

**Invitation to a**

# **JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**9<sup>th</sup> Joint Call for Research and Development Proposals  
of the ERA-NET Bioenergy**

***Deadline for submission of outlines: 12.01.2015***

## 1 Summary

The ERA-NET Bioenergy aims to fund innovative, transnational research, development and innovation (R&D&I) projects in the field of bioenergy.

Funding will be offered to excellent proposals that provide clear added value through cooperation of partners in at least two (preferably more) participating countries. Novelty beyond the state of the art in the bioenergy value chain addressed must be significant, and evidence of exploitation potential must be provided (e.g. by way of tangible industry commitment).

Public funding is available for this 9<sup>th</sup> call from funding bodies in Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland.

### Key call dates

<b>Call opens</b>	<b>11 November 2014</b>
<b>Deadline for submitting <u>outlines</u></b>	<b>12 January 2015, 1pm CET</b>
<b>Deadline for submitting <u>full proposals</u></b>	<b>08 June 2015, 1pm CET</b>
<b>Expected project start</b>	<b>Late 2015 / early 2016</b>
<b>This call is published on the ERA-NET Bioenergy web page and on the web pages of the participating national programmes. See: <a href="http://www.eranetbioenergy.net">www.eranetbioenergy.net</a></b>	

## 2 Background

Bioenergy – defined as the generation of heat and/or electricity and/or transport fuels from biomass<sup>1</sup> – will be a significant provider of renewable energy in the future.

However, biomass is used for food, feed and materials as well as for energy, and these different end uses currently compete with or are perceived to compete with each other in many cases. With the planned shift from a fossil-based to a bio-based economy, such tendencies are expected to become even more prevalent.

It is therefore vital to find the best systems for certain conditions, i.e. specific combinations of available resources and products in demand.

The ERA-NET Bioenergy is a network of national funding organisations which support bioenergy projects. It was funded by the European Commission under FP6 between October 2004 and December 2010, but is now self-sustained (membership model). Further ministries or R&D funding agencies from other countries are always welcome to join the network or individual calls.

ERA-NET Bioenergy has so far funded eight calls: on small-scale combustion, on cleaning of product gas from biomass gasification, on short rotation coppice, on clean biomass combustion, on sustainable forest management and optimised use of ligno-cellulosic resources (together with WoodWisdom-Net, an ERA-Net on wood material science), on biogas and energy crops, on small-scale heat and power production from solid biomass and on integrated biorefinery concepts

The purpose of the ERA-NET is to provide additional value compared to national funding by supporting transnational research and knowledge exchange, and to thus increase the use of biomass for energy.

The approach of ERA-NET Bioenergy differs from e.g. the Framework Programmes in that our focus is on medium-sized consortia (typically, three to eight partners) with excellent individual merits as well as complementarity.

### Position of call within the European landscape

The promotion of *innovative bioenergy solutions* is vital to realise the bio-based economy. As Europe strives to decrease its dependency on fossil-based raw materials, using bio-based ones instead will put greater pressure on the available resource base.

It is therefore not only important to maintain and increase the amount of renewable resources that can be harvested on a sustainable basis, but also to use the available biomass as efficiently as possible. The ERA-NET Bioenergy call will thus support national as well as EU strategies. Care is also taken to align it with on-going initiatives in related areas, such as JPI FACCE, neighbouring ERA-Nets, the JTI Bio-Based Industries and the Collaborative Working Group (CWG) on integrated biorefineries, who will be kept informed for mutual benefit and mutual support.

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<sup>1</sup>All organic material, *excluding* such that has been transformed to fossils.

### 3 Scope of the joint call

#### **3.1 Aim of the call**

The aim of the call is to fund innovative, collaborative pan-European, R&D&I projects on novel bioenergy concepts. The public funding for this call comes from the participating national R&D funding programmes and differs from country to country – see the National Annexes (Annex I).

Proposals may focus on different bioenergy value chains or energy uses (heating/cooling, electricity, transport biofuels), but in all cases, the question of economic, environmental and social sustainability of the concept/value chain must be addressed in the proposal.

All proposals must be put in context of the national political/legal framework, available raw materials, and techno-economic as well as socio-economic market situation in the countries in which work will be carried out.

Ideally, concepts enable full or improved usage of the raw material and/or put the focus on residues, by-products and other forms of raw material that minimise competition with food production.

Concepts that integrate the production of a range of different products/intermediates (chemicals, compound materials, bioenergy incl. transport biofuels) may *also* be addressed, but projects relevant to this call are expected to focus on added value of energetic uses (bioenergy incl. transport biofuels).

