



ERA-IB 2nd joint call for proposals: Industrial biotechnology for Europe: an integrated approach

Summary:

This document announces the second international joint call on Industrial Biotechnology within the framework of the ERA-Net Industrial Biotechnology. The main purpose of the call is to generate joint European research and development activities. Joint projects must have a minimum of 3 and maximum of 8 participants (can only be exceeded in cases where Finland is participating as Finnish academic partners are required to bring along several industrial project partners) from a minimum of 3 ERA-IB partner countries. Submissions of proposals will be in two steps: the deadline for submitting pre-proposals is **31 March 2010** and full proposals must be submitted by **30 June 2010**. Projects will be expected to start in early 2011.

1. Motivation

Industrial Biotechnology (IB) is a key technology to realise the Knowledge-Based Bio-Economy and to transform life sciences knowledge into new, sustainable, eco-efficient and competitive products and technologies. IB will increasingly replace or complement existing chemical processes or generate new products, often based on renewable raw materials. There are numerous industrial sectors that will profit from IB, e.g. the chemical, pharmaceutical, textile, paper and food industry.

Recent years have shown a strong increase in the usage of biotechnological processes. Nevertheless, there are still many scientific and technological challenges to be faced, e.g. the still limited understanding of physiological and regulatory processes within cells or insufficient stability of biocatalysts. In addition, many scientific innovations still take too long to translate into products.

ERA-IB is a five-year project funded under the European Commission ERA-NET scheme (Contract number: 035581). The objective of the ERA-NET scheme is to step up the cooperation and coordination of research and development activities carried out at national or regional level in the Member States and Associated States.

ERA-IB is a joint initiative of 19 research programme funding and/or management organisations in 13 countries with important activities in the field of IB, aiming at coordinating national and regional funding programmes in the field of Industrial Biotechnology.

ERA-IB's objective is to foster knowledge transfer from invention to innovation, from fundamental research into technically realisable and cost-effective products and technologies. It is aimed at establishing cross-border partnerships between industrial and academic IB research, improving and accelerating technology transfer, and strengthening European efforts to achieve sustainable industrial development. These goals should be achieved by implementing common calls for trans-national R&D projects. The transnational

collaboration on research as well as on funding level will contribute to strengthen the still fragmented European Industrial Biotechnology funding landscape.

Under the umbrella of ERA-IB, the

- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), The Netherlands
- Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN), Spain
- French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME), France
- National Centre for Programme Management (CNMP), Romania
- Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), Portugal
- Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia (MSES), Croatia
- Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany
- National Centre for Research and Development (NCBiR), Poland
- Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Umwelt und Landwirtschaft (SMUL)/Freistaat Sachsen/Germany
- Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation (Tekes), Finland
- Agency for Innovation by Science and Technology (IWT), Flanders / Belgium

have together decided to open the second joint call for multilateral research projects addressing “**Industrial biotechnology for Europe: an integrated approach**”.

2. Expected projects

Funding possibilities will be offered to excellent innovative industrially relevant R&D and applied research projects.

Applications should integrate several of the below given topics of Industrial Biotechnology into the proposal:

- *Novel enzymes and microorganisms for new and more efficient bioprocesses*
- *Metabolic engineering for the improvement of industrial microorganisms, including synthetic biology approaches*
- *Enzyme design combining rational and or evolutionary methods*
- *Development of multi-enzyme processes and modular enzymes*
- *Microbial stress under process conditions*
- *Development of new platform chemicals, including biomonomers*
- *Development of new and functionalised biopolymers*
- *Process analytical technologies for improved bioprocess understanding*
- *Scale-up of bioprocesses*
- *Innovative down-stream processing and biocatalyst recycling*
- *Biotechnological upgrading and valorisation of biorefinery byproducts*

ERA-IB wants to foster the integration of different steps of the whole value chain. Therefore projects only covering one of the above given topics will not be considered. As the topic of “biofuels” is covered by the ERA-NET *Bioenergy*, applications dealing with this topic will not be considered within the ERA-IB call.

The applications should fit to the specific remit of the national/regional funding organisations (see Annex *National or regional regulations, National or regional eligibility criteria*).

