



Invitation to a

JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Topics:

- 1) Innovations in biogas production**
- 2) Sustainable biomass for energy purposes**

**6th Joint Call for Research and Development Proposals
of the ERA-NET Bioenergy**

Deadline for submission of pre-proposals: 11.05.2012

This document is an invitation to take part in a joint call by the ERA-NET-Bioenergy. The partners involved in this 6th call are from Germany, Ireland, Poland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The call is divided into two topics: innovative biogas production, and sustainable biomass production and new types of feedstocks for multiple uses.

ERA-NET Bioenergy is a network of national ministries and funding organisations whose R&D programmes focus on or include bioenergy. It developed out of a project funded by the European Commission under FP6 between October 2004 and December 2010. Of the 10 countries in this project, 8 decided to continue working as a self-sustained network after the end of the funded phase, and to keep developing, implementing and managing joint calls for R&D proposals. Ministries/funding agencies from other European countries are always welcome to join the network or individual calls.

ERA-NET Bioenergy has to date launched five joint calls: on small-scale combustion, on cleaning of product gas from biomass gasification, on short rotation coppice, on clean biomass combustion and – as a joint call together with WoodWisdom-Net, an ERA-Net on wood material science – on sustainable forest management and optimised use of lignocellulosic resources. Building on the experience gained, outlines for new actions are continuously being developed as part of the ongoing collaboration.

The principal objective of our joint calls is to provide additional value to all partner countries and to the European Union as a whole by actively supporting transnational research and knowledge exchange, and to thus increase the use of biomass for energy.

With this specific call, the funding agencies are also aiming to provide a platform for information exchange related to biomass production and use in different countries through workshops, seminars and other activities.

Key dates

Call opens	1 March 2012
Deadline for submitting <u>pre-proposals</u>	11 May 2012
Letters to applicants/invitation to phase 2	4 June 2012
Deadline for submitting <u>full proposals</u>	20 August 2012
Expected project start	January/February 2013
<p>This call is published on the ERA-NET Bioenergy web page and on the web pages of the participating national programmes. See: www.ernetbioenergy.net</p>	

1. Background

The European Commission actively supports the use of biomass for energy as part of the European Union aim to increase the use of renewable energy and to avoid an increase in atmospheric CO₂ concentrations. The European Union and its Member States recently decided to set a target of 20% CO₂ reduction and 20% renewable energy for the year 2020. Bio-based energy sources are the greatest contributor to the EU's renewable energy strategy, since they represented 69,8% of the EU 27's renewable energy consumption in 2007. Bioenergy, however, currently contributes only 6.7% to the EU 27's final energy consumption, which is far from its potential. By enhancing research co-operation and co-ordination on a European level, ERA-NET Bioenergy aims to strengthen European efforts to realise the potential of renewable energy production from biomass and meet the ambitious 2020 targets.

Biogas is one promising option for producing electricity, heat and transport fuels from biomass. A range of renewable resources can be digested, creating additional sources of income for farmers. Additionally, as biomass is being used for an increasing range of products including food, feed, materials, chemicals and energy, it becomes increasingly important to look at options which (also) utilise organic residues and wastes to maximise value and to minimise negative effects of competition for land and other resources. Moreover, unlike e.g. wind or solar energy, biogas is a storable energy carrier, and if upgraded, can be fed into the normal gas grid.

The issue of biomass for energy is gaining importance not only at national, but European and increasingly at global level. Many countries will not be able to satisfy their biomass demand for food, feed, fibres and fuels if they rely on current production systems and crops, and still respect the limitations set by the concept of economic, ecological and social sustainability as well as Good Agricultural (Forestry) Practice. Import of biomass will doubtless be one of the answers, but cannot be the only one and faces challenges of its own – with regard to sustainability as well as public acceptance and political/strategic considerations not dissimilar to those regarding fossil fuels.

It is therefore vital that biomass be produced in a way that maximises the output per area and that minimises negative environmental/social impacts. Research is needed on improving existing species, testing as yet unexploited ones, and improving production systems (intercropping, catch crops, break crops, soil preparation, rotation systems...). Maximising the output is likely to not only refer to yields in t/ha in future, but to the overall benefit of the biomass produced – looking at all parts of the plant, and the whole life cycle of the products that can be derived from it.

