



ERA•MIN3

RAW MATERIALS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

ERA-MIN Joint Transnational Call 2023

RAW MATERIALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

CALL TEXT

Link to [«ERA-MIN3 Joint
Transnational Call
2023»](#)

Link to the [Electronic Proposal Submission System \(ESS\)](#)

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1. Summary

The ERA-MIN Joint Transnational Call (JTC) presents a funding opportunity for companies, universities, research institutes, NGOs and public authorities that wish to propose research and innovation actions within the theme of “raw materials for sustainable development and the circular economy” at transnational level. The scope and topics of the call support both technical and non-technical ideas with the aim of strengthening responsible and sustainable supply from both primary and secondary sources of minerals and metals. The **total** indicative funding available for transnational R&I projects is circa €13.6 million euros.

- Consortia of at least three partners, from three different countries, can apply. At least one partner needs to be from an EU member state or Associated Country participating in the call.
- Projects may last 12–36 months and work in TRL levels 1–9 (subject to national/regional regulations).
- The deadline to submit a proposal is 30th March 2023, at 17:00:00 CEST.

2. About ERA-MIN3

ERA-MIN3 is a global, innovative and flexible pan-European network of research funding organisations, supported by EU Horizon 2020, that builds on the experience of the FP7 ERA-NET ERA-MIN (2011–2015) and ERA-MIN 2 (2016–2022).

ERA-MIN3 aims to support the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials (EIP RM), the EU Raw Materials Initiative and further develop the raw materials (RM) sector in Europe through funding of transnational research and innovation (R&I) activities. This will be achieved through calls designed and developed specifically for the non-fuel, non-food raw materials sector (industrial, construction and metallic minerals). The network will address five key objectives:

- Support and promote R&I cooperation in Europe, contributing to the objectives and the implementation of both the Raw Materials Initiative and the EIP RM Strategies, maximising the impact of the Technology Pillar of the Strategic Implementation Plan;
- Reduce fragmentation of R&I funding in the area of non-fuel, non-food raw materials across Europe and globally;
- Provide a pan-European support network and financial resources to improve synergies, coordination and collaboration;
- Improve the efficiency and impact of human and financial investment in R&I activities in the area of Raw Materials;
- Improve the competitiveness and the environmental, health and safety performance of non-fuel, non-food RM operations.

These objectives are aimed at fostering sustainable supply of RM from European sources, ensuring a level playing field in access to resources in non-EU countries, boosting resource efficiency and promoting recycling. Moreover, ERA-MIN3 will liaison with other RM initiatives and projects to promote synergies and avoid duplication of efforts. As an example, ERA-MIN3 calls are intended to pave the way towards upscaling projects supported under the EIT Raw Materials where a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of at least 5 at the beginning of the project is required.



The ERA-MIN3 consortium consists of 25 funding organisations from 15 EU MS countries, 3 EU MS regions (FIO/VLAIO – Belgium/Flanders; FWO – Belgium/Flanders; SPW – Belgium/Wallonia; BNSF – Bulgaria; TA ČR – Czech Republic; Business Finland – Finland; ETAG – Estonia; ADEME – France; ANR – France; PT JÜLICH – Germany; GSI – Ireland; MUR – Italy; NCBR – Poland; FCT – Portugal; UEFISCDI – Romania; CDTI – Spain; CFNA – Spain/Navarra; AEI – Spain; SAS – Slovakia; MIZS – Slovenia; Vinnova – Sweden), one EU Associated country (TÜBITAK – Turkey), and three non-EU countries (Finep- Brazil; PRIMA-Québec – Canada/Quebec; DSI – South Africa).

ERA-MIN3 is fully inscribed in the large number of initiatives to support the EU's transition to a Circular Economy in many fields, such as the [Circular Economy Action plan](#), the [Battery Action Plan](#), and the [European Green Deal](#), by moreover answering to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This is implemented by addressing topics which are aiming at retaining the value of the raw materials that are used in products and returning them into the product cycle at the end of their use, keeping in mind the need for an environmentally and socially sustainable and responsible industrial supply of primary resources to feed the circular economy.

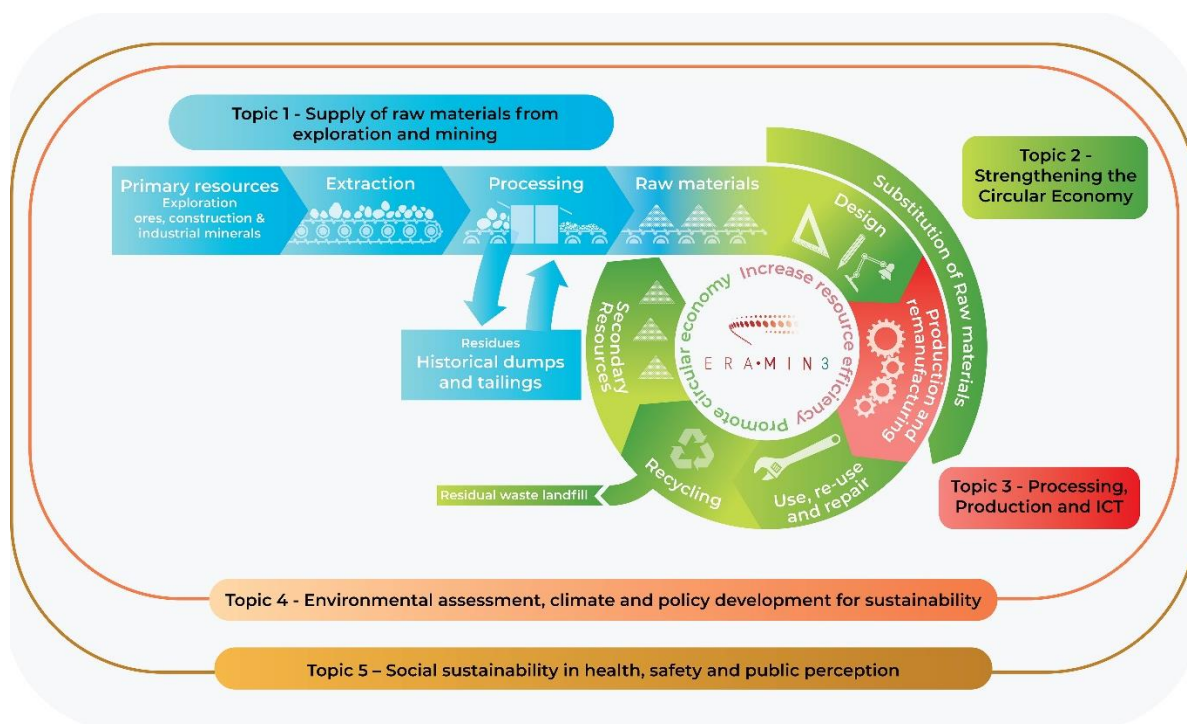


Figure 1. ERA-MIN3 view on Raw materials within the circular economy.

ERA-MIN3 covers the entire raw materials value chain, from sustainable exploration, extraction, and processing technologies to remining and recycling, as well as substitution of critical raw materials, in particular (but not limited to) those contained in the **EU Critical Raw Materials (CRM)** list or hazardous or hardly recyclable raw materials in products or production processes. A focus on **resource efficient**, more environmentally friendly extraction, recycling and production will be present. The circularity of the value chain will be ensured by designing products that are easier to maintain, repair, upgrade, remanufacture or recycle. New business models and digital technologies will be crucial for transferring research results to the market, as well as clear policies derived from

policy development collaboration across the public and private sectors.

ERA-MIN3 is also open to R&I projects on **raw materials for EU strategic autonomy and successful transition to a climate-neutral and circular economy**. Securing resilient access to these strategic raw materials, via sustainable sourcing and domestic production, together with resource efficiency and recycling will be important for the EU in the future.

Moreover, R&I efforts on **non-technological sustainability aspects** will play a central role in paving the way to a circular economy: taking into account environmental impact, policy and regulations, societal impact and public perception, health and safety issues related to the different stages of the whole RM value chain, is a crucial challenge for Europe.

The ERA-MIN JTC 2023 is the second and likely the last call of ERA-MIN3. For information on the statistics and the 57 transnational R&I projects funded under ERA-MIN and ERA-MIN2 calls, as well as the 22 transnational R&I projects funded under the EU co-funded ERA-MIN Joint Call 2021 please check the ERA-MIN website (<https://www.era-min.eu/results>).

3. Participating Funding Organisations and budgets

Not all ERA-MIN3 partners will participate in the ERA-MIN JTC 2023 and other funding organisations from Asturias, Basque Country and Nouvelle Aquitaine regions have associated to the Call, therefore the 23 funding organisations who have agreed to allocate national/regional budgets to support partners of their country or region in the transnational applications are listed in Table 1:

The total indicative call budget is circa € 13.6 million.

Table 1. Participating Funding Organisations.

Country /Region	Funding Organisation	Contact person (s)	E-mail (s)	Budget (Euro)	Confirmation
Belgium/ Flanders	FIO/VLAIO	Elsie DE CLERCQ	elsie.declercq@vlaio.be	1 000 000	YES
Belgium/ Flanders	FWO	Toon MONBALIU	eranet@fwo.be	350 000	YES
Belgium/ Wallonia	SPW-Recherche	Pierre DEMOITIE	pierre.demoitie@spw.wallonie.be	500 000	YES
Bulgaria	BNSF	Irena PEYTCHEVA Milena ALEKSANDROVA	impeytcheva@gmail.com aleksandrova@mon.bg	383 475	YES
Canada/ Québec	PRIMA-Québec	Michel LEFÈVRE	Michel.lefevre@prima.ca	700 000	YES
Czech Republic	TA ČR	Kateřina VOLFOVÁ	Katerina.volfova@tacr.cz	800 000	YES
Estonia	ETAG	Margit SUUROJA	margit.suuroja@etag.ee	150 000	YES
Finland	Business	Maarit KOKKO	maarit.kokko@businessfinland.fi	1 000 000	YES



Country /Region	Funding Organisation	Contact person	E-mail (s)	Budget (Euro)	Confirmation
	Finland				
France/ Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Delphine JOUVIN	Delphine.jouvin@nouvelle-aquitaine.fr	500 000	YES
Germany	BMBF/JÜLICH	Holger GRÜNEWALD	h.gruenewald@fz-juelich.de	2 000 000	Pending
Ireland	GSi/EPA	Ana LAVADO Luísa	analuisa.lavado@gsi.ie	200 000	YES
Poland	NCBR	Kinga SZYMANSKA-RZEZNIK	Kinga.szymanska@ncbr.gov.pl	600 000	YES
Portugal	FCT	Dina CARRILHO Stefano AMARAL	Dina.Carrilho@fct.pt Stefano.amaral@fct.pt	500 000	YES
Romania	UEFISCDI	Mihaela Manole Nicoleta DUMITRACHE	mihaela.manole@uefiscdi.ro nicoleta.dumitrache@uefiscdi.ro	600 000	YES
Slovakia	SAS	Martin NOVÁK	mnovak@up.upsav.sk	120 000	YES
Slovenia	MIZS	Doroteja ZLOBEC	doroteja.zlobec@gov.si	600 000	YES
South Africa	DSI	Tugela MATUBATUBA	Tugela.matubatuba@dst.gov.za	400 000	YES
Spain	AEI	Severino FALCÓN Jorge SOTELO	era-mat@aei.gob.es severino.falcon@aei.gob.es	500 000	YES
Spain/ Asturias	IDEPA	Ana E. FERNÁNDEZ MONZÓN	anae@idepa.es	200 000	YES
Spain/ Basque Country	EJ/GV Innobasque	Judith DE PRADO	ideprado@innobasque.eus	500 000	YES
Spain/ Navarra	CFNA	Silvia OJER	Silvia.ojer.torres@navarra.es	500 000	YES
Sweden	Vinnova	Tobias KAMPMANN Pontus WESTRIN	Tobias.kampmann@vinnova.se Pontus.westrin@vinnova.se	1 000 000	YES
Turkey	TÜBİTAK	A. Serhat YILDIRIM	azmiserhat.yildirim@tubitak.gov.tr	500 000	YES



4. Call calendar: Important dates

The following dates apply for this Call for R&I proposal:

Publication of the Call	7th December 2022
Deadline for proposal submission	30th March 2023, 17:00 CEST
Tentative communication of selection of proposals	17th October 2023
Latest starting date of selected projects	1st April 2024

5. Scope and topics of the Call

The scope of the Joint Call is **needs-driven research** on non-fuel, non-food raw materials (minerals and metals extracted from primary or secondary sources) addressing one or several areas of the raw materials sustainability scheme, as shown in Figure 1 above. As an overarching objective, the proposed research should clearly demonstrate potential to promote the sustainable and responsible sourcing, processing, production, consumption and recycling of primary and secondary raw materials in a circular economy, by taking into account also appropriate sustainability and non-technology aspects as environmental, social, health and circular economy issues.

Proposals should deliver convincing arguments on the potential impact of their innovation and research on the above-mentioned themes. They should take specific actions during the project to be able to quantify the expected impact using appropriate metrics and life cycle analysis thinking.

The ERA-MIN JTC 2023 will address three segments of **non-fuel, non-food raw materials**:

- Metallic minerals
- Construction materials
- Industrial minerals

The call focuses on three steps (topics) within the raw materials value chain and life cycle¹, plus two non-technical topics on the overarching issues of environmental and social sustainability, respectively. The inclusion of the sustainability topics in projects addressing scientific and technological developments will be considered as a strong added value for each proposal. Moreover, proposals addressing more than one topic are expected to take into account a holistic view of the value chain in a clear circular economy approach.

