



Call Announcement

Maritime and Marine Technologies for a new
Era

10.01.2017

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1. Introduction

1.1 Objectives of the ERA-NET Cofund

The overall goal of the ERA-NET Cofund MarTERA is to strengthen the European Research Area (ERA) in maritime and marine technologies as well as Blue Growth. The ERA-NET Cofund MarTERA is a network of 18 ministries, authorities and funding organisations responsible for funding research and innovation projects in maritime and marine technologies from 16 countries.

The consortium will organise and co-fund, in cooperation with the European Commission under Horizon 2020, a joint call for transnational research and innovation projects on different thematic priority areas.

1.2 The objective of the Call

The realisation of a European research and innovation agenda requires a **broad and systematic cooperation in all areas of waterborne transport, offshore activity, marine resources, maritime security, biotechnologies, desalination, offshore oil & gas, fisheries, aquaculture etc.** covering all relevant maritime and marine sectors and regions for a sustainable development of the maritime sector. Research and innovation activities in these fields cannot be tackled either at national levels alone, or solely by a single sector. Coordinated actions are required for the maritime industry to strengthen Europe's position in this important and complex economic field in a global market. **The focus of development in MarTERA is given to technologies (instead of sectors) due to their potentially large impact to a wide range of application fields.**

Sectors with a high potential for sustainable blue economy like waterborne transport, shipbuilding & ship repair, offshore and sub-sea activities, monitoring and observations, can support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors as a whole and use the potential of Europe's oceans, seas and coasts for jobs, value and sustainability. Technological breakthroughs are of importance for improving ocean governance, which is by itself a big market for maritime industries recalling that European countries spend approximately 1 billion Euros annually on purchasing and running infrastructure to monitor the seas and oceans.

Concentrated and targeted Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) funding on common research priorities will foster maritime and marine technologies in Europe. In this highly competitive sector networking, trans-national collaboration and joint initiatives are the keys to success. The main objective of MarTERA is to address a number of actual **challenges** that can be identified as follows:

- National and European research in several marine and maritime sectors is often poorly coordinated. Synergies towards implementing common goals could only be achieved through better coordination and harmonizing the foci of funding programmes; While collaborative projects funded by the EC are often quite large and complex to attract participation especially of SMEs, national funding schemes offer limited opportunities to collaborate with foreign partners, especially if cross-border funding is impossible;
- The participation in trans-national projects offers advantages by using respective national funding, to tackle complex projects which cannot be accomplished by one nation alone;
- Transnational projects provide a better chance for innovation to enter into new markets;
- The cross-cutting perspective in technology development can lead to innovations capable of benefiting more than one sector, hence increasing the impact of the funded trans-national projects.
- Bringing industry and research actors across borders together will strengthen Europe's economic position underpinning Blue Growth.
- Through trans-national cooperation it is feasible to create critical mass and focus excellence on precompetitive breakthroughs, which can benefit marine and maritime industries in general and make them more competitive in the longer term, thereby maintaining Europe's competitive edge.

- To create critical mass and address the needs for technologies in marine and maritime operations.

The positive effects of cooperation will lead to an increase of marine or maritime investments which subsequently strengthen the industrial innovation and secure jobs. The realisation of a European research and innovation agenda needs a broad and systematic cooperation in all areas of ocean observations and monitoring, waterborne transport, offshore activity, marine resources, aquaculture etc. covering all relevant maritime and marine sectors and regions for their sustainable development.

The proposed ERA-NET Cofund project will continue improving implementation of joint activities and has ambitious goals for funding transnational research. MarTERA aims at further deepening, broadening and strengthening the established transnational cooperation based on the experiences gained and the existing cooperation structures of former ERA-NET Maritime Technologies (MARTEC I and II). With the cooperation of MARTEC and JPI Oceans, a broader variety of topics with a larger amount of funding will be available for the transnational projects.

Funding of the projects is decentralized, so each country participating in the call gives funds to their entities. The proposals submitted to the call must be submitted using a procedure before the strictly-enforced deadline.

The proposals are evaluated in order to identify those whose quality is sufficiently high to give guidance to national recommendations.

