



*2022 Joint FACCE-JPI SusCrop  
Call on Agrobiodiversity*



## 2022 Joint FACCE-JPI Suscrop Call on Agrobiodiversity

Call Announcement V1.0 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Guidelines for Applicants

Deadline pre-registration: 04<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 12:00 CEST (Berlin, Germany)

Deadline proposal submission: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022, 12:00 CEST (Berlin Germany)

Online submission tool: [LINK/](#)

### History of Changes

Version	Changes
V1.0 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2022	▪ Original version



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### **Definitions and Tasks**

<b>Call Office</b>	The Call Office is responsible for administrative support regarding the Call, Call documents and procedures, submission tool and webinar.
<b>Call steering committee (CSC)</b>	The CSC consists of all Funding Parties giving funding to the Joint Call. The CSC will have the final decision on the selection of projects based on the ranking list provided by the IEC and the availability of funds.
<b>Funding Parties</b>	Funding Parties are organisations who give funding to the call according to their national/regional funding regulations.
<b>International evaluation committee (IEC)</b>	The IEC consists of international experts in the fields of the topics of the Joint Call. Members of the IEC will evaluate each proposal according to the evaluation guidelines (see also chapter 7 of this document). During the IEC meeting, the IEC will generate a ranked list of proposals. The CSC will use the ranking list to select proposals with recommendation for funding.





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### 1 Introduction and Background

Widespread use of simplified cropping systems with large fields cultivated in standardized operations with large-scale machinery strongly influence agricultural habitats, soil structure and soil organisms. Monocultures tend to reduce the variety of cultivated species, contribute to overexploiting soils and also render crops more vulnerable to pests and climate extremes. Wild habitats disappear when field margins and hedges are cleared to combine smaller fields, fertilisation modifies plant community composition in field margins and pesticides have direct and indirect lethal or sublethal effects on survival or reproduction of plants, invertebrates, mammals, and birds<sup>1</sup>. The simplification of cropping systems leads to erosion of the heritage of species and varietal diversity from European farmland and the ability to adjust crops and cultivation practices to differences in soil quality and other landscape characteristics. Thus, reduced biodiversity will eventually result in a decrease of agricultural productivity.

With the Green Deal, the European Union has pledged to foster the ecological transition and has set stringent goals for reduction of chemical pesticides, fertilisers and antibiotics, and has pledged to reverse the trend of biodiversity degradation by 2030. According to the European Environment Agency, compared to 2015, agricultural habitats show an overall deterioration in conservation status: good status decreased from 14% to 12% and bad status increased from 39% to 45%. Only 8% of agricultural habitats show an improving trend, whereas 45% are deteriorating.

Agrobiodiversity is the key driver of the ecological transition of agriculture. FAO defines agrobiodiversity as *"the variety and variability of animals, plants and micro-organisms that are used directly or indirectly for food and agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry and fisheries"*<sup>2</sup>.

Agrobiodiversity provides functional and response diversity to agroecosystems, potentially making them more robust, and may offer solutions to prevent pests and diseases and thus reduce pesticides use. Functional diversity - *those components of biodiversity that influence how an ecosystem operates or functions*<sup>3</sup> – is supposed to generate solutions to reverse soil degradation and improve soil fertility and the health of cultivated plants<sup>4</sup>. Response diversity refers to *"the range of reactions to environmental change among species that contribute to the*

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<sup>1</sup> The European environment — state and outlook 2020. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/soer-2020/#page=113>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.fao.org/3/y5609e/y5609e01.htm>

<sup>3</sup> Tilman, D. (2001). Functional diversity. Encyclopedia of biodiversity, 3(1), 109-120.

<sup>4</sup> D. Tilman, D. Wedin, J. Knops (1996) Productivity and sustainability influenced by biodiversity in grassland ecosystem Nature, 379 (1996), p. 3





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*same ecosystem function*<sup>5</sup> and is the property that supports the capacity of systems to adapt to environmental pressures.

Agrobiodiversity is key to regenerate or improve soil quality. Carefully designed use of diversity of cultivated species may contribute to the closure of natural loops by recycling nutrients, maintaining soil organic matter and reducing the need for chemical pesticides and fertilisers, and creating more favorable habitats for useful micro- and macro-organisms<sup>6</sup>.

Agrobiodiversity is a key asset of rural areas - as a source of ecosystem services, aesthetics, quality and cultural identity. Its value can be turned into economic value if embodied into rural landscapes and local narratives, products and services and business models. A wider range of edible species and varieties is also necessary for more diversified, culturally acceptable, healthy, and resource-mindful diets.

Agrobiodiversity, if managed properly, may also become a key to mitigation and adaptation to climate change, to resilience to environmental risks and to socioeconomic shocks. Diversification of cultivated species at farm and at landscape level leads to greater resilience to diseases and pests but also to climate events and at the same time can mitigate greenhouse gas emissions through the utilisation of e.g. crop rotations, cover crops or agroforestry<sup>7</sup>.

The EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 pledges to "Bringing nature back to agricultural land" and demands solutions to substantially improve agrobiodiversity in European agricultural systems, including innovative agro-ecological practices building on knowledge of beneficial and manageable variation in species and varieties within and between fields. In its 2020 Strategic Research Agenda (SRA), FACCE-JPI has stated the need to adopt research and farming approaches such as agro-ecology, agrobiodiversity, conservation farming/regenerative agriculture, circular farming, organic farming... that can have a transformative role at the farming system level but also at the level of the broader bioeconomy, as they can inspire new products, new business models, supply chain configurations, cooperation among firms, trade relations, responsible business and marketing conduct. Moreover, the SRA notes the importance of improving and adapting these practices to the specific contexts, particularly in relation to weather volatility due to climate change. The SusCrop ERA-NET has also flagged sustainable crop production, particularly (agro-)biodiversity as a key topic. Therefore, research is needed that: (a) leads to the production of new and/or improved crop varieties to cope with

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<sup>5</sup> Elmqvist T, Folke C, Nystrom M, Peterson G, Bengtsson J, Walker B, Jon N. Response Diversity, Ecosystem Change, and Resilience. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 2003;1(9):488–494.