Projects focusing on the following subjects are particularly encouraged:

- One, or more, of the 30 Critical Raw Materials listed in 2020 by the European Commission².
- R&I on primary supply of raw materials for EU strategic autonomy and successful transition to a climate-neutral and circular economy, such as better data on geological resources and mineral exploration, extraction and production, including by- and co-products.

¹ Nevertheless, following a systemic approach, also other parts of the production cycle which are not mentioned explicitly (e.g. distribution, use, collection) can be included within project proposals.

² [COM\(2020\) 474 - Critical Raw Materials Resilience: Charting a Path towards greater Security and Sustainability](#)



- The inclusion and evaluation of Big Data and ICT³-based tools, for example applied in robotics and automation, with the focus on closing product and material cycles, increasing the efficiency of raw materials supply (e.g., inventories, supply chain management, automation) and foster innovative business models, open innovation and digitalisation.
- Special attention will be paid to proposals evaluating environmental and societal impact of the raw materials industry (see topics 4 and 5 below). Non-technology issues will reflect the need for improvement of frameworks for the minerals industry: policy development, public acceptance, workflows, life-cycle analysis indicators and design of new business models. Therefore, applicants should describe how their project will engage with the public, taking into account environmental, social impact and health safety issues related to the different stages of the raw materials value chain.

The objectives and expected impacts of the main topics supported by ERA-MIN JTC 2023 are listed here below:

❖ **Topic 1. Supply of raw materials from exploration to mining.**

Primary resources from exploration and mining activities including exploitation remain a major prerequisite to satisfy the growing global demand for raw materials. Therefore, exploration and mining will continue to be crucial, even as we move towards a circular economy in the future. We must strive for better efficiency in mining operations as well as work with the goal of zero waste mining, using secondary resources from mine waste to its fullest potential.

Within this topic we are seeking new knowledge and technological advances within exploration, mining and post-mining activities.

Proposals can address new concepts, technologies and improved models to be used in mineral exploration (e.g., geological, geophysical and geochemical techniques), as well as upgrading geological knowledge and databases on the evolution of the lithosphere, especially in Europe. Moreover, they can target comprehensive characterisation, mapping or remediation of active or abandoned mine sites, including valorisation of by- or co-products in complex mineral matrixes or historical stocks contained in tailings and spoil tips.

Proposals should aim at significant or demonstrable progress towards the goal of responsible and sustainable mine development that addresses environmental and social acceptability concerns. This can be through increased efficiency in the supply of raw materials while reducing impacts on the environment. Within this approach, contributions on the remediation of former mine sites, as well as improved mine remediation solutions, are included.

Both onshore and offshore proposals will be supported (subject to national/regional regulations).

It is encouraged to incorporate, for example, social science contributions, environmental impact of mines and explorations, new business models, eco-efficient waste management, environmental health and site safety protections, and sustainable management of closed mines and quarries. Specific work packages to reflect environmental and social aspects described under topic 4 and 5 could be an option

³ ICT- Information and Communication Technologies



and are recommended.

❖ **Topic 2. Strengthening the circular economy.**

Within this topic we are seeking proposals focusing on the circular economy. By improving the way we produce and use products we can minimize the amount and volume of raw materials we need, as well as move towards more efficient reuse, repair and recycling of components.

We welcome proposals within product design that contribute to efficient use of raw materials (eco-design) or substitution of critical materials in products and components, e.g., innovative materials for green technologies, resistance in extreme conditions, use in bulk applications or in electronic devices. Aspects such as increased resource efficiency, durability, functionality, modularity, upgradability, easy disassembly and repair or the use of materials that are reusable or recyclable are also welcome.

Proposals may aim at solving challenges within product reuse and recycling, both for example logistical challenges (e.g., within collection) or technological challenges (e.g., sorting or dismantling). Proposals focusing on environmentally friendly methods for recovery of raw materials from both products and landfills are encouraged. Life-cycle analysis can be used to support better decision-making targeted towards strengthening our sustainable development and is therefore also an important sub-topic.

The substitution of critical raw materials provides another focus within this topic. Attention should be paid to strategies and technologies for the substitution or substantial reduction of substances for which a significant future economic need coupled with scarcity may be foreseen, as well as 'substances of very high concern' (SVHCs) of the REACH regulation.

Innovation and research in new business models that implement different aspects of the circular economy are also encouraged within this topic. For instance, a major challenge in the raw materials sector is that entrepreneurs, with novel, high-impact and potentially transformative approaches to raw materials supply, may face barriers, such as substantive investments in existing infrastructure, making the system resistant to change. Applicants are therefore encouraged to respond to this challenge and to develop new business models which may include the collaboration between various actors of the life cycle for a successful implementation of the developed technologies. Within this context digital tools are a major enabler for the exchange of information within these newly established networks of businesses and consumers.

❖ **Topic 3. Processing, Production and ICT.**

Production efficiency and remanufacturing processes in a circular economy provide a high potential to increase resource efficiency for primary and secondary sources. A major potential to increase the efficient use of raw materials is provided by resource intensive processes.



In this topic we are looking for innovative technologies or methods re-designing industrial processes. For instance, proposals could address challenging subjects such as zero waste production, extracting value from waste streams within the production line or industrial 3D-printing to reduce material needs. Therefore, a full understanding of the innovation and research needs across the life cycle is required to ensure that the greatest environmental benefits can be obtained.

Proposals should address reduction of waste and/or recycling of waste, such as scraps, ashes, or industrial effluents, for more direct and less energy- and resource-consuming processes.

Additionally, energy efficiency, environmental, and social impact could be considered.

Proposals should be of high impact both in terms of the market opportunity they address, and the environmental/societal and health safety benefits they will enable.

Topic 4. Environmental assessment, climate and policy development for sustainability

While the three topics above mostly highlight specific challenges within the exploration, mining, production and circular economy fields, this topic focuses more on the entire system. In order to transition into truly sustainable operations, our methods for assessment of environmental, social and health impacts must improve. Proposals focusing on the development of tools, methods, guidelines and educational modules for environmental, social and health impact assessment (ESHIA) within industrial operations are welcome.

Another prerequisite for the green transition is a solid policy development in order to increase transparency, clarity and effectiveness in our legal systems. This sub-topic welcomes proposals that attempt to innovate and challenge regulatory issues or legal practice related to, for example, primary resource extraction of critical materials or environmental challenges related to re-mining of tailings or other mine waste.

This topic also invites proposals that work towards energy saving and decreases in climate footprints in the RM system as a whole, for example by innovating methods to shorten transports or logistical chains. Consumer behaviour and industrial transparency, for example via certifications, are also welcome.

Collaboration between private and public sector is also more important than ever, and proposals should work towards strong synergies between, for example, industrial partners and governmental as well as non-governmental bodies, and highlight the sense of urgency to move on the climate crisis as a unified front.

❖ Topic 5. Social sustainability in health, safety and public perception

As topic 4, this topic addresses the whole system, but rather with regards to social sustainability, mainly focusing on social acceptance and health and safety issues within the exploration, mining, production and circular economy fields.



Raw material extraction, production and other industries related to the above topics are some of the most intrusive in the world, taking up large areas, relying to a large degree on transport as well as having the potential to affect the environment in a negative way if done wrong. Public perception of these industries varies greatly, many times due to public awareness and lack of dialogue. In order to secure a sustainable supply of raw materials and production for the green energy transition, we must build trust and social acceptance. Proposals of innovation and research that focus on methodologies in, for example, efficient dialogue and public awareness are welcome. We also encourage stakeholders to apply for projects dealing with public acceptance and consumer behaviour around recycled products and the circular economy as a whole.

Health and safety concerns affect both workers and local communities and is one of the top priorities within industries. Innovation and research focusing on improving health and safety issues across the system are welcome within this sub-topic, for example, new ways to measure, prevent and mitigate hazardous materials and toxic substances leaving the industrial site or health and safety issues connected to transport and logistics between different operations.

There is currently a pronounced gender imbalance and inequality in the male-dominated workforce of the raw materials sector in general, and the mining sector in particular. The achievement of gender equality regarding involvement and decision-making influence is a key aspect for the social sustainability of the sector. For this reason, we invite projects with focus on analysing issues around gender equality in the raw materials sector and/or aiding the improvement of female participation and influence.


This topic also invites collaboration between many different parties, both private and public sectors, as topic 4.

The topics and sub-topic areas are shown in Appendix I.

Some examples of project ideas under each sub-topic are presented but the proposals can address other ideas not mentioned in the sub-topics.

Background information on the research needs per topic and sub-topic areas was identified by the **ERA-MIN Research Agenda**, which can be downloaded from the ERA-MIN website⁴, and are in line with the **Strategic Implementation Plan of the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials**⁵.

Please note that not all topics are supported by all Funding Organisations, see summary in Table 2.

Table 2. Summary of the main call topics supported by the Funding Organisations.  means that there are some related restrictions. Always check with the corresponding national/regional Funding

⁴ https://www.era-min.eu/sites/default/files/publications/era-min_research_agenda.pdf

⁵ <https://www.era-min.eu/sites/default/files/publications/eip-sip-part-1.pdf> and <https://www.era-min.eu/sites/default/files/publications/eip-sip-part-2.pdf>



Organisation for restrictions.

Country /Region	Funding Organisation	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5
Belgium/ Flanders	FIO/VLAIO	YES	YES	YES		NO
Belgium/Flanders	FWO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Belgium/ Wallonia	SPW-Recherche	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bulgaria	BNSF	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Canada/ Québec	PRIMA-Québec	YES		YES	NO	
Czech Republic	TA ČR	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Estonia	ETAG	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Finland	Business Finland	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
France/Nouvelle Aquitaine	Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine		YES	YES	YES	YES
Germany	BMBF/JÜLICH	YES	NO	NO		
Ireland	GSI/EPA	YES	YES	NO		
Poland	NCBR	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Portugal	FCT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Romania	UEFISCDI	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Slovakia	SAS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Slovenia	MIZS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
South Africa	DSI	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Spain	AEI	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Spain/Asturias	IDEPA	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Spain/ Basque Country	EJ/GV - Innobasque	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Spain/ Navarra	CFNA	NO		YES	NO	NO



Country /Region	Funding Organisation	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5
Sweden	Vinnova	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Turkey	TÜBİTAK	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

6. Who may apply

This call for proposals is aimed at all actors in the raw materials value chain, including universities, research institutes, companies (small, medium and large), NGOs and public authorities that can contribute to the objectives of ERA-MIN3 and who meet the eligibility criteria in section 8, as well as **national/regional regulations** (see Appendix IV).

A consortium must consist of at least **three project partners eligible and requesting funding from the participating Funding Organisations of at least three different countries whereof at least one is an EU Member State or an Associated Country participating in the Call**. At least half of the partners in a consortium must belong to countries participating in the Call. Please note that not all participating Funding Organisations are EU Member States, namely Canada (Québec) and South Africa and the only EU Associated Country participating in the call is Turkey.

Organisations from countries/regions not participating in the Call can be **associated partners** of the consortium on the condition that they provide evidence of the availability of their own funds to cover their project activities.

There is no limit in the maximum consortium size, but it should be suitable for the level and complexity of the project and each partner should have a significant contribution for the transnational added value of collaboration.

Consortia involving both academic and industrial organisations are particularly encouraged to apply although purely public or private partnerships are also possible. Please **check the funding regulations on national or regional level (Appendix IV)**.

Consortia may include players from the public and private sector with different backgrounds, e.g. physical scientists, engineers and technology developers, but also social scientists and policy advisors working closely together and covering different parts of the raw materials cycle.

Project consortia covering the entire stakeholder chain from idea holders to end-users are considered positive, as well as consortia with actors traditionally working in other industries, so that more ground-breaking innovations can be created through new approaches.

The ERA-MIN JTC 2023 supports gender equality, therefore applicants should consider gender equality in, for example:

- Selection of project manager
- Composition of project group




- Division of work, power and influence in the project
- Involvement of target groups








7. What do we fund









ERA-MIN JTC 2023 addresses all aspects of the non-fuel, non-food raw materials life cycle, covering both primary and secondary resources. The theme of the call is “Raw materials for the sustainable development and the circular economy”. Scope and topics for the call are detailed in chapter 5. It is encouraged to address more than one topic to get a more holistic impact along the value chain (if allowed by funding organisations).

Overall, ERA-MIN JTC 2023 can fund **basic, applied and experimental research projects that are 12–36 months long**. However, not all funding agencies can fund all types of research (or TRL) or 12–36 months, see Table 3.

Table 3. Type of research and entities eligible for funding by the participating Funding Organisations.

 means that there are some related restrictions. Always check with the corresponding national/regional Funding Organisation for any restrictions and ‘State Aid Rules’.

