**WATERWORKS2014 ERA-NET COFUNDED CALL:**

**16 Projects Recommended for Funding**

The aim of the WaterWorks2014 Cofunded Call is to enable transnational, collaborative research, development and innovation projects addressing questions relating to the water challenges faced by European society.

The call focuses on the theme “Research and Innovation for Developing Technological Solutions and Services for Water Systems”, a topic that partially covers the five priority themes described in the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of the Water JPI (http://www.waterjpi.eu).

A total of 16 transnational collaborative research projects were selected for funding by the Call Steering Committee:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Acronym** | **Title** | **Duration** | **Consortium Coordinator and PI's** | **Organizations** | **Countries** |
| **ACWAPUR** | Accelerated Water Purification during Artificial Recharge of Aquifers - A Tool to Restore Drinking Water Resources | 36m | **Jens Aamand** | **Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS)** | **Denmark** |
| Jesus Carrera | Instituto de Diagnóstico Ambiental y Estudios del Agua | Spain |
| Sara Hallin | Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) | Sweden |
| Caterina Levantesi | Italian National Council of Research (CNR) | Italy |
| Xavier Sanchez-Vila | Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) | Spain |
| **Biorg4WasteWaterVal+** | Bioorganic novel approaches for food processing waste watertreatment and valorisation: Lupanine case study | 36m | **Carlos Alberto Afonso** | **FARM-ID, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lisbon (FF-UL)** | **Portugal** |
| Frederico Ferreira | Associação do Instituto Superior Técnico para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento (IST-ID/UL) | Portugal |
| Francesca Malpei | Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI) | Italy |
| Thomas Schäfer | Basque Centre for Macromolecular Design & Engineering | Spain |
| Michalis Koutinas | Cyprus University of Technology | Cyprus |
| Dina Bastos | A Tremoceira Estrela da Piedade, Lda. | Portugal |
| **DESERT** | Low-cost water DEsalination and SEnsoR Technology compact module | 36m | **Pietro Rubino** | **Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro** | **Italy** |
| Emilio Nicolás | Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) - CEBAS | Spain |
| Philippe Lebailly | Univesité de Liège | Belgium |
| Anna Maria Stellacci | Consiglio per la ricerca in agricoltura e l'analisi dell'economia agraria | Italy |
| Lucas Galera Quiles | NOVEDADES AGRICOLAS SA | Spain |
| **DOMINO** | Dikes and Debris Flows Monitoring by Novel Optical Fiber Sensors | 36m | **Luca Palmieri** | **University of Padova** | **Italy** |
| Thom Bogaard | Delft University of Technology | The Netherlands |
| Miguel Gonzalez-Herraez | Universidad de Alcala | Spain |
| Alessandro Pasuto | National Research Council - Research Institute for Geo-Hydrological Protection | Italy |
| **IMDROFLOOD** | Improving Drought and Flood Early Warning, Forecasting and Mitigation using real-time hydroclimatic indicators | 36 | **Sergio Vicente-Serrano** | **Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas** | **Spain** |
| Ricardo Trigo | Fundação da Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa (FFCUL) | Portugal |
| Chris Reason | University of Cape Town | South AfricA |
| Roxana Bojariu | National Meteorological Administration | Romania |
| Jaak Jaagus | University of Tartu | Estonia |
| Boris Boincean | Research Institute of Field Crops "Selectia" | Moldova |
| Jainme Ribalaygua | Farisa Asesores y Consultores S.L. | Spain |
| Luis Gimeno | University of Vigo | Spain |
| **INXCES** | INnovations for eXtreme Climatic EventS | 36m | **Tone Merete Muthanna** | **Norwegian University of Science and Technology** | **Norway** |
| Maria Viklander | Luleå University of Technology | Sweden |
| John Dehls | Geological Survey of Norway | Norway |
| Floris Cornelis Boogaard | Hanze University of applied science in Groningen | The Netherlands |
| Radu Constantin Gogu | Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest | Romania |
| **IRIDA** | Innovative remote and ground sensors, data and tools into a decision support system for agriculture water management | 36m | **Diego S. Intrigliolo** | **Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas (CSIC) - CEBAS** | **Spain** |
| Daniel Rodriguez | Innovati Servicios Tecnologicos, SL | Spain |
