

eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION

Funding opportunities under Horizon 2020 Calls 2015



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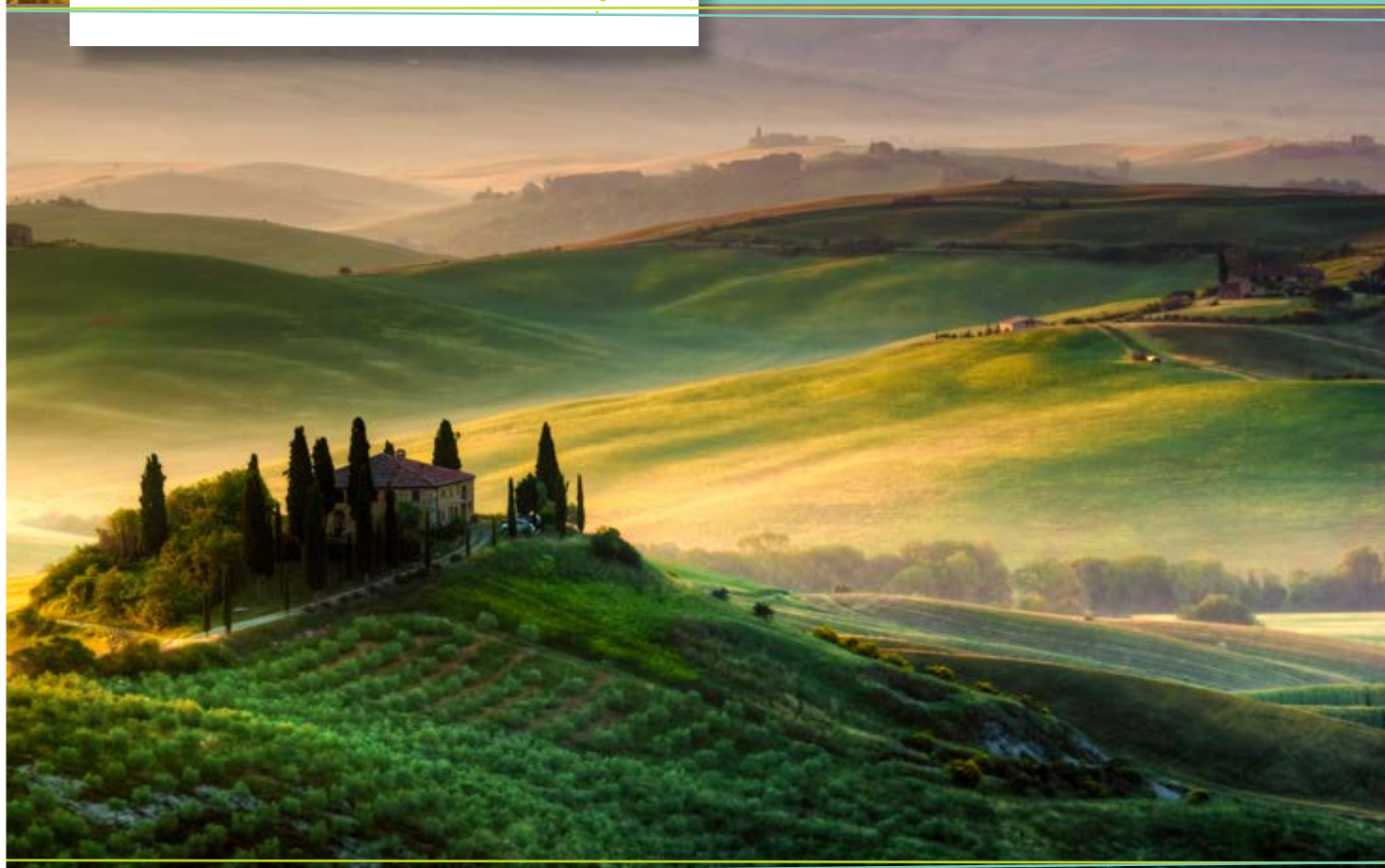


Funding opportunities for innovative projects via Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 is the largest source of public funding for research and innovation from the European Commission and it has a budget of around €4 billion for the societal challenge 2 on “Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy.” It will run from 2014 to 2020. Its second annual call for research and innovation actions was published on 25 July 2014.

