JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS

3rd Joint Call for Research and Development Proposals WoodWisdom-Net Research Programme

and

5th Joint Call for Research and Development Proposals of the ERA-NET Bioenergy

"Sustainable forest management and optimised use of lignocellulosic resources

 Bridging gaps between research disciplines, producers, consumers and society"

Submission deadline for pre-proposals: <u>1st of December 2010, 1 PM (CET)</u>



WoodWisdom-Net



Introduction

In the future, lignocellulosic crops, particularly trees, will have a more important role in the European bio-based economy, both as a provider of carbon neutral materials and energy resources. In addition, trees as part of forests and plantations represent other values for society and provide environmental services. To optimise the use of trees and forests is a complex problem of transdisciplinary nature.

In this call the European Research Area Networks (ERA-Nets) WoodWisdom-Net and ERA-NET Bioenergy aim to step up the cooperation and coordination of research activities carried out at national / regional level by joining forces to promote innovative research and cooperation to help optimise the use of trees and forests.

The ERA-Net WoodWisdom-Net 2 - "Networking and Integration of National Programmes in the Area of Wood Material Science and Engineering in the Forest-Based Value Chains" was launched in 2009 with support from the European Commission through the 7th Framework Programme. It is a continuation ERA-Net of the earlier WoodWisdom-Net which ran from 2004-2008. WoodWisdom-Net 2 aims at further deepening, broadening and strengthening the established transnational cooperation based on the experience gained and the existing cooperation structures. Funding organisations from new partner countries have been added to broaden the network activities and the EU impact. Currently, 19 partners from 12 European countries participate in the ERA-Net and additional funding organisations are connected to the network.

In 2006 WoodWisdom-Net initiated the joint transnational **WoodWisdom-Net Research Programme.** Resulting from the first two joint calls in 2006 and 2009, in total 26 transnational research projects, amounting to ca. 30M€, have been jointly funded by the WoodWisdom-Net partners so far. The WoodWisdom-Net Research Programme is expected to increase synergies between research teams around Europe and build a research platform in the area of wood material science and engineering that will promote the sustainability and competitiveness of the forestry sector and forest-based industry in Europe.

ERA-NET Bioenergy, established in 2004, is a network of national ministries and funding organisations, aiming to support the cooperation between national programmes by providing a strategic approach and plan for European bioenergy research. The network currently includes 14 funding organisations from 10 European countries and will continue as a self-supporting action after the end of the EC-funded phase.

ERA-NET Bioenergy has to date launched four joint calls (on small-scale combustion, on cleaning of product gas from biomass gasification, on short rotation coppice and on clean biomass combustion) and, building on the experience gained, has developed outline programmes for planned additional joint calls, as part of the ongoing collaboration

Both the ERA-NET Bioenergy and WoodWisdom-Net will now use their experience in launching calls to join forces in funding one joint call across both ERA-Nets.

The aim of this action is to create greater impetus, approach more researchers and allow for interdisciplinary R&D projects. Furthermore, both ERA-Nets have interest in wood-related issues and energy topics. A joint action, instead of separate calls, will also avoid overlaps and help to build bridges between both researchers and funding organisations in related fields.

This joint call "Sustainable forest management and optimised use of lignocellulosic resources – Bridging gaps between research disciplines, producers, consumers and society" should bring together partners along the whole innovation chain from basic and applied research to industrial development, as well as promoting the participation of researchers outside EU. The scope is broad, covering new and innovative production in value chains, in addition to promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and involvement of stakeholders and bridging gaps between research disciplines, producers, consumers and society.

Total public funding of ca. 18.5 M€ will be jointly provided by 19 national funding organisations from Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom during 2011-2014.

The theme and topics of this call have been identified by the national funding organisations together with research experts and stakeholders in a process involving surveys, discussions and workshops. There will be a two-stage application procedure: Prioritised Pre-Proposals will be invited to submit a Full Proposal.

This document describes the scope, objectives and contents of the call, rules for participation and procedures from application to implementation of the projects. Further information on the joint call can be found at the respective ERA-Nets' websites:

- WoodWisdom-Net 2 <u>www.call2010.woodwisdom.net</u>
- ERA-NET Bioenergy <u>www.eranetbioenergy.net</u>.

Scope and Objectives

This call will focus on consortia along the whole innovation chain from basic and applied research to industrial development. The scope is broad, covering new and innovative production in lignocellulose-based value chains and sustainable forest or plantation management. Interdisciplinary collaboration and involvement of stakeholders bridging gaps between research disciplines, producers, consumers and society is promoted along with the participation of researchers from outside the EU. The call will stimulate the mobility of young researchers between the countries and intensify researcher training, thereby increasing the quality of European research.

The call should contribute to the overall objectives of the ERA-Nets - WoodWisdom-Net 2 and ERA-NET Bioenergy. The joint objectives of this call are to:

- provide knowledge for optimised management and use of trees and forests to strengthen the competitiveness of the European forest-based sector as well as the potential as a renewable energy source;
- generate joint European industrially relevant research and development activities and enhance research co-operation and co-ordination within the participating countries;
- build an interdisciplinary platform for transnational research, information exchange, knowledge and solutions for sustainable forest management, meeting the needs of society and promoting utilisation of high value products and energy;
- create linkages, initiate new cooperation and consortia and build bridges within and/or between the following areas:
 - o collaboration along the innovation chain, from science to business;
 - collaboration along the value chain, from the forest to the consumer, considering needs of the society;
 - interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral collaboration between researchers from different research disciplines and industry sectors;
 - o international cooperation including partners from non-EU countries.

