



# BlueBio Call Announcement

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within the Horizon 2020 programme

**Project no:**

817992

**Project title:**

ERA-NET Cofund on Blue Bioeconomy (BlueBio) – Unlocking the Potential of Aquatic Bioresources

**Instrument:**

ERA-NET Cofund Actions

**Project start date:**

1 December 2018

## Revision 1: 21 January 2021

- Please check chapter 11.1.1 Partner description
  - Bullet point 3, Short description (max. 1.000 characters)
  - Bullet point 2 regarding VAT deleted
  - Bullet point 4, regarding task description deleted
  - new second bullet point
  - upload coordinator's/partner's CV which is limited to one DIN-A4 page (max. 1 MB, PDF file format). Only one CV will be accepted. No additional documents will be considered.
- Please check 11.1.2 Project description
  - Project Title (max. 150 characters)
  - Project Acronym (max. 25 characters)
  - Priority Area (5.000 characters)
  - Human capacity building (2.000 characters)
  - Responsible Research and Innovation, including ethical issues (2.000 characters)
  - Communication and Dissemination of results (2.000 characters)
  - Data management (2.000 characters): how the data will be managed during the life of the project and after the project ends to ensure their long-term availability. Data management should comply with the provisions laid down in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679). Data of long-term value should meet the FAIR principles; i.e. they should be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable
  - Letter of Commitment, please upload for all partners (with or without funds) and coordinators involved in your project a letter of commitment. A template can be found on the main page [www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu) in the download area (left navigation bar).
- Please check 12. ELIGIBILITY CHECK AND EVALUATION OF FULL PROPOSALS
  - Ethical issues shall be described in a defined textbox (1.000 characters)

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# 1. BACKGROUND OF THE BLUEBIO CALL

## 1.1. The ERA-NET Cofund BlueBio

The ERA-NET Cofund on Blue Bioeconomy - Unlocking the Potential of Aquatic Bioresources (BlueBio) successfully continues the work of the ERA-NET Marine Biotechnology<sup>1</sup> (ERA-MBT, 2012 - 2017) and COFASP<sup>2</sup> (2012-2017) and has been developed under the umbrella of JPI Oceans in accordance with the JPI Oceans Operational Plan.

The ERA-NET Cofund instrument under Horizon 2020 is designed to support public-public partnerships between Member States and associated countries for the implementation and coordination of networking activities. The ERA-NET Cofund BlueBio launches calls for proposals and related activities as described by the ERA-NET to unlock the potential of aquatic bioresources.

BlueBio consists of a network of 28 partners from 17 European countries.

## 1.2. The objectives of the BlueBio network

BlueBio aims at achieving a sustainable and competitive blue bioeconomy in Europe. The goal is to generate knowledge for blue bioeconomy value chains and improve the transfer of bio-based products and services from research, innovation and demonstrations to production scale implementing the multi-actor-approach. BlueBio contributes to the production of safe, nutritious and valuable bio-products and services, while applying the food first principle. BlueBio launches calls to attract projects that work on the use and value-added of aquatic biomass in integrated value chains from primary production to processing, generating innovative products and services within the bioeconomy. The aquatic biomass can be either caught, harvested or produced in marine or freshwater in water or on land. Alternative uses of waste from production as a resource shall be enhanced to promote the concept of a circular economy. Consequences of new methods or products shall be considered from a wider value chain perspective.

BlueBio will address needs as gaps along the blue bioeconomy value chain(s), from biomass to products and markets and consumers as visualised in Figure 1. The figure also demonstrates relevant crosscutting R&I areas.

The aim of establishing a coordinated R&D funding scheme is to contribute to the development of research-based innovations and to strengthen Europe's position in this complex economic field in a global market. The basis for this approach builds on the overlapping needs uncovered by the strategic work of the Marine Biotechnology Strategic Research and Innovation Road map developed by ERA-MBT, the Strategic Research Agenda of COFASP, and the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda of JPI Oceans.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.marinebiotech.eu/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cofasp.eu/>

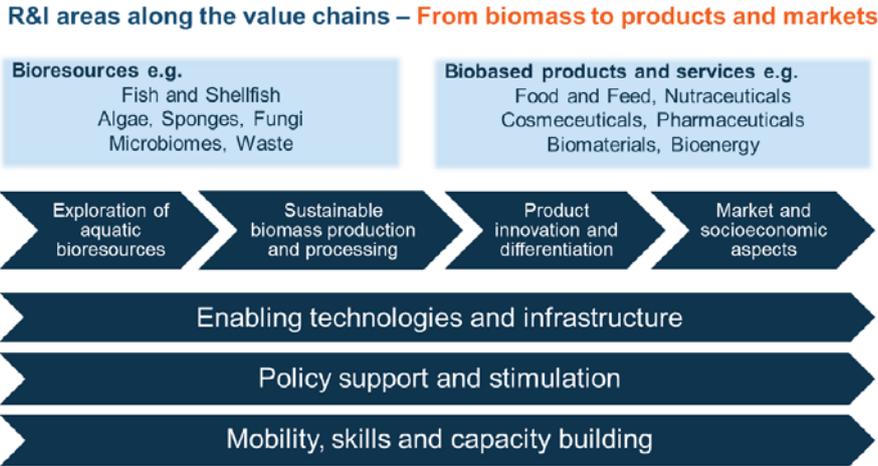


Figure 1: Blue Bio addresses research and innovation areas along the Blue Bioeconomy value chains from biomass to products and markets. The figure also shows relevant crosscutting R&I areas in the lower part of the figure

The stimulation of new R&I, synergies and collaboration with industries, both off-shore and land-based, will be sought, especially with SMEs. This will include improving integration of the biotechnology toolbox and knowledge within industrial sectors.

**2. PARTICIPATION TO THE CALL AND FUNDING MODALITIES**

The following partner countries will provide funds to the call: Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Malta, Norway, Portugal, Romania, and Spain.

The applicants to this call will get guidance from the Call Secretariat and the National Contacts of the BlueBio consortium listed in Annex 1. The participation of up to five applicants not requesting funding from partner countries of the consortium or other countries is allowed. These partners will not count in the required minimum number of eligible partners and countries and cannot apply as coordinators of the research proposal consortium.

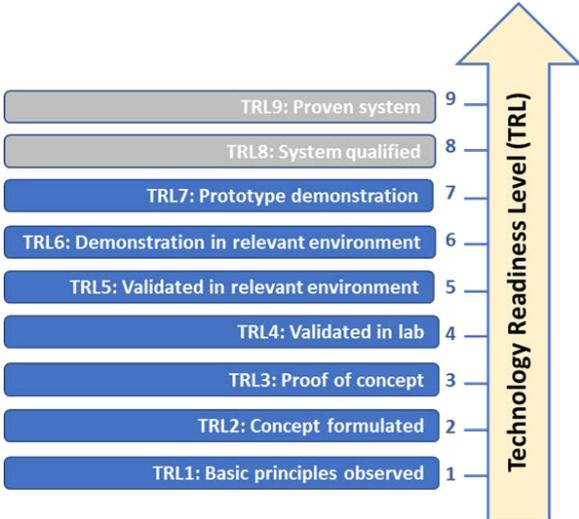


Figure 2 TRL and BlueBio range (accepted TRLs marked in blue)

**Applicants should be aware that in some countries different funding organisations participate in the call with different administrative rules. Therefore, applicants are strongly advised to consider National Regulations/National Factsheets published in Annex 2 of this document. Applicants (coordinators and partners) should contact the national or regional funding bodies prior to submission of the pre-proposal for further information.**

The non-eligibility of a partner in a consortium may result in the rejection of the entire proposal. The proposal evaluation and selection process will be done by a two-step procedure. All documents related to the Call (Call Announcement, National Contact Persons etc.) are available on [www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu).

For questions related to the proposal submission and technical issues regarding the submission system, please contact Project Management Jülich ([ptj-bluebio@fz-juelich.de](mailto:ptj-bluebio@fz-juelich.de)).

### 3. CALL SCOPE AND PRIORITY AREA

#### 3.1. Advancing the supply systems in the blue bioeconomy value chains

Facilitate the transfer, (i. e logistics, preservation and transportation) of bio-resources from harvest (catch or production) to processing to ensure e.g. traceability, quality, sustainability, and the necessary quantity or pre-processing of the bio-resources for conversion into products for the market. This entails also the supply systems to primary producers for aspects affecting the bio-resources as it moves further in the value chain.

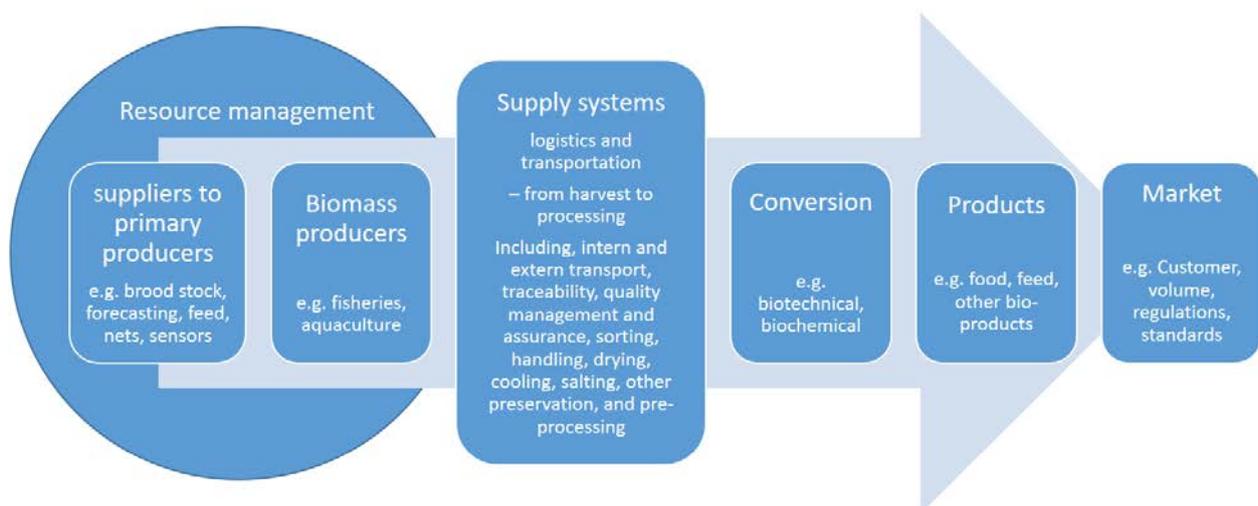


Figure 3 Blue Bioeconomy value chain

## Background

Traditional industry topics in fisheries, aquaculture and other biomass utilization research have commonly focused on developing efficient ways to produce and harvest aquatic bio-resources. The ambition has been to support the provisioning of healthy food and other high value products and services as well as jobs and stimulating blue growth, often in rural areas of Europe. However, since the introduction of the EU Bioeconomy strategy in 2012, the focus across all of Europe's bioeconomic value chains has started to converge towards a greater appreciation of the need to cover all steps in the value chains, to ensure progress towards full sustainability (i.e. economic, social and environmental).