2. Scope and detail objectives of the Call

There is an urgent requirement for coordinated actions across the EU in order to tackle the challenges arising across a large number of sectors related to the oceans. The need for highly-specialised marine equipment, more efficient and greener waterborne transport systems, clean energy, increased seafood production, technologies for reliable ocean observations, and safe marine and maritime operations etc. calls for substantial innovations with respect to the whole spectrum of marine and maritime technologies.

The selection of topics for funding is done based on the **overarching technological challenges**, due to their relevance and possibility to benefit a **wide range of applications and sectors**. The topic area is a natural continuation and expansion of previous activities undertaken by MARTEC I&II and is in alignment with Strategic Areas of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of JPI Oceans. The participating organisations have therefore agreed to split the topics of the co-funded call in the following **five Priority Areas (PAs)**:

- **PA1: Environmentally friendly maritime technologies**
 - Emissions reduction:
 - Exhaust gas treatment (CO₂, SOX, NOX, black carbon etc.)
 - Waste and ballast water management,
 - Detection and response capacities to oil spills and marine pollutions
 - Energy efficiency:
 - voyage optimisation, on-board power, vessel efficiency and energy management,
 - Advanced technologies for the use of new fuels
 - Noise and vibration reduction
 - Innovative propulsion systems
 - Technologies for sensitive regions
 - Life Cycle management
- **PA2: Development of novel materials and structures**
 - Novel materials:
 - Light, robust and resistant materials
 - Environmental impact assessment (material testing)
 - Joining technologies
 - Intelligent materials and metamaterials

- etc.
- Biofouling and corrosion prevention:
 - Coatings
 - Advanced technologies
- Structures:
 - Development, monitoring, maintenance and dismantling of maritime structures
 - Development of technologies for economic and environmental sustainable renewable energy from sea;
 - Technologies for detection and removal of munition
 - Sustainable and cost-efficient platforms for offshore technologies, including multi-purpose offshore platforms and vessels
 - Technologies for extraction of oil and gas in rough and ice-covered areas as well as extreme water depths
 - Autonomous underwater production and extraction systems for oil and gas
 - Deep-sea structures
 - New vessel design
- **PA3: Sensors, automation, monitoring and observations**
 - Sensor developments:
 - Robust and efficient for detection, monitoring and observation (for physical, geological, chemical and biological measurements, including remote sensing)
 - Sensor fusion technologies covering observation systems, condition monitoring, underwater navigation and communication
 - Detection and measurement of emissions
 - Maintenance systems
 - Miniaturisation of sensors
 - Data transmission, E-infrastructure and telemetry for data transfer. Remote control platforms and systems, including satellite and land based control systems (e-navigation)
 - Monitoring:
 - Underwater technologies for inspection, intervention, monitoring and control (Robotics)
 - Development of intelligent and cost efficient systems and devices
 - Path planning, guidance, navigation and control methodologies for marine vessels, including multiple cooperative vehicles (incl. swarm technologies)
 - Innovative, robust and reliable power supply for automated sub-marine technologies
 - Improved models for marine vehicles and structures behaviour
 - Deep Sea Mining:
 - Environmental-friendly technology for exploitation of deep sea resources
- **PA4: Advanced manufacturing and production**
 - Top quality, globally competitive and environmentally friendly products
 - Optimisation of production: improved and novel production technologies for flexible manufacturing, with focus on organization and networking along the value chain
 - Automation of production
 - New concepts of the recycling-oriented construction, to final disposal vessels/platforms
 - Intelligent/innovative interacting components
 - Human computer interaction and Augmented Reality
- **PA5: Safety and security**
 - Individual safety concepts harmonized with navigational requirements
 - Intelligent predictive maintenance systems

- ICT tools for monitoring and optimization of maritime operations (e.g. routing following best weather conditions)
- Hinterland connection to inland waterways
- Early warning and accident management systems
- Evacuation and rescue concepts
- Decision support systems
- Improve operations such as dynamic positioning systems, docking and mooring systems, automation of processes, optimized routing, handling of goods, subsea intervention

The Annexes of this document provide a **matrix of the Priority Areas** funded by each participating country/region and the National Regulations. Please be aware that not all the Priority Areas are funded by each participating countries/regions. It is required that each partner in a consortium contacts his/her National Programme Managers(s) to be informed about the rules in his/her country/region prior to submission of a pre-proposal and a full proposal.

