



National Guidelines

Maritime and Marine Technologies for a new
Era

17.01.2017

Content

ARGENTINA..... 2

BELARUS 3

BELGIUM-FLANDERS 4

FRANCE 5

FRANCE 7

GERMANY 8

IRELAND 9

ITALY 10

MALTA 13

NETHERLANDS..... 14

NORWAY 16

POLAND 17

PORTUGAL 18

ROMANIA..... 18

SPAIN 21

SOUTH AFRICA 22

TURKEY 24

Annex : Detailed National Rules of Malta..... 25

ARGENTINA

Participating organisation: Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (MINCYT)

National Programme Manager(s):

MONICA SILENZI msilenzi@mincyt.gob.ar

IGNACIO IBAÑEZ iibanez@mincyt.gob.ar

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

Max. Project duration: 36 months

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

A maximum grant of 100.000 Euro can be awarded to each project proposal, even if it includes more than one Argentinean participant.

Direct Costs

- Mobility (travel + accommodation)
- Short-term exchange visits
- Meeting, workshops and events organization
- Publication, dissemination
- Consumables
- Equipment

Indirect Costs

- Only administration

Note: personnel cost and subcontract cost will not be covered

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Universities; R&D national institutions; Small and Medium Enterprises

BELARUS

Participating organisation:

National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (NASB)

National Programme Manager(s):

Natallia Yankevich

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

National Academy of Sciences of Belarus is Programme Owner and Programme Manager of programme “Mechanics, Metallurgy, Diagnostics in Mechanical Engineering” and programme “Environment and Ecology” (sub-programme 2 “Biodiversity, Bio-resources and Ecology”)

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

24 – 30 months

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

50 000 – 300 000 Euro (corrections possible) per project, total – 1 000 000 Euro

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

National Academy of Sciences of Belarus

BELGIUM-FLANDERS

Participating organisation:

Agentschap Innoveren en Ondernemen (VLAIO)

National Programme Manager(s):

Jozef Ghijsselen, jozef.ghijsselen@vlaio.be, +32 2 432 42 40

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

Bedrijfssteun (industrial research & development programme: kmo, sprint and O&O – programmes)

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

kmo, sprint: max. 24 months

O&O: max 36 months

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

kmo and sprint: min budget 50.000 €, max. funding 250.000 €

O&O: min budget 100.000 €, max funding 2.000.000 €

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Companies (as applicant or project partner). Research organisations can only take part as a subcontracting research partner to the participating companies.

FRANCE

Participating organisation: Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR)

Eligibility criteria:

To be eligible, French partner must respect all the following criteria:

Scope :

- ANR supports only **PA3 Sensors, automation, monitoring and observations**.
- Proposals involving French partners must focus on the Priority Area 3, among the subtopic 1 to 3 – 3.1- *Sensors*, 3.2 *Monitoring*, 3.3 *Improved models for marine vehicles* (excluded for structure behavior). The subtopic 3.4 deep sea mining is strictly excluded.
- ANR is supporting both Fundamental Research (F) or Industrial Research (I).

Similarity with another proposal :

- The French part of the project proposal must not be judged similar to a project that is already funded by ANR. A project proposal will be judged similar to another if its principal objectives are the same, or results from a simple adaptation to the terms of the call for proposals AND the composition of the consortium is largely identical.

Requested funding :

- The amount of money a project can require must be between 15 000 € and 250 000 €. If there are more than one French partner, then the 250 000 euros have to be shared. A partner cannot require less than 15 000 euros.

Eligible Applicants and Consortium composition :

- ANR funding is limited to project partners residing in France. To be eligible the consortium must include at least one French public research organization category (university, EPST – Scientific or Technical Public Institution, EPIC – Industrial or Commercial Public Institution).
- The association with a private partner is encouraged but not mandatory. If a non-French private partner is involved in a project, it is mandatory to involve a French enterprise; unless the French partners will be declared not eligible. In this case, the IP rights have to be clearly defined within the full proposal. The consortium agreement will need to be in place and reported to ANR before any payment will be made.
-

Coordination :

- In case of French principal investigator, a French public research organization is mandatory as coordinator.
- A French principal investigator is allowed to present only one project as coordinator, but it can be partners within other proposals.

Duration :

- Proposed projects may not exceed 36 months.

It is important to read carefully the call for proposals text, the present document in its entirety, and the regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding (<http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/RE>) before submitting a research project.

The French part of the project proposal must not be considered to infringe an intellectual property right characterizing a counterfeit within the meaning of intellectual property.

Important recommendations:

Personnel and ratio of person.months :

- The French project coordinator should devote at least 30% of his/her research time to the project;
- The total (in person.months) of the non-permanent personnel (postdocs, fixed-term contracts, temporary workers) receiving ANR funding should not exceed 30% of the total (in person months) of the staff (permanent and non-permanent personnel) of the French partners assigned to the project;
- The financing duration for each post-doctoral fellowship cannot be less than 12 months.
- Due to the very strict time of realization of the research, the involvement of doctoral student is not recommended, other non-permanent personal should be preferred.

Consortium :

- Participation of a French private company is not mandatory but would be appreciated.
- In case of fundamental research, collaboration between providers and users (knowledge co-production), and/or involvement of relevant stakeholders/awareness of stakeholders needs are not mandatory but would be appreciated.

Reliability with the French SNR action programme :

- It is recommended to propose a project applied in marine and maritime domains and that falls within the action programme of the National Research Strategy "Earth System – observation, accuracy, adaptation"
- Reliability with strategic directions 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 of Challenge 1 or strategic direction 20 of Challenge 5 (applied in halieutic domain):
- priority 1 : Smart monitoring of the Earth system,
- priority 2 : Sustainable management of natural resources
- priority 3 : Assessing and controlling climate and environmental risks
- priority 4 : Eco and biotechnologies to support the ecological transition
- priority 5 : The coastal areas as a natural laboratory
- priority 20: Integrated approach of production systems

see SNR reference: http://cache.media.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/file/Strategie_Recherche/26/9/strategie_nationale_recherche_397269.pdf

Topic :

- Research expected could focus on the development of a new generation of sensors able to detect, monitor and observe physical, chemical, biological parameters of sea and coastal compartments and their biotic and abiotic components, and/or on a growing capacity of deployment of existing or new sensors thanks to various platforms (from buoys to gliders or multiple vehicles...).

Transnational Added Value of the project :

- The results should be used in more than one country of the MARTERA consortium.