<sup>6</sup> Costanzo, A., & Bàrberi, P. (2014). Functional agrobiodiversity and agroecosystem services in sustainable wheat production. A review. *Agronomy for sustainable development*, 34(2), 327-348.

<sup>7</sup> Kahane, R., Hodgkin, T., Jaenicke, H., Hoogendoorn, C., Hermann, M., Hughes, J. D. A., ... & Looney, N. (2013). Agrobiodiversity for food security, health and income. *Agronomy for sustainable development*, 33(4), 671-693.





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the consequences of **climate change**, (b) enhances biodiversity of crops and in cropping systems contributing to **nutritional and food security** for a balanced and diverse human diet.

Based on these considerations, FACCE-JPI and SusCrop ERA-NET, in the framework of the European Research Area, have decided to join forces to put in place a Call for research projects addressing agrobiodiversity, with the purposes of providing practical and policy-relevant knowledge on how agrobiodiversity can improve resilience of agroecosystems, especially those most at risk. The call for proposals aims also to support reinvigorating farming practices for improved ecological connectivity and biodiversity as a natural asset at landscape level. Opportunities and obstacles to farming/landscape diversification should be identified and monitored.

The Call encourages the submission of projects adopting research and innovation approaches addressing, within its scope, system-related opportunities, constraints, barriers and trade-offs for improvement of agrobiodiversity. For example, it should be considered that incentives to increase agrobiodiversity at farm level might be ineffective due to physical, market or social constraints: landscape fragmentation, labour organisation, lack of genetic resources fit to specific agroecosystems, phytosanitary problems, production costs, demand of alternative crops, bottlenecks in the supply chain.

### 2 Scope of the Call

Projects financed under this Call should contribute to sustainable crop production, particularly agro-diversification strategies tailored to different European agricultural systems, and especially targeting landscapes and cropping systems with low and/or moderate agrobiodiversity, higher negative impact on agrobiodiversity, or most at risk due to low resilience. Projects should improve:

- a) the understanding of the principles and mechanisms of functional and response agrobiodiversity at genetic and/or species level and its contribution to healthy soils, resilient agroecosystems, and to diverse and healthy human diets;
- b) the understanding of the role that agrobiodiversity plays in ecological connectivity and in the biodiversity of landscapes, the understanding of the most efficacious methods for improving and enhancing agrobiodiversity/biodiversity, and the decision-making process around targeting and promoting agrobiodiversity/biodiversity;
- c) the understanding of the social, economic, environmental opportunities and barriers to an increased agrobiodiversity at the farm level, as well as the risks and governance aspects;
- d) agrobiodiversity-based farm practices and organisational patterns improving the resilience of agroecosystems;



e) solutions on how increased agrobiodiversity can contribute to farm income and/or what possibilities there are to find economic incentives from the market to promote agrobiodiversity.

European cooperation on this background will allow learning of lessons from the diversity of the contexts, the problems, and of the solutions adopted across Europe.

Involvement of stakeholder and/or end-users, especially farmers, is strongly encouraged throughout the project lifetime in order to provide adapted solutions.

The knowledge produced by the projects funded under this Call should be policy-relevant and applicable, therefore on-farm experiments and stakeholder involvement are strongly encouraged as well as interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary teams.

### **3 Call topics**

Proposals submitted to the Call must address one of the three following topics:

#### **a) Agricultural genetic resources**

Modern agricultural models have strongly eroded the genetic base of agriculture. Thus, access to a wider range of crops with a broadened genetic base is needed, with improved functional traits fit to sustainable food systems. In recent years interest for alternative species, local and traditional varieties, heterogeneous genetic material and varieties tailored to organic farming has increased. There is a strong need of crops with increased tolerances to environmental conditions as a consequence of climate change (e.g. drought, floods, temperature/heat, water availability/shortage, soil conditions) and new or improved crop varieties that allow their cultivation at a different latitude (South to North shift for common and conventional crop cultivation in Europe) and light conditions.

In addition, sudden outbreaks and re-emerging pests and diseases, changes in crop and pests/diseases phenology linked to climate change, have triggered research toward plant resistance and forecasting models for European countries/regions.

Moreover, nutritional quality and resource use efficiency are vital for human health and economic attractiveness, respectively. For applied research, involvement of farmers and consumers might be crucial in testing new species and cultivars or in identifying traits for genetic improvement. Generating knowledge in more basic research is equally relevant.

#### **b) Agricultural practices and farm models**

Reversing the trend of agrobiodiversity degradation can have a strong push from farm-level diversification, improvement of ecological infrastructures, farm-landscape interaction. This implies supporting research on agricultural practices, technologies, decision support systems and value chain business models that improve crop and agricultural production, soil quality and create economic, social, and environmental value through greater diversity of plant species,



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and greater functional and response diversity. Projects are also encouraged to use and/or provide data, to develop new and/or to expand existing indicators and tools allowing assessment of the progress towards diversification, that can be used by farmers to support their decisions, advisors/extension agents to provide feedback information on transformation processes, by retailers to support agrobiodiversity-based marketing strategies, by citizens and consumers to orient their decisions toward more sustainable agrofood products and by public authorities to evaluate the impacts of public investments and policies.

### **c) Agrobiodiversity and territorial systems**

Diversification at farm level that supports agrobiodiversity can find important synergies - but also constraints - at landscape level. Structurally complex landscapes enhance local diversity in agroecosystems, while simplified landscapes amplify the negative effects of intensification at farm level. Response diversity may be enhanced through the presence at landscape level of redundant species performing similar system functions. Regeneration of low-quality agricultural habitats could improve the effectiveness of neighbouring conservation areas by enhancing ecological connectivity, and vice versa. A better understanding of the link between farm diversity and landscape complexity will bring more effective agri-environmental schemes under current and future agricultural policies. Projects are encouraged to include research on landscapes and cropping systems with a baseline characterised by low and/or moderate agrobiodiversity.



#### **4 Expected Outputs and impacts**

The expected outputs and impacts of the projects have to refer to at least one of the following outputs and impacts, respectively. Proposals applying to the Call will not have to address all the outputs and impacts below listed, but they should address at least some of them in an integrated way.