Projects are expected to contribute to the objectives described and they should be addressed in the proposals.

Funding Organisations

This call is funded jointly by partner organisations of the WoodWisdom-Net 2, and the ERA-NET Bioenergy through a total virtual common pot of approximately 18.5 M€ of public funds. Table 1 lists the participating funding organisations and the indicative range of total funding available, as well as comments on eligible applicants and restrictions to call topics. Please note that not all topics are funded by each of the participating organisations and check that the requested topic is supported by all countries participating in the consortium before submitting a proposal (Table 1).

Funding will be available to participants only from their respective national funding organisations. If the pre-proposal is accepted for a full proposal, each project partner must apply to their respective national funding organisation listed in Table 1 for funding (note: some funding organisations require national application forms in parallel with the transnational application, others do not – see "Annex A: Specific National Rules" for details). In addition to the general rules and procedures laid out in this call document, applicants shall refer to the terms and conditions of their responsible funding agencies and programmes (see "National contact points of participating funding organisations" for contact information).

If a proposal includes any participants from third countries not listed in Table 1, the participants from these countries are required to finance their activities from other sources.

Country	Organisation	Topics funded (see description below)		Indicative total funding available			Comments	
		1	2	3	< 0.75 M€	0.75 - 2 M€	>2 M€	
Finland	Tekes, The Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation	x	x	x			х	
Finland	Academy of Finland (AKA)		х	x		х		
Finland	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM)	х			х			
France	Ministere de l'Agriculture de l'Alimentation de la Peche et de la Ruralité - Direction Générale des Politiques Agricole, Agroalimentaire et des Territoires, MAAP/DGPAAT	x	x	x	x			
	Institut Technologique FCBA							
France	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA)			x	х			

 Table 1: Funding organisations participating in the call

Country	Organisation	Topics funded (see description below)		Indicative total funding available			Comments	
		1	2	3	< 0.75 M€	0.75 - 2 M€	> 2 M€	
Germany	Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF), Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH - Projektträger Jülich (PtJ)	x	x			x		
Germany	Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V. (FNR) on behalf of Bundesministerium für Ernährung, Landwirtschaft und Verbraucherschutz (BMELV)	x	x	x		x		
Ireland	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (COFORD)	x	x		х			
Ireland	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)			х	х			
Italy	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (MIPAAF)	x	x		х			
Latvia	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia (ZM) Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS)	x	x	x	x			
Norway	The Research Council of Norway (RCN)	x	х	x			х	
Poland	National Centre for Research and Development (NCBiR)	x	x	x		х		
Slovenia	Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MHEST)	x	x	x		х		
Spain	Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria INIA	x	х	x	x			Topics need to be confirmed, please contact INIA (see Table 3)

Country	Organisation	Topics funded (see description below)		Indicative total funding available			Comments	
		1	2	3	< 0.75 M€	0.75 - 2 M€	> 2 M€	
Sweden	Formas, The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning and VINNOVA – Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems	x	x			x		
Turkey	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)	x	x	x	х			
United Kingdom	Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)			x	х			

Call Topics

Proposals for collaborative transnational projects on basic and/or applied research and/or industrial research and development are welcome. There is no funding available for industrial/commercial scale pilot projects.

The call covers the research topics listed below. Each proposal should address at least one or more of these topics. Topic descriptions include focus areas which should be primarily addressed by submitted proposals. However, proposers may explore additional issues within the given topic. Innovative forms of cooperation are encouraged, e.g. interdisciplinarity (natural/technology sciences + social sciences, researchers-users), research and implementation, involvement of stakeholders.

1. Forest for multiple needs of society, including enhanced productivity and optimised use of forest feedstock

Focus areas:

- a) Management systems and technologies for efficient and increased feedstock production for bioenergy and in combination with other products, including nutrition compensation (e.g. integrated harvesting for different assortments, early harvests, increasing biomass density, improved long-distance logistics concepts, improving mensuration or quality assurance systems). Projects should minimise environmental impact of operations and facilitate commercialisation of products and services.
- b) Innovative concepts and processes for multiple use of forest land and forest-based feedstocks (e.g. wood for energy, building, furniture, pulp and paper, chemistry) and/for increased revenue to forest land owners
- c) Innovative concepts, processes and products for the commercialisation of forest ecosystem services, soft values and non-wood forest goods (including consumer expectations)
- d) Governance and legislation, democratic and cultural influence on land owner behaviour
- e) Handling conflicting interests of land use incl. increased feedstock production for bioenergy and forest industry vs. other needs of society

2. Advanced products and technologies for primary wood processing and manufacturing of wood and fibre-based products

Focus areas:

- a) Innovative technologies for primary wood processing (sawing, cutting, slicing), incl. advanced allocation systems for round-wood
- b) New generation of composites and materials manufactured from wood and wood fibres, e.g. with positive effects on human health and well-being issues
- c) Development of innovative, high added value applications for hardwood (e.g. solutions to use it for building materials)
- d) Innovative measurement and control / models / simulation tools: Relationship between raw-material, process and product property demanded by customer, bridge the gap between supply and demand
- e) Increase the sustainability of forest products and wood use: new concepts, products and processes optimising the multiple utilisation/ recycling of forest-based resources, incl. life cycle analysis

3. Advanced biofuels and biorefineries

Focus areas:

- Advanced technologies for the physical/chemical pre-treatment/ fractionation of biomass feedstocks into components (e.g. cellulose, hemicellulose, lignin, proteins) suitable for downstream processing, thereby enhancing process efficiency and performance of advanced biofuel production.
- b) Strategies/technologies to upgrade residues, in order to increase the portfolio of outputs and improve the economic viability of the modern biorefinery concept, esp. with regard to energy output (example: improve on suboptimal concepts for residue use, such as waste glycerol in a biodiesel factory simply being burnt in a boiler).
- c) Lignin/protein upgrading to higher-value products or components (e.g. use as platform chemicals instead of combustion for heat and power).
- d) Optimised separation techniques for biomass mixtures as a source for advanced biofuels and bio-products.
- e) Small-scale biorefinery concepts for lignocellulose-based feedstock.

