

# Guidelines for Applicants

## ICT-AGRI FIRST CALL FOR TRANSNATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

### ICT-AGRI

→ **Coordination of European Research within ICT and Robotics in  
Agriculture and related Environmental issues**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PRE-PROPOSALS  
31 May 2010**

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## **1 BACKGROUND FOR THE CALL**

The agricultural sector is currently facing a conflicting challenge: to produce more food and maintain high food quality and animal welfare standards, all the while reducing agriculture's environmental footprint. ICT and Robotics technologies have, both currently and in the future, major impacts on productivity and profitability in agricultural production, while ensuring a sustainable environmental management in agriculture and related areas. Productivity and profitability in agriculture will be increased with the utilisation of these new technologies and at the same time the negative impacts on the environment of agricultural production can be managed in a sustainable way.

The ERA-NET ICT-AGRI is launching a transnational joint call for research project proposals based on funds from participating countries. Launching a joint transnational research call will enable collaborative projects based on complementarities and sharing of expertise within ICT and Robotics in Agriculture. The aim is to pool fragmented human and financial resources in order to improve both the efficiency and the effectiveness of Europe's research efforts. The joint call will enable an efficient multi-national collaboration on common transnational research projects based on complementarities and sharing of expertise that will address important questions related to ICT and Robotics in Agriculture and Environmental area.

## **2 CALL TOPICS FOR THE JOINT RESEARCH CALL**

The envisioned targets of the call are system approaches integrating all types of agricultural operations to achieve highest economic efficiency in sustainable productions, to comply with the social framework conditions of rural areas of the EU, and to minimise environmental impacts. This shall be achieved by reconfigurable, up-scalable and multipurpose equipments and platforms that can facilitate cost efficient and competitive production of highly valuable agricultural products. Proposals are expected to address one or more of the issues described in 2.1 in order to be taken into consideration.

### **2.1 TOPIC: INTEGRATED ICT AND AUTOMATION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION**

Projects are expected to apply a systems approach addressing farm level integration of information technology, communication technology, automation and robotics. Projects must have a clear European added value by being carried out at a trans-national level.

Projects may be in one of two categories:

- ✓ A broad approach by combining existing or new software and hardware products to demonstrate a system meeting important challenges within a specific application area;
- ✓ A narrow approach by focusing on specific elements of vital importance for the functioning of integrated systems.

ICT applications may include farm management systems, information systems, monitoring systems, decision support systems, data and knowledge sharing systems, communication protocols, wireless communication, and human-machine coordination and standardisation activities.

Automation and robotics may include autonomous robots, bio-sensors, positional navigation, vision-based navigation, variable rate application, sensor-based process control, human-machine relations and safety.

Application areas may be, but are not restricted to:

- ✓ Arable farming: environmental protection, food safety and quality, sustainable bio-energy production, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, labour demands, chemicals reduction
- ✓ Livestock farming: emissions of gas, dust and germs, environmental protection, animal welfare, disease monitoring, epidemics control, food safety and quality, labour demands
- ✓ Water and soil management: Irrigation optimisation, water saving, soil fertility maintenance, optimal fertilisation, environmental protection, drinking water protection, labour demands
- ✓ Greenhouses: energy use, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, labour demands, pesticide reduction
- ✓ Orchards: irrigation and fertilisation optimisation, labour demands, food safety and quality
- ✓ Post harvest: transport, storage, quality control, sorting, packing

### 3 CALL SCHEDULE

The call involves a 2-step procedure with a pre-proposal selection of applications followed by a review of full proposals (see more details item 6). Table 1 below presents the time schedule for the call and important deadlines.

**Table 1. Call time schedule**

Action	Scheduled
Pre-announcement of the call and its topics	15 February 2010
Launching the call from ICT-AGRI website and Guidelines on website	<b>15 APRIL 2010</b>
Deadline for on-line submission of pre-proposals	31 May 2010
ICT-AGRI and national eligibility check by FG	1-14 June 2010
Invitation letters for submission of full proposal	21 June 2010
Deadline for submission of full proposals	17 September 2010
Scientific peer-review	1-31 October 2010
Peer-review and FG evaluation	1-8 November 2010
Notifications letters	15 November 2010
Amendment of proposals (if necessary)	6 December 2010
Contract negotiation	6-20 Dec. 2010
Start of projects	<b>FROM 31 DECEMBER 2010</b>
Midterm project reports	Midterm of projects
Final project reports	Within 2 months following the projects conclusion

## **4 CALL MANAGEMENT & SECRETARIAT**

The Call Office (CO) will provide administrative support to applicants regarding the call, call documents and procedures. All decisions concerning procedures of the joint research call, project funding or other issues will be made by the Funders Group (FG).

The CO is the primary point of contact between Research Consortia and FG for all general matters in relation to the call and during the follow-up and evaluation of funded projects.

### **ICT-AGRI Call office:**

ICT-AGRI Secretariat  
Carina Madsen  
Danish Food Industry Agency  
Nyropsgade 30  
DK-1780 Copenhagen V  
Denmark

Email: [ict-agri@ferv.dk](mailto:ict-agri@ferv.dk)

### **4.1 NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS**

National Contact Points should be contacted for all matters regarding national regulations and funding. Please see Annex A for contact information of National Contact Points.

## **5 PARTICIPATION AND FUNDING OF RESEARCH PROJECTS**

The funding for the transnational projects will primarily be national funds based on a 'virtual common pot' instrument. The funding principle is that each country funds its own research group(s), while it benefits from the research fruits of the multinational team of the Project Consortium.

Participating countries and funds available for the Call are listed in Annex B.

### **5.1 PARTICIPATION FROM ICT-AGRI NETWORK WITH NATIONAL FUNDING**

Researchers participating in projects that have been selected for funding will receive the grant directly from their national/regional funding bodies after meeting their national regulations. Funding will be administered according to the terms and conditions of responsible national/regional funding bodies taking into account all other applicable national/regional regulations and legal framework.

### **5.2 PARTICIPATION FROM ICT-AGRI NETWORK WITH INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING**

In the countries Ireland and The Netherlands where no national funding is available for this call, researchers from the ICT-AGRI Partner organisations TNO and TEAGASC can participate in Project Consortia with the funding as

listed in Annex A. For all other countries not participating in the call, and for researchers in The Netherlands and Ireland not part of TNO or TEAGASC please refer to 5.3.

### **5.3 PARTICIPATION FROM OUTSIDE ICT-AGRI NETWORK**

Industry and researchers from non-ICT-AGRI funding organisations may participate in Project Consortia as co-funders, but at a project level, which means that they can contribute to a specific project either financially with 'own contribution' or 'in kind'. Consortia are encouraged to look for co-funding from industry. Industry may in some countries also bid for funding as members of consortia, but should first check the Parties' national rules for details on funding eligibility of SMEs or large industries.

### **5.4 NATIONAL PROJECT PARTNERS**

ICT-AGRI has collated a non-exclusive list of research organisations and teams that are active within ICT and robotics in agriculture. This list contains information on expertise, research facilities and priorities. It is available from the ICT-AGRI website: [www.ict-agri.eu](http://www.ict-agri.eu).

## **6 ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING**

There are two sets of eligibility criteria in the selection process of Pre-Proposals: i) ICT-AGRI criteria (see item 6.1), ii) national criteria (see item 6.2 and Annex C – National Regulations).