More information about conditions of participation and important recommendations for French participants will be published on ANR website.

FRANCE

Participating organisation:

Ministère de L'Environnement, de l'Energie et de la Mer (MEEM)

National Programme Manager(s):

Patrick Vidal

patrick-l.vidal@developpement-durable.gouv.fr

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

No specific funding programme

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

12 to 36 months

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

Max. 50% funding

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

No restrictions.

GERMANY

Participating organisation:

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (BMWi)
Projektträger Jülich (JÜLICH)

National Programme Manager(s):

Filiz Aslan
f.aslan@fz-juelich.de
Phone: +49 30 20199-554

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

Maritime Technologien der nächsten Generation
<https://www.ptj.de/schifffahrt-meerestechnik>

BMWi's restructured "Next-Generation Maritime Technologies" research programme emphasizes the key role played by the maritime economy. Research and development in shipbuilding, navigation and marine technology serves as the foundation for innovative maritime products that ensure Germany's position as an international leader.

The programme contributes to supporting Germany companies with developing and using maritime products, to improving competitiveness on the global market and to securing jobs. It comprises the four areas of ship technology, navigation, production of maritime systems, and marine technology.

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

Max. 3 years

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

n/a

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Large companies, SME, research organisations, universities etc.

Further funding and eligibility criteria are described here: [Maritime Technologien der nächsten Generation](#)

Priority for funding is given for projects which include German industrial participant. The project consortium with German participation must contain at least one German enterprise to be eligible for funding.

IRELAND

Participating organisation:

The Marine Institute (MI)

National Programme Manager(s):

Ciaran Kelly

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

Marine Research programme <http://www.marine.ie/Home/site-area/research-funding/research-funding/research-funding>

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

12 months minimum 36month maximum

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

Minimum funding €150k, Maximum funding of €350k, per project.

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Legal entities in the Republic of Ireland with the appropriate scientific and technical qualifications and expertise can be funded as partners in a joint proposal. Any proposal involving an industry partner from Ireland must also have an Irish partner from a Public Research Body (see Marine Institute funding rules for joint calls document).

ITALY

Participating organisation:

Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca (MIUR)

Indicative Budget:

600.000 €

National Programme Manager(s):

Aldo Covello

E-mail: aldo.covello@miur.it

Tel: +39 0658496465

Mauro Bertelletti

E-mail: mauro.bertelletti@miur.it

Tel: +39 0658497293

Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:

FIRST - Fondo per gli Investimenti nella Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica

Min. project duration: 24 months

Max. project duration: 36 months

Maximum funding per project:

A maximum grant of 200.000 Euro can be awarded to each project proposal, even if it includes more than one Italian participant.

Institutional eligibility criteria:

A maximum of two Italian participants per project proposal is admitted.

A Principal Investigator can participate (either as coordinator or as partner) in only one project proposal.

All costs incurred during the lifetime of the project under the following categories are eligible: Personnel, Equipment, Subcontracting, Consumables, and Overheads.

Activity typology \ Applicant typology		Funding Rates			
		Small Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Big Enterprises	Universities, public research institutions, research organizations (public and private) in accordance with Reg. EU n. 651/2014 of the Commission - June 17, 2014)
Basic Research	grant	40%	30%	20%	70%
Industrial Research	grant	40%	30%	20%	50%
Experimental Research	grant	30%	20%	10%	25%

On request of applicants a pre-payment may be done, equal to:

- 80% of the total contribution for public entities;
- 50% of the total contribution for private entities.

The remaining part of contribute will be paid in instalments after each financial and progress reporting period.

1) Type/nature of participants

The following entities are eligible for funding, providing that they have stable organization in Italy:

- Enterprises and private research bodies (which meets the requirements of research organization under EU Reg. no. 651/2014 of the Commission - June 17, 2014)
- Universities, public research institutions, research organizations (public and private) in accordance with Reg. EU n. 651/2014 of the Commission - June 17, 2014).

2) Legal/administrative/financial conditions:

The participant must not be defaulting with regard to other funding received by MIUR.

The participant must not have requested/got any other funding for the same research activities.

The participant must respect the Italian law against "mafia".

3) Financial conditions

For any private entity, the following financial criteria, calculated using the data reported in the last approved balance sheet, must be fulfilled:

I. $CN > (CP - I)/2$

Where:

CN = net assets (Capitale netto)

CP = sum of the costs of all the projects for which public funding has been requested by the participant during the year

I = sum of the contributions received, approved or requested for the same projects

II. OF/F < 8%

Where:

OF = financial charges (Oneri finanziari)

F = turnover (Fatturato)

In addition to pre-proposals and full proposals that shall be submitted at European level, Italian participants must provide MIUR with a set of additional National documents as defined in the “Avviso integrativo nazionale” published on MIUR website (<http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it>). These national additional documents must be sent to MIUR by the same deadline of the preproposal phase submission established in the international joint call.

Any participant who does not send its national documents by the deadline of the MarTERA call, will be considered not eligible for funding.

The admission for funding is subject to the adoption of the necessary accounting and administrative measures for the allocation of the resources.

Funded participants will be requested to submit financial and scientific reports to MIUR.

It is recommended to contact the National Contact Persons already in early stage of project preparation.

Eligible participants must have a stable organization in Italy.

Institutional thematic priorities:

All activities classifiable as Basic research, Industrial research and Experimental development are eligible for funding.

Furthermore, Basic research and Industrial research activities must be predominant with respect to Experimental development activities.

Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded: See MarTERA Priority Area Matrix

Additional information:

The criteria and provisions provided herewith are intended only for informative purposes. The complete list of criteria and provisions legally valid, which must be respected by all the Italian participants, is included in the “Avviso integrativo nazionale”, which will be published on MIUR website (<http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it>) and in the applicable Italian laws.

MALTA

Participating organisation:

Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST)

National Programme Manager(s):

Ms Allanah Bonnici

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

FUSION National Funding Programme

http://www.mcst.gov.mt/R_A_I/Fusion.aspx

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

Minimum project duration: 1 year; Maximum project duration : 3 years

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

Maximum funding per project: EUR50,000

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Any industrial and any public entity as described in the National Rules for Participation

A detailed National Rules of Malta is attached in the Annex.

NETHERLANDS

Participating organisation:

Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)

National Programme Manager(s):

- Dr. Josef F. Stuefer | Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research | Department Earth and Life Sciences | Senior Policy Officer | Telephone: +31 70 349 4472 | j.stuefer@nwo.nl

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

- NWO Earth and Life Sciences: Funding for international activities in the economic priority area Water, linked to JPI Oceans.