Summary of funding options and restrictions

Country / Funding Organisation	NWO The Netherlands	ADEME France	BMBF Germany	FCT Portugal	SMUL Germany	MICINN Spain	Tekes Finland	CNMP Romania	NCBiR Poland	MSES; Croatia	IWT Flanders / Belgium
indicative funding (Mio Euro)	0.5 Mio	0.5 Mio	Up to 5 Mio €	200.000	1.5 Mio	To be decided before the end of 2009	2.0 Mio	1 Mio	1 m€	200.000 €	2.0 Mio
Research topics excluded from funding	none	Applications in food, feed and pharmaceuticals, medical applications	none	none	none						military
Funding of industrial partners possible?	no	Yes	yes, up to 50 %	50%	yes	Yes (only if collaboration with academic partner)	yes	30% to 50%	yes	possible	yes
participation of industry required?	no	Preferred	no, but strongly recommended	no	No, but preferred	no, but preferred	yes	no, but preferred	no	possible, but not required	yes
Maximum funding per project partner?	250.000 €		no	200.000 €	no	It is strongly recommended not to exceed 180.000 € per partner	no				2.0 Mio
additional documents required	no		after funding recommendation	no			no	Yes, see annex			yes
funding of PhD students possible	Project leaders can apply for a PhD, postdoc, and technician		yes	no	yes	no	Possible, when relevant to the project				yes

maximum project duration (years)	4		3	3	3	3	-				3 years
Any other national / regional restrictions*	Project duration: in NL PhD is 4 years	Projects dealing with food, feed or pharmaceuticals excluded from ADEME's funding		yes 200.000 maximum per partner	see annex "regional regulations"	The total costs of the Spanish part should not exceed 400.000 € per project.	see annex "national regulations"		See annex		See annex national regulations

***Please note that this is only a summary. Please read also the following section "National or regional regulations, national or regional eligibility criteria"**

All ERA-IB projects should be designed on the following principles:

- All project partners contribute to, and benefit from, an equitable and balanced cooperation.
- Adequate protection for intellectual property rights used in and generated during joint research and development are ensured.
- Results of collaborative projects are shared through a controlled process that protects and equitably allocates any intellectual property rights established during cooperation.

3. Funding recipients / consortium partners

Funding is carried out according to the “nationality principle”, meaning that each participating national or regional funding agency funds their respective national research partners in a particular project consortium. Consortia consisting of at least three partners from three different participating countries or regions may apply for funding. Consortia can involve a maximum of eight partners. Large companies, small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) and academic research groups / organisations can be part of a consortium. Funding and industry participation are subject to national or regional regulations (see Annex *National or regional regulations, National or regional eligibility criteria*).

Parties from countries which do not take part in the ERA-IB call may be part of a consortium on their own account if their contribution is mandatory to achieve the project goals. Industrial partners that cannot be funded by their national / regional funding organisation may participate in a consortium on their own account. However, the maximum of eight project partners may not be exceeded (exception: in cases where Finland is participating as Finnish academic partners are required to bring along several industrial project partners). . Within a joint proposal, each group leader will be the contact person for the relevant national or regional funding agency. All research groups agree to abide by the rules and agreements made within the call framework of ERA-IB.

4. Financial modalities and funding prerequisites

The total budget available for this call is approximately 14 Million Euro. Funding is granted according to national or regional regulations (see Annex *National or regional regulations, national or regional eligibility criteria* for details).

All project partners are required to sign a Consortium Agreement (CA) within three months of the project start, addressing the points given in the *Consortium agreement guidelines* (available on the ERA-IB website). On request, the CA must be made available to the national or regional funding organisations, together with any other information required by national or regional regulations.

5. Application procedure

The application process is two-phased with the ERA-IB office as the central communication point for all applicants.

First a pre-proposal should be submitted electronically to the ERA-IB office via the ERA-IB website. The coordinators of pre-proposals which pass the first step will be invited to submit a full proposal. All application forms are available on the ERA-IB website (www.era-ib.net). No full proposal will be accepted without previous submission of a pre-proposal.