Horizon 2020 calls are open to all organisations and individuals including applicants from outside the EU. The European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI) can help you to find project partners (see page 5).

All applications have to be made via the Participant Portal which also delivers extensive and valuable information concerning the application procedure. Please note that the deadlines for the submission of proposals are specific to each call. Further information can be found in the work programme.





Funding opportunities via Horizon 2020



Horizon 2020, supporting demand-driven innovation

The second Horizon 2020 call includes several opportunities to support demand-driven innovation projects in agriculture, which are split into two different approaches in particular: the 'thematic networks' and the 'multi-actor research projects'. These proposals have to include partners from at least three Member States.

Over 25 projects are expected to be launched as a result of the 2015 call. In 2014, around 16 projects should be selected from the 185 that were submitted.

Multi-actor research projects involving the agricultural community

Seven of the Horizon 2020 topics under societal challenge 2 support projects with a multi-actor approach for agriculture, food and forestry projects. This multi-actor approach means that end-users and multipliers of research results (farmers and farmers' groups, advisors, enterprises, and others) have to be closely involved throughout the whole project period. The people who need the solutions will be involved right from start: from defining the questions, to planning, to implementing research work, to experiments, and right up until possible demonstrations and dissemination. This should lead to innovative solutions that are more likely to be applied in the field.

Five thematic networks, unlocking and exchanging knowledge across the EU

The thematic networks should also involve a range of organisations and individuals from science and practice. The main focus of the thematic networks should be on best practices and research results that are close to being put into practice, but not yet sufficiently tested and adapted to practice needs.

These networks aim to:

- Collect existing scientific knowledge and best practices on the chosen theme: what do we have/what do we need to facilitate the use of the results?
- Develop end-user material, such as info sheets in a common format and audio-visual material. The material should be easily understandable and accessible to end-users and remain available in the long-term. It may serve as input for education and for research databases.

The resulting innovative knowledge will be collected and disseminated by the EIP-AGRI. In 2015, five thematic networks for a total of around €10 million will be selected. The themes for the five networks are not pre-defined and could for instance be linked to sectors or products (e.g. arable crops, fruits, vegetables, pigs) or to a broad range of cross-cutting subjects such as crop rotation, certain farming practices, energy, eco-system services, implementation of a directive, social services, bio-based products, and short supply chains.

You can find all information on Horizon 2020 regarding the calls, application procedure, application forms on the [Participant Portal](#).

[Horizon 2020 online manual](#) offers you support to develop your proposal.

The [Work Programme 2014-2015](#) on "Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine, Maritime and Inland Water Research and the Bioeconomy".

The [Network of National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) provides guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in Horizon 2020.





More funding opportunities under Horizon 2020

Fast Track to Innovation pilot

The European Commission has launched the Fast Track to Innovation (FTI). This is a new pilot action within the work programme starting in 2015 which will operate for two years on the basis of a continuously open call. It has a yearly budget of €100 million. The FTI will support innovative projects in any type of technological area, including agri-food. It aims to reduce the time from idea to market and to increase the participation of industry, SMEs, and first-time industry applicants in Horizon 2020. In the 'Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies' section, people from different professions and sectors can work together to develop sustainable, innovative and viable business opportunities which address the societal needs. FTI projects must be business-driven and clearly demonstrate a realistic potential for quick results, such as innovative, attractive products or services.

Per project a maximum of 5 legal entities from three member states can participate and will be eligible for application. Applications will be open from 6 January 2015 onwards, with deadlines on 29/04/2015, 01/09/2015 and 01/12/2015. Detailed information can be found in the Horizon 2020 work programme, part 18: "Fast Track to Innovation Pilot".

More information on the [FTI web page](#).