The ERA-NET Bioenergy partners agree that bioenergy can only develop if it is a source of cleaner, more secure and sustainable energy.

A high-cost efficiency of public fund spending with outstanding quality of results is required in all supported projects. Major coordinated R&D efforts are required to achieve results that meet the demands of agricultural producers, energy providers and other industry. Within only few years, R&D results will have to be industrially and commercially implemented in order to meet the 2020 target of 20% renewable energy.

Most of the current research activities on biogas (biogas being defined as gas derived via anaerobic digestion) and on sustainable feedstock production for energy are funded by national programmes. The objectives, the scopes and topics, the budgets and the qualifications of the partners involved in projects, however, may vary from one country to another. International and European co-operation and co-ordination of research activities on biogas production are limited (SMART TANK, VALORGAS, for digestate use, also BEST although not exclusively on biogas).

The European Framework Programme has recently seen a number of projects being funded which are relevant to conventional and new energy crops and cropping systems and their environmental performance, such as LEGUME-FUTURES, ENERGYPOPLAR, SWEETFUEL, 4F CROPS, NUE-CROPS, MULTISWARD, BENWOOD, JATROPT, ENRGY PLANTS, NOVELTREE, RENEWALL, PLANT CELL WALLS, BIOSEA, or BEn.

All abovementioned projects cover parts of the two topics discussed here, and the ERA-NET Bioenergy partners expect applicants to its calls to be aware of national as well as European-level R&D in their area.

The approach of ERA-NET Bioenergy differs from the FP in that our focus is on medium-sized consortia (typically, three to eight partners) with excellent individual merits as well as complementarity. Project outputs will be beneficial to all countries involved.

On an international level, within the IEA Bioenergy agreement¹, Task 37 “Energy from biogas”² aims at the deployment of anaerobic digestion technology for energy production and environmental protection, and the provision of expert scientific and technical support to policy makers in member countries.

Task 43 of the agreement aims to provide and promote information on all aspects of bioenergy feedstocks, their markets and their environmental and social impacts including the question of sustainable development.

The focus of these Tasks is on the collection and verification of information, and on their public dissemination. Joint R&D programming and/or funding are NOT part of the Tasks.

2. Aim of the call

The aim of the call is to generate joint European, market-oriented research and development activities within ERA-NET Bioenergy participating countries.

This call builds on the experience that was gained in the previous five joint calls (on small-scale combustion, cleaning of product gas from biomass gasification, short rotation coppice, clean biomass combustion, and sustainable forest management & optimised use of lignocellulosic resources).

This sixth call provides new opportunities for industries and researchers to take part in multilateral cooperation in the field of biogas or the field of biomass production, and to thereby enhance the quality of the conducted research.

The outcomes of the call should contribute to increasing the economic competitiveness, the efficiency regarding energy input, resource consumption and/or yield, and the environmental performance of technologies, procedures or products.

Additionally, the outcomes of the call should contribute to the development of value chains that can reach the market in the short to medium term.

This joint call for proposals is divided into two *separate* topics.

“Separate” means that a certain type of energy crop *may* be assessed with a view to its use for biogas production, but *just as well for other* end use purposes.

Likewise, proposals handed in under topic 1 (biogas) do *not* have to be connected to the issue of energy crops!

¹ IEA Bioenergy, which was set up in 1978 by the International Energy Agency (IEA), aims at improving cooperation and information exchange between countries that have national programmes in bioenergy research, development and deployment.

² The country participation includes European Commission, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.

3. Joint call topic “Innovative biogas production”

Focal points:

- Pre-treatment technologies for new and existing crops for biogas production, with the aim to increase biogas yields
- Making use of unexploited substrates such as locally important plants, new species, agricultural residues such as straw, grass and manure, industrial organic residues, or landscaping material and other more difficult substrates for digestion
- Measurement and control: for plants of all scales, but especially for small scales: cost-efficient measuring technology for small plants.
- System management of injecting biogas into the grid, and management of biogas injection and biogas in combination with other renewable energies
- Cost-efficient technologies for upgrading to natural gas quality at all scales, but especially at small scale: technologies with a high cleaning capacity and minimal emissions from the upgrading process
- Management of the digestate (influence of different substrates/blends, treatment, upgrading/processing, use, health and safety) and effects on economic/environmental sustainability (e.g. closing of nutrient cycles)
- System analysis as accompanying research, such as environmental or economic studies (comparing different production systems in LCAs, assessing GHG emissions)