Projects must have at least 2 partners from two different countries with funding agencies participating in the call (although it may be easier for applicants to show the added European value of their proposed work if more than two countries are involved), with the project's outputs and benefits shared between all parties. Partners from other countries are welcome to join consortia on their own resources. Projects should contribute to increasing the economic competitiveness and/or environmental compatibility of bioenergy concepts through measures as described in the following chapter.

#### **3.2 Expected projects**

Projects funded in the frame of ERA-NET Bioenergy will increase:

- economic feasibility
- resource efficiency
- environmental compatibility (e.g. protection/increase of biodiversity, protection of water or soil, significant CO2 savings)
- positive social impacts, e.g. by generating additional income, business opportunities or jobs for/in the sector
- public acceptance

of bioenergy pathways and concepts.

Funding is available only for innovative, industrially relevant research and development projects.

This means that a significant step beyond the state of the art is an absolute pre-requisite.

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

Please note that some **specific topics** may be **out of scope** of a certain **national programme!** You should ***always check with all relevant funding organisations before*** handing in a proposal.

## 4 Guide for applicants

### 4.1 General

- 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 an outline.

### 4.2 Consortia

Proposals are invited from transnational consortia which include large companies, SMEs, research groups/organisations and/or stakeholder associations, depending on national funding rules.

Proposals must include partners from **at least two of the countries** involved in the call. The work plan must show real cooperation between 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. 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 partners; the minimum number of two partners from ERA-NET Bioenergy countries participating in the 9<sup>th</sup> call remains). These so-called “third country” partners must finance their activities from other sources, as the ERA-Net Bioenergy members will not provide such funds, and projects must ensure that the exploitation of results focuses on the ERA-NET Bioenergy partner countries.

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.

For reasons of fairness the ERA-NET Bioenergy partners do not provide direct information on potential partners in their countries.

### 4.3 Funding arrangements

Research will be **funded from national sources**, i.e. each participating national or regional funding agency funds their respective national research partners in a particular project consortium. The total funding as well as the funding available in each country is limited. For details please contact your national funding agency. Additional co-financing from stakeholders (own contributions) may be expected following national and European rules for R&D funding.

**Funding is always subject to national rules (see Annex I).**

If a proposal is selected for funding, the partners are required to sign a consortium agreement which specifies Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and other issues regarding responsibilities within the project and exploitation of results.

**The consortium agreement must be signed before the first payment can be made.**

#### **4.4 Project duration**

The maximum project duration will be three (3) years. Projects are expected to start in late 2015/early 2016, and the end date should be the same for all partners in a consortium.

#### **4.5 Deadline for submission**

Outlines must be received via e-mail by the central **Call Secretariat at the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RvO, Mr. Matté Brijder, matte.brijder@rvo.nl)** by **January 12<sup>th</sup> 2015, 13:00 CET** at the latest.

In case you do not get a confirmation that your proposal was received, you should immediately contact Mr. Brijder!

It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure their documents are submitted on time.

#### **4.6 Submission of proposals**

##### Short outline:

- The outline consists of one short document describing the goal and expected impact of the planned work. A template can be found on [www.eranetbioenergy.net](http://www.eranetbioenergy.net). The outline must show which national programmes it is aimed for and how it will fit these programmes.

##### Consultation with funding agencies:

- The consultation phase is a step in the call process in its own right. Direct communication with the national funding body is strictly mandatory in some countries (e.g. DE) and strongly recommended in the others (see National Annexes). Each applicant consortium is strongly advised to consult all relevant funding bodies in order to meet the criteria and priorities of the national programmes in the best way.
- Experiences from the past show that the chance of success for funding significantly improves with consultations. The intensity of consultations may differ from country to country. It is recommended to await all consultations in the different countries before submitting the full proposal.

##### Full proposal:

- If the short outline meets the criteria of the relevant programmes, (with or without further consultation) the consortium receives a notice from the Secretariat with the recommendation to submit a full proposal.
- These full proposals should follow the structure of the template which will be available on the ERA-NET Bioenergy website by January 2015.
- A non-confidential abstract of the description of work is required (for later publication in case of success only).
- The deadline for submitting full proposals is **8<sup>th</sup> June 2015, 13:00 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 centrally, 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 Times New Roman, font size 11 minimum.