### **6.1 ICT-AGRI CRITERIA**

Each project Pre-Proposal must:

- ✓ Involve a transnational consortium of at least three (3) independent eligible legal entities from at least three (3) of the ICT-AGRI Partner countries participating in this call. Additional researchers from other countries are welcome in a Project Consortium, but will have to fund their own contribution to the research project.
- ✓ Be written in English, using the ICT-AGRI Application Forms provided on the submission website [www.ict-agri.eu/Calls-7.aspx](http://www.ict-agri.eu/Calls-7.aspx)
- ✓ Be uploaded completed and correctly (including all required documents) via the submission website before the respective call deadline (31 May 2010, 13.00 CET).
- ✓ Fit the formal requirements for proposal submission.
- ✓ Meet the technical specifications and be of relevance in terms of the call topics outlined in the call topic description (see chapter 2.1).
- ✓ Have a clear and well-described European added value of the project being carried out transnationally.
- ✓ Meet the policy needs and priorities of the ICT-AGRI Partner countries.
- ✓ NOT include costs that exceed the maximum amount allocated by each national funding organisation.

## 6.2 NATIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To receive funding, applicants must be eligible for funding by the national funding organisations participating in the call (see Annex B). All participants in a bidding consortium should check their eligibility by reference to the guidance provided by their potential national funding organisation (see Annex B) at the earliest possible stage.

Eligible costs will be determined by the regulations and conditions of each national funding organisation. Subcontracting will be allowed according to the regulations of the national funding organisations involved.

## 6.3 APPLICANTS FROM COUNTRIES NOT PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE CALL

Applicants from countries not partners in the ICT-AGRI network and thereby not providing funding for the call are welcome in Research Consortia, but will have to fund their contribution to the research projects themselves. They are not taken into account in the minimum requirement of eligible partners and countries in the ICT-AGRI eligibility criteria.

## 7 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Application for funding is a two-stage procedure including a Pre-Proposal step leading to a Full Proposal step.

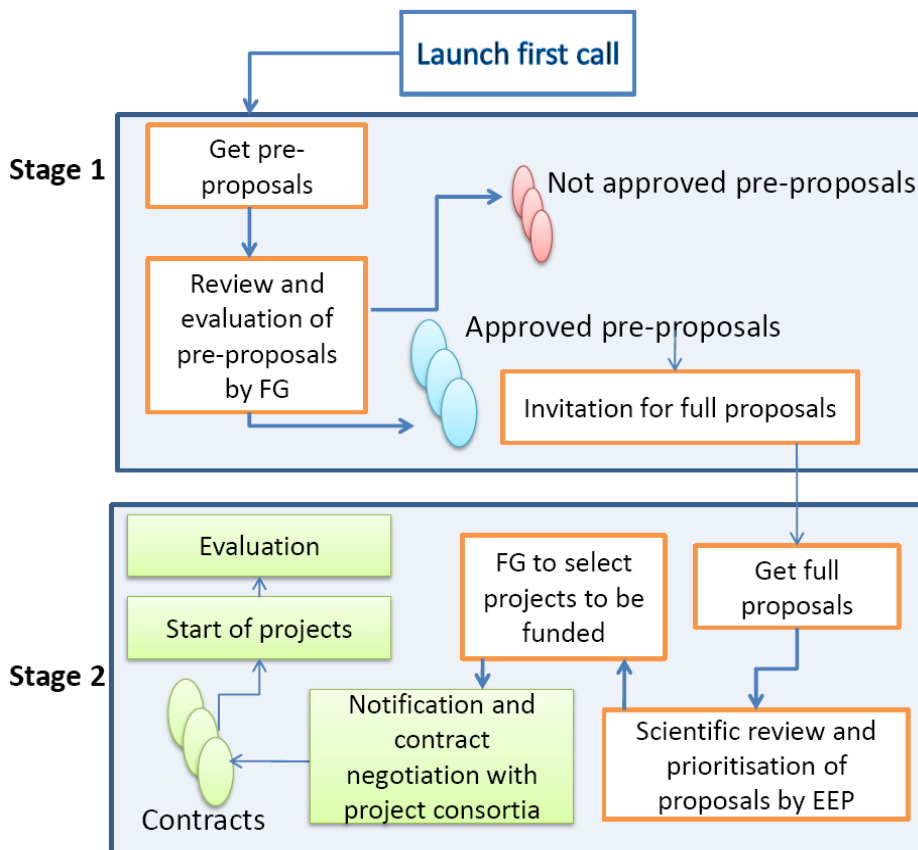


Figure 1. 2-Stage Call Process

Each consortium must identify a Research Consortium Coordinator, who will have a specific role during the submission process and afterwards, if the project is funded (see 7.1).

All forms required for the submission can be downloaded from the ICT-AGRI the submission website for preparation of the proposal.

Only one single form for Pre-proposal (and for Full Proposal) is required for each project covering all of the Research Partners of the consortium. The form should be completed by the Research Partners and submitted by the Research Consortium Coordinator on behalf of the Research Consortium in line with the stated deadlines (see section 3). It is mandatory to upload the Forms as “.pdf”. Proposals must be completed in English. Proposals should be precise and concise. For further information contact the CO (chapter 4).

All participants in a bidding consortium should check their eligibility by reference to the guidance provided by their potential national funding organisation at the earliest possible stage – please consult Annex B for the list of national contacts points.

The ICT-AGRI CO will be the primary point of contact throughout the application process. Applications will be accepted only via the ICT-AGRI online submission website [www.ict-agri.eu/Calls-7.aspx](http://www.ict-agri.eu/Calls-7.aspx).

#### **7.1 THE RESEARCH CONSORTIUM COORDINATOR**

Each Research Consortium need to appoint a Research Consortium Coordinator, who will have the following role:

- Be the single point of contact between the ICT-AGRI CO and the Researchers in the pre-proposal and in any successful project, from submission of the proposal onward;
- Submit the Application Form on behalf of the Research Consortium;
- In any commissioned project, compile and submit reports/deliverables to the ICT-AGRI CO on behalf of the Research Consortium

The Research Consortium Coordinator will NOT be responsible for the financial management of ICT-AGRI research funding, which will be handled directly between national researchers and their national funding organisations in each participating country.

The Research Consortium Coordinator shall inform the CO and each of the national funding organisations of any event that might affect the implementation of the project.

#### **7.2 SUBMISSION OF PRE-PROPOSALS**

Pre-Proposals must be uploaded on the submission website [www.ict-agri.eu/Calls-7.aspx](http://www.ict-agri.eu/Calls-7.aspx) by 31 May 2010, at 13.00 CET. The submission tool will be available from 15 April 2010.

Pre-Proposal application forms are available on the submission website. Pre-Proposals must be written in English.

When applicants discover errors, proposals may be corrected by resubmission. However, resubmissions will only be accepted up to the deadline of the call.

Please consider that resubmission of a document means that the old document will be substituted by the new document. As a consequence there will be no safety copies of old versions on the submission server.

### 7.3 PRE-PROPOSALS APPLICATION FORM

Applicants will be required to submit online a Pre-Proposal Application Form consisting of the following items:

1. Title of Project
2. Project Acronym
3. Application Area
4. Duration of the proposed research project
5. Total budget requested (in EUR)
6. Contact Details Project Consortium Coordinator
7. Names, positions and full affiliations of all Project Partners
8. A total of five selected publications (per Project Consortium) by the Project Partners and relevant to the proposal
9. Statement that describes how the proposal fits the call topics
10. Statement that describes how/why the proposal has a clear added value of being carried out on a transnational basis
11. Description of the project:
  - 11.1. Objectives
  - 11.2. Methods and proposed work plan
  - 11.3. Expected results and their impact/application/exploitation
  - 11.4. Proposed dissemination plan
12. Description of project partners and role in project
13. A financial plan
14. Any supplementary information

**The information given in the Pre-Proposal is binding.** Thus, any fundamental changes between the Pre- and Full Proposals, e.g. composition of the consortium, objectives of the project, must be communicated to the ICT-AGRI CO with detailed justification and will only be allowed by the FG under exceptional circumstances.

Pre-Proposals that are not completed, or contrary to any other formal requirement will not be considered in the evaluation process. Only in exceptional circumstances the coordinator will be permitted to rectify the proposal.