Rules for Participation

Project consortium

The call invites proposals for collaborative research and development from transnational consortia of industry, SME, stakeholder associations and research organisations that fulfil the following conditions:

- Consortium includes partners from at least three different countries from the list of participating countries (see Table 1);
- Consortium should combine basic and/or applied research and/or industrial research and development, preferably combinations of trans- and/or interdisciplinary collaboration, involvement of stakeholders, bridging gaps between research disciplines, producers and consumers.

On the WoodWisdom-Net call website (<u>www.call2010.woodwisdom.net</u>) a partnering tool is provided which may support consortium building by offering requests for partners or joining projects.

Partners from third countries not officially participating in the call can be included in the consortium if they finance their activity from other sources and if the consortium fulfils the above requirements on the number of partners from officially participating countries. Projects involving third countries must ensure that exploitation of project results will focus on the officially participating countries.

The added value arising from transnational cooperation needs to be addressed in the proposal. The total number of partners is not limited; however, efficient consortia of typically 5-12 partners for medium-sized projects are expected. Consortia also need to be balanced between countries both in terms of number of partners and distribution of budget. No country should contribute more than 50% of the total project budget.

Project duration and budget

Projects can be funded for a maximum of 3 years, starting either October 2011 or January 2012. The end date of a project should be harmonised for of all partners in the same consortium.

There are no fixed minimum or maximum limits for a project size. Medium-sized projects with total budgets in the range of 1-2 M€ are typically expected, which allows approximately 10-20 projects to be granted funding. However, it is recommended that the budget does not exceed the typical national funding limits for the respective partners. Table 1 indicates the bandwidth of total funds that will be available from each of the respective national funding organisations for all projects altogether from this call.

Information about specific funding procedures and eligible costs will be provided via the respective national agencies. Funding rates for companies and research organisations vary between the different funding organisations according to their national rules. Also, national funding for 3 years may be 2011-2013 or 2012-2014, depending on funding organisations' budget allocation.

National regulations

National funding regulations are applied within this joint call. In addition to the general rules and procedures laid down in this document, there may be specific national rules to be followed by the applicants, e.g. national eligibility criteria for certain organisations, certain amounts of industrial co-funding required etc.

It is strongly recommended that these are checked with the contact person at the respective funding agency (see Table 3) before submitting a proposal. Relevant national regulations are summarised in "Annex A: Specific National Rules".

Application and Evaluation Procedure

Two-stage call for proposals

The selection process involves two stages: pre-proposals are welcome from 15th of September 2010 to 1st of December 2010. A joint transnational evaluation of pre-proposals will be undertaken. Consortia that pass the pre-proposal evaluation will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Table 2. Call schedule

Activity	Date
Call opened – invitation for pre-proposals	15 th of September 2010
Last date for submitting pre-proposals	1 st of December 2010, 1 PM CET
End of joint evaluation and selection of pre-proposals; Successful consortia will be invited to submit full proposal	31 st of January 2011
Last date for submitting full proposals	31 st of March 2011, 1 PM CET
Joint evaluation of full proposals by international Expert Panel	April – May 2011
Funding recommendation by Call Committee	14 th of June 2011
National funding decisions	Between July - October 2011
Projects start	1 st of October 2011 or 1 st of January 2012

Pre-proposals

Pre-proposals should be prepared in English using the specially designed application form. All forms should be submitted through the Electronic Submission System provided at the WoodWisdom-Net website: www.call2010.woodwisdom.net. Annexes to the proposals and additional documents will not be considered in the evaluation process. All applications are subject to confidential evaluation. All call documents and updated information on the call will be published on this website.

Applicants are strongly advised to contact their national funding organisations in advance for further information on required additional national application forms and specific national rules (see also "Annex A: Specific National Rules").

Pre-proposals should be submitted no later than 1st of December 2010 (1 PM CET).

Evaluation of pre-proposals

The funding organisations will first check the eligibility of the pre-proposals and their suitability for national funding. Then representatives of the participating funding organisations will evaluate the pre-proposals.

Pre-proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Suitability for national funding (yes/no)
- Relevance to the scope and objectives of the call (yes/no)
- Quality of consortium (international cooperation, country balance, trans- and/or interdisciplinarity, involvement of stakeholders/society; complementarity of expertise)) (1..5)
- Innovativeness (research, concepts and cooperation) (1..5)
- Societal, economic and environmental relevance (1..5)

It is important to note that there are limitations with regard to what kind of research the different funding organisations can support. Therefore, the most important selection criteria at the first stage are the suitability for national funding and relevance to the scope and objectives of the call.

Based on the evaluation of the pre-proposals the Call Committee will decide on the preproposals to be invited to the second step. A written statement will be sent to the consortia leaders inviting them to submit a full proposal.

Invited full proposals

Full proposals should be submitted using the Electronic Submission System after invitation. An invitation letter will be supplied, with full application instructions. Only invited full proposals will be accepted.

"Annex A: Specific National Rules" summarizes required additional national application forms and specific national rules.