5.1. Brokerage event

In order to support the formation of trans-national research consortia, a Brokerage event will be organised to bring together interested persons from the countries involved and to facilitate the establishment of contacts. This will take place on 2nd February 2010 in Frankfurt. Registration and further information will be available on the ERA-IB website (www.era-ib.net). Participation in the event is recommended but not a prerequisite for submitting a project pre-proposal.

6. Eligibility and evaluation procedure

It is the aim of the second ERA-IB Call to facilitate a broad-based funding support from the member countries and to allow for flexibility with regard to composition of consortia, in particular with respect to size / number of partners.

6.1 Eligibility criteria:

Only pre-proposals meeting all eligibility criteria will be considered for evaluation. National or regional eligibility criteria are given in the annex *National or regional regulations, National or regional eligibility criteria*. In addition, all pre-proposals must meet the following general ERA-IB eligibility criteria:

- Projects must be in the fields of Industrial Biotechnology outlined in section 2 (Expected projects).
- The pre-proposals and proposals must be submitted on time. **The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is March 31st 2010.** Only pre-proposals and proposals including all the information requested by application forms and national or regional

funding organisations (see Annex *National or regional regulations, National or regional eligibility criteria*) are eligible.

- Consortia must consist of at least three partners (national or regional) from three different ERA-IB member countries who contribute funds to the call. Consortia can involve a maximum of eight partners.
- Large companies, small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) and academic research groups / organisations may be part of a consortium. Funding and industry participation are subject to national or regional regulations (see Annex *National or regional regulations, national or regional eligibility criteria*).
- Consortia must be coordinated by a project coordinator from an ERA-IB member country contributing funds to the call.
- The project should be balanced between countries and between consortium partners in terms of contribution to the work programme. To address this, the contribution of one country to the collaborative project must not exceed 70% of the total budget. Parties from countries which do not take part in the ERA-IB call may be part of a consortium on their own account if their contribution is mandatory to achieve the project goals. The consortium leader should take steps to ensure that sufficient funds are secured from these additional partners.
- Subcontractors can be included and are managed under the national or regional financing regulations of the eligible participant.

6.2. Pre-proposal evaluation

Eligibility of pre-proposals, i.e. compliance with the general ERA-IB and national or regional eligibility criteria (see Annex *National or regional regulations, National or regional eligibility criteria*), will be checked by the ERA-IB consortium.

National or regional agencies/ministries will check the eligibility of partners from their own country, e.g. regarding compliance with all call regulations and fit to call.

An international panel of experts will evaluate the pre-proposals regarding

- fit of pre-proposals into the frame of topics
- scientific quality
- economic potential
- clear added value of the planned cooperation
- feasibility of the project

The project coordinator has to make sure that all consortium partners provide the necessary information as requested from the agencies/ ministries (see Annex *National or regional regulations, national or regional eligibility criteria* and ERA-IB Call Guidelines) to ensure the eligibility of the project. The coordinators of positively evaluated pre-proposals will be invited to submit full proposals.

6.3. Full proposal evaluation

The deadline for submitting full proposals is June 30th 2010. Full proposals will be evaluated according to the evaluation criteria given below. Evaluations will be carried out by

an international panel of evaluators with relevant expertise in the project field. In addition, written reviews will be collected from external peer reviewers.

6.3.1 Evaluation criteria:

The evaluation criteria fall into the following categories:

1. Relevance of the proposal to the aims of the call
2. Scientific and technological quality:
 - novel innovative research within the scientific scope of the call,
 - scientific expertise and international competitiveness
 - scientific merit and feasibility, taking into account the state of the art,
 - level of collaborative interaction between the groups and added value of the consortium: added value and the necessity of executing the project at a transnational level
3. Economic and social perspective:
 - innovative potential of the expected results for industrial application, including knowledge about the current patent situation, relevance to the market
 - environmental and ethical issues
 - integration of the whole value-added chain
4. Administrative and financial assessment:
 - if applicable: contribution and size of industrial partners, assessment of financial capabilities
 - consortium and project management, adequateness of resources, plausibility of the financial plan

6.3.2 Evaluation and rebuttal opportunity:

In addition to the opinions of the expert panel, the ERA-IB call secretariat will collect written reviews from external peer reviewers who will evaluate the full proposals on the criteria given above.