| Pablo J. Zarco-Tejada | Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas (CSIC) - IAS | Spain |
| Simona Consoli | University of Catania | Italy |
| Giancarlo Roccuzzo | Consiglio per la ricerca in agricoltura e l'analisi dell'economia agraria | Italy |
| Elena Mateescu | National Meteorological Administration | Romania |
| Johannes Deelstra | NIBIO, Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research | Norway |
| **MEPROWARE** | Novel Methodology for the Promotion of Treated Wastewater Reuse for Mediterranean Crops Improvement | 24m | **Alfieri Pollice** | **IRSA CNR, Water Research Institute of the National Research Council of Italy** | **Italy** |
| Nicola Lamaddalena | CIHEAM-IAMB, Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Mediterraneennes - Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo di Bari | Italy |
| Gonçalo Rodrigues | ISA LEAF, Instituto Superior de Agronomia - University of Lisbon | Portugal |
| Jorge De las Heras | UCLM, University of Castilla-La Mancha | Spain |
| **MUFFIN** | Multi-Scale Urban Flood Forecasting: From Local Tailored Systems to a Pan-European Service | 36m | **Jonas Olsson** | **Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI)** | **Sweden** |
| Soren Thorndahl | Aalborg University | Sweden |
| Herman Russchenberg | Delft University of Technology | The Netherlands |
| Teemu Kokkonen | Aalto and Helsinki University | Finland |
| **Pioneer\_STP** | The Potential of Innovative Technologies to Improve Sustainability of Sewage Treatment Plants | 36m | **Juan M. Lema** | **University of Santiago de Compostela** | **Spain** |
| Francesco Fatone | University of Verona | Italy |
| Gürkan Sin | Technical University of Denmark | Denmark |
| Elzbieta Plaza | Royal Institute of Technology | Sweden |
| Jose R. Vazquez-Padin | FCC Aqualia | Spain |
| **PROGNOS** | Predicting In-Lake Responses to Change Using Near Real Time Models | 36m | **Donald Pierson** | **Uppsala University** | **Sweden** |
| Eleanor Jennings | Dundalk Institute of Technology | Ireland |
| Elvira de Eyto | Marine Institute | Ireland |
| Erik Jeppesen | Aarhus University | Denmark |
| Raoul-Marie Couture | Norwegian Institute for Water Research - NIVA | Norway |
| Gideon gal | Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research | Israel |
| **SIM** | Smart Irrigation from Soil Moisture Forecast Using Satellite and Hydro-Meteorological Modelling | 36m | **Marco Mancini** | **Politecnico di Milano** | **Italy** |
| Giacomo Branca | Università della Tuscia | Italy |
| Massimo Menenti | Delft University of Technology | The Netherlands |
| Li Jia | RADI-CAS | China |
| Romualdo Romero | University of the Balearic Islands | Spain |
| José A. Sobrino | University of Valencia | Spain |
| Stefania Meucci | Modellistica e Monitoraggio Idrologico | Italy |
| Raffaele Salerno | Meteo Operations Italia - Centro EpsonMeteo | Italy |
| **STEEP STREAMS** | Solid Transport Evaluation and Efficiency in Prevention: Sustainable Techniques of Rational Engineering and Advanced MethodS | 24m | **Aronne A. Armanini** | **Universita' degli Studi di Trento** | **Italy** |
| Giuliano Di Baldassarre | Uppsala Universitet | Sweden |
| Antonio Heleno Cardoso | CEris, IST-ID, Universidade de Lisboa | Portugal |
| **TH.E.R.BIO.R** | Thermal Energy Recovery from a Novel Sequencing Batch Biofilter Granular Reactor | 24m | **Franceisco Javier Batlles Garrido** | **University of Almeria (UAL)** | **Spain** |
| Claudio Di Iaconi | CNR-IRSA National Research Council- Water Research Institute | Italy |
| Ivan Munoz | 2.0.-LCA Consultants | Denmark |
| Inaki Acasuso Perez | Hedera Helix Ingenieria y Biotecnologia S.L. | Spain |
| **watintech** | Smart decentralized water management through a dynamic integration of tecnologies | 36m | **Ignasi Rodriguez-Roda Layret** | **Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)** | **Spain** |
| Teresa de la Torre Garcia | ACCIONA Agua S.A. | Spain |
| Giuseppe Luigi Cirelli | Universita' di Catania (UNICT) | Italy |
| Krist V. Gernaey | Technical University of Denmark (DTU) | Denmark |
| Adrian Oehmen | NOVA.ID. FCT Universidade Nova de Lisboa | Portugal |
| **WE-NEED** | WatEr NEEDs, availability, quality and sustainability | 36m | **Monica Riva** | **Politecnico di Milano** | **Italy** |
| Brian Berkowitz | Weizmann Institute of Science | Israel |
| Susana Loureiro | Universidade de Aveiro | Portugal |
| Daniel Fernandez-Garcia | Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya | Spain |

