulations . | | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: Eligibility for proposals is determined by the FNR regulations in force on the submission date: All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the FNR INTER guidelines and in the FNR General rules and Regulations . | | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | | https://www.fnr.lu/funding-instruments/inter/ | | |
| Following types of partners are eligible for funding: | | | | |
| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | No | under the conditions specified in the FNR eligibility rules |
| Any additional regulations, documents or information | | | | |
| Eligibility for proposals and applicants is determined by the FNR regulations in force on the submission date: All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the FNR INTER guidelines and in the FNR General rules and Regulations . Please refer to the FNR requirements for PIs and supervisors for eligible applicants. | | | | |

Please refer to the FNR financial regulations for eligible costs.

All applications (pre-proposal and full proposal) have to be submitted through the [FNR Online Grant Management System](#) by the Luxembourg partner, within 7 working days after the official call deadline, also including the [FNR INTER documents](#).

Luxembourg PIs are limited to submit one proposal per Luxembourg PI.

BBSRC - Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ruvimbo Gamanya | Rue.Gamanya@bbsrc.ukri.org | +44 07 9333 86785 |
| Temiloluwa Daike | Temiloluwa.daike@bbsrc.ukri.org | +44 20 4589 0250 |

Funders' regulation

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|-------------------|-------|
| Total budget for this call | 2,000,000 £ | | | |
| Maximum funding per project | £430 000 (24 months) – £650 000 (36 months) | | | |
| Project duration | Min. 24 months | | Max. 36 months | |
| The following topics can be funded: | | | | |
| Topic A | | Topic B | | |
| No | | Yes | | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: | | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: | | |
| - | | - | | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | Link to the UKRI Funding Finder . BBSRC Forward Look 2025 | | | |
| Following types of partners are eligible for funding: | | | | |
| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
| Yes | Yes | No | No | |
| Any additional regulations, documents or information | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">UK applicants must submit a corresponding application to BBSRC via TFS and therein attach a PDF of the GEH pre-proposal form, generated after submission through the GEH Submission Portal. Please note that the BBSRC submission deadline is on 27 November at 16:00 UK/17:00 Central European Time, a day before the GEH submission deadline. For more information, please visit the BBSRC Funding Opportunities page.Grants will be subject to standard Research Council Grants Terms and Conditions.The UK component of applications should be costed on the basis of full economic costing (fEC) as described in the BBSRC Grants Guide. If the grant is awarded, 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.

- 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 BBSRC as part of this call and students should not be included on the UK component.
- Final awards from BBSRC will be made in British Pounds (GBP); costs listed in the Green ERA-HUB application forms must be converted into Euros (EUR) using the exchange rate at the time of submission. UK applicants invited to prepare a full proposal will also be required to submit a parallel application to BBSRC via [TFS](#).
- **UK Strategic Export Controls:** In the context of this GEH call being multilateral, with assessment to be undertaken outside of the UK, it is your responsibility to check whether any information contained within your UK grant application requires an Export Controls Licence under [UK Export Controls regulations](#). You are advised to seek support from within your research organisation.
- Applications should be in line with BBSRC research policies around ethical considerations ([animal usage](#), biosecurity/[managing risks from research misuse](#), [Trusted Research & Innovation](#)).

National Eligibility Criteria

- The UK academic component of applications must fall within the remit of BBSRC, which supports research into plants, microbes, animals and tools and technology underpinning biological research with a specific focus on **Topic B: Biotechnological applications to improve the utilisation of biomass**.
- 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 BBSRC funds see: <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/research/science-remit.aspx>. If you are unsure if your proposal is within the remit of BBSRC, please contact the National contact points.
- BBSRC encourages industrial participation in projects under this scheme, but it is not mandatory. BBSRC is not able to fund industrial partners, and any costs incurred, direct or otherwise, by industrial partners cannot be met by BBSRC. For further information about collaborative partnerships, see the [BBSRC Grants Guide](#).
- Applicants requesting items of equipment costing over £25K should note that additional justification will be required when submitting the proposal through TFS 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/news/ukri-updates-funding-policies-to-improve-research-sustainability/>

DEFRA - Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Andrew Cuthbertson | andrew.cuthbertson@defra.gov.uk | +442084152832 |

Funders' regulation

| | | |
|--|---|----------------|
| Total budget for this call | 595,238 € | |
| Maximum funding per project | 297,619 € | |
| Project duration | Min. 24 months | Max. 36 months |
| The following topics can be funded: | | |
| Topic A | Topic B | |
| Yes | No | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: We will not consider bids that focus on: Research which duplicates genetic breeding of crops already covered by the Genetic Improvement Networks/Farming Innovation Programmes. On-farm decision support tools for nutrient management planning. R&D on agricultural GHG emissions other than agricultural R&D within the specific sub-topics specified above. Lab grown or cultivated meat. Interventions that expressly aim to change diets or consumption habits. Assessment of health or nutritional benefits or clinical trial research. | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: - | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | Genetic Improvement Network: https://defracropgenetics.org/ Farming Innovation Programme: https://farminginnovation.ukri.org/ Defra additionally will not fund projects which duplicate other Defra- or UK Government-funded research, including (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defra's Agrifood science programme. Information about individual projects is available in our science and research projects database: https://randd.defra.gov.uk/ The joint Defra-UKRI Farming Innovation Programme: https://farminginnovation.ukri.org/ | |