4. Joint call topic “Sustainable biomass for energy purposes”

Focal points:

- Optimising existing crops and testing new alternative ones through plant breeding and through cultivation techniques with regard to:
 - i. Increased yield and biotic & abiotic stress tolerance
 - ii. Increased water and nutrient efficiency
 - iii. Increased energy output
 - iv. Qualities adapted to the planned end use(s) of the crops
- Studies including e.g. economic appraisals, comparisons of production systems under different climatic conditions, or environmental aspects (e.g. biodiversity, soil protection)
- Breeding and cultivation of crops for cascading use of resources and increase of value adding components; use of residues (multiple products should, in the frame of this call, always include energy)
- Breeding of new crops, including possible species for intercropping, break/catch crops and including analysis methods for phenotyping
- Logistics, such as harvesting and storage technologies, transport (pre-treatment of energy feedstocks and later stages of the value chain are NOT covered by this call)

5. Instructions for applicants

General

Proposals are expected to address one or more of the abovementioned points under **one of the two** call topics.

Please note that individual national funding organisations may be limited in the kind of project they could support.

These restrictions, as well as other important national regulations, can be found in Annex I at the end of this document.

In case of any further questions, please contact your national funding organisation prior to submitting a proposal.

Consortium

Proposals are invited from transnational consortia involving large companies, SME, research organisations and/or stakeholder associations depending on national funding conditions.

Proposals must include partners from **at least three of the countries** involved in the call. The partners should cooperate and the results of the project should be dependent on the work of the partners. Project outputs are expected to provide benefits to all partner countries.

As projects are expected to be market-oriented, **it is strongly recommended that one or more industrial partners** participate in the consortium, but it is not a knock-out criterion. If industry participation is not feasible due to the scope/outlay of the envisaged work, the reasons for this decision should be explained in the proposal. Note that detailed exploitation and dissemination plans are an important feature of every proposal.

Partners from countries which are not members of ERA-NET Bioenergy are also encouraged to join a consortium (as additional members, the minimum number of three partners from ERA-NET Bioenergy countries remains). These so-called “third country” partners must finance their activities from other sources, as the ERA-Net Bioenergy members will not provide for it, and projects must ensure that the exploitation of R&D results focuses on the ERA-NET Bioenergy partner countries.

The proposal must address the added value derived from international cooperation, in comparison to national projects. This should be evident in the layout and execution of the work packages.

The number of partners per consortium is not limited, but the manageability of the consortium must be demonstrated. Consortia also need to be balanced between countries both in terms of number of partners and distribution of budget, such that all project partners contribute to and benefit from an equitable and balanced cooperation.

The project partners are required to sign a consortium agreement in order to agree on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and other relevant issues dealing with responsibilities within the project and exploitation of results. **The consortium agreement must be signed before the first payment can be made.**

The ERA-NET Bioenergy does not provide direct information on potential partners in their countries.

Funding arrangements

Research will be **funded from national sources and subject to national funding rules**.

Each participating funding agency has made separate arrangements for funding the national participants. The amount of public funding available for individual projects depends on the relevant national rules. Additional co-financing from stakeholders is expected following national and European rules for R&D funding. The total funding budget is limited. For details please contact your national funding agency.

Project duration

The maximum project duration will be three (3) years. Projects are expected to start between **January and February 2013**, and the end date should be the same for all partners in a consortium.

Deadline for submission

Pre-proposals must be received via e-mail by the central **Call Secretariat (Mr. Matté Brijder, matte.brijder@agentschapnl.nl)** by **May 11 2012, 14:00 CET** at the latest. It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure their documents are submitted on time.

Structure of submission

Pre-proposal:

The pre-proposal consists of one common document following the structure of the template available from March 1 2012 on www.eranetbioenergy.net.

Full proposal:

On June 4 2012, only consortia whose pre-proposals pass the first evaluation stage will be invited to submit full proposals.

These full proposals should follow the structure of the template which will be available on the ERA-NET Bioenergy website from June 4.