Today "value chain approaches" therefore include solutions, which consider all or several parts of a value chain including e.g. improving food quality (quality assurance, certification), food security (HACCP, traceability), , waste reduction, full utilization of the biomasses and sidestreams through biorefineries, extracting compounds to be developed for a range of food/feed, nutraceuticals, pharma and industrial markets, wider environmental impacts as well as marked considerations and consumer experiences. The handling and logistics from producer (or harvest) to user is a key part of a value-chain. "Supply systems" are the activities that take place from the time of harvest/production of the resources and before the bio-resources are processed (food) or are moved into conversion units into other product (ingredients, extractions etc. often through industrial processes in biorefineries). The supply systems thus entail the steps and activities in logistics and transportation from harvest or catch e.g. transport, sorting, handling, drying, cooling, or other preservation and pre-processing activities to ensure the quality of bio-resources, including e.g. methods of rapid/real-time detection of fish freshness/spoilage, detection of seafood fraud/mislabelling by molecular tools.

The transition to a bio-based and sustainable society has led to higher demand for bio-resources and the development of new and improved technologies for conversion and refining of biomass to make multiple end-products from the same biomass. In recent years, several systemic targets have therefore been suggested and have been the focus in different calls for R&D projects, such as: Ensuring optimal biomass utilization for food consumption (i.e. the Food First Principle); Increase the production of new and higher-value products based on underutilized/new biomasses through multistream biorefineries; Valorisation of waste streams to reduce total value chain loss of valuable biomass to waste.

This development creates new demands for adaptation of the supply systems which is not necessarily ready for inclusion of new types of blue bio-resources needing new handling technologies to preserve their quality before they reach the processing stage. High quality biomass is a prerequisite allowing for alternative end products needing new technological opportunities related to e.g. logistics and transportation, quality assurance, pre-processing and traceability and could make use of new solutions and technologies (e.g. in biotech, machine learning, robotics). The lack of these technologies has multiple unfortunate consequences including e.g.: End products risk having unnecessary low qualities for processing or consumption; Increased loss of valuable and healthy biomass to waste; Reduced resource use flexibility due to undeveloped storage technologies, and/or lack of pre-process facilities and useful technologies close to the harvesting sites; Unnecessary CO<sub>2</sub> emissions due to suboptimal logistics.

Table 1 Overview on priority area

<b>Priority area: Advancing supply systems</b>
<p>To advance the blue bioeconomy further, research and innovation therefore need to increase its focus on the supply systems of Europe's blue bioeconomy value chains, to unlock its full potential. Project proposals must seek to both</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• address supply systems challenges, but can reach out to the other parts of the value chain as it may be of relevance to the supply system challenge (suppliers to primary producers, biomass producers, conversion, products and market), and</li><li>• address one or several of a multitude of aspects in logistics and transportation from the producers to markets ranging from sorting, handling, drying/cooling and other preservation techniques, or preprocessing, covering bio-resources used for food, feed, pharmaceuticals or other alternative end products.</li></ul>

### **Challenges and expected impacts**

To overcome the present inefficiencies in the blue bioeconomy and increase its adaptation capacity to changed resource characteristics (i.e. availability, type, quality etc.), projects will need to address challenges in the value chains where aspects related to the supply systems are considered. Projects are expected to deliver impacts on one or several of the following areas:

- Enable better transmission of relevant biomass information throughout the value chain to support traceability and quality monitoring.
- Deliver knowledge about potential measures in the value chain which can enhance food-based products and feeds.
- Advance approaches, which improve the provisioning of consistent quality and quantity of biomass to the value chains.
- Advance pre-processing options and approaches, which can assure quality characterization and preservation of both present and new types of biomasses as near as possible to the harvesting activity.
- Develop solutions that reduce production of waste from blue bioeconomy value chains.
- Reduce energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the supply systems, while maintaining or improving the quality of the biomasses.
- Reduce the environmental footprint in the whole supply chain and enhance the adoption and use of circular / co-farming systems
- Improve the ability in the supply system aspects to take advantage of the inherent seasonality in the availability of the bio-resources.
- Improve the ability in the supply system aspects to take advantage of the diversity of the bio-resources.

Overcome supply systems challenges faced by emerging and new uses and identify opportunities for cost reductions to make them economically viable.

### 3.2. Responsible Research and Innovation

Research, innovation and technological developments leading to societal changes and new products in the markets, need to be addressed in a coherent way based on a framework for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI). This call refers to a framework adapted from the former Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council in the UK (2013) as well as from The Research Council of Norway's RRI-framework (2015). This approach to RRI is also endorsed by the European "RRI-Practice project" ([www.rri-practice.eu](http://www.rri-practice.eu)). RRI invites us to deliberate fundamental questions related to what kind of futures we want science, technology and innovation to bring into the world (see Annex 3). Key issues and process dimensions of RRI are shown in figure 4.

Figure 2: RRI – Key issues and process dimensions



Such deliberations depend on activities utilizing the project's scope to initiate learning processes and experiments giving insight and understanding among the project participants, stakeholders and the larger community. Projects are required to respond to the need for building competence and skills as indicated in the framework and include a plan for how this is addressed in the project. This can be either as a separate work package or directly by working with the deliverables in the project. Inclusion of specific competence and budget may be necessary.

RRI is implemented as a package that includes the take up of ethics in the research and innovation content and process. Thus, for all activities supported by the European Union, ethics is an integral part of research from beginning to end of each project. Details of the species and rationale for animal use, nature of the experiments, procedures and techniques as well as the justification of animal use and a lack of alternatives to animal use should be specified in the RRI section of each full proposal.

In order to implement the RRI aspects we expect projects to address

- involvement of stakeholders in dialogues to make informed decisions about safe, healthy and sustainable food
- societal matters and public attitudes towards bio-based products and services to develop acceptable products and services in the markets
- policymaking in bio-based research, innovation and technology development
- improving the professional skills and competences of those working and being trained to work within the blue bioeconomy
- training and mobility of personnel
- Funded projects will be invited to workshops (a learning platform) to develop and implement good RRI practices.

### 3.3 Human capacity building

One of the main goals of the call is to facilitate the transfer of projects' results to society (particularly, to scientific educators, science-policy makers and industry actors), for their further use/implementation in future programs at local, national or EU level in order to improve the use bio-based products and related services to the market and to prepare a new generation of marine biotechnologists. In this process, the role of Human Capacity Building and, more specifically, of training and mobility tools for the actors involved in workplan of the projects is fundamental.

Addressing of training and mobility activities, even when not explicitly contemplated as part of the pre-proposals, is expected to be duly evidenced and described in a specific section of full proposals, along with the use of large-scale facilities, where applicable. In addition, in order to facilitate the evaluation of HCB activities embedded in their projects, proposers should be prepared to respond to an *ad hoc* questionnaire.

For more details, please refer to the "Recommendations for HCB and training activities embedded in BlueBio funded projects" document, accessible in BlueBio website at the following link: [https://www.submission-bluebio.eu/lw\\_resource/datapool/items/item\\_220/Summary\\_recommendations.pdf](https://www.submission-bluebio.eu/lw_resource/datapool/items/item_220/Summary_recommendations.pdf).

### 3.4. Communication

Communication of the results and developments from research and innovation activities to key decision-makers, the public, the blue growth industry and the general public is of particular importance for well-informed dialogues. The projects must include a communication plan that describes concrete measures and activities directed towards various groups of stakeholders. This must also reflect the "inclusive dimension" from RRI to invite relevant stakeholders into the processes. To ensure effective dissemination of research findings, the project must attach considerable importance to both scientific publication and user-oriented communication activities. Information targeting end-users of the research must be given high priority.

Communication should comprise a separate work package in the project, and expenses related to this may be considered project cost if they are eligible according to the national rules applicable to the proposers.

### 3.5. Funding opportunities

Table 2 Overview on funding opportunities of each participating funding organisation

Participating country	Funding organisation	Available budget (€)	Can fund		Any strong national priority/limitation of funded projects (TRL, sectors or priority areas)
			I*	R*	
Belgium	FWO	350.000		x	TRL 1-5
Belgium	VLAIO	1.500.000	x		TRL up to 7
Croatia	MZO	100.000		x	TRL up to 7
Denmark	IFD	1.000.000	x	x	TRL 2-7
Estonia	ETAG	100.000	x	x	TRL up to 7
Greece	GSRT	1.500.000	x	x	TRL 2-7
Iceland	RANNIS	1.000.000	x	x	TRL up to 7
Ireland	MI	200.000	x	x	TRL up to 7
Latvia	IZM	300.000		x	TRL up to 7
Malta	MCST	300.000	x	x	TRL up to 7
Norway	RCN	3.500.000	x	x	TRL up to 6
Portugal	FRCT	200.000		x	TRL up to 7
Romania	UEFISCDI	400.000	x	x	TRL up to 7
Spain	CDTI	500.000	x	x	TRL up to 7
		10.950.000			

\* I= Industry R= Research organisations

## 4. CALL SECRETARIAT

The Call Secretariat will provide administrative and technical support to applicants regarding the call, call documents and procedures. It is the primary point of contact between the research project consortium represented by the coordinator and the BlueBio funding parties for all general matters in relation to the co-funded call. The Call Secretariat is hosted by JUELICH.

All personal data offered for project applications as well as for subscription to newsletters, other mailing lists, tracking websites, registration for activities and events will be collected, stored and processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679). A data protection officer (DPO) is appointed to ensure compliance GDPR rules.

Table 3: Point of contact regarding the co-funded call and further calls

<b>Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH</b> Wilhelm-Johnen-Str. D-52428 Jülich	<b>For application and submission issues</b>	
	Jella Kandziora	E-mail: <a href="mailto:j.kandziora@fz-juelich.de">j.kandziora@fz-juelich.de</a>
		Phone: +49 2461 61 5663
	Dr. Veronika Jablonowski	E-mail: <a href="mailto:v.jabonowski@fz-juelich.de">v.jabonowski@fz-juelich.de</a>
		Phone: +49 2461 61 5083
<b>Data Protection Officer</b>		
Frank Rinkens	E-mail: <a href="mailto:DSB@fz-juelich.de">DSB@fz-juelich.de</a>	
	Phone: +49 2461 61 9005	

The National Contacts, listed in Annex 1, are supporting the Call Secretariat and should be contacted for all matters regarding national regulations and funding. It is strongly recommended to get in touch with your National Contacts in order to limit procedural errors and eligibility rejection.