#### **4.7 Evaluation of proposals**

Proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- Contribution to the goals of the call
- Technical and scientific quality; innovation
- Quality of the consortium
- Project Management
- Outputs and exploitation

Depending on national procedures, applicants will receive more or less extensive feedback on their **outline** during the consultation phase. Such feedback will indicate whether applicants are

recommended to submit a full proposal and, if yes, whether/which modifications are required in order to fit the national funding programmes' remits or priorities.

The full criteria for **full proposals** can be found under Annex II. Evaluation of full proposals will be by an international evaluation jury, selected by the funding organisations involved in the call. 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 between June and September 2015, and the panel's funding recommendations will be communicated by the end of September 2015. Projects are expected to start in late 2015/early 2016.

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

#### **4.8 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 status seminars (mid-term 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.

## 5 Participating countries / National contact points

### **Austria**

Doris Pollak

Expert, nominated by the Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (bmvit)

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Funding Organisation is The Climate and Energy Fund <https://www.klimafonds.gv.at/>

### **Germany**

Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe (FNR)

Karen Görner

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[k.goerner@fnr.de](mailto:k.goerner@fnr.de)

[www.fnr.de](http://www.fnr.de)

### **The Netherlands**

NEA Netherlands Enterprise Agency

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<http://english.rvo.nl/>

### **Poland**

National Centre for Research and Development

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### **Sweden**

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Swedish Energy Agency

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### **Switzerland**

Swiss Federal Office of Energy

Energy research section

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<http://www.bfe.admin.ch/forschung/biomasse>

## Annex I: Specific National Rules

### Austria

The Funding Organisation is The Climate and Energy Fund. The processing will be made by FFG or KPC.

The funding conditions and amounts of subsidies will be as high as in the program “Energieforschung” 1. Announcement.

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### Germany (Consultation phase mandatory!)

For all project partners from Germany, direct communication with the national funding body FNR is **strictly mandatory**. **Directly after submission of the outline**, each German applicant **is required** to consult the responsible contact person at FNR (see below) in order to develop the project idea into a full proposal.

**Outlines with German project partners who have not contacted FNR or have not successfully finished the consultation phase will not be recommended to hand in full proposals.**

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 max. 50%. In this case, overhead costs can be considered for companies.

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 BMEL’s “Nachwachsende Rohstoffe” (“Renewable Resources”) managed by FNR.

Each member of the consortium must clearly present their goals and work within the project, global and local (country-specific), the financial and time tables and the points of actual collaboration with the international partners.

The German project partners of positively evaluated full proposals will, at a later stage, be invited by FNR to submit national application forms (AZA or AZK using the electronic proposal assistant “easy” (see <https://foerderportal.bund.de/easyonline/> for details) – the usual FNR funding rules apply) within three weeks after notification. At the first stage of ERA-NET Bioenergy calls (outlines), no “easy” forms have to be completed.

The total budget available for the call in Germany is limited to 2 Mio € (provisional). The total requested funding of German partners in a consortium should not exceed 0,5M €.

German applicants must take note of the following specifications:

- Proposals focussing on the use of waste as defined in the Kreislaufwirtschaftsgesetz (law on the circular economy, KrWG) cannot be funded in the frame of this programme. Agricultural and/or forestry residues, however, are in scope.
- Proposals may not focus on food/feed production
- Proposals related to pharmaceutical production, red biotechnology or similar are also outside the remit of the national programme.
- Biochar is not a topic funded through the programme
- Applicants are strongly advised to contact FNR to ensure their idea and work plan are fundable. It is also advised to read the programme "Renewable Resources" carefully beforehand (<http://www.fnr.de/projekte-foerderung/nachwachsende-rohstoffe/foerderziele/>) and to check the current priority topics of this programme as well as the energy and climate funds <http://www.fnr.de/projekte-foerderung/energie-und-klimafonds/foederschwerpunkte/>.
- All details are subject to the new version of the funding programme "Renewable Resources" which will come into force in 2015.