Detailed conditions for Dutch applicants are available online, see NWO web page:

<http://www.nwo.nl/financiering/onze-financieringsinstrumenten/alw/era-net-cofund-maritime-and-marine-technologies-for-a-new-era-martera/era-net-cofund-maritime-and-marine-technologies-for-a-new-era-martera.html>

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

Proposed projects may last up to a maximum of 36 months.

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

A single Dutch partner may request a maximum of 250.000 €, consisting of max. 212.117 € for personnel and max. 50.000 € (max. 20% of the total subsidy requested) for materials (consumables and travel). Personnel funding can exclusively be requested for post-doc researchers on temporary positions, with the exception of senior researchers on fixed positions at TO2 or HBO institutes for whom funding can be requested at post-doc level (salary scale 11 BBRA) in this specific call (see additional criteria).

An individual Dutch applicant may request funding for only one project (part of a consortium) in this call. The maximum number of Dutch participants (applicable for funding) per consortium is one, leading to a maximum funding of 250.000 euro per consortium.

Who is eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Funding can be applied for by associate, assistant and full professors or researchers with a comparable position at a Dutch university or a research institute recognised by NWO (cf. Open Programme NWO-ALW). For this specific call, researchers from TO2 and HBO institutes can also apply for funding (see additional criteria).

Specifically:

- Applicants must hold a doctorate and/or be professor.
- Applicants must have a paid appointment for duration of the application process *and* the research for which the grant is requested.
- Employees with 'zero-hours' contracts (*0-aanstelling*) or contracts as unpaid guest researchers cannot apply.
- Applicants may not apply for a position for themselves (if required with the exception of senior researchers at TO2 and HBO institutes).

Non-eligible Dutch partners (e.g. private companies, foundations) may participate in a consortium at their own expense (i.e. as non-funded partner). These partners should provide written confirmation of their participation and their contribution.

Additional criteria:

An individual Dutch applicant may request funding for only one project (part of a consortium) in this call.

For the salary costs at Universities and research institutes recognized by NWO, the VSNU contract '[Akkoord bekostiging wetenschappelijk onderzoek](#)' applies. Dutch applicants can request funding for a postdoc researcher (maximum 3 years full time, per 1 July 2016: 212.117 euro). This amount includes a "bench fee" of 5,000 euro to be spent on general research costs incurred by the post-doc (e.g. publication costs, congress visits, etc.).

For the salary costs at TO2 and HBO institutes the '[Handleiding Overheidstarieven 2016](#)' applies. In this specific call, TO2 and HBO institutes may request funding for a senior researcher. For such appointments, costs will be covered to a maximum of 9.138 euro per month based on a full-time appointment to the project. The amounts are based on the "kosten-plus tarief" of salary scale 11 BBRA ([Handleiding Overheidstarieven 2016](#)), including the applicable surcharges. VAT may not be included in the budget calculations. The requested person-months should be dedicated 100% to the research project. The minimum appointment for a senior researcher on a project is 6 months full-time or equivalent (e.g. 12 months 0,5 fte, 30 months 0,2 fte etc.). A maximum of three different senior researchers may be appointed on a project.

[TO2 institutes](#) are defined as TNO, DLO (research institutes of Wageningen UR), the National Aerospace Laboratory (NLR), Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN), Deltares and the Maritime Research Institute Netherlands (Marin). HBO institutes (universities of applied sciences) are defined as government funded HBO institutes as included in article 1.8 of the "[Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek \(WHW\)](#)".

National priorities:

Dutch participation should be in line with the knowledge and innovation agenda of the economic priority area Water. There are no additional national priorities other than the scientific scope and aims of the call as described in this call announcement.

NORWAY

Participating organisation:

The Research Council of Norway (RCN)

National Contact Person(s):

Hanna Lee Behrens

Kristin E. Thorud

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

- Maritime activities and offshore operations (MAROFF) - www.Forskingsradet.no/prognet-maroff;
- Polar Research programme (POLARPROG) - www.Forskingsradet.no/prognet-polarforskning
- Large-scale Programme on Aquaculture Research (HAVBRUK) - www.Forskingsradet.no/prognet-havbruk;
- Large-scale Programme for Petroleum Research (PETROMAKS2) - www.Forskingsradet.no/prognet-petromaks2
- User-driven Research based Innovation (BIA) - www.Forskingsradet.no/prognet-bia

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

The project duration is up to three years (36 months).

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

Budget for Norwegian participation in this call: Up to 4 000 000 €

The maximum support should not exceed 500.000,00 € per project. If the Norwegian partner is the coordinator of the project the maximum support can be increased to 750.000,00 € per project.

The budget for the Norwegian partners shall follow RCN cost model and RCN regulations.

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

The funding provided by Norway is from a range of programmes with more specific priorities regarding eligible partners.

The Norwegian participation must follow RCN's General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects.

Project partners of financed projects will have to submit national application forms to The Research Council of Norway after notification.

Open access

The Research Council has stipulated requirements relating to self-archiving and open access to scientific articles produced in connection with R&D projects funded by the Council. Read more about The Research Council's Principles for Open Access to Scientific Publications.

http://www.forskingsradet.no/en/Article/The_Research_Councils_Principles_for_Open_Access_to_Scientific_Publications/1240958527698.

POLAND

Participating organisation:

The National Centre for Research and Development/Narodowe Centrum Badań i Rozwoju (NCBR)
www.ncbr.gov.pl

National Programme Manager(s):

Karolina Janczykowska

m: +48 515 061 554

karolina.janczykowska@ncbr.gov.pl

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

All proposals must be aligned with National regulations, inter alia:

- The Act of 30 April 2010 on the Principles of Financing Science, published in Journal of Laws 2014, item 1620;
- The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws 2016, item 900;
- The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 25 February 2015 on criteria and rules on granting state aid and “de minimis” aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws 2015, item 299.

Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for research organisations. In the case of enterprises, funding quota will be decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the size of the company, type of research/development, risk associated with the research activities and commercial perspective of exploitation.

	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Micro/Small Enterprises	Research organizations
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)	Up to 100 %
Experimental development	Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)	Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)	Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)	Up to 100 %

Other types of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) are not eligible for funding as separate tasks. They can be included in an appropriate cost category within research tasks.

