



## Third joint transnational call (2014) within the ERA-NET SIINN on

### “Safe Implementation of Innovative Nanoscience and Nanotechnology”

**Submission deadline for proposals:  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 12:00 CET (07:00 Washington D. C. Time)**

**Link to SIINN 3<sup>rd</sup> Call Text:**

[http://www.siinn.eu/bin/Annex I - SIINN 3rd Call - Call Text final 30.09.2014.pdf](http://www.siinn.eu/bin/Annex_I_-_SIINN_3rd_Call_-_Call_Text_final_30.09.2014.pdf)

**Link to electronic proposal submission**

<https://www.siinn-submission.eu/>

**For further information contact the Call Office:**

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## Guidelines for Applicants

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## 1. Background

The commercial application of manufactured nanomaterials (MNMs) products is increasing rapidly, but one important aspect, the safety of MNMs, still represents a barrier to their wide innovative use. Available data on the toxicological behaviour of MNMs is often scant, unreliable or contradictory. Therefore, the development of a consolidated framework to address nano-related risks and the management of these risks for humans and the environment, by investigating the toxicological behaviour of MNMs, is needed. R&D activities in the Member and Associated States of the EU in the area of nanoscience and nanotechnology (N&N) remain largely uncoordinated and fragmented, resulting in the sub-optimal use of available resources, such as human resources, research equipment and funding. Thus, international funding initiatives enabling researchers to pool know-how, data and resources are called for, and collaborative efforts with U.S.A. will contribute to strengthening the international dimension of the European Research Area.

In this context, the ERA-NET “SIINN” for research programmes on Safe Implementation of Innovative Nanoscience and Nanotechnology launches its third transnational call for proposals for funding multilateral integrated research projects focusing on five different topics related to the safety of manufactured nanomaterials. For details on the areas covered by each topic, please see the Call Text.

## 2. Registration

Research consortia who intend to submit a transnational project proposal have to submit it via the SIINN Electronic Proposal Submission System (<https://www.siinn-submission.eu/>). The electronic Proposal Submission System will be available in October 2014.

## 3. Proposal submission

A joint transnational proposal’s document (in English) shall be prepared by the partners and submitted via the Electronic Proposal Submission System (<https://www.siinn-submission.eu/>) by the proposal coordinator. The submission must be completed no later than **16<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 12:00 CET (07:00 Washington D. C. Time)**.

Only the proposals based on the proposal template provided on the SIINN web site (<http://www.siinn.eu>) will be accepted.

Please, take into account that the Electronic Proposal Submission System may be overloaded on the deadline date. It is therefore recommended to transfer all required data in due time.

If required, the national/regional applications have to be submitted directly by the participating national/regional Funding Organisations according to their deadlines which can be, or not, after the Call has closed. Please consult the respective national/regional funding organisation at Appendix B or the respective national/regional contact point for further details.



## 4. Proposal structure and page limitations

Please, note that only the proposals based on the SIINN proposal template provided on the SIINN web page (<http://www.siinn.eu>) will be accepted. The proposal document must respect the format and the length indicated below. **Proposals exceeding these limitations will be rejected.**

The proposals must include the following information:

- Project acronym and project full title
- Addressed call topics and project keywords
- Contact Data of Project Coordinator and project partners
- Project duration, project costs, requested funding, planned starting date
- Abstract: publishable abstract (max 10 lines) and summary of the project (max. 1 page)
- Contribution of the project to the goals of the call (max. 1 page)
- Added value of the proposed transnational collaboration (max. 1 page)
- Description of the state of the art and description of the problem (max. 3 pages)
- Project goals and deliverables (max. 1 page)
- Degree of innovation in the approach and its advantages (max. 1 page)
- Previous research by the consortium members related to the goals of the project (max. 1/2 page per partner)
- Work plan: overview of strategy, project structure and methodology (max. 3 pages), work packages (max. 2 pages per WP), identification of possible risks and/or bottlenecks and corresponding contingency plans (max. 1 page), schedule (Gantt chart) (max. 1 page), financial plan: table and justification of projects costs (max. 1/2 page per partner)
- Description of the participants (max. 1 page per partner)
- Potential of the Consortium to realize the project (max. 1 page): adequacy of the Consortium composition and the building of expertise
- Management capabilities and resources (max. 1 page)
- Potential impact on EHS related challenges (max. 2 pages)
- Market knowledge (max. 2 pages): target markets, market potential and competitors
- Dissemination and/or exploitation of results, including Consortium Agreement principles (max. 2 pages)
- Ethical issues and safety issues (max. 1/2 page)
- References (max. 1 page)

## 5. Eligibility criteria

Consortia proposing a collaborative project must fulfil the following **eligibility criteria**:

- The proposals must be submitted, only via electronic form through the SIINN Submission System (<https://www.siinn-submission.eu/>), by the coordinator of the transnational project no later than **16<sup>th</sup> January 2015, at 12.00 CET (07:00 Washington D. C. Time)**.
- Each consortium submitting a proposal must involve a **minimum of three independent organisations from at least two regions/countries participating in the call**.
- At least one partner of the consortium must be based in a European country participating in the ERA-NET SIINN and in the third SIINN call (Austria, Germany, Portugal, Romania, or Spain).