The deadline for submitting full proposals will be August 20 2012, 14:00 CET.

Some national funding bodies may also require specific national documents (application forms or similar) from “their” applicants at this stage.

Such national documents are NOT submitted at the central website, but directly to the relevant ministry or agency. Please consult the relevant National Annexes at the end of this document for further details.

All proposals should be written using the Times New Roman font with a minimum acceptable font size of 10.

Proposal evaluation

Pre-proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- Fit to call (Possible marks: “Yes”, “yes but...”, “no unless...”, “no”)
- Scientific quality, innovation and relevance (Yes, yes but, no unless, no)
- Quality of the consortium: experience, complementarity (Yes, yes but, no unless, no)
- Feasibility of the work plan/ project management (Yes, yes but, no unless, no)
- Dissemination and exploitation (Yes, yes but, no unless, no)

The full proposals will be evaluated by an international evaluation jury, selected by the funding organisations involved in the call. The criteria which the full proposals will be judged by can be found under Annex II.

The international evaluation jury will provide recommendations for funding. The final decisions will be taken by the ERA-NET Bioenergy partners.

The evaluation of full proposals will take place during August/September 2012 and the funding decisions will be communicated in late 2012. Projects are expected to start between January and February 2013.

The evaluation criteria are:

- Fit to call
- Technological and scientific quality of R&D (including why specifically the international cooperation improves the quality of the results)
- Implementation and exploitation of results (an appropriate implementation will be crucial for evaluation, e.g. describing industry involvement if type/topic of project calls for it)
- Resources available for the project, including quality of project management and coordination
- Promoting cooperation within the ERA-NET Bioenergy framework.

Beyond these instructions above, your participating national funding agency’s guidelines should be followed.

Project monitoring and expected deliverables

In addition to the standard requirements of your funding agency, ERA-NET Bioenergy requires the following:

1. Participation in and presentation at two joint ERA-NET workshops (kick-off and final seminar).
2. Depending on the project duration, *at least* one common interim report following the template which will be provided in due time. This interim report will be available to the funding organisations involved, but will not be made public. Be aware that national regulations will apply to interim reports. Care will be taken by all funding bodies to minimise the bureaucratic workload for the consortia.
3. A common publishable and public Final Report (written in English), describing the main activities and outcomes of the work including an exploitation plan stating how the results of the project will be implemented. Confidential results will be presented in a separate confidential report. National guidelines have to be followed as well. Detailed requirements for this report will be distributed to successful applicants once the projects have started.
4. An abstract of the main results of the project, to be published in a “joint call brochure” after the end of the projects.

Participating countries / National contact points

Germany

Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe (FNR)

Karen Görner

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Topic-specific contact persons: see National Annex (Annex I)

www.fnr.de

Ireland

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

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Poland

Polish National Centre for Research Development

Section for Research Projects INFOTECH

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United Kingdom

RCUK Energy Programme (BBSRC and EPSRC)

Technology Strategy Board

List of contacts: see National Annex (Annex I)

Annex I: Specific National Rules

Germany

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 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.

The relevant national R&D programme for German project partners is the BMELV's "Nachwachsende Rohstoffe" ("Renewable Resources") managed by FNR.

There is no need for additional national application forms without request by the funding organisations. The central transnational application is sufficient.

Only the German project partners of positively evaluated projects will, at a later stage, be invited by FNR to submit national application forms within one month after notification.

The usual FNR funding rules and forms will apply: AZA or AZK using the electronic proposal assistant "easy" (see <http://www.kp.dlr.de/profi/easy/formular.html> for details).

The total budget available for both call topics in Germany is 3 Mio €.

Contact persons for topic-specific questions during the application phase are:

Biogas – Dr. Petra Schüsseler (p.schuesseler@fnr.de)

Energy crop breeding – Dr. Frithjof Oehme (f.oehme@fnr.de)

Energy crop production – Frauke Urban (f.urban@fnr.de)

Ireland

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.

Only the Irish project partners of positively evaluated projects will then, in a second stage, be invited by SEAI 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.

The total maximum budget for all Irish participants in this joint call is 750 000€ over the three years (max. 250 000€ / year).

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 (www.seai.ie/rerdd). 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.