##### **EXPECTED OUTPUTS (short term)**

- Ready-to use solutions (Book of practices, Handbooks) for farmers related to practices and improved crops to restore or enhance above- and belowground biodiversity, to store carbon in soils, to improve nutritional quality of food
- Methods and models for assessing how agrobiodiversity could contribute to reduce or enhance climate change
- Indicators and tools for monitoring agrobiodiversity/biodiversity at farm and at landscape level;
- Scenarios of agro-ecosystems redesign at landscape level
- Ready-to-use technological solutions supporting the management of agro-diversity and related information at farm level

##### **EXPECTED IMPACTS (long term)**

- Access to a wider range of crops with broadened genetic base, and their potential utilisation
- Extension of cropping systems with greater biodiversity in support of key agroecosystem functions
- Enhanced diversification strategies and improved capacity to assess their performance
- Better understanding of the links between farm diversity and landscape characteristics
- System-based policy tools to increase agrobiodiversity within food systems

#### **5 Funding modalities and who can apply**

The Funding Parties of the Call are listed in Table 1.

The funding for transnational projects will be based on a virtual common pot instrument. This means that applicants of projects that have been selected for funding will receive the grant directly from their national/regional Funding Party from which they sought funds, according to their terms and conditions.

## 5.1 Who can apply

Universities and other higher education institutions, public research institutions, private non-profit organisations, and private companies can apply, subject to the national/regional regulations and eligibility criteria. Research consortia should consist of a minimum of three partners seeking funding from at least three different Funding Parties and countries. Research consortia partners ineligible to receive funding from any of the Funding Parties can be part of research consortia if they bring in their own funding and submit an appropriate “Commitment letter” (see Annex E). Funding of the participating research partners will be provided by the Funding Party from which they sought funding, according to their legal terms and conditions for project funding. The list of Funding Parties is given below in Table 1.

## 5.2 Eligibility criteria

The call is conducted as one-step-procedure but proposals are only eligible if

**pre-registered until the 04<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 via the online-submission tool.**

Proposals that have not been pre-registered within this time may not be considered for full proposal submission.

**Full proposals have to be submitted until 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2022.**

Proposals that have not been submitted within this time may not be considered for evaluation.

**Apart from that, applicants are strongly advised to contact their National Contact Point (NCP) before submitting a proposal (see Annex A).**

All proposals must fulfil the general criteria, as well as the applicable national eligibility criteria. General eligibility criteria are:

- Proposals must be written in English
- Proposals must be complete and in accordance to the procedure and must be submitted via the online submission tool. Thus, full proposals must include a Data Management Plan (one page, PDF, see Annex D) and a Communication and Dissemination Plan (one page, PDF, see Annex G).
- **Proposals must be pre-registered until 04<sup>th</sup> of May 12:00 CEST via the online submission tool (see section 6.3 for pre-registration details)**
- **Complete full proposals must be submitted until 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2022 12:00 CEST via the submission tool (see section 6.4 for proposal submission details)**
- Consortia must include at least three eligible partners requesting funding from **at least three different CSC member countries** who contribute funds to the Call. There is no



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maximum number of partners. However, the CSC highly recommends that applying consortia should not include more than ten partners requesting funding. Applicants not seeking funding from any of the Funding Parties listed below does not count towards the minimum of three partners.

- In order to achieve balanced partnerships the maximum budget that can be requested by partners from one country is 70% from the total requested budget. Some Funding Parties have also funding limits, please check the national/regional funding regulations.
- The same person cannot act as a coordinator for more than one proposal. Some agencies do not allow the same person in more than one proposal, please check national/regional funding regulations.
- Each applying consortium must be led by a project coordinator, who must be from an organisation that is eligible for funding from a Funding Party of this Joint Call.
- The minimum project duration is 24 months and the maximum is 36 months.
- Applicants must complete an ethics self-assessment as part of the application.
- Applicants ineligible to receive funding from any of the Funding Parties of the Joint Call are welcome to contribute to project consortia, if they can secure their own expenses and hence have to submit a “letter of financial commitment” (see Annex E). However, these applicants cannot be coordinator, their contribution should not be essential for the project’s successful implementation and they will not count towards the minimum number of partners.

In addition, national/regional eligibility criteria must be respected and the proposed research project must be consistent with the national/organisational thematic priorities of the Funding Party. National/regional requirements are described in the national/regional regulations (see under Call Documents at <https://www.suscrop.eu/2022-joint-call>). The Funding Parties may require additional documents according to their national/regional or organisational regulations. If additional documents are required, these must be submitted according to the requirements and by the deadlines stated.

**Failure of one applicant to meet any of the eligibility criteria, including the national/regional eligibility criteria will result in the rejection of the entire proposal.**

Each applicant is therefore strongly recommended to consult, well in advance of submission, with the National Contact Point (NCP) of the Funder to which the funding request is addressed (Annex A).

Please check the national/regional regulations to ensure eligibility; in cases when different Funding Parties of one country participate in the call, they can have different organisational





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rules (National/regional funding regulations can be found at <https://www.suscrop.eu/2022-joint-call> under Call Documents).

After the closing date, the Call Office will carry out the general eligibility check of the proposals with respect to the criteria listed in this section. Proposals not meeting the minimum requirements will be rejected by the Call Office, following consultation with the Call Steering Committee (CSC). The members of the CSC will then check the proposals against national/regional eligibility criteria as described in the national/regional regulations.

Proposals complying with both sets of criteria (general Call eligibility criteria and national/regional eligibility criteria) will be forwarded to the evaluation procedure.

The results of the general eligibility check and the national/regional eligibility check will be communicated by the Call Office to the project coordinators before the evaluation phase of the proposals.