- Applicants from countries whose funding organisations do not participate in the call may be part of a consortium if they are able to secure their own funding by providing a signed statement of proof of own funding included in the proposal application. Such partners must state the source of funding for their part in the proposal. These participants must have the funds and resources available prior to application.
- The coordinator of the proposal must be based in a country/region participating in the call (Austria, Belgium, Germany, Portugal, Region Nord-Pas de Calais (France), Romania, Spain, USA).
- The majority (2/3) of partners and funding volume in a proposal must belong to countries participating in the call (Austria, Belgium, Germany, Portugal, Region Nord-Pas de Calais (France), Romania, Spain, USA).
- The consortia must be balanced in terms of transnational participation. Therefore, it is mandatory that no more than 2/3 of the total funding will be requested by partners from one country.
- The duration of the projects has to be 36 months.
- All fields of the proposal template must be completed in English and respect the length indicated for each field, following the instructions of the «Guidelines for Applicants».
- Each organisation coming from a country participating in the call must comply with the national funding criteria and regulations of their respective Funding Organisation to ensure the eligibility of the transnational proposal.



## 6. Project start and consortium agreement

Consortium members of projects selected for funding must fix a common project start date, which will be the reference date for yearly and final reports.

The project consortium partners must agree on a consortium agreement (CA) for cooperation before the official project start date. Upon request, this consortium agreement must be made available to the concerned funding organisations. This consortium agreement must be signed by all partners within three months of the official project start. Please note that national/regional rules may apply.

The purpose of this document will be:

- to underpin the research partners' collaboration and provide the research partners with mutual assurance on project management structures and procedures, and their rights and obligations towards one another;
- to assure the funding organisations that the research consortium has a satisfactory decision making capability and is able to work together in a synergistic manner.

Models for Consortium Agreements can be obtained from the EC IPR Helpdesk: <http://www.ipr-helpdesk.org>. In any case, applicants are free to define their Consortium Agreement as long as the following subjects (as a minimum) should be addressed by the CA:

- Purpose of and definitions used in the CA
- Names of organisations involved
- Common start date of the research project
- Project structure and project management
- Role and responsibilities of the research consortium coordinator and the research partners: person in charge, their obligations and key tasks, conditions for their change
- Deliverables (transnational reports and if relevant requirements for national reports where coordination is required)
- Resources and funding
- Confidentiality and the rules for publishing
- Intellectual Property Rights (how this issue will be handled between research partners)
- Dissemination and exploitation strategy
- Decision making within the consortium
- Handling of internal disputes
- The liabilities of the research partners towards one another (including the handling of default of contract)

## 7. Web-based tool for search of project partners

In order to find potential project partners, a web-based partner search tool has been set up by the FP7 project NMP TeAm. This tool is available on the NMP TeAm website. Please follow this link <https://www.nmp-partnersearch.eu/>.



In order to find potential partners in the United States, applicants are encouraged to review US-EU Bridging NanoEHS Research website ([www.us-eu.org](http://www.us-eu.org)) and US National Nanotechnology Initiative website ([www.nano.gov](http://www.nano.gov)), and if necessary, to discuss with Local Contact Points.