Evaluation of full proposals and funding decisions

Full proposals will be peer-reviewed by an international Expert Panel which will consist of esteemed researchers and/or otherwise recognised experts in the respective field.

Full proposals shall be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Innovativeness (research, concepts and cooperation) (1..5)
- Scientific quality and relevance (1..5)
- Feasibility of the research plan incl. project management and budget (1..5)
- Quality of consortium (1..5)
- Dissemination and exploitation (1..5)
- Societal, economic and environmental relevance (1..5)
- Promotion of young researchers (PhD students included, mobilisation of young researchers, training courses) (1..5)

The proposals will be ranked by the Expert Panel according to the results of their evaluation. Based on the ranking list, the Call Committee will then recommend the projects to be funded within the framework of the available national budgets. The Call Committee consists of representatives of all national funding organisations participating in this call.

A written statement on the evaluation results will be sent to the consortia leaders.

Based on the recommendations of the Call Committee, the national funding organisations will make the final funding decisions.

Note: Each project recommended for funding is required to have a signed consortium agreement between the project participants before the project can start. A template will be provided through the call website. The first projects may start in October 2011 at the earliest.

All call documents (including different forms and project evaluation and procedure guidelines) are published on the two ERA-Nets' websites:

- WoodWisdom-Net, <u>www.call2010.woodwisdom.net</u>
- ERA-NET Bioenergy, <u>www.eranetbioenergy.net</u>.

Project Implementation and Programme Activities

This call is implemented within the transnational WoodWisdom-Net Research Programme and within the ERA-NET Bioenergy Joint Work Programme, which includes joint programme activities described in this section. Projects funded from this call are expected to actively participate in the programme activities and to consider this during planning of their project proposal.

Project monitoring and reporting

Project monitoring and reporting will be in accordance with the national rules of the respective funding agency.

In addition to the national requirements, the consortia are expected to deliver short progress reports to the WoodWisdom-Net Research Programme Office and/or the ERA-Net Bioenergy Secretariat, in English, on an annual basis, including a description of their transnational cooperation and a publishable summary of the project status. A reporting template will be provided on the programme website.

Furthermore, a project observer from one of the participating funding organisations will be assigned to each of the funded projects to monitor the progress in transnational cooperation on behalf of the participating funding organisations and to provide a communication link between the project and the ERA-Nets' Programmes.

Programme activities

Joint programme seminars are organised within the WoodWisdom-Net Research Programme. ERA-NET Bioenergy also organises joint seminars for projects funded under its Joint Work Programmes. In order to minimise resources and maximise efficiency and effectiveness, the two ERA-Nets will harmonise their joint programme activities, e.g. by organising joint seminars for projects funded from this call.

Active participation of the funded projects is expected, e.g. for short presentations or posters on the project. A joint initial seminar for all projects funded from this call will be organised in February 2012 and a final seminar about three years later.

All projects are expected to prepare publishable summaries of the project contents at the request of the funding organisations for programme activities and publications of the two participating ERA-Nets (e.g. brochures, newsletters, website, WoodWisdom-Net "Project of the Month" series).

The "Research Landscape Tool" on the WoodWisdom-Net website provides an overview of relevant research projects and research infrastructures in the WoodWisdom-Net partner countries. Funded projects are expected to deliver, on request, key project information to be published in this research database.

Updated information on programme activities will be published on the website <u>www.woodwisdom.net</u>.

Contacts for Further Information

General Information on the joint call

Updated information on this joint call and all relevant documents/templates are published on the two participating ERA-Nets' websites:

- WoodWisdom-Net, <u>www.call2010.woodwisdom.net</u>
- ERA-NET Bioenergy, <u>www.eranetbioenergy.net</u>.

If you have questions on the **general call process and proposal submission** please contact the Joint Call Office:

Mr Mika Kallio WoodWisdom-Net Project Secretariat e-mail: <u>mika.kallio@woodwisdom.fi</u> phone: +358 (0)50 517 0390 Ms Karen Görner ERA-NET Bioenergy Call Secretariat

ERA-NET Bioenergy Call Secretariat e-mail: <u>k.goerner@fnr.de</u> phone: +49 (0) 3843-6930-162

National contact points of participating funding organisations

For questions regarding national funding rules and national forms please check "Annex A: Specific National Rules" first. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the following persons at the participating funding organisations (see Table 3):

Country	Organisation	Contact Person
Finland	Tekes, The Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation	Dr Ilmari Absetz E-mail: <u>ilmari.absetz@tekes.fi</u> Phone: +358 (0)10 60 55837
		Dr Erja Ämmälahti E-mail: <u>erja.ammalahti@tekes.fi</u> Phone: +358 (0)10 60 55422
	Tekes/ bioenergy	Ms Marjatta Aarniala E-mail: <u>marjatta.aarniala@tekes.fi</u> Phone +358 10 60 55736
	Academy of Finland (AKA)	Dr Maaria Lehtinen E-mail: <u>maaria.lehtinen@aka.fi</u> Phone: +358 (0)9 7748 8484
		Ms Floora Ruokonen E-mail : <u>floora.ruokonen@aka.fi</u> Phone : +358 (0)40 353 3190
	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM)	Mr Matti Heikurainen E-mail: matti.heikurainen@mmm.fi Phone: +358 (0)9 1605 3359