Country/region	Funding Organisation	Fundamental/Basic research	Industrial /Applied research	Experimental research	TRL	Type of entities eligible for funding	Project duration
Belgium/ Flanders	FIO/VLAIO	YES	YES	YES	2–7		12–36 months
Belgium/ Flanders	FWO	YES		YES	1–5		24–36 months
Belgium/ Wallonia	SPW- Recherche	NO	YES	YES	4–7	All	12–36 months
Bulgaria	BNSF	YES	NO	YES (only laboratory)	1–4		24–36 months
Canada/ Québec	PRIMA- Québec	YES	YES	YES	1–9		12–36 months
Czech Republic	TA ČR	NO	YES	YES	3–9	All	
Estonia	ETAG	YES	YES	YES	1–6	All	24–36 months
Finland	Business Finland	NO	YES	YES	2–7		12–36 months

Country/region	Funding Organisation	Fundamental/Basic research	Industrial /Applied research	Experimental research	TRL	Type of entities eligible for funding	Project duration
France/Nouvelle Aquitaine	Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine	YES	YES	YES	1–9	Companies (small and medium) + research organizations	12–36 months
Germany	BMBF/JÜLICH		YES	YES	2–8	All	12–36 months
Ireland	GSI/EPA	YES	YES	YES	1–7		12–36 months
Poland	NCBR	NO	YES	YES	2–9		12–36 months
Portugal	FCT	YES	YES	YES	1–8	All	12–36 months
Romania	UEFISCDI	YES	YES	YES	1–9	All	12–36 months
Slovakia	SAS	YES	YES	YES	1–7	Academia	12–36 months
Slovenia	MIZS	YES		NO	1–6	All	12–36 months
South Africa	DSI	YES	YES	YES	1–9	All	12–36 months
Spain	AEI	YES		YES	All		12–36 months
Spain/Asturias	IDEPA	NO	YES	YES	3–8	Companies	12–36 months
Spain/Basque Country	EJ/GV - Innobasque	NO	YES	YES	4–7		12–36 months
Spain/ Navarra	CFNA	YES	YES	YES	All	All	18–36 months
Sweden	Vinnova	YES	YES	YES	2–7	All	12–36 months
Turkey	TUBITAK	YES	YES	YES	1–8		12–36 months

TRL – Technology Readiness Level (as defined in Appendix II).

8. Eligibility criteria

The proposals have to meet the following eligibility criteria as well as the national/regional funding regulations (see Appendix IV).



Eligibility Criteria	
Proposal submission deadline	➤ The proposals must be submitted, only via electronic form through the ERA-MIN Electronic Submission System (ESS), by the coordinator of the consortium no later than 30th March 2023, at 17:00:00 CEST .
Consortium composition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each consortium must comprise at least three independent legal entities eligible and requesting funding from the participating Funding Organisations of at least three different countries where at least one country is an EU Member State or an EU Associated Country (Turkey) named in this call. ➤ At least half of the partners in a consortium must belong to countries participating in the Call.
Applicant/ Coordinator	➤ The coordinator of the consortium must request funding from, and be established in, a country or region participating in the Call.
Applicant/ Lead researcher	➤ A Lead Researcher can only represent the coordinator in one proposal (i.e. if a Lead Researcher coordinates one proposal, he/she can only participate in other proposals as a lead researcher/key personnel of a consortium partner).
Applicant	➤ Researchers from the participating Funding Organisations or of the Scientific Evaluation Board (SEB) cannot apply to this Call. ⁶
Eligible consortium/applicant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each partner requesting funding must comply with the national/regional funding rules and regulations of their respective Funding Organisation to ensure the eligibility of the consortium proposal (see Appendix IV) and sign Form B. ➤ Please note that this may include sending additional information/documentation to your national/regional Funding Organisation.
Consortium work effort balance	➤ The total efforts of partners from one country in a proposal cannot exceed 70% of the total project efforts (measured in person-months, PM). PM per partner should be clearly stated in the respective table of the proposal description (Form A).
Project duration	➤ The project duration should be a minimum of 12 months and should not exceed 36 months (subject to national/regional regulations).

⁶ As an exception Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (JÜLICH) is eligible to apply since measures were already established to avoid any possible conflict of interest with Project Management Jülich as a beneficiary which is a largely independent unit within the research centre Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (JÜLICH). These measures include that Project Management Jülich will be excluded from all decisions concerning the evaluation, selection and funding of proposals submitted by Forschungszentrum Jülich within funding programmes managed by Project Management Jülich. This role will be taken over by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research as the responsible programme owner. To assure the quality of services, Project Management Jülich introduced a quality management system that was certified according to DIN EN ISO 9001.



Proposal templates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ERA-MIN Templates must be used, i.e. Form A, Form B and Form C. Ethics issue table and CV's of lead researcher/key personnel. All fields of the proposal descriptions must be filled in. A Guide for Proposal Submission, including all templates, is available at https://www.era-min.eu/joint-call/era-min-joint-call-2023
Proposal length	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The proposal description (Form A) length cannot exceed 30 pages, excluding the Gantt chart, the references and the Ethics issues table. All images and tables must be included in the maximum page length (30) of Form A. ➤ The financial table and financial comments are completed online.
Partners requesting funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All applicants requesting funding must provide a statement of commitment (Form B) duly signed by the legal representative of the organisation or the Lead Researcher.
Associated partners not requesting funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Applicants not requesting funding, or not eligible for national/regional funding, can be partners of the consortium on the condition that they provide evidence of the availability of their own funds to cover their costs by providing a signed statement of own funding (Form C) duly signed by the legal representative of the organisation or the Lead Researcher. ➤ Applicants from countries/regions which do not participate in the Call can be part of the consortium subject to the approval by the funding organisations supporting the other applicants requesting funding and need to provide duly signed Form C.
CV template	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A maximum of three CVs (of lead researcher and two key personnel) per consortium partner/associated partner is allowed and the ERA-MIN CV template must be used and cannot exceed one page per person.
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The language of the proposal is English.

Not all Funding Organisations can fund projects related to all topics, and funding eligibility criteria may differ between countries/regions (see Appendix IV).

Partners requesting funding are responsible for ensuring that the Funding Organisation for their country/region has confirmed its participation in the relevant topic and sub-topic for their proposal, and to check which type of organisation can be funded at what level of support and the maximum budget available.

A summary of some national/regional funding rules is provided in Tables 2 and 3, as well as in the national/regional funding regulations (Appendix IV) but applicants are obliged to check with their national/regional contact point (Table 1) for their national/regional funding regulations.



9. Call procedures: submission, evaluation, selection, funding and reporting

There will be a one-stage submission procedure. All lawful steps will be taken to ensure confidentiality of information and documents obtained during the submission, evaluation and selection procedures of the Call.

9.1 How to apply

Registration

1. The coordinator (Partner 1), who will represent the consortium, will have to register at the ERA-MIN Electronic Submission System (ESS) before submitting a proposal.
2. Once registered, the coordinator will receive a registration email with the login link.
3. The coordinator will need to register all the partners of the consortium (name and e-mail).
4. After registration, each partner will receive an email to activate their account.
5. With his/her account, each partner will enter his/her own profile, including the three CV's.

A joint transnational proposal shall be prepared in English by the consortium and submitted in pdf form via the ERA-MIN ESS by the lead researcher representing the coordinator. The proposal must be submitted no later than **30th March, 2023 at 17:00:00 CEST (Brussels time)**.

If required by the national/regional regulations, submission forms or other documents must be submitted directly also to the participating Funding Organisations according to their deadlines. Please consult your regional/national contact person (Table 1) for further details.

The proposal form must be filled in and submitted by the coordinator, except for the partner's profiles and respective CV's. ERA-MIN templates and annexes are available at <https://www.era-min.eu/joint-call/era-min-joint-call-2023>, namely:

- Form A - proposal description (Calibri, 11pt, single spaced; the template's margins of the page should be kept, 30 pages maximum including images and tables and excluding Gantt Chart, References and Ethics issues table);
- Signed Statement of Commitments from all partners requesting funding (Form B);
- And, if applicable, signed Statements of Own Funding (Form C) from partners not requesting funding.

Form B and, if applicable, Form C must be uploaded by each partner as annexes to the proposal on the ESS. The coordinator has the duty to ensure that Form B and Form C are signed in due time.

Re-submitting the proposal before the submission deadline is possible.

9.2 Evaluation procedures

The evaluation procedures are designed to identify the best proposals in terms of scientific excellence, impact, quality and efficiency on the implementation, as thoroughly and accurately as possible; and to undertake the assessment in a fair, transparent and homogeneous way for all proposals submitted to the Call.

The quality assessment of the submitted proposals will be performed by the Scientific Evaluation Board (SEB) composed of international independent expert reviewers that sign Declarations of



Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest.

The submitted proposals will be subject to eligibility checks performed by the JCS and the CSC to confirm compliance with ERA-MIN eligibility criteria and national/regional priorities, rules and regulations, respectively.

Each eligible proposal will be evaluated based on three main evaluation criteria (see Chapter 10 below) by three independent experts of the SEB.

At the SEB meeting, a ranking list will be established for eligible proposals with overall rating at, or above, 10 and with each individual main evaluation criterion score at, or above, 3. Proposals not meeting both the individual criterion threshold and the overall rating threshold will not be recommended for funding.

9.3 Selection procedures and feedback to applicants

The CSC will strive to ensure that the top-ranked proposals are funded to the maximum extent possible. The selection of proposals will be based on the ranking list of eligible proposals provided by the SEB meeting and the available national/regional budgets until exhaustion of public funds. A CSC consensus meeting will be organised to elaborate the “joint selection list” of projects recommended for funding.

All coordinators will receive feedback on the results of the evaluation process, including the Evaluation Summary Reports. The coordinators will be instructed to communicate the decisions to the consortium partners.

The decision of the CSC consensus meeting is final and appeals will not be accepted.

10. Evaluation criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on three main evaluation criteria as in Horizon 2020: 1) Scientific Excellence, 2) Impact and 3) Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation:

1. SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

- 1.1 Clarity and pertinence of the objectives;
- 1.2 Soundness of the concept, and credibility of the proposed methodology;
- 1.3 Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state-of-the-art, and demonstrates innovation potential (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models);
- 1.4 Appropriate consideration of interdisciplinary approaches and, where relevant, use of stakeholder knowledge

2. IMPACT

- 2.1 The extent to which the outputs of the project would contribute at the European and/or International level to the expected impacts mentioned in the work programme under the relevant topic and sub-topic;
- 2.2 Any substantial impacts that would enhance innovation capacity, create new market opportunities, strengthen competitiveness and growth of companies, address issues related to barriers/obstacles, and any framework conditions such as regulation,



- standards, public acceptance, workforce considerations, financing of follow-up steps, cooperation of other links in the value chain, or bring other important benefits for society;
- 2.3 Quality of the proposed activities to exploit, disseminate and communicate the project results to different target audiences including the wider society;
- 2.4 Extent of the contribution to the development of technological solutions and services for the implementation of the Strategic Implementation Plan of the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials and the ERA-MIN Research Agenda;
- 2.5 Extent of the contribution to the development of non-technological solutions to address environmental, social impact and health safety issues, within a life cycle analysis approach, or the development/deployment of tools, applications, and services enabling circular economy strategies;

3. QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION

- 3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives, deliverables and milestones;
- 3.2 Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation (including IPR) management;
- 3.3 Quality and complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium brings together the necessary expertise;
- 3.4 How well the team (key persons) is composed regarding gender distribution, as well as the distribution of power and influence between women and men;
- 3.5 Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role.

Evaluation scores will be awarded to the three main evaluation criteria and not for the different sub-criteria. Each main evaluation criterion is rated using the 0–5 scale (half-points are allowed):

- 0—Insufficient:** The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information (unless the result of an ‘obvious clerical error’).
- 1—Poor:** the criterion is inadequately addressed or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- 2—Fair:** the proposal broadly addresses the criterion but there are significant weaknesses.
- 3—Good:** the proposal addresses the criterion well but with a number of shortcomings.
- 4—Very good:** the proposal addresses the criterion very well but with a small number of shortcomings.
- 5—Excellent:** the proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion; any shortcomings are minor.

11. Terms and conditions for grant agreement

11.1 Funding decisions

The list of funded projects will be published on the ERA-MIN website.

For proposals recommended for funding, the partners will be asked to contact the respective Funding Organisation for further instructions regarding national/regional internal procedures. The grant

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preparation phase is carried out following the usual rules of each Funding Organisation.

Each beneficiary will have a separate funding contract/ grant agreement according to national/regional regulations with the appropriate national/regional Funding Organisation. Changes to the composition of research consortia or an increase of the budget should not occur during the contract/letter of grant establishment phase. The beneficiaries shall inform the JCS and the Funding Organisations of that project of any event that might affect the implementation of the project.

The partners of the projects selected for funding must agree on a **common project start date**, which will be the reference date for annual and final project reports. It is expected that grant preparation may take up to 3-5 months after the notification of results. The latest project starting date is 1st April 2024.

11.2 Consortium Agreement

The beneficiaries of a project selected for funding must sign a **Consortium Agreement (CA)** for cooperation, preferably before the official project start date but no later than six months after the official project start date, considering that some Funding Organisations cannot conclude the grant agreements without a signed CA. Each Funding Organisation will indicate when they expect the CA and how to submit it. A copy of the duly signed CA should be sent to the JCS and also to the Funding Organisations if required by national/regional regulations (see Appendix IV).