Applicants will have a rebuttal opportunity:

The ERA-IB evaluation process provides applicants with the opportunity to reply to issues raised by the external peer reviewers. Reviews from external reviewers are obtained on each proposal. All reviews are then forwarded to the corresponding project coordinator as representative of the consortium, without revealing the identity of the peer reviewer. The project coordinator may send a response to the reviews back to the ERA-IB office. The project coordinator may consult the other partners in the consortium, but only one response from the coordinator may be sent. This response is optional. A nil response does not exclude the proposal from the next stage of the review procedure. For more details, rules and regulations: see "Guidelines for submission of transnational proposals within the ERA-IB 2nd joint call for proposals".

6.3.3 Ranking and funding decision

The written reviews and the optional response are forwarded to the expert panel who will then rank the proposals. Based on the ranking and the available funding, the ERA-IB Executive Board will suggest which projects to fund. Final decisions will be made at national or regional level.

6.3.4 Application and evaluation time schedule:

From December 2009	Call pre-announcement / call publication
2 nd February 2010	Brokerage event
31.03.2010	Deadline for submitting the pre-proposals
No later than beginning of May 2010	Communication of the results of the pre-proposal evaluation
30.06.2010	Deadline for full project proposal submission (for those projects that pass the pre-proposal phase)
07-10/2010	Evaluation by external referees
10/2010	Opportunity for rebuttal
30.10.2010	Communication of the funding recommendation
Early 2011	Project start

Within three months of the project start, a Consortium Agreement addressing the points given in the *Consortium agreement guidelines* must be signed by all consortium members and be made available to the national or regional funding organisation, together with any other information required by national or regional regulations.

Joint projects are expected to start in early 2011.

6.4. Forms, guidelines and further information

All documents related to the call (call texts, application forms, application guidelines, additional information etc.) are available on the ERA-IB website www.era-ib.net. As the countries may have additional national or regional requirements, it is strongly recommended to contact the national or regional contact persons for further information. For technical questions related to the electronic submission of your proposal, please contact the helpdesk.

6.5 Submission

- Both pre- and full proposals must be submitted through the electronic submission system on the ERA-IB website: www.era-ib.net

- The correct forms must be used. These are available on www.era-ib.net. Prior to electronic submission, the form must be converted to pdf-format.
- In order to avoid individual conflicts of interest, it is possible to request the ERA-IB call secretariat to exclude certain companies / research groups / individual evaluators (e.g. direct competitors, names of individuals) from the ERA-IB expert panel and referees. Please send your request, stating the reason for excluding the referees, to the ERA-IB call secretariat. Your request must reach the secretariat by March 31st at the latest. Your request will be treated confidentially.

7. Reporting requirements

The follow up of the projects is conducted by each national/regional agency/ministry involved, according to national/regional regulations and individual contracts between applicant and agency/ministry.

In addition to these national or regional regulations, the project coordinator is required to provide mid-term project progress report, publishable project summaries and a final report to the ERA-IB Office, using the follow-up form which will be available on the ERA-IB-website (www.era-ib.net).

The coordinators will present their project results at status seminars to be organised by the ERA-IB Office (kick-off, mid-term and end-term). The costs for attending the status seminars should be covered by the project budgets.