Maximum project duration: 3 years

Maximum funding per project: requested funding per project should not exceed 250 000 EUR

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Following entities are eligible to apply:

- Research Organisations;
- Micro, Small, Medium and Large Enterprises

Organization must be registered in Poland.

The project consortium with Polish participation must contain at least one Polish enterprise to be eligible for funding.

PORTUGAL

Participating organisation:

Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)

National Programme Manager (s):

Gonçalo Zagalo Pereira

FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
Av. D. Carlos I, 126, 1249-074 Lisboa, Portugal
T: [+351] 213924455 (Ext. 4231)
goncalo.zagalo@fct.pt | www.fct.pt

Joana Pinheiro

FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
Av. D. Carlos I, 126, 1249-074 Lisboa, Portugal
T: [+351] 213 911 567
joana.pinheiro@fct.pt | www.fct.pt

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

Project 3599 - Promote the Scientific Production, Technological Development and Innovation

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

Research projects should have a **maximum duration of 36 months**.

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

FCT funding commitment for national institutions is **300.000 €**. The maximum budget per project is **150.000€ if the project is coordinated** by a national team and **if in the project participate a national team**. In case that more than one Portuguese institution participates in the same consortium the budget must be shared.

Call Topics supported by FCT:

- Priority area 3: Sensors, Automation, Monitoring and Observations.
- Priority area 5: Safety and Security.

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

ELIGIBILITY, NATIONAL FUNDING MODALITIES: Research themes, application, evaluation and selection of research proposals will follow the procedure that is defined in the MarTERA Call Announcement. Once all evaluation steps have been completed, 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 participants and eligible costs.

Eligibility of Participants

The following entities having legal authority to enter into contracts may, either individually or jointly, submit proposals for funding of the projects:

- Higher Education Institutions, their institutes and R&D centres;
- Associate Laboratories;
- State Laboratories;

National Guidelines

- Private non-profit institutions whose main objective is to carry out S&T activities;
- Companies;
- Other public and private non-profit institutions which carry out or participate in scientific research activities.

Eligible Costs

The percentage of costs covered by national funding:

- Large Enterprises, Groups and Associations of Enterprises, Medium Enterprises, Small Enterprises - 50%;
- Research Institutes and Universities - 100%.

Payments made to companies may not exceed 50% of the total cost of the company's participation. During the execution of the project, the recipients should present to Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) the documents related to the total expenses made.

The aforementioned regulations are available at

<https://www.fct.pt/apoios/projectos/regulamentofundosnacionais.phtml.en>.

Additional documents required nationally

Portuguese teams need to send a statement of commitment to the **National Programme Manager(s)** from FCT, duly signed, dated and stamped by the Head of the Portuguese applicant organization and by the Principal Investigator, at the stage of pre-proposal.

ROMANIA

Participating organisation:

Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii (UEFISCDI)

National Programme Manager(s):

Mircea Segarceanu

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

PNCDI III – European and International Cooperation/H2020/ERANET projects:
<http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/articole/4536/Pachet-de-informatii-ERANETERANET-Cofund.html>

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

The project duration is up to three years (36 months).

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

- 250.000 EUR if Romanian coordinator
- 200.000 EUR otherwise

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Legal entities established in Romania are eligible to get funding - public and private accredited universities, national R&D institutes, other research organisations, SME' s, large industrial enterprises.

Additional documents might be required from Romanian participants for determining national eligibility after the submission of pre-proposal.

SPAIN

Participating organisation:

Centro Para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial (CDTI)

National Programme Manager(s):

Raul García Esparza

raul.garcia@cdti.es

+34 915815500

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

<http://www.cdti.es/index.asp?MP=7&MS=724&MN=3>

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

12-36 Months

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

The minimum fundable budget is €175,000.

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Eligible entities: Companies established and carrying out R&D activities in Spain. Other entities such as universities, public research institutions, technological centres, and other private non-profit institutions could participate under subcontracting by Spanish companies.

Eligible activities: Projects may comprise both industrial research as well as experimental development activities, and must represent outstanding scientific-technical quality and high innovative potential. The Spanish part of the proposed work plan must be developed in Spain. Management and dissemination activities are explicitly excluded for funding.

Eligible costs:

- Personnel.
- Instrument and equipment costs, to the extent and during the period in which they are used for the research project.
- Contractual research costs, technical knowledge and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at market prices, and costs for consulting and equivalent services intended exclusively for the research activity.
- Other operating expenses, including costs for material, supplies and similar products, which result directly from the research project.
- Indirect costs

Only tasks related to either, technological industrial research or experimental development can be funded by CDTI. Management and dissemination activities are explicitly excluded for funding.

Applicants are encouraged to contact CDTI's National Contact Points for getting advice about national funding rules before submitting a proposal.

Additionally to the international application process, all Spanish applicants that aim to received CDTI's funding (projects coordinators and partners) must submit a formal application (with the information related to National Eligibility check) by way of CDTI's electronic submission system. This information have to be submitted to CDTI no later than 10 days after the closing date for pre-proposals and full proposals, respectively.

SOUTH AFRICA

Participating organisation:

Department of Science and Technology (DST)

National Programme Manager(s):

Mr Toto Matshediso
Deputy Director: Strategic Partnerships
Department of Science and Technology
Private Bag X 894
PRETORIA
0001
Phone: (+27)843 6339
e-mail: toto.matshediso@dst.gov.za

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

www.esastap.org.za

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

36 months

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

Funding will be afforded according to the merit of the proposal.

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

South African citizens and non-South African citizens but working in a South African institution such as the Science Councils, institutions of higher learning, universities, private sector and national system of innovation organisations involved in R&D.

DST will co-invest up to maximum of 90% of the approved funds for a period not exceeding 36 months with institutions as detailed below:

Type of research	Medium & Large Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities & Research Institutions
Fundamental/Basic Research	80%	90%	90%
Industrial/Applied Research	80%	90%	90%
Experimental development	80%	90%	90%

Direct costs:

Travel and Daily subsistence allowance including accommodation

The DST will cover travel costs in line with the guidelines of South African government regulations.

Consumables and supplies

Any consumables necessary for the implementation of the project may be considered as direct eligible costs.

Consumables are only eligible costs under the project if bought after the start date of the project.

Costs of personnel

DST will cover personnel cost to be incurred during project implementation.

Subcontracting

DST will not prevent SA applicants from subcontract activities within the project, but encourages SA researchers to commit to activities that they are mostly able to implement. And will not support subcontracting of parties outside South Africa. The co-investment contract will be between DST and the main SA applicant and not the subcontractor. Therefore, DST will not be involved in any agreements/arrangements regarding activities to be implemented and how the reimbursed will be done between main SA applicant and the subcontracted party.