The funding of these projects involve all 17 Funding Partner Organisations (FPOs) from the 15 different countries participating in the call – with the European Commission participation: Belgium (French-speaking community) (F.R.S.-FNRS), Cyprus (RPF), Denmark (IFD), Estonia (MoE-EE and ETAg), Ireland (EPA), Israel (MoE-IL), Italy (MIUR), Moldova (CIP), Norway (RCN), Portugal (FCT), Romania (UEFISCDI), South Africa (WRC), Spain (MINECO and CDTI), Sweden (FORMAS) and The Netherlands (NWO).

Grants will be awarded to each consortia partner by their national funding organizations according to national rules and procedures. The kick-off of the projects will be scheduled after the conclusion of all national funding procedures and the signature of a Consortium Agreement between the consortia partners.

Call Statistics

A total of 118 pre-proposals were successfully submitted to the Water Works2014 ERA-NET Cofund, the Water JPI 2015 Joint Call. In Table 1 are depicted the key figures in this Two Step Evaluation Process:

**Table 1** – General statistics on the participation level.

|  |
| --- |
| **General Information** |
| Number of submitted pre-proposals | **118** |
| Number of applicants (Coordinators and Partners) | **649** |
| Average number of Partners per Consortium (submitted proposals) | **4.50** |
| Number of registered users in the Linkedin Group | **211** |
| Number of eligible pre-proposals evaluated in Step 1 | **106** |
| Number of full-proposals evaluated in Step 2 | **41** |
| Number of proposals selected for funding | **16** |

A **gender analysis** of the 118 submitted pre-proposals shows a male dominance in the consortia coordination, with around 75% of the pre-proposals being coordinated by male researchers and only 25% by female researchers. This rate decreases when we proceed to the second phase, with 20% of the approved proposals being led by female researchers.

In what concerns the **countries participation** in the call, it was observed that 97% of the submitted pre-proposals involve partners from the funding countries exclusively. The remaining 3% of the pre-proposals include partners from non-funding countries, specifically, China, Canada, Poland and Finland, whose collaboration was based in their own funding (Figure 1).

**Figure 1** – Countries participation in the call, namely funding countries and non-funding countries.

If one analyses the number of partners per country among the submitted pre-proposals, it is observed a strong engagement of partners from Spain, Italy and Portugal, a pattern that is confirmed in the number of Consortia Coordination’s per country, as depicted in Figure 2.

**Figure 2** – Total number of Coordinators and Partners per country, considering the 118 submitted pre-proposals.

Considering the strong participation of Spain, Italy and Portugal in this call, it comes as no surprise that among the 41 pre-proposals selected to proceed to the second phase, the weight of these countries prevail (Figure 3).

