

Pre - Announcement

ERA CoBioTech's 2nd Call

Biotechnology for a sustainable bioeconomy

Deadline:

December 14th 2018, 13:00 h (CET)

The ERA-Net Cofund on Biotechnologies is an ERA Net Cofund Action under Horizon 2020 building on the achievements of ERA-IB2 (ERA-Net for Industrial Biotechnology 2), ERASysAPP (ERA-Net for Applied Systems Biology) and ERASynBio (ERA-Net for Synthetic Biology).

The key mission of ERA CoBioTech is to

- maximize synergies between current mechanisms of biotechnology research funding in Europe,
- foster the exchange of knowledge across borders,
- demonstrate how a bio-based economy can be beneficial for different groups in society,
- maintain and strengthen Europe's competitiveness in biotechnology.

ERA CoBioTech pre-announces the upcoming second call for transnational research projects in the field of biotechnologies. The Joint Call, with an indicative budget of approximately **15.3 M€**, brings together 18 funding organisations from 14 countries. The one-stage call (incl. "rebuttal" stage) is expected to open on **16.10.2018** with a closing date on **14.12.2018, 13:00 CET**.

Aim of the joint call

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

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

- **Synthetic biology** for the design and construction of new biological parts, devices, and systems, or re-design of existing, natural biological systems for useful purposes by use of e.g. (but not limited to) orthogonal bio-systems, regulatory circuits, minimal genome approaches and protocells.
- **Systems biology** for optimisation of biological processes, including investigation of regulatory mechanisms in intra- and intercellular processes for bio-production, modelling, development of new computational methods and other new methodologies.

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- **Use of bioinformatics tools** (e.g. data standardisation, modelling, open repositories) for the identification and utilisation of metabolic pathways. Datasets can have different origins, e.g. appropriate datasets on genomics, phenomics, proteomics, metabolomics, transcriptomics etc.; mapping and exploitation of cellular processes and metabolic capacities for bio-production and for strain/variety improvement are also included.
- **Biotechnological approaches** (possibly in combination with chemical ones) to transform bio-based building blocks into molecules in a sustainable way.

Project areas

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

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

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

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

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

Projects are expected to have a TRL ranging between 2 and 6 and should increase their initial TRL by 2 levels.

- The participation of one or more industrial partner(s) and end-users or stakeholders is strongly recommended but not mandatory.
- As with previous funding calls, all projects will be expected to include aspects relating to 'Responsible Research & Innovation', communication and public engagement, and data management.
- **Previously unsuccessful ERA CoBioTech grant proposals must not be directly resubmitted in their original version.** Resubmissions will only be considered if the proposal is substantially improved and will be accepted at the discretion of the ERA CoBioTech involved funders and Call Office. All proposals are checked in the peer review administration process to identify any direct resubmissions which will be rejected. Resubmitted proposals must be declared as such, and include details on the modifications which merit their re-consideration.

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Intended timeline		
	Phase	Date
Full proposals (One stage)	Call opening	16.10.2018
	Deadline for submission of proposals	14.12.2018 (13:00 CET)
Rebuttal phase	Letter to the applicants	05.04.2019
	Opportunity for rebuttal (Deadline for submission comments to issues raised by IEP's reviews)	26.04.2019
Funding decisions & project start	Communication of the funding decisions	June-July 2019
	Projects start	From Sep. 2019

Eligibility

In this call ERA CoBioTech expects proposals for collaborative research, development and innovation from transnational consortia composed of universities, higher education institutions, public research institutes, industries, large companies and small and medium-sized enterprises (SME). Where appropriate (according to national regulations), other partners such as non-for-profit organizations or civil society organizations are also encouraged. The participation of one or more industrial partner(s) in the consortium **is also recommended, but not mandatory**. National and regional eligibility rules, including the potential eligibility of the private sector, e.g. SMEs, must be followed and will be published together with the call text at <http://www.cobiotech.eu>.




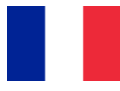




Application procedures & Evaluation

In a one-phased submission process, the proposals will be evaluated by a panel of independent experts (IEP), following the evaluation criteria that will be published within the Call Announcement. Projects are expected to start from September 2019, depending on grant negotiations with the relevant regional or national funding organisations.

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 Spain

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

Country		Funding Organisation	National Contact Person (NCP)	Indicative budget (up to M €)	
				Topic A	Topic B
BE		SPW-DGO6	Nicolas Delsaux nicolas.delsaux@spw.wallonie.be +32-81-334-520, +32-473-556-174	1	
		Flanders Innovation and Entrepreneurship, VLAIO	Marianne Claessens, scientific advisor, +32 2 432 42 09 marianne.claessens@vlaio.be Elsie Declercq, scientific advisor +32 2 432 42 78 elsie.declercq@vlaio.be	1	
CH		Swiss Innovation Agency-Innosuisse	Alain Dietrich alain.dietrich@innosuisse.ch +41 58 464 92 87	0.86	
EE		ETAg	Katrin Kello katrin.kello@etag.ee +372-731-7361 Margus Harak (budget issues) margus.harak@etag.ee +372-731-7343	0.3	
FR		ANR	Aurélie Paquirissamy +33-1-78-09-81-18 aurelie.paquirissamy@anr.fr Liz Pons +33-1-78-09-80-49 liz.pons@anr.fr	0.75	
DE		BMBF	Petra E. Schulte +49 2461 61-9031 petra.schulte@fz-juelich.de Irina Kobrin +49 2461 61-3926 i.kobrin@fz-juelich.de Christian Breuer +49 2461 61-96929 c.breuer@fz-juelich.de	1.5	No funding for Topic B
		SMWK	Gabriele Süptitz +49-351-564-6422 gabriele.sueptitz@smwk.sachsen.de or cobiotech@smwk.sachsen.de	1.5	
LV		VIAA	Linda Vecbiskena +371 67785402 linda.vecbiskena@viaa.gov.lv	0.42	
NO		RCN	Øystein Rønning +4791623960 oro@rcn.no	1.4	No funding for Topic B

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PL		NCBR	Konrad Kosecki +48 22 39 07 460 konrad.kosecki@ncbr.gov.pl	0.6
RO		UEFISCDI	Adrian Asanica +40744.45.00.11 adrian.asanica@uefiscdi.ro	0.3
RU		FASIE	Olga Levchenko +74952313851 levchenko@fasie.ru	0.4
SI		MIZS	Kim Turk +386(1)4784705 kim.turk@gov.si	0.63
ES		CDTI	Beatriz Torralba Prieto +34 915815502 beatriz.torralba@cdti.es María José Montilla +34 91 581 07 16 mariajose.montilla@cdti.es	0.5
		AEI	Manuel Sánchez-Blanco Project Manager era-ib@aei.gob.es +34 916038447 Auxiliadora Prieto Scientific Advisor era-ib@aei.gob.es	0.8
		GOBIERNO DE NAVARRA	Sara Torres +34848427873 storresl@navarra.es	0.1
TR		TUBITAK	Dilek Sahin +90-312-298 94 91 dilek.sahin@tubitak.gov.tr	1
UK		UKRI-BBSRC	Anja Berndt +44 (0) 1793-413251 cobiotech@bbsrc.ac.uk	2.23

Applicants are strongly recommended to contact their funding organization before submitting an application.