TURKEY

Participating organisation:

TÜRKİYE BİLİMSEL ve TEKNOLOJİK ARAŞTIRMA KURUMU (TÜBİTAK)

National Programme Manager(s):

Yılmaz Burak KAYA

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

TÜBİTAK TEYDEB 1509 International Industrial R&D Project Grant Programme

<http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tr/destekler/sanayi/uluslararasi-ortakli-destek-programlari/1509/icerik-yonetmelik-ve-esaslar>

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

No limit

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

No limit

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)?

Industrial Research and Development Projects

Annex : Detailed National Rules of Malta



MarTERA - Joint Transnational Research Call-2016

National Rules for Participation

Version 1.2
December 2016

Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
1.1 Scope and Focus	2
1.2 National Contact Points	4
1.3 Definitions.....	4
2. Eligibility for Participation.....	6
2.1 Eligibility for Participation	6
2.2 Eligibility under the State Aid Regime	6
3. Funding Criteria.....	8
3.1 Submission of Project Proposals to MarTERA.....	8
3.2 Project Duration.....	8
3.3 Grant Value	8
3.4 Project Contact Point.....	8
3.5 Activities and Deliverables	8
3.6 Confidentiality of Submissions	10
4. Actions to be funded.....	10
5. List of Eligible and Ineligible Costs.....	10
5.1 Eligible Costs.....	10
5.2 Ineligible Costs	12
6. Evaluation	12
6.1 National eligibility criteria.....	12
6.2 Scientific Evaluation	13
7. Post Selection Process.....	13
7.1 The Grant Agreement.....	13
7.2 Start Date and End Date	13
7.3 Double Funding	14
8. Funding, Management and Progress Monitoring	14
8.1 Allocation and Disbursement of Funding	14
8.2 Dissemination & Externalisation.....	14
8.3 Final Report.....	14
8.4 Supervening Circumstances	15
8.5 Default	15
8.6 Interpretation of Rules	15

1. Introduction

Funding Party: Malta Council for Science and Technology for and on behalf of the Foundation for Science and Technology,
Villa Bighi, Kalkara, KKR 1320
Malta

1.1 Scope and Focus

The overall goal of the ERA-NET Co-fund MarTERA is to strengthen the European Research Area (ERA) in maritime and marine technologies as well as Blue Growth. The ERA-NET Co-fund MarTERA is a network of 17 ministries, authorities and funding organisations responsible for funding research and innovation projects in maritime and marine technologies from 15 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.

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&I 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**
- **PA2: Development of novel materials and structures**
- **PA3: Sensors, automation, monitoring and observations**
- **PA4: Advanced manufacturing and production**
- **PA5: Safety and security**

Each project proposal must be in accordance with the following:

- The proposed research and innovation project must be consistent with the scope of this call and with the national/regional thematic priorities of the countries/regions involved in the project (see **Priority Areas**).
- The proposed project must relate to (at least) one of the sub-themes listed in the **Priority Areas** of this call.
- The proposal should be novel and not correspond with on-going or completed projects funded by other instruments, programmes or projects.
- Project consortia consisting of at **least two independent eligible legal entities** from at least **two different participating countries** can apply for funding.

- Priority for funding will be given for projects which include independent industrial participants. 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.
- 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 and the Guidelines for proposal submission (which are published in the submission tool by call opening). 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.

Funding under this joint initiative is made available on the basis that an Applicant does not benefit from any other grant or financial incentive in respect of the expenses related to execution of the project.

The call schedule is shown in the table below:

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

1.2 National Contact Points

Correspondence should be directed to:

Corinne Muscat Terribile,
The Malta Council for Science & Technology
Villa Bighi, Kalkara KKR 1320, Malta
E-mail: corinne.muscat-terribile@gov.mt

1.3 Definitions

Research and Development is defined as the systematic investigation, work or research carried out in any field of science or technology through experiment, theoretical work or analysis undertaken in order to acquire new knowledge, primarily directed towards a specific practical aim or objective, and includes:

(a) Basic Research comprising activities undertaken for the advancement of scientific or technological knowledge that may draw on existing knowledge gained from research and practical experiences and is directed to produce new materials, products and devices, the implementation of new processes, systems or services, or to substantially improve those already produced, installed or existing;

(b) Applied Research where a final specific application is in view;

(c) Development involving the use of the results of basic or Applied Research as aforesaid for the purpose of creating new or of improving existing material, devices, products or processes, but excludes routine or periodic design, testing and analysis of equipment or products for the purposes of quality or quantity control, routine or periodic alterations to existing products or processes, or routine activities where there is no appreciable novelty or problem resolution.

Innovation is defined as the internationally novel scientific/technological development of a technological process, product or service. Also, the definition of innovation within the same context, can also be applied to non-novel, yet step-change/ground-breaking enhancement of existing technological processes, products or services, or even the application of existing knowledge to new novel applications of these solutions to deliver step-change competitiveness through such an application

MarTERA Project Consortium involves researchers from at least two countries that are members of the MarTERA Consortium and that are providing funds for this Joint Call. Additional researchers from other countries are welcome in a project consortium, but will have to fund their own contribution to the research project.

Industrial Entity is defined as a Maltese Legal Entity having more than 50% private shareholding, including but not limited to, a privately owned company or commercial enterprise the objects and

activities of which include the output of a specified product and service, and have the financial means to execute the project and a potential to use the results. In addition to research and innovation contributions and knowledge transfer, the entity may contribute to the MarTERA Project Consortium by developing, testing, commercializing or using such a product or service. Provided that a registered NGO, or a Professional Body as defined in this Section is considered as forming part of this definition.

Maltese Legal Entity means any entity created under the laws of Malta which has legal personality and which may, acting under its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations.

Public Entity means any Maltese Public Service Department or Maltese Public Sector Entity, or any Maltese Legal Entity which has more than 50% government shareholding.

Public Entities also include foundations, local councils and public academic entities. In the case of public academic entities, this includes but is not limited to a higher education entity or a research institute, whether as a whole body or as a component unit or department within such body, This, provided that the higher education entity must be in possession of a license for Higher Education according to Article 8(3) of the Act of Education, Chapter 327 of the Laws of Malta. This does not include the license for a tuition centre.

NGO means any Voluntary or Non-Governmental Organisation set up in accordance with The Voluntary Organisations Act (Cap. 492 of the Laws of Malta).