Funding for small and medium sized businesses

Small and Medium Sized businesses (SMEs) can get EU funding and support for innovative projects that will help them develop and expand into other countries - in Europe and beyond. The SME Instrument offers small and medium sized businesses:

- Funding for innovative projects in two phases:
 - o Concept and feasibility assessment phase (phase 1).
 - o Innovative project (phase 2).
- Support services to help firms to make money from their innovation, including help for accessing private financing for commercialisation (phase 3).
- Coaching - to enhance firm's capacity for innovation and help align the project to strategic business needs.

To be considered as an SME, the organisation must be engaged in economic activity, must have fewer than 250 employees and an annual turnover of no more than €50 million and/or a balance sheet of no more than €43 million.

Further information can be found on:

- [Information on SME Participation](#)
- [Enterprise Europe Network](#)
- [IP SME Corner](#) (Intellectual Property Rights helpdesk)



Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) support the career development and training of researchers with a focus on innovation skills. MSCA provide grants at all stages of researchers' careers, from PhD candidates to highly experienced researchers. During the period 2014-2020, MSCA will award more than €6 million.

MSCA encourage transnational, intersectoral, and interdisciplinary mobility and also seek to break down barriers between the academic sector and other sectors, especially the business sector. The MSCA follow a "bottom-up" approach, so applicants can choose their own topics.

- [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)
- [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions for industry and SME stakeholders](#)





Help us help you



To help you find people to partner with in multi-actor projects or thematic networks of the 2015 calls, the EIP-AGRI Service Point has set up a LinkedIn group, where you can introduce yourself, your organisation and your innovative project proposal on sustainable agriculture and productivity to the other members. Our website will also provide interactive possibilities to connect with people.

If you already know what kind of partners you would like or need, you are welcome to look for them on the LinkedIn partner search platform. Since the launch of this discussion group, numerous applicants looking for Horizon 2020 opportunities have joined. Please come and take part in this community soon!

To stay informed on all the progress, we would like to encourage you to connect to our LinkedIn EIP-AGRI Service Point profile and company page as well.

Please scan this QR code to go to our LinkedIn group directly.

Talk to you soon!



You may also contact the EIP-AGRI Service point

You can reach us:

At our office:

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Avenue du Toison d'Or 72
1060 Brussels
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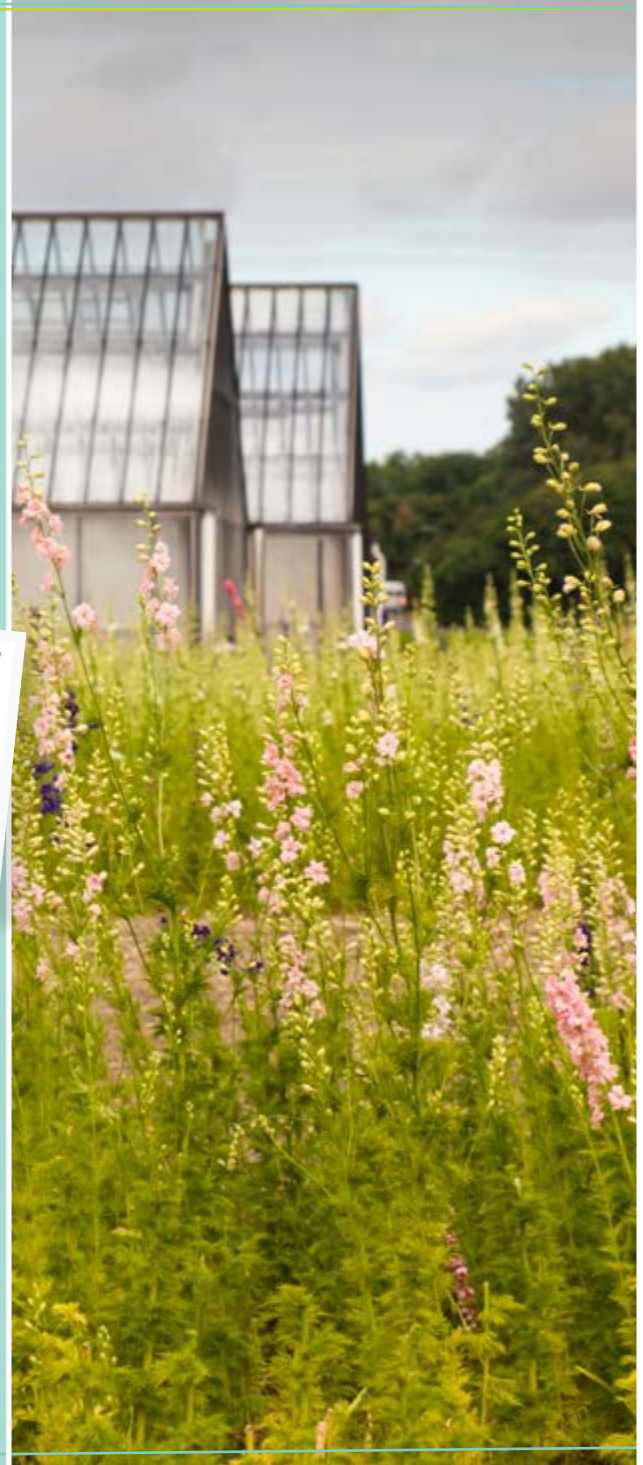
By e-mail: servicepoint@eip-agri.eu

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LinkedIn: be.linkedin.com/in/eipagriservicepoint/





Horizon 2020 call 2015 - Where to find the topics related to a more sustainable agriculture and forestry?

Societal challenge 2

The 2015 call includes twelve topics of interest to agriculture, food and forestry which can be found under the societal challenge 2 'Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine, Maritime and Inland Water Research and the Bioeconomy'. These cover a broad variety of issues.



Please be aware that only the published work programme text should be taken as a reference for any proposal preparation.

CALL FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY H2020-SFS-2015

REFERENCE	TOPIC
<p><u>SFS-1C-2015</u></p> <p>Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015 Budget: €7 million Requires a multi-actor approach</p>	<p>Sustainable terrestrial livestock production Assessing sustainability of terrestrial livestock production</p> <p>The proposals should undertake a holistic assessment of the sustainability and potential delivery of ecosystem services, social services, resilience, competitiveness and possible trade-offs of diverse EU animal production systems. Proposals should encompass the main facets of the concerned systems, extend to the dimensions of supply chains and territories and elaborate necessary indicators. The work should extend to changes of the concerned farming community, as well as the expected place of animal products in the society and diets in the future, looking across the whole food chain. Proposals should establish a farm-level observatory and knowledge exchange networks on the sustainability of livestock linking with the EIP-AGRI with a focus on innovative system solutions. Proposals should combine socio-economic work and case studies and sketch a roadmap for further research and policy making.</p> <p><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>
<p><u>SFS-2B-2015</u></p> <p>Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015 Budget: €7 million Requires a multi-actor approach</p>	<p>Sustainable crop production - Assessing soil-improving cropping systems</p> <p>Proposals should assess real benefits that soil-improving cropping systems and agronomic techniques such as conservation agriculture and crop rotations can bring to European agriculture. The development of tailor -made soil-improving strategies, techniques and machinery suitable to different farming areas and adapted to different crops and crop systems, should help to overcome the current barriers that prevent their adoption by European farmers.</p> <p><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>





