

**Joint Programming Initiative Water Challenges for a Changing World
Joint Programming Initiative Agriculture Food Security and Climate Change**

**CALL PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT
WATER JPI 2016 JOINT CALL
FOR TRANSNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS**

TOPIC: Water and Agriculture Challenges

The Water and FACCE JPIs pre-announce the upcoming call for transnational collaborative research projects. The indicative total available budget amounts to 26M€, subject to the successful negotiation of the WaterWorks2015 ERA-NET Cofund with the European Commission. **The call is expected to open on 16.02.2016 with a closing date for pre-proposals on 19.04.2016.**

A two-step application procedure will be used in this call. Proposals (in English language) must be submitted electronically. Instructions regarding submission, eligibility, and evaluation criteria and other relevant information will be made available in the official call announcement. *For secretariat support please contact Germana Santos or Rui Munhá at ww2015@fct.pt.*

Water and FACCE JPI Objectives

The Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) are intergovernmental initiatives aiming at strengthening European leadership and competitiveness in Research Development and Innovation (RDI). In particular, the Water JPI responds to the grand challenge of “*Achieving sustainable water systems for a sustainable economy in Europe and abroad*”, while the FACCE JPI is dedicated to meeting the challenge of “*Ensuring food security and sustainable agriculture under climate change while protecting ecosystems and natural resources*”. The Water and FACCE JPIs have been harmonising and mobilising National and Regional RDI Programmes.

Call Description

The Call topic was defined as “*Sustainable management of water resources in agriculture, forestry and freshwater aquaculture sectors*”, and partially covers the priority themes described in the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of Water JPI and in the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) of FACCE JPI. The 2016 Joint Call will be developed in line with other on-going European networking instruments. As in all multi-national, collaborative RDI projects, there is an underlying goal of stimulating the mobility of researchers between participating countries, and the continuation of these collaborative efforts beyond the project lifetime.

Scope of the Call

All proposals are expected to apply research and innovation to develop new concepts, to assess risks, to attain cost effectiveness and to improve quality of life, thus contributing to tackling European water challenges. The main topics of the Call are defined below, and applicants will have to address at least one of them:

Sustainable management of water resources in agriculture, forestry and freshwater aquaculture sectors by:

- **Increasing the efficiency and resilience of water uses;**
- **Monitoring and reducing soil and water pollution;**
- **Integrating social and economic dimensions into the sustainable management and governance of water resources.**

Eligibility

Tackling societal challenges always requires a multidisciplinary approach. Therefore, all submitted applications should emphasise participation of stakeholders and dissemination and exploitation of results. Within each selected consortium (comprised by a minimum of three partners from three different participating countries), funding of the participating researchers will be provided by their respective national funding organisation (see list below) according to their normal terms and conditions for project funding. Proposals with duration of 24-36 months may be submitted by universities and other higher education institutions, public research institutions, private non-profit organisations, and private companies. Researchers from i) Water JPI partner countries not funding this call, ii) Water JPI observer countries, or iii) third countries, can participate in the consortia at their own expense.

Anticipated Time Schedule		
Stage	Description	Date
	Pre-announcement	15 January 2016
	Call opening	16 February 2016
Step 1 Pre-Proposal	Submission Deadline	19 April 2016
	Notification of Outcomes	8 July 2016
Step 2 Full Proposal	Submission Deadline	15 September 2016
	Notifications of Outcomes and Funding Decisions	November 2016
Kick-off	Expected start of funded projects	March-April 2017

Further information

We draw the attention of the applicants on the fact that if they plan to use genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in their project, they will have to ascertain towards the competent authorities and focal point that they have been accessed in accordance with applicable legal or regulatory requirements, and to ensure that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually agreed terms¹.

The information in this document does not replace or override any of the requirements set forth in the official call announcement, in the call documents or national regulations, so a thorough consultation of the call documents is strongly advised.

¹REGULATION (EU) No 511/2014 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization in the Union and related implementing acts.

2016 Joint Call Funding Partner Organisations

Please note that the information in this table is provisional and that changes may occur in the official call announcement to be published by call opening

Country		Funding Partner Organisation	
Belgium (French-speaking community)		F.R.S.-FNRS	Fund for Scientific Research - FNRS
Belgium (Flanders)		VLAIO	Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship
Canada		NSERC	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
Cyprus		RPF	Research Promotion Foundation
Denmark		IFD	Innovation Fund Denmark
Egypt		ASRT	Academy of Scientific Research and Technology
Finland		AKA	Academy of Finland
Finland		MoAF	Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
France		ANR / ONEMA	Agence Nationale de la Recherche, with the support of the Office national de l'eau et des milieux aquatiques
Germany		BMEL	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft
Ireland		EPA / DAFM	Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland, with the support of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Italy		MIUR	Ministry for Education, University and Research
Moldova (Republic of)		CIP	Center of International Projects
Norway		RCN	Research Council of Norway
Poland		NCBR	National Center for Research & Development
Portugal		FCT	Foundation for Science and Technology
Romania		UEFISCDI	Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding
South Africa		WRC	Water Research Commission
Spain		MINECO	Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness
Spain		CDTI	Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology
Sweden		FORMAS	Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning
Taiwan		MOST	Taiwanese Ministry of Science and Technology
The Netherlands		EZ	Ministerie van Economische Zaken
Tunisia		IRESA	Institution de la Recherche et de l'Enseignement Supérieur Agricoles
Turkey		TUBITAK	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey
United States of America		USDA-NIFA	US Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture