



OPERRA

OPEN PROJECT FOR EUROPEAN RADIATION RESEARCH AREA

OPERRA-COMET call 2014: Administrative procedures

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Call schedule

- Call opened 16 December 2013
- Call closes 14 March 2014, 17h00 Brussels time.
 - Deadline is very strict: Proposals submitted late are not eligible
- After the call closure, proposals are evaluated by independent evaluators
- The OPERRA/COMET MB should select the highest-ranked proposal(s) for further negotiations, with the aim of starting as beneficiaries from May/June 2014



Call budget: OPERRA

- A maximum of 1,5 M EUR is available for the entire OPERRA-2013 Call.
- The maximum EC contribution for one proposal in case of OPERRA ranges from 0,5 to 1 M EUR.
- The number of projects to be selected depends on the available EC contribution and the amount requested by highest-ranked proposals.



Call budget: COMET

- A maximum of 0,6 M EUR is available for the entire COMET-2013 Call.
- The maximum EC contribution for one proposal in case of COMET ranges from 0,2 to 0,4 M EUR.
- The number of projects to be selected depends on the available EC contribution and the amount requested by highest-ranked proposals.



Addressing the topics

- OPERRA: “The following research topics are considered to be of priority for reducing uncertainties in current understanding of basic biological processes. These are three alternative approaches, which are expected to be addressed in separate proposals. Proposals will be evaluated on their individual merits irrespective of which priority topic they address.”
 - COMET: “The following research topics are considered to be of priority for reducing uncertainties in current understanding of basic processes. They are in three different areas, which are expected to be addressed by separate proposals. Proposals will be evaluated on their individual merits irrespective of which priority topic they address.”
- > One proposal should address one topic (to be indicated on the cover page of the proposal)



Proposal relevance

- The Call Administrators cannot and should not comment if a proposal is relevant to the call/worth submitting, as that would interfere the call process and they have to remain objective.
- In general, anybody who believes that their proposal is of any interest, is encouraged to submit proposals. In the proposal itself, the relevance to the call topics and OPERRA/COMET objectives may be described.
- It is the duty of the independent evaluators to evaluate the proposals on the basis of the call announcement and the support material, against the criteria of the evaluation form (Guide for applicants, annex 2).



Who can participate in a proposal?

- All legal entities around the world may participate in the OPERRA/COMET call, regardless of the country of origin.
- Also all current beneficiaries may participate in the OPERRA/COMET call.
- However, there are minimum conditions to be taken into account, as well some special conditions for third country participants (more later).
- The term “participant” refers to a legal entity (not individual scientist – unless a natural person is forming a legal entity on its own).



How should the composition of the consortium be?

- **IMPORTANT:** Please study the guidance carefully, as some clarifications regarding the suitable consortium for OPERRA call have been implemented since the opening of the call.
- In short: There should be three external participants in a proposal for OPERRA (so two is not enough). This has been clarified in the updated Call Announcement and Guide for Applicants.



General principles

- There is no *maximum* limit for number of proposal participants.
- There are no minimum conditions in reference to the country of origin of the participants.
- The suitability of the composition of the consortium is one of the elements taken into account in the evaluation (proposal, section 2.2 Consortium as a whole).



OPERRA minimum conditions

- There should be **at least three legal entities external to current OPERRA consortium** participating in a proposal (no single-partner proposals nor proposals with just two participants are eligible).
Note: In the initial version of the OPERRA call announcement, there were some inconsistencies in the necessary number of participants. This has now been clarified.
- Bulk of the budget (meaning **more than 50%** of the requested EC contribution of the proposal) should be dedicated **to the participants external** to current OPERRA consortium.
- Provided that the above minimum conditions are fulfilled, additional participants may participate in the proposal. Such additional participants can be current OPERRA beneficiaries or external organizations.



OPERRA current beneficiaries

No	Name	Short name	Country	Project entry month ¹⁰	Project exit month
1	INSTITUT DE RADIOPROTECTION ET DE SURETE NUCLEAIRE	IRSN	France	1	48
2	STUDIECENTRUM VOOR KERNENERGIE	SCK-CEN	Belgium	1	48
3	BUNDESAMT FUER STRAHLENSCHUTZ	BfS	Germany	1	48
4	SATEILYTURVAKESKUS	STUK	Finland	1	48
5	Association Melodi	MELODI	France	1	48
6	JIHOESKA UNIVERZITA V CESKYCH BUDEJOVICICH	JU	Czech Republic	1	48
7	ORSZAGOS FREDERIC JOLIOT-CURIE SUGARBIOLOGIAI ES SUGAREGESZSEGUGYI KUTATO INTEZET	OSSKI	Hungary	1	48
8	HEALTH PROTECTION AGENCY HPA	HPA	United Kingdom	1	48
9	COMMISSARIAT A L ENERGIE ATOMIQUE ET AUX ENERGIES ALTERNATIVES	CEA	France	1	48
10	FUNDACIO CENTRE DE RECERCA EN EPIDEMIOLOGIA AMBIENTAL - CREAL	CREAL	Spain	1	48
11	ISTITUTO SUPERIORE DI SANITA	ISS	Italy	1	48
12	HELMHOLTZ ZENTRUM MUENCHEN DEUTSCHES FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM FUER GESUNDHEIT UND UMWELT GMBH	HMGU	Germany	1	48
13	UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI PAVIA	UNIPV	Italy	1	48
14	STOCKHOLMS UNIVERSITET	SU	Sweden	1	48



OPERRA minimum conditions

- **Examples of eligible OPERRA consortia:**
 - A consortium with three or more external participants
 - A consortium with three or more external participants, and one or more member participants, provided that more than 50% of the requested EC contribution is allocated to external participants
- **Examples of non-eligible OPERRA consortia:**
 - A consortium with just one or two participants.
 - A consortium with one or more member participant and one or two external participants
 - A consortium with two or more member participants and one or two external participants
 - A consortium with three or more external participants, and one or more member participants, but less than 50% of the requested EC contribution is allocated to external participants



COMET minimum conditions

- There should be **at least two legal entities external to current COMET consortium** participating in a proposal (single-partner proposals are not eligible).
- **At least 80%** of the requested EC contribution of the proposal should be dedicated **to the participants external** to current COMET consortium.
- Provided that the above minimum conditions are fulfilled, additional participants may participate in the proposal. Such additional participants can be current COMET beneficiaries or external organizations.



COMET current beneficiaries

Coordinator	
STUDIECENTRUM VOOR KERNENERGIE	BELGIUM
Participants	
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL	UNITED KINGDOM
BUNDESAMT FUER STRAHLENSCHUTZ	GERMANY
GLOWNY INSTYTUT GORNICTWA	POLAND
SATEILYTURVAKESKUS	FINLAND
STOCKHOLMS UNIVERSITET	SWEDEN
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LIFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES OF UKRAINE	UKRAINE
CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIONES ENERGETICAS, MEDIOAMBIENTALES Y TECNOLOGICAS-CIEMAT	SPAIN
UNIVERSITETET FOR MILJO OG BIOVITENSKAP	NORWAY
INSTITUT DE RADIOPROTECTION ET DE SURETE NUCLEAIRE	FRANCE
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CORPORATION FUKUSHIMA UNIVERSITY	JAPAN
NORWEGIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AUTHORITY	NORWAY
STATE SCIENTIFIC AND RESEARCH INSTITUTION CHORNOBYL CENTER FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY RADIOACTIVE WASTE AND RADIOECOLOGY	UKRAINE



COMET minimum conditions

- **Examples of eligible COMET consortia:**
 - A consortium with two or more external participants
 - A consortium with two or more external participants, and one or more member participants, provided that at least 80% of the requested EC contribution is allocated to external participants
- **Examples of non-eligible COMET consortia:**
 - A consortium with just one participant
 - A consortium with one member participant and one external participant
 - A consortium with two member participants and one external participant
 - A consortium with two or more external participants, and one or more member participants, but less than 80% of the requested EC contribution is allocated to external participants



Summary of minimum conditions

- In **OPERRA** call, there should be **at least three** participants **external** to OPERRA consortium, and external participants should get **more than 50%** of the EC funding.
- In **COMET** call, there should be **at least two** participants **external** to COMET consortium, and external participants should get **at least 80%** of the EC funding.



Who are eligible for EC funding?

- Legal entities from EU member states and Switzerland (=country associated to Euratom FP7) as well as any international European interest organizations are eligible for EC funding.
- Legal entities established in **third countries** and international interest organizations are eligible for EC funding **only under special circumstances**:
 - There is need to explain in terms of the project's objectives why such funding would **be essential** or can be otherwise justified.
 - In case such organizations are requesting funding, justifications are needed in proposal, section 2.3 Resources to be committed.



EC contribution

- If your organisation is eligible for EC funding, non-profit public bodies, secondary and higher education establishments, research organisations and SMEs may request up to 75 % of the total costs.
- The upper limit for all other organisations is 50 %.
- If you are successful in the evaluation, your final costs and funding estimates agreed with the project will also be subject to legal and financial verification by the Commission services.
- Any organisation can participate in a proposal without requesting EC funding, i.e with their own funding.



Subcontracting

- Subcontracting is possible, but there are several conditions to be met in order to be able to include subcontracting in the contract with the EC.
- For more information, please see [EC FP7 Financial Guidelines](#), page 28 onwards.



Evaluation process

- The proposals received are evaluated using the form shown in Annex 2 of the Guide for applicants, by experts who are independent of any proposer.
- Each independent expert will record his/her individual opinion of each proposal first, and then they will communicate together to prepare a “consensus” form for each proposal (=Evaluation Summary Report, ESR).
- On the basis of scores, the proposals are put on a ranking list.
- On the basis of ranking list, the OPERRA/COMET consortium will select the proposals to be included into the ongoing projects.



Important

- Read carefully the Call Announcement, the Guide for Applicants and FAQ as well as the support material.
- Follow the guidance of proposal template, answer carefully to all questions asked and provide the requested information in the clearest possible way.
- Do not exceed the page limitations – excessive pages will be discarded by the evaluators.
- Consult your own financial and administrative people.
- If you don't understand something – please first check the FAQ and if you can't find the answer, then ask from HelpDesk.