After closure of the call, the ICT-AGRI CO and respective national funding organisations will complete a check for eligibility and relevance of the proposals to the aims of the call and funding agencies. The national call funding agencies will check the proposals against their respective national regulations, policy requirements and funding conditions. The CO will contact the Research Consortium Coordinator to acknowledge receipt and report on the outcome of the pre-selection. The Research Consortium Coordinators of those project Pre-Proposals, which pass the pre-selection and eligibility check will be invited to submit Full Proposals. Limited feedback comments will be given to unsuccessful applicants.

#### **7.4 SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS**

An updated guideline for the submission of Full Proposals will be available once invitations for submitting Full Proposals are sent out.

### **8 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS**

Proposals will be evaluated for meeting the topic of the call, scientific quality, quality of Research Consortium, quality of project management, added value by transnational collaboration, and feasibility of the project and policy need and priorities of the countries of the funding agencies participating in the call.

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

#### **8.1 ETHICS**

Work involving the use of animals or humans should be carried out under the appropriate authorisation taking into account local ethical requirements. Any proposal, which appears to the funding organisation or designated reviewers to contravene fundamental ethical principles, shall not be selected, and may be excluded from the evaluation and selection procedure at any time. Judgement of the significance of ethical issues will be made by the FG using the criteria published by the Commission in its guidelines for the Seventh Framework Programme (<http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/index.cfm?fuseaction=public.topic&id=370>).

#### **8.2 PRE-SELECTION AND ELIGIBILITY CHECK OF PRE-PROPOSALS**

The purpose of the selection process at the pre-proposal stage is to identify those transnational research proposals which are eligible in terms of the ICT-AGRI criteria agreed between the funding agencies as well as meeting national regulations, as well as meeting the policy needs and priorities of the ICT-AGRI Partner countries. Meeting these criteria is mandatory and proposals that do not meet them will not be considered for funding.

Project Consortia whose Pre-Proposals meet the eligibility criteria and policy needs of the funding agencies will be invited to submit Full Proposals.

#### **8.3 EVALUATION OF FULL PROPOSALS**

Full Proposals will be forwarded to an Expert Evaluation Panel (EEP) to assess the quality of the scientific content. Experts will be nominated and agreed by the funding agencies. Potential conflicts of interest will be considered.

The assessment of proposals will be undertaken confidentially on the basis of scientific quality. The EEPs will score the proposals based on a set of evaluation criteria providing detailed comments; and providing an overall assessment of scientific merit and a funding recommendation. A written report, anonymous for applicants will be sent to the Project Consortium Coordinator.

#### **8.4 EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The assessment of proposals will be undertaken by the EEP on the basis of scientific quality and the evaluation criteria as specified below:

1. The proposal addresses the aim(s) of the joint transnational call as described in the topic descriptions, taking into account the relevance to the field and the added value of the transnational collaboration;
2. Scientific & technological quality of the proposal including novelty and methodology;
3. Potential impact of the research on the application of ICT in the agricultural sector, its impact on the environment and the European added value;
4. Quality and international competitiveness of participants in the field(s) of the proposal (previous work in the field, expertise of the participants);
5. Quality and efficiency of the project management (coordination of work package and tasks management);
6. Quality of the consortium and collaboration (well balanced partnership; integrated partnership in work packages; added value of the transnational consortium; previous level of collaborative interaction between the participants);
7. Feasibility of the project – human, technical and financial resources: adequate work package structure and work plan (tasks, matching events, calendar); expertise; adequate equipment and manpower resources; scientific justification and effective use of the requested budget.
8. Probability of success of the proposed research and the time that it will take to bring the research results to application.

## **8.5 PROJECT SELECTION BY NATIONAL/REGIONAL FUNDING AGENCIES**

The funding agencies will decide on the final list of projects to be funded based on the recommendations of the EEP and their own assessment and policy needs.

After the approval of the final list by respective national funding agencies, the CO will – on behalf of the funding agencies – send notification letters to all Project Consortia Coordinators to inform them of the result of the final funding decision. Each national funding agency will enter the contracting process with the national researchers of successful Project Consortia.

## **9 CONTRACT CONDITIONS**

### **9.1 TERMS OF PARTICIPATION**

The national funding for the ICT-AGRI Call is offered under the coordination of the FP7 ERA-NET ICT-AGRI, “Coordination of European Research within ICT and Robotics in Agriculture and related Environmental Issues”. Research participants are required to recognise the coordinating role of ICT-AGRI throughout the duration of funded research projects until approval of the final report. Research Consortia will be asked for feedback on processes in order to help refine these for future use.

### **9.2 CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS**

Regarding the call and the funding, ICT-AGRI has a coordination role and does not directly provide funding. All of the contracts and funding procedures remain the full responsibility of the national research funding agencies.

Each project includes several consortium members called Project Partners, one of which is also the Project Consortium Coordinator. The Project Partners in a funded research project will have a contractual relationship with the national funding organisation.

Because of the fragmented nature of the funding it is necessary for each national funding agency to enter into a contract with the relevant researcher, but also to ensure that these contracts are synchronised both in time and content, so that the Project Consortium can deliver transnational outputs as described in the project proposal. The national funding agencies have to ensure that common ICT-AGRI conditions are met (e.g. common commencement date of a given project, reporting requirements etc.).

### 9.3 FUNDING CONTRACTS

For the whole duration of the contract it is the responsibility of the Project Consortium Coordinator to inform the CO of any changes which might affect the implementation of the project (e.g. work plan, consortium modifications) and other changes such as changes in contact details. The Research Partners shall also inform their national funding agency of those changes affecting the national contract.

If a change occurs to the Project Consortium which poses a risk to the project, the issue has to be solved by the consortium (in line with any Consortium Agreement). The CO must be kept informed of such events.

Any changes in the work plan should be only minor, but will need to be authorised by all of the funding agencies involved before amendments to the contract by the national funding agencies can be issued.

### 9.4 RESEARCH CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

The consortia selected for funding must enter into a Consortium Agreement, in order to manage the delivery of the project activities, finances, intellectual properties rights (IPR) and to avoid disputes which might be detrimental to the completion of the project.

It will be the responsibility of the Project Consortium Coordinators to draw up a Consortium Agreement suitable to their own group. The Consortium Agreement will normally be under the law and legal system of the country of the Project Consortium Coordinator. The purpose of this document is:

- To underpin the Project Partners' collaboration and provide the Project Partners with mutual assurance on project management structures and procedures, and their rights and obligations towards one another;
- To assure the funding agencies involved that the Project Consortia have a satisfactory decision making capacity and that Project Partners are able to work together in a synergistic manner.

The following items (as a minimum) should be addressed by the Consortium Agreement:

- purpose of and definitions used in the Consortium Agreement
- names of organisations involved
- organisation and management of the project
- role and responsibilities of the Research Consortium Coordinator and the Research Partners: person in charge, their obligations and key tasks, conditions for their change
- deliverables (transnational reports and if relevant requirements for national reports where coordination is required)
- resources and funding
- confidentiality and publishing
- Intellectual Property Rights (how this issue will be handled between Research Partners)
- decision making within the consortium
- handling of internal disputes
- the liabilities of the Research Partners towards one another (including the handling of default of contract).

It is recommended that Project Consortia use the DESCA<sup>1</sup> standard model for Consortium Agreements. More information about DESCAR can be found from their website: <http://www.desca-fp7.eu/about-desca/>. The Consortium Agreement must be signed by all Parties of the Project Consortium.

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<sup>1</sup> Developed Simplified Consortium Agreement

## **9.5 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND USE AND ACCESS TO RESULTS**

The ICT-AGRI partners will take all reasonable steps to ensure that information provided in the application is treated as confidential subject to submission to the members of its committees and merit review and to any obligations under law.

Results and new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) resulting from projects funded through the ICT-AGRI Call will be owned by the Project Partners according to the regulations in their Consortium Agreement and if not conflicting with the respective national regulations.