REFERENCE	TOPIC
<p data-bbox="256 797 392 828"><u>SFS-5-2015</u></p> <div data-bbox="159 862 494 1086" style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; background-color: #e0f2f1;"> <p data-bbox="183 884 470 940">Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015</p> <p data-bbox="183 952 399 985">Budget: €15 million</p> <p data-bbox="183 996 430 1064">Requires a multi-actor approach</p> </div>	<p data-bbox="526 797 1197 833">Strategies for crop productivity, stability and quality</p> <p data-bbox="526 846 1452 1064">Proposals should propose smart approaches and tools to improve identification, prediction and introduction of useful genetic variation in crops, as well as favourable combinations of genotypes and management practices in a range of environments. They should tackle crop improvement in a holistic manner and seek novel breeding targets to improve yield, yield stability, quality, biotic/abiotic stress tolerance/resistance and environmental benefits and allow adequate involvement of the farming sector in the proposed activities.</p> <p data-bbox="526 1075 1061 1108"><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>
<p data-bbox="248 1126 400 1158"><u>SFS-7B-2015</u></p> <div data-bbox="159 1254 494 1444" style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; background-color: #e0f2f1;"> <p data-bbox="183 1294 470 1355">Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015</p> <p data-bbox="183 1366 399 1400">Budget: €18 million</p> </div>	<p data-bbox="526 1126 1452 1227">Genetic resources and agricultural diversity for food security, productivity and resilience - Management and sustainable use of genetic resources</p> <p data-bbox="526 1243 1452 1518">Proposals should implement comprehensive actions to improve the status and use of ex-situ and in-situ genetic collections. More specifically, they should support acquisition, conservation, characterisation/evaluation and especially the use of specific genetic resources in breeding, farming, and forestry activities. Furthermore the proposals should undertake broader dissemination and awareness-raising activities. In doing so, they should closely liaise with relevant on-going initiatives, seeking to harmonise, rationalise and improve management of existing collections and databases. The proposals are encouraged to include participants established in third countries.</p> <p data-bbox="526 1534 1061 1568"><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>
<p data-bbox="256 1585 392 1617"><u>SFS-8-2015</u></p> <div data-bbox="159 1691 494 1881" style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; background-color: #e0f2f1;"> <p data-bbox="183 1724 295 1758">Open call</p> <p data-bbox="183 1769 399 1803">Budget: €17 million</p> <p data-bbox="183 1814 367 1848">SME instrument</p> </div>	<p data-bbox="526 1585 1380 1621">Resource-efficient eco-innovative food production and processing</p> <p data-bbox="526 1635 1452 1921">To remain competitive, limit environmental degradation and optimise the efficient use of resources, the development of more resource-efficient and sustainable food production and processing (throughout the food system, at all scales of business and in a competitive and innovative way) is required. Current food production and processing systems, especially in the SME sector, need to be revised and optimised with the aim of achieving a significant reduction in water and energy use, greenhouse gas emissions and waste generation, while at the same time improving the efficiency in the use of raw materials, increasing climate resilience and ensuring or improving shelf life, food safety and quality. The SME instrument consists of three separate phases and a coaching and mentoring service for beneficiaries.</p> <p data-bbox="526 1937 877 1971"><i>Type of action: SME Instrument</i></p>





REFERENCE	TOPIC
<p data-bbox="245 797 395 828"><u>SFS-13-2015</u></p> <div data-bbox="151 884 488 1093" style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px;"> <p data-bbox="173 902 466 963">Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015</p> <p data-bbox="173 974 392 1005">Budget: €10 million</p> <p data-bbox="173 1016 421 1077">Requires a multi-actor approach</p> </div>	<p data-bbox="523 797 1203 833">Biological contamination of crops and the food chain</p> <p data-bbox="523 846 1449 1120">Integrated approaches rather than isolated solutions are required to effectively control incidence of mycotoxins in crops and reduce contamination throughout the feed and food chains. Proposals should aim at reducing the risk of biological contamination in crops and all along the feed and food chains. They should bring about technical, management and organisational solutions (including HACCP techniques) that are effective at the various stages of production as well as at pre- and post-harvest levels and also deal with the safe use of contaminated batches. Proposals should allow adequate involvement of the farming sector in proposed activities.</p> <p data-bbox="523 1135 1061 1167"><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>
<p data-bbox="237 1184 403 1216"><u>SFS-14B-2015</u></p> <div data-bbox="151 1281 488 1489" style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px;"> <p data-bbox="180 1326 453 1386">Deadline for application: 11/06/2015</p> <p data-bbox="180 1397 405 1429">Budget: €0,5 million</p> </div>	<p data-bbox="523 1184 943 1220">Authentication of food products</p> <p data-bbox="523 1234 1449 1507">Proposals should aim at facilitating cooperation between European research funding bodies in the area of authentication of food products. They should provide the basis for an exchange of information and future collaboration in relation to a) stock taking and analysis of recent or on-going research projects in this area with an emphasis on national projects in Member States; b) identifying future research priorities in this field and complementarities between activities at Member State and international levels; and c) preparing the ground for an improved coordination of research, databases and approaches to verification of food authenticity, ensuring integrity and traceability along the food chain and across European countries.</p> <p data-bbox="523 1523 1069 1554"><i>Type of action: Coordination and support actions</i></p>
<p data-bbox="245 1572 395 1603"><u>SFS-18-2015</u></p> <div data-bbox="151 1691 488 1899" style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px;"> <p data-bbox="173 1720 466 1780">Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015</p> <p data-bbox="173 1792 379 1823">Budget: €5 million</p> </div>	<p data-bbox="523 1572 1449 1644">Small farms but global markets: the role of small and family farms in food and nutrition security</p> <p data-bbox="523 1657 1449 1930">Proposals should thoroughly assess the role of family farms and other small food businesses and particularly those with small structures in achieving sustainable FNS, evaluating the means by which such entities could respond to the expected increase in demand for food, feed and fibre under ever scarcer resources, as well as providing evidence and developing tools to guide decision makers in the choice and combination of intensification pathways. Research should identify the optimal enabling environment for small and family farms and businesses to accomplish the aforementioned role on FNS and the multiple dimensions of sustainability with respect to infrastructure, supply chain and governance needs.</p> <p data-bbox="523 1946 1061 1977"><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>