Professional Body may be an organisation, an association, a chamber, society, institute or a group of professional persons not being enrolled or registered in terms of The Voluntary Organisations Act (Cap. 492 of the Laws of Malta) or not being otherwise recognised in terms of Law, and which is generally recognised and acknowledged by the professional persons it seeks to represent as their representative Body. For the purposes of this Definition, a professional person is one who has undergone a period of study at a university or a recognised institution of higher learning and has obtained the formal qualification entitling the person to practise the respective profession; and who provides a specialised service to the public, based primarily on a fiduciary relationship between himself and the party to whom he provides such service on his own personal credibility and responsibility.

Applicant means anyone eligible for participation in a MarTERA Project in terms of these Rules for Participation and who consequently applies for funding under this joint initiative.

Project Contact Point is the individual, appointed to act on behalf of the Applicant and who is responsible for communicating with the Council about the MarTERA Project.

2. Eligibility for Participation

2.1 Eligibility for Participation

Any Industrial Entity and any Public Entity as described in Section 1.3 may apply for a MarTERA project and will be eligible for funding subject to the terms and conditions laid out in this document as well as in the MarTERA Guide for Applicants.

Professional Bodies and NGOs are eligible to participate in a project, but will only be eligible for funding under this joint initiative in respect of a research and innovation activity.

Applicants, who fall within the definition of Industrial Entity, will be required to provide (together with their application) the following documents which will be considered during the evaluation:

- Memorandum & Articles of Association or other constitutive document;
- Audited financial statements for last 3 fiscal years (2 sets).

In the event that the Applicant is a start-up and the above documents are not available, the Applicant shall provide the financial projections for three (3) years signed by an auditor, including:

- an income statement,
- a cash flow statement, and
- a statement of financial position

In the event that the evaluation may result in too high an exposure risk to the Council, the Applicant will no longer be entitled to participate in the project.

Any application submitted by or including the participation of any legal person or legal entity having, in totality or in majority ownership, the same shareholders, partners or persons holding and / or exercising a controlling power in any other legal entity which will have been at any time prior to such application declared as non-compliant or defaulting on any other contract or agreement entered into with the Council, shall be automatically declared as inadmissible.

2.2 Eligibility under the State Aid Regime

This joint initiative operates under the *de minimis* State Aid regime, which stipulates that a single undertaking cannot receive more than €200,000 in aid over any 3-year period through schemes operating under this regime. Applicants are required to ensure they are eligible for the requested grant under State Aid rules before submitting an application.

For the purposes of this Section, an “undertaking” shall mean any entity engaged in an economic activity, regardless of its legal status and the way in which it is financed.

Each undertaking must complete and execute the State Aid *de minimis* declaration form given to them by the Council prior to benefitting from the funding under this joint initiative.

For the purposes of the *de minimis* Regulation, “Single Undertaking” includes all enterprises having at least one of the following relationships with each other:

- a. One enterprise has a majority of the shareholders’ or members’ voting rights in another enterprise;
- b. One enterprise has the right to appoint or remove a majority of the members of the administrative, management or supervisory body of another enterprise;

- c. One enterprise has the right to exercise a dominant influence on another enterprise pursuant to a contract entered into with that enterprise or to a provision in its memorandum or articles of association;
- d. One enterprise, which is a shareholder in or member of another enterprise, controls alone, pursuant to an agreement with other shareholders in or members of that enterprise, a majority of shareholders' or members' voting rights in that enterprise.

Enterprises having any of the relationships referred to in points (a) to (d) above through one or more other enterprises shall be considered to be a single undertaking,

The terms and conditions set out in these guidelines are in line with the Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid.

Specific sectors (agriculture[‡], fisheries and aquaculture[†]) are excluded from this regime and applications in these sectors are therefore outside the scope of this joint initiative. The successful Applicants are expected to sign the necessary forms before any funds are transferred and provide the necessary reports in accordance with *de minimis* State Aid regulations.

This Scheme is not available to undertakings in difficulty within the meaning of the Community guidelines on State Aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty.

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Undertakings active in the sector of agricultural production means undertakings active in the primary production of agricultural products. Agricultural products are those products listed in Annex I to the Treaty.

† Undertakings active in the fisheries and aquaculture sector means undertakings active in the production, processing and marketing of fisheries products which covers both products caught at sea and the products of aquaculture. Fishery products are listed in Article 1 of Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000 of 17 December 1999 on the common organisation of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products.

3. Funding Criteria

The funds for the national beneficiaries participating in the MarTERA consortium will be made available in accordance with these rules and regulations.

3.1 Submission of Project Proposals to MarTERA

Proposals will be submitted, evaluated and decided upon according to the procedures described in the MarTERA Guide for Applicants.

Submissions should only be made via the MarTERA online submission system: www.martera.eu.

3.2 Project Duration

The duration of a project should be a maximum of 36 months.

The projects are expected to start not later than five months after the conclusion of the Grant Agreement.

3.3 Grant Value

The total maximum National Budget for this Call is of €50,000.

Funding for successful project submissions will be on the basis of a periodic cash advance, and will be regulated through a contractual agreement establishing the terms and conditions governing the financing of the project.

Funding under this joint initiative is made available on the basis that an Applicant does not benefit from any other grant or financial incentive in respect of the expenses related to execution of the project.

3.4 Project Contact Point

The Applicant shall appoint a Project Contact Point. The Project Contact Point shall have the following responsibilities:

- To ensure compliance with their obligations in terms of the Contractual Agreement;
- To compile Travel, Periodic Reports and Final Reports including their timely submissions and effective execution of the project;
- To execute the project activities according to set timeframes and deliverables.

3.5 Activities and Deliverables

Eligible Activities

The following activities are eligible:

- Collaborative Research & Interdisciplinary Projects that can promote R&I, mobility & training, Seminars & Workshops (incl. midterm scientific meeting and final workshop).

- The call expects projects based on complementarities between scientists, disciplines & countries, & sharing of knowledge in a broad scope of research topics.
- It aims to promote international collaboration to respond appropriately to the global stakes & challenges.