3. Call Structure

3.1 Definitions

MarTERA Call Office

The MarTERA Call Office, hosted by Projektträger Jülich, Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH, Germany, is the central contact point for applicants regarding all technical and general issues of the submission.

Steering Committee (SC)

The Steering Committee (SC) will be composed of one representative per participating funding organisations and will be the decision-making body in the framework of this call.

National Programme Manager (NPM)

Each participating funding organisation in this call has nominated NPM(s) to provide information on national/regional funding rules and procedures. It is required that each partner in a consortium contacts his/her NPM prior to the submission of pre-proposals.

Project costs

The total sum of all eligible costs which is necessary for the implementation of the foreseen project. Regarding the conditions for eligibility of costs please contact your NPM.

Funding costs

Reimbursement rate of the eligible project costs which will be applied per partner according to the national/regional programmes.

3.2 Participating countries

The research projects initiated by this call can apply for funding or will get guidance (see 3.5 National Regulations) from the partner institutions of the MarTERA consortium listed below. The participation of applicants from other countries is allowed, if a national organisation is willing to fund successful national participants. In this case, the commitment of this must be provided upon submitting the pre-proposal.

Applicants should note that, in some countries, several funding organisations participate in the call with different organisational rules and priorities. In these countries also, applicants must pay attention to the National Regulations and contact the NPMs.

The indicative total available budget amounts to 30 M€.

The following ministries, authorities and funding organisations from 16 countries agreed to participate in the call:

Country	Participating organisation name	Participant short name	Committed Budget ¹ in EURO
Argentina	Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva	MINCyT	500.000
Belarus	National Academy of Sciences of Belarus	NASB	1.000.000
Belgium	Fund for Accompanying Economic and Innovation Policy	VLAIO	2.000.000
France	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	ANR	1.000.000
France	Ministère de L'Environnement, de l'Energie et de la Mer	MEEM	500.000
Germany	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie	BMWi	6.000.000
Ireland	Marine Institute	MI	1.000.000
Italy	Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca	MIUR	600.000
Malta	Ministry for Education and Employment	MCST	50.000
Netherlands	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research	NWO	1.000.000
Norway	The Research Council of Norway	RCN	4.000.000
Poland	Narodowe Centrum Badan i Rozwoju	NCBR	500.000
Portugal	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia	FCT	300.000
Romania	Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii	UEFISCDI	500.000
Spain	Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial	CDTI	800.000
South Africa	Department of Science and Technology	DST	500.000
Turkey	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	TÜBİTAK	2.000.000

European Member States
Associated countries
Third countries

3.3 Call process

The call process will be carried out online at the following web pages: www.martera.eu

The application process consists of two separate and consecutive steps:

Step 1:

The project coordinator of an applying research consortium has to submit a pre-proposal on behalf of the consortium, providing key data on the future project proposal. The deadline for the submission of the pre-proposal is **31.03.2017, 17:00 CET**.

¹ Financial commitment of the organisation

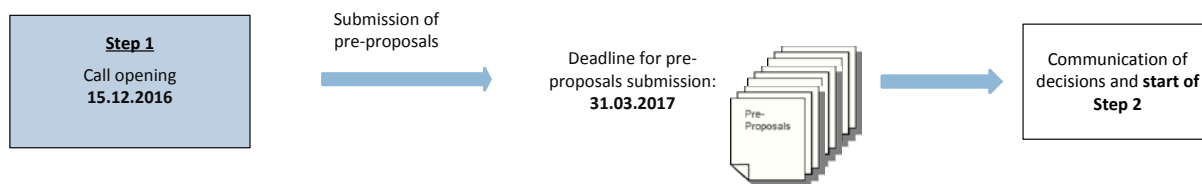


Figure 1: Step 1 process

Step 2:

Submission of a full proposal by the applying consortium. The deadline for full proposal submission is **08.09.2017, 17:00 CET.**