**Funding commitment: 2 Mio € (provisional)**

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[www.fnr.de](http://www.fnr.de)

## The Netherlands

### Requirements for Participants

**Partners:** Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and the Ministry of Economic Affairs

- At least two companies must take part in the project;
- Companies must accept dissemination and exploitation of results;
- Grants will be provided as aid for industrial research or experimental development;
- Funding for Dutch participants is limited to 50% of the eligible project costs in the case of industrial research and 30% in the case of experimental development;
- Public research organisations can apply for higher rates. The actual rate will be decided on a case by case basis;
- In the case of small and medium enterprises an additional 10% funding quota may be awarded;
- For eligible project costs we also refer to the Framework decision on subsidies of the Ministry of Economic Affairs;
- In general, the subsidy amounts to a maximum of €500.000 per project;
- Projects must aim for the cascaded use of biomass and/or improvement of the added value of biomass;
- For projects with Dutch participation, energetic uses must be a substantial component of any concept relevant to this joint call;
- All projects must contribute to the goals of the Top Sector Energy (reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>, increase in sustainable energy production at the lowest possible cost).
- No grants are provided to aquatic biomass projects;
- Admission criteria include:
  - o Contribution to the use and production of sustainable energy in the Netherlands;
  - o Contribution to the Dutch Economy;
  - o Level of innovation, compared to the international state of the art;
  - o Quality of the project plan and the participating partners;
- For Dutch participants most of the regulations in the Framework decision on subsidies of the Ministry of Economic Affairs will apply, with the exception of Article 6.

**Funding commitment:** 500.000€ (provisional)

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<http://english.rvo.nl/>

## Poland

<b>Funding Organisation</b>	National Centre for Research and Development (Narodowe Centrum Badań i Rozwoju) <a href="http://www.ncbr.gov.pl">www.ncbr.gov.pl</a>
<b>National Contact Point</b>	Karolina Janczykowska Section of Management of Applied Research Programmes INFOTECH e-mail: <a href="mailto:karolina.janczykowska@ncbr.gov.pl">karolina.janczykowska@ncbr.gov.pl</a> phone: +48 22 39 07 293 mobile: +48 515 061 554
<b>Eligible institutions</b>	Following entities are eligible to apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Organisations;</li> <li>• Micro, Small, Medium and Large Enterprises</li> </ul> <p>Organization must be registered in Poland.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	All proposals must be aligned with National regulations, inter alia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Act of 30 April 2010 on the Principles of Financing Science, published in Journal of Laws No. 96 item 615, 2010;</li> <li>• The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws No. 96 item 616, 2010;</li> <li>• The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 28 October 2010 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 No. 215 item 1411, 2010.</li> </ul>
<b>Eligible costs</b>	The eligible costs shall be the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>personnel costs</b> (researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the research project);</li> <li>2. <b>costs of instruments and equipment, technical knowledge and patents</b> to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;</li> <li>3. <b>costs for buildings and land</b>, to the extent and for the duration used for the research project; with regard to buildings, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice shall be considered eligible; for land, costs of commercial transfer or actually incurred capital costs shall be eligible;</li> <li>4. <b>cost of contractual research</b>, costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the research activity; the subcontracting can be obtained from consortium partner only in justified case, this need will be verified by a national experts panel;</li> <li>5. <b>other operating costs</b> including costs of materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity;</li> <li>6. <b>additional overheads</b> incurred indirectly as a result of the research project; that costs cannot account for more than <b>25%</b> of eligible project costs; That costs (6) are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above (called x%) and the rest of direct costs, excluding subcontracting (4); It means <math>6=(1+2+3+5)*x\%</math>.</li> </ol>

### a) National funding rates

Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for universities or 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. Organization must be registered in Poland.

	<b>Large Enterprises</b>	<b>Medium Enterprises</b>	<b>Small Enterprises</b>	<b>Universities and research organizations</b>
<b>Industrial/Applied Research</b>	Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)	Up to 100 %
<b>Experimental development</b>	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 fundind as separate tasks. They can be included in a appropriate cost category within research tasks.

**b) Consultation phase (see part 4.6 in Call Text)**

Consultation phase is recommended but not mandatory. Consultations will focus on procedural and financial matters.

## Sweden

**Funding body:** Swedish Energy Agency

### **Submission of short outlines and proposals**

Outlines and full proposals should be sent via the online application form E-kanalen<sup>2</sup>. The full proposal for the consortium should be appended the Swedish application.

An application for support for Swedish partners should be sent to Swedish Energy Agency parallel to the full proposal of the consortium. A Swedish project leader should be appointed of the Swedish part of the project. The Swedish application must describe the project as a whole in brief and clarify the Swedish participation regarding the objectives and implementation (clarify who does what). The description should be kept short and not exceed the specified number of pages in E-kanalen. Only the costs of the Swedish participants should be included. The full proposal of the consortium should be appended. Additionally, the application shall be written according to the instructions<sup>3</sup>.