Table 3. Contact persons at the participating national funding organisations

Country	Organisation	Contact Person
France	Institut Technologique FCBA	Mr Frédéric Rouger E-mail: <u>frederic.rouger@fcba.fr</u> Phone: +33 (0)5 56 43 63 73
	Ministere de l'Agriculture de l'Alimentation de la Peche et de la Ruralité - Direction Générale des Politiques Agricole, Agroalimentaire et des Territoires, MAAP/DGPAAT	Mr Philippe Xeridat E-mail: <u>philippe.xeridat@agriculture.gouv.fr</u> Phone: +33 (0)1 49 55 51 14
France	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA)	Ms Isabelle Maillet E-mail: <u>imaillet@grignon.inra.fr</u> Phone: +33 (0)1 30 81 45 32
Germany	Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH - Projektträger Jülich (PtJ) (Central point of contact regarding topics 1+2)	Dr Kristina Gross E-mail: <u>k.gross@fz-juelich.de</u> phone: +49 30 20199539 Mr André Greif
	Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V. (FNR)	E-mail: <u>a.greif@fz-juelich.de</u> Phone: +49 30 20199564 Ms Karen Görner E-mail: k.goerner@fnr.de
	(Central point of contact regarding topic 3)	Phone: +49-3843-6930-162 Mr Sönke Lulies E-mail: <u>s.lulies@fnr.de</u> Phone: +49-3843-6930-130
Ireland	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (COFORD)	Mr Alistair Pfeifer E-mail: <u>alistair.pfeifer@agriculture.gov.ie</u> Phone: +353 1 607 2559
	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)	Mr Pearse Buckley E-mail: <u>pearse.buckley@seai.ie</u> Phone: + 353 1 8082012
Italy	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (MIPAAF)	Mr Giuseppe Panno E-mail: <u>g.panno@politicheagricole.gov.it</u> Phone: +39 6 46655074
Latvia	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia (ZM)	Mr Janis Birgelis E-mail: <u>janis.birgelis@zm.gov.lv</u> Phone: +371-67027477
	Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS)	Ms Dace Tirzite E-mail: <u>dace.tirzite@lza.lv</u> Phone: +371-67227790, mobile +371-29644426
Norway	The Research Council of Norway (RCN)	Mr Petter Nilsen E-mail: <u>petter.nilsen@rcn.no</u> Phone: + 47 22037000
		Mr Trond Værnes E-mail: <u>trv@rcn.no</u> Phone: + 47 22037000

Country	Organisation	Contact Person
Poland	National Centre for Research and Development (NCBiR)	Dr Anna Ostapczuk E-mail: <u>a.ostapczuk@ncbir.gov.pl</u> Phone: + 48 515 061 542
		Dr Maria Bojanowska E-mail: <u>m.bojanowska@ncbir.gov.pl</u> Phone: + 48 515 061 549
Slovenia	Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MHEST)	Ms Marta Šabec E-Mail: marta.sabec@gov.si Phone: + 386 1 478 4739
Spain	Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria INIA	Mr Joan Calvera i Vehí E-mail: <u>calvera@inia.es</u> Phone: +34 91 3476801
Sweden	Formas, The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning	Dr Jan Svensson E-mail: jan.svensson@formas.se Phone: +46 8 775 4051
	VINNOVA – Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems	Ms Eva Esping email: <u>eva.esping@vinnova.se</u> phone: +46 8 473 31 53
		Mr Peter Åslund E-mail: <u>peter.aslund@vinnova.se</u> Phone:+46 8 473 30 49
Turkey	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)	Ms Gülzade Kahveci E-mail: <u>gulzade.kahveci@tubitak.gov.tr</u> Phone: +90 312 4685300/2728
United Kingdom	Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)	Dr Hannah Foreman E-mail: <u>Hannah.Foreman@epsrc.ac.uk</u> Phone: +44 (0) 1793 444428

FINLAND

Finnish participants funded by AKA

The Academy of Finland provides funding for high-quality scientific research. Funding can be granted to research teams for purposes of hiring scientific staff, for the acquisition of equipment and supplies, and for other expenses, such as researcher's mobility and networking. The Academy of Finland apply the full cost model and the Academy of Finland's funding contribution for a project will be a maximum of 80% of the total project costs. The applicant has to check national funding rules and national forms (e.g. national eligibility criteria) and contact to the Academy of Finland before submitting a proposal.

The Finnish project partners of positively evaluated projects in a second stage will be invited to submit also national application forms.

Applicants have to pay special attention to the rights of using research results and making relevant agreements. The applicants have to clarify the rights and obligations of inventors with the other members of their research team and with research partners and funding bodies.

More information on the Academy of Finland's funding criteria may be downloaded from <u>www.aka.fi/eng</u>.

Finnish participants funded by MMM

Funding will be provided for Topic No 1 "Forest for multiple needs of society, including enhanced productivity and optimised use of forest feedstock", according to the standard research requirement procedures of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Research promoting the National Forest Programme (NFP) of Finland is encouraged. Maximum amount of funding for the call is 300.000 € for three years. Any Finnish researcher or organisation is eligible to bid within eligible trans-national consortia.

If Finnish research providers are involved in a successful proposal, then contracting and payments will be according to standard procedures and standard terms and conditions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. More information can be found on the website: <u>http://www.mmm.fi/fi/index/tutkimus.html</u>.

Deadlines for submission of the pre-proposal and full proposals follow the Call Text.

Finnish participants funded by Tekes

Phases of R&D being funded (basic research, pre-competitive research, applied research, applications, product, service and business development and innovation)

Eligible are networks projects from industry, research institutes and universities.

Tekes offers companies grants and loans. Typically international projects are funded with 50 % or 35 % R&D grants for large companies and 35 %, 50 % or 65 % for SMEs.