### 5.3 Coordinator of the research project consortium

Each research project consortium needs to appoint a project coordinator. The project coordinator has the following role and responsibilities:

- Make sure that the national/regional regulations and funding modalities of all partners involved are met by confirmation of the partners themselves to ensure the eligibility of the entire project,
- Lead the consortium throughout the application procedure and be responsible for the correct pre-registration of the project and proposal submission. The coordinator should be the one who creates an account for the proposal in the online submission tool,
- Be responsible for the overall project coordination and act as the central contact point for the consortium during the full lifespan of the research project,
- Inform the Call Office about any event that might affect the implementation of the project,
- Ensure that all work is carried out to a high standard and meets contractually bound deliverables and milestones presented in the proposal and approved by the Funding Parties,
- Be responsible for sharing all information with consortium partners,
- Be responsible for monitoring data and timely delivery of project reports,

The project coordinator will not be responsible for the financial management of project funding, which shall be handled directly between the consortium members and their corresponding Funding Parties.



**Note that the inclusion of a non-eligible partner without a letter of commitment in a proposal will result in the rejection of the entire proposal. The same applies to project partners that participate on their own expense.**

## 5.4 Funding Parties

**Table 1. List of Funding Parties of the Joint Call.**

Country	Funding Party
<b>Austria</b>	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism (BMLRT)
<b>Belgium</b>	National Fund for Scientific Research (FRS-FNRS)
<b>Denmark</b>	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries (MFVM)
<b>Estonia</b>	Ministry of Rural Affairs (MEM)
<b>Estonia</b>	Estonian Research Council (ETA <sub>g</sub> )
<b>Finland</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM)
<b>France</b>	French National Research Agency (ANR)
<b>Germany</b>	Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)
<b>Ireland</b>	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)
<b>Ireland</b>	Agriculture and Food Development Authority (Teagasc)
<b>Italy</b>	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (MIPAAF)
<b>Latvia</b>	Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences (LAAFS)
<b>Lithuania</b>	Ministry of Agriculture Division of strategic Planning and Science Departement of economics Lithuania (ZUM)
<b>Poland</b>	National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
<b>Romania*</b>	Unitatea Executiva Pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior a Cercetarii Dezvoltarii si Inovarii (UEFISCDI)*
<b>Spain</b>	Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)
<b>Sweden</b>	Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning
<b>Turkey</b>	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)
<b>UK</b>	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

\*not confirmed yet



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### 5.5 Submission tool

Pre-registration and submission of proposals will be carried out using an online submission tool. It consists of a platform, where applicants can find all information necessary for the preparation and submission of proposals. The submission tool is available at <https://www.suscrop.eu/2022-joint-call>.

A **webinar will be organised on April 05<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 CEST** for all interested applicants. Content of the webinar will be an overview about all relevant aspects for the Call and will give a short introduction for the submission tool.

### 5.6 Partnering tool

In addition, a partnering tool is attached to the submission platform, where project partnerships can be offered or searched for.

## 6 Call procedure

### 6.1 Management of the Call

The Call Office will be operated by Project Management Jülich (Germany).

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## 6.2 Time schedule

The Joint Call will follow a one-step-procedure. However, a pre-registration of the proposal is mandatory prior the submission of proposals (see next section). A time schedule is provided below (tentative).

**Table 2: Timeline for the call.**

Step	Date/Timeline
Pre-Announcement	Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2022
Launch of the Call	Mar 17 <sup>th</sup> 2022
Webinar	Apr 05 <sup>th</sup> 2022
Deadline Pre-registration of proposal	May 04 <sup>th</sup> 2022
Deadline proposal submission	Jun 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2022
Evaluation and selection	Jul-Sep 2022
Letters to applicants	Oct 2022
Aimed start of research projects	Dec 2022 – May 2023

## 6.3 Pre-Registration of projects

All proposals have to be pre-registered beforehand of proposal submission. The pre-registration comprises the following information:

- Project data (title, acronym, duration, topic),
- Project summary,
- Contact data of all partners of the consortia (CV upload only at full proposal submission necessary) and
- An estimation of requested funding of all partners (Financial Plan).

All relevant data for pre-registration are clearly marked within the submission tool and will be also explained during the Webinar. This step is mandatory to apply for this call and hence to submit the proposal in June.

**The deadline for pre-registration is  
04<sup>th</sup> of May 2022, 12:00 CEST**

Applicants who miss to pre-register cannot submit their proposals in June. The total sum of requested funding per project partner shall not change, however the distribution between the single type of costs can be adapted after the pre-registration. **The consortium partners of a**



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**proposal shall be determined at pre-registration. Thus, the partners shall not change after pre-registration, unless serious and justified reasons will occur. A replacement of single partner(s) or addition of partner(s) is only possible upon request to the Call Office. However, the final decision will be taken by the CSC.**

The pre-registration will support the Call Office in preparation of the evaluation phase (contacting required experts). The project summary will not undergo an expert evaluation. However, the consortium will undergo a general check against the number and type of partners.

### 6.4 Submission of proposals

**The Joint Call follows a one-step procedure with a deadline for submission of proposals being the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2022, 12:00 CEST.**

Proposals have to be pre-registered beforehand (see section 6.3) Proposals, which have not been pre-registered in time, will be rejected.

It will be possible to update and resubmit the application as many times as required until the submission deadline (22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022, 12:00 CEST), but not after that. Applicants should note that the online submission system may experience high traffic volumes in the last hours before the submission deadline. It is therefore highly recommended to submit the final version of the proposal well in advance of the deadline to avoid any last minute technical problems. Requests for extensions of the deadline due to last minute technical problems may not be considered.

**Before the submission of a full proposal, the coordinator should make sure that all consortium partners requesting funding from this Joint Call are eligible for support from their respective national/regional funding organisations.**

For additional partners who are not eligible for funding from any of the Funding Parties, the coordinator has to ensure that each of these partners possesses the required financial security to fulfil their tasks within the project via a Letter of Financial Commitment (see Annex E).

The project coordinator is responsible for the timely submission of the proposal via the online submission system.

**Note: Inclusion of a non-eligible partner without a letter of financial commitment in a full proposal will result in the rejection of the entire proposal.**



## **7 Expert evaluation procedure**

### **7.1 General**

The CSC will establish an International Evaluation Committee (IEC) that has the following mandate:

- provides the peer review evaluation of proposals, on the basis of the evaluation criteria published in the chapter 7.2.1 of the Joint Call;
- provides a written summary of each proposal to explain the decisions to the CSC. The summary will be provided to the applicant by the Call Office;
- provides a ranking list of project proposals based on the evaluation scores.