REFERENCE	TOPIC
<p data-bbox="247 795 400 824"><u>SFS-20-2015</u></p> <div data-bbox="156 965 496 1205" style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; background-color: #e0f2f1;"> <p data-bbox="178 999 459 1055">Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015</p> <p data-bbox="178 1070 379 1099">Budget: €7 million</p> <p data-bbox="178 1115 421 1171">Requires a multi-actor approach</p> </div>	<p data-bbox="528 795 1441 869">Sustainable food chains through public policies: the cases of the EU quality policy and of public sector food procurement</p> <p data-bbox="528 882 1441 1368">Proposals should investigate the impact of both the quality policy and public sector food procurement policies (including “school schemes”) on the overall sustainability of rural territories and their role in fostering the provision of public goods as well as the impact of public food procurement on balanced nutrition. They should extend to short food supply chains which are impacted by both types of policies and assess their impact on the rural economy. Proposals should investigate the contribution and impact of the quality policy to the various objectives of the agricultural and rural development policies ranging from social and territorial cohesion to consumer confidence. Relevant knowledge platforms should be set up. Proposals should cover a large array of Protected designation of origin (PDO) and Protected geographical indication (PGI) labels, organic products (including agriculture and aquaculture products), and short food supply chains based on regional sourcing. On food procurement policies, proposals should review existing practices, identify constraints to their development, investigate how communities of practice and partnerships involving a broad range of stakeholders can be utilised and shed light on its impact on territorial development.</p> <p data-bbox="528 1382 1066 1411"><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>



CALL FOR INNOVATIVE, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE BIOECONOMY H2020-ISIB-2015