For research institutes and universities a typical funding for international projects is 70 % requiring industrial co-funding of minimum 10 % from more than one Finnish company.

FRANCE

The national annex is under preparation, please refer to the organisations' websites and/or contact the contact persons at the respective organisations (please see Table 3 for contact information).

GERMANY

German project partners are advised that total requested funding for all German partners within one consortium should not exceed $500.000 \in$.

Funding quota of German participants can be up to 100 % for universities or research organisations. In the case of companies, 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, commercial perspective of exploitation, typically up to a range of max. 50 %. In the case of small and medium enterprises, an additional bonus of 10-20 % funding quota can be awarded. There is no obligation regarding the number of companies to be involved from Germany, but company participation is recommended for dissemination and exploitation of results.

BMBF and BMELV work closely together in funding German applicants within this call, considering the complementarity of their funding programmes (BMBF "Forschung für nachhaltige Entwicklungen" and BMELV/FNR "Nachwachsende Rohstoffe").

There is no need for additional national application forms without request by the funding organisations. The transnational application to the central call office is sufficient. Based on the thematic scope and type of project, the relevance to the funding programmes, and available funding, the German partners within this call will be funded either by BMBF/PtJ or BMELV/FNR. Assignment of the German proposals between BMBF/PtJ and BMELV/FNR will be decided by the funding organisations after submission of the transnational applications.

Only the German project partners of positively evaluated projects will then, in a second stage, be invited by either PtJ or FNR to submit national application forms within one month after notification.

The usual BMBF funding rules and forms will apply: AZA or AZK using the electronic proposal assistant "easy" (see <u>http://www.kp.dlr.de/profi/easy/formular.html</u> for details). While PtJ will accept the joint project description in English language with the national application, FNR rules require a German-language version to be sent with the AZA/AZK.

IRELAND

Applications

SEAI and DAFF under the COFORD programme will work closely together in funding Irish applicants within this call.

At the "Invitation for Pre-Proposals Stage" there is no need for additional national application forms. The transnational application to the central call office is sufficient. Based on the thematic scope and type of project, the relevance to the funding programmes, and available funding, the Irish partners within this call will be funded either by SEAI or DAFF. Assignment of the Irish proposals between SEAI and DAFF will be decided by the funding organisations after submission of the transnational applications.

Only the Irish project partners of positively evaluated projects will then, in a second stage, be invited by either SEAI or DAFF to submit national application forms within one month after notification.

Funding Rules

Irish project partners are advised that total requested funding for all Irish partners within one consortium should not exceed €500,000.

Irish participants funded by SEAI

Funding quota of Irish participants can be up to 100% for universities or research organisations. In the case of companies, 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. There is no obligation on the number of companies to be involved from Ireland but company participation is recommended for dissemination and exploitation of results.

Projects covered by SEAI will be funded under the Renewable Energy RD&D (RERD&D) programme, Category 3:- Commissioned Public Good activities (<u>www.seai.ie/rerdd</u>). Eligible costs under the SEAI RERD&D are costs directly associated with delivery of a project. These may include personnel, equipment, materials, travel, certain sub-contracting and other costs. Overhead is not an eligible cost. VAT is not an eligible cost, except where VAT cannot be reclaimed. SEAI must be notified of inability to reclaim VAT with proof from the Revenue Commissioners at the time of application.

Irish participants funded by DAFF

Funding will be available for researchers from universities and research institutions only. They can receive up to 100% of eligible costs which include personnel, equipment, consumables, travel, external assistance and overheads at an agreed rate.

Companies can participate in a project in two ways:

- 1. As External Assistance to the Irish partners, and in this way receive 100% funding for the services they provide. In this case they cannot avail of any Intellectual Property generated from the project.
- 2. As Partners by bringing their own funding, either as cash or benefit in kind. In this case they are eligible to share in any Intellectual Property produced by the project.

ITALY

Nature of the applicants

Research Institutions can apply for funding for research projects of up to three years duration.

MIPAAF has no particular restrictions for what concerns the nature of the applicants. Each research institution and non-profit body and agency or private company and lab can apply.

Collaborative projects between several institutes must be forwarded as a joint application. The application must contain a description of the management of the project, including organization. The individual partners' activities, responsibilities and financial involvement, including co-financing, must be clearly stated in the application. A collaborative project has only one project manager and one contact person from each collaboration institute.

Restrictions

It is mandatory, for all the research institutions as defined above, that they state in the official documents (statute and/or articles of incorporation, memorandum of association) that among their missions they also "perform research activities" and not only "promote, or support research activities".

The only difference between private labs or companies and public bodies or no profit agencies, is the percentage of contribution.

For what concerns the private labs and companies it is possible to finance up to 60% of approved project costs; for the public bodies it is possible to finance up to 100% of approved project costs. The funds are transferred to the beneficiary in three steps: 1st step: 65% of the approved costs immediately at the issue of the Ministry decree (contract between the Ministry and the beneficiary); 2nd step: 25% of the approved costs once the mid-term report (both scientific and administrative) has been approved; 3rd step: 10% of the approved costs once the final report has been approved.

Admitted costs

Salaries (Staff costs) – Only for non-permanent scientific staff (including foreign visiting scientists, post.doc, PhD students, fellowships and grants) and technical administrative staff. *Private research institutes,* budget actual salary costs per hour used (i.e. without overheads/general costs). Instead of monthly reporting, the number of effective hours has to be stated.

Running costs, travel expenses – Expenditure that is necessary for accomplishing the project, including analyses, expenditure in connection with meetings and travel expenses.