## Appendix A. Local Contact Points (LCP)

Country/ Region	Institution	Website	LCP
<b>Austria</b>	FFG	<a href="http://www.ffg.at/nano-ehs">www.ffg.at/nano-ehs</a>	Alexandra Kuhn +43 57755 5082 <a href="mailto:Alexandra.Kuhn@ffg.at">Alexandra.Kuhn@ffg.at</a>
<b>Belgium</b>	FNRS	<a href="http://www.ncp.frs-fnrs.be/index.php/appels/era-nets">http://www.ncp.frs-fnrs.be/index.php/appels/era-nets</a>	Freia Van Hee +32 2 504 93 09 <a href="mailto:Freia.Vanhee@frs-fnrs.be">Freia.Vanhee@frs-fnrs.be</a>  Arnaud Goolaerts +32 2 504 93 09 <a href="mailto:Arnaud.Goolaerts@frs-fnrs.be">Arnaud.Goolaerts@frs-fnrs.be</a>
<b>France</b>	RCNPC	<a href="http://www.nordpasdecals.fr/jcms/c_5235/recherche">www.nordpasdecals.fr/jcms/c_5235/recherche</a>	Leila Mehnane +33 3 28 82 76 07 <a href="mailto:Leila.Mehnane@nordpasdecals.fr">Leila.Mehnane@nordpasdecals.fr</a>
<b>Germany</b>	Jülich PtJ	<a href="https://www.ptj.de/en/start">https://www.ptj.de/en/start</a>	Dr. Rainer Hagenbeck +49 2461 61 5741 <a href="mailto:R.Hagenbeck@fz-juelich.de">R.Hagenbeck@fz-juelich.de</a>
<b>Portugal</b>	FCT	<a href="http://www.fct.pt/apoios/cooptra/eranets/siinn">www.fct.pt/apoios/cooptra/eranets/siinn</a>	Dr. Carlos Pereira +351 213924397 <a href="mailto:Carlos.Pereira@fct.pt">Carlos.Pereira@fct.pt</a>  Dr. Dina Carrilho +351 213924381 <a href="mailto:Dina.Carrilho@fct.pt">Dina.Carrilho@fct.pt</a>
<b>Romania</b>	UEFISCDI	<a href="http://www.uefiscdi.gov.ro">www.uefiscdi.gov.ro</a>	Mihaela Manole +4021 302 38 63 <a href="mailto:Mihaela.Manole@uefiscdi.ro">Mihaela.Manole@uefiscdi.ro</a>
<b>Spain</b>	MINECO	<a href="http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es">http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es</a>	Dr. Carles Cané +34 935947700 <a href="mailto:Carles.Cane@imb-cnm.csic.es">Carles.Cane@imb-cnm.csic.es</a>  Dr. Federico Mompeán +34 916037990 <a href="mailto:era-nano@mineco.es">era-nano@mineco.es</a>
<b>USA</b>	NSF with CPSC and NIEHS	<a href="http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/nano/">http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/nano/</a>  <a href="http://www.cpsc.gov/">www.cpsc.gov/</a>  <a href="http://www.niehs.nih.gov">www.niehs.nih.gov</a>	Dr. Nora F. Savage +1 703 292 7949 <a href="mailto:nosavage@nsf.gov">nosavage@nsf.gov</a>  Dr. Treye Thomas +1 301 987 2560 <a href="mailto:tthomas@cpsc.gov">tthomas@cpsc.gov</a>  Dr. Srikanth Nadadur +1 919 541 5327 <a href="mailto:NadadurS@niehs.nih.gov">NadadurS@niehs.nih.gov</a>



## Appendix B. National/regional funding criteria and regulations

### Austria

- Projects accepted will be cooperative Research and Development projects in the research category Basic Research only.
- Funding is up to a maximum of 100%.
- At least one Austrian partner cooperates with at least one partner from abroad. Only research organisations are eligible to submit proposals. The organisations which are eligible for funding and the eligibility criteria are listed in the national guidelines (see “Leitfaden für kooperative F&E Projekte der Grundlagenforschung auf transnationaler Ebene” or “Leitfaden für Einzelprojekte der Grundlagenforschung auf transnationaler Ebene” under [www.ffg.at/nano-ehs](http://www.ffg.at/nano-ehs)).
- The following cost categories can be funded within this programme: personnel costs, RTD Investment (small equipment), material costs/ consumables, travel costs, sub-contracting if necessary. The national rules apply and are explained in the “Kostenleitfaden” ([www.ffg.at/kostenleitfaden](http://www.ffg.at/kostenleitfaden)).
- The Austrian consortium members of an SIINN Project define one of the Austrian consortium organisations as subsequent “national coordinator”. He / she acts as applicant and counterpart for FFG the Austrian Research Promotion Agency. In case only one Austrian Partner is member in a SIINN project this single national partner is defined as national coordinator.
- The added value for the Austrian partner and the Austrian economy must be explained as well as the dissemination / exploitation strategy on national level.
- The FFG avoids double funding and will not finance projects or parts of projects that have been funded through other calls.
- It is mandatory to submit in parallel to the SIINN application relevant national call documents via the ecall System at FFG in due time (national deadline on the 22<sup>th</sup> January 2015).
- Access to the call documents on national level is given at: [www.ffg.at/nano-ehs](http://www.ffg.at/nano-ehs)



## Belgium

### *Project duration*

The maximum amount of requested funding per project is 200.000 EUR for a **total period of three years**. If the project involves the recruitment of a PhD student, the duration of the FNRS funded subproject could be up to four years.

### *Eligibility of the proposal*

- Basic research carried out in a research institution from the “Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles”
- The FNRS will not fund industrial partners or any activity related to the private sector.

### *Eligibility of applying scientists*

The applicant must be affiliated to a research institution from the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles. The applicant should also:

- be a permanent researcher of F.R.S. - FNRS (Chercheur qualifié, Maître de recherches ou Directeur de recherches),
- or hold a tenure track position (or an assimilated position including pending tenure track) within a research institution from the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles,
- or be a permanent research staff member in the ‘Ecole Royale Militaire’,
- or be a permanent research staff member of a federal scientific institution in which case he can act as a co-promotor only.

The applicant should not have reached retirement at the starting date of the project. If the applicant reaches the age of retirement in the course of the project, he should precisely describe in the proposal how the handover will be managed.