## 5. DATES AND DEADLINES

Date	Event
08.06.2020	Open Call for pre-proposals
18. 06.2020 + 25.06.202	Information + follow up Brokerage Event
14.09.2020	Closing date for pre-proposals
03. - 04.12.2020	Evaluation (peer review)/ Selection
14.12.2020	Invitation for submission of full proposals
15.02.2021	Closing date for full proposals
18. - 19.05.2021	Evaluation (peer review)/ Selection
01.06.2021	Start of negotiation with selected projects
December 2021	All projects should have started
tba	Kick-off meeting

Table 4 Dates and deadlines for applicants

In the pre-proposal and full proposal stage the calls will be open for applicants for at least 60 days.

## 6. APPLICATION - GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The application has to meet and consider the following general eligibility criteria:

- The transnational consortium must consist **of at least three** independent eligible legal entities from **at least three** BlueBio partner countries listed in Annex 1.
- The maximum project size consists of **ten** eligible partners. Industry or research institutes from partner or non-partner countries with own funds **are not** included in this number. Within a project, a maximum number of **five** applicants from partner or non-partner countries who bring their own funds, will be accepted.
- All proposals must involve **both research organisations and industry**. Participation of SMEs is especially encouraged.
- The application must be written in English.
- Projects should have a **maximum** duration of **36 months**.
- The requested funding cannot exceed **1.5 M €** per proposal.
- Total requested budget of a country **cannot exceed 60 %** of the total eligible project budget in order to achieve balanced partnerships and ensure that responsibility and risks are shared.

- Please note that all applicants must provide a **Letter of Commitment (LoC)** during full proposal stage. The LoC needs to be (electronically) signed by an official leader of an entity and shall be submitted online via the submission tool by the defined submission deadline of full proposals.

## 7. SUBMISSION OF PRE-PROPOSAL

Firstly, a pre-proposal must be submitted electronically via the BlueBio submission website ([www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu)) by **Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 13.00 CET**. Detailed instructions for the use of the electronic submission are described on the website ([www.bluebio.eu](http://www.bluebio.eu)).

It will be possible to update and resubmit the pre-proposal as many times as required up to the submission deadline, but not after the deadline has expired.

Applicants should note that the online system may experience high traffic volumes in the last hours before the submission deadline and it is therefore highly recommended to submit the final version of the pre-proposal well in advance of the deadline to avoid any last-minute technical problems. Requests for extensions to the deadline due to last minute technical problems will not be considered.

If national/regional forms are required for individual partners, these must be submitted directly to the national/regional agency by the deadlines stated (see Call Documents at [www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu)).

The application should be submitted by the project coordinator on behalf of the project consortium.

### 7.1. The project coordinator

Each project consortium must/has to appoint a project coordinator, who, in any commissioned project, has the following role and responsibilities:

- Be the primary point of contact between the Call Secretariat and the researchers on behalf of the project consortium from the submission of the pre-proposal until the publication of the final report;
- Submit the application on behalf of the project consortium;
- Responsible for compilation and submission of mid-term and final monitoring reports and other deliverables to the BlueBio network on behalf of the project consortium;
- Secure that all project milestones and deliverables are met and take action according to the project management plan if one or more partners fail to deliver;
- Inform the BlueBio consortium about any event that might affect the implementation of the project;
- Is fully responsible for the overall project coordination and will ensure that all work is carried to a high standard;
- Is responsible for sharing all information with project consortium partners.

**Consortia have to be aware that failure of one partner within the consortium to meet the national/regional eligibility criteria may result in the rejection of the entire proposal. It is therefore strongly recommended that the project coordinator verifies that the project partners contact their National Contacts in order to check their eligibility.**

The project coordinator will NOT be responsible for the financial management of BlueBio project funding, which will be handled directly between the national research institutions/industries and their national/regional funding agencies in each participating country.

## 7.2. Use of the online Submission Tool

It is the duty of the coordinator to enter the data online. The following data needs to be submitted during pre-proposal stage:

### 7.2.1. Partner description

This includes information about the coordinator (and about every partner, which they can enter themselves):

- Contact information, including first and last name, name of the organisation, status of the organisation, address and phone number, e-mail address;
- VAT number (compulsory for applicants having a VAT number)
- Short description (max. 1000 characters) about current position of the coordinator, partners and collaborators in the project, fields of expertise and other relevant experience. Description of ongoing projects related to the present priority area indicating project name, funding source and amount, and potential overlap or link with the current proposal (if any);

Confirmation to act in compliance with EC Guidelines on ethical issues:

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/ethics\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/ethics_en.htm)

and

[https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants\\_manual/hi/ethics/h2020\\_hi\\_ethics-self-assess\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/ethics/h2020_hi_ethics-self-assess_en.pdf)

### 7.2.2. Project description

- Project Title (max. 255 characters)
- Project Acronym (max. 255 characters)
- Call priority area (max. 1.000 characters)
- Project description (max. 4.000 characters), including
  - Relevance to the scope of the call
  - State-of-the-art of knowledge and innovative characteristics of the project
  - Research approach and methodology
  - Main results of the project that can be expected
  - European and regional added value of the proposed project, including societal and policy relevance
  - Information on the project management and responsibilities of the project partners
  - Short overview of the division of the collaborative project into work packages
- Work Plan (Upload GANTT chart as PDF)
- Finances (requested and own contribution including overhead) and Financial comments
- TRL that are covered in each project
- Upload figures and tables (max. 5; max. file size: 600px x 600px, 2Mbyte)

Applicants should note that information on the partner description (core data) cannot be substantially changed in pre- and full proposals, in particular, neither the composition of the consortia nor the funding requested by each partner in the second step unless explicitly requested by the national contacts and approved by the Call Steering Committee.

The submission of a pre-proposal is mandatory, and it will not be possible to enter the application procedure at a later stage (possible until deadline of submission).

The information given in the pre-proposal will be used to check for eligibility, to find appropriate evaluation experts and to evaluate the pre-proposal.

## 8. ELIGIBILITY CHECK FOR FUNDING

Pre-proposals that are submitted correctly and within the deadline will be checked against different eligibility criteria.

- **General eligibility criteria:** The pre-proposal must comply with the call eligibility criteria mentioned in chapter 6.
- **Specific eligibility criteria:** The proposed projects must demonstrate industry involvement.
- **National/regional eligibility criteria:** All project partners involved in an application have to assure that requested costs and thematic areas are in line with the respective national/regional eligibility criteria published in the National Regulations (see Annex 2). In case of uncertainties regarding the national/regional criteria and regulations, please contact your National Contacts, see Annex 1.

**In case one partner of the project consortium appears not to be eligible, the Call Steering Committee, which consists of all BlueBio funding partners, may reject the pre-proposal.** Please be aware that some funding agencies in addition to the international application, require a parallel formal application from applicants requesting funding from their funding agency. Applicants that haven't submitted such additional application to their funding agency will be considered non-eligible. Such additional application requirements will be described in their national fact sheets.

Pre-proposals which are eligible in terms of the formal and national/regional eligibility criteria will be identified. Only pre-proposals which meet these criteria will be forwarded to the expert evaluation.

Non-eligible pre-proposals may result in immediate rejection of the entire project.

## 9. EVALUATION OF PRE-PROPOSALS

Eligible pre-proposal evaluation will be executed by an independent International Review Panel (IRP), installed by the Call Steering Committee. The IRP will be from inside and outside the Consortium countries, and balanced in terms of nationality, age, gender and expertise background, while avoiding conflict of interest with applicants or applications. The independent IRP chair and members will be researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders with high standing and expertise in the relevant research areas and the overall objectives of the call.

For the pre-proposal stage, the evaluation procedure will involve 2 individual experts per project, one of them acting as rapporteur.

Eligible pre-proposals will undergo peer review evaluation and will be ranked according to the evaluation results based on the following criteria:

- Scientific quality, innovation potential (including covered TRL, transdisciplinarity and cross-sectorial aspects)
- Appropriateness of the research methodology, feasibility, adequacy of the budget
- Quality of the consortium, complementarity among partners, added value of the transnational cooperation
- Relevance of the proposal compared to the call text
- composition of consortium compared to the topic's needs and international relevance

The proposed projects must be in line with the scope and priority areas of this call  
RRI will be assessed by experts as part of the scientific quality of the proposals

The scoring system uses a 5-point scale (see explanation of scale in chapter 12) for all review criteria. The IRP will agree upon a final consensus report and score for each pre-proposal. The IRP will produce a ranking list of recommended pre-proposals above threshold (3/5 per criteria).

## **10. SELECTION OF PRE-PROPOSALS**

Based on the ranking list provided by IRP, the BlueBio Call Steering Committee (composed of representatives of all BlueBio funding organisations) will select projects for the second application according to the ranking list. The number of selected projects will depend on the available budget of the funding organisations involved. The first stage evaluation will be used to balance the ratio between requested funding and available funding.

The coordinators of the research consortia will be simultaneously informed about the evaluation results, and whether they are invited for full proposal submission. Furthermore, coordinators will be informed about proposals rejected for eligibility reasons. Coordinators who are invited for full proposal submission will receive written feedback of the pre-proposal evaluation and the consensus report in an anonymous way. The coordinators of the research consortia are responsible for forwarding all information to their research consortium partners. Applicants who are rejected can ask for feedback from Domnica Cotet (e-mail: [domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro](mailto:domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro)).

An invitation to submit a full proposal does not implicitly result in the right of getting funded by the BlueBio funding organisations - even if the full proposal gets evaluated positively by the expert panel (the final selection will be based on the ranking list of the full proposal provided by the IRP and the available funding resources).

In order to balance the level of requests for funding with the level of available funds from the funding organisations, consortia may be asked to reduce or increase the contribution of partners from countries with over- or undersubscription, and to invite partners from countries with undersubscription. It will be up to the consortia to follow up on the requests or not, as a partnership amendment should not compromise the quality of the proposals.

## 11. SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS

Only research consortia which have successfully passed the first step will be invited to submit a full proposal with a deadline of **Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 13.00 CEST**.

Full proposals must be submitted online [www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu) by the research consortium coordinator.

Guidelines and template for the submission of full proposals will be available with the invitations for full proposals and published on the BlueBio website.

Applicants should note that information on the core data cannot be changed in full proposals, unless explicitly requested by the funding organisation/s and approved by the Call Steering Committee.

### 11.1. Use of the online Submission Tool

The information provided in the pre-proposal will be automatically imported into the full proposal.