Apparatus – Applicants must provide the necessary apparatus for the project themselves. If this is not possible, consideration will be given to obtaining the apparatus applied for. Applications for a funding for *Apparatus* must be accompanied by an explanation and three estimations of costs coming from three different suppliers companies. Only depreciation expenses will be reimbursed except for PC and/or note books.

Other costs – E.g. consultancy services, where the institution acquires full rights of exploitation. Applications for funding of *Other costs* must be accompanied by an explanation describing the details of the matter.

Overheads – no more than 10% of the sum of the above mentioned costs, "Apparatus" excluded

Additional forms

Once the project has been approved by the Call Committee, during the negotiation each Italian research Institution has to fill in a form called "Modello C", which represents the full proposal of the project in Italian. If the Italian institution is also playing the role of coordinator it must fill in another form "Modello A" too.

The forms will be made available on the Ministry website at the following address: <u>http://www.politicheagricole.it/RicercaSperimentazione/default</u>

LATVIA

- 1. Participants of projects:
 - Research institutions research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, their institutes and other research institutions which have been registered in the Register of Research institutions, monitored by the Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Latvia;
 - Enterprises, which are registered in the Register of Enterprises of Republic of Latvia, which carry out their activities mainly in Latvia and are involved in the project in cooperation with Latvian research institutions, registered in the Register of Research institutions.
- 2. Funding:
 - Projects will be funded in accordance with the results of evaluation and taking into account the available national financial resources;
 - The maximal funding of one project is 120 000 euro, including overheads;
 - Funding will be granted in accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation (EC) N° 800/2008 of August 6, 2008, which declares particular grant categories compatible with the common market on the application of articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty.
- 3. Eligible costs include:
 - Direct costs
 - Staff costs
 - Materials and reagents
 - Amortization of used equipment
 - Travel expenses
 - Subcontracts do not exceed 10% from the direct costs;
 - Indirect costs
 - Overheads do not exceed 10% from the direct costs.

NORWAY

Funding quota of Norwegian participants can be up to 80 % for universities or research organisations. In the case of companies, funding quota will be decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the size of the company, and commercial perspective of exploitation, typically up to a range of 50 % (in case of small and medium-sized enterprises). There is no obligation regarding the number of companies to be involved from Norway.

Norwegian businesses and companies who want to participate in the third topic **Advanced biofuels and biorefineries** in focus area b, c and d may have the possibility to do so through the Norwegian BIA-program. A separate application to the BIA-program must be submitted as announced in the call text from this program that will be published in October 2010. Publication of this call depends on the budget allocation to the BIA-program for 2011.

Applications on biofuels (focus area 3a in the call text) must consider the program RENERGI in the Research Council of Norway and their priorities on biofuels in order to be taken into consideration for step 2 in the call procedure. Application for financial support within this theme will be decided on after step 1 (sketches) in the application procedure. Contact The Research Council of Norway for supplementary information.

Project applications within focus area 3e will follow standard procedure for this call.

There is no need for additional national application forms in the first stage. The transnational application to the central call office is sufficient. Positively evaluated projects will be considered for funding by The Research Council of Norway and more detailed information on procedure for national application will then be given to each applicant.

POLAND

The national annex is under preparation, please refer to the organisation's website and/or contact the contact persons at the respective organisation (please see Table 3 for contact information).

SPAIN

The national annex is under preparation, please refer to the organisation's website and/or contact the contact person at the respective organisation (please see Table 3 for contact information).

SLOVENIA

The official national call announcement will be published in the Official Gazette of Republic of Slovenia (Uradni list Reublike Slovenije) and on the MHEST website (LINK: <u>http://www.mvzt.gov.si/si/javni razpisi/</u>). Slovenian project partners are advised that total requested funding for all Slovenian partners within one consortium should not exceed 70.000 € except in case that the whole project coordinator is from Slovenia when up to 150.000 € can be requested for the eligible costs.

Research organizations (universities, research institutes, SMEs etc.), defined as eligible in the national Research and Development Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 96/2002, 115/2005, 61/2006 (ZDru-1) in 112/2007) are eligible to apply.

MHEST will fund the eligible costs of Slovenian partners of successful transnational collaboration in accordance with the Decree on criteria and standards for allocating resources for the implementation of the National Research and Development Programme (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 74/2004, 32/2005, 26/2006, 80/2007).

Funding is subject to the availability of national funds in accordance with Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (<u>http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2006:323:0001:0026:SL:PDF</u>)

(http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2006:323:0001:0026:EN:PDF).

Funding quota of Slovenian participants can be up to 100 % for universities or research organisations. In the case of companies, 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, commercial perspective of exploitation, typically up to a range of max. 50 %. In the case of small and medium enterprises additional bonus of 10-20 % funding quota can be awarded. There is no obligation on the number of companies to be involved from Slovenia but company participation is recommended.

In the pre-proposal phase no national application is needed, the transnational application to the central call office is sufficient.

In the full-proposal phase the transnational application to the central call office as well as the national application for Slovenian participants/ parts of the project to the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Kotnikova 38, Ljubljana is required. The rules and forms for the transnational applications are available on the ERA-NET WoodWisdom-Net 2 web page (<u>www.call2010.woodwisdom.net</u>), the rules and application forms for the National application are available on the Ministry's web page (<u>http://www.mvzt.gov.si/si/javni razpisi/</u>)

Applicants are strongly advised to contact the Slovenian National Contact person Marta Šabec (marta.sabec@gov.si) at the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology before preparing proposals for application.