Poland

The total budget available for Polish applicants is 800 000€.

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. Only the Polish project partners of positively evaluated projects will then, in a second stage, be invited to submit national application forms.

Funding Rules

Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for universities or research organisations. In the case of entrepreneurs, 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. Organisation must be registered in Poland.

Type of activity	Funding quota			
	Entrepreneurs			Universities and research organisations
	Large	Medium	Small and micro	
Industrial Research	Up to 65%	Up to 75%	Up to 80%	Up to 100%
Experimental development	Up to 40%	Up to 50%	Up to 60%	Up to 100%

Please check describing the national eligibility criteria for funding, eligible costs, rules for proposal preparation etc at: <http://www.ncbir.pl>

Sweden

Decisions on funding research, development and innovation in the energy area are taken according to the ordinance SFS 2008:761 in the Swedish Code of Statutes. Funding quota of Swedish participants can be up to 100%, 50% and 25% of eligible costs for each participant in a project defined as basic research, applied research and development, respectively. The quota can be increased in case of e.g. small and medium enterprises, see the ordinance for details. The decision cannot be appealed.

The budget allocated for Swedish participation for this call is 9 000 000 Swedish kronor.

The topic 2) Sustainable biomass for energy purposes is aligned to the national R&D programme *Bioenergy Feedstock Programme – Supply (Bränsleprogrammet tillförelse)*³. The general strategy for the Swedish Energy Agency's efforts on bioenergy feedstock R&D are described in the report *FOKUS III – Bränslebaserade energisystem (ER 2010:05)*⁴.

The central transnational application form is sufficient for pre-proposals. For projects invited to send in full proposals, preferably the online application form E-kanalen⁵ or a Swedish Energy Agency application form is necessary. The common proposal for the consortium should be appended.

Granted projects have to meet conditions such as submitting interim and end reports as well as accounts. In addition, the projects should contribute to evaluations, conferences and other common programme activities.

Sweden has a constitutionally founded right of public access to official records. All documents sent to, sent from or drawn up at Swedish Energy Agency are therefore official. In this call, the documents concerned are e.g. applications, minutes from expert evaluation meeting, project contracts. Secrecy can only be claimed when legally supported. If a project leader wishes to keep an application confidential due to for example IPR reasons, Swedish Energy Agency should be informed. In case e.g. the application is asked for, Swedish Energy Agency decides whether (parts of) the document can be marked as confidential. The decision can be appealed to the Administrative Court of Appeal and subsequently to the Supreme Administrative Court.

³ <http://www.energimyndigheten.se/Forskning/Bransleforskning/Bransleprogrammen/>

⁴

http://webbshop.cm.se/System/DownloadResource.ashx?p=Energimyndigheten&rl=default:/Resources/Permanent/Static/f7d24384d1bb4c108a6a6764ad7ddc01/ER2010_05W.pdf

⁵ <http://energimyndigheten.se/E-Tjanster/E-kanalen/>

United Kingdom

APPLICANTS FROM ACADEMIA

Partner: RCUK Energy Programme (Funding provided from BBSRC and EPSRC).

The RCUK Energy Programme is pleased to provide in principle support for the 6th Joint Call for Research and Development Proposals of the ERA-NET Bioenergy.

Eligible academics are encouraged to apply for funding for collaborative research in the European Research Area. Funding for biological aspects of proposals awarded to UK academics will be met by BBSRC, funding for UK academics for non-biological components will be met by EPSRC. Subject to all conditions of eligibility and peer review being fully met, the combined budget earmarked by BBSRC and EPSRC for this call is up to £3M.

Potential industrial participants from UK based companies should see the relevant section below.

Specific priorities for Collaborative Research Proposals

The call covers two areas of bioenergy research: Innovations in biogas production and sustainable biomass for energy purposes. Other areas of bioenergy are not relevant to this call. If applicants are in any doubt, please contact the National Call Secretariat for further clarification (see below). Proposals should be for a maximum of three years duration.

Eligibility

UK Universities, Independent Research Organisations and Institutes that receive strategic funding from BBSRC are eligible to apply. Full details of eligibility conditions can be found on the BBSRC and EPSRC websites:

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/apply/eligibility-overview.aspx>

<http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/Pages/Eligibilityforrcs.aspx>

The RCUK Energy Programme will fund the UK academic partner of any successful transnational collaboration (BBSRC will fund biological aspects, EPSRC will fund other disciplines).