It is the duty of the coordinator to enter the data online. In total, the following data needs to be submitted during full proposal stage:

#### 11.1.1 Partner description

This includes information about the coordinator (and about every partner, which they can enter themselves):

- Contact information, including first and last name, name of the organisation, status of the organisation, address and phone number, e-mail address;
- Upload coordinator's/partner's CV which is limited to one DIN-A4 page (max. 1 MB, PDF file format). Only one CV will be accepted. No additional documents will be considered
- Short description (max. 1.000 characters) about current position of the coordinator/partner and his collaborators in the project, fields of expertise and other relevant experience. Description of ongoing projects related to the present priority area indicating project name, funding source and amount, and potential overlap or link with the current proposal (if any);

#### 11.1.2 Project description

- Project Title (max. 150 characters)
- Project Acronym (max. 25 characters)
- Priority Area (max. 5.000 characters)
- Keywords (max. 5 keywords)
- Project Summary as publishable project abstract (max. 2.000 characters)
- Project Description (max. 5 pages / 20.000 characters):
  - Relevance to the scope of the call
  - State-of-the-art of knowledge and innovative characteristics of the project
  - Research approach and methodology
  - Main results of the project that can be expected
  - European and regional added value of the proposed project, including societal, ethical and policy relevance
  - Information on the project management and responsibilities of the project partners
  - Overview of the division of the collaborative project into work packages
- Industry Involvement (mandatory, max. 2.000 characters)
- TRL that are covered in each project. Description how higher TRL will be achieved (max. 1.000 characters)

- Work Plan including titles and description of work packages, tasks, deliverables and milestones. A GANTT chart will be automatically created from the data you enter.
- Finances (requested and own contribution including overhead) and Financial comments
- Human capacity building (2.000 characters)
- Responsible Research and Innovation, including ethical issues (2.000 characters)
- Communication and Dissemination of results (2.000 characters)
- Data management (max. 2.000 characters): how the data will be managed during the life of the project and after the project ends to ensure their long-term availability. Data management should comply with the provisions laid down in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679). Data of long-term value should meet the FAIR principles; i.e. they should be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable
- Letter of Commitment, please upload for all partners (with or without funds) and coordinators involved in your project a letter of commitment. A template can be found on the main page [www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu) in the download area (left navigation bar).
- Upload figures and tables (max. 5; max. file size: 600px x 600px, 2Mbyte)

Applicants that have been invited to submit a full proposal are obliged to submit the application not later than the defined deadline of submission. Please be aware that some funding agencies in addition to the international application process, require a formal application for applicants requesting funding from their funding agency.

The information given in the full proposal will be used to check for eligibility, to find appropriate evaluation experts and to evaluate the full proposal.

## 12. ELIGIBILITY CHECK AND EVALUATION OF FULL PROPOSALS

General eligibility criteria and national/regional eligibility assessed at the stage of pre-proposal will be checked again at the stage of full proposal. In addition, a more comprehensive ethical self-assessment is requested during full proposal stage.

**Ethical issues:** Work involving the use of animals or humans should be carried out under the appropriate authorisation taking into account local ethical requirements. Applicants shall consider the criteria published by the Commission in its guidelines for the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants\\_manual/hi/ethics/h2020\\_hi\\_ethics-self-assess\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/ethics/h2020_hi_ethics-self-assess_en.pdf)

If there are big differences or changes in the full Proposal compared to the recommended pre-proposal and/or the eligibility criteria are not fulfilled, the full proposal may be rejected without evaluation. Ethical issues shall be described in a defined textbox (1.000 characters).

Eligible full proposals will be subjected to a peer review evaluation by the IRP appointed for evaluation. Each proposal will be evaluated by at least three independent experts, one of them acting as rapporteur.

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following three standard Horizon 2020 criteria:

### **Excellence of the research proposal (threshold 3/5)**

- Clarity and pertinence of the objectives
- Soundness of the concept
- Credibility of the proposed methodology
- Degree of novelty and innovation of the proposed approach

### **Impact of the project results (threshold 3/5)**

Extent to which the outputs of the project will be relevant for, or contribute to, impacts on:

- Economic aspects
- Environmental aspects
- Societal aspects such as Ethical, Legal and Social Aspects (ELSA)
- Transnational added value
- Knowledge generation and transfer

### **Quality and efficiency of the implementation of the project (threshold 3/5)**

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

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

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

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

The scores of the three evaluators will be agreed on by the three experts involved. The final score for each full proposal will be set at the full panel of rapporteurs for all proposals. Any proposal receiving a mean score below 3 for one of the main criteria and/or a final score below 10 will not be selected for

funding (thresholds 3/5 and 10/15). Evaluation by the IRP will result in a ranking list according to the final scores and an evaluation report for each eligible full proposal.

### **13. SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED**

On the basis of the ranking and of available funding, the Call Steering Committee will prepare a list of projects recommended for funding. The funding organisations will take the final decision for national/regional funding following the order of the ranking list provided by the IRP according to Horizon 2020 rules.<sup>3</sup> The number of selected projects will depend on the available budget of the involved funding organisations.

The outcome of the selection will be communicated to the project coordinators, who will be required to inform their partners respectively. Applicants who are rejected can ask for feedback from Domnica Cotet (e-mail: [domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro](mailto:domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro)).

### **14. CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The proposals will be handled confidentially by the BlueBio Call Secretariat, by the national/regional Funding organisations and the mandated experts responsible for the evaluation of the proposal.

The BlueBio Call Secretariat will take all lawful steps to ensure confidentiality, avoidance of conflict of interest and anonymity of evaluators during the evaluation and selection procedures.

Each expert will have to sign a declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest. The online evaluation tool will include a feature which will prevent access to the proposal in case a conflict of interest is declared by the expert.

### **15. OBLIGATIONS FOR FUNDED PROJECTS (CONTRACT CONDITIONS)**

#### **15.1 Terms of Participation**

The national funding of the BlueBio Call is offered under the coordination of the Horizon 2020 ERA-NET BlueBio. Partners of the Research and Innovation project consortium are required to recognise the coordinating role of BlueBio throughout the duration of the funded research projects until the publication of the final report. Each Project consortium will be asked for feedback on the processes in order to help to refine them for the future use.

#### **15.2 Contractual Relationships**

BlueBio is a collaboration between national funding parties with the aim of establishing transnational research collaboration. The contracts with researchers and industries are in the responsibility of the national/regional funding organisations.

Because of the fragmented nature of the funding, care will be taken to ensure that the individual contracts are synchronised both in time and content, so that the project consortium can deliver

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<sup>3</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/research/evaluations/index.cfm?pg=h2020evaluation>

transnational outputs as described in the project proposal. The national/regional funding partners have to ensure that common BlueBio conditions are met (e.g. common start date of a given project, reporting requirements etc.).

### **15.3 Funding Contracts**

For the whole duration of the contract, it is the responsibility of the project coordinator to inform the BlueBio consortium about any changes in the project, i.e. modifications of the work plan, the project consortium or the contract. The communication should be transmitted through the BlueBio Monitoring Group and approved by the JCS.

Any financial issue is under the responsibility of each national/regional funding partner involved in the approved project.

### **15.4 Consortium Agreement**

All project partners are required to sign a Consortium Agreement (CA) before the official project start or in any case no later than three months after the project start. The CA should address matters on management of project activities, finances, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and how to avoid and solve disputes which might be detrimental to the completion of the project. The consortium agreement must specify in particular (i) the sharing of the intellectual property rights of the project results; (ii) the conditions of publication/dissemination of the results; (iii) the technology transfer and the exploitation of the project results.

It will be the responsibility of the project coordinators to draw up a CA suitable to their own group.

On request, the CA must be made available to the national or regional funding organisation(s), together with any other information required by national or regional regulations.

Support for the preparation of a consortium agreement can be found on the [DESCA webpage](#).

### **15.5 Intellectual Property Rights, use and access to results and data**

Results and new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) resulting from projects funded through the BlueBio Call will be owned by the project partners according to the conditions stated in their Consortium Agreement. At the project level, IPR will be considered according to national rules. Applicants should consult the individual funding agency should any queries arise.

Data collected in the project must be collected, stored and processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679). Researchers are encouraged to actively exploit the results of the research project and make them available for use, whether for commercial gain or not, for public benefit to be obtained from the knowledge created. It is expected that publication of results should be done in accordance with the Horizon 2020 policy on Open Access.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants\\_manual/hi/oa\\_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-pilot-guide\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-pilot-guide_en.pdf)

## 15.6 Start and end dates of projects

A project can start when all national/regional contracts have been concluded. Once the national contracts come into force, eligible national costs may be claimed according to the national procedures. Projects should start between July and December 2021.

## 15.7 Project monitoring and Reporting

Projects must be completed within a maximum of three years.

Project coordinators are required to provide both a mid-term and final report as well as a non-confidential summary of the outcomes of their project for publication via the website ([www.bluebio.eu](http://www.bluebio.eu)) and the BlueBio newsletter. The newsletter will be built upon the news section on the same webpage. Hereby, BlueBio wants to reach out to the wider research community and interested public. BlueBio will provide a template for the mid-term and final report. All partners will have to deliver input for these reports.

The coordinators of the funded projects are obliged to present their projects at two meetings to the ERA-NET BlueBio partners, other interested parties and relevant stakeholders:

- a kick-off meeting, explaining objectives and expected results.
- a mid-term meeting, at the end of the BlueBio Cofund presenting the mid-term reports including status, preliminary results and future work.

The meetings will be organised by BlueBio, at the start and around mid-term of the projects. The costs for attending the status seminars should be covered by the allocated project budget. The objectives of the status seminars are the monitoring of the projects funded through BlueBio and the provision of networking and future collaboration opportunities.

## 15.8 Dissemination requirements

Dissemination of project outputs is obligatory and is the responsibility of the funded project partners. Detailed plans for dissemination of the results have to be described in the proposals and are considered in the evaluation procedure. This can be organised in the form of various communication routes such as scientific papers, posters, course or training material, web-based tools, stakeholder involvement, workshops or direct intervention towards end users. Where relevant the projects should consider how to engage with consumers to provide them with knowledge needed to make informed decisions about safe, healthy and sustainable food and policy makers with robust scientific advice.

**Further, the project partners have to acknowledge the transnational funding of the BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund under Horizon 2020 and the individual national/regional funding partners in any document that is published (in written, oral or electronic form) within the research project.**

## 15.9 Publishable data

A list of the funded projects will be published at the end of the evaluation process (after the funding decision). Therefore, applicants should be aware that the following data from the full proposal will be published:

- Project Title and Project Acronym
- Priority area of the project

- Organisation name and country of each partner
- A short publishable summary of the project

## **16. COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION OF PROJECT RESULTS**

Dissemination of project results is requested in the form of various communication routes such as scientific papers, posters, courses or training material, web-based tools, YouTube, workshops or direct intervention towards end users.