REFERENCE	TOPIC
<p><u>ISIB-2-2015</u></p> <p>Deadline for application: 11/06/2015</p> <p>Budget: €10 million</p> <p>Thematic network Requires a multi-actor approach</p>	<p>Closing the research and innovation divide: the crucial role of innovation support services and knowledge exchange</p> <p>Proposals should involve actors from science and agricultural practice and facilitate the exchange on existing knowledge on innovative approaches in agriculture, the supply chain, and rural areas. They should help to put existing research into practice and capture creative ideas from the grassroots-level. Activities of these networks would include synthesizing, sharing and presenting best practices and research results that are near to be put into practice, but not known or tested by practitioners. The resulting knowledge and end-user material should feed into the EIP-AGRI. The projects should therefore improve the flow of information and knowledge between academia and practitioners on agricultural and forestry practices. They must lead to successful deployment of the vast reservoir of existing scientific and practical knowledge through accessible and long-term available end-user material on the themes.</p> <p><i>Type of action: Coordination and support actions</i></p>
<p><u>ISIB-3-2015</u></p> <p>Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015</p> <p>Budget: €5.5 million</p>	<p>Unlocking the growth potential of rural areas through enhanced governance and social innovation</p> <p>Proposals should undertake a thorough analysis of social innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural development, encompassing its complexity and various dimensions as well as its impact on unfolding the territorial capital in different regional contexts. Proposals should establish appropriate methods for the evaluation of social innovation. Attention needs to be given to different learning arrangements (e.g. multi-actor networks, producer-consumer association, hybrid innovative networks and territorial alliances) as well as to innovative governance mechanisms at various levels, and their potential implications for social innovation. Proposals should also address the role of different policy instruments, other relevant incentives and diverse entities (public/private, local/non local, active citizens, etc.) as catalysts/constraints to social innovation. Proposals should explain why regions with similar initial conditions display diverging paths.</p> <p><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>
<p><u>ISIB-4B-2015</u></p> <p>Deadline for application (First stage): 03/02/2015</p> <p>Budget: €4 million</p> <p>Requires a multi-actor approach</p>	<p>Improved data and management models for sustainable forestry - Improved forest management models</p> <p>Proposals should aim at improving forest management models and stand-related techniques, including but not limited to species composition, age distribution, rotation/harvesting period, sustainable yields, restocking modalities and natural disturbances risk management. Management models should rely on consistent forest data and provide, in addition to improved wood quality and higher sustainable yields, sustained production of NWFP94, increased resilience to environmental change, and sustained provision of the whole 'basket' of ecosystem services, in accordance with the evolving societal demands, changing market conditions, and regional differences. Procedures, methodologies and techniques characterising the newly developed models should be readily available for end-users (i.e. forest owners, administration and management planning), and deemed acceptable for the policy actors.</p> <p><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>

Eligibility and admissibility conditions: see part B and C of the General Annexes to the work programme. Evaluation criteria, scoring and threshold: see part H of the General Annexes to the work programme; the evaluation procedure for setting a priority order for proposals with the same score: see part H of the General Annexes to the work programme.



Societal challenge 5

In addition, two topics of interest to agriculture are included under societal challenge 5 "Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials".

CALL FOR RESOURCES TO REUSE, RECYCLE AND RECOVER RAW MATERIAL

REFERENCE	TOPIC
<p><u>WASTE-7-2015</u></p> <p>Deadline for application: 21/04/2015</p> <p>Budget: €14 million</p> <p>Requires a multi-actor approach</p>	<p>Ensuring sustainable use of agricultural waste, co-products and by-products</p> <p>Agriculture generates co-products, by-products and waste streams that are currently not properly taken care of both in environmental and economic terms. In e.g. arable, horticulture, fruit, wine, grassland sectors losses take place at the farm and post-harvest levels, and also down the chain at the level of the retail sector. In livestock production, manure, litter and other effluents management is a challenge, in particular in industrial production systems. While these effluents can be used as fertiliser, they can also be sources of bio-energy or valuable bio-products. Research proposals should evaluate existing techniques and develop new and innovative approaches for efficient use of agricultural waste, co-products and byproducts, thereby contributing to the creation of sustainable value chains in the farming and processing sectors. A range of sector-specific case studies should serve to test and take up proposed approaches and technologies. Research and innovation efforts should address crop co-products/by-products/waste as well as manure/effluents.</p> <p><i>Type of action: Research and innovation actions</i></p>

CALL FOR WATER INNOVATION

<p><u>WATER-4B-2015</u></p> <p>Deadline for application: 21/04/2015</p> <p>Budget: €3 million</p>	<p>Harnessing EU water research and innovation results for industry, agriculture, policy makers and citizens - Water management solutions for agricultural sector, thematic networks</p> <p>Proposals should aim to implement measures to showcase, exchange, test and transfer water management solutions to end-users in the agricultural sector in view of improving water use efficiency and quality in agricultural practices. Activities should benefit various types of agriculture and pedoclimatic zones. Proposals should contribute to a thematic network on water in agriculture with a broad involvement of practitioners and other stakeholders throughout Europe to compile, disseminate and further develop solutions. Furthermore proposals should support the integration of water relevant issues in the EIP-AGRI including linking up with EIP-AGRI Operational Groups and related actions of the EIP on 'Water'.</p> <p><i>Type of action: Coordination and support actions</i></p>
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