Mandatory deliverables

The project plan must give details of certain activities which are required by the Council's R&I Unit. These should be included as deliverables in the project proposal and include:

1. A showcase of the project to the general public by the national project partner through:
 - The publication of at least two articles per year in local newspapers or magazines. These should not contain intellectual property but should raise awareness about the project and its benefits.
 - The organisation of at least one half-day event to be held at the Council's premises or as otherwise directed by the Council's R&I Unit.
2. Reporting on project progress as per the list hereunder in line with the templates provided by the Council;
 - End of Stage Technical and Scientific reports;
 - End of Stage Financial report;
 - End of Project Technical and Scientific Report;
 - End of Project Audited Financial Report

The reports are to include sufficient evidence on the achievement of the project objectives as well as the parameters indicated in the application.

Changes to the project objectives, work-packages and all the parameters committed in the applications are to be detailed, justified and approved by the Council's R&I Unit.

Recommended deliverables

Further to the mandatory deliverables, the Council invites applications to also include deliverables as recommended below:

1. Monograph/s and/or peer-reviewed paper/s for accepted publication in international journal/s of repute based on the work carried out through the Project. The subscription levels or Impact Factor of journals are important considerations. Similar papers published on open source media would also be considered favourably.
2. Oral presentation/s at international conference/s on the work carried out through the Project;
3. The attainment of undergraduate degrees and/or postgraduate degrees and/or post-doctoral research. In cases where the project duration is insufficient for the purpose of submitting a degree, there has to be a commitment to complete the degree outside the duration of the project utilising other sources of funding.
4. Registration of a patent or other Intellectual Property Rights stemming from the Project, in Malta as well as in any other country;

5. Commercial commitments such as technology innovations to be included in a partner's existing product or service.
6. Commercial commitments such as technology transfer licences.

3.6 Confidentiality of Submissions

Unless otherwise indicated, all project application submissions except for the abstract shall be treated in strict confidence.

4. Actions to be funded

The following actions will be eligible for funding:

- a. **Collaborative research**, accounting for an impact, demand and policy driven research, accounting also for a relevant technology dimension and inclusion of SMEs.

The collaborative research is a joint undertaking by a partnership of institutions ("consortium") designed to produce new knowledge through scientific research, whereby each team within the partnership actively pursues specific task objectives with a view to pooling the results to contribute to the achievement of a set of common, well-defined project objectives. Collaborative research should take into account to develop an impact, demand and policy driven research, also accounting the inclusion of SMEs and enhancing innovation.

- b. **Innovation**, including prototype development and demonstration actions.

In particular, it is a joint undertaking by a partnership of institutions ("consortium") designed to bridge the gap between the outcomes of research projects and commercialisation, by supporting activities related to the first application and further market uptake of innovative techniques, processes, products or services, and helping overcome barriers that could hamper their commercial success.

Some combination of the above mentioned activities is possible or even desirable. As a basic condition, all projects must be collaborative research projects. Therefore, it will be mandatory for each proposal to include at least action a) (Collaborative research).

5. List of Eligible and Ineligible Costs

5.1 Eligible Costs

Eligible direct costs are those costs incurred directly by the national beneficiaries during the duration of the project and used primarily for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the project. All eligible expenses must be incurred between the Start Date and the End Date of the Project and must be limited to the budgeted value.

Start Date means the date which is stated on the grant agreement.

End Date means the date when the Project period, having commenced on the Start Date, expires, The Project period is the time required to execute the Project as indicated by the national beneficiaries, in terms of Section 3.2.

Project Value means the entire project budget including any co-financing (25%) for industrial partners.

Project Grant means the granted funding provided.

The Eligible costs are:

• **Actual Personnel Costs**

There is no limit on the number of employees per project. Overall value of Existing Personnel Costs typically cannot exceed 20% of project value. Proposals with Personnel Costs exceeding 20% of the project value need to be discussed at application stage. Personnel Costs related to Project Management are limited to 10% of the project value.

• **Researchers, operators and students employed specifically for the project**

These fall in the category of Operational / Researcher and their salary would not form part of the personnel costs limit of 20% of the project value.

• **Specialised equipment and research consumables**

Purchase of specialised equipment including software. Overall value of consumables typically cannot exceed 30% of project value. Proposals with consumables exceeding 30% of the project value need to be discussed at application stage.

• **Travel and Substinence**

Applicants which are not regulated by the Public Contracts Regulations (Chapter 174.04 of the Laws of Malta) are required to obtain three quotations for purchases related to travel.

• **Other**

Other operating expenses directly related to the project.

• **Scientific information**

Access to scientific information sources including databases and publications. Details have to be submitted at application stage.

Eligible Costs are to conform to the following and are subjective to the final audit scrutiny:

- Any expenses incurred during the course of the project must be consistent with the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- Applicants which are not regulated by the Public Contracts Regulations (Chapter 174.04 of the Laws of Malta), are required to obtain three quotations from potential suppliers in the event of purchases of a value above two thousand five hundred Euro (€2,500).
- While it is not mandatory to select the cheapest offer, the choice of supplier should be justified in writing by means of a concise note.
- When it is not possible or feasible to obtain quotations, a concise justification note should be made by way of explanation.
- Commercial transactions between any Applicants or consortium partners, or between any Applicants or a consortium partner and a company with similar shareholding to a consortium partner, is not allowed.
- Recruitment procedures are to be strict and transparent including the public call and interview process.

The percentage of costs attributed to each category should be proportional and rationalised as this will be taken into account during the evaluation stage.

Overheads will be covered at 10% of direct eligible costs, excluding the costs of (1) subcontracting and (2) items of equipment and consumables. Audit expenses should be included in the indirect cost pool.

5.2 Ineligible Costs

The following expenditure shall be considered as ineligible costs:

- Expenses related to loans, interest, etc
- Recoverable value added tax.
- Expenses which are recoverable through other funding mechanisms.
- Re-purchase of equipment originally procured through other funding mechanisms.
- Purchase of equipment from partners or their subsidiaries.
- Opportunity costs related to foregone production and production downtime arising from the allocation of resources to the Project.
- Any activity related to the reproduction of a commercial product or process by a physical examination of an existing system or from plans, blueprints, detailed specifications or publicly available information.
- Standard office equipment.
- Personnel hours for travelling.

Project management shall not be subcontracted. Any such costs are deemed to be ineligible.

Subcontracting shall not be allowed. In the event that an extraordinary case presents itself in which subcontracting is required a request with necessary justification is to be presented to the Council. It shall be within the Council's discretion whether to accept such a request or otherwise.

6. Evaluation

Project applications will be first checked for eligibility by both the call secretariat as well as the individual participating countries. Proposals that pass the eligibility check will then be evaluated by MarTERA in accordance with their stipulated evaluation criteria as stated in the MarTERA Call Announcement.