The variety of communication methods used in BlueBio shall contribute to accelerate the development of a BlueBio Knowledge Community in Europe that fosters cooperation and support, strengthens collaborative research and provides products and services, jobs and sustainable Blue Growth.

## **ANNEXES**

ANNEX 1: NATIONAL/ REGIONAL CONTACTS

ANNEX 2: NATIONAL REGULATIONS/NATIONAL FACTSHEETS

ANNEX 3: A FRAMEWORK FOR RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

## ANNEX 1: NATIONAL/ REGIONAL CONTACTS

Country	Organisation	Name	Contact details (E-Mail/Telephone)
Belgium	Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek - Vlaanderen (FWO)	Alain Deleener Toon Monbaliu	eranet@fwo.be + 32 (0)2 550 15 95 + 32 (0)2 550 15 70
Belgium	Vlaams Agentschap voor innoveren en ondernemen (VLAIO)	Dirk Veelaert Bert Beck	Dirk.veelaert@vlaio.be +32 2 432 42 19 Bert.beck@vlaio.be +32 2 432 43 07
Croatia	Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ)	Jasminka Boljević	jasminka@hrzz.hr +385 1 2356 600
Denmark	Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD)	Kathrine Hauge Madsen, (Scientific Officer)  Martin Kyvsgaard (International Coordinator)  International Administration	kathrine.hauge.madsen@innofond.dk +45 61 90 50 47  martin.kyvsgaard@innofond.dk +45 6190 5081  internationale@innofond.dk
Estonia	Eesti Teadusagentuur (ETAG)	Katrin Saar	katrin.saar@etag.ee +372 7317386
Greece	Geniki Grammatia Erevnas Kai Technologias (GSRT)	Paraskevi Afentaki  Anna Rosenberg	pafe@gsrt.gr +30 213 13 00 112 a.rosenberg@gsrt.gr +30 213 13 00 095
Iceland	Rannsóknamiðstöð Íslands (RANNIS)	Sigurdur Bjornsson Lýður S. Erlendsson	Sigurdur.Bjornsson@Rannis.is Lydur.Skuli.Erlendsson@Rannis.is
Ireland	Marine Institute (MI)	Veronica Cunningham	veronica.cunningham@Marine.ie
Latvia	Ministry of Education and Science, Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation	Kaspars Karolis	Kaspars.Karolis@izm.gov.lv
Malta	Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST)	Gilbert Gauci	gilbert.gauci.1@gov.mt
Norway	Norges forskningsråd (RCN)	Kristin E. Thorud  Kjell E. Naas	ket@rcn.no +47 930 24 722 ken@rcn.no +47 0901 65 701
Portugal	Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FRCT)	Renato Pires  Gisela Nascimento	Renato.HM.Pires@azores.gov.pt +351296308933 Gisela.MC.Nascimento@azores.gov.pt +351296308948

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Romania	Unitatea Executivă pentru Finanțarea Învățământului Superior, a Cercetării, Dezvoltării și Inovării (UEFISCDI)	Domnica Cotet Cristina Cotet	domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro +40 213023880 cristina.cotet@uefiscdi.ro +40 213023884
Spain	Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial (CDTI)	Hector Gonzalez Menendez	hgm@cdti.es +34 91 581 5607/0489/0599

## ANNEX 2: NATIONAL REGULATIONS/NATIONAL FACTSHEETS



### BELGIUM

**Participating organisation:** Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek - Vlaanderen (FWO)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.35 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

dr. Alain Deleener (Strategic Basic Research), Science Policy Advisor Strategic Research Programmes /

Toon Monbaliu (Fundamental research), Advisor Research Affairs

Phone: +32 2 550 15 95 / Tel. +32 2 550 15 70

E-mail: [eranet@fwo.be](mailto:eranet@fwo.be)

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

The FWO participates with two of its project funding channels:

- ➔ Fundamental research (FO)
- ➔ Strategic Basic Research (SBO)

Researchers applying for FWO funding have to carefully select the appropriate FWO funding channel, which depends on the scope of their research project (fundamental, more exploratory research or strategic research with strong valorisation potential (next to the required basic research component)). Researchers have to make sure their project complies with the applicable regulations, for example:

**FO projects:**

Only lowest TRLs<sup>5</sup> will be eligible, basic mechanisms have to be explored.

**SBO projects:**

The valorisation aspect, impact and innovation goals, which, if scientifically successful, can open up prospects for economic or societal applications, have to be clear. These projects imply a TRL-range from 2 to 5.

Consequently, researchers have to make sure they comply with the eligibility criteria of the funding channel they select.

For 'FO' the 'Research Project' regulations apply: <https://www.fwo.be/nl/mandaten-financiering/onderzoeksprojecten/junior-en-senior-onderzoeksproject/>

For 'SBO' the 'Regulations Strategic Basic Research' apply: <https://www.fwo.be/nl/mandaten-financiering/onderzoeksprojecten/sbo-projecten/>

**We urge researchers to contact the FWO contact points before submission, in order to verify the researchers' eligibility and avoid the ineligibility of the project proposal/consortium as a whole.**

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<sup>5</sup> Technology Readiness level: <https://www.ttopstart.com/news/technology-readiness-levels-a-new-dimension-in-horizon-2020>

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

**Max. funding per project:** The max. amount that can be requested per project is **350.000 EUR, overhead included.**

**For FO projects:**

Funding money can be used for the common cost posts: staff (temporary; permanent staff cannot be appointed on FWO budget), consumables (incl. travelling), equipment, other (e.g. publications), etc. A mandatory 6% overhead cost has to be included in the requested funding amount. This structural overhead cost of 6% is calculated on the basis of all direct costs combined (sum), and needs to be inserted in the 'overhead' category.

**For SBO projects:**

The specific SBO funding regulations apply:

<https://www.fwo.be/media/652551/Cost-model-SBO-and-TBM-2017.pdf>

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

The respective FWO funding channels' regulations apply, see above.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

n/a

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

n/a

**Additional information:**

**Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level**

- Financial reporting: Yes
- Scientific reporting: depends on the funding channel
  - **Fundamental Research (FO):** Reporting at ERA-NET level only;
  - **Strategic Basic Research (SBO):** Besides the reporting at ERA-NET level, conform the fundamental funding channel, a report at national/regional level is also required, including a valorisation report.

**Contact and obligations**

The FWO administration will contact the applicants after the pre-proposal submission deadline (and possibly also the full proposal, if applicable) in order to verify the choice of funding channel.

Researchers are obliged to inform their host institution (research coordination units (DOCs)) about their participation, for administrative purposes. The FWO can assist in this matter (e.g. contacts). Additionally, in view of the GDPR regulations, explicit consent will be asked from the researchers, after submission of the project proposal, to deliver some basic information about their participation to the relevant host institutions.

**Useful information/links**

ERA-NET general:

<https://www.fwo.be/nl/mandaten-financiering/europese-programmas/era-net/>

<https://www.fwo.be/nl/mandaten-financiering/europese-programmas/era-net/oproepen/>

FO regulations:

<https://www.fwo.be/nl/mandaten-financiering/onderzoeksprojecten/junior-en-senior-onderzoeksproject/reglement-projecten-2019/>

SBO regulations:

<https://www.fwo.be/nl/mandaten-financiering/onderzoeksprojecten/sbo-projecten/reglement-strategisch-basisonderzoek-sbo/>



## BELGIUM

**Participating organisation:** Vlaams Agentschap voor innoveren en ondernemen (VLAIO)

**Indicative Budget:** 1.5 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Dirk Veelaert / Bert Beck

Phone: +32 2 432 42 19 / +32 2 432 43 07

E-Mail: [Dirk.veelaert@vlaio.be](mailto:Dirk.veelaert@vlaio.be) / [Bert.beck@vlaio.be](mailto:Bert.beck@vlaio.be)

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

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

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

**Max. funding per project:** 500 k€ per funded partner

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Additional templates to be completed : <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject/aanvraagprocedure>

- „Annex internationaal onderzoeksproject“ or „Annex international research project“
- „Template projectbegroting o&o project“

Those completed templates are mandatory to check the national eligibility and must be sent to the Agentschap Innoveren en Ondernemen.

We kindly ask the applicants to apply for a meeting with the Agentschap Innoveren en Ondernemen ultimately 2 weeks before the deadline for submission to check the eligibility aspects.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

n/a

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

n/a

**Additional information:**

[www.vlaio.be](http://www.vlaio.be)



## CROATIA

**Participating organisation:** Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.1 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Jasminka Boljević

Phone: +385 1 2356 600

E-Mail: [jasminka@hrzz.hr](mailto:jasminka@hrzz.hr)

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

n/a

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

**Max. funding per project:** 100.000 EUR

Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal within this call.

1-2- projekata

TRL level 1-7

### **Funding criteria and regulations**

Croatian applicants (Principal Investigators) are recommended to contact HRZZ prior to the submission of the proposal for the purpose of checking the national funding terms and conditions.

#### **Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Eligible applicants are public research organisations. **Partners from the industry sector are not eligible for funding.**

The document “BlueBio Natječaj 2020 -HRZZ Upute” presenting the modalities of participation of the Croatian applicants, eligibility of the organizations and eligible costs will be available at [www.hrzz.hr](http://www.hrzz.hr).

Following the conclusion of the consortium agreement between the consortium partners, the Croatian applicant in the project consortium will be required to sign a grant agreement with HRZZ for the portion of the budget provided by HRZZ.

#### **Eligibility confirmation**

##### **For pre-proposal**

The HRZZ requests the Croatian applicants to send the following documentation, not later than 2 days after the submission of the pre-proposal:

1. Financial Plan for the Croatian applicant (the part to be financed by the HRZZ), extracted from the BlueBio Call 2020- Financial Form submitted by the project consortium;
2. BlueBio Pre-proposal (in PDF format, sealed on the date of Call deadline);
3. Letter of Support in Croatian, i.e. a written commitment of the Croatian applicant’s organization, accepting the proposed research and committing to its administration (signed and certified by the authorized person of the Croatian applicant’s organization);
4. Signed letter of commitment for the participation in the projects for all associates and consultants not employed at the applicant’s organisation.

##### **For full proposal**

The HRZZ requests the Croatian applicants to send the following documentation, not later than 2 days after the submission of the full proposal:

1. Financial Plan for the Croatian applicant (the part to be financed by the HRZZ), extracted from the BlueBio Call 2020- Financial Form submitted by the project consortium;

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2. BlueBio Full proposal (in PDF format, sealed on the date of Call deadline);
3. Ethics approval (if applicable), PDF document.

The electronic version of the requested documentation shall be sent via e-mail to the following address:  
[jasminka@hrzz.hr](mailto:jasminka@hrzz.hr).