8. National or regional contact persons

Country	Funding Organisation	Contact Person
Croatia	MSES	<i>Josipa Kolaric</i> Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia (MSES) Tel + 385 14594 366 E-mail: josipa.kolaric@mzos.hr
Finland	Tekes	<i>Teppo Tuomikoski</i> , Senior Technology Adviser Tekes - PO Box 69 - 00101 Helsinki - Finland Tel +358 10 605 5749 E-mail: teppo.tuomikoski@tekes.fi
Flanders / Belgium	IWT	<i>Dirk Veelaert</i> IWT Bischoffsheimlaan 25 1000 Brussels, Belgium Tel + 32 2 7881565 E-mail: dv@iwt.be
France	ADEME	<i>Aude-Claire Boucher</i> Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Energie (ADEME) Direction des Energies Renouvelables / Département Bioressources 20, avenue du Grésillé BP 90406 - 49004 ANGERS cedex 1 Tel +33 (0)2.41.20.43.29 E-mail: aude-claire.boucher@ademe.fr Fax : +33 (0)2.41.20.43.01
Germany	BMBF	<i>Dr. Marion Karrasch-Bott</i> Forschungszentrum Juelich (FZJ) PtJ-BIO D-52425 Juelich, Germany Tel +49 2461 61 6245 E-mail: m.karrasch@fz-juelich.de
	SMUL	<i>Dr. Gabriele Süptitz</i> Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Umwelt und Landwirtschaft (SMUL) Referat 55 - Bio- und Gentechnologie, Chemikalien Wilhelm-Buck-Straße 2 01097 Dresden Tel. + 49 3515 64 2097 E-mail: Gabriele.Sueptitz@smul.sachsen.de Fax (0351) 564 2069
Poland	National Center for Research and Development	<i>Dr. Maria Bojanowska</i> NARODOWE CENTRUM BADAŃ I ROZWOJU (NCBiR) 00-526 Warszawa, ul. Krucza 24/26 Tel +48 515 061 549 E-mail m.bojanowska@ncbir.pl Fax +48 225 830 504
Portugal	FCT	<i>Dr. Catarina Resende</i> Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)

		Project Management Transnational Team Av. D. Carlos I, 126, 2º 1249-074 Lisboa, Portugal Tel +351 21 3924456 E-mail: Catarina.Resende@fct.mctes.pt
Romania	CNMP	<i>Dr. Razvan Teodorescu</i> National Centre for Programme Management (CNMP), Romania Tel +4 021 212 77 91 E-mail razvan_teodorescu@cnmp.ro
Spain	MICINN	<i>Dr Bibian García</i> Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación (MICINN) Subdirección General de Programas Internacionales Albacete, 5, 5ª planta, norte ES-28027 Madrid Tel +34 916038385 E-mail: b.garcia@micinn.es
The Netherlands	NWO and ERA-IB call secretariat	<i>Dr. Edda Neuteboom</i> <i>Dr. Maarten de Zwart</i> <i>Ms. Susan Licumahua</i> CW/ACTS office Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) E-mail: era-ib@nwo.nl Tel +31 70 34 40 768 / 697 / 615 Fax +31 70 34 40 787

National or regional regulations, national or regional eligibility criteria

Specific national or regional criteria are listed for each country and funding organisation. For further information regarding national or regional regulations, please contact your national or regional contact person (see chapter 8, list above).

France, ADEME

The funding frame is the ADEME guideline " Régime d'aides de l'ADEME à la recherche, au développement et à l'innovation ». This document is downloadable on the ADEME website (<http://www2.ademe.fr/servlet/KBaseShow?sort=-1&cid=96&m=3&catid=13949>)

- Projects concerning the areas food, feed, pharmaceuticals and medical applications cannot be funded.
 - All French partners wishing to submit applications are strongly advised to contact the ADEME contact person beforehand.
 - The French part of the proposed project work must be conducted in France
 - All French applicants who pass the pre-proposal stage have to submit a national application immediately after they have submitted their full proposal to ERA-IB. The national application forms including further information will be directly sent by ADEME
-

Germany, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF)

- BMBF funding of the ERA-IB call is provided as delineated in the "Förderrichtlinien zur Aktivität " ERA-IB 2nd joint call for proposals: Industrielle Biotechnology für Europa: ein integrierter Ansatz" vom Dezember 2009.
- Together with the electronic submission of the (pre-)proposal at the IB Office the applying companies (not the academic research institutions) have to submit the following documents at Project Management Jülich:
 - Kopie des Pre- und Full proposal
 - Jahresabschluss 2008 oder vorläufige Bilanz 2008.
 - Erklärung zur Aufbringung des Eigenanteils
 - Aktuelle BWA
 - Liquiditätsplanung für die Laufzeit des vorgeschlagenen Projektes.
- The documents have to be submitted to:
Forschungszentrum Jülich
Projekträger Jülich
Dr. Marion Karrasch
52425 Jülich
- In the case of a positive funding recommendation all German applicants will be asked to submit a formal national application. It is strongly recommended to use the electronic application system "easy" (<http://www.kp.dlr.de/profi/easy/index.htm>).