A Chair and a vice-chair will coordinate the work of the IEC. Each IEC member will be independent of any Funding Party and applicant involved in this Call. The Call Office will ensure that no conflict of interest exists concerning the expert and the proposals evaluated. For this purpose, the IEC members will be required to sign a Conflict of Interest and a Declaration of Confidentiality form. The online evaluation tool will include a feature which will prevent access to a proposal in case of a Conflict of Interest is declared by an expert.

During the entire procedure, strict confidentiality will be ensured with respect to the identities of the applicants and the content of the proposals. The proposals will be only read by the CSC members and by the IEC members involved, and be handled by the Call Office. All IEC members will have signed a confidentiality agreement before they get access to the proposals. Furthermore, all collected data will be handled in accordance with the GDPR (see section 8).

Eligible proposals will be evaluated online by a minimum of three international experts per proposal. The experts will then meet and agree on consensus scores for each proposal.

### **7.2 Evaluation and selection of proposals**

#### **7.2.1 Evaluation criteria**

The reviewers will evaluate the proposals in accordance with the scope and expected outputs and impacts described in this call announcement (see sections 2 and 4), and using the three equally weighted evaluation criteria (including sub-criteria) described below.

The three equally weighted evaluation criteria are:

#### **1. Scientific excellence**

The excellence of the proposal will be assessed by evaluators considering the following points:

- a) Clarity and pertinence of the objectives

- b) Soundness of the concept
- c) Credibility of the proposed methodology
- d) Quality and expertise of the consortium as a whole (Project Coordinator's and Project Partners' information)
- e) Degree of novelty and innovation of the proposed approach and extent to which the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrates innovation potential (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models)
- f) Appropriate application of system thinking, interdisciplinary approaches and where relevant use of stakeholder knowledge/involvement and gender dimension in research and innovation content

## 2. Relevance and potential impact

This evaluation criterion will focus on (a) the relevance of the proposed project to the Call regarding the Call scope and the topics (see section 2 and 3), and (b) the potential impact of the project. The impact assessment will focus on expected outputs and impacts as underlined in section 4.

## 3. Quality and efficiency of the Implementation

- a) Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables
- b) Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk, ethical issues and data management
- c) Complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
- d) Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role
- e) Appropriateness of the project budget to the planned work and the achievement of the project goals

### 7.2.2 Scoring

For proposal evaluation, scores will be awarded for each of the three main criteria mentioned above. Each criterion will be scored out of 5 (half scores are not allowed) and equally weighted.

The 0-5 scoring system for each criterion indicates the following assessment:

- **0: The proposal fails to address the criterion** or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
- **1: Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed**, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- **2: Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion**, but there are significant weaknesses.
- **3: Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well**, but a number of shortcomings are present.
- **4: Very Good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well**, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
- **5: Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion.** Any shortcomings are minor.

An average score of each criterion is calculated out of the scores given by a minimum of 3 experts who evaluated the proposal. Two thresholds will be applied with respect to the scores. **A threshold of 3/5** will be applied for each criterion, i.e. proposals with a mean score < 3.0 in any main criterion will not be recommended for funding. **A threshold of 10** will be applied with respect to the total score (sum of the three average scores per criterion), i.e. proposals with a total score under 10 will not be proposed for funding. All proposals will be ranked according to the final scores.

The outcome of the evaluation is irrevocable.

### 7.3 Proposal selection (Funding decision)

The Call Office will forward the ranking list of proposals provided by the IEC to the CSC. The CSC will meet to take the final decision on selecting transnational projects recommended for national/regional funding, based on the ranking list and the available funding to ensure to fund as many high quality projects as possible.

The outcome of the evaluation process and funding recommendation will be communicated by the Call Office to the project coordinators. **Evaluation summaries will be provided to the coordinators which are responsible for forwarding all information to the proposal partners.**



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Upon the final decision by the CSC, a list of funded projects will be published on the FACCE-JPI and SusCrop websites containing the following information from the proposals:

- Project title and project acronym
- Duration of the project
- Project Summary
- Total requested funding of the project
- Name and contact information of the project coordinator
- Country, organisation and participant name of each partner.

### 8 General Data Protection Regulations Issues

All personal data offered for project applications, reviewers and expert assessments, mailing lists, tracking websites, registration for activities and events will be collected, stored and processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation EU 679/2016). A data protection officer (DPO) is appointed to ensure compliance with the GDPR rules. For more information please consult the privacy policy on the submission website.

### 9 Obligations for funded projects

#### 9.1 Negotiation of contract

Once the notification letter from the Call Office to the coordinators with the communication of the funding decision has been received, the project partners of proposals recommended for funding will be contacted by the Funding Parties or will need to contact the Funding Parties of their respective countries themselves according to their regulations, in order to start the grant negotiation and accomplish the remaining steps until the research project can start.

Each Funding Party will fund their respective applicant(s) within the research project. Formal funding decisions are made by the participating Funding Parties and funding will be provided according to applicable National/Regional funding regulations and specific ethical issues raised by the evaluators.

For some Funding Parties, a signed consortium agreement might be required for release of the national/regional funds. It is strongly recommended that successful consortia should therefore negotiate and sign a Consortium Agreement before commencement of the project as required per National/regional regulations. This should address at least the following topics:

- Internal organisation and management of the consortium
- Intellectual property arrangements





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- Settlement of internal disputes

Support for the preparation of a Consortium Agreement can be found on the DESCA webpage (<https://www.desca-agreement.eu/desca-model-consortium-agreement/>).

### 9.2 Communication and Dissemination

A list of the funded projects will be published at the end of the Joint Call. Therefore, applicants should be aware that the information from the proposals as listed under section 7.3 will be published for promotional purposes.

Each research project proposal must include a one page Communication and Dissemination Plan (see Annex G).