**Submission of financial reports at the national level** The funded Croatian applicants will have to submit annual Financial reports and justifying documentation (e.g. invoices, contracts, pay slips and similar) to HRZZ, together with a Declaration on VAT status and Declaration on the prevention of double financing for the year in question.

**Eligible costs are:**

- Research costs
- Personnel costs
- Equipment;
- Dissemination and travel expenses;
- Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of contracted direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs and cost for subcontracting) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 5 % of direct costs.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

n/a

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

n/a

**Additional information:**

n/a



## DENMARK

**Participating organisation:** Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD)

**Indicative Budget:** 1.0 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

**Scientific Officer,** Kathrine Hauge Madsen

Phone: +45 61 90 50 47

Mail: [kathrine.hauge.madsen@innofond.dk](mailto:kathrine.hauge.madsen@innofond.dk)

**International Administration**

Mail: [internationale@innofond.dk](mailto:internationale@innofond.dk)

**International Coordinator** Martin Kyvsgaard

Phone: +45 6190 5081

Mail: [martin.kyvsgaard@innofond.dk](mailto:martin.kyvsgaard@innofond.dk)

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

Innovation Fund Denmark: <https://innovationsfonden.dk/en/programmes/international-collaborations>

Innovation Fund Denmark's (IFD) purpose is to advance research, development, testing and validation of innovative solutions for the benefit of growth and employment in Denmark, as well as to solve societal challenges. The projects IFD invest in must create a clear societal value and/or economic value in Danish public and private companies and/or for beneficiaries in society e.g. citizens, the state, regions and municipalities. IFD can invest in international projects if such the projects can strengthen Danish research and innovation. IFD encourage all types of partners to participate in international projects.

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

**Max. funding per project:**

IFD can invest in projects at TRL 2-7 and with a maximum of €300.000 per Danish partner in an application and maximum €500.000 per project (if more than one Danish partner).

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

IFD investment is given in accordance with "The General Terms and Conditions for International Projects" focus on issues where IFD's terms and administration vary from the Terms and Conditions for the Danish Grand Solutions programme. The Terms and Conditions and Guidelines for Grand Solutions apply for all issues not mentioned in the present document.

**General Terms and Conditions for International Projects:**

<https://innovationsfonden.dk/sites/default/files/2018-10/general-terms-and-conditions-for-international-projects-approved-after-1-feb-2018.pdf>

**Investment rates:**

The maximum investment rates by IFD including possible public co-funding follows the rates that apply to IFD's Grand Solutions programme. The general maximum investment rates incl. possible EU' co-funding is indicated in the table below.

The global maximum for IFD investment to cooperation projects is 75% of the total project costs. In international projects, the total costs are calculated on basis of the total project costs including the foreign partner's contribution. IFDs funding rate is calculated excl. possible EU co-funding.

Applicant typology		Investment rates for Innovation Fund Denmark					
		Actual costs Salary max 1.000 DKK per hour		Actual costs X institute rate	Public organisations		
		SME's	Large Enterprises	GTS	Universities & University Colleges	Public Hospitals	Other public organisations
Industrial Research	Grant	75%	65%	60%	90% + 44% overhead	90% + 3,1% overhead	90% - no overhead
Experimental Development	Grant	33%	25%	60%	90% + 44% overhead	90% + 3,1% overhead	90% - no overhead

#### Registration of applications for Danish partners in International Projects

All Danish partners in International Project applications under IFD must register in our online administration platform [E-grant](#). The deadline for the registration is two weeks after the deadline for submitting the project application. Register under the same call option as you have applied. Name your project [Application ID – Acronym – Institution/Company].



## ESTONIA

**Participating organisation:** Eesti Teadusagentuur (ETAG)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.1 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Katrin Saar

Phone: +372 7317386

E-Mail: [katrin.saar@etag.ee](mailto:katrin.saar@etag.ee)

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

National Eligibility Criteria for grant applications in calls for transnational research projects:

<https://www.etag.ee/rahastamine/partnerlus-ja-koostootoetused/era-net-projektid/>

The Estonian Research Council (hereinafter ETAG) funds basic and applied research.

### 1. Participants of the project

**1.1 The Host Institution** is the institution to which the grant will be allocated. The Host Institution must be a legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia. The Host Institution must declare that the project can be carried out within their premises and that it will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding.

**1.2 The Principal Investigator** is the researcher who submits the project proposal and who will be responsible for the use of the grant and for the implementation of the project. The Principal Investigator: 1.2.1 must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS); 1.2.2 must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded by the submission deadline of the grant application, at the latest; 1.2.3 must have published at least three articles which comply with the requirements of clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five years prior to the proposal submission deadline. International patents are equalled with publications of clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications mentioned in clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or less. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or in the compulsory military service, or has other serious grounds, the publication period requirement will be extended by the respective time.

**1.3 Senior research staff** of the project participates in the substantial performance of the project. They must hold at least master's degree or an equivalent qualification.

### 2. Budget

**2.1** Research expenses consist of direct costs (personnel costs incl. scholarships, travel costs and other direct costs) and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be respectively identifiable.

## **2.2 Direct costs**

2.2.1 Personnel costs are monthly salaries with social security charges and all other statutory costs of the participants of the project calculated according to their commitment and proportionately to their total salary cost at their Host Institution.

2.2.2 Scholarships equal to the state doctoral allowance may be paid out of the grant to doctoral students not receiving any salary from the Host Institution. Should a doctoral student participate in several projects financed by the Estonian Research Council, the total amount of the scholarship from these projects may not exceed the nationally determined amount of doctoral allowance

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

2.2.4 Other direct costs are:

- consumables related to the project;
- costs for publication and dissemination of project results;
- costs for organising meetings, seminars or conferences;
- fees for participation in scientific forums and conferences;
- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for the implementation of the project.

**2.3 Subcontracting costs** should not be included in the overhead calculation and should cover only additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. costs for translation, analyses, etc.) performed by third parties. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 10% of the total costs. **2.4 Overhead** may not exceed 20% of eligible direct research costs and should cover general expenses of the Host Institution. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (copying machine or printer publicly used, phone bills, copying service, etc.) should be covered from the overhead.

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

## **3. Enterprises**

EU Regulations on State Aid for Research and Development must be taken into account when requesting funding from the Estonian Research Council. The state aid form must be filled in. No tax arrears are allowed on the proposal submission date.

## **4. Grant Agreement**

In case of a positive funding decision, the Estonian Research Council shall enter into a grant agreement with the Host Institution and the Principal Investigator. As a precondition for the grant agreement, a consortium agreement between the parties of the transnational project consortium must be signed. The transnational project must be entered into the ETIS.

## **5. Research involving human subjects or animal tests**

If human research or animal tests are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorization Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Estonian Research Council by the start of the relevant activities.

## **6. Nagoya protocol**

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

## **Contact and obligations**

Researchers are obliged to inform Estonian Research Council about their participation.



## GREECE

**Participating organisation:** Geniki Grammatia Erevnas Kai Technologias (GSRT)

**Indicative Budget:** 1.5 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Paraskevi Afentaki, Directorate for International Scientific & Technological Cooperation

Phone: +30 213 1300 112

E-Mail: [pafe@gsrt.gr](mailto:pafe@gsrt.gr)

Anna Rosenberg

Phone: +30 213 1300 095

E-Mail: [a.rosenberg@gsrt.gr](mailto:a.rosenberg@gsrt.gr)

**Funding criteria and regulations**

***Research Categories eligible for funding***

The aided part of the research should completely fall within one or more of the following categories: industrial research, experimental development and feasibility studies (COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 651/2014 article 25).

***Eligible applicants***

GSRT potentially supports all private and public legal entities namely: private enterprises (such as SMEs, large-companies etc), research organizations, higher education institutions, and other public organizations with R&D activities). Individuals as well as individual enterprises are not eligible under this scheme.

Applicants may submit in the current call, if they are enterprises, up to two (2) proposals from the same enterprise, and for Public research Institutes and Universities up to (2) proposals at the level of the same Laboratory or School or Institute or Department.

***Budget – Topics - TRL***

**EUR 1.500.000,00** national funding that comes from structural funds and particularly from the Operational Program for Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation 2014-2020, Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialization (RIS3).

TRL : 2-7

All topics and subtopics are supported in Compatibility with our RIS3

***Maximum funding per project***

200.000 € per project (including indirect costs). Please note that this amount can be increased to 250.000 € per project if the Greek partner assumes project coordination (6-8 projects tentatively envisaged to be funded). The maximum state aid intensity will be calculated according to the provisions of the European state aid rules and regulations in force (type of research activity, size of the participating enterprise, collaborative research).

***Eligible costs***

(a) personnel costs: researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the project.

(b) costs on fixed assets i.e. b1) costs of instruments and equipment to the extent and for the period used for the project. Where such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the project, as calculated on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles are considered as eligible and b2) costs for buildings and land, to the extent and for the duration period used for the project. With regard to buildings, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the project, as calculated on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles are considered as eligible. For land, costs of commercial transfer or actually incurred capital costs are eligible.

(c) costs of contractual research, knowledge and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at arm's length conditions, as well as costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the project.

(d) additional general costs and other operating expenses, including costs of materials, supplies, travel expenses, organization of meetings, dissemination/publicity costs, audit costs, incurred directly as a result of the project implementation.

(e) indirect costs = flat rate 15% of gross personnel costs including VAT = 15%\* (a). Indirect costs are eligible for all legal entities and include costs that do not incur directly as a result of the project implementation (e. g. administrative and management costs, utility costs).

**Note:** -Please bear in mind that scientific management costs are eligible under category (a) whereas administrative and financial/legal management costs fall under eligible categories (e) or (d)-audit costs only.

-Subcontracting is allowed. This will be clarified in the guidelines of the national call.

#### ***Aid of intensity***

**Public research Institutes and Universities:** the aid intensity can reach 100% for performing non-economic activities in accordance with point 19, article 2.1.1 of the «Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation» (2014/C 198/01)).

**Private Sector:** (a) 50% of the eligible costs for industrial research; (b) 25% of the eligible costs for experimental development; (c) 50% of the eligible costs for feasibility studies.

- The aid intensities for industrial research and experimental development may be increased up to a maximum aid intensity of 80% of the eligible costs as follows:

(a) by 10 percentage points for medium-sized enterprises and by 20 percentage points for small enterprises;

(b) by 15 percentage points if one of the following conditions is fulfilled:

(i) the project involves effective collaboration:

— between undertakings among which at least one is an SME, or is carried out in at least two Member States, or in a Member State and in a Contracting Party of the EEA Agreement, and no single undertaking bears more than 70 % of the eligible costs, or

— between an undertaking and one or more research and knowledge-dissemination organisations, where the latter bear at least 10 % of the eligible costs and have the right to publish their own research results;

(ii) the results of the project are widely disseminated through conferences, publication, open access repositories, or free or open source software.