A single applicant may only participate once in a consortium applying to this call.

### *Eligible cost items*

The maximum amount allocated per project is **200.000 EUR**. The following costs are eligible:

- Personnel:
  - Scientifique doctorant € 34.400/year
  - Scientifique non postdoctoral € 60.700/year
  - Scientifique postdoctoral € 70.800/year
  - Technicien € 51.500 (full time/year) - € 26.000 (half time/year)
  - Chercheur temporaire postdoctoral € 41.000/year

Les catégories « scientifique doctorant » et « chercheur temporaire postdoctoral » sont exclusivement à plein temps. La catégorie « vétérinaire clinicien-chercheur spécialiste » est à mi-temps. Les 3 autres catégories peuvent être occupées à plein temps ou à mi-temps.

- Equipement (max. 10.000 EUR/year)
- Running costs : (max. 15.000 EUR/year): travel expenses; organisation of small scientific events in Belgium; consumables and the following support costs:
  - Conception d’ouvrage
  - Réalisation de dictionnaire
  - Achat de livre
  - Encodage
  - Location de licence de logiciel
  - Inscription à un congrès
  - Ordinateur
  - Scannage



The „overhead“ is not an eligible cost. If the project is selected for funding, these costs will be subject to a separate agreement between the institution of the beneficiary and the F.R.S.-FNRS.

General rules and regulations of FNRS apply: [www.frs-fnrs.be](http://www.frs-fnrs.be), see also: <http://www.ncp.fnrs.be/index.php/appels/era-nets>



## France (Région Nord – Pas de Calais)

The Regional Council of Nord-Pas de Calais supports academia and industry in order to increase the competitiveness of SMEs through innovation activities and to turn academic knowledge in new markets application.

- For Universities and RTOs : no reimbursable grants corresponding to Max 75% of eligible costs (Personnel, travel and subsistence - equipment and consumables under specific conditions)
- For SMEs: up to 65% of reimbursable loan in case of success (conditioned to the R&D&I state aid and limited to equity capital). The SMEs needs to be in financial capacity to bring to fruition their R&D&I activities
- After recommendation for funding, partners located in Nord-Pas de Calais have to submit its proposal on a general administrative procedure → a juridical act provided by the regional authority is necessary for granting.
- At regional level, the expenses will be eligible from the date requested by a letter signed by the project coordinator and submitted to the regional authorities. Retroactivity can be taken into consideration under particular conditions.



## Germany

The areas of nanotechnology and nanomaterials safety issues are funded in the frame of the WING Programme by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). WING is a public funding programme for materials research, nanotechnology and chemistry. This programme focuses on cooperative applied research projects between academia and industry. The funding scheme is specified in the WING framework programme, which has been confirmed under permit number N219/2008 by the European Commission. The upper funding limits to be applied are as follows:

- For partners from industry up to 50 % of the eligible costs.
- Academia and non-profit research institutes are funded with a rate of up to 100 % of the eligible costs.

BMBF will only fund German contributions to projects focusing on material aspects of MNMs and which are not in the responsibility of other German Federal Ministries. For example, BMBF cannot fund any German activity which addresses one of the following topics:

- exposure assessment; this refers to call topic no. 1 “Exposure Assessment” and parts of call topic no. 4 “Environmental impacts of MNMs” of the SIINN call 2014
- risk assessment
- validation of testing procedures
- direct development of OECD guidelines as well as direct contributions to standardization and regulatory issues
- comparative studies (round robin tests) addressing regulatory measures
- product safety
- food safety
- consumer protection
- agriculture
- pharmaceutical products and their safety
- medical technology
- projects addressing medical applications

Furthermore, BMBF will only fund German contributions to projects which clearly show a European or international added value particularly taking into account the German perspective.

Synergies with existing projects are welcome and should be described in the proposals.

BMBF will strictly avoid any double funding on national, European and international level. Projects or parts of projects that have been or will be funded through other calls (e.g. first and second SIINN call, national funding programmes, e.g. NanoCare and NanoNature, FP7, HORIZON 2020, etc.) will not be financed by BMBF.



**German applicants have to take into account the corresponding national announcement of the SIINN call (“BMBF Bekanntmachung”) which is available on the BMBF webpage and being published in the “Bundesanzeiger”. The corresponding link to the BMBF webpage will be available at the beginning of October 2014.**

It is mandatory for German proposers to submit further national documents in German language to the national German funding agency “Projektträger Jülich”. Further details are explained in the corresponding national BMBF announcement (“BMBF Bekanntmachung”, <http://www.bmbf.de>, [exact link will be available in October 2014](#)). The corresponding deadline for the submission of the national documents is January 30<sup>th</sup> 2015.

The German consortium members of a SIINN proposal have to define one of the German consortium partners as the so-called “national coordinator”. The national coordinator will act as national applicant and counterpart for the German funding agency “Projektträger Jülich”. In case only one German partner is member of a SIINN proposal, this single national partner is automatically defined as the national coordinator.