SWEDEN

In this call Formas, The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning and VINNOVA – Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems will jointly fund Swedish participants in prioritised consortia.

Together the funding organisations will reserve 20 MSEK for the period 2012-2014. Formas will allocate 5 MSEK/year and Vinnova the remaining (the amounts include indirect costs and Swedish applicants need to specify both direct and indirect costs according to the national rules in case there will be a national application).

However, there will be no need for an additional national application form in the first stage or in the second stage of invited full applications. The transnational application forms to the central call office will be sufficient.

After the joint evaluations and preliminary funding decisions, Swedish project partners to successful applications will be invited to submit a national application/documentation to either Formas or VINNOVA depending on the organisations' special rules regarding eligibility of applicants and focus of project.

Industrial participation is strongly appreciated and some industrial co-funding is recommended. Questions regarding specific funding rules could be addressed to the WoodWisdom-Net contact persons for Formas and VINNOVA.

Swedish participants funded by Formas

Formas, The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning supports basic research and need-driven research in the areas Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning. To be eligible to apply to Formas for funding, the main applicant must have a doctoral degree. Grants are normally administered by Swedish universities, university colleges, research institutes or authorities with research undertakings.

The usual funding rules for Formas apply and are described under "Apply for grants" at <u>www.formas.se</u> and in the publication Formas Handbook 2010, also available for downloading at the Formas web pages.

Swedish participants funded by VINNOVA

For funding from VINNOVA – Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems, the usual VINNOVA funding rules and forms will be applied. Applications are only possible to be submitted through the web portal, using "Call – others", the Joint Project Description in English will be accepted with the national application.

TURKEY

The official national call document will be published only by TUBITAK official webpage (<u>www.tubitak.gov.tr</u>). All Turkish applicants are required to visit this webpage and satisfy all requirements for successful application.

WoodWisdom–Net 2 Era-Net projects supported by TUBITAK are subjected to rules of "The Support Programme for Scientific and Technological Research Projects (1001)". Some basic rules are described below, for detailed information about requirements and execution of project follow the website of TUBITAK. <u>http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sid/616/pid/364/index.htm</u>.

Who can be involved in projects

- For university staff, required to have PhD or medical expertise degree/expertise in medical sciences.
- For public institutions and private sector staff, required to have at least four year university undergraduate degree.

Project coordinator must be permanent staff of institution proposing the project.

SME's could not be coordinator institutions but could be involved to project as partner.

Project coordinator and researchers must dwell in Turkey.

In order to have a project consultant/advisor in project, there must be subject/s that needs special expertise and this must be clearly stated with reasons in the project.

Researchers that have contribution ratio less than 10% can not be involved in the project.

Who cannot be Project Coordinator

Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Dean, Institute or High School Directors, Head Doctor, General Secretary, General Director, Members of Governing Board and Advisory Committee in charged in TUBITAK can not be coordinator but can be researcher if they are still in charge when the project is applied.

Other Important Issues

- Project coordinator, researchers and advisors must be registered to "Researcher Information System (ARBIS)" and their info must be updated.
- Project coordinator of Turkish team must prepare and send TOVAG (Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Grant Committee) the Turkish application form available on TUBITAK's web page together with the general WoodWisdon-Net 2 application form which all partners will fill. Consortium application belong to Turkish partners will not be accepted, which are not referred by TUBITAK.
- All required signatures (researchers, authorized officer of the institution. etc.) must be present on Turkish application form.
- All titles in the Turkish application form must be filled.
- As authorized officer, for universities and institutes linked to universities, rector or vice rector; in other organizations, General Director or Vice General Director must sign the Turkish application form.

Project Budget

- Total requested budged should not exceed 360.000 TL, which is allocated maximum 120.000 TL per year.
- Requested scholarships can not exceed 4.000 TL for a month.
- Budget of requested equipments must be in balance with the total budget.
- Projects intended to build infrastructure can not be supported.

For further information please visit:

http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/home.do?ot=1&sid=610&pid=364

UNITED KINGDOM

UK funding for this joint call is provided by the Research Councils UK Energy Programme, and will be administered by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). The usual EPSRC funding guidelines apply as stated in our funding guide (see http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/apprev/basics/Pages/fundingguide.aspx).

Applicants should note that UK funding is only available for projects under call topic **3:** Advanced biofuels and biorefineries. UK projects that do not fit within the remit of this topic will not be considered.

Eligibility

Note that only UK Higher Education Institutions and other research organisations that are eligible for EPSRC funding may apply. A list of organisations that are currently eligible can be found at (<u>http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/eligibility.htm</u>). If you are unsure about your eligibility please visit the EPSRC website or contact EPSRC to discuss.

Project partners from UK companies and other UK organisations that are not eligible for EPSRC funding must provide their own funding.

Funding

UK project partners are advised that total requested funding from EPSRC for all eligible UK partners within one consortium should not exceed £500,000.

Applicants should state UK costs in Pounds Sterling and Euros in the transnational application form.

Additional Documentation

There is no need to supply additional national application forms unless specifically requested by EPSRC; the transnational application form to the central call office is sufficient.

Once funding decisions are known, successful UK applicants will be invited to submit national documentation via the Joint electronic submission system (Je-S) within one month of notification. At this time, EPSRC will request a full Justification of Resources document and quotes where necessary in accordance with EPSRC's funding guide (see: http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/apprev/preparing/Pages/jor.aspx, and http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/apprev/basics/Pages/fundingguide.aspx).

This will only be necessary for EPSRC processing of successful grants, applicants do not need to provide the JoR document or submit through Je-S until notified that they have been successful.