-The aid intensity for feasibility studies may be increased by 10 percentage points for medium-sized enterprises and by 20 percentage points for small enterprises.

#### ***Project Duration***

The maximum duration of the Greek participation is 24 months.

#### **National requirements :**

***Submission at the national level is required at a later stage.*** A national call will be published for the submission of the approved, at the transnational level, proposals only.

Detailed information on the procedure and the funding rules will be provided at the GSRT website in the guidelines of the national call, during the submission period.

## BlueBio Cofund - Call text documents

All applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the NCP prior to submission.



## ICELAND

**Participating organisation:** Rannsóknamiðstöð Íslands (RANNIS)

**Indicative Budget:** 1.0 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Name Lýður Skúli Erlendsson / Sigurður Björnsson

Phone: +354 5155800

E-Mail: [lydur@rannis.is](mailto:lydur@rannis.is) / [sigurdur@rannis.is](mailto:sigurdur@rannis.is)

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

Technology Development Fund

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

**Max. funding per project:** Maximum funding is 300 k€ per project for Icelandic entities and the maximum funding in Icelandic krona is IKR 45.000.000 per project over a project period of 3 years.

Eligible cost for research institutes and companies is in accordance with the the Technology Development Fund rules for the grant type "[Applied research](#)".

Own contribution for research institutes and companies is in accordance with the Technology Development Fund rules for the grant type "[Growth](#)".

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

All legal entities (public and private sector)

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

Rannis can support projects that comply with the first additional call priorities description

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

n/a

**Additional information:**

n/a



## IRELAND

**Participating organisation:** Marine Institute (MI)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.2 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Veronica Cunningham, Research Funding Office,  
Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore, Co. Galway H91 R673, Ireland  
Phone: +353 91 387532  
Email: [veronica.cunningham@marine.ie](mailto:veronica.cunningham@marine.ie)

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

The call is supported by the Marine Institute and the Irish Government, funded under the Marine Research Programme. The National Rules for this call will be published on the Marine Institute website at the following link: <https://www.marine.ie/Home/site-area/research-funding/research-funding/current-funding-opportunities>

Research to be undertaken by Irish partners should be consistent with the aims of the National Marine Research and Innovation Strategy 2017-2021 and other national strategies, such as Food Wise 2025.

Applicants are strongly advised to contact their National Contact Point prior to submission of any application under this call.

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

**Max. funding per project:** 200,000 Euro

**Max. of two Irish partners requesting funding.**

Maximum overheads allowed is 30% of all costs excluding Equipment and Subcontracting.

Subcontracting to a third party for specialist resources/skills is allowable, subject to normal procurement guidelines. Subcontracting costs are limited to 20% maximum 40,000 Euro.

Refer to the National Rules for full details of all eligible costs allowed under this call.

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Legal entities in the Republic of Ireland with the appropriate scientific and technical qualifications and expertise can be funded as partners in a joint proposal.

The eligible partners are Higher Education Institutions, Other Public Research Bodies, Industry and Private Organisations in the Republic of Ireland.

Any proposal involving an **industry partner** from Ireland must also have an Irish partner from a Higher Education or Other Public Research Body.

The maximum Grant-Aid reimbursement for Industry is 50% for Large Scale Enterprises and 75% for Small-Medium Sized Enterprises of eligible costs. Grant-Aid reimbursement for Higher Education Institutions and Other Public Research Bodies is up to 100% of eligible costs.

## BlueBio Cofund - Call text documents

### **Institutional thematic priorities:**

Applications may apply under any of the priority areas.

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

Not applicable.

### **Additional information:**

Any clarifications or queries with respect to the National Rules should be sent to the national contact point specified above or to [funding@marine.ie](mailto:funding@marine.ie)



## LATVIA

**Participating organisation:** Ministry of Education and Science (IZM)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.3 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Name: Kaspars Karolis

Phone: +37167047996

E-mail: [Kaspars.karolis@izm.gov.lv](mailto:Kaspars.karolis@izm.gov.lv)

**Max. project duration:**

2,5 years or until the 1.11.2023

**Max. funding per project:**

€210,000 for partners, €300,000 for coordinators – Max. LV Total budget requested by ALL Latvian partners within the one proposal: €300,000.

The maximum amount that a Latvian partner can request is 70 000 EURO per year or coordinator 100 000 per year. In case of two Latvian partners in a consortium, the maximum total funding available for a project is 100 000 EUR/year.

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

R&D institutions (research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, research centres etc.) that are listed in the Registry of Research Institutions operated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia. Entity must apply to Research Organisation definitions according to regulation 651/2014. Any other type of participants can participate on their own costs and are not covered by the Ministry.

**Eligible cost are:** Personnel costs (researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the research project) and relevant personnel taxes. Other direct costs such as consumables, equipment (only depreciation costs), materials, reagents.

Travels and allowances according to travel plan.

Indirect costs can reach a maximum of 25% of the total direct costs. The activities must correspond to “research” according to Latvian Law on Scientific Activity. Only non-commercial activities can be comprised in projects with Latvian participation.

Subcontracting: Expenses incurred by a third party to carry out tasks or provide services that require special scientific or technical competences outside the institution’s normal area of activity. The amount may not exceed 20% of the total direct costs allocated to the Latvian partner.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

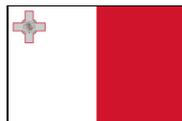
All 4 priority areas are supported

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

n/a

**Additional information:**

Attention! Latvian partners have to end all activities until the 1.11.2023, and submit a report in 1 month thereafter!



## MALTA

**Participating organisation:** Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.3 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Gilbert Gauci

Phone: +00356 23602152

E-Mail: [gilbert.gauci.1@gov.mt](mailto:gilbert.gauci.1@gov.mt)

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

<https://mcst.gov.mt/funding-opportunities/>

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

**Max. funding per project:** €300,000

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Research and Dissemination Organisations, Industrial and Public entities.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

Supporting all 4 priority areas

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

N/A

**Additional information**

The detailed National Rules for Participation for Malta can be accessed from the MCST website -

<https://mcst.gov.mt/funding-opportunities/>



## NORWAY

**Participating organization:** Norges forskningsråd/The Research Council of Norway (RCN)

**Indicative Budget:** 3.5 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Name: Kristin E Thorud / Kjell E. Naas

Phone: +47 930 24 722 /+47 901 65 701

E-Mail: [ket@rcn.no](mailto:ket@rcn.no) /[ken@rcn.no](mailto:ken@rcn.no)

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

Large-scale Programme on Aquaculture Research (HAVBRUK):

<https://www.forskingsradet.no/en/about-the-research-council/programmes/havbruk/>

Marine resources and the environment (MARINFORSK):

<https://www.forskingsradet.no/en/about-the-research-council/programmes/marinforsk/>

Biotechnology for innovation (BIOTEK2021):

<https://www.forskingsradet.no/en/about-the-research-council/programmes/biotek2021/>

**Max. project duration**

Proposed projects may last up to 36 months.

**Max. funding per project**

Budget for Norwegian participation in this call is 3 500 000 €.

The requested total funding from Norwegian partners cannot exceed 750 000€ per proposal

Up to 600 000 € to a partner if a coordinating role, maximum 400 000 € to other partners.

The actual payout will be in Norwegian kroner. The total sum is based on the actual currency on the date for deadline for the full proposal.

**Institutional eligibility criteria**

RCN may fund both research institutions and industry partners in projects. Norwegian applicants for funding from RCN will need to comply with RCN requirements regarding applications and eligible institutions:

[General application requirements](#) and [Research institutions](#) or [Industry](#)

The aided part of the project is set by the State Aid Rules:

<https://www.forskingsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/funding-from-the-research-council/Conditions-for-awarding-state-aid/>

State aid awarded by the Research Council is granted under the General Block Exemption Regulation for state aid, Article 25: Aid for research and development projects.

**Institutional thematic priorities**

RCN is financing all priority areas in the call.

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

Not relevant.

### **Additional information**

Project proposals with Technology Readiness Level (TRL) ranging up to 6 will be considered. Projects should propose advancements in TRL levels during their lifetime.

The Norwegian participation must follow RCN's General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects. General RCN conditions for funding: [Application information](#).

Norwegian project partners receiving funding from RCN will need to sign a separate contract with RCN. Norwegian partners that are coordinators of the projects will be asked to also coordinate the Norwegian partners of the projects. The budget for the Norwegian partners shall follow RCN cost model and RCN regulations.

Support from the RCN awarded to research institutions is normally awarded for non-economic activity. When an entity also pursues economic activities, the financing, the costs and the revenues of those economic activities must be entered in separate accounts.

To ensure that support is awarded in compliance with the state aid rules, RCN asks all applicants selected for conditional allocation of funding to provide supplementary information. The Project Owner must be able to document that its own institution and all its partners (all recipients of state aid) are eligible to receive state aid. Support from the RCN constitutes state aid when it is awarded to an "undertaking", i.e. an actor that carries out an economic activity consisting of offering products or services on a given market.

### **Open access**

The Research Council has stipulated requirements relating to self-archiving and open access to scientific articles produced in connection with R&D projects funded by the Council. Read more about The Research Council's Principles for Open Access to Scientific Publications:

<https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/about-the-research-council/forskningspolitikk/open-science/policy-for-open-science/>



## PORTUGAL

**Participating organisation:** Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FRCT)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.2 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FRCT)

Tel.: +351 296 308 948

E-Mails: [Gisela.MC.Nascimento@azores.gov.pt](mailto:Gisela.MC.Nascimento@azores.gov.pt)

[Renato.HM.Pires@azores.gov.pt](mailto:Renato.HM.Pires@azores.gov.pt)

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

PRO-SCIENTIA is a Regional Government of the Azores system to attribute financial incentives for the Scientific and Technological System of the Azores (SCTA). It generically aims to consolidate the scientific and technological potential of the Azores and it is structured in four priority axes - to value, to cooperate, to qualify and to update.

Its goals are:

- stimulate research in relevant areas;
- strengthen the participation of companies in the SCTA;
- promote the economic valuation of research and development activities;
- encourage the creation of trans-regional and international synergies to project the Azores in the European Research Area;
- qualify the human resources of science;
- promote scientific and technological culture and ensure widespread access to the knowledge.