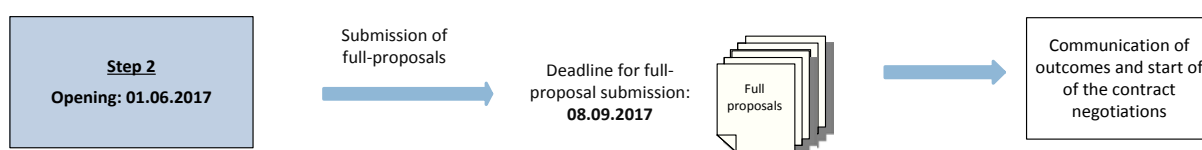


Figure 2: Step 2 process

The Annexes of this document provide the contact information of the National Programme Manager (NPM) in each participating country/region and the National Regulations. It is required that each partner in a consortium contacts his/her NPM(s) to be informed about the rules in his/her country/region prior to submission of a pre-proposal and a full proposal.

3.4 Dates and deadlines

Time Schedule of the co-funded Call	
First Step: Submission of pre-proposals	
31 March 2017 (17:00 CET)	Deadline submission of the pre-proposals
31 May 2017	Communication of eligibility check and evaluation outcomes to the research project coordinator
Second Step: Submission of the full proposals	
08 September 2017 (17:00 CET)	Deadline submission of the full proposals
30 November 2017	Evaluation outcomes and funding recommendations to the research project coordinators
From December 2017	Start of the Contract negotiations
Early 2018	Start of the research & Innovation projects

3.5 Confidentiality & Conflict of Interest

MarTERA ensures complete confidentiality to applicants, i.e. the proposals will only be read by the national/regional funding organisations and the mandated experts responsible for the eligibility check and evaluation of the proposal. Experts appointed for the evaluation will sign a confidentiality agreement and will be asked to declare any conflict of interest. The proposals will be handled by the MarTERA Call Office.

Only the publishable information as listed in [chapter 3.5](#) will be published at the end of the process.

3.6 Publishable

A list of the funded projects will be published at the [end of the call process](#) (once the projects have been selected). Therefore applicants should be aware that the following information from the proposals may be published by MarTERA for promotional purposes:

- Project Title and Project Acronym
- Publishable abstract
- Duration of the project
- Total costs and total funding of the research project
- Organisation name and country of each partner
- Name of the Project Coordinator

4. Eligibility Criteria

The following criteria are mandatory and must be fulfilled for the eligibility of any pre-proposal and full proposal:

Type of projects

The research projects submitted to this call can be depending on the **National Guidelines/Regulations** fundamental research, industrial research or demonstration projects. For further information about this, please see the **Priority Areas Matrix**.

Scope

- The proposed research and innovation project must be consistent with the scope and objectives of this call and with the national/regional thematic priorities of the countries/regions involved in the project (see **Priority Areas matrix**). National/regional priorities are described in the National Regulations and/or can be communicated by the National Programme Managers (NPMs).
- The proposed project must relate to (at least) one of the sub-themes listed in the **Priority Area Matrix** of this call.
- The proposal should be novel and not correspond with on-going or completed projects funded by other instruments, programmes or projects.

Consortium composition

- Project consortia consisting of at **least two independent eligible legal entities** from at least **two different European Member States or associated countries** listed in [chapter 3.2](#) can apply for funding. Legal entities/consortia from [Argentina](#), [Belarus](#) and [South Africa](#) are eligible for funding as well but they must have in their consortia **least two independent eligible legal entities** from at least **two different European Member States or associated countries** listed in chapter 3.2.
- The project proposals should **involve industry**. As national funding rules are applied, some topics or partners may not be eligible in all participating funding organisations (e.g. some programmes fund

only academic but no industrial partners and others request industry involvement). The eligibility of a partner can be assessed by checking the Matrix of Priority Areas or by contacting the National Programme Managers (NPMs).