Germany, Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Umwelt und Landwirtschaft (SMUL)/Freistaat Sachsen

- Funding for companies is based on the guideline „Richtlinie des Sächsischen Staatsministeriums für Wirtschaft und Arbeit über die Gewährung von Zuwendungen für Projekte zur Entwicklung neuer Produkte oder Verfahren im Freistaat Sachsen vom 24. Januar 2007.
- Funding for academic research institutes/universities is based on the guideline “Richtlinie des Sächsischen Staatsministeriums für Wissenschaft und Kunst zur Gewährung von Zuwendungen für Verbesserungen der Forschungsinfrastruktur und für Forschungsvorhaben mit jeweils anwendungsnaher Ausrichtung vom 23. Februar 2007 mit Änderung vom 11. Februar 2009“guideline

For the proposals (not for the pre-proposals!) regional application forms according to the guidelines are to be used.

Portugal, FCT

- FCT Board of Directors will make the final approving of funding. In the case of a positive funding decision all Portuguese applicants will be asked to submit a formal national application.
 - For Portuguese institutions affiliated participants the national regulations will apply, namely with regard to: eligibility of the participants, maximum duration of the projects, consortium agreement, research project follow-up and intellectual property rights. The aforementioned regulations are available for download at the FCT institutional website: <http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt>
 - FCT encourages the participation of companies in the projects. These companies, under FCT regulations, will be eligible for a maximum of 50% funding if integrated in consortia with national R&D institutions.
 - Please note that researchers with more than 100% dedicated time to national funded projects will not be considered eligible.
-

Finland, Tekes - Finnish funding agency for technology and innovation

- Funding is based on the Tekes programme “SymBio”. Only projects which are compatible with Tekes funding criteria (see <http://www.tekes.fi/fi/community/Rahoitusvalikoima/418/Rahoitusvalikoima/1192>) are eligible for funding. Furthermore, the project needs to be compatible with SymBio programme to be eligible for funding (see www.tekes.fi/symbio).
- All Finnish partners wishing to submit applications are strongly advised to contact the SymBio programme manager beforehand.
- Both industrial and academic partners are eligible for funding.

- The company proposing a project must be capable to provide co-financing.
 - Double funding is not possible.
 - All Finnish applicants passing the preproposal stage have to submit a national Tekes application immediately after they have submitted their full proposal to ERA-IB. These applications are submitted electronically to Tekes, Kirjaamo.
 - The projects receiving national funding from Tekes are obliged to follow the General Terms and Conditions of Tekes.
-

Poland, National Center for Research and Development

For information regarding the Polish regulations, please contact: Maria Bojanowska, by email: m.bojanowska@ncbir.pl or by telephone: +48 515 061 549

The Netherlands, NWO – Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research
ACTS – Advanced Chemical Technologies for Sustainability
NGI – Netherlands Genomics Initiative

Introduction

NWO, through ACTS, and NGI supports the ERA-IB Second Joint Call for Proposals and encourages its Industrial Biotechnology research community to apply for funding for collaborative research in Europe. This National Annex is an annex to the ERA-IB Second Call for Proposals and applies to (co-) applicants who perform their research activities in the Netherlands.

Eligibility Criteria

- For the ERA-IB project grants the “Regeling Subsidieverlening ACTS” applies, which can be downloaded from www.nwo.nl/acts. For IPR-matters, the “ERA-IB consortium Agreement Guidelines with principles of IPR” to the ERA-IB Second Joint Call for Proposals are leading;
- Industrial participants from the Netherlands are encouraged to participate in the consortium, however, they cannot receive funding;
- Only one partner from the Netherlands that applies for funding is allowed per proposal.

Budget and themes

The budget available to fund participants from the Netherlands is €500.000. All themes mentioned in the call text can be addressed.