In case of questions, please contact the German Local Contact Point (Projektträger Jülich, see Appendix A) for clarification.



## Portugal

The following entities having legal authority to enter into contracts may, either individually or jointly, submit proposals for funding of the projects:

- Higher Education Institutions, their institutes and R&D centres;
- Associate Laboratories;
- State Laboratories;
- Private non-profit institutions whose main objective is to carry out S&T activities;
- Companies;
- Other public and private non-profit institutions which carry out or participate in scientific research activities.

The following costs borne by the recipients and incurred exclusively in the execution of the project are considered eligible:

- Human resources;
- Missions;
- Consultants;
- Acquisition of goods and services;
- Registration of patents;
- Adaptation of buildings and facilities;
- Acquisition of scientific and technical instruments;
- Overheads up to a limit of 20% of the eligible direct costs.

Payments made to companies may not exceed 50% of the total cost of the company's participation. During the execution of the project, the recipients should present to Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) the documents related to the total expenses made.

The funding for the Portuguese participation in a transnational Project must follow the *Regulations governing access to funding for scientific research and technological development projects — 2010 (with 2011 changes)* at: <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/projectos/regulamento.phtml.en>

The Portuguese participation in a transnational proposal must follow the national eligibility criteria and funding limits as described at: <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/cooptrans/eranets/siinn>

Each Portuguese applicant in a transnational project should send, by e-mail, to LCP from FCT a copy of the “Declaração de compromisso”, available at the FCT site (<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/cooptrans/eranets/siinn>), duly signed and stamped by the Head of the Portuguese applicant organisation and by the Portuguese Principal Investigator by 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015 (the originals should be kept by the applicant until further notice).



## Romania

UEFISCDI funding R & D projects, declared winner by participating in launched calls for ERANET projects. The declared winner projects are funded and monitored in the National Plan II (2007 - 2013), program “Partnerships in Priority Areas”.

Eligible entities for funding are universities, public institutions, R&D national institutions, joint-stock companies, SME's and Large companies, NGOs (associations, foundations, etc.), others

For universities, public institutions, R&D national institutions funding is 100%, and for SMEs and Large companies, financing is under the permit N 542/2007 of the European Commission.

For the fundamental research activities, industrial research and experimental development, according to HG 134/2011, types of expenses are eligible, as follow:

- a. Staff costs;
- b. Logistics expenses
  - Capital expenditure ;
  - Expenditure on stocks - supplies and inventory items;
  - Expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 15 % of the funding from the public budget. The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work;
- c. Travel expenses;
- d. Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 20 % of direct costs, excluding the cost for subcontracting.

UEFISCDI will avoid double funding and will not fund projects or parts of projects that have been financed by other programs.

UEFISCDI funding each successful proposal according to the allocated budget by the program "Partnerships in priority areas".



## Spain

### Purpose of funding:

The projects funded by the Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad (MINECO) must be in line with the main objectives described in the Programa Estatal de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación Orientada a los Retos de la Sociedad in the frame of the Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica y Técnica y de Innovación 2013-2016, which fosters the participation of Spanish research groups in international cooperative projects, particularly those related with the societal challenges of Health, demographic change and wellbeing; Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research, and the Bioeconomy and Climate action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials. For applications addressing these challenges, the use of manufactured nanomaterials may be an added value and thus, it is of capital relevance to study their potential harmful effects.

### Eligibility of applicants:

The entities eligible for MINECO funding are universities and other public research institutions, including public foundations, as well as private non-profit institutions that carry out R&D activities in Spain. The final decision will take into account the transnational evaluation of the cooperative project and the financial resources available. Only excellent projects where international collaboration is a clear added value will be funded.

MINECO will only fund proposals with participants from at least three research institutions from three different participant countries. In addition, at least two of the participant countries should be European.

Although enterprises will not be funded through this call by the MINECO, the Spanish private sector is very much welcome to participate as associate with Spanish research institutions, using their own funds or funding from other national or regional calls.

Researchers are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal of this call. In addition, MINECO will avoid double funding and will not finance projects or parts of projects that have been funded through other national or EU calls.

### Funding policy:

Up to 100% of the marginal project costs may be financed within this programme in the following categories:

- Personnel costs for temporary contracts (fellowships are not eligible)
- Direct costs (consumables, small equipment, travel, other costs)

Technological Centers and other research institutions funded under the total costs scheme may claim up to 50% of the total costs.

Indirect costs (overheads), or clinical assays (proofs of concept, proofs of principle) are not eligible for funding from MINECO.



In all cases, maximum funding is 150.000 € per partner (200.000 € per project coordinator). When more than one Spanish partner participates in the same proposal, the maximum funding of the Spanish part should not exceed 250.000 € per project (300.000 € if one Spanish eligible institution coordinates the project).