The purpose of the CA is to ensure a well-functioning research collaboration and protection of partners' rights and obligations. Moreover, the CA should provide for a decision-making process to deal with all relevant issues during the project lifetime. Models of CA are available⁷. Nevertheless, the consortium is free to define its own CA subject to applicable legal and regulatory provisions. For guidance, the following items are usually addressed in a CA:

- Purpose of and definitions used in the CA;
- Common start date of the research project;
- Project structure and project management;
- Detailed identification of partners' contributions (financial contributions, Intellectual Property Rights' constitutions, personnel, etc.);
- Role and responsibilities of the project coordinator and the partners among themselves (e.g.; a proper communication and transmission of information within the project consortium) and towards the Funding Organisations and the European Commission, if applicable;
- Decision making process within the consortium properly reflecting the weight of each partner in the consortium (i.e., at proportion of partners' respective contributions;
- Resources and funding (e.g., each partner is responsible for the use of its own funding and must inform officially the whole consortium of resource difficulties for conducting the work);
- Confidentiality and the rules for publishing (e.g., priority to patents as a first option and then requirement of a consortium decision before publication; mandatory notification

⁷ DESCA (Development of a Simplified Consortium Agreement) is a comprehensive Model Consortium Agreement <https://www.desca-agreement.eu/desca-model-consortium-agreement/>



of all the partners before any kind of external communication. Decision to take by the consortium regarding the list of names as authors of the publication (all the names or solely the direct contributors);

- Management of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR): identification of pre-existing IPR/Background; allocation of IPR and access to IPR among partners at proportion of their respective contributions;
- Handling of internal disputes;
- The liabilities of the project partners.

The national/regional Funding Organisations shall have the right to use documents, information and results submitted by the research partners and/or to use the information and results according to their national/regional rules on IPR.

11.3 Monitoring and reporting procedures

Beneficiaries must ensure that all project publications etc. include a proper acknowledgement to ERA-MIN3, co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union, and the respective national or regional Funding Organisations.

On behalf of the consortium, the coordinators of the funded projects will submit annual and final reports in English via an Electronic Monitoring System to the JCS that contain information on scientific and administrative aspects. In addition, each beneficiary in a selected funded project must report to their respective national/regional Funding Organisation, according to their administrative funding rules. The beneficiaries are instructed to immediately contact the coordinator, the Funding Organisations involved and the JCS with any contingency that may arise.

The ERA-MIN database respects appropriate and secure use of material and data according to the application of common standards, following the guidelines on data management in Horizon 2020. The collected data will require a prior informed consent, will be protected and secured, in order to avoid a malevolent use.

The **mid-term scientific evaluation** exercise of funded projects will be based on the annual project reports and presentations made by the coordinators at the mid-term Seminar with the participation of the CSC members and invited stakeholders. As a result, the CSC may propose the continuation, the re-organisation or the suspension of the research project activities.

The **final scientific evaluation** of funded projects will be based on the final project reports and presentations made by the coordinators.

The final assessment of results will be made available on the ERA-MIN website and a wider dissemination through other relevant means will be carried out.

The representative of the coordinator should attend a minimum of two meetings organised by ERA-MIN3 (mid-term and final seminars) and travel expenses should be included in the proposal budget plans, if eligible for the Funding Organisations. In addition, the beneficiaries are expected to participate and contribute to any communication activity initiated by ERA-MIN3 in the funding period and beyond.



12. Open Access and Open Data

The optimisation of the impact of publicly funded scientific research is of fundamental importance to improve conditions to i) minimise the time spent searching for information and accessing it, ii) be able to speed up scientific progress, and iii) make it easier to cooperate across and beyond the European Union.

Open Access recommendations for all scientific publications produced by the funded projects will support Green Open Access (immediate or delayed open access provided through self-archiving), and/or Gold Open Access (immediate open access provided by a publisher) only depending on cost eligibility. In the case of Green Open Access, partners will (as soon as possible and at the latest on publication) deposit a machine-readable electronic copy of the published version or final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication in a repository for scientific publications. In addition, partners will ensure open access to the deposited publication and bibliographic metadata.

In relation to Open Data, the funded projects will be recommended to submit metadata on all the data resources directly generated by the project on the Raw Material Information System (RMIS) of JRC (<https://rmis.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>), as well as additional information on how these data will be exploited, if and how data will be made accessible for verification and re-use, as well as how they will be curated and preserved. Additionally, we encourage the researchers to register online at “The Green Best Practice Community” of JRC (<https://greenbestpractice.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>) and propose case studies and best practices. Metadata and additional information will be made publicly available via the ERA-MIN website. ERA-MIN3 will comply with the Protection of Personal Data Requirements by following the ethical standards and guidelines of Horizon 2020 and applicable EU and national law.



APPENDIX I – Topic and sub-topic areas for R&I.

Some examples specifications are presented under each sub-topic but the proposals can address other ideas not mentioned in the sub-topics.

Topic 1: Supply of raw materials from exploration and mining	
1.1	Innovative exploration methods, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved understanding of primary raw materials resources for securing the supply chain Innovative (non-invasive) exploration techniques, both local, regional and at depth Tools for identifying resources and improving mineral resource modelling Innovative approaches and tools for ore and waste rock characterization
1.2	More sustainable mining operations, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart and eco-efficient technologies for mining Automation and digitalization of mining processes for more efficient and safer extraction of resources
1.3	Improved environmental management of mines, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reliable environmental monitoring systems during and after operation phase, e.g. security systems for tailings dams or recipient control Innovative methods, models and technologies for waste management, e.g. identification of waste material for reuse or reprocessing Innovative approaches to avoid, minimize or utilize tailings
1.4	Efficient mineral processing and metallurgy, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase material and energy efficiency of ore processing Overcome metallurgical challenges for metal production
1.5	Mine closure, remediation and reining of tailings and waste rock, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remediation after mine closure with field demonstration at real scale Predictive methods and models for mine closure long-term performance, e.g. ARD prediction, climate change impact and geotechnical stability over time Long-term environmental monitoring systems following mine closure, e.g. passive systems, low maintenance monitoring etc. Extraction of raw materials from mine dumps and tailings

Topic 2: Strengthening the circular economy	
2.1	Product design for resource efficiency, including substitution, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase durability, upgradability, modularity, easy repair, easy disassembly • Use of materials that facilitate reuse • Developing products, services and technologies with same functionalities avoiding critical materials, or by substituting the functionality itself • Replace 'substances of very high concern' (SVHCs) of the REACH regulation
2.2	End-of-life products pre-processing: collection, logistics, pre-treatment, dismantling, sorting, characterisation, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient characterisation and separation of products and components for re-use or recycling • Improved collection and sorting of products of high value for the circular economy, e.g. logistical models, technical advances in sorting and activities to boost behavioural patterns
2.3	Reuse, repair, refurbishing, repurposing and remanufacturing of end-of-life products, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision support for choosing the strategy with highest impact on a lifecycle basis • Overcome barriers for second-life products
2.4	Recovery and urban mining of raw materials from end-of-life products or other wastes, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced landfill mining • Recover metals from urban mines via innovative, clean and environmental-friendly processes and separation techniques • Develop comprehensive strategies to increase the recovery of raw materials from relevant material • Recovery and valorisation of materials with high mass flows, e.g. construction materials, ashes
2.5	Life-cycle-analysis of raw materials, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision support for choosing the strategy with highest positive impact on circularity following a life-cycle-analysis (LCA) methodology • Studies on flows of mineral resources (e. g. MFA - material-flow analysis) • Technical solutions and models for traceability of various raw materials
2.6	New business models (implementing circular economy aspects), e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New business models for resource recovery, remanufactured products, product life extension, sharing platforms, etc. • Tools, applications and services that enable circular economy business models • Tools, applications and services for traceability of raw materials • Development of digital tools for enabling new collaborations within the product life cycle

Topic 3: Processing, Production and ICT	
3.1	Increase resource efficiency in resource intensive production processes, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase material and energy efficiency in production • Valorisation of by-products, co-products • Re-design production cycles, networks and cascades
3.2	Increase resource efficiency, recycling and reuse of products using information and communication technologies (ICT), e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply chain management across the whole life cycle • Management of production cycles, networks or cascades • Smart technologies for processing, production and remanufacturing, e.g. sensor-based sorting of metals scrap, efficient characterisation of used products
Topic 4: Environmental assessment, climate and policy development for sustainability	
4.1	Improvement of methods or data for environmental, social and health impact assessment (ESHIA), e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of tools used in ESHIA processes • Studies and cases for new methods of impact assessment, e.g. for the development of improved baseline levels of metals in water, noise pollution or other • Guidelines, educational modules and policy work in collaboration between public and private sector
4.2	Policy development for primary and secondary raw material industry, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy labs for innovation within regulatory issues or legal practice in the raw materials industry • Case studies on comparisons, similarities, and opportunities in other countries' policy work • Collaboration within public and private sector as well as civil society to develop guidelines, certifications, and other models to improve traceability
4.3	Energy-saving and climate action, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System-wide improvements to energy saving and climate action within raw material industry, for example related to extraction, processing, production, transport or consumer behaviour.
Topic 5: Social sustainability in health, safety and public perception	
5.1	Social acceptance and trust/public perception of the raw materials industry, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve public perception of the importance of primary and secondary raw materials production (e.g. for wider society, local stakeholders) • Raising public awareness for activities associated with raw materials supply • Standardized social science methodologies for gathering/analysing data in different countries • Studies on consumer behaviour related to traceability of metals and minerals in end-user products

5.2	Health and safety issues, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Avoid safety, health and pollution issues in mining operations</i> • <i>Eliminate hazardous materials or toxic substances in proximity to communities or fragile ecosystem</i> • <i>Risk modelling to avoid accidents especially in subsurface areas/mines</i>
5.3	Gender equality in the raw materials sector, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Analysis of issues and causes for gender imbalance and inequality</i> • <i>Improve gender equality in participation and influence</i> • <i>Improve public perception of career opportunities for women</i>

APPENDIX II Technology Readiness Level (EU H2020 definition)

TRL 1 – basic principles observed

TRL 2 – technology concept formulated

TRL 3 – experimental proof of concept

TRL 4 – technology validated in lab

TRL 5 – technology validated in relevant environment

TRL 6 – technology demonstrated in relevant environment

TRL 7 – system prototype demonstration in operational environment

TRL 8 – system complete and qualified

TRL 9 – actual system proven in operational environment

APPENDIX III Definitions

Applicant: is a legal entity, represented by a Lead Researcher that forms a consortium at the stage of proposal submission.

Beneficiary: is a legal entity, represented by a Lead Researcher, member of a consortium selected for funding that receive financial support from the respective national/regional Funding Organisation.

Call: Refers to the ERA-MIN Joint Transnational Call (JTC) 2023 opening on 7th December 2022 and closing on 30th March 2023, at 17:00:00 CEST (Central European Summer Time) with a total estimated budget of € 13.6 million.

Call Steering Committee (CSC): Comprises representatives of the Funding Organisations that have committed national/regional funds to support the selected R&I projects. It supervises the whole Call procedure and agrees on the final list of proposals recommended for funding. It supervises the activities of the Joint Call Secretariat.

Consortium: Group of legal entities, each represented by a Lead Researcher, that are part of a joint collaborative transnational R&I project proposal submitted to the Call or a project selected for funding.

Coordinator: One partner of the consortium represented by a Lead Researcher, who will be responsible for the internal scientific management of the project, intellectual property rights management, project reporting towards the JCS and CSC, and will represent the consortium externally.

Funding Organisations: are responsible for providing funding under relevant rules and regulations to the beneficiaries from the respective country/region.

Joint Call Secretariat (JCS): Is responsible for the implementation of the Call and the follow-up phase until the funded projects and all reporting requirements have ended. All submitted proposals are collected by the JCS, which makes them available to the CSC and the reviewers of the Scientific Evaluation Board. The JCS handles the communication with the applicants, reviewers, CSC and beneficiaries. The JCS is hosted by FCT (Foundation for Science and Technology), in Lisbon (Portugal) with the support of TA ČR (Czech Republic), AEI (Spain), Vinnova (Sweden) and PT Jülich (Germany), the latter hosting and maintaining the electronic submission system (ESS).

Key Personnel: is a team member of an applicant or a beneficiary.

Lead Researcher: is the main responsible person of a legal entity and is the contact point with the corresponding national/regional Funding Organisation and the JCS.

Partners: legal entities, each represented by a Lead Researcher within a department or institute from universities, research organisations, companies etc., forming a consortium.

Scientific Evaluation Board (SEB): Panel of internationally independent, recognised scientific experts responsible for the quality assessment of the submitted proposals. SEB members will not submit or participate in proposals within this Call and must sign declarations of confidentiality and of conflict of interest.

