

**Call title: Supporting the coordination of national and regional policies and activities of Member States and/or Associated countries in the field of international cooperation – Activity ERA-NET/ERA-NET PLUS**

- **Call identifier: FP7-INCO-2013-3**
- **Date of publication: 10.07.2012**
- **Deadline<sup>1</sup>: 18.12.2012 at 17.00.00, Brussels local time**
- **Indicative budget<sup>2</sup>: EUR 10 MILLION**

**Activities called:**

<b>Activity/ Area</b>	<b>Funding Schemes</b>	<b>Indicative amount</b>
7.3 Supporting the coordination of national and regional policies and activities of Member States and/or Associated countries in the field of international cooperation (ERA-NET/ERA-NET PLUS) Areas : - India - Latin America and Caribbean countries - Mediterranean Partner countries - Russia	Coordination and Support Action (coordinating action)	EUR 10 million

**Eligibility conditions:**

The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme and in the guide for applicants. 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.

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<sup>1</sup> The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

<sup>2</sup> Under the condition that the draft budget for 2013 is adopted without modification by the budgetary authority

- The budget for this call is indicative. The final total budget awarded to this call, following the evaluation of proposals, may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the call.
- All budgetary figures given in this call are indicative. The repartition of the sub-budgets awarded within this call, following the evaluation of proposals, may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the call.

## **Additional Eligibility Criteria:**

### **- ERA-NET actions**

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

Partners for ERA-NET actions eligible to satisfy the above conditions 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.

Sole participants (as referred to in Article 10 of the Rules for Participation) are eligible if the above-mentioned minimum conditions are satisfied by the legal entities forming together a sole participant. A sole participant shall explicitly indicate which of its 'members' are either programme owners or programme managers 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.

Provided that the proposal complies with the minimum number of participants required in an ERA-NET action as described above, the following legal entities are eligible:

a) Programme owners and programme managers not established in a Member State or Associated Country;

b) Private legal entities (e.g. charities) which own or manage research programmes, if their participation is well justified and adds value to the overall programme coordination.

### **- ERA-NET PLUS actions**

- The minimum number of participants in an ERA-NET Plus action is **5 independent legal entities** which finance or manage publicly funded national or regional programmes. **Each of these shall be established in a different Member State or Associated Country.**

Partners for ERA-NET actions eligible to satisfy the above conditions 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.

Sole participants (as referred to in Article 10 of the Rules for Participation) are eligible if the above-mentioned minimum conditions are satisfied by the legal entities forming together a sole participant. A sole participant shall explicitly indicate which of its 'members' are either programme owners or programme managers in the proposed action, and indicate for these members the respective national/regional programmes which are at the disposal of the proposed ERA-NET Plus action.

- Provided that the proposal complies with the minimum number of participants required in an ERA-NET Plus action as described above, the following legal entities are eligible:
  - a) Programme owners and programme managers not established in a Member State or Associated Country;
  - b) Private legal entities (e.g. charities) which own or manage research programmes, if their participation is well justified and adds value to the overall programme coordination.
- A single joint call shall be planned with a clear financial commitment from the participating national or regional programmes<sup>3</sup>.
- The total planned budget of *the joint call shall have a minimum financial volume of EUR 5 million, EU contribution included.*
- The joint call organised by the national programmes shall establish a set of common general evaluation/selection criteria, such as excellence and European added value.
- A common peer review mechanism for evaluating the proposals submitted to the joint call shall be planned.
- Each project financed out of the joint call shall be trans-national (i.e. minimum of two partners from different Member States or Associated Countries).
- Detailed rules for participation in the funded trans-national projects shall be defined by the call organisers themselves (i.e. participating national or regional programmes).

### **Evaluation procedure:**

The evaluation criteria and scoring scheme are set out in Annex 2 to this work programme and are complemented as follows :

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<sup>3</sup> 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.

*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)*

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

- A one-stage submission procedure will be followed.
- Proposals may be evaluated remotely.
- The participation of programme owners and programme managers from the targeted countries or regions is considered essential for the success of the ERA-NET/ERA-NET PLUS actions; this will be taken into account in the evaluation (management criterion).
- The procedure for prioritising proposals with equal scores is described in annex 2 of the work programme.

**Indicative timetable:**

Evaluations are expected to be carried out during the month March 2013. It is expected that the contract negotiation for the shortlisted proposals will start in May 2013.

**Consortia agreements:**

Consortia agreements are recommended but not mandatory for the ERA-NET/ERA-NET PLUS actions.

**Forms of grants:**

The forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to this work programme.

**Use of flat rates for subsistence costs:**

In accordance with Annex 3 of this work programme, this call provides for 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, see the relevant Guides for Applicants for this call. The applicable flat rates are available on the Participant Portal at: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal> under 'Guidance documents for FP7/Financial issues/Flat rates for daily allowances.