- The proposals should strive to be balanced between the countries involved in the project as far as the volume of work is concerned.
- In every proposal, one of the entities has to act as coordinator who has the responsibility for submitting the proposal.
- There is no upper limit of eligible consortium size. Consortia may involve as many partners as necessary to achieve the project goals. However, applicants should be aware that a higher number of represented countries in a consortium will not automatically result in a positive evaluation of the proposal. There is also no upper limit of partners from the same country, unless stated otherwise in the National Regulations.
- Partners who are not eligible for funding, including partners from countries not participating in this call may participate at their own expense or if they have their own separate source of funding. The applicants have to prove (letter of intent/commitment) the willingness of other partners to fund their own activities. They have to follow the rules given in this Call Announcement. However they cannot coordinate a project and their contribution to the project should not be vital. They are not taken into account in the minimum requirement of eligible partners and countries in the MarTERA eligibility criteria.
- The eligibility of each applicant has to be checked according to the national criteria published in the National Regulations before submission.

Budget

National/regional programme specific rules apply. **Contact your national/regional funding agency for further information. The national/regional funding organisations can provide detailed feedback on possible eligibility and budget criteria.**

- The project costs for individual project proposals must meet the project goals and take into account the national eligibility criteria about minimum and upper limits of costs.
- Depending on the partner size the requested funding of 1 to 2 Mio € is an expected range per project.
- The total amount of funding requested from a funding organisation in a proposal may not be higher than the available budget for this organisation. The budgetary issues, including potential restrictions for funding should be checked in the National Regulations and by contacting the National Programme Managers (NPMs).
- Project consortium costs should be balanced.

Project duration

- The project duration is max. **three years** (36 months).
- The earliest possible starting date for projects will be fixed at the beginning of the contract negotiations with the national funding organisations.
- Additional national/regional regulations may apply to permitted lengths, possible start and end date of projects.

Submission

- The pre-proposal and the full proposal must be submitted correctly and completely before the respective deadlines via the MarTERA Submission Tool (www.martera.eu) according to the Application

procedure ([chapter 5](#)) and the Guidelines for Proposal Submission. Applicants should note that failure to comply with the submission rules will cause ineligibility of the project and therefore exclusion from the application process.

- The proposal must be written in **English**.
- Each pre-proposal submitted correctly and on time will be checked for eligibility as a whole. This means that failure of one partner within the consortium to meet the criteria will cause the entire project to be rejected. **Each applicant is therefore strongly recommended to contact his NPM to ensure eligibility.**

The above criteria apply to all partners. These represent the minimal requirements and do not exclude more specific criteria. Partners from countries/regions participating in the call must also meet the national criteria as outlined in the National Regulations. Details can be requested from the NPM.

5. Application procedure

The whole call process will be carried out online on the MarTERA Submission Tool using the provided templates and online forms.

The application process comprises two steps:

Step 1

In a first step, the research project coordinator creates an account on the MarTERA Submission Tool and submits electronically a pre-proposal with information on the project consortium and a brief description of the proposal. A description of the pre-proposal format is provided in the Guidelines for Proposal Submission. Applicants should note that core data are fixed at this stage. In particular, the funding requested by each partner cannot be increased in the second stage.

It is possible to update and submit as many times as estimated necessary the pre-proposal until the submission deadline (31.03.2017, 17:00 CET). Applicants should also note that the system may experience high traffic volumes in the last hours before the submission deadlines; therefore it is best to submit well in advance.

No other document is accepted at this stage. Nevertheless, the participating funding organisations may require additional documents according to their national/organisational regulations, but these issues shall be handled directly with the respective participating funding organisation.

The submission of a pre-proposal is mandatory; it is not possible to enter the application procedure at a later stage. The information given in the pre-proposal will be used to check for eligibility and to evaluate the proposal.

For any technical questions regarding the submission, please contact the MarTERA Call Office.

Step 2

The second step of the application consists of the submission of a more extensive full proposal. Only research consortia which successfully passed the first step will be invited to submit a full proposal and get access to the MarTERA Submission Tool again.

Applicants should note that information on the core data cannot be changed in full proposals, unless explicitly requested by a funding organisation or the Call Steering Committee.

“Core” data

Core data of the project proposals are:

- Project title
- Acronym
- Subtheme
- Duration, including expected project start and end
- Consortium composition, i.e. organisation name, type and country for each partner
- Project Coordinator
- Abstract
- Total funding requested for each partner

This information is imported at the beginning of the second step as provided in the pre-proposal and cannot be changed in the full proposal.