Type and amount of funding

Funding can be awarded to cover all reasonable, non-infrastructure costs for the duration of the project. The grant can be used for:

- temporary personnel costs;
- consumables;
- equipment related to the research proposal;
- travel expenses.

Duration of the project

ERA-IB projects have a duration of 3 years, however, researchers in the Netherlands can apply for funding a 4-year PhD student.

Maximum Budget

The total costs of the Dutch part of an awarded grant cannot exceed €250.000.

Personnel costs (temporary personnel only)

For details and tariffs: <http://www.nwo.nl> (under “subsidiewijzer - subsidieregeling – vergoedingen NWO”). Tariffs are indexed annually. An indication for 2009: (incl. Personal “bench fee” for PhDs / postdocs): PhD student (4 yr) – k€ 205, post-doc 1 yr – k€ 66, post-doc 2 yr – k€ 134, post-doc 3 yr – k€ 202, technician 1 yr – k€ 57

Consumables

To be budgeted to a maximum of k€ 12 (including VAT/BTW) per year per researcher (PhD or post-doc, PhD student max. 4 years, post-docs max. 3 years).

Application Procedure

The applicants must submit their joint application via the ERA-IB website: www.era-ib.net. NWO makes the final decision on the granting of the proposals concerning researchers who apply for funding and who are affiliated to organizations in the Netherlands, based on the advice of the Executive Board of ERA-IB.

National Contacts

Dr.ir. Edda Neuteboom or Ms. Susan Licumahua
CW/ACTS office, tel +31 70 3440 768/615, e-mail: era-ib@nwo.nl.

Spain, MICINN

National Annex: Spain – MICINN

Partner:

Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación / Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN)

Purpose of funding:

This call for research proposals “**Industrial biotechnology for Europe: an integrated approach**” has been jointly implemented by the Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación (MICINN) and other European funding organizations, all of them members of the ERA-NET Industrial Biotechnology (ERA-IB). It reveals the effort of the Ministry in supporting Industrial Biotechnology research and accomplishes the main objectives described in the **Programa Nacional de Internacionalización de la I+D** of the **Plan Nacional de I+D+I 2008-2011**, which foster the participation of Spanish groups in international cooperative research projects.

Eligibility and legal basis for funding:

The MICINN will support research institutions located in Spain and will be responsible for taking the final decision regarding the awarding of funds to the Spanish partners, taking fully into account the transnational evaluation of the cooperative project and the financial resources available. The entities eligible for MICINN funding are universities and other public research institutions, *centros tecnológicos*, as well as private non-profit institutions and private companies that develop R&D activities in Spain. Industrial participants are encouraged to join the consortia as actual partners for development and/or valorisation of the research results (companies providing only materials and/or services are not eligible as project partners). Nevertheless, Spanish private partners must participate together with at least one Spanish public research or private non-profit institution in the same consortium.

The following categories of expenses can be financed within this programme: 1) personnel costs for temporary contracts; 2) small equipment; 3) current costs; and 4) sub-contracting necessary to carry out the proposed activities. For universities and other public research institutions, *centros tecnológicos*, as well as private non-profit institutions, up to 100% of the marginal costs of the project can be financed. For private industrial partners, it can be funded up to 50% on the basis of actual costs; at least 50% of the actual costs must be its own contribution to the project.

It is strongly recommended not to exceed 180.000 € per partner. The total costs of the Spanish part should not exceed 400.000 € per project.

Further instructions:

As stated in the call text, the project leader of each consortium must submit the full proposal electronically to the Call Secretariat (in the NWO, The Netherlands). Once the transnational evaluation procedure has been completed and the researchers involved have been notified, the Spanish applicants from public institutions that are offered funding will be invited to formally apply to the call of the **Programa Nacional de Internacionalización de la I+D** that will be implemented by the **Dirección General de Cooperación Internacional y Relaciones Institucionales-MICINN**. The institution to which the Spanish public research partner or private non-profit partner belongs will then submit the corresponding national application. Spanish industrial enterprises will participate in the project as sub-contracted by the Spanish public research institutions or private

non-profit institutions in the same consortium. In cases when more than one Spanish academic partner take part in the same consortium, they will all apply as a “coordinated project”, and one of them will be nominated as the national project coordinator. The Spanish partners awarded in this call should submit an annual interim report in accordance with the regulations established in the corresponding national call.