Specific national regulations and guidelines

PhD students will not be funded as part of a standard collaborative research proposal.

Funding will be awarded on the basis of full economic cost as described on the BBSRC and EPSRC websites. UK applicants who are invited to prepare a full proposal will also be required to complete a BBSRC or EPSRC proforma alongside their full application to ensure their proposal complies with full economic cost requirements. Applicants are encouraged to clearly justify all the requested resources. Further details, and a copy of the proforma, will be provided when full proposals are invited.

BBSRC and EPSRC have a very restricted budget available for equipment and other capital items. Applicants requesting items of equipment costing over £10k in their full proposals will be required to follow the guidelines as set out on the BBSRC and EPSRC websites.

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/apply/research-equipment-guidance.aspx>

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/newsevents/pubs/mags/connect/2011/83/Pages/newcriteriaforapplyingforequipmentongrants.aspx>

INDUSTRIAL PARTICIPANTS

Partner: Technology Strategy Board

Guidelines for Industrial Participants

- Companies must have been trading for at least 12 months before the closing date for applications. VAT registered and registered at Companies House
- Claims under the UK grant must be for project costs incurred in the UK, including subcontracting.
- UK Subcontracting is capped at a maximum of 20% of the UK budget.
- The management of the project must be undertaken by a project participant and cannot be subcontracted.
- In the UK the maximum amount of grant funding is €300,000 Euros per UK participant in any single project.
- The maximum amount of funds a single company can apply for in the call is €300,000.
- Industry partners are eligible for 50% funding of project costs. For eligible project costs contact Graham.mobbs@tsb.gov.uk

National Call Secretariat

Dr Vicky Jackson (BBSRC)

Funding organisation: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council - BBSRC

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Dr Neil Bateman (EPSRC)

Funding organisation: Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council - EPSRC

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Mr Merlin Goldman (TSB)

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Annex II: Evaluation criteria

Evaluation criteria for full proposals

Indicator 1	Contribution to the Call	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Average	Good	Very good
1	Contribution to the goals of the call How well does the proposal align with the call topic?	0	6	12	20	25
Maximum						25

Indicator 2	Technical/scientific quality	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Average	Good	Very good
1	Novelty Does the proposed project produce a step forward in knowledge and technology?	0	4	7	12	15
2	Quality of the proposed R&D Are the issues to be addressed significant and relevant within this field? Will the proposal as written be able to address these issues? Are worthwhile challenges identified in the proposal?	0	6	12	20	25
3	Quality of the approach - methodology Clarity, adequacy and consistency of the approach. Is there enough technical detail in the methodology? Is the approach clear, adequate to the problem and consistent?	0	5	9	17	20
Maximum						60

Indicator 3	Qualification of Consortium	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Average	Good	Very good
1	Competence concerning the topics addressed Does the consortium have the necessary competence and experience to achieve the results proposed?	0	4	7	12	15
2	Co-operation and complementarity of partners Are the partners clearly complementary in their roles and do they fit together? Is the balance between the partners appropriate? Is there added value in the co-operation including why specifically the international co-operation improves the quality of the results? Is there a true co-operation of all partners (e.g. not simply separate work packages)? Will external stakeholders be engaged?	0	4	7	12	15
3	Availability of technical and	0	2	4	8	10

	human resources Are appropriate technical and human resources available within the consortium or if not, have they been requested within the proposal?					
Maximum						40

Indicator 4	Project management	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Average	Good	Very good
1	Quality of project management Are suitable plans and structures in place to ensure the project will operate effectively over its run time? Is there sufficient detail in the project plan (milestones, work packages,...)? Are arrangements in place to ensure effective & efficient communication between the partners?	0	5	9	17	20
Maximum						20

Indicator 5	Outputs and exploitation	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Average	Good	Very good
1	Potential outputs and expected results Are any cost reductions and efficiency improvements likely to result from the proposed work?	0	8	14	24	30
2	Plans for implementation and exploitation Are realistic and appropriate plans in place for effective implementation and subsequent exploitation of the outputs?		6	12	20	25
Maximum						55