

Call title: ERA-NET Call 2012

- Call identifier: **FP7-ERANET-2012-RTD**
- Date of publication: 20 July 2011.
- Deadline: 28 February 2012, at 17.00.00, Brussels local time¹.

Indicative budgets and Topics²:

A total of EUR 38.5 million is foreseen for this call and divided as follows:

- Up to EUR 37.5 million³ will be allocated by individual Themes in the Cooperation Work Programme to the ERA-NET and ERA-NET Plus topics detailed in *Table 1* (Thematic part of the Call).
- A further EUR 1 million⁴ for horizontal support actions, funded pro-rata by all the Themes in the Cooperation Work Programme, as detailed in *Table 2* (Horizontal part of the Call).

Table 1 – Overview of Thematic Coordination Actions in FP7-ERANET-2012 -RTD

Funding Scheme: Coordination and Support Actions (Coordinating Actions)

Challenge/Activity/ Area	Topic identifier	TITLE	Indicative budget (EUR million)
INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT			
KBBE 2.1 Sustainable production and management of biological resources	KBBE.2012.1.2-08	ERA-NET Plus on Innovation in the forest-based sector for increasing resource efficiency and tackling climate change with competitive customer solutions ⁵	8.0
NMP 4.4 Integration of technologies for industrial applications	NMP.2012.4.0-3		
KBBE 2.1 Sustainable production and management of biological resources	KBBE.2012.1.2-13	Strengthening cooperation in European research on sustainable exploitation of marine resources in the seafood chains - ERANET	2.0

¹ The Director-General responsible for the call may delay this deadline by up to two months.

² Under the condition that the draft budget for 2012 is adopted without modifications by the budget authority.

³ Total indicative budget provided by the concerned Themes for ERA-NET actions. Following the evaluation of proposals, the final total budget of the call, as well the individual sub-budgets independently allocated by each Theme, may vary by up to 10% of the values initially foreseen.

⁴ Total indicative budget for horizontal support actions. Following the evaluation of proposals, the final budget of the call may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the indicated budget.

⁵ Topic jointly implemented by KBBE & NMP, each Theme contributing with EUR 4M

KBBE 2.3 Life sciences, biotechnology and biochemistry for sustainable non-food products and processes	KBBE.2012.3.6-01	ERA-NET: Systems Biology	2.0
ENERGY 5.10 Horizontal Programme Actions	ENERGY.2012.10.1.1	ERA-NET Plus on Bioenergy: Demonstrations of the European Industrial Bioenergy Initiative	15.0
ENERGY 5.10 Horizontal Programme Actions	ENERGY.2012.10.1.2	ERA-NET on Solar Electricity: Implementation of the Solar Energy Industry Initiative	2.0
SST 7.2 Sustainable Surface Transport	SST.2012.6-1	ERA-NET Transport III	3.0
CONFRONTING MAJOR THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH			
HEALTH 2.3 Translational Research in Major Infectious Diseases	HEALTH.2012.2.3.0-2	ERA-NET on infectious diseases	2.0
NMP 4.1 Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies	NMP.2012.1.2-3	ERA-NET on nano-medicine	1.5
SSH 8.3.2 Societal Trends and Lifestyles	SSH.2012.3.2-4	Drug demand and supply reduction (ERA-NET)	2.0

. Table 2 – Horizontal Support Actions in FP7-ERANET-2012 -RTD

Funding Scheme: Coordination and Support Actions (Supporting Actions)

THEME/Activity	Topic identifier	TITLE	Indicative budget (EUR million)
HORIZONTAL			
A4.2.2.3 Support for Programme coordination and cooperation in the context of the ERA	ERA-JP.2012.1	Joint programming and its instruments: optimising implementation modalities and support mechanisms	1.0

General Eligibility Conditions

The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme, and in the guide for applicants. Please note that the completeness criterion also includes that part B of the proposal shall be readable, accessible and printable. Only information provided in part A of the proposal will be used to determine whether the proposal is eligible with respect to budget thresholds and/or minimum number of eligible participants

Additional eligibility Criteria for ERA-NET proposals

The aim of ERA-NET actions is to network research programmes carried out at national or regional level, with a view to their mutual opening and the development and implementation of joint activities. Such programmes shall have all of the following characteristics:

- Be strategically planned (i.e. be composed of a number of research projects focused on a defined subject area or set of problems, that are scheduled to run for a set period of time and that have a co-ordinated management).
- Be carried out at national or regional level.
- Be either financed or managed directly by national or regional public bodies, or by structures (e.g. agencies) closely related to, or mandated by, public authorities.