**Figure 3** – Total number of Coordinators and Partners per country in the group of 41 pre-proposals selected to proceed to Step 2.

Regarding the **typology of the participating organizations**, we can see in Figure 4 that non-profit organizations are the predominant coordinators/partner’s organization type (93%-80%). Only 20% of the proposals involve partners from private enterprises. This number decreasess in which regards the coordination of pre-proposals. Only 7% of the pre-proposals submitted are coordinated by enterprises.

**Figure 4** – Total number of Coordinators and Partners per organisation type in the group of 118 pre-proposals submitted to Step 1.

Concerning the **financing plan**, the total requested funding in this call amounts to close to €104 million, which corresponds to about 76% of the total costs declared, and to circa of 7 times more when compared to the available funds (€15 million).

**Figure 5** – Financing Plan: Overall requested funding, own contribution and total costs estimated in the group of 118 pre-proposals submitted to the call.

In sync with the strong participation of non-profit organisations in the call, 87% of the total requested funding comes from this type of organizations (Figure 6).

**Figure 6** – Overall requested funding by organization type estimated in the group of 118 pre-proposals submitted to the call.

At the end of Step 1, 41 proposals were selected to advance to Step 2 and submit a full proposal, i.e., about 39% of the eligible pre-proposals proceeded to Step 2.

The analysis of the **distribution of the call topics** shows that the array of topics covered by the 106 eligible pre-proposals and the 41 proposals that advanced to Step 2 follow a similar distribution, as depicted in Figure 7. Topic 1 on *Water Treatment, Reuse, Recycling and Desalination*, had a large dominance over the other Call topics. Although speculative, the fact The Netherlands limited their funding to proposals covering Topic 3, may have been determinant to increase the participation level in this particular topic. Out of the 20 proposals submitted covering Topic 3, 14 had Dutch partners.

****

**Figure 7** – Distribution of Call Topics in the group of submitted pre-proposals and in the group of proposals that advanced to Step 2, namely, Research and Innovation for Developing Technological Solutions and Services: T1. for Water Treatment, Reuse, Recycling and Desalination; T2. for Water Resources Management; T3. to Mitigate Impacts of Extreme Events (Floods and Droughts) at Catchment Scale.

Step 2 was concluded on the 29-30 October 2015. The Evaluation Panel (EP) met in Lisbon and reached a final consensus evaluation of all 41 full-proposals. The distribution of total scores among the 41 proposals is depicted in Figure 8.



Figure 8 – Distribution of total scores among the 41 proposals.

In the group of 14 proposals scored 9, 13 ranked equally (scored 3 in all three evaluation criteria). The EP re-examined these 13 proposals, distinguish them and unanimously recommended for funding 6 proposals ranked in high category. Due to budget limitations, the CSC could only propose 3 proposals within this group.

The shortlist of 16 proposals selected for funding by the CSC, represents about 39% of the 41 full proposals submitted in this Step. The distribution of topics among these 16 proposals is described in Figure 9. It is interesting to observe the balanced distribution of topics among the proposals recommended for funding.

Figure 9 – Distribution of topics among the 41 proposals selected for the second step (left). Distribution of topics among the 16 shortlisted proposals recommended for funding (right).

In Table 2 is presented a summary of the WaterWorks2014 Evaluation Process, specifically, the number of pre and full proposals submitted per country, and the distribution of the proposals recommended for funding.

Table 2 – Summary of the evaluation process of the WaterWorks 2014 Cofunded Call. The last row of the Table includes average percentages based on the number of countries involved (15 countries).



One can observe that all partner countries are presented in the top 16 shortlisted proposals recommended for funding. Considering the total number of proposals submitted to the WW2014 Call (106), we have a success rate of about 15%. The total funding invested in the projects amounts to €13.979.751, including the EC contribution. The efforts made by the funding partners participating in this call guaranteed the maximisation of the allocated EC funds (ca. 4.6 M€).