APPENDIX IV National/regional funding regulations

Belgium/Flanders - VLAIO/FIO - FONDS VOOR INNOVEREN EN ONDERNEMEN

a) Regional eligibility criteria

Regional Contact Point	Name: Elsie De Clercq E-mail: elsie.declercq@vlaio.be Phone: +32 2 432 42 78
Eligible entities	Any enterprise, from a Flemish SME to the Flemish branch of a multinational company may request funding. The only condition is that the enterprise should have a legal personality upon signing the agreement. Furthermore, the enterprise should have the capacity to exploit the result to a sufficient extent in Flanders and hence create enough economic impact in the form of employment and investments. Note: Flemish research centres cannot apply, but they can be subcontractor of the Flemish enterprise.
Eligible topics	1-4
Eligible type of research and TRL	Fundamental/Basic Research, Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental Research TRL 2-7
Additional eligibility criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least € 25.000 funding Before initiating a funding request for international projects, the applicant should contact VLAIO – Flemish applicants need to provide a regional ERA-NET addendum to VLAIO (through the VLAIO electronic application system see www.vlaio.be “Subsidies & financiering” – “Onderzoeksproject” or “ontwikkelingsproject” The maximum amount of funding for one project is € 500.000
Eligible costs	The budget of the Flemish industrial partner consists of own payroll costs, other costs (i.e. direct and indirect costs), costs large subcontractors, large costs, costs research partners

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	Maximum 65	Maximum 70	Maximum 70	Subcontractor of the Flemish enterprise
Industrial/Applied Research	Maximum 65	Maximum 70	Maximum 70	Subcontractor of the Flemish enterprise
Experimental development	Maximum 40	Maximum 50	Maximum 60	Subcontractor of the Flemish enterprise

Belgium/Flanders - FWO - Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen

a) Regional eligibility criteria

Regional Contact Point	Name: Toon Monbaliu Advisor European Programmes Tel: +32 2 550 15 70 e-mail: eranet@fwo.be
Eligible entities	The FWO integrates two of its national/regional funding channels within this multilateral framework. The choice of funding channel depends on the type of project the researchers from Flanders wish to undertake. The eligibility of institutions and its researchers can be verified in the relevant and respective chosen funding channel regulations, which can be consulted on the FWO website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FWO Research Projects (FO) - Strategic Basic Research (SBO)
Eligible topics	All topics are eligible, if they fit the FWO funding channels' scope.
Eligible type of research and TRL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (strategic) basic research; - applied research (need for additional basic research on the topic of interest to come to the intended application; see SBO manuals on 'economic' and 'societal' finalities); - Experimental Research. <p>TRL range from 1 to 5 (for the FWO funded part in the consortium).</p>
Additional eligibility criteria	<p>1) When the FWO <u>SBO project channel</u> is chosen, the researchers are asked to provide proactively, and before the pre-proposal submission deadline (preferably 1 week in advance), a concise – but to the point – valorisation plan to the FWO (no fixed format, max. 2 A4-pages), which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>clarifies the valorisation context within Flanders (and also internationally preferably);</i> - <i>mentions the involved – and specific - actors from Flanders.</i> <p>This document can be sent towards the europa@fwo.be email address. <u>Failure to comply with this requirement can lead to ineligibility.</u> There are no additional requirements at national level, when it comes to pre-submission.</p> <p>2) Participation in this call does not interfere with the 'regular' project submission framework at national level, and is consequently not taken into account for calculating the max. available number of new applications and running projects combined. However, researchers can only participate within</p>

	<p>two different international consortia in this call.</p> <p>3) Projects aiming at the development of a spin-off company are not eligible in this context.</p> <p>4) The project duration is limited to 36 months, which implies the funding has to be budgeted and spent accordingly. An automatic prolongation and using positive (financial) balances after the end date is not applicable in this framework. As such article 28 of the FWO Research Projects and article 14 of the Strategic Basic Research (SBO) regulations do not apply in this context.</p> <p>5) The PI, for each of the participating institutions applying for FWO funds, must hold an appointment that fully covers the duration of the research project.</p> <p>6) Linked to the above, when it comes to the FWO research project regulations (FO): article 10, §7 is not applicable in this call. I.e. supervisors (-spokespersons), or coordinators/consortium partners in this context, who are granted emeritus status during the calendar year of submission of the project application or during the duration of the project, are not eligible.</p>
Eligible costs	<p>The respective funding channel regulations apply (i.e. 'FO' and 'SBO'), and both are capped at max. 350.000 EUR per project/consortium (incl. overhead), for which <u>the overhead rate diverges per funding channel</u>.</p> <p>For the <u>overhead calculation</u>, the fundamental (FO) and strategic research projects (SBO) entail the same approach:</p> <p>A <u>structural overhead rate</u> should be applied on the project costs, with an overhead rate of <u>6% for 'FO' projects</u>, and a <u>17% overhead rate for 'SBO' projects</u>. Some practical examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FO: the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 12.000 EUR (6% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 212.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR. ▪ SBO: the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 34.000 EUR (17% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 234.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	/	/	/	100%
Industrial/Applied Research	/	/	/	100% (only eligible if a basic research component is included)
Experimental development	/	/	/	100%

Belgium/Wallonia – SPW-Recherche - Service Public de Wallonie

a) Regional eligibility criteria

Contact Point	Name: Pierre Demoitié E-mail: pierre.demoitie@spw.wallonie.be Phone: +32 81 33 45 40
Eligible entities	Universities Companies Research centres
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental Research 4-7
Additional eligibility criteria	Universities must work together with a SME or a Research Centre
Eligible costs	Personnel costs Equipment Materials and supplies costs Subcontracting Dissemination Travel expenses According to the Walloon rules

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities (1) and research organisations (2)
Industrial/Applied Research Experimental development	Depending from the TRL, from the number of partners and from the type of cooperation according the Walloon rules			(1) 100 (2) 75

Bulgaria – BNSF - Bulgarian National Science Fund

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	<p>Name: Dr. Milena Alexandrova</p> <p>E-mail: aleksandrova@mon.bg</p> <p>phone: +359 884171363</p> <p>Prof. Irena Peytcheva</p> <p>E-mail: impeytcheva@gmail.com</p>
Eligible entities	<p>1) Accredited universities as defined in Art.85 para.1, p. 7 of the Higher Education Act;</p> <p>2) Research organizations as defined in Art. 47, para. 1 of the Higher Education Act. http://lll.mon.bg/uploaded_files/zkn_visseto_obr_01.03.2016_EN.pdf</p>
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	<p>Basic Research</p> <p>TRL 1–4</p>
Additional eligibility criteria	<p>Applicants under this procedure shall be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities under the project proposal and shall not act as intermediaries, but they shall carry out activities under the project proposal on their behalf and at their expense.</p> <p>Applicants to this procedure must be entities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carrying out fundamental research studies; and - Whose activities are entirely of a non-profit nature; or - Whose activities are of both for-profit and not-for-profit nature, but these activities are clearly distinguished and their organization allows tracking of revenue and expenditures connected with their implementation, including by keeping analytical accounting. In the event that an applicant is involved in both for-profit and not-for-profit activities, the funding, expenditures and revenues shall be taken into account separately for each type of activity and on the basis of consistently applied principles of accounting of expenditures being justifiable.
Eligible costs	<p>Eligible costs are specified in "National requirements and eligibility conditions" of Bulgarian National Science Fund available at:</p> <p>https://www.fni.bg/sites/default/files/competition/12_2016/ERA/BNSF_International_Programs-2017_ENG.pdf</p>

Additional information	<p>Applicants have to submit an application form for national eligibility when submitting the proposals. The form, entitled „Administrative description of the project“ should be filled in both Bulgarian and in English and signed. Application forms can be obtained at:</p> <p>https://www.fni.bg/?q=node/578</p> <p>They have to be sent back by post or in person to the BNSF Registry Office before the deadline of 1 stage proposal submission.</p>
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b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	Up to 100
Experimental development (only laboratory research)	Up to 100

Canada/Québec - PRIMA Québec - Pôle de recherche et d'innovation en matériaux avancés au Québec

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name : Michel Lefèvre Directeur des programmes et collaborations internationales E-mail : michel.lefevre@prima.ca Phone: +1-514-284-0211 poste 227
Eligible entities	Applications must be submitted by Québec research establishments. Universities, CCTTs or public research centers are eligible (If the research center is not on the list please contact a PRIMA advisor to check the status (public or private) with the MEI). They must allow the training of highly qualified personnel (HQP).
Eligible topics	1,2,3 and 5, we do not support 2.6. For topic 5 (five) only 5.2 is supported as long it's involve advanced
Eligible type of research and TRL	Fundamental/Basic Research, Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental Research TRL 1-9
Additional eligibility criteria	<p>In keeping with its strategic plan, PRIMA Québec recommends the submission of files dealing with the development of advanced materials applied to such key Québec sectors as transportation and infrastructure, energy, the environment, electronics, health and chemistry.</p> <p>Technologies targeted by this call for projects include primarily:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New materials or amelioration of materials • Integration of advanced material in semi-finished or finished product • Implementation processes, scaling and new characterization techniques around advanced material like : Additive manufacturing and 3D printing, modification and surface treatment, micro/nanofabrication, tools, new characterization tools, modeling and simulation, shaping processes, quantum calculus etc. • Use of artificial intelligence with advanced materials for production, integration or implementation processes or characterization technique. <p>It is necessary to have at least one company (primarily an SME) with a presence in Quebec (production or R&D). Businesses outside Quebec are not eligible in the Quebec application.</p> <p>The financing of the project is based on cost sharing :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min 20% from the industrial partner • Max 50% form PRIMA Quebec • 30% of complementary funding : other public money (Federal, Provincial, Municipal) that doesn't came form The Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation)

	The applicant can go to the PRIMA website (www.prima.ca) to download the guideline of the program for more information.
Eligible costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salary expenditures for the R&D personnel hired to complete the project (by organization type); • Student scholarships; • The purchase or leasing of project-related equipment; • Research-related consumables and supplies; • Animal facilities and platform-related costs; • Travel and living expenses for Quebec researchers and students (airfare, local transportation, accommodations, meal expenses and visa costs); • Consulting fees and subcontracting costs; • Management costs for the use of intellectual property; • Knowledge dissemination costs; • Costs related to the use of research and innovation results and intellectual property protection (publication costs, scientific and technological dissemination costs, workshop and seminar administration costs, international patent fees, etc.); • Legal document translation and design costs for partnership consolidations (maximum \$10,000).
Maximum amount of requested funding	<p>The financial assistance will be provided over a three-year period and represents a non-repayable, non-recurring financial contribution. It may reach 50% of eligible cash expenses related to the performance of activities in the Quebec portion, but it will not exceed CAD\$500,000 over three years</p> <p>The CAD\$500,000 amount will include direct research costs, MEI management fees (2%), as well as indirect research costs, where applicable. The MEI financial contribution will be non-repayable and non-recurring.</p>
Additional information	<p>Candidates are encouraged to contact an advisor at PRIMA to help them to mount the proposal</p> <p>The candidates need also to fill the PRIMA form</p>

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	50%
Industrial/Applied Research	50%
Experimental development	50%

Czech Republic – TA ČR - Technologická agentura České republiky

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: Kateřina Volfová E-mail: katerina.volfova@tacr.cz Phone: +420 778 463 138
Eligible entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enterprises (according to Annex 1 of the Regulation) 2. Enterprises who act as natural persons according to Annex 1 of the Regulation engaged in an economic activity pursuant to Act no. 455/1991 coll. on Trades (Trade Act). 3. Research organizations (according to Article 2 paragraph 83 of the Regulation) <p><u>TACR excludes the disbursement of individual aid to an enterprise:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • against which a recovery order has been issued which is unpaid • meeting the definition of an “undertaking in difficulty” • which has not met the obligation to publish the financial statements for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 in the respective register - the so-called “Veřejný rejstřík” • which has not disclose its ownership structure in the so-called “Evidence skutečných majitelů”
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	Applied research (i.e. industrial research / experimental development). TRL 3-9
Additional eligibility criteria	<p><u>Eligible projects for TA ČR</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the project meets the definition of applied research • the research results correspond to the national rules and are applicable / exploitable. (The project proposal has to include a clear description of the exploitation plan and results.) • the aim of the project has to be relevant to the overall aim of the funding programme EPSILON • the declared share of industrial research and experimental development corresponds to the activities of the Czech partner described in the project proposal • the requested funding meets the national regulations for aid intensity

- submission of the project proposal and its implementation will not give rise to a conflict of interest within the meaning of Article 61 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018

Czech applicants in this Call will be funded from the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility - Czech National Recovery Plan (Národní plán obnovy) their projects must therefore:

- adhere to the “Do no significant harm” principle
- meet at least one of the objectives of digitalisation

Supported results

Projects that achieve at least one of the following types of results can be supported in this Call. The type of the result has to be clearly described in the project proposal:

- P - patent
- G - technically realized results - prototype, functional sample
- Z - pilot plant, proven technology
- R - software
- F - results with legal protection - utility model, industrial design
- N - Certified methodologies and practices, treatment, conservation methods, procedures and specialized maps with professional expert content
- O - Miscellaneous

Results supported only in combination with at least one other result listed above:

- H - results reflected in non-legislative directives and regulations binding within the competence of the respective provider and results reflected in the approved strategic and conceptual documents of the state or public administration

Mandatory forms to be submitted

- A Sworn statement of the applicant
- Completed “TACR Application Form” Excel file (submitted by the main Czech applicant only)*
- if the applicant plans to achieve “Nmet” type of result, the mandatory form for Nmet result needs to be attached*
- if the applicant plans to achieve the “Patent” type of result, patent search must be substantiated*

- Sworn statement of the composition of the consortium (only if Czech enterprise is part of the project consortium; submitted by the main Czech applicant only)
- “Do no significant harm” declaration (submitted by the main Czech applicant only)

All mandatory documents to be found on [TA ČR website](#). Deadline for submitting all documents is the same as the deadline for submitting project proposals. All documents proving the eligibility of the Czech partner stated above shall be submitted via the TACR data box (TACR data box ID: **afth9xp**).

Applicants who will not submit this mandatory form (if relevant) via databox before the deadline will be considered as **not eligible for TA ČR funding.*

Project start and end

Please note that following national legislation, Czech applicants shall start within 120 days from the funding decision being communicated by the Call Management (60-day period to enter into a contract + 60-day period to start the project).

Czech applicants **can only be funded until June 2026** (further involvement in the project is possible without funding). Czech partners must contribute to the final project report (even if they finish their project activities earlier than other project partners).