Program owner: Secretaria Regional do Mar, Ciência e Tecnologia and Vice-presidência do Governo Regional dos Açores

Program Manager: FRCT- Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia

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

**Max. funding per project:** 100 k€

The beneficiaries should be non-corporate entities from the Scientific and technological system of the Azores (SCTA) with social register in the Azores, namely:

- a) Public institutions of higher education, their institutes and R & D units;
- b) private non-profit institutions whose main activities are R & D;
- c) other public or , non-profit private institutions, which carry out or participate in scientific research activities.

Additional eligibility criteria available at : <http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/>

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Eligibility criteria:

The beneficiaries must meet the requirements in terms of general eligibility conditions stipulated in Article 7 of Regional Regulatory Decree No. 17/2012 / A

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

No restrictions

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

n/a

**Additional information:**

All project related costs, namely direct personal costs, direct costs of subcontracting, other direct costs, indirect costs. Forms of costs and maximum rates of budget categories are stated in FRCT's eligibility rules.

Before initiating a funding request, FRCT strongly recommends that applicants contact FRCT through the regional contact point.

Also see the Guide for the participation of regional research teams in ERA-NETs financed by the FRCT in <http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/>



## ROMANIA

**Participating organisation:** Unitatea Executivă pentru Finanțarea Învățământului Superior, a Cercetării, Dezvoltării și Inovării (UEFISCDI)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.4 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Domnica Cotet / Cristina Cotet

Phone: + 40213023880 / + 40213023884

E-Mail: [domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro](mailto:domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro) / [cristina.cotet@uefiscdi.ro](mailto:cristina.cotet@uefiscdi.ro)

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

PNCDI III <http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/articole/4536/Pachet-de-informatii-ERANETERANET-Cofund.html>

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

**Max. funding per project:**

- 250.000 euro if the Romanian applicant is coordinators (no matter how many Romanian applicants there are).
- 200.000 euro if the Romanian applicant is partner (no matter how many Romanian applicants there are).

Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal of the BlueBio call 2020.

Eligible costs are:

- Staff costs;
- Logistics expenses
  - Capital expenditure;
  - Expenditure on stocks - supplies and inventory items;
  - Expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 25% of the funding from the public budget. The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work;
- Travel expenses;
- Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs and cost for subcontracting) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 20% of direct costs.

The aid intensity is applying in respect of type of organization and type of eligible activity (cf. link below).

<http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/articole/4536/Pachet-de-informatii-ERANETERANET-Cofund.html>

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

All legal entities (public and private sector)

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

-

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

-

**Additional information:**

The Romanian applicants must read carefully the information available at the link

<http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/articole/4536/Pachet-de-informatii-ERANETERANET-Cofund.html>



## SPAIN

**Participating organisation:** Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial (CDTI)

**Indicative Budget:** 0.5 M€

**National Contact Person(s):**

Héctor González

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

Relevant information can be found at the following link: "Financiación CDTI para Proyectos Transnacionales en el marco de acciones ERA-NET"

<http://www.cdti.es/index.asp?MP=101&MS=831&MN=2>

**Max. project duration:** 12- 36 months

**Max. funding per project:** The minimum eligible budget for CDTI is 175,000 € (this amount applies to the project budget per partner, not the requested funding).

Project transnationality: projects should be transnational by nature, therefore, each country/ region will be responsible for no more than 70% of the total budget project costs.

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Eligible applicants: The eligible institutions must be for-profit enterprises (being Large companies or SME), established and carrying out RTDI activities in Spain.

Other entities such as Universities, Public Research Institutions, Technological Centres, and other non-profit private institutions could participate under subcontracting by Spanish companies (subcontracting cannot exceed the 50% of the national project budget).

Eligible activities: technology-based activities within industrial research and/or experimental development projects (in accordance with the definitions of the General Block Exemption Regulation, EC Regulation nº651/2014) representing outstanding scientific technical quality and high innovative potential. The Spanish part of the proposed work plan must be developed in Spain. Please note that non-technological activities, particularly those related to business models/processes, are excluded for CDTI funding. The eligible costs include:

- Personnel costs, to the extent employed on the research project.
- Instrument and equipment costs, to the extent and during the period in which they are used for the project.
- Contractual research costs, technical knowledge and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at market prices, as well as costs of consulting services intended exclusively for the research project.
- Other costs (operating expenses) including materials, supplies and similar products, exclusively used for the research project. Audit costs for the national reporting of the project (when applicable).
- Additional general expenses (indirect costs, as a percentage of personnel costs).

Please note that management and dissemination costs are not eligible for funding.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

All

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

n/a

**Additional information:**

Additionally to the international application process, those applicants requesting funding from CDTI must submit a formal application by way of CDTI electronic submission system (<https://sede.cdti.gob.es>).

The application must include a detailed description, in Spanish Language, of the activities to be undertaken by the company and the respective budget. Applicants must indicate their VAT (CIF) number in all their respective applications (both international and national). Further guidance will be published on CDTI website.

- CDTI Funding: will be based on a financing package, entailing soft loans (up to 75% of the eligible budget, 85 % in exceptional cases) with a non-repayable part, up to 33 % of the loan. The available budget for the non-repayable part amounts to € 500,000.
- Specific financial conditions for ensuring the beneficiary's solvency could be required according to CDTI funding rules. CDTI will avoid double funding, and will not finance projects, or parts of projects, which have been already, funded through other national, transnational or EU calls.
- CDTI will be responsible for making the final decision regarding the awarding of funds, taking fully into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative project, the previous funds received by the participants for other related projects, the fulfilment of eligibility and funding rules, and the financial resources available.
- Applicants are strongly advised to check the detailed information available on CDTI website and to contact the NCP for getting advice about national funding rules before submitting a proposal.
- Please check the complete National Funding Rules on: "Financiación CDTI para Proyectos de Investigación y Desarrollo" <http://www.cdti.es/index.asp?MP=100&MS=802&MN=2>
- For further information, please contact the NCP or visit CDTI website: <https://www.cdti.es/>

## ANNEX 3: A FRAMEWORK FOR RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

### Introduction

#### Societal responsibility and Grand Challenges

Research and technology have become significant restructuring forces in our societies and play a role in determining what kind of futures that are generated. Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) represents aspirations to ensure that research and technology development are conducted in a societally responsible way, and that importance is attached to how research and technology might contribute to solving the Grand societal Challenges.

#### Co-production and governance challenges

Research, technology and innovation entail more than uncovering truth or charting out new and improved maps. These are activities that can potentially, and often directly, change the landscape in which we live. We are not only “reading” nature, more and more we are “writing” it as well. It is this trend – exemplified by e.g. synthetic biology or geoengineering<sup>6</sup> – that provides the background and motivation for an engagement in and for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI). Research interacts and is interwoven with other social, cultural and historical relations. The intermingling, complexity and dynamics of this co-production means that governance schemes based on distance and clear task distribution between research, technology, innovation and policy are unproductive. It is in recognition of this systemic complexity and dynamics that the vision of Responsible Research and Innovation has emerged. RRI represents a new attempt to mitigate the asymmetry that Jerry Ravetz articulated as follows in 1975: *“Science takes credit for penicillin, while Society takes the blame for the Bomb”*.

#### Ambitions

Ambitions relating to RRI are formidable. As an expert group appointed by the European Commission states: “RRI seeks to connect research and innovation with the futures in which they play a part”. RRI has become an important concept in political narratives in recent years, particularly in Europe. RRI is a cross-cutting issue under Horizon 2020, and in November 2014 the Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union presented The Rome Declaration on Responsible Research and Innovation. It is important to stress that RRI is a figuration; it is open, not “owned” by anyone and therefore invites and inspires experimentation, development activities and learning across established boundaries, sectors and disciplines. In this respect RRI is a means unto itself: “RRI is a transparent, interactive process by which societal actors and innovators become mutually responsive to each other...”. In October 2013, the UK’s Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) became the first European research council to present an RRI policy, creating a Framework for Responsible Innovation focusing on aspects that it expects will characterise RRI processes ([Framework for Responsible Innovation](#)).

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<sup>6</sup> See, for example, Jack Stilgoe’s discussion of geoengineering as an “archetype of technology as social experiment” in Routledge: *Experiment Earth*, 2015. Link to Stillgoe’s Experiment Earth blog: [.](#)

## System changes with RRI

RRI represents a paradigm shift in the fundamental understanding of the relationship between research and society; from linear models to interactive models that focus on interaction and networks across disciplines and societal sectors. Experimental activities indicate that development of RRI will require building new knowledge, expertise, skills and capacity in the research and innovation system. At the same time, the RRI dimensions identified by EPSRC have generic value. Parallels may also be drawn to needs for learning and development identified through long-term efforts in Constructive Technology Assessment (CTA) in the Netherlands and Real-time Technology Assessment (RTTA) in the US.

## Dimensions of RRI

RRI presents stretch goals for development and learning in research and innovation systems broadly enough understood to encompass research funding organisations. Introducing RRI is seeking to advance learning and development activities in dialogue with the research environments. The expectation is that the *processes* in the research and innovation systems can be increasingly characterised as:

**Anticipatory:** Institutions and individuals in our research and innovation systems are repeatedly challenged when it comes to diagnostic and prospective competence and capacity. It has proven difficult to develop substantive diagnoses and correspondingly good prospects or figurations. Technologies may potentially have terrain-changing effects that are realised in complex, dynamic interplay with other societal forces. There is a lack of knowledge and understanding of how to realise this potential in relation to desired societal development (cf. directionality).

**Reflexive:** This involves employing expertise and capacity to better identify and discuss prerequisites for research and innovation activities, in the form of fundamental, often implicit, assumptions and frameworks of understanding, irreducible uncertainty and areas of ignorance. A greater degree of reflexivity is vital in order to provide directionality in research and innovation processes.

**Inclusive:** Societal dialogue has long been high up on the agenda of the research and innovation systems. The informative, explanatory monologue on the part of research was to be replaced by (societal) dialogue. After a period of seeking to develop various types of dialogue mechanisms, such as people's juries, lay public conferences, consensus conferences and focus groups, to "enable society to speak back to science," attention is now increasingly being directed towards the research environments themselves. What is being targeted are the skills needed to open up research and innovation processes, recognise the limits of one's own knowledge and competence, and the ability to ask for help in dealing with the potentially landscape-changing effects of these processes.

**Responsive:** Activities involving the first three dimensions are intended to provide continual input and substance to new governance practices. This entails the development of horizontal or distributed governance schemes that encourage collaboration with partners that may be affected by a research and innovation process. There is a need to open up different perspectives relating to dilemmas and irreducible uncertainty. This must take place via broad-based involvement, not only on the part of researchers from different disciplines, but also bringing on board policy actors, including research councils, trade and industry, interest organisations and society at large. The RRI approach is a learning process with no fixed answers ("beyond rules and regulations").

# The RRI Poster

**Look forward!**

**Think through!**

**Invite along!**

**Work together!**

