



Q&A from the Brokerage Event

TOPIC: Building the consortium

-Can a partner be partner in more than one proposal?

- Formally this depends on the national rules of each funder: check the national regulations of the funders whom the budget request is addressed to and contact the NCP for any clarification on it, if not specified.

-What means good geographical coverage?

- This depends on the proposed project and this point must be fulfilled whereas applicable to strengthen the impact and the transnational added value, which is peculiar for the transnational consortium ERA-NET Cofund ICT-AGRI-FOOD.

- How many countries must take part in an application?

- At least 3 partner countries, from the Funding Agencies listed in the Call Announcement Document

-Is it possible to add or remove partners between stage one and two, pre- and full-proposals?

- The main partners in principle must remain the same, only if Call Steering Committee for some motivated reason asks the consortium to add or remove partners for specific reasons the change can occur.

- Can an Indian company participate?

- Yes, if they use their own funding, it doesn't count as 3rd partner and it can't act as coordinator and the contribution must not be essential to the project (dispensable in the worst case).

-Is it possible to involve Industry for dissemination even if not as a partner?

- This needs to be discussed with each National Contact Point. In some countries they may be paid by subcontracting for example, in other countries not.

-To check the eligibility of a company, do you consider only the location of headquarter or is it possible to consider the location of a company in a country?

- Please clarify it with the National Contact Point of the funder whom the budget request is addressed to.

- Can a farmer be considered a partner?

- This is an important issue to be clarified with the National Contact Point of the funder whom the budget request is addressed to. In this call, we encourage taking a multi-actor approach but some funders can't support a farmer as partner: in these cases hopefully a farmer can be involved in other forms or with in-kind contribution (own funding).

-Which definition of SME is used?

- The definition of SME is the official definition from the European Commission used in the Horizon 2020 programme.

- Should the main investigator has an academic position or job?

- The main investigator should proof his expertise in the scientific area and should possess experience in performing research. However, the main investigator must not necessarily be the coordinator of the project.

TOPIC: Project focus

-Can a project without research part be funded, e.g. if it is only on development?

- In principle at pag.7 of the call it is stated that the call aims to support research.

-How important are aspects of cybersecurity in the call?

- They are/can be important and relevant as crosscutting issue, but it depends on the topic you address.

-Are Research partners not only at development part encouraged to, harness results of previously funded ERA-NET projects?

- Please, look into the Call Announcement Document. Projects should, at least to some extent do research, however, it can also be applied research. You should connect when possible and reasonable to other EU-funded projects.

-To what extent the proposal of the consortium needs to match the interest of national funding bodies?

- In general the national funder body agreed on the call text (topic), but you need also take into account any specific priority or limitation by the national funding body if declared in the National Rules.

TOPIC: Project Evaluation

-What is the chance of success for a proposal?

- It is difficult to say, it is very much related to the number of high quality application.

- Does the project evaluation depend on the national organisation feedback?

- As stated in chapter 8 of the Call Announcement Document (page 17) each IEC member is independent of any funding organisation and applicant.

-Will the project be rejected, if a partner is not funded by its national organisation?

It is stated in the call document (page 15) that failure of one applicant will result in in the rejection of the project. In case the project has been selected for funding, the possibility to reconsider the project without one partner is linked to a possibility, if any, of a new evaluation. CSC need to be aware if the project has still the same value without that partner, considering that excellence and quality and impact are the crucial criteria for selected projects.

TOPIC: Data Management

-Can you provide more information on the Data Management Plan? As to what it should include, to what extent and how important it is for the evaluation process of pre-proposals.

- Paragraph 11.5 and Annex B of the Call Announcement Document is giving information on Data Management Plan. It should be developed already in the pre-proposal but it can be further developed in the full-proposal. The Data Management Plan in application phase must be maximum 1 page (see page 31 of the Call Announcement Document). If the structure of the DMP can affect the evaluation criteria (excellence, Impact, Quality and efficiency of implementation) it can become important on the evaluation process.

-Will data collected on food issues be published in the public repository?

- A specific section about open access of data is in the Call Announcement Document. For dissemination purpose, some data will be published.

-Should we push or promote open data in the proposal?

- This is clearly defined in the Call Announcement Document.

TOPIC: Documents

-Is there a Template of the Description of Work that can be found in the Call Announcement Document? Is it one of the documents to be included in the proposals?

- Yes, the template for the DoW of pre-proposals is Annex A of the Call Announcement Document. You can download it from the website under “Call Documents”.

-Where are Annexes found?

- Annexes are at the end of the Call Announcement Document. They are not separate documents. https://ictagrifood.eu/call_documents/40175

- How long should each section of the proposal be?

- Template of the proposal is maximum 5 pages (18.000 characters) and there is always a maximum number of characters provided for each section in the Online Submission Tool, depending on the question.

TOPIC: Budget

-Do we need to insert budgets already in the first step of the proposal, the pre-proposal?

- Yes, and you must give a precise details of the requested budget (see section *Project budget – filled in by the coordinator for each partner*), following also the National Regulations of the funders. These information are essential to get the eligibility of your pre-proposal.

-Why is the indicative call budget different to the total budget of the projects? Does it mean that the indicative call budget will be distributed to all successful projects of this country?

- The maximum budget for all partners of one county is given in Table 2 of the Call Announcement Document. The National Regulations can include additional information on maximum amount

admitted per project. Please, contact the national contact point to make sure your budget is eligible.

- What is the funding rate for companies and what for academia/RDI and technology centers? See National regulations of the national funder whom the budget request is addressed to.

- Possibly, in a same research consortium the funding rate can be different for different national funding bodies of the proposal. Please, contact the National Contact Point.

TOPIC: Online submission tool

- Do all partners also have to sign up to the system through this website for the coordinator to be able to add them to the project as partners?

- Yes of course, they need to create an account. It is really important, otherwise the coordinator of the project can't select them as partner.

-Will it be possible to edit the application after it has been submitted?

- Yes, this is possible until the deadline has ceased. It is possible to change the proposal even if already submitted before the deadline has ended. Please do not submit in the last minutes before the deadline.

-How long should each section of the proposal be?

- There is always a maximum number of characters provided for each section in the Online Submission Tool, depending on the question.

TOPIC: Online partnering tool

-I've created a consortia proposal, how do I find or be found by people interested in this proposal?

- There are 2 ways to be found by other people, you can create a public proposal or you can use the finding partners tool.

-Where I can find other projects funded in previous years?

- You can find the information about previous projects on the link via Related information – previous calls and projects

-We want to be involved in the projects as a partner, how can we do this?

- There are 2 ways to be found by other people, you can create a public proposal or you can use the finding partners tool

-How I can reach the partners who will work on PLF?

- Precision Livestock Farming, via the finding partners tool - HOW TO FIND PARTNERS

-Guide for registration to submit on-line?

- Call documents, guidelines for applicants or on the website.