Communication and dissemination of project-related information and results (e.g. oral/poster presentations in workshops or conferences, a webpage, scientific publications or public articles) must provide a clear reference to **FACCE-JPI and SusCrop**.

### 9.3 Project monitoring and meetings

In addition to the reporting required by the National/regional regulations of the Funding Parties, reporting will be required at mid-term (M12 or M18, depending on the project duration and start) at the end of each project (M24 or 36 by dates, depending on the project duration and start). This will consist of a project status report and in-depth monitoring survey to measure project progress and contribution to the overall aims of the Joint Call. All project partners will have to deliver input for these reports.

In order to enhance dissemination of the project results a mid-term and end-term meeting will be planned. At those meetings, the coordinators shall represent their projects. Project coordinators should calculate costs for attendance of those two mandatory joint network meetings (mid-term and end-term meeting) in their finance plan during proposal submission.

The report due to this Call for the monitoring process can include also some budgetary indications but the binding information about the budget are due to the Funding Party, following its own regulations.

Detailed information on the reporting and monitoring procedures as well as templates will be provided to the coordinators of the funded projects in due course.

### 9.4 Data Management Issues

As relevant, applicants must include information on how the project partners will manage the research data generated and/or collected during the project. Each proposal must include a





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maximum one page Data Management Plan. Advice for preparing the Data Management Plan is provided in Annex D of this document.

In addition, applicants must include an updated Data Management Plan as a distinct deliverable within the first six months of the project. A template for such a plan is given in the guidelines on data management in the H2020 Online Manual. This deliverable will evolve during the lifetime of the project in order to present the status of the project's reflections on data management.

### 9.5 Ethics assessment

Work involving the use of animals or humans should be carried out under the appropriate authorization taking into account the European Union and national ethical requirements. Any proposal, which seems to contravene fundamental ethical principles, shall not be selected, and may be excluded from the evaluation and selection procedure. Judgement of the significance of ethical issues will be made by using the criteria published by the European Commission in its guidelines for the Horizon Europe Framework Programme.

If any ethical issues are expected to arise during the proposed project, these must be addressed in the full proposal. Proposals may be rejected from funding on ethics grounds if they do not comply with the European and national/regional legislation.

To prove absence of potential misuse of research results, other ethics issues above listed, the applicant is required to complete an ethics self-assessment and provide a support documentation referred to in the ethics issues checklist. Please consult Horizon Europe Programme Guidance [How to complete your ethics self-assessment](#).

These guidelines address, in more detail, the following ethical issues: human embryos & fetuses, human beings, human cells or tissues, personal data, animals, non-EU countries, environment, health & safety, dual use, exclusive focus on civil applications. Applicants can also consult on the European Commission website the Guidance Note – Ethics and Food-Related Research on core issues of ethical concern in the field of food-related research including appendix that addresses broader concerns in the field of food ethics.

This self-assessment, as well as any additional ethical issues that are raised by the evaluation committee will be shared with national funders and national funders may stipulate specific ethical requirements, which must be met by successful applicants as part of the national funding contract.

In case activities undertaken in non-EU countries raise ethics issues, the applicants must ensure that the research conducted outside the EU is legal in at least one EU Member State





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Annex A National/Regional contact points and indicative call budget

Table 3: List of National/Regional contact points and indicative call budget. For more details, please refer to document “National regulations”.

Country	Organisation	NCP	Phone number	E-mail	Budget (k€)
Austria	BMLRT	Nina Radl Stefan Vetter	+43 1 71100 606693 +43 1 71100 606710	<a href="mailto:nina.radl@bmlrt.gv.at">nina.radl@bmlrt.gv.at</a> <a href="mailto:stefan.vetter@bmlrt.gv.at">stefan.vetter@bmlrt.gv.at</a>	250
Belgium	FRS-FNRS	Florence Quist	+32 2 504 9351	<a href="mailto:florence.quist@frs-fnrs.be">florence.quist@frs-fnrs.be</a>	200
Denmark	MFVM	Julia Gajo	+45 51 53 15 41	<a href="mailto:JULGAJ@lbst.dk">JULGAJ@lbst.dk</a>	500
Estonia	ETAg	Katrin Saar	+372 731 7386	<a href="mailto:katrin.saar@etag.ee">katrin.saar@etag.ee</a>	100
Estonia	MEM	Maarja Malm	+372 625 6250	<a href="mailto:maarja.malm@agri.ee">maarja.malm@agri.ee</a>	100
Finland	MMM	Suvi Ryyänen	+358 29516 2126	<a href="mailto:suvi.ryynanen@gov.fi">suvi.ryynanen@gov.fi</a>	300
France	ANR	Isabelle Hippolyte Jannatul Mia	+33 1 78098074 +33 1 78098031	<a href="mailto:Isabelle.hippolyte@agencerecherche.fr">Isabelle.hippolyte@agencerecherche.fr</a> <a href="mailto:Jannatul.mia@agencerecherche.fr">Jannatul.mia@agencerecherche.fr</a>	1000
Germany	BMEL	Johannes Pfeifer	+49 228 6845 2634	<a href="mailto:Johannes.Pfeifer@ble.de">Johannes.Pfeifer@ble.de</a>	500
Ireland	DAFM	Aidan Holohan	+353 1 607 2426	<a href="mailto:Aidan.Holohan@agriculture.gov.ie">Aidan.Holohan@agriculture.gov.ie</a>	1500
Ireland	Teagasc	John Harrison	+353 (0)1 607 2847	<a href="mailto:john.harrison@agriculture.gov.ie">john.harrison@agriculture.gov.ie</a>	288
Italy	MIPAAF	Serenella Puliga Alice Albertini	+39 055 2492220 +39 06 46655076	<a href="mailto:s.puliga@politicheagricole.it">s.puliga@politicheagricole.it</a> <a href="mailto:alice.albertini.ext@politicheagricole.it">alice.albertini.ext@politicheagricole.it</a>	800