Researchers are encouraged to actively exploit the results of the research project and make them available for use, whether for commercial gain or not, in order for public benefit to be obtained from the knowledge created.

All ICT-AGRI Partners shall have the right to use documents, information and results submitted by the Project Partners for their own purposes, provided that this is compatible with the protection of intellectual property rights, confidentiality obligations, and the legitimate interests of the owner of any foreground involved.

## **9.6 COMMENCEMENT OF PROJECTS**

A project can commence as soon as the CO has been informed by the Project Consortium Coordinator about the conclusion of the national contracts. Once the national contract comes into force, eligible national costs may be claimed as per national procedures. In the interim period, researchers may commence work on the project at their own risk and costs.

## **9.7 PROJECT REPORTING**

Midterm monitoring procedures will be mandatory for all applicants involved in the funded projects. These will be independent of other specific national requirements. Additionally, there will be a final report at the end of the project, which has to be delivered to the CO within two months following project conclusion. Written reports and deliverables will be sent out for evaluation by the EEP and the relevant national funding agencies. The project deliverables shall only be deemed approved when the CO confirms approval to the Project Consortium Coordinator, or (if modifications are required) confirms to the Project Consortium Coordinator approval of the modified version of any deliverable.

Project reports must be produced in English, and may be produced in other languages at the Project Partners' discretion and cost. The Project Partners are jointly responsible for the delivery of work, and the FG will only accept reports delivered by the Research Consortium Coordinator on behalf of the consortium.

Where required, each participant must report progress on its own component of the work to the national funding organisations in line with national contractual obligations. This also applies to financial reports.

## **9.8 DISSEMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

Dissemination of project results is requested in form of various communication routes such as scientific papers, posters, presentations for stakeholders, workshops and others. A detailed communication plan should specify the tentative dissemination and communication activities.

The Project Partners shall acknowledge ICT-AGRI and the individual national funding agencies in any documents that are produced (in written, oral or electronic form) within the research project. All published material derived from the projects should be sent to the ICT-AGRI Secretariat, and may be posted on the ICT-AGRI website.

## ANNEX A – FUNDER CONTRIBUTION TABLE

Funder	Funder short name	Country	Intended approximate financial contribution
Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Danish Food Industry Agency	DFIA	Denmark	€ 500.000
Ministry of Agriculture of the Flemish Community, Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research	EV-ILVO	Belgium	€ 100.000
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	MMM	Finland	€ 200.000
Cemagref – French Institute for Environmental Sciences and Technologies	CEMAGREF	France	€ 100.000
Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection	BMELV	Germany	€ 200.000
General Secretariat for Research & Technology/Ministry of Education, Life Long Learning and Religious Affairs	GRNET/GSRT	Greece	€ 200.000
Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development	MARD	Israel	€ 200.000
Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies	MiPAAF	Italy	€ 500.000
Latvian Academy of Sciences	LAS	Latvia	€ 150.000
Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture	FOAG	Switzerland	€ 200.000
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, General Directorate of Agricultural Research	GDAR	Turkey	€ 100.000
Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	TÜBİTAK	Turkey	€ 400.000
Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research	TNO	Netherlands	€ 100.000 (Institute funding reserved for researchers at TNO)
Teagasc – Agriculture and Food Development Authority	TEAGASC	Ireland	€ 30.000 (Institute funding reserved for researchers at TEAGASC)
Region of Murcia Agency of Development	INFO MURCIA	Spain	€ 150.000
<b>Total amount</b>			<b>€ 3.130.000</b>

## ANNEX B - NATIONAL CONTRACT POINTS

Country	Name & Organisation	Telephone	E-mail
 Belgium	Jürgen Vangeyte Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research	+32 9 272 27 65	jurgen.vangeyte@ilvo.vlaanderen.be
 Denmark	Carina Madsen Danish Food Industry Agency	+45 33 95 81 48	cama@ferv.dk
 Finland	Suvi Ryyanen Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	+358 9 160 52 385	suvi.ryyanen@mmm.fi
 France	Dominique Didelot Cemagref – French Institute for Environmental Sciences and Technologies	+33 4 73 44 06 64	dominique.didelot@cemagref.fr
 Germany	Elke Saggau Federal Agency for Agriculture and Food	+49 2 286 8453 930	elke.saggau@ble.de
 Greece	Xenophon Tsilibaris Greek Research and Technology Network	+30 210 7474 261	xtsili@grnet.gr
	Chrysoula Diamanti General Secretariat for Research & Technology	+30 210 7458 190	cdiama@gsrt.gr
 Ireland	Raymond Kelly Teagasc – Agriculture and Food Development Authority	+353 59 9183 505	raymond.kelly@teagasc.ie
 Israel	Victor Alchanatis Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	+972 3 968 35 04	victor@volcani.agri.gov.il
 Italy	Alberto Masci Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies	+39 6 466 550 93	a.masci@politicheagricole.gov.it
 Latvia	Dace Tirzite Latvian Academy of Sciences	+37 167 227 790	dace.tirzite@lza.lv
 Spain	Luisa López Region of Murcia Agency of Development	+34 968 366 849	ProgramaMarco@info.carm.es
 Switzerland	Markus Lötscher Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture	+41 313 256 085	markus.loetscher@blw.admin.ch
 The Netherlands	Jack Verhoosel Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research	+31 88 86 62 459	jack.verhoosel@tno.nl
 Turkey	Fatma Sarsu General Directorate of Agricultural Research	+90 312 327 36 78	fsarsu@tagem.gov.tr
	Meltem Soydan Karabacak Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	+90 312 468 53 00 int.1172	meltem.soydan@tubitak.gov.tr

ANNEX C – NATIONAL REGULATIONS

## BELGIUM

Ministry of Agriculture of the Flemish Community, Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research	EV-ILVO	Belgium	€ 100.000
<p><b>The National regulations for Belgian applicants for the ICT-AGRI call 2010</b></p> <p>The programme that can be used for participation in the call 2010 is called: <b><u>ILVO-phd</u></b>.</p> <p>This programme is <u>topic-specific</u>. This means that once the (sub)topics are decided by the ERA-net ICT-Agri, the topics will be evaluated by the programme-committee. In case of acceptance of one or more topics, the programme is open for every researcher (with full competition), as long as the following criteria are fulfilled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have the necessary and relevant diploma's (at least graduated cum laude at any University)</li> <li>- have the European nationality</li> <li>- less than 365 days experience in research</li> <li>- attest of irreproachable behavior</li> <li>- the willingness and commitment to write a phd</li> </ul> <p>The proposed project must have a total duration of 2 times 2 years. Since the ERA-proposals have a two year duration, they should be incorporated in the first two year.</p> <p>After 2 years an evaluation procedure is carried out. A positive evaluation is mandatory for acceptance of the last 2 years of the project to be financed. Co-financing of the project with European Universities or other research institutions is encouraged (for example, 2 year financing from the ILVO-phd programme and 2 years co-financing from a University). Both the candidate and the project will be evaluated by an external evaluation committee (with a different composition as the programme-committee).</p>			

## DENMARK

Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Danish Food Industry Agency	DFIA	Denmark	€ 500.000
<p><b>The National regulations for Danish applicants for the ICT-AGRI call 2010</b></p> <p>Research Institutes can apply for funding for research projects of up to three years' duration with an anticipated start date of no later than 31 December 2010.</p> <p>The research must strengthen the knowledge base within the topics of research indicated in Annex I. The work carried out must be actual research, cf. the definitions in the OECD Frascati Manual. Product development and demonstration projects will not be funded.</p> <p>In order to consolidate Danish research as a leading player internationally, emphasis is on ensuring that projects bring together relevant Danish competence in networks, consortia and related configurations. Such a grouping can help promote cohesion within the chain, collaboration with the industry and participation in other national and international programmes in the field.</p> <p>Public and private research institutes can apply for funding for individual projects or collaborative projects across several institutes and collaboration partners. Companies cannot apply for funding.</p> <p><i>Collaborative projects between</i> several institutes must be forwarded as a joint application. The application must contain a description of the management of the project, including organization. The individual partners' activities, responsibilities and financial involvement, including co-financing, must be clearly stated in the application. A collaborative project has only one project manager and one contact person from each collaboration institute.</p> <p>The application must contain a plan for communication of results, including reporting of results at seminars, workshops and to the public in collaboration with the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries.</p> <p>Applications with methodology/technology content must include an assessment of the anticipated environmental effect of the method as well as an assessment of the time perspective of implementation and commercialization of the method in Denmark as well as animal welfare and ethics.</p> <p>In addition, where relevant, the application must make reference to the industrial and social significance of the research. The research programme is administered by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries; further information is available at <a href="http://www.ferv.fvm.dk">www.ferv.fvm.dk</a>.</p>			

### **Expenditure qualifying for a funding**

Funding will be awarded as a framework grant, and additional funding will not be provided.

