

Call title: Coordinated ERA-NET Call 2009

- Call identifier: **FP7-ERANET-2009-RTD**
- Expected date of publication: 19 November 2008.
- Deadline: 21 April 2009, at 17:00:00, Brussels local time.

Indicative budget and Topics¹:

A sum of up to EUR 12.5 million² is currently foreseen in this call for ERA-NET actions, which groups topics identified by the Themes in this work programme.

THEME/Activity	Topic identifier	TITLE	Budget (M€)
1. HEALTH			
1.2.3.2 - HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis	HEALTH-2009-2.3.2-6	ERA-NET for stepping up European cooperation in HIV/AIDS research	2.0
2. FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, AND BIOTECHNOLOGY			
2.1.4 - Socio-economic research and support to policies	KBBE-2009-1-4-08	ERA-NET - Agricultural Research for Development	2.0
2.1.4 - Socio-economic research and support to policies	KBBE-2009-1-4-09	ERA-NET - Organic Agriculture	
4. NMP			
4.4.0 - Integration of technologies for industrial applications	NMP-2009-4.0-7	ERA-Net on high value added textiles and fibre-based materials	1.5
6. ENVIRONMENT			
6.1.1 Climate change, pollution and risks	ENV.2009.1.1.6.4	ERA-NET on climate change impacts and responses	2.0
6.2.2 Sustainable management of resources	ENV.2009.2.2.1.2	Towards integrated European marine research strategy and programmes	2.0
8. SOCIOECONOMIC SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES			
8.8 Horizontal Actions	SSH-2009-8.3	ERA-NET in the field of statistics	1.5
8.8 Horizontal Actions	SSH-2009-8.4	ERA-NET in the field of economic research	1.5

Eligibility Criteria for ERA-NET proposals

¹ Under the condition that the preliminary draft budget for 2009 is adopted without modifications by the budget authority.

² Total indicative budget allocated by the concerned Themes. Following the evaluation of proposals, the final budget awarded to the call, as well as the repartition of the sub-budgets, may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the call.

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:

- a) To 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 coordinated management).
- b) To be carried out at national or regional level.
- c) To 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 three 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.

Eligible partners for ERA-NET actions 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, other private legal entities (e.g. charities) which manage research programmes may participate 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) may be eligible if the above-mentioned specific criteria for eligible ERA-NET partners are respected. A sole participant shall explicitly indicate which of his '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.

Evaluation Criteria for ERA-NET proposals

For the evaluation of ERA-NET 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)*

- The management should be supported by a suitable governance structure involving the participating organisations at an appropriate level.

2. *Quality and efficiency of the implementation (Threshold 3/5)*

- In reference to the applicable work programme, does the proposed ERA-NET / ERA-NET Plus action pool the necessary resources between national programmes and the Community and does it represent the most appropriate type of public funding for this pre-defined area?

3. *Potential impact (Threshold 3/5)*

- The participants should be the key actors within their national or regional research systems.
- The ERA-NET activities should lay the foundations for a durable cooperation between the partners involved.
- Is there a clearly identified and agreed European added value through a variable geometry approach?

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

- 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 June 2009
 - Opening of negotiations in September 2009
 - Selections from January 2010
 - Grant agreements from February 2010
- 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.