6. Evaluation

6.1 Eligibility check and selection of the pre-proposals

Pre-proposals that are submitted correctly and within the deadline will be checked for eligibility against criteria defined in the [chapter 4](#) of the pre-proposals by the Call Office. The pre-proposals are forwarded for further eligibility check on the national/regional level according to national/regional criteria (see National Regulations).

In a Steering Committee (SC) Meeting the decision on the list of proposals that are invited to go to Step 2 will be taken by the representatives of the funding organisations at the meeting. The decisions will be taken according to the eligibility checks, depending on available national/regional budgets as well as a justified oversubscription of the total available funding per funding organisations.

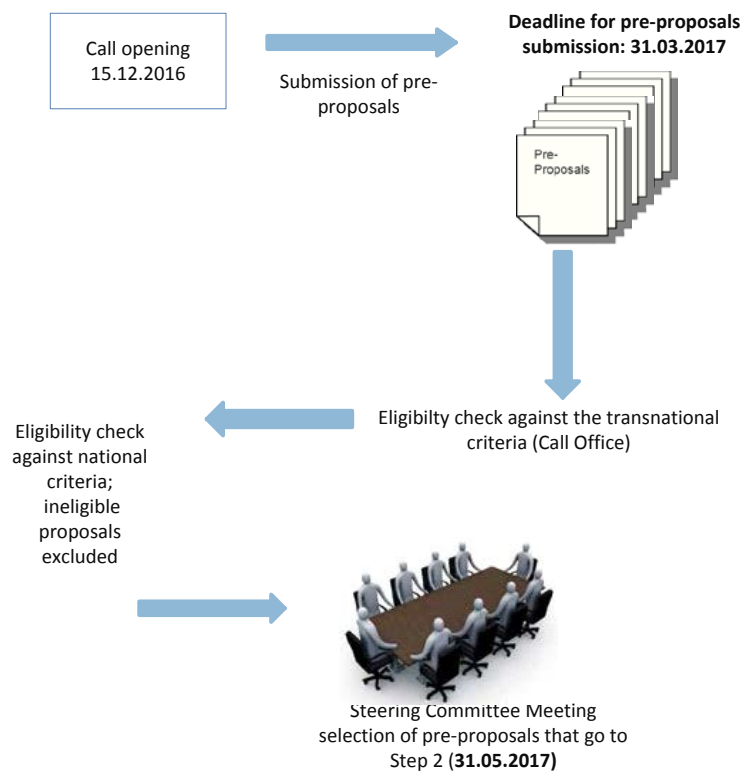


Figure 3: Eligibility check and selection of pre-proposals in Step 1

Project coordinators will be informed of the outcome and invited to submit a full proposal electronically by the MarTERA Call Office.

6.2 Eligibility check and evaluation of the full proposals

After the submission deadline for full proposals, the submitted full proposals will be checked to ensure that they meet the call formal criteria and have not changed substantially from the respective pre-proposals. Full proposals not meeting the formal conditions will be rejected without further review.