Funding does not cover expenditure for activities implemented before the project has been granted.

Funding can be applied for as follows:

#### **Direct costs:**

**Salaries (Staff costs)** – Divided into scientific staff (including foreign visiting scientists, post.doc, PhD students) and technical administrative staff. The maximum amount funded for salaries in accordance with agreements for comparable positions in the public sector. It is a requirement that expenses for sick pay or parental leave benefit, holiday pay and other social obligations is held by the employing authority.

*Universities and other governmental institutes, that are required to act in accordance to the rules concerning funded research activities in the budget guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, make up the salary costs as the actual salary expenses.*

*Private research institutes, e.g. Approved Technological Service Institutes (GTS institutes) budget actual salary costs per hour used (i.e. without overheads/general costs). Instead of monthly reporting, the number of effective hours has to be stated.*

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

**Apparatus** – Applicants must provide the necessary apparatus for the project themselves. If this is not possible, consideration will be given to obtaining the apparatus applied for. Applications for a funding for *Apparatus* must be accompanied by an explanation.

**Other costs** – E.g. suppliers, including consultancy services, where the institution acquires full rights of exploitation. Applications for funding of *Other costs* must be accompanied by an explanation describing the details of the matter. This includes payment for Ph.D. and Post Doc training. However, attention is drawn to the fact that general expenditure for salaries must be included under the budget item “*Salaries (Staff costs)*”.

#### **Indirect costs:**

##### **Contribution to general costs**

*Universities and other governmental institutes, that are required to act in accordance to the rules concerning funded research activities in the budget guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, add to the budget a contribution to overheads of 44% of direct costs. Private research institutes, e.g. Approved Technological Service Institutes (GTS institutes), add to the budget a contribution to overheads of 20% of direct costs.*

**Selection of applications**

The applications are selected by ICT-AGRI Funders Group. Next, based on proposals selected by the programme committee(s), the Danish Advisory Committee for Food Research (RUFF), submits a recommendation to the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of projects suggested to be funded. After the final decision by the ministry, applicants will receive either a grant for funding or a rejection with reasons given.

## FINLAND

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	MMM	Finland	€ 200.000
<p><b>The National Regulations for Finnish applicants for the ICT-AGRI call 2010</b></p>			
<p>The main national criteria emphasizes that the research benefit the agri-food livelihood. The work carried out must be pre-competitive research and/or prototype demonstration. Product development supporting individual firms will not be supported. Financial involvement must be clearly stated in the application. The application must contain a plan for communication of results.</p>			
<p>Funding does not cover expenditures for activities before the project has been granted. Normally 50-60 % of the project's gross eligible costs can be covered by the MMM funding. Applicants must provide the necessary apparatus for the project themselves. If a special apparatus is needed an explanation and application for funding for apparatus must be included. If the applicant has not earlier given the explanation for indirect employee costs and overheads the applicant has to give an account to the ministry.</p>			

## FRANCE

Cemagref – French Institute for Environmental Sciences and Technologies	CEMAGREF	France	€ 100.000
<p><b>The National regulations for French applicants for the ICT-AGRI call 2010</b></p>			
<p>According to the conclusions of "Grenelle de l'Environnement et des Assises de l'Agriculture", the interface between higher education, research and the development sector must be strengthened. Emphasis is put on Ecotechnologies development, especially on promoting of Eco-innovation.</p>			
<p>That's the reason why the French Ministry of Agriculture (MAAP-DGER) asks Cemagref to link this first ERA-NET call with the "Docteurs pour l'entreprise" (Doctors for enterprises) research programme, which is managed by Cemagref. This call is aiming at developing innovation in the companies by encouraging doctors' recruitment.</p>			
<p>The proposed projects will be designed as a partnership between at least three actors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A doctor who want to continue his carrier in the private sector</li> <li>- A French research organisation or technical agro-industrial institute to welcome the doctor with a post-doc statute.</li> <li>- An innovative company interested by research results with the aims to valorise them.</li> </ul>			
<p>This partnership will be built around the proof of innovative concept or scientific results valorisation. The concept can come either from the research organisation and the doctor thesis, or from a research issue identified by the company.</p>			
<p>The duration of the projects will be between 12 and 18 months. The stay of the doctor in the private company must be significant.</p>			
<p>The fields of application are described in the ERA-NET AGRI 2010 call.</p>			
<p><b><u>Expenditure qualifying and dispositions for a funding:</u></b></p>			
<p>Funding will be awarded as a grant to the enterprise for the total salary and the training charges of the doctor. The doctor leads the project. The company is responsible for the project, and is in charge of the technical and scientific environment of the doctor and the equipment needed.</p>			
<p>The size of the eligible company is limited to 2000 persons. Assessment conditions are scientific quality – feasibility – valorisation potential and applications – credibility and motivation of the candidate enterprise (see recommendations by asking them to <a href="mailto:IAA.innovation@cemagref.fr">IAA.innovation@cemagref.fr</a>).</p>			
<p>The submission will be made, at the same time, in the ERA-NET process and on <a href="mailto:IAA.innovation@cemagref.fr">IAA.innovation@cemagref.fr</a> web address by using the application forms available on websites: <a href="http://www.agriculture.gouv.fr">www.agriculture.gouv.fr</a> and <a href="http://www.cemagref.fr/Informations/Actualités">www.cemagref.fr/Informations/Actualités</a>.</p>			
<p><b><u>Selection of applications</u></b></p>			
<p>The applications are selected by ERA-NET ICT-AGRI 2010 Call Committee, in parallel with "Docteurs pour l'entreprise" committee. Next, based on proposals selected by the two</p>			

programme committees, the French Ministry of Agriculture will decide which applicants will receive a grant.

## GERMANY

Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection	BMELV	Germany	€ 200.000
<p><b>The National regulations for German applicants for the ICT-AGRI call 2010</b></p> <p>Applicants should contact the ICT-AGRI German National Contact Point: Dr. Elke Saggau (<a href="mailto:elke.saggau@ble.de">elke.saggau@ble.de</a>) for information regarding the German regulations for participating in this call.</p>			

## GREECE

Greek Research and Technology Network	GRNET	Greece	€ 200.000
<p><b>The National regulations for Greek applicants for the ICT-AGRI call 2010</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.grnet.gr/default.asp?pid=19&amp;la=1&amp;nid=120&amp;ny=2010">http://www.grnet.gr/default.asp?pid=19&amp;la=1&amp;nid=120&amp;ny=2010</a></p> <p>Applicants should contact the ICT-AGRI Greek National Contact Point: Xenophon Tsilimparis (<a href="mailto:xtsili@admin.grnet.gr">xtsili@admin.grnet.gr</a>) or Chrysoula Diamandi (<a href="mailto:cdiama@gsrt.gr">cdiama@gsrt.gr</a>) for information regarding the Greek regulations for participating in this call.</p>			

## IRELAND

Teagasc – Agriculture and Food Development Authority	TEAGASC	Ireland	€ 30.000 (Institute funding reserved for researchers at TEAGASC)
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### National Regulations for Irish applicants for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010

- All permanent Teagasc staff members are eligible to take part in applications to the ICT-AGRI 2010 call, either as partners or coordinators.
- The total value of the Teagasc budget in such applications cannot exceed €30,000 (including permanent staff time).
- All applications from Teagasc staff must be approved in advance by the Director of Research. In order to allow for the most efficient use of time, researchers are advised to consult with the Research and Innovation Support Team ([raymond.kelly@teagasc.ie](mailto:raymond.kelly@teagasc.ie)) at an early stage to make sure that their topic is in line with Teagasc research priorities.