- Defra and UKRI Land Use for Net zero programme: <https://lunzhub.com/>
- UKRI Protected and controlled environment (PACE) horticulture programme: <https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/protected-and-controlled-environment-pace-horticulture/>
- The Crop Genetic Improvement Platform: Defra Crop Genetic Improvement Platform – Crop Genetic Improvement Platform

Overall, projects should take approaches which enable:

- A holistic systems approach to crop management.
- Use of digital technology including artificial intelligence in pest and disease identification, monitoring, risk assessment and mitigation.
- Development and use of crop varieties to mitigate risk of pest/disease resistance in response to climate change.
- Circular systems, closing nutrient cycles, utilising side streams and minimising waste.
- Reduction of chemical and fertiliser inputs supporting Net Zero Commitments.
- Genetic breeding on crops which does not duplicate the research funded under the current Defra Genetic Improvement Network (GIN) Platform or Farming Innovation programme (FIP).

Following types of partners are eligible for funding:

| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Yes | Yes | Yes | No | |

Any additional regulations, documents, or information

Defra primarily funds strategic applied agricultural research although we welcome bids with translational elements that partner with industry bodies such as the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) or engage farmers. Bids that include financial or in-kind contributions from such partners are particularly welcome.

Defra's priorities for funding are bids which address only **Topic A**. To be eligible, applicants **must** make contact (via email) with the Defra national contact point well in advance of submitting **both their pre and full proposals**. Applicants **must** contact the Defra contact point and provide a project abstract and list of potential project partners. Only proposals that are cleared by the national contact point prior to pre and full proposal submission will be considered eligible, without exception.

Defra Research Priorities

Please make yourself familiar with Defra's published research and innovation interests:

[Defra group research and innovation interests 2021 - GOV.UK](#)

Defra requires research proposals to be directly relevant to the UK agri-food system. Proposals should enable the agri-food sector to be more productive, sustainable, and resilient. Supporting and helping reduce environmental impact and emissions to meet Net Zero commitments.

For UK consortium members, areas of particular interest include:

- Enhancing resource efficiency through improved agronomy or integrated management.
- Reducing reliance on agrochemicals through improved agronomy or integrated management.
- Enhancement of crops via precision breeding.

Additional National Rules

Applicants are advised to consult Defra's research activities and procurement requirements found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/research>

All successful projects with UK consortium members under the Green ERA-Hub 3rd Call will be contracted with the authority under Defra standard terms and conditions for research. Bidders should check that these are acceptable to their contracts department prior to application.

[Research and development terms and conditions - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/research)

Please note for the purposes of projects procured under Green ERA-Hub, any new, Intellectual Property (IP) will vest with the contractors but be shared with Defra under license. Defra can negotiate IP options with the contractors of successful projects.

Costs in the proposal should be converted from Sterling to Euros using the rate from the call publication date as published via the European Central Bank: Please check the rate with the national contact point prior to submission of your proposal. We advise that bidders spread the cost of activities evenly over the lifetime of the project to aid effective use of Defra's budget allocation for the Call.



INIA - National Institute of Agricultural Research of Uruguay

Funders Contact Person(s)

| Name | E-Mail | Phone |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Veronica Musselli | vmusselli@inia.org.uy | +59899757061 |

Funders' regulation

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| Total budget for this call | 200,000 € | | | |
| Maximum funding per project | 100,000 € | | | |
| Project duration | Min. 24 months | | Max. 36 months | |
| The following topics can be funded: | | | | |
| Topic A | | Topic B | | |
| Yes | | No | | |
| Exceptions for funding topic A based on national priorities: | | Exceptions for funding topic B based on national priorities: | | |
| - | | - | | |
| Link to funding programme(s) and other relevant information | | | | |
| Following types of partners are eligible for funding: | | | | |
| Universities | Research institutes | Non-profit organizations | Private companies | other |
| No | No | No | No | The call will be restricted to INIA research teams |
| Any additional regulations, documents or information | | | | |
| <p>a. Proposals must meet the general eligibility criteria established by the joint call document and fit within the mission and strategic objectives of INIA.</p> <p>b. All applicants must request a letter of support from INIA.</p> <p>c. The call will be restricted to INIA researchers who work in prioritized research areas.</p> <p>d. Proposals must include a plan for dissemination of information.</p> | | | | |

- e. All intellectual property that may arise from the projects supported by this call will be managed through an IP Plan. Proposals should generally indicate how IP will be managed, with a full IP Plan developed at the procurement phase.
- f. Proposals must not exceed 36 months of project duration.



GREEN ERA-HUB
on Agri-Food and Biotechnology

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