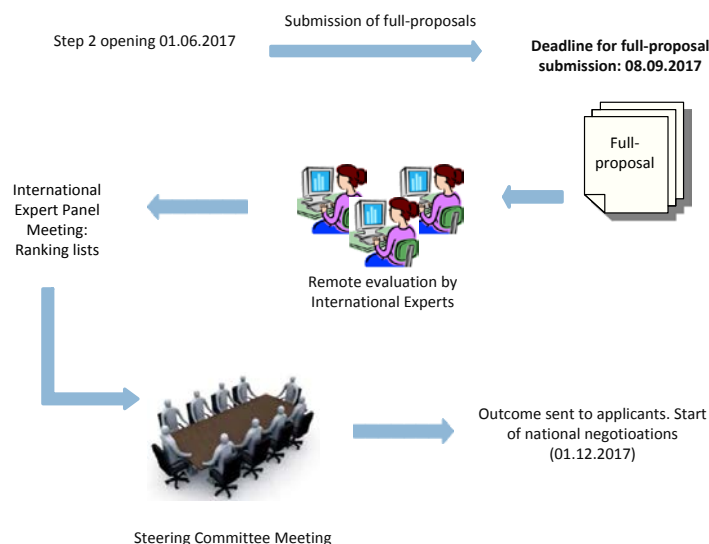


Figure 4: Eligibility check and evaluation of the full proposals in Step 2

All eligible full proposals will be peer-reviewed by international experts. Each proposal will be reviewed by at least **three experts/reviewers** (in the domain of the relevant proposal). Each expert is independent of any funding organisation involved in this call and the Steering Committee will ensure that no **Conflict of Interest** exists concerning the proposal evaluated. The composition of the International Evaluation Panel (IEP) will be published on www.martera.eu after the funding decision.

For each proposal a rapporteur will be nominated (one of the evaluators of a project appointed to this role). The rapporteur is responsible for that before the IEP meeting the experts, who carried out the individual evaluation for a given proposal, have exchanged their views and came up to a consensus assessment for each proposal and have prepared a draft Evaluation Summary Report (ESR) commonly.

The finalization of one ranking list will be performed in a multiple step process by the International Expert Panel (IEP). During the IEP meeting the evaluation results for each full proposal will be presented by the rapporteur and discussion can take place. Proposals that are competing for one rank can be analysed once again and finally evaluated against the criteria given. In this first step the evaluation procedure will lead to five separate ranking lists corresponding to the five thematic areas.

In a second step the IEP will come together in order to finalise **one ranking list**, taking into account the different funding priorities and budgets of the participating countries/organisations. For that, the ranking lists of the five thematic areas will be combined to one ranking list by using a normalisation method. The normalisation will be carried out within each five ranking list. Afterwards a ranking will be performed according to the “normalised” scores. The review panel will be assisted by the Coordinator of MarTERA so that financial aspects can be taken into account. An independent expert will be invited as external observer to the IEP meeting to assess the conformity of the general procedure.

The **final ranking list** will be forwarded to the Steering Committee (SC) which will meet to decide on the projects to be funded. For this decision, the SC will take into account the order of the ranking list from the IEP,

the funding availability and the gap filling. This process considers the fact that the entire EC topping-up can only be achieved by strictly following the ranking list of the IEP until the funds have been exhausted. The applicants will be informed about the final outcome of the call.

The International Evaluation Panel draws final ranking lists according to the five priority areas defined, in the order of merit and in-line with the Step 2 evaluation criteria: 1) Excellence, 2) Impact, 3) Quality and efficiency of implementation.

Excellence Scientific and/or technological excellence - Quality of the transnational project	Impact Potential impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation and management
Threshold: 3/5	Threshold: 3/5	Threshold: 3/5
<p>1.1 Relevance to the MarTERA Priority Areas</p> <p>1.2 Sound concept and quality of objectives</p> <p>1.3 Innovation level (progress beyond the state of the art)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the proposal contributing and/or increasing the advance of the S&T knowledge? - Does the proposal take scientific and/or technological risk? Does the proposal have a potential breakthrough despite this risk-taking? <p>1.4 Quality of the S/T approach, methodology and work plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are the proposal objectives clear, feasible, suitable and focused especially with regard to methods and management of scientific risks? - Is the methodology, research design and work plan adequate to the proposed objectives? 	<p>2.1 The extent to which the proposed project is suitably ambitious in terms of its strategic impact on reinforcing competitiveness or on solving societal or environmental problems at European and regional level?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact on enhance innovation capacity, create new market opportunities, strengthen competitiveness and growth of companies, address issues related to climate change or the environment, or bring other important benefits for society; <p>2.2 The extent to which the innovation-related activities and exploitation and/or dissemination plans are adequate to ensure optimal use of the project results.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feasible exploitation plan and dissemination of the scientific project results (including management and IPR) - Are the expected results or the knowledge acquired of importance for economic/ societal sectors and the economic development? <p>2.3 Added value of European transnational co-operation</p>	<p>3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, the consortium, the management structures and procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are the participants in the proposal well-suited and committed to the tasks assigned to them (necessary expertise)? Do the participants adequately complement each other? - Is there a satisfactory plan for the management of knowledge, of intellectual property and of other risk and innovation related activities? - Extent to which the resources assigned to the work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables? <p>3.2 Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resource in the project to fulfil that role</p> <p>3.3 Appropriateness of the allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment ...) Among others as well the balance of scientific and financial contributions from respective countries' partners.</p>
Overall score: 10/15		

Evaluation scores will be awarded globally for each of the three criteria, but not at the level of the sub-criteria. The sub-criteria are issues which the expert should consider in the assessment of that criterion. They also act as reminders of issues to rise later during the discussions of the proposal. Each criterion will be scored out of 5.