## ISRAEL

Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development	MARD	Israel	€ 200.000
<p><b>National Regulations for Israeli applicants for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010</b></p>			
<p><b>Partner:</b>            Chief Scientist Office, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Israel.            MARD intends to support the first Call for Proposals of the ICT-AGRI ERA-NET (Coordination of European Research on ICT and robotics in agriculture and related environmental issues) – and encourages its scientists to apply for funding for collaborative research in Europe on ICT and robotics in agriculture and related environmental issues. MARD has the ambition to stimulate synergy, focus and international collaboration, on the basis of excellence in research, in the research area of ICT and robotics and its application for sustainable agriculture</p>			
<p><b>Eligibility and national funding modalities:</b>            Applications to this call will be based/established /designed on Collaborative Research Projects as defined in the Call Document. MARD funding will be exclusively available for supporting the Israeli part of any successful transnational collaboration as research project grants, according to MARD rules and criteria as published in "MARD 2010 Chief Scientist Call for Proposals".</p>			
<p>Participation of commercial companies / entities from the industries related to robotics, automation and ICT in the projects, are encouraged; these companies / entities may participate under MARD regulations and conditions and will not be eligible for grant reward from MARD funds assigned for this call. MARD financial support will be closely related to its funding activities and priorities within the "MARD Chief Scientist National Fund"</p>			
<p><b>Additional national regulations and guidelines:</b>            Research themes, application and evaluation of research proposals will follow the procedure as defined in the ICT-AGRI ERA-NET Call Notice with annexes. Kindly note that <b>prior to submission</b> of the proposal for evaluation by the ICT-AGRI ERA-NET, <b>approval of the Israeli part of the proposal should be made by the chief Scientist of MARD</b>, according to MARD objectives and regulations. Therefore, applicants are strongly advised to contact their National Call Coordinator (NCC) before starting to prepare proposals for application.</p>			

MARD terms and conditions are specific for Israeli applicants within the ICT-AGRI ERA-NET Collaborative Research consortia and are specified in this National Annex and in the "MARD Chief Scientist Call for Proposals for 2010" which may be downloaded from our website: [www.science.moag.gov.il](http://www.science.moag.gov.il). Final approval of the funds will be made by MARD Chief Scientist's board. MARD grant holders shall follow the MARD application, reporting and IPR and general rules of funding procedures. According to MARD general policy, applicants must be aware that all information, resources and results obtained from MARD projects are made publicly available within a reasonable period of time and that this is not in conflict with obligations of the principal investigator in other projects.

## ITALY

Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies	MiPAAF	Italy	€ 500.000
<p><b>National Regulations for Italian applicants for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010</b></p>			
<p><b>Nature of the applicants</b></p>			
<p>Research Institutions can apply for funding for research projects of up to two years' duration. The Italian Ministry of agricultural food and forestry policies, has no particular restrictions for what concerns the nature of the applicants. Each research institution and no profit bodies and agencies or private company and lab can apply.</p>			
<p><i>Collaborative projects between several institutes must be forwarded as a joint application. The application must contain a description of the management of the project, including organization. The individual partners' activities, responsibilities and financial involvement, including co-financing, must be clearly stated in the application. A collaborative project has only one project manager and one contact person from each collaboration institute.</i></p>			
<p><b>Restrictions</b></p>			
<p>In the cases of private companies or labs, it is mandatory that they state in the official documents (statute and/or articles of incorporation, memorandum of association) that among their missions they also “perform research activities” and not only “promote, or support research activities”.</p>			
<p>The only difference between private labs or companies and public bodies or no profit agencies, is the percentage of contribution.</p>			
<p>For what concerns the private labs and companies it is possible to finance up to 60% of approved project costs; for the public bodies it is possible to finance up to 100% of approved project costs. The funds are transferred to the beneficiary in three steps: 1<sup>st</sup> step: 65% of the approved costs immediately at the issue of the Ministry decree (contract between the Ministry and the beneficiary); 2<sup>nd</sup> step: 25% of the approved costs once the mid-term report (both scientific and administrative) has been approved; 3<sup>rd</sup> step: 10% of the approved costs once the final report has been approved.</p>			
<p><b>Admitted costs</b></p>			
<p><b>Salaries (Staff costs)</b> – Only for <u>non permanent</u> scientific staff (including foreign visiting scientists, post.doc, PhD students, fellowships and grants) and technical administrative staff.</p>			
<p><i>Private research institutes, budget actual salary costs per hour used (i.e. without overheads/general costs). Instead of monthly reporting, the number of effective hours has to be stated.</i></p>			

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

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

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

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

#### **Additional forms**

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

The forms will be made available on the Ministry website at the following address:

<http://www.politicheagricole.it/RicercaSperimentazione/default>

# LATVIA

Latvian Academy of Sciences	LAS	Latvia	€ 150.000
<p><b>National Regulations for Latvian applicants for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010</b></p> <p>1. Participants of projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research institutions - research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, their institutes and other research institutions which have been registered in the Register of Research institutions, monitored by Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Latvia</li> <li>• Enterprises, which are registered in the Register of Enterprises of Republic of Latvia, which carry out their activities mainly in Latvia and are involved in the project in the co-operation with Latvian research institutions, registered in the Register of Research institutions.</li> </ul> <p>2. Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects will be funded in accordance with the list of prioritisation of Expert Evaluation Panel and taking into account the available financial resources.</li> <li>• The maximal funding of one project is 75 000 euro for 2 years, including overheads</li> <li>• Funding will be granted in accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation (EC) N° 800/2008 of August 6, 2008, which declares particular grant categories compatibles with the common market on the application of articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty.</li> </ul> <p>3. Eligible costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff costs</li> <li>Materials and reagents</li> <li>Amortization of used equipment</li> <li>Travel expences</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Subcontracts does not exceed 10% from the direct costs</li> <li>• Indirect costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overheads does not exceed 10% from the direct costs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			

## SPAIN

Region of Murcia Agency of Development	INFO MURCIA	Spain	€ 150.000
<p><b>National Regulations for applicants from the Region of Murcia for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010</b></p>			
<p><b>Technological Development and Research Program</b></p>			
<p><b>Objective</b></p>			
<p>This program has been created for enterprises and Innovator Association of Enterprises, which can be consider as SMEs, and developing technology-based projects with the aim to significantly improve competitiveness in initiatives related to industrial research, experimental development or obtaining and validation of industrial property rights, understanding as:</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Industrial Research:</b> planned research or critical studies, the goal of which is the acquisition of new knowledge that can be used for the creation of new products, processes or services, or can contribute to considerably improving existing products, processes or services. It includes the creation of complex systems components, which necessary to industrial research, especially generic technological validation, except prototypes.</li> <li>- <b>Experimental development:</b> acquisition, combination, configuration and use of existing knowledge and techniques, of scientific, technologic, business or another nature, to make plans and structures or design of new, modified or improved products, process or new services. Can be included, for example, other activities of conceptual definition, planning, and documentation of new products, process or services. In these activities can appear the elaboration of projects, designs, plans and other kinds of documentation, always if destination is different to commercial uses. Habitual or periodic modifications in products, production lines, manufacturing process, existing services and other xxx, xxx</li> <li>- <b>Obtaining and validation of patents and other industrial property rights.</b></li> </ul>			
<p>Any R&amp;D project can include activities classified as industrial research; other as experimental development y other as obtaining and validation of patents and other industrial property rights, always if these activities are well differentiated and identify the eligible costs assigned to each one of the concepts indicated.</p>			
<p>Special consideration will be given to Cooperative Research Projects, as this promotes a culture of partnership and cooperation required for all European projects.</p>			
<p>Funding under this program will be granted in accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation (EC) N° 800/2008 of August 6, 2008, which declares particular grant categories compatibles with the common market on the application of articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty, as published in the DOUE of August 9, 2008 (L 214/3 to L214/47), specifically the following grant categories are contained: grants for research and development projects (article 31) and grants to SMEs to fund the industrial property rights costs (article 33).</p>			

### Aid and graduation

Up to 70% of the project's gross eligible costs for "industrial research" activities.