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Country	Organisation	NCP	Phone number	E-mail	Budget (k€)
Latvia	LAAFS	Baiba Rivza	+371 29254469	<a href="mailto:baiba.rivza@llu.lv">baiba.rivza@llu.lv</a>	30
Lithuania	ZUM	Aušra Šimonėlienė	+37 052391025	<a href="mailto:ausra.simoneliene@zum.lt">ausra.simoneliene@zum.lt</a>	100
Poland	NCBR	Aleksandra Mikulska	+48 509 215 343	<a href="mailto:aleksandra.mikulska@ncbr.gov.pl">aleksandra.mikulska@ncbr.gov.pl</a>	600
Romania	UEFISCDI*	Adrian Asanica Luciana Bratu Andreea Popa	+40 744450011 +40 213071987 +40 21 3071991	<a href="mailto:adrian.asanica@uefiscdi.ro">adrian.asanica@uefiscdi.ro</a> <a href="mailto:luciana.bratu@uefiscdi.ro">luciana.bratu@uefiscdi.ro</a> <a href="mailto:andreea.popa@uefiscdi.ro">andreea.popa@uefiscdi.ro</a>	500*
Spain	AEI	Juan Climent Manuel Sanchez	+34 916037242 +34 916038447	<a href="mailto:era-agro@aei.gob.es">era-agro@aei.gob.es</a>	400
Sweden	FORMAS	Jessica Ekström	+46 8 775 41 42	<a href="mailto:jessica.ekstrom@formas.se">jessica.ekstrom@formas.se</a>	600
Turkey	TÜBİTAK	Emre Sari	+90 312 298 12 65	<a href="mailto:emre.sari@tubitak.gov.tr">emre.sari@tubitak.gov.tr</a>	400
UK	DEFRA	Hannah Rigby	+442087203609	<a href="mailto:hannah.rigby@defra.gov.uk">hannah.rigby@defra.gov.uk</a>	300k£
<b>*not confirmed yet</b>					



### Annex B Checklist proposal documents to be upload

The proposal has to be submitted via the online submission tool. Beside the data which have to be filled into the submission tool the following documents have to be uploaded as separate files (see also Annex C). If not described different all documents shall have the font and size Arial 11pt with a line pitch of 1.15 and have to be uploaded as pdf. Beside the documents, 6 images can also be uploaded. (please pay attention to proper size).

Document	Comment	Done
<b>Coordinator CV</b>	Max. 1 page (incl. personal details, brief description of your profile incl. relevant qualification and international expertise, list of academic and non-academic degrees and year awarded, list of current and past positions)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Partner CVs</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Work plan</b>	Max. 12 pages, please use the template provided in Annex F and as download on the submission website	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Data management plan</b>	Max. 1 page, see Annex D	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Dissemination and communication plan</b>	Max. 1 page, see Annex G	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Letter of commitment(s) (only applicable for not eligible partners)</b>	Please compile one pdf file for all commitment letters; a template is also provided in Annex E and as download on the submission website	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Literature References (optional)</b>	Max. 2 pages	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Annex C Template proposal

Please note that all information mandatory for pre-registration are marked in bold.

### **Project Coordinator/partner information**

- Contact details
- CV of coordinator/partner  
*CV shall be uploaded as pdf file max. 1 page, Arial 11pt, line pitch 1.15, max. 1 MB*
- Tasks within the project  
*max 2,000 characters incl. spaces*
- 5 references/publications  
*more can be provided as separate document in literature references*
- Team members description and their relevant qualifications  
*max 2,000 characters incl. spaces*

### **Project data**

- Project title
- Acronym
- Expected project start date and end date
- Topic addressed

### **Keywords**

- Supplementary keywords  
*Max. 5 keywords related to your project, separated by comma*

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

- Please describe which stakeholder(s) your planned project will be relevant for and how you intend to engage the stakeholder(s) during the application phase and/or during the lifetime of your project (if applicable to your project).  
*max. 2,000 characters incl. spaces*

### **Project summary**

- please provide your project summary. This summary might be used for communication and dissemination activities in case your project will be selected for funding. Please make sure that it is publishable.



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*max. 4,000 characters incl. spaces*

### Project description

Please provide your project description and use the following structure. The project description should:

- a) provide the state of the art,
- b) specify the expected project outputs/impacts and relevance to the call scope/topics,
- c) provide information of the workflow and the linkage of work packages between the project partners.

The project should be in line with the requirements stated in the call text. The space is limited to 25,000 characters including spaces. Implementation of up to six graphics/images is allowed and possible (allowed formats are jpg, png or gif, max. resolution 600x600px, max. file size 2MB). No additional documents will be considered.

*Max. 25,000 characters incl. spaces*

### Work plan

Here you can upload your work plan as a PDF document. The document must not exceed the length of 12 A4 pages (Arial 11pt, line pitch at least 1.15 - allowed file size: 5 MB, PDF file format, template available on submission website) Uploading of more than 12 pages is blocked by the online submission system.

*The work plan should clearly describe the individual work packages, tasks, deliverables and milestones of the project. The work plan must also include a Gantt-Chart. Upload pdf file, max. 12 pages, Arial 11pt, line pitch 1.15, max. 5 MB*

### Data Management Plan

Please consider recommendations and checklist of questions provided in Annex D.

*Upload pdf file, max. 1 page, Arial 11pt, line pitch 1.15, max. 1 MB*

### Communication and Dissemination Plan

Please consider recommendations and guiding information provided in Annex G.

*Upload pdf file, max. 1 page, Arial 11pt, line pitch 1.15, max. 1 MB*

### Ethical Compliance

- Are there any aspects of the proposal that could possibly raise societal concerns or ethical issues? Yes/no



If yes, please address these concerns/issues. Proposals may be rejected from funding on ethical grounds if they do not comply with European and/or National/Regional Legislation.

Please also visit [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf) for ethical self-assessment.

### **Financial Plan**

Please insert the requested budget **for all partners** within the consortium into the appropriate columns within the submission tool. Also add your own contribution if applicable and **write a short explanation for each budget item**. Please be aware that only the coordinator can fill in the financial plan on behalf of the whole consortium.