Further instructions:

As stated in the call text, the project leader of each consortium must submit the full proposal electronically to the common Call Secretariat. Once the transnational evaluation procedure has been completed and the researchers involved have been notified, the Spanish applicants that are selected for funding will be invited to formally apply to the call of the Programa Estatal de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación Orientada a los Retos de la Sociedad implemented by the Dirección General de Investigación Científica y Técnica. The Spanish partners awarded in this call should submit an annual interim report in accordance with the regulations established in the corresponding national call.



## USA

Consortiums with a U.S. participant are to be submitted electronically to NSF via FastLane by 5 p.m. submitter's local time on Tuesday January 20, 2015. The submitting organization must be a U.S. entity.

ALL APPLICATIONS THAT INVOLVE A PROJECT INCLUDING A US PARTNER must meet ALL THE REQUIREMENTS AND CRITERIA Specified in the U.S Request for Applications. It is strongly recommended to contact the appropriate Local Contact Point (see Appendix A) for clarification.

Proposals addressing NSF areas should follow eligibility and grant proposal requirements in NSF's Grant Proposal Guide ([http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/gpg/nsf04\\_23/1.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/gpg/nsf04_23/1.jsp)). Proposals, with United States PIs, will be submitted to the SIINN Call Office by January 16th, 2015 (see deadlines) and then to NSF via FastLane by January 20th, 2015.

NSF seeks proposals that investigate the effects on or seek to mitigate the effects of manufactured nanomaterials (MNMs) on the environment. The goal is to advance fundamental engineering research to enable the understanding, evaluation, and lessen the impact of MNMs on environmental and biological systems. Common to all proposals should be an ability to characterize and quantify the MNMs such that there is a clear understanding of the nature of the material investigated. Generally, proposals should take a systems approach and address the nature of MNMs in products, the release of such materials from intermediate materials, finished products, during use, or in disposal scenarios. Results from the research should be able to inform and enable responsible development and sustainability.

Proposals should specifically address one or more of the following research areas:

- Complex and heterogeneous engineered nanomaterials: Fundamental engineering research on the environmental and health implications of these nanomaterials is needed.
- Understanding the impact of MNMs on the environment or biological systems.
- Prevention of adverse impacts: This research area includes both applying environmentally benign methods in engineering and manufacturing nanomaterials as well using nanotechnology in preventing adverse impacts in current non-nano synthesis and manufacturing processes.
- Development of fundamental tools: (a) Predictive models; (b) Monitoring instrumentation, sensors, models, and metrology are but a few of the tools necessary for measuring MNM's impact on the environment, health or safety.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is participating in the SIINN third joint transatlantic call through an interagency agreement with the National Science Foundation. Please note that the CPSC cannot fund any activity in the field of environmental impacts (see Topic 4) or companies.

Solicitations for proposals with relevance for the CPSC Nanotechnology Initiative include:

- Methods to characterize and quantify the presence of nanomaterials in consumer products, and the release of nanomaterials from intermediate materials or finished products during consumer use or disposal scenarios.



- Exposure assessment studies to characterize and quantify consumer exposures to nanomaterials released during consumer product use. All potential routes of exposure should be considered.
- Models to determine airborne concentrations of nanomaterials in indoor environments.

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is participating in the SIINN third joint transatlantic call through an interagency agreement with the National Science Foundation. Please note that NIEHS cannot fund any activity in the field of environmental impacts (see Topic 4).

The NIEHS seeks proposals that investigate to further our understanding of potential health effects of MNMs and utilize this knowledge to promote sustainable development and application of nanotechnology. The goal is to advance fundamental understanding on MNMs-biological interactions as dictated by their physicochemical properties. The NIEHS will support proposals that address the Research topics 1, 2, and 3. The goal is to advance fundamental understanding on MNMs-biological interactions as dictated by their physicochemical properties.

NIEHS also will support proposals aimed at developing tools to assess exposure to MNMs at cellular/organ and whole body level. These tools should detect particle number, size, and surface area and quantify both in real-time and from archived samples. The tools should also provide spatial and temporal distribution and discriminate MNMs from ambient combustion generated nanoparticles.