Intellectual Property Rights

The applicants are required to enter into a contract with their foreign partners (sign the so-called Consortium Agreement) which will define the conditions of cooperation on the project where, among other things, they specify the method of allocating rights to the research results, as well as adjustment and management of the rights imported or created during the project's implementation, which are necessary to address the project.

Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national/regional level

Czech beneficiaries must follow the rules of TA ČR for reporting on the project (i.e. submission of interim and final reports and reports on the implementation of the results).

	<p><u>Publicity obligations</u></p> <p>While promoting the project and its results Czech beneficiaries must follow the publicity rules of TA CR. In addition, Czech beneficiaries in this Call must also follow the publicity rules of Národní plán obnovy (described in <i>Metodický pokyn pro publicitu a komunikaci pro Národní plán obnovy na období 2021-2016</i>).</p>
Eligible costs	<p>The maximum permissible aid intensity for the Czech part of the project is 85 % of eligible costs.</p> <p>Eligible costs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personnel costs (including scholarships) • subcontracting costs (max. 20% of total eligible costs throughout the whole project period) • other direct costs (write-offs, protection of intellectual property, operating expenses, travel costs, consumables) • indirect costs (overheads) - full cost/flat rate 25% (indirect costs in the respective year are calculated as 25% of the sum of the personnel costs and other direct costs in the same year) <p>VAT is not an eligible cost.</p> <p>Specific categories of eligible costs are defined under Article 18 of the General Terms & Conditions.</p>
Additional information	<p>“Guide for Czech applicants” and all mandatory forms will be available on TA CR website (in Czech).</p> <p>ERA-NET Cofund Scheme on TA CR website (in Czech)</p> <p>ERA-NET Cofund Scheme on TA CR website (in English)</p> <p>National research programme EPSILON (in Czech)</p> <p>National research programme EPSILON (in English)</p>

b) Funding rates

The aid intensity for each Czech applicant in the project is determined based on the type of entity according to [the Regulation](#) (see table below) and at the same time must not exceed the maximum permissible aid intensity for the Czech part of the project, which is **85 % of the total eligible costs**.

Maximum funding percentages:

Beneficiary	small enterprise*	medium enterprise*	large enterprise*	research organization**
Activity category				
Industrial research	70 %	60 %	50 %	100 %
Industrial research in case of effective cooperation***	80 %	75 %	65 %	100 %
Experimental development	45 %	35 %	25 %	100 %
Experimental development in case of effective cooperation***	60 %	50 %	40 %	100 %

Estonia – ETAG - Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: Margit Suuroja E-mail: margit.suuroja@etag.ee Phone: +372 731 7360
Eligible entities	<p>The Host Institution could be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia.</p> <p>The Host Institution (the final recipient) is the applicant to which the grant will be allocated.</p> <p>The Host Institution must confirm to Estonian Research Council (with a confirmation letter after the submission deadline) that the project can be carried out on their premises and that they will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding. If the Host Institution is an undertaking, then State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account.</p> <p>If the support is State aid or de minimis aid, then support will not be granted to a Host Institution who is subject to a support withdrawal decision pursuant to a previous European Commission decision deeming the aid illegal and incompatible with the common market, if that decision has not been complied with.</p>
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	Fundamental/Basic Research, Industrial/Applied Research TRL 1-6
Additional eligibility criteria	<p>The Principal Investigator is a researcher who acts as the Estonian team leader in the project proposal. The Principal Investigator will be responsible for how the grant is used and how Estonia's part in the project is executed.</p> <p>The Principal Investigator:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline; 2. must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded at the latest by the submission deadline of the grant application; 3. must have published at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to the proposal submission deadline. International patents are equalled with publications specified under Clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS Clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications specified in Clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or fewer. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or

	performed compulsory service in the Defence Forces, or has another good reason, they can request the publication period requirement to be extended by the relevant period of time.
Eligible costs	<p>Research expenses consist of direct costs (personnel costs, travel costs and other direct costs) and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be separately identifiable.</p> <p>Direct costs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Personnel costs are monthly salaries with social security charges and all the other statutory costs of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution. 2. Travel costs may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel insurance. 3. Other direct costs are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consumables and minor equipment related to the project; - publication and dissemination of project results; - organising meetings, seminars or conferences (room rent, catering); - fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events related to the project; - patent costs; - all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, etc.) and comply with the eligible costs. 4. Subcontracting costs should cover only the additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs. 5. Indirect costs are overhead from the personnel costs only, which may not exceed 15% and should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (a copy machine or a printer that is publicly used, phone bills, copy service, etc.) should be covered from the overhead. <p>Double funding of activities is not acceptable.</p> <p>EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding from the Estonian Research Council (ETAG).</p>

For more information see: https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel_30.08.22.pdf



Finland – Business Finland - INNOVAATIO RAHOITUSKESKUS BUSINESS FINLAND

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: Maarit Kokko E-mail: maarit.kokko@businessfinland.fi Phone: +358 40 7619555
Eligible entities	SME's and Large companies, Universities, R&D institutes. Organisations must be legal entities registered in Finland.
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	Industrial/Applied research and Experimental development TRL 2-7
Additional eligibility criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial organisations can participate directly in consortia. Research organisations must work parallel with industrial organisations. Consortia must include at least three industrial partners of which at least two are Finnish industrial partners (SMEs or large companies) to be eligible for funding. The Finnish industrial partner can either apply for BF funding or act as an in-kind partner in the consortium.
Eligible costs	<p>The following costs are eligible:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> personnel costs indirect costs costs of equipment and devices subcontracting travel expenses <p>For more information see: https://www.businessfinland.fi/suomalaisille-asiakkaille/etusivu/</p>

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organizations
Industrial/Applied Research	<p>research: 40 % grant</p> <p>development and piloting project: 50 % loan</p>	<p>research: 65 % grant</p> <p>development and piloting project: 50 % loan</p>	<p>research: 65 % grant</p> <p>development and piloting project: 50 % loan</p>	70 % grant

France/Nouvelle Aquitaine – Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine**a) National eligibility criteria**

National Contact Point	Name: Ms Delphine JOUVIN E-mail: delphine.jouvin@nouvelle-aquitaine.fr Phone: 0033 5 49 55 77 41
Eligible entities	Companies + research organizations
Eligible topics	All It is recommended that the projects replying to Topic 1 also address sub-topic 5.1.
Eligible type of research and TRL	TRL 1-9, Fundamental/Basic research, industrial/applied research, experimental research
Additional eligibility criteria	A Bonus will be granted if projects follow the regional NeoTerra roadmap, available on https://www.neo-terra.fr/ .
Eligible costs	Internal and/or external costs spent by the applicant and exclusively dedicated to the project implementation (notably investments, PhD and post-doctoral grants, and operating grants for companies). Grants will be delivered in compliance with the state aid rules and, for research organizations, with the Research Call's intervention scheme adopted by the Regional Council.

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organizations
Fundamental research			80% (for Humanities & social sciences/law/etc) 50% for technological sciences
industrial/applied research	75%	80%	
Experimental research	50%	60%	

Germany – PT JÜLICH (PtJ) on behalf of Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: Holger Grünewald E-mail: h.gruenewald@fz-juelich.de Phone: +49 30 20199 3183
Eligible entities	Universities, R&D institutes, SME's and Large companies, NGOs (associations, foundations, etc.). Organisations must be legal entities.
Eligible topics	Topic 1 Only proposals addressing topic 1 as main topic are eligible. Proposals should have a clear focus on responsible sourcing of raw materials. Proposals addressing mainly mine closure or remediation are therefore, not eligible. Topic 4, 5: Besides technical solutions, non-technological issues of the supply of raw materials from exploration and mining must be addressed by integrating at least one sub-topic from topic 4 or 5. However, proposals addressing topic 4 or 5 as main topic are not eligible.
Eligible type of research and TRL	Fundamental/Basic Research, Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental development Target TRL: 2-8 Proposals shall be intended to pave the way towards end-user/market. To aim at a TRL of at least 5 could be an option, in order to qualify for follow-up funding under the EIT Raw Materials. As a minimum requirement at the end of the project, the technology is expected to have reached a TRL of at least 2 , corresponding to "technology concept formulated". Information must be provided in the application to substantiate this claim, and the project may be deemed to be ineligible without it.
Additional eligibility criteria	1. All proposals must be aligned with the specific national funding regulations which will be available under https://www.fona.de/era-min . 2. Consortia involving German enterprises are particularly encouraged to apply. Purely public partnerships are also possible for proposals addressing pre-commercial research with low TRL (e.g. improving the understanding of primary raw materials for exploration). 3. The BMBF does not have a maximum funding per grant. The amount depends on the scientific needs and justification for the budget. However, in general projects with a requested funding smaller than 50.000 € per partner are NOT funded.

	4. To clarify the eligibility of the thematic scope and the funding rates it is necessary to get in contact with the National Contact Point before submitting a proposal.
Eligible costs	Personnel, consumables, equipment, travel, subcontracting, overhead; corresponding to the national BMBF funding rules

b) National funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organizations
Fundamental/Basic Research	n/a	n/a	n/a	Up to 100
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 40	Up to 50	Up to 60	Up to 100
Experimental development	Up to 25	Up to 35	Up to 45	Up to 100

Ireland – GSI - Department of Environmental, Climate and Communications / EPA Ireland

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: Ana Luísa Lavado Phone: E-mail: analuisa.lavado@gsi.ie
Eligible entities	Universities and research organisations Small and Medium enterprises
Eligible topics	Projects within the following topics and subtopics: Topic 1, Topic 2 (co-funded by EPA Ireland) Topic 4, only sub-topics 4.1 and 4.3 (co-funded by EPA Ireland) Topic 5, only sub-topic 5.1.
Eligible type of research and TRL	Fundamental/Basic Research, Industrial/Applied Research TRL 1-7
Additional eligibility criteria	Tax clearance certificates are required, State Aid rules will apply. All applicants must check with the NCP to confirm their proposed topic is eligible.
Eligible costs	Eligible costs include: Staff, travel (including fieldwork), consumables, dissemination activities, subcontracting (to a max of 10% of total direct costs unless pre-approved) Indirect costs are eligible but limited to 20% of total Direct costs (excluding subcontracting) Durable equipment is not an eligible cost. Contact NCP for budget eligibility queries.
Additional Information	Maximum amount requested per project is €200k.

Poland – NCBR - NARODOWE CENTRUM BADAN I ROZWOJU

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: Kinga Szymańska-Rzeźnik Email: Kinga.szymanska@ncbr.gov.pl Phone: +48 22 39 07 139
Eligible entities	Research Organizations; Micro, Small, Medium and Large Enterprises. Groups of entities consisting of: - minimum one research organisation and minimum one enterprise (micro, small, medium or large) - two enterprises (micro, small, medium or large) Polish entities must be registered in Poland The project consortium with Polish participation must contain at least one Polish enterprise (with declared budget and tasks) to be eligible for funding.
Eligible topics	1-4
Eligible type of research and TRL	Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental development TRL 2-9
Additional eligibility criteria	Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for research organizations. 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, under <i>the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 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 item 1456, 2020</i>
Eligible cost	1. personnel costs 2. operating costs including costs of instruments, equipment, technical knowledge and patents, buildings and land, costs of materials and supplies 3. costs of subcontracting 4. additional overheads $4 = (1+2) * 25\%$. corresponding to the national funding rules Other types of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) are not eligible for funding as separate tasks. They can be included in an appropriate cost category within research tasks.

Additional information	Detailed information about scope, financial rules, national procedure and national regulations is available on the NCBR's homepage: https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/programy--miedzynarodowe
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b) National eligibility criteria

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 50+15 (max 65)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75)	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80)	Up to 100
Experimental development	Up to 25+15 (max 40)	Up to 25+10+15 (max 50)	Up to 25+20+15 (max 60)	Up to 100

Portugal – FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	<p>Name: Dina Carrilho E-mail: dina.carrilho@fct.pt Tel: +351 21 392 4381</p> <p>Name: Stefano Amaral E-mail: stefano.amaral@fct.pt Phone: +351 213 524 345</p>
Eligible entities	<p>The organisations must be registered in Portugal. For detailed information consult the “Regulation on Projects Funded Solely by National Funds” at: www.fct.pt/apoios/projectos/regulamentofundossnacionais.phtml.pt</p>
Eligible topics	All topics and sub-topics
Eligible type of research and TRL	<p>Fundamental/Basic Research; Industrial/Applied Research; Experimental Development TRL 1-8</p>
Additional eligibility criteria	<p>Each Portuguese institution, lead researcher and research unit (if applicable) must sign a “Declaração de compromisso” (available for download at www.fct.pt/apoios/cooptrans/eranets/eramin3/index.phtml.pt) and send it, by e-mail, to the FCT’s contact person no later than 10 working days after the proposal submission deadline.</p> <p>The funding to the Portuguese participation is limited in a transnational proposal as described at: www.fct.pt/apoios/cooptrans/eranets/eramin3/index.phtml.pt</p>
Eligible cost	<p>The eligible costs are detailed in the Regulation on Projects Funded Solely by National Funds at: www.fct.pt/apoios/projectos/regulamentofundossnacionais.phtml.pt</p>

Additional information	<p><u>Prior contact with the FCT</u></p> <p>Each applying organisation should send their financial plan and financial comments in the ERA-MIN Financial plan Excel spreadsheet, until 2 weeks before the proposal submission deadline, to the FCT's contact person to ensure a reply in due time.</p> <p>Maximum requested funding per Portuguese participation (one, or more organisations) in a transnational project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250,000 Euros if 24-36 months project duration and consortium coordinated by Portugal; • 150,000 Euros if 24-36 months project duration and consortium with Portuguese participation; • 50,000 Euros if 12-18 months project duration <p>The projects should start from 1st January until 1st April 2024, as indicated in Consortium Agreement.</p>
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b) National funding rates