**Figure of the financial table as shown in submission system.**

Organisation name	Personnel	Travel	Consumables / Equipment	Subcontracts	Requested Funding * required for pre-registration	Total Own Contribution	Total Costs
Institute of Agrobiodiversity	250	5	10	2	292	5	297
Overhead	25	0	0	0			
Institute of Agriculture	200	2	10	0	212	2	214
Overhead	0	0	0	0			
Institute of Farming	100	2	5	10	140	7	147
Overhead	20	0	1	2			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>658</b>

1 k€ = 1000 €

### **Evaluators (optional)**

You may name a maximum of two experts who should not review your proposal because of conflict of interest.

Please enter the full name(s), affiliation (research institution, organisation) and reason for refusal of the expert(s).

*max 2,000 characters incl. spaces*

### **Letter of Commitment(s)**

Partners who are not eligible for National/Regional funding from the Funding Parties listed in Table 1 and partners who are able to fully work on their own financial resources, may join the project at their own expense or funded by another agency.

You have to upload for each of these partners a Letter of Commitment via the Upload Field of the submission tool. Please use the template provided under Annex E and compile all Letter of Commitments into one pdf file.



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Please do not upload any other letter types unless required by your national/regional regulations. Additional uploaded documents will not be considered.

*Upload one pdf file*

Literature References (optional)

*Upload pdf file, max. 2 pages, max. 1 MB*

Figures (optional)

You can upload up to 6 figures. Please make sure to use the correct format (jpg, png or gif) and maximum size that is supported by the online submission system (max. 2MB and 600px x 600px). A detailed instruction on how to upload and implement figures within the text fields is provided in the submission system menu FIGURES. **Please check well in advance of the deadline of your figure is accepted by the submission tool.**

*Upload up to 6 images (2 MB, 600px x 600px) as jpg, png or gif*





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### Annex D Data Management Plan

Data management is an essential component to the success of projects using systems/synthetic biology approaches and/or tools in bioinformatics. Representatives from academia, industry, funding agencies, and scholarly publishers designed and jointly endorsed a concise and measurable set of principles referred to as FAIR Data Principles with the intention to provide a guideline for reusability of data holdings. Four foundational principles – Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability and Reusability– are a necessity of data management. The EC published Guidelines on FAIR Data Management in Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe.

All applicants must include a maximum one page Data Management Plan. This plan should mainly detail how the project partners will manage the research data generated and/or collected during the project, in particular addressing the following issues:

- What types of data will the project generate/collect?
- What standards will be used?
- How will this data be exploited and/or shared/made accessible for verification and reuse?

If data cannot be made available, explain why.

- How will this data be curated and preserved?
- How will the costs for data curation and preservation be covered?

Additional guidance on data management, including a template for a Data Management Plan, is given in the guidelines on data management in the Horizon 2020 Online Manual, available at:[https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/open-access-data-management/data-management\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/open-access-data-management/data-management_en.htm)





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**Annex E Template financial commitments**

This template should be used as evidence of the availability of funds by applicants who are:

- from partners ineligible to receive funding from any of the Funding Parties participating in the Joint Call or
- eligible, to receive funding from a Funding Party, but not seeking funding from a Funding Party.

Organisations are allowed to use their own templates, however the content of the letter as described hereunder should be regarded as the minimum requirement.

**This document must be signed by  
an authorised representative of the organisation.**

This letter should be submitted electronically with the proposal through the Online Submission Tool.

**In case of failure to provide such a commitment in a proposal submission, an applicant could be regarded as ineligible and so will be the whole consortium.**

Name and address of organisation Name and address of contact person

Joint Call

**Letter of Commitment**

City, Date: .....

We hereby confirm that (Organisation Name) has sufficient resources and is committed to participating in the project (project title)

.....  
.....

In accordance with the proposal which is submitted by (coordinator name)



## Annex F Work plan

Template for description of work packages and Gantt Chart. Text in green shall be adapted. The template can be also downloaded at the website of the online submission tool.

<b>WP 1</b>		<i>Name of WP</i>					
<b>WP leader</b>	<i>P1</i>	<b>Start month</b>	<i>M1</i>		<b>End month</b>	<i>M6</i>	
Partners involved	<i>P1</i>	<i>P2</i>	<i>P3</i>	<i>P4</i>			
Person months	<i>1</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>0.5</i>		<i>1</i>		
Deliverables	<i>D1.1 (M3) D1.2 (M6)</i>		Milestones		<i>M1.1 (M3)</i>		
<b>Aim of WP</b> <i>Brief description of objectives and interrelations with other WPs</i>							
<b>Description of Tasks</b> <u>Task 1.1: Title (Duration in month)</u> Task leader and partners involved: <i>Leader, partner1, partner2, ...</i> <i>Description of task</i> <u>Task 1.2:</u> ....							
<b>Deliverables</b> <i>D1.1: title (Month of deliverable)</i>							
<b>Milestones</b> <i>M1.1: title (Month of milestone)</i>							
<b>Risks and mitigation of risks</b> <i>Brief description of main risks and their mitigation and plans how to adapt work plan</i>							

The Gantt chart shall contain time span of each WP and corresponding tasks as well as deliverables and milestones. An example for a Gantt chart is given below:

	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M...	M36
<b>WP 1</b>									
<b>Task 1.1</b>			M1.1						
<b>Task 1.2</b>						D1.2			



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### Annex G Communication and Dissemination Plan

Plans for communication and dissemination of the project and its results have to be described and will be taken into account in the evaluation with the aim to increase the quality of the implementation and to reach higher impact (see chapter 7.2.1). This should be organised in the form of various communication routes (both national and international) such as scientific papers, posters, presentations, a course or training material, web based tools, workshops as well as stakeholder involvement or direct intervention directed towards end users.

Appropriate resources should be dedicated for the communication and dissemination activities. To enhance dissemination of the project results, additionally or in parallel to the own project meetings, all project coordinators should calculate costs for the attendance of two mandatory joint network meetings (mid-term- and end-term meeting) in their project plan.

Please consider that all project partners must give proper reference to the FACCE-JPI and SusCrop in any documentation published (in written, oral or electronic form).

There are possibilities to get support and advice for your plan for communication, dissemination and capacity building, please consider: The EC guidelines on "[Communication EU research and innovation guidance for project participants](#)".