The scores indicate the following with respect to the criterion under examination:

- 0 - The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
- 1 - Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- 2 - Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
- 3 - Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.
- 4 - Very Good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
- 5 - Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. The overall threshold, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be 10.

7. Funding recommendation

Based on the ranking lists of the full proposals described above, projects will be recommended for national/organisational funding by the Steering Committee. The call will benefit from a European Commission contribution which will be partly used to increase the national available call budgets and to fill-in funding gaps during the projects final selection.

The outcome of this process will be communicated by the Call Office to the proposal coordinators, who will then have to inform their partners respectively.

Formal funding decisions are made by the participating funding organisations. The funding recommendation is irrevocable and therefore no redress procedure is possible.

8. After the funding recommendation

8.1 Negotiation of grant agreements / Project funding

After a positive funding recommendation, the project partners must directly contact their NPM in order to start the contract negotiation and accomplish the remaining steps until the research project can start. The project coordinator is responsible for synchronising the project start with his/her partners.

The funding of a project is provided based on the virtual **common pot scheme**, meaning that each funding organisation will fund its own national/regional partner(s) within the project (funding of project partners is provided by the participating funding programmes according to applicable national/organisational funding rules).

Applicants are therefore strongly advised to consider the **National Regulations** published in Annex of this document.

Consortium Agreement

Successful consortia should negotiate a Consortium Agreement before commencement of the project. This should address matters such as the regulation of intellectual property rights and actions to be taken in the event of unsatisfactory performance by one or more partners. In some countries/regions, such an agreement might be required for release of the funds. Applicants have to obey national/organisational regulations (National Regulations and NPMs) regarding this issue. Support for the preparation of a Consortium Agreement can be found on the DESCA webpage.

8.2 Project monitoring and reporting

In addition to the reporting required by the national/organisational rules, project coordinators will be required to provide a mid-term and an end-term report to the Steering Committee according to common templates which will be provided to them. All partners will have to deliver input for these reports. The monitoring will be conducted during the life span of the project.

More information on the monitoring and reporting procedures will be provided to the coordinators of the projects recommended for funding.

8.3 Dissemination and communication

MarTERA will organise following common events for the projects funded in the frame of the present call. Relevant stakeholders will be invited to these events. Funded projects can dedicate appropriate resources for dissemination activities including for participation in activities organised by MarTERA.

Events	Participants	When	Where
Brokerage event 2	Applicants, stakeholders, funded projects consortia etc.	Autumn 2018	SMM, Hamburg
Common Mid-term Meeting	Coordinators of funded projects, Steering Committee, stakeholders	Spring 2019	Norway
Common Final Meeting	Coordinators and partners of funded projects, Steering Committee, stakeholders	November 2021	Brussels

Dissemination of project results is requested in the form of various communication routes such as scientific papers, posters, courses or training material, web based tools, workshops or direct intervention towards end users.

Dissemination in all partner countries to national end users is necessary. A dissemination plan will be requested for the full proposal and should specify how the planned activities will contribute to the impact of the project.

MarTERA will publish electronic newsletter and prepare dissemination on the web pages for each funded project. All publications, which originate from the projects, must be made available via the project website (unless subject to IPR concerns).

10. Further Information

For further information, reference the MarTERA website or contact your national/ regional funding agency.

Annex – List of Call documents

- National Programme Managers
- MarTERA Priority Area Matrix
- National Guidelines/Regulations
- Guidelines for Proposal submission (Pre-proposal Template and Financial statement Template)

National Programme Managers

Country	Organisation	National/regional Programme Manager	
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