## Appendix C. Check list for Applicants

- Read carefully the «Call Text». It includes the aim of the call, the topics covered by each funding organisation, the eligibility and evaluation criteria, the funding commitment and the Call timeline.
- Read carefully the «Guidelines for Applicants». It includes the length indicated for each field of the proposal template and the national/regional funding criteria and regulations in Appendix B.
- Make sure that your proposal falls into the scope and the topics of the third SIINN call (2014).
- A proposal may cover more than one of the topics.
- Assure that one (and only one) project coordinator is nominated among the project partners, and represents the entire consortium.
- The project coordinator should register as soon as possible at the SIINN Electronic Proposal Submission System.
- Make sure that your proposal fulfils the SIINN eligibility criteria:
  - Each consortium submitting a proposal must involve a minimum of three independent organisations from at least two regions/countries participating in the call.
  - At least one partner of the consortium must be based in a European country participating in the ERA-NET SIINN and in the third SIINN call (Austria, Germany, Portugal, Romania, or Spain).
  - In case of your proposal involves partners from country/regions that do not participate in this joint call, a signed statement of proof of own funding is included in the proposal application.
  - The coordinator of the proposal must be based in a country/region participating in the call (Austria, Belgium, Germany, Portugal, Region Nord-Pas de Calais (France), Romania, Spain, USA).
  - The majority (2/3) of partners and funding volume in a proposal must belong to countries participating in the call (Austria, Belgium, Germany, Portugal, Region Nord-Pas de Calais (France), Romania, Spain, USA).
  - The consortia must be balanced in terms of transnational participation. Therefore, it is mandatory that no more than 2/3 of the total funding will be requested by partners from one country.
  - The duration of the projects has to be 36 months.
  - All fields of the proposal template, downloaded from the SIINN website, are completed in English, following the instructions of the «Guidelines for Applicants».
  - The proposal document respects the length indicated for each field, as described in the «Guidelines for Applicants».
  - Each organisation coming from a country participating in the call complies with the national funding criteria and regulations of their respective Funding Organisation to ensure the eligibility of the transnational proposal.
- The joint proposal has to be submitted via a web-based electronic system not later than **16<sup>th</sup> January 2015, at 12:00 CET (07:00 Washington D. C. Time)**; by the project coordinator. Link to the electronic submission system: <https://www.siinn-submission.eu/>  
Make sure that your proposal fulfils the national eligibility criteria of the joint call:
  - *Every partner*: Make sure that national/regional funding criteria and regulations are met
  - If required, submit the mandatory **national submission forms or documents** to your respective funding agency meeting the respective deadline.



## Important advices to succeed with your proposal:

- **Every partner must contact their national representative** and make sure with their respective funding organisations that national/regional funding criteria and regulations are met, well in advance of submitting an application.
- *Coordinator*<sup>1</sup>: Make sure that the consortia members have understood the national eligibility criteria and requirements and that they fulfil these criteria.
- In order to find potential partners, a Search Tool has been set up on the NMP TeAm website. Please follow this link: <https://www.nmp-partnersearch.eu/>
- In order to find potential partners in the United States, applicants are encouraged to review US-EU Bridging NanoEHS Research website ([www.us-eu.org](http://www.us-eu.org)) and US National Nanotechnology Initiative website ([www.nano.gov](http://www.nano.gov)), and if necessary, to discuss with Local Contact Points.
- Prepare your proposal sufficiently in advance.
- Transfer all required data in good time **on the Electronic Proposal Submission System**, taking into account that the system may be overloaded on the deadline date.
- The same font and style should be used for the whole proposal (**Times New Roman, 11pt, single spaced**).
- Make sure that all aspects listed in the evaluation criteria are covered by your proposal.
- Research should be focused on a clearly defined goal, and, as such, the formation of consortia with between 3 and 7 partners is recommended. For EHS framework projects, the number of partners may be higher.
- The proposal should clearly show the specific contribution of each research consortium partner and the added value of working together.
- The expected size of a project in terms of total funding is typically in the range of 0.3 to 1 M€ (approximately 0.4 to 1.4 M\$).

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<sup>1</sup> Coordinator: applicant of the consortium that is the single point of contact for the Call Office.



## Appendix D. Proposal Form

**Please, note that it is mandatory:**

- Use the same font and style for the whole proposal (**Times New Roman, 11pt, single spaced**).
- Adhere to the given page limits, as described at the Guidelines for Applicants.
- Fill in all of the following sections.

**Project Acronym:**

--

**Project Full Title:**

--

**Application is relevant to the following topic(s):**

- 1. Exposure assessment
- 2. Toxicity mechanisms
- 3. Effects of MNMs on human health
- 4. Environmental impacts of MNMs

**Project Key words:**

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**Contact Data (Project Coordinator)**

Title/ person name	
Organisation name	
Country/region	
Address	
Phone	
E-mail	



**Consortium Partners**

Number	Country /region	Funding organisation	Applicant Organisation	Principal Investigator <sup>2</sup>	E-mail	Other personnel <sup>3</sup>	Person-Months	Total costs	Requested funding
1 Coordinator									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									

<sup>2</sup> The Principal Investigator (PI) is the national/regional point of contact of the partner for the corresponding national/regional Funding Organisation

<sup>3</sup> Name of other personnel participating in the project



**Total Project Costs [Euros]:**

**Total Requested funding [Euros]:**

**Project Duration [months]:**

**Planned starting date [year/month/day]:**

**Abstract**

**a) Publishable abstract**

*Synopsis (max. 10 lines)*

**b) Summary of the project**

*(max. 1 page)*

*The summary should include statements about: problem to be solved and initial situation, planned goals and approaches and expected results and findings*