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities, research organisations and other non-profit-organisations
Fundamental/ Basic research	50	50	50	100
Industrial/Applied Research	50	50	50	100
Experimental development	50	50	50	100

Romania- UEFISCDI - Unitatea Executiva pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior, a Cercetarii, Dezvoltarii si Inovarii

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	<p>Name Mihaela Manole E-mail: mihaela.manole@uefiscdi.ro Phone: +40 21 302 38 63</p> <p>Name Nicoleta Dumitrache E-mail: nicoleta.dumitrache@uefiscdi.ro Phone: +40 21 302 38 86</p>
Eligible entities	Eligible entities for funding are universities, public institutions, R&D national institutions, joint-stock companies, SME's and Large companies, NGOs (associations, foundations, etc.), others.
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	1-9
Additional eligibility criteria	<p>Funding rates vary in accordance with state aid legislation. For more information : https://uefiscdi.ro/pachet-de-informatii-suprogramul-3-2-orizont-2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 250.000 euro for all romanian partners in case a Romanian institution is the Coordinator; ✓ 200.000 for all romanian partners in case a Romanian institution is not the Coordinator.
Eligible costs	<p>a. Staff costs;</p> <p>b. Logistics expenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capital expenditure; - Expenditure on stocks - supplies and inventory items; - Expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 25 % of the funding from the public budget. The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work; <p>c. Travel expenses;</p> <p>d. Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs and cost for subcontracting) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 20 % of direct costs.</p>

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	100	100	100	100
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 50+15 (max 65)	Up to 60+15 (max 75%)	Up to 70+10 (max 85)	100
Experimental development	Up to 25+15 (max 40)	Up to 35+15 (max 50)	Up to 40+15 (max 65)	100

Slovakia – SAS - Slovenska Akademia Vied

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: Martin Novák E-mail: mnovak@up.upsav.sk Phone: +421 2 5751 0 119
Eligible entities	Only research Institutes of the Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible organisations for funding by SAS (up to 100%). Applicant must have more than 50% of the full time employment in the SAS Institute. Applicants from other Slovak R&D centres have to cover the project costs from their own sources
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	Basic Research, Applied Research and Experimental Development TRL 1-7
Additional eligibility criteria	Initial funding commitment: up to 120.000 € Anticipated number of funded projects: 1 Maximal annual budget per project: 40.000 € SAS Financial Rules: https://oms.sav.sk/wp-content/uploads/3-Financial-rules-for-awarding-SAS-grants-for-international-research-projects.pdf
Eligible costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent salaries 45k Eur (36 months) • Direct costs – i.e. other personnel costs (max. 15% if project partner or max. 30% of direct costs if project coordination), consumables, travel costs, services, equipment (capital expenditures max. 40% of direct costs) • Indirect costs – overheads (max. 20% of direct costs)
Additional information	Applicants are strongly recommended to contact NCP before the proposal submission. Researchers that are partners in a project recommended for funding will be requested to submit an additional application to the SAS (MVTs form). The SAS Presidium makes the final administrative step for funding of selected projects. Consortium agreement is requested no later than 6 months after the project start.

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	Up to 100
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 100
Experimental development	Up to 100

Slovenia – MIZS - MINISTRSTVO ZA IZOBRAZEVANJE, ZNANOST IN SPORT

a) National eligibility criteria

Contact Point	Name: Doroteja Zlobec E-mail: doroteja.zlobec@gov.si Phone: +386 1 478 46 24
Eligible entities	<p>Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution: Research organizations as defined in the national Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act (Zakon o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski dejavnosti (Uradni list RS, št. 186/21)). All participating institutions have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of research institutions (Informacijski sistem o raziskovalni dejavnosti v Sloveniji -SICRIS).</p> <p>Eligibility of principal investigator and other research team members: The project activities of the Slovenian partner have to be under the supervision of the <u>primary investigator/primary researcher</u> who fulfills the requirements for project leader as defined in Art. 63 of the national Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act (Zakon o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski dejavnosti (Uradni list RS, št. 186/21)). The criteria are further determined in the Rules on the Criteria for Establishing Compliance with the Conditions for being the Head of a Research Project (Kriteriji za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja izkazovanja mednarodno primerljivih raziskovalnih rezultatov in obdobje zajema mednarodno primerljivih raziskovalnih rezultatov za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta in programa). All participating researchers have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of researchers (Sicris) and must have available research hours.</p>
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	Basic research or applied research. The type of research conducted by Slovenian researchers must be defined and explained in the project proposal (e.g. in the Comments on budget section). TRL 1-6
Additional eligibility criteria	<p>All Slovenian applicants must refer to the guidelines for Slovenian applicants published on the webpage https://www.gov.si/drzavni-organi/ministrstva/ministrstvo-za-izobrazevanje-znanost-in-sport/javne-objave.</p> <p>Legal basis – national regulation State Administration Act (Zakon o državni upravi (Uradni list RS, št. 113/05 - UPB4, 89/07 - Odl.US, 126/07 - ZUP-E, 48/09, 8/10 - ZUP-G, 8/12 - ZVRS-F, 21/12, 47/13, 12/14, 90/14,51/16, 36/21, 82/21in 189/21)) - Article 16 and 39; Public Finance Act (Zakon o javnih financah (Uradni list RS, št. 11/11 - uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 14/13, 110/11 - ZDIU12, 46/13 - ZIPRS1314-A, 101/13, 101/13 - ZIPRS1415, 38/14 - ZIPRS1415-A, 14/15 - ZIPRS1415-D, 55/15 - ZFisP, 96/15 - ZIPRS1617, 80/16 - ZIPRS1718, 71/17 - ZIPRS1819,</p>

	<p>13/18, 75/19 - ZIPRS2021, 36/20 - ZIUJP, 61/20 - ZDLGPE, 89/20, 195/20 - odl. US, 203/20 - ZIUPOPDVE, 174/20 - ZIPRS2122, 15/21 – ZDUOP, 187/21 – ZIPRS2223 in 29/2022 -ZUOPDCE))) - Article 106. j; Regulation on the procedure of standards and manners to allocate means for the promotion of the evolutionary programme and the preferential tasks (Uredba o postopku, merilih in načinih dodeljevanja sredstev za spodbujanje razvojnih programov in prednostnih nalog (Uradni list RS, št. 56/11)); Implementation of the Republic of Slovenia's Budget for 2022 and 2023 Act (Zakon o izvrševanju proračunov Republike Slovenije za leti 2022 in 2023 (Uradni list RS, št. 187/21, 206/21 – ZDUPŠOP , 129/22in 144/22 ZSDH-1A)); Integrity and Prevention of Corruption Act (Zakon o integriteti in preprečevanju korupcije (Uradni list RS, št. 69/11 – uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 158/20 in 3/22 – ZDeb)); Resolution on the Slovenian Scientific Research and Innovation Strategy 2030 (Resolucija o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski strategiji Slovenije 2030 (Uradni list RS, št. 49/22)); Decree on the scientific research funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia (Uredba o financiranju znanstvenoraziskovalne dejavnosti iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije (Uradni list RS, št. 35/22 in 144/22)), Rules on criteria for establishing compliance with the conditions for being the head of a research project (Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta, Uradni list RS št. 53/16 in 186/21 – ZZrID); Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and 108 Innovation the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27. 6. 2014) (Okvir za državno pomoč za raziskave in razvoj ter inovacije (2014/C 198/01)); National scheme for state aid in Research and Development (Program za spodbujanje raziskav in razvoja Ministrstva za izobraževanje, znanost in šport na področju znanosti 2016-2020, št. 631-1/2016-1 z dne 8. 1. 2016); National strategy of open access to scientific publications and research data in Slovenia 2015-2020 (Nacionalna strategije odprtega dostopa do znanstvenih objav in raziskovalnih podatkov v Sloveniji 2015-2020, št. 60300-5/2015/5 z dne 3. 9. 2015).</p> <p>National contracting negotiations will commence after the projects are selected for funding on the level of the transnational call. National documentation, including evidence of the starting date of the transnational project (in the form of a Consortia Agreement or statement on the starting date by the transnational project coordinator), will be a prerequisite for signing the contract on national level. All Slovenian applicants are strongly advised to contact the Slovenian National Contact Person.</p>
Eligible costs	<p>Total national funding: max. 600.000,00 EUR including VAT</p> <p>Total requested funding per project: for all Slovenian partners within one consortium must not exceed 100.000,00 EUR per year (300.000,00 EUR for the total project duration of 36 months).</p>

	<p>Eligibility of costs: MIZS will fund all eligible costs of successful Slovenian transnational projects, recommended for funding, in accordance with the Decree on the scientific research funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia (Uredba o financiranju znanstvenoraziskovalne dejavnosti iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije (Uradni list RS, št. 35/22 in 144/22)). Providing the stipulated conditions are met, the Public Procurement Act (Zakon o javnem naročanju (Uradni list RS, št. 91/15, 14/18, 121/21, 10/22, 74/22 – odl. US in 100/22 – ZNUZSZS)) applies.</p> <p>This call is suitable for implementing Article 64 of the Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act (Zakon o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski dejavnosti (ZZrID) (Uradni list RS, št. 186/21)).</p> <p>Period of eligibility of public expenditures: as of budgetary year 2025 until the end of the budgetary year 2027.</p> <p>Period of eligibility of expenditures on the project: From the starting date of the transnational project stipulated in the consortium agreement for a period of 36 months, with a prescribed additional 30 day period for the payment of invoices related to the project costs. The period of eligibility of expenditures on the project can only start <u>from the date the national contract enters into effect</u>. The exact duration of the project will be defined in the contract between MIZS and the selected Slovenian partner, after the consortium agreement between the selected consortium partners enters into force.</p>
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b) Funding rates

Funding: 100 % for research organization (such as universities, public and private research institutes) whose financed activity is non-economic in accordance with the provisions of Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation. Wide dissemination of all research results on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis is required.

For research organizations whose financed activity is economic in accordance with the provisions of Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27. 6. 2014) and the national scheme for state aid in Research and Development: [Program za spodbujanje raziskav in razvoja Ministrstva za izobraževanja, znanost in šport](#) na področju znanosti, št. 631-1/2016-7, 8.1.2016, applies.

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research
Fundamental/Basic Research	65 %	75 %	80 %	non-economic 100 %
Industrial/Applied Research	65 %	75 %	80 %	non-economic 100 %

South Africa – DSI – Department of Science and Innovation

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: Tugela Matubatuba E-mail: Tugela.matubatuba@dst.gov.za Phone: +27 12 843 6860
Eligible entities	<p>This call is open to working researchers residing in South Africa and affiliated with a recognised higher education or research institution such as a university, university of technology or science council, small, medium (SMEs) and large enterprises in the private sector and national system of innovation organisations involved in R&D.</p> <p>It is “obligatory” for South African lead researcher/principal investigator (PI)s based at historically advantaged institutions, SMEs and large companies to include, as part of the research team, a research partner from any of the historically disadvantaged institutions. Proposals submitted by an applicant based at a historically advantaged institution without a research partner from a historically disadvantaged institution will be ineligible. The research partner from the historically disadvantaged institution in this case can serve as a co-applicant in the proposal.</p> <p>Applicants based at historically disadvantaged institutions can act as PIs and submit proposals without the involvement of and or partnering with researchers based at historically advantaged institutions if they so wish.</p> <p>Please note that only the following eight universities will be recognized as historically disadvantaged in line with the Department of Higher Education and Training November 2015 Ministerial Statement on university funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Limpopo (UL) • University of Fort Hare (UFH) • University of Venda (Univen) • Walter Sisulu University (WSU) • University of the Western Cape (UWC) • University of Zululand (UniZulu) • Mangosuthu University of Technology (MUT) • Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU).
Eligible topics	All topics
Eligible type of research and TRL	Fundamental/Basic Research, Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental development TRL 1-9

Additional eligibility criteria	<p>It is mandatory for applicants to present their application project outline firstly to DSI in order to ascertain the strategic alignment with the country's National Development Plan and the objectives of the Department. Failure to contact the DSI prior to submission of your application will result in the project not endorsed for funding.</p> <p>Only applicants who have been recommended for funding by the evaluation committee will be required to complete and submit the DSI co-investment application for funding.</p>
Eligible costs	<p>Direct costs: Travel and Daily subsistence allowance including accommodation costs in line with the guidelines of South African government regulations.</p> <p>Consumables and supplies Any consumables necessary for the implementation of the project may be considered as direct eligible costs. Consumables are only eligible costs under the project if bought after the start date of the project.</p> <p>Costs of personnel DSI will cover personnel cost to be incurred during project implementation.</p> <p>Sub-contracting Not more than 20% of the project should be sub-contracted. The subcontracted work should not be core/substantial parts of the project work.</p>

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Small and Medium Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	Up to 80	Up to 90	90
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 80	Up to 90	90
Experimental development	Up to 80	Up to 90	90