National Contact Person:

Dr. Bibian García

Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación

Postal address: Albacete 5, 5^a planta – norte, 28027 Madrid, Spain

Phone: +34 916038385

E-mail: b.garcia@micinn.es

Romania

Romanian funding agency: National Centre for Programmes Management (CNMP/NCPM)

Funding conditions for ERA – IB Call 2010

Funding programme – the National Plan for R&DI, Partnerships in S&T Areas Program,
S&T Thematic research domains: no 6 Biotechnology

Type of funding: grant

The maximum grant for Romanian partners (nevertheless how many they are in a project) is 450.000 EUR for max. 3 years.

- 1) The funding programme for which the Romanian partners will apply to is “Partnerships in **S&T Priority Areas**, managed by the National Centre for Programmes Management (NCPM) - see www.cnmp.ro/parteneriate; www.cnmp.ro/int
- 2) Research organisations are funded 100% of the eligible costs
- 3) Both large Industries and SMEs could be funded; the percentage depends on the type of activity they perform in the project and according to the scheme of the State Aid for Research& Development. Briefly that means:
 - 3.1 fundamental research, 100% - only for large Industry
 - 3.2 industrial research - 65% for large Industry, 75% for medium -sized companies, 80% for small companies
 - 3.3 experimental developments - 40% for large Industry, 50% for medium –sized companies, 60% for small companies
 - 3.4 Technical feasibility studies for industrial research - 65% for large Industry, 75% for SMEs
 - 3.5 Feasibility studies for experimental development - 40% for large Industry, 50% for SMEs

The eligibility conditions for funding are:

1. The capability of performing R&D activities should be certified according to the Government Decision no. 551/2007 - see www.mct.ro .The Decision is in force beginning with June 2008.
2. The Romanian applicant should be registered and validated in RPC (Register of Potential Contractors) www.mct.ro
3. Compliance of the project topic(s) with the objectives & themes of the corresponding S&T Research Domain.

Administrative and technical eligibility must be verified by the funding agency prior to proposal submission!!!!!!

The funding decision is lasting to the National Authority for Scientific Research, based on the NCPM recommendation.

Contact:

International Partnerships Coordinator: Speranta Rasan (speranta_rasan@cnmp.ro)

Croatia, MSES

Croatia, Ministry of science, education and sports

Ministry of science, education and sports of the Republic of Croatia will make the final approving of funding. In case of a positive funding recommendation all Croatian applicants will be asked to submit a formal national application.

The budget available to fund participants from Croatia is € 200.000. All themes mentioned in the call text can be addressed.

Both industrial and academic partners are eligible for funding. Companies may only be funded if registered in Croatia.

The project must additionally contribute to Croatian science.

Please click here for the following document.

National Contact

Josipa Kolarić

Tel +385 1 4594 366

E-mail josipa.kolaric@mzos.hr

Flanders / Belgium, IWT - Flemish funding agency for technology and innovation

- Funding is based on the IWT programme “Bedrijfssteun”. Only projects which are compatible with IWT funding criteria (see http://www.iwt.be/subsidies/oeno-bedrijfsproject_or <http://www.iwt.be/subsidies/kmo-innovatie>) are eligible for funding. Furthermore, the project needs to be compatible with “Bedrijfssteun” program to be eligible for funding (see <http://www.iwt.be/doelgroep/bedrijven>).
- All Flemish partners wishing to submit applications are strongly advised to contact the IWT program manager beforehand.
- Both industrial and academic partners are eligible for funding.
- The company proposing a project must be capable to provide co-financing.
- Double funding is not possible.
- All Flemish applicants passing the preproposal stage have to submit an IWT application when they submit their full proposal to ERA-IB. These applications are submitted electronically to IWT.
- The projects receiving national funding from IWT are obliged to follow the general terms and conditions of IWT.