### **Consultation with Swedish Energy Agency is not mandatory**

It is solely the responsibility of the applicant to develop the project idea in the short outline to a full proposal.

Swedish Energy Agency will evaluate the short outline and contribute to the recommendation that will be given from the Secretariat. The recommendation may include modifications of the project idea.

### **Funding rules**

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 Statues. 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.

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.

### **Confidentiality**

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.

**Funding commitment:** 12.000.000 kronor (SEK) = 1.294.358 € (EUR)

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<sup>2</sup> <http://energimyndigheten.se/E-Tjanster/E-kanalen/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.energimyndigheten.se/Global/E-tjanster/Ekanalen/Anvisningar%20f%c3%b6r%20ans%c3%b6kan%20Final%202013.pdf>

<http://www.energimyndigheten.se/Global/E-tjanster/Ekanalen/Anvisningar%20f%c3%b6r%20ans%c3%b6kan%20Final%202013.pdf>

## **Switzerland**

The Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) is able to offer funding for energy-related research as long as the projects correspond to the priorities of the research programme Biomass and Wood Energy (please visit [http://www.bfe.admin.ch/forschungbiomasse/index.html?lang=en&dossier\\_id=02902](http://www.bfe.admin.ch/forschungbiomasse/index.html?lang=en&dossier_id=02902) ). A specific goal for this call for proposals is to promote Swiss researchers' international collaboration within the ERA-NET Bioenergy framework.

The main focus is on applied research, development-related research and pilot applications of new technologies for the energetic use of biomass. All biomass for energy related value chains (biochemical, thermochemical) are eligible for funding. Strategy development, conceptual work and "stand-alone LCAs" for the application of new technologies will not be funded. Universities, research institutes and private companies are eligible for funding. Collaboration between research institutes and private companies (industry) is highly appreciated.

Proposals can be funded to a maximum of 80%. Third party contributions (a minimum of 20% of the total national project costs) are indispensable to insure the implementation of the results. This contribution can be provided in cash or in the form of performed work. The amount of third party contribution will be taken in consideration within the evaluation procedure.

The funded Swiss research partner may use and commercialize the project results. In parallel the project results will be made publicly available by SFOE. SFOE disclaims the IPRs. The mandatory can utilize the project results.

The total budget for Swiss projects is 250'000 Euro (CHF 300'000) over a maximum of 36 months.

Application forms and further information are available at  
<http://www.bfe.admin.ch/forschung/biomasse/>

Direct communication with the national funding body SFOE is strictly mandatory directly after submission of the outline in order to develop a full proposal.

**Funding commitment: 250'000 €**

### **Contact person:**

Swiss Federal Office of Energy

Energy research section

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## 1. Annex II: Evaluation criteria

Evaluation criteria for full proposals

Indicator 1	Contribution to the Call	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Below Average	Good	Very good
1	<b>Contribution to the goals of the call</b> How well does the proposal align with the call topic?	0	4	8	16	20
<b>Maximum</b>						<b>20</b>

Indicator 2	Technical/scientific quality	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Below Average	Good	Very good
1	<b>Novelty</b> Does the proposed project produce a step forward in knowledge and technology?	0	3	6	12	15
2	<b>Quality of the proposed R&amp;D</b> 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	5	10	20	25
3	<b>Quality of the approach - methodology</b> 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	4	8	16	20
<b>Maximum</b>						<b>60</b>

Indicator 3	Qualification of Consortium	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Below Average	Good	Very good
1	<b>Competence concerning the topics addressed</b> Does the consortium have the necessary competence and experience to achieve the results proposed?	0	3	6	12	15
2	<b>Co-operation and complementarity of partners</b> 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	3	6	12	15
3	<b>Availability of technical and human resources</b> Are appropriate technical and human resources available within the consortium or if not, have they been requested within the proposal?	0	3	6	12	15
<b>Maximum</b>						<b>45</b>

Indicator 4	Project management	Unsatisfactory	Poor	Below Average	Good	Very good
1	<b>Quality of project management</b> 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	4	8	16	20
<b>Maximum</b>						<b>20</b>

Indicator 5	Outputs and exploitation	Unsatis- factory	Poor	Below Average	Good	Very good
1	<b>Potential outputs and expected results</b> Are any cost reductions and efficiency improvements likely to result from the proposed work?	0	6	12	24	30
2	<b>Plans for implementation and exploitation</b> Are realistic and appropriate plans in place for effective implementation and subsequent exploitation of the outputs?	0	5	10	20	25
<b>Maximum</b>						<b>55</b>