## **1. Relevance – Contribution of the project to the goals of the 3<sup>rd</sup> SIINN Call**

### **1.1 Contribution of the project to the goals of the call**

*(max. 1 page)*

*How and to what extent the project addresses one or more topics?*

*How these topics are covered in the project in an integrative way.*

*How does the project contribute to the goals of the call (according to chapter “2. CALL TOPICS” in the Call Text)?*

### **1.2. Added value of the proposed transnational collaboration**

*(max. 1 page)*

*Transnational added value of the collaboration*

*European and/or international dimension of the research and the proposed solutions, necessity for transnational approach*



## **2. Scientific and/or technological excellence**

### **2.1. Description of the state of the art**

*(max. 3 pages)*

#### **2.1.1. State of the art and/or current knowledge**

*Current state of the art and/or current knowledge at the international level (with indication of literature, patents, market studies, references,...)*

#### **2.1.2. Description of problem**

*Initial situation and the technological problems and challenges*

*Why the problem is important?*

### **2.2. Technical-scientific quality**

#### **2.2.1. Project goals and deliverables**

*(max. 1 page)*

*Goals and results based on the defined problem to be solved*

#### **2.2.2. Degree of innovation**

*(max. 1 page)*

*Innovation in the approach and its advantages over existing solution*

*Discuss any disadvantages*

*Degree of novelty and the added value of the project with respect to the state of the art/knowledge*

#### **2.2.3. Previous research by the consortium members related to the goals of the project**

*(max. 1/2 page per partner)*

*Describe ongoing research projects of each participating group related to the present proposal*

### **2.3. Work plan**

*(max. 3 pages)*

*Overview of the work plan, description of the overall strategy and synergies, project management structure*

*Explanation of the methodology*

*Diagram which compiles the work plan, the contribution of the partners to each work package and their interactions (e.g. PERT chart)*





**2.3.3. Development risk**

*(max. 1 page)*

*Identification of possible risks and/or bottlenecks and corresponding contingency plans*

**2.3.4. Schedule (Gantt chart)**

*(max. 1 page)*

*Add the detailed work and time table. Please pay attention to readability.*



**2.3.5. Financial plan**

Fill in the table below with the total costs and requested funding per partner.

The "Requested funding" shall be determined by applying the funding rates to those costs that are eligible by the corresponding funding organisation.

Project costs (€)	Coordinator		Partner 2		Partner 3		Partner 4		Partner 5		Partner 6		Partner 7		Total	
	Total costs	Requested funding														
Personnel																
Consumables																
Durable Equipment																
Travel																
Subcontracts																
Other																
Overheads																
<b>Total cost</b>																

Justify here the requested funding for each category of projects costs, as described in the table (max. 1/2 page per partner).





*Has the Consortium the resources (personnel, production capacities and know-how) required to achieve the project's goals?*

*Synergies in the collaboration*

*Added value of the collaboration for each partner*

*What are the mid- to long-term benefits of the collaboration for the individual partners?*

*Is it planned to continue networking and transferring know-how after the close of the project?*

### **3.3. Management capabilities and resources**

*(max. 1 page)*

*Management skills and capacities*

*Managerial methods with regard to the complexity of the project*

*Processes and tools used for communication, documentation and reviewing the project's goals*



## **4. Potential Impact**

### **4.1. Customer orientation / customer benefits and unique selling proposition / leadership** (max. 2 pages)

*Potential impact on industrially relevant environmental, health and safety (EHS) aspects of nanoscale technologies*

*Contribution to the development of a consolidated framework to address nano-related risks and the management of these risks for humans and the environment*

### **4.2. Market knowledge (target markets, market potential and competitors)**

(max. 2 pages)

*How do you estimate the potential market for the new knowledge / technology in Europe / worldwide?*

*How do you define this market?*

*On what data is the estimation based?*

*Who are the (potential) international competitors?*

### **4.3. Dissemination and/or exploitation of results**

(max. 2 pages)

#### **4.3.1. Exploitation strategy**

*Describe the strategy for exploiting the project results – including strategies at an international level. Refer in particular to planned strategies and the capability to realise the exploitation as well as the protection strategy.*

*Show by whom and where the exploitation of the results will be performed and give information about the established or planned exploitation structures, service networks and customer service instruments. What resources are available (e.g. workforce, budgets)?*

#### **4.3.2. Dissemination**

*How the results will be disseminated (e.g. by means of publications, workshops, conferences or other events)?*

#### **4.3.3. Economic advantages / return on investment**

*What economic advantages will result for the project partners (if applicable: return on investment, synergies with other products, etc.)?*

#### **4.3.4. Consortium agreement principles (rights and duties, IPR management)**

*Describe partners' rights and duties, conflict solving, position with regard to intellectual property rights.*

## **4.4. Ethical issues and safety issues**

(max. 1/2 page)

*When applicable, ethical and legal issues (e.g. informed consent, ethical permits, data protection, use of animals)*

*Inherent safety and EHS assessment from life-cycle perspective if applicable*

## **5. References**

(max. 1 page)