Spain – AEI - Agencia Estatal de Investigacion

a) National eligibility criteria

Contact Point	<p>Representative: Name: Beatriz Gómez Miguel E-mail: beatriz.gomez@aei.gob.es</p> <p>Administrative and technical issues: Name: Jorge Sotelo Santos E-mail: era-mat@aei.gob.es</p> <p>Scientific Issues: Name: Dr. Roberto Pacios</p>
Eligible entities	<p>The eligible entities for the AEI funding are (General requirements):</p> <p>Non-profit research organizations (such as universities, public research institutions, technological centres and other private non-profit institutions performing RDI activities in Spain), as per PCI call document (or equivalent).</p> <p>Although industrial entities are not funded by the AEI, Innobasque and CFNA participate in this call. It is strongly recommended that AEI applicants participate in transnational consortia with industrial partners obtaining funds from the Innobasque and CFNA or otherwise participate with their own funds.</p>
Eligible topics	<p>Topics 1 to 4.</p> <p>Topic 5 cannot be selected as main topic but can be included as a cross-cutting topic in proposals addressing topics 1 to 4.</p>
Eligible type of research and TRL	<p>Basic/Applied research & Innovation. AEI funds are intended to support relevant research and innovation developments of our beneficiaries and those tasks necessary to accomplish them. In case of coordinators, management of the consortium will be included too. Applicants mainly participating in task not directly involving research and innovation can be considered non-eligible.</p> <p>TRL: no constrains</p>
Additional eligibility criteria	<p>Mandatory:</p> <p>The Spanish Principal Investigators (PIs) must hold a PhD degree.</p> <p>PIs must be eligible according to the requirements of PCI 2022-1 call and must have experience as investigators (not necessarily as PIs) in projects funded by the Plan Nacional I+D+i 2008-2011, the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2013-2016, the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2017-2020, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant national or international programmes.</p> <p>Incompatibilities (these must be taken into account when participating in different ERA-Nets or other international initiatives):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * PIs will not be eligible for funding if they apply as PIs to more than one proposal in this transnational joint call, to more than one

	<p>proposal in the same Spanish PCI call and/or to PCI calls of consecutive years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * If the same PI submits two or more proposals to the present call, all but one will be declared ineligible, without the possibility of changing the PI. * A PI that has been granted a PCI the previous year will be declared ineligible, without the possibility of changing the PI. * PIs must remain unchanged between the proposal of this transnational joint call and the national PCI call. <p>Please consult the specific document on eligibility for PCI calls.</p> <p>The AEI will avoid double funding and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded through other national or EU calls.</p> <p>Funding rates</p> <p>The following funding limits are considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared non eligible.</p> <p>IMPORTANT: a maximum of two Spanish Partners requesting funding to the AEI in the same Proposal are allowed.</p> <p>The following funding limits (including direct + 21 % of indirect costs) are considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible. Please, indicate separately direct and indirect cost and keep amounts multiple of 1000. In any case, the AEI will round the numbers to a multiple of 1000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a Spanish Partner requesting funding to the AEI is NOT the Main Applicant (Coordinator) of the transnational project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - there is only one Spanish Partner requesting funding to the AEI in the proposal, the maximum funding is € 200.000 - there are two Spanish Partners in the proposal requesting funding to the AEI, the maximum funding amount per proposal is € 250.000 • If a Spanish Partner requesting funding to the AEI IS the Main Applicant (Coordinator) of the transnational project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - there is only one Spanish Partner in the proposal, acting as a coordinator, the maximum funding is € 300.000 - there is one Spanish Partner in addition to the Spanish Coordinator in the proposal, both requesting funding to the AEI, the maximum funding amount per proposal is € 350.000 <p>IMPORTANT: a maximum of two Spanish Partners requesting funding to the AEI in the same Proposal are allowed Centres formed by different Spanish legal entities will be considered as a unique entity, and thus the maximum funding should not exceed the limits per proposal established above (for example mixed centres).</p>
Eligible costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Only personnel costs for exclusive dedication to the project are eligible. The costs of permanent staff linked to the beneficiary entity or members of the research team will not be considered eligible costs.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Direct costs such as current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination costs, and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities. VAT could be non eligible, depending on the application of RRF funds. * Indirect costs (overheads) are eligible costs (21% of total direct costs, including outsourcing). * Subcontracting should not exceed 25% of total final budget (excluding overheads).
Additional information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of the pre-proposal at the national level: it is not mandatory. However, PIs and beneficiaries are encouraged to check eligibility before submitting the proposal, since no changes will be accepted afterwards. • Submission of the full proposal at the national level: It is not mandatory. However, it is important to know that no PI or beneficiary changes will be accepted between pre and full proposal and the national call. <p>Funding Programme:</p> <p>The framework for this funding action is the Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Técnica e Innovación 2021-2023. On a national level, the Call will be managed by the Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia (STRAN) of the AEI.</p> <p>Instrument for funding</p> <p>The instrument for funding the Spanish groups is the call on “Proyectos de Colaboración internacional (PCI)”. Please consult the requirements of PCI2022-1 as they will be similar. Applicants are encouraged to carefully read the call and the general requirements.</p> <p>Data Protection:</p> <p>By submitting a grant application to the AEI, the applicants consent to communication of the data contained in the application to other public administrations, with the aim of further processing of the data for historical, statistical or scientific purposes, within the framework of the Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on Personal Data</p> <p>Acknowledgement:</p> <p>Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects <u>must</u> acknowledge funding by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación according to AEI’s web guidelines.</p>

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Universities and R&D Centres
Fundamental/Basic Research	100% eligible costs
Industrial/Applied research	100% eligible costs
Experimental Research	100% eligible costs

Spain/Asturias – IDEPA – Instituto de Desarrollo Económico del Principado de Asturias**a) National eligibility criteria**

Contact Point	Name: Ana E. Fernández Monzón E-mail: anae@idepa.es
Eligible entities	Companies (whatever sized) operating in the industrial sector or in services to support industrial activities. Companies in other activities can be considered under singular conditions. * R&T Centres & University are welcome as subcontractors.
Eligible topics	The activities to be carried out by the regional partners must be aligned with the S3 strategy of Asturias. Only topics 1 ,2 and 3 of this International call will be accepted.
Eligible type of research and TRL	Industrial Research and Experimental Development TRL between 4-7 (non exclusive)
Additional eligibility criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional applicants - minimum budget: 150.000€ • Firms in difficulty are not eligible in this programme • Firms with 1 employee at least • Minimum budget required for the regional applicant 150.000€ • Proposal's budget must be below the sum of the last two year's turnover • Subcontracting below the 50% of the budget
Eligible costs	Eligible costs: (a) Personnel costs (experienced researchers and technicians). (b) Depreciation costs of instruments and equipment corresponding to the life of the research project, calculated based on good accounting practices. (c) Cost of contractual research: technical knowledge and patents bought or licensed at market prices, and costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the research activity. (d) Costs of materials, supplies and similar products directly linked to the research activity. (e) Travelling costs incurred directly as a result of the research project. (f) Cost of the audit aimed to certificate the correct execution of the project.

Additional information	<p>Maximum grant amount: 200.000€ per proposal</p> <p>Link for website:</p> <p>https://www.idepa.es/detalle-ayuda/-/asset_publisher/EorU9gEBOv3g/content/subvenciones-para-proyectos-colaborativos-transnacionales-de-i-d-para-el-sector-materiales-meranet-empresas-</p>
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b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/ Basic Research				
Industrial/Applied Research*	65%	75%	80%	
Experimental development*	40%	50%	60%	
Secondment of highly qualified personnel from a research organization	50%	50%		

Spain/Basque Country – EJ/GV – Innobasque – Consejería de Desarrollo Económico, Sostenibilidad y Medio Ambiente / Agencia Vasca de la Innovación**a) National eligibility criteria**

Contact Point	Name: Judith de Prado E-mail: jdeprado@innobasque.eus Phone: +34 944 209 488
Eligible entities	Small, medium and large companies and company associations. Research centers, universities and public entities only if subcontracted by the beneficiaries.
Eligible topics	All the topics are eligible to be funded
Eligible type of research and TRL	Industrial research and experimental development. TRL range: 4 - 7
Additional eligibility criteria	Proposals must fit within Basque Country's strategic specialization areas defined in the PCTI 2030: smart industry, cleaner energies, personalised healthcare, healthy food, eco-innovation, sustainable cities, creative Basque Country
Eligible costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel direct costs • Indirect costs (15% of eligible direct staff costs) • External advice and equivalent services as well as the subcontracting of parts of the project highly specialized (up to 50% of the budget) • Travels • Costs of industrial property rights for SMEs • Operating expenses (such as costs of materials, supplies...) • Instruments and equipment
Additional information	The regional funding programme for Basque beneficiaries is HAZITEK. Note that the programme is updated every year. For more information see: https://www.euskadi.eus/2ayuda_subvencion/2022/hazitek-2022/web01-tramite/es/

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/ Basic Research	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Industrial/Applied Research*	*Up to 45% of eligible costs	*Up to 45% of eligible costs	*Up to 45% of eligible costs	N/A
Experimental development*	*Up to 30% of eligible costs	*Up to 30% of eligible costs	*Up to 30% of eligible costs	N/A

****Maximum amount of funding: 250,000€ funding per beneficiary and per year. Minimum annual budget for a Basque company: 50.000 € to be eligible***

Spain/Navarra – CFNA - Comunidad Foral de Navarra – Gobierno de Navarra**a) Regional eligibility criteria**

Regional Contact Point	Name: Silvia Ojer Torres E-mail: Silvia.ojer.torres@navarra.es Phone: +34 848 427658
Eligible entities	Universities, research institutes, SMEs and Large companies. All organisation must be constituted in legal entity.
Eligible topics	Topics 2 (except sub-topic 2.6) and 3.
Eligible type of research and TRL	Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental development/Innovation TRL-1-9
Additional eligibility criteria	No entity can have over 70% of the total project budget
Eligible costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Personnel costs ○ Operational costs ○ Investment costs ○ Subcontracting

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Research centres, universities
Industrial/Applied Research	65%	75%	80%	100%
Experimental development	40%	50%	60%	100%

Sweden – Vinnova – Verket för innovationssystem**a) National eligibility criteria**

National Contact Point	Name: Tobias C. Kampmann E-mail: tobias.kampmann@vinnova.se Phone: +46 8 473 3246 Name: Pontus WESTRIN E-mail: Pontus.westrin@vinnova.se
Eligible entities	Universities, R&D institutes, SME's and Large companies, NGOs (associations, foundations, etc.). Organisations must be legal entities .
Eligible topics	All

Eligible type of research and TRL	Fundamental/Basic Research, Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental Development TRL 2–7
Additional eligibility criteria	Swedish partners in a project proposal can together apply for funding of maximum 300 000 Euros in total.
Eligible costs	<p>Vinnova's grant is a contribution to the project's total eligible costs or parts thereof. The following costs are eligible (see link below for limitations):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. personnel costs, 2. costs of equipment, land and buildings, 3. costs of consultants and licenses etc., 4. other direct costs including travel expenses, and 5. indirect costs. <p>For more information see https://www.vinnova.se/en/apply-for-funding/rules-for-our-funding/terms-and-conditions-for-our-funding/ and https://www.vinnova.se/en/apply-for-funding/rules-for-our-funding/state-aid-to-companies/</p>



b) National funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research
Fundamental/Basic Research	100	100	100	100
Industrial/Applied Research*	50	60	70	100
Experimental development*	25	35	45	100

* Additional funding can be granted if special conditions are met, see <https://www.vinnova.se/globalassets/huvudsajt/sok-finansiering/regler-och-villkor/dokument/tabell-stodnivaer-statligt-stod.pdf> (in Swedish).

Turkey – TÜBİTAK – TÜRKİYE BİLİMSEL VE TEKNOLOJİK ARAŞTIRMA KURUMU

a) National eligibility criteria

National Contact Point	Name: A. Serhat Yildirim E-mail: azmiserhat.yildirim@tubitak.gov.tr Phone: +90 312 298 17 65
Eligible entities	Small, medium and large enterprises, universities, institutions and research organisations Applications are NOT accepted from foundations, associations and their economic enterprises, cooperatives, unions, sole proprietorships and ordinary partnerships.
Eligible topics	All
Eligible type of research and TRL	Fundamental/Basic Research, Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental development TRL 1-8
Additional eligibility criteria	At the same time as the proposal submission to the ERA-MIN3 ESS, the project coordinator of Turkish team in the consortium must apply to TÜBİTAK via project application system of TÜBİTAK (uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr). All Turkish partners in the same international project should submit one application form to national application system.
Eligible costs	Personnel, travel, equipment/tool/software, consultancy and service procurement, consumables.
Additional information	<p>TÜBİTAK will avoid double funding (overlapping with other international (EU) or national funding) and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded.</p> <p>Mandatory acknowledgement for publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge TÜBİTAK funding even after the end of the project by stating the project no. The logo of the TÜBİTAK cannot be used in any outputs of the project.</p> <p>The successful projects will be supported by TÜBİTAK 1071 Programme - Support Programme for Increasing Capacity to Benefit from International Research Funds and Participation in International R&D Cooperation. The purpose of the 1071 programme is to support research and innovation activities of the Turkish stakeholders via enabling the cooperation of academy and industry for the international R&D projects.</p> <p>For more information, see https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/yonetmelik_iii_2_0.pdf</p> <p>It is highly recommended that the NCP should be contacted during the preparation of the project</p>

b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

Type of research	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Universities and research organisations
Fundamental/Basic Research	60	75	75	100
Industrial/Applied Research	60	75	75	100
Experimental development	60	75	75	100