6.1 National eligibility criteria

As a second step, the Call Secretariat asks the members of the Executive Committee of Funding Parties to check and confirm the eligibility of Applicants participating in a proposal consortium according to these rules and regulations.

To receive funding, Applicants must be eligible for funding by the national funding organisations participating in the call. All participants in a bidding consortium should check their eligibility in the guide provided by their potential national funding organisations/agencies at the earliest possible stage.

6.2 Scientific Evaluation

The evaluation process is stipulated in the MarTERA Call Announcement. Only proposals that have passed the eligibility checks will be addressed to the Scientific Evaluation Committee to be evaluated. The evaluation committee will review by itself the different projects according to evaluation criteria. The final selection of funded projects is performed by the Call Board based on the ranked list provided by the Scientific Evaluation Committee. All the applicants will be informed by the Call Secretariat of the final results and a Scientific Evaluation Committee report will be sent.

All proposals submitted will be treated confidentially by the MarTERA Partners and their appointed evaluation experts.

7. Post Selection Process

7.1 The Grant Agreement

For each collaborative project approved for funding, individual **Grant Agreements** will be signed between the Applicant and the Malta Council for Science and Technology. This Agreement will regulate the transfer of funds to national beneficiaries based on these regulations. They will establish the legal ground for project funding according to these rules and regulations.

Following the final decision taken by the MarTERA Executive Committee of Funding Parties, the Call Secretariat will present all necessary documents to the Council in order to start in-parallel contract negotiations with the national beneficiaries which have been selected for funding. The final consortium agreement must be signed before the conclusion of the national Grant Agreement.

Overall consistency between all contracts / agreements will be ensured by the Members of Executive Committee of Funding Parties.

The Call Secretariat will be responsible for the overall monitoring of the projects according to the terms set out in the Terms of Reference.

The outcome will contribute to the overall evaluation of the MarTERA Joint Call.

The Council reserves the right not to proceed with signing any National Grant Agreement in the event that it results that doing so would be too high an exposure risk to the Council.

The Project Contact Point must provide two (2) images related to the project and an abstract upon signing the Grant Agreement. These will be used to publicise the award.

7.2 Start Date and End Date

The project will start on a pre-determined date as agreed by all the respective parties and determined in the Grant Agreement.

In view of the particular nature of the Grant Agreement, the said agreement will not be signed simultaneously by all parties but will be signed by all the parties separately. Each party will signify the date of signing and the Grant Agreement will come into force on the date on which the final signature is made thereon (hereinafter the "**Agreement Date**").

Between the Agreement Date and the Start Date, the Project Contact Point should ensure that all activities required for a smooth project start are completed.

To be eligible for funding, all expenses must be incurred between the Start Date and the End Date of the Project.

7.3 Double Funding

Funding under this joint initiative is made available on the basis that the Applicant has not benefited and will not benefit from any other grant or financial incentive of whatever nature, applied for and/or utilised for the same scope as that subject of the funding requested under this joint initiative. Provided that, in the case where the application covers work that is part of a larger project, the Applicant must submit a table as an appendix to the application form that shows a comprehensive list of the items of work and the source of funding for each item.

The Applicant will be required to sign a declaration to this effect and authorising the Council to exchange essential information related to the project with other funding agencies, both local and overseas, for any necessary checks.

8. Funding, Management and Progress Monitoring

8.1 Allocation and Disbursement of Funding

Following the termination of the project or expiry of the Grant Agreement, the Project Contact Point will be required to submit a Final Technical and / or Scientific Project Report for the whole project, thus covering the work undertaken.

8.2 Dissemination & Externalisation

Any articles and text material related to the project should include the words:

'Project <Project Name> funded through MarTERA joint initiative of Members States, Associated Countries and Participating Countries'

Any websites or printed material related to the project should also include the Council logo, and the MarTERA logo. Such material should follow the specifications described in the Council's and MarTERA Guidelines. For copies of all the logos vide Annex 1.

During the Term of Agreement and for five (5) years thereafter, the Applicant shall include and prominently feature the Council and MarTERA in any publicity related to the project.

All publicity material shall be vetted and approved by the Council's R&I Programmes Unit before publication and should make mention of MarTERA and the Council. In the case where printed material is published without a mention of MarTERA and the Council, the Applicant shall be obliged to publish a correction at its own expense in the subsequent issue of the publication. This is also applicable for published material produced by persons who are not members of the MarTERA call. In the case where such publicity does not mention the MarTERA joint initiative and the Council, associated costs will be considered ineligible.

8.3 Reporting

On the last day of a stage, an end of stage technical report is to be presented to the Council. An end of stage financial report is then to be submitted within one month from the end of the stage.

On the last day of the project, the Project Contact Point is required to submit a final Technical Project Report. Audited accounts are to be presented within one month from the end of the project.

The Council reserves the right to request additional project-related information.

Approval of the stage reports allows the beneficiary to proceed with the next stage of the project. Approval of the final reports permits the release of the retention.

In the event that a project is found to be in breach of the Grant Agreement or to materially depart from the submitted application, the Council reserves the right to discontinue the award and the Applicant may be required to refund the Grant in part or in full. In any such event, the Council may also exclude an Applicant from participating in future calls.

8.4 Supervening Circumstances

The Project Contact Point is obliged to immediately advise the Council's R&I Programmes Unit of any internal or extraneous significant event which might affect the validity or implementation of the project. This obligation applies to the entire period between the submission of the project application and the completion of the project.

The Council's R&I Programmes Unit shall then, at its own discretion either give such directives as it deems necessary for the furtherance of the project or re-assess the project in its entirety accordingly.

Failure on the part of the Project Contact Point to respect this obligation may lead the Council to suspend or terminate funding for the project and request a refund of funds already paid out.

If during the course of a project a partner withdraws from the MarTERA Project Consortium, the Applicant will immediately advise the Council's R&I Programmes Unit. In this event, the relevant articles of the MarTERA Project Consortium Agreement and the National Grant Agreement shall apply.

8.5 Default

If the implementation of a project becomes impossible or if the Applicant fails to implement it, the Council shall be entitled to collect refunds of money already paid out.

8.6 Interpretation of Rules

This document endeavours to establish comprehensive and unambiguous rules governing participation in the MarTERA joint initiative. However, should circumstances arise where the rules are inadequate, unclear, ambiguous or conflicting, the Council's R&I Programmes Unit shall exercise its discretion in the interpretation of the rules through the setting up of an *ad hoc* committee.