Up to 45% of the project's gross eligible costs for "experimental development" activities.

For the "protection of the industrial property rights" costs described in the letter c) of the section ELIGIBLE COSTS, the grant will be calculated according to the intensity which would correspond with the "industrial research" or "experimental development" activities which generate the industrial property rights.

Compliance with the requirements of this program results in eligibility to a minimum subsidy:

	Industrial Research Activities, included its industrial property rights	Experimental Development Activities, included its industrial property rights
<b>Minimum</b>	10%	5%
Project included in one of the following priority areas: Biotechnology Nanotechnology and new materials Automation and robotics ICT Environment, energy and water technology	5%	5%
<b>Level of innovation</b>		
High	15%	10 %
Medium	10%	5 %
Low	5%	0%
<b>Technology risk</b>		
High	15%	10%
Medium	10%	5%
Low	5%	0%
<b>The budget of cooperation projects with research bodies should amount at least to 5% of the subsidized project and never be inferior to €6,000</b>	15%	5%
<b>SME</b>	10%	10%

Business applicants that are located in one of the municipalities listed in the Integrated Development Plan of the Northwest and Río Mula regions will be eligible for an additional bonus of 5% provided that the maximum intensity in no case exceeds 45% for experimental development activities, 70% for industrial research activities.

In case that the project comes from an EraNet in which INFO is a partner , it will be assumed the maximum innovation level and technological risk possible and an additional 5% will be given in no case exceeds the maximum describe before.

### Beneficiaries

Small and medium-sized businesses and Innovator Association of Enterprises, which can be consider as SMEs in any sector or dedicated to any type of activity.

**Requirements**

- a) The project must not have started before the application form has been presented.
- b) Minimum provision of 25% by the beneficiary for financing the project, through non-subsidized resources.
- c) The project must have a clearly innovative or technological feature or contribute to increasing the firm's production capacity.
- d) The project objectives must be related to the firm's industrial and commercial objectives. The project will conclude when the Technological Development and Research results are put into practice.
- e) A timeline for meeting project goals can be established which would allow for the partial disbursement of funds, provided that proof is provided of the expenditures or expenses projected for each stage of the project.
- f) The fulfilled works by the lab staff must be carried out in the Work Center in the Region of Murcia and the workers must be registered as staff of this Center.
- g) In case of prototypes which will be designated to industrial use, development costs will not be eligible costs in any case.
- h) In case of experimental development activities, prototypes of pilot projects designated to commercial uses, and resulting too much costly to produce to use them only for validation and demonstration activities, all the benefits from the sales of this estimated prototype declared by the enterprise, must be deducted of the total of the eligible costs. In case of industrial research activities, prototypes will not be granted.

**Eligible costs**

- a) Personnel expenditures (researchers, technicians and other auxiliary laboratory or RDI personnel in accordance with the amount of time they dedicate to the research project). The amount of time the aforementioned personnel work on the project must be duly accredited.
- b) Instrumentation, material and equipment, as long as they are used during the period of project subsidy.
- c) Costs related to consultancy, advisory and similar services contracted exclusively for project research (including technical knowledge, patent purchase, etc.) from external sources. Up to 70% of total eligible costs can be subsidized.
- d) Expenditures for part-time technical or production personnel who must duly accredit the time dedicated to the project. Up to 5% of total eligible costs can be subsidized.
- e) Operational expenses related to production input (materials, supplies and similar products) directly derived from research activity. These costs cannot exceed 10% of the total project budget.
- f) Protection of the targeted project technology with patents, utility models or designs.

## SWITZERLAND

Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture	FOAG	Switzerland	€ 200.000
<p><b>National Regulations for Swiss applicants for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010</b></p> <p>Public and private research institutes and SME can apply for funding. The work carried out must be actual research, cf. the definitions in the OECD Frascati Manual or product development. The application must be in accordance with the Swiss legal regulation for animal research and research with genetic modified organisms.</p> <p>The requested contribution for a Swiss partner in a consortium shall not exceed 100'000 Euro. Funding will be awarded as a framework grant, and additional funding will not be provided. Funding does not cover expenditure for activities implemented before the project has been granted.</p>			

## THE NETHERLANDS

Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research	TNO	Netherlands	€ 100.000 (Institute funding reserved for researchers at TNO)
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### National Regulations for Dutch applicants for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010

#### General description of organisation and guidelines

This memo shortly describes the main guidelines for the usage of institutional funds within the ICT-AGRI 2010 call for projects. It must be clear that funds that are reserved within TNO ICT for this call can only be used by TNO ICT itself for the effort in joint research projects that are approved within the ICT-AGRI call. On top of that, the guidelines in this memo are applicable.

The institutional funds within TNO are under management of the Knowledge Directors of each TNO core area. TNO ICT is one of these core areas. Within each core area, the institutional funds are allocated to a number of Knowledge Programmes each managed by a Programme Manager. Within each Knowledge Programme various Projects are executed. A project can only be executed when the Programme Manager has given his/her approval. The Programme Manager is responsible that the projects within his Knowledge Programme are aligned with the scope and focus of the Knowledge Programme.

Each core area has to fulfil requirements on controllability, traceability, executability and results based on financial reports of the projects and programmes. This is done using committees that advice and control the Programme Managers on the quality of project proposals submitted and the results obtained by running projects. In order to do so a list of criteria has been put together. These criteria are described below. When projects are not executed in line with these criteria the Programme Manager together with the Knowledge Director can stop the project.

In addition, TNO has certain procedures for the signalling and protection of Intellectual Property Rights. In the case of specific projects to be set-up, these procedures will be taken into account.

#### Knowledge programmes and criteria for selection of projects

A Knowledge Programme stimulates the increase of knowledge in one of two ways:

- “Knowledge as a capability”: long term research with the aim to preserve and develop knowledge to maintain and develop TNO’s expertise to answer and deal with future questions from various sectors that momentarily cannot be articulated entirely.
- “Knowledge as a capability over TNO themes”: long term research executed in cooperation with national and international programmes such as FP7 and/or in cooperation with universities and companies.

The Knowledge Programme defines:

- Relation with a theme (problems and knowledge questions)
- Roadmap of the programme for the future of the theme
- Contents of the programme (main topics, lines and goals)
- Intended results planned in time
- Relation with policy in government and business sectors
- Relevance for the target group and intended impact
- Involvement of stakeholders (content and financial commitment)
- Cooperation and coordination with third parties within and without TNO
- Relation with developments in science and technology on external roadmaps of research agenda’s and international cooperation.

