

BiodivERsA3 2015 Joint Call for International Research Proposals on: "Understanding and managing biodiversity dynamics to improve ecosystem functioning and delivery of ecosystem services in a global change context: the cases of (1) soils and sediments, and (2) land- river- and sea-scapes (habitat connectivity, green and blue infrastructures, and naturing cities)",

We are pleased to announce the launch of the BiodivERsA 2015 pan-European call for research proposals on: "Understanding and managing biodiversity dynamics to improve ecosystem functioning and delivery of ecosystem services in a global change context: the cases of (1) soils and sediments, and (2) land- river- and sea-scapes (habitat connectivity, green and blue infrastructures, and naturing cities)".

The call, co-funded by the European Commission, will address the following two themes:

- Theme 1: Understanding and managing the biodiversity dynamics of soils and sediments to improve ecosystem functioning and delivery of ecosystem services;
- Theme 2: Understanding and managing biodiversity dynamics in land-, river- and seascapes (habitat connectivity, green and blue infrastructures, and naturing cities) to improve ecosystem functioning and delivery of ecosystem services.

The main scientific themes and priorities for this call are further detailed in the <u>complete</u> <u>announcement of opportunity</u>.

Please note that proposals can only address one of the two themes listed above.

Twenty four national/regional funding organisations* from 15 countries are joining this call: Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.

*Note that outermost regions and overseas countries and territories participate to this call with specific funding

Together with the European Commission, the BiodivERsA partners have provisionally reserved ca. €30 million for this call.

Scientific teams are invited to form international consortia comprising **at least three research groups from at least three countries** participating in the BiodivERsA call, except for proposals including research groups from outermost regions and overseas countries and territories for which it suffices if the research groups come from two different countries and the proposal concerns three different funding organisations.

Proposals should clearly demonstrate an added value linked to the pan-European nature of the projects, and should fulfil criteria of scientific excellence and relevance to policy and practice.

For more information on the eligibility and evaluation criteria, please consult the <u>BiodivERsA</u> <u>website</u>.

A two-step process will apply, with a mandatory submission of pre-proposals at first step. Pre-proposals and proposals (in English) must be submitted electronically on the submission website. You will find instructions for electronic submission on the BiodivERsA website.

Release date of the call: Thursday 14 May 2015

Deadline for submission of pre-proposals (mandatory): Monday 20 July 2015, 17:00 GMT+1:00

Deadline for submission of full-proposals: Between December 2015 and February 2016

Please note that the individual Partner in a project must comply with the eligibility criteria and rules of their funding organisation. Please consult your Funding organisation rules documents and contact your Funding organisation Contact Points (FCP) (both lists are available on the <u>BiodivERsA website</u>) to check your eligibility before submitting a proposal. We draw your attention on the fact that compliance to funding organisation eligibility criteria and rules is mandatory – proposals that do not meet these criteria will be declined without further review.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the call, please consult the <u>BiodivERsA website</u>.

You will find there the <u>complete announcement of opportunity</u>, <u>detailed rules and procedures</u> <u>of the call including selection criteria and submission forms</u>, <u>the lists of Funding</u> <u>organisations' rules and FCPs</u> and <u>a partner search tool</u>.

For specific questions related to the criteria and rules of your funding organisation, please <u>consult your FCP</u>.

For general information on the call, please contact the Call Secretariat:

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