The minimum number of participants in an ERA-NET consortium is **3 independent legal entities** which finance or manage publicly funded national or regional programmes. **Each of these must be established in a different Member State or Associated Country.**

Partners for ERA-NET actions eligible to satisfy the above condition are:

- Programme owners: typically national ministries/regional authorities responsible for defining, financing or managing research programmes carried out at national or regional level.
- Programme 'managers' (such as research councils or funding agencies) or other national or regional organisations that *implement* research programmes under the supervision of the programme owners.
- Programme owners (typically national ministries/regional authorities) which do not have a running or fully fledged research programme at the moment of submitting an ERA-NET proposal, but which are planning, and have committed, to set up such a programme, are also eligible if their participation is well justified and adds value to the overall programme coordination. As such, countries or regions which have less diverse research programmes (in particular new Member States and candidate Associated Countries) will find their involvement in the ERA-NET scheme greatly facilitated.

Please note that research organisations or universities which are not programme owners or managers are not eligible partners for ERA-NET actions.

In addition to the minimum number of independent legal entities mentioned above, private legal entities (e.g. charities) which manage research programmes may enter the consortium if their participation is well justified and adds value to the overall programme coordination.

Non-European Programme owners and programme managers are eligible partners at full title, assuming the ERA-NET consortium is already validly constituted (with 3 independent legal entities each of them established in a different Member State or Associated Country).

Sole participants (as referred to in Article 10 of the Rules for Participation) may be eligible if the above-mentioned specific criteria for eligible ERA-NET partners are respected. A sole participant shall explicitly indicate which of its 'members' forming a sole legal entity is either a programme owner or programme manager in the proposed action and indicate for these members, the respective national/regional programmes which are at the disposal of the proposed ERA-NET action.

Additional eligibility Criteria for ERA-NET Plus proposals

ERA-NET Plus proposals must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- A single joint call should be planned with a clear financial commitment from the participating national or regional programmes⁶.
- Eligible participants are the same as for ERA-NET actions with the exception that programme owners, which do not have yet a running or fully fledged research programme at the moment of submitting a proposal, are not eligible for ERA-NET Plus actions. Furthermore, a consortium must include programme owners or programme managers from at least 5 different Member or Associated countries.
- The same additional participants as for ERA-NET actions are eligible, beyond the number of 5 minimum programme owners or managers.
- The total planned budget of the joint call shall have a minimum financial volume of EUR 5 million.
- A common peer review mechanism for evaluating the proposals submitted to the joint call shall be foreseen.
- Each project financed out of the joint call shall be trans-national (i.e. minimum of two partners from different countries).
- A fixed common set of general evaluation/selection criteria (excellence, European added value, etc.) should be part of the common evaluation criteria of the joint call organised by the national programmes.

Evaluation Criteria for ERA-NET and ERA-NET Plus proposals

For the evaluation of ERA-NET and ERA-NET Plus proposals, the general criteria and thresholds applicable to Coordination and Support Actions given in Annex 2, are complemented as follows:

1. Scientific and/or technological excellence - Quality of coordination (Threshold 3/5)

Level of ambition in the collaboration and commitment of the participants in the proposed ERA-NET / ERA-NET Plus action to coordinate their national/regional research programmes.

2. Quality and efficiency of the implementation (Threshold 3/5) – no additional criteria

3. Potential impact (Threshold 3/5)

⁶ Proposals must demonstrate that national research programmes are committed to support the call. Selected proposals will have to provide evidence that a commitment has been made by the relevant research programmes.

Contribution to establishing and strengthening a durable cooperation between the partners and their national/regional research programmes.

A reserve list may be produced of proposals that pass the evaluation, but fall below the available budget.

- Proposal format:
 - Applicants must ensure that proposals conform to the page limits and layout given in the Guide for Applicants, and in the proposal part B template available through the EPSS. The Commission will instruct the experts to disregard any pages exceeding these limits. The minimum font size allowed is 11 points. The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 15 mm (not including any footers or headers).
- Evaluation procedure:
 - The evaluation will follow a single stage procedure.
 - Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
 - Proposals may be evaluated remotely.
- Indicative timetable:
 - Evaluation in April 2012.
 - Opening of negotiations in June 2012.
 - Selections from October 2012.
 - Grant agreements from December 2012.
- Consortia agreements:
 - Consortia Agreements are recommended.

The forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to the Cooperation work programme. This call provides the possibility to use flat rates to cover subsistence costs incurred by beneficiaries during travel carried out within grants for indirect actions. For further information, please refer to the relevant Guide for Applicants. The applicable flat rates are available at:

ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/flat-rates-subsistence_en.pdf