### **Criteria for selection of projects**

#### *Global criteria*

- Fit with the scope and focus of the Knowledge Programme
- Good balance between risk (change for success) and riskmanagement (change for failure)
- Distinctive character
- Outlook for application and impact
- Contribution to TNO's technology position and business
- Concrete deliverables
- Adequate projectplan (effectivity) and projectorganisation (efficiency)
- Quality (trackrecord) and motivation of researchers
- Minimal projectsize of 100k euros per year

#### *Cooperation with universities*

- Fundamental character
- Outlook towards future (research)projects at the end of the project
- Agreement with the universities and committees involved

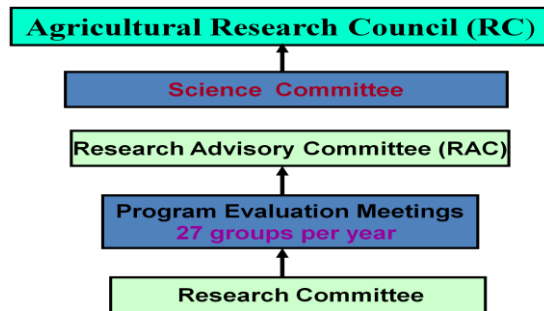
#### *Knowledge as a capability over TNO themes*

- Direction and goals for a period of four years
- Cross-thematic
- Outlook for future markets and targetgroups
- Relevant trends (found in other programmes and outlooks)
- Cooperation with other knowledge institutes
- Strongly innovative, targeted towards a breakthrough
- Large size (duration of more than 3 years, size of more than 2M euros)
- Cooperation inside and outside TNO

## TURKEY a)

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, General Directorate of Agricultural Research	GDAR	Turkey	€ 100.000
<p><b>National Regulations for Turkish applicants for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010</b></p>			
<p><b>GDAR</b> within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs carry out its research activities under two support programs: <b>The support programme for public research institutions:</b> The GDAR is the central public funding organisation in charge of promoting multidisciplinary and multi-institutional research programs which are carried out by their research institutes. <b>The Support Programme for Private Sector and Non-Governmental Organizations:</b> the main objective of this programme is to promote private sector involvement in agricultural research. It is relatively new program that gives the support on the project bases.</p>			
<p>Specific thematic priorities related to agriculture are coordinated and implemented by General Directorate of Agricultural Research (GDAR). The priorities of agricultural research areas are determined every five years for the next five-year period by representatives from universities, private sectors, NGOs and other related institutions. GDAR makes an annual call for the submission of research proposals, reviews those received, and selects some of them for support. Current priorities: dairy cattle breeding, water quality and effectively usage of water, researches on safe, high quality food and feed, viticulture, oil seed crops, plant genetic resources, bread wheat, sheep breeding, fisheries management, precision crop farming, protected vegetables, fodder crops, chick pea, poultry and small domestic animal diseases, animal vaccines and biological substances.</p>			
<p><b>Evaluation Criteria</b></p>			
<p>Determination of the project subject and preparation of the proposal take into consideration;</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relevance of the proposed project to ARO(Area of Research Opportunities) and programmes;</li> <li>• The contribution of the Project to fulfil the targets of the programmes;</li> <li>• The characteristics of creating new technology and knowledge;</li> <li>• The characteristics of the Project to succeed the aims with the present staff and infrastructures;</li> <li>• The multidisciplinary, problem solving, harmless to environment and sustainability characteristics of the project;</li> <li>• The originality of the project;</li> <li>• The capacity and sufficiency of the Institute that proposed project regarding to infrastructure and staff availability;</li> <li>• The ability of transferring the output of the project to end users..</li> </ul>			

The support programme for public research institutions;



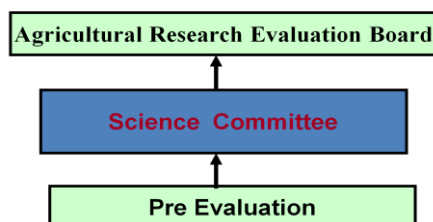
### PREPARATION AND EVALUATION OF NEW (PROPOSAL) PROJECTS

Determination of the project subject and preparation of the Proposal

The following steps are conducted in determining the project subject:

- The project subjects are determined in the Institute's Research Committees according to the priorities of Area of Research Opportunities recorded in Research Master Plan and the requests from producers and industry,
- The previously conducted project subjects are studied in order to prevent the duplications,
- The proposal projects that prepared and discussed in the Institute's Research Committees, are presented to the Programme Evaluation Group's meeting,
- The projects then with the recommendation of the Programme Evaluation Group are presented to RAC for the evaluation,
- Similar projects are gathered together as one project with bigger research teams,
- The evaluated project by RAC could be accepted or rejected. Some times the project leader is asked to defend the rejected project again. The project name, research team and budget could be changed and/or re-structured by RAC. The accepted proposal projects is prepared as final project and submitted to RAC for the last evaluation
- The suitable projects that had enough points according to scientific criteria are submitted to ARC by the RACs.
- A contract is signed between The Institute(s) that proposed the project and GDAR, for the projects that had been approved by ARC.

### The Support Programme for Private Sector and Non-Governmental Organizations:



GDAR makes an annual call for the submission of research proposals. First of all, a project is evaluated pre evaluation (subject expertise), If it is accepted than it will send the Science Committee.

The projects then with the recommendation of the Science Committee are presented to Agricultural Research Evaluation Board for the evaluation. A contract is signed between the project leader and GDAR, for the projects that had been approved by AREB.

## TURKEY b)

Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	TÜBİTAK	Turkey	€ 400.000
<p><b>National Regulations for Turkish applicants for the ICT-AGRI Call 2010</b></p>			
<p>ICT-AGRI Era-Net projects supported by TÜBİTAK are subjected to rules of “The Support Programme for Scientific and Technological Research Projects (1001)”. Some basic rules are described below, for detailed information about requirements and execution of project follow the website of TÜBİTAK. <a href="http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sid/616/pid/364/index.htm">http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sid/616/pid/364/index.htm</a></p>			
<p><b>Who can be involved in Projects;</b></p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For university staff, required to have PhD or medical expertise degree/expertise in medical sciences.</li> <li>- For public institutions and private sector staff, required to have at least four year university undergraduate degree.</li> </ul>			
<p>Project coordinator must be permanent staff of institution proposing the project.</p>			
<p>Project coordinator and researchers must dwell in Turkey.</p>			
<p>In order to have a project consultant/advisor in project, there must be subject/s that needs special expertise and this must be clearly stated with reasons in the project.</p>			
<p>Researchers that have contribution ratio less than 10% cannot be involved in the project.</p>			
<p><b>Who cannot be Project Coordinator;</b></p>			
<p>Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Dean, Institute or High School Directors, Head Doctor, General Secretary, General Director, Members of Governing Board and Advisory Committee in charged in TÜBİTAK cannot be coordinator but can be researcher if they are still in charge when the project is applied.</p>			
<p><b>Other Important Issues:</b></p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project coordinator, researchers and advisors must be registered to “Researcher Information System (ARBİS)” and their info must be updated.</li> <li>- Project coordinator of Turkish team must prepare and send TOVAG (Agriculture, forestry and Veterinary Grant Committee) the Turkish application form available on TÜBİTAK’s web page together with the general ICT-AGRI application form which all partners will fill.</li> <li>- All required signatures (researchers, authorized officer of the institution. etc.) must be present on Turkish application form.</li> <li>- All titles in the Turkish application form must be filled.</li> <li>- As authorized officer, for universities and institutes linked to universities, rector or vice rector; in other organizations, General Director or Vice General Director must sign the Turkish application form.</li> <li>- Resumes of coordinator, researcher and advisor in required format must be added to Turkish application form.</li> <li>- Budget allocated for any requested equipments must not exceed 100.000 TL (all taxes included).</li> <li>- Proformas for requested equipments and services must be added to Turkish application form.</li> </ul>			

**Project Budget:**

- Maximum budget allocated cannot exceed 120.000 TL for a year.
- Requested scholarships cannot exceed 4.000 TL for a month.
- Budget of requested equipments must be in balance with the total budget.
- Projects intended to build infrastructure cannot be supported.