



ADDITIONAL CALL

**Research on knowledge transfer**

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# Call Announcement

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**Research and development for supporting knowledge transfer, scientific networking, and public engagement based on AquaticPollutants joint transnational projects\*.**

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\*2020 Transfer Project Call on Risks posed to human health and the environment by pollutants and pathogens present in water resources.

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## **2020 Transfer Project Call**

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**Deadline Full proposal: 18 May 2020**



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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Objectives of the ERA-NET Cofund

The overall goal of the proposed ERA-NET Cofund AquaticPollutants is to strengthen the European Research Area (ERA) in the field of clean and healthy aquatic ecosystems and to leverage untapped potential in the collaboration between the freshwater, marine and health research areas. The ERA-NET Cofund AquaticPollutants is a network of 32 ministries, authorities and funding organisations responsible for funding research and innovation projects in the field of clean and healthy aquatic ecosystems from 26 countries.

Within the framework of AquaticPollutants the Joint Programm Initiatives (JPIs) on Water, Oceans and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) are working closely together. A multidisciplinary approach has been set up, which brings together the research needs of the freshwater sector, the marine sector and the health sector to carry out a Joint Transnational Call (JTC) and complementing Additional Activities. This additional call will fund projects that carry out research and development of methods for supporting knowledge transfer, scientific networking, and public engagement based on research funded by the main [Aquatic Pollutants 2020 Joint Transnational Call](#) for Research Projects.

### 1.2. Objectives of the Additional Call

The call will be part of the Aquatic Pollutants ERA-Net Cofund action and fund projects that collaborate with the AquaticPollutants research projects funded in the main call to maximise the transfer of knowledge from research to society. Aligned with the EC policy priorities on open science and open innovation the proposals for the Transfer Project (TP) shall focus research on and development of scientific communication, the uptake of research results by potential end-users and policy makers, and to increase the impact of the funded research among them.

All forms of research action on the environment and health are inter-connected with issues of communication. One can thus view the scientific communication in these areas as in itself representing a crucial part of the research action with a large bearing on society's development when applied in individual decisions and public actions. Hence, it is of great importance to enhance our understanding of how knowledge and action are connected as more knowledge and facts do not automatically result in better decisions. We need more research on this complex process.

All funded scientific projects in AquaticPollutants are unique with regard to their objectives, approaches, geographical location and potential local and/or global impact. But among projects there are certainly commonalities (geographical, thematic, technical on in terms of scope) that may be exploited by the TP. However, the expected multi-national and inter-disciplinary funded projects will provide a challenge to the task of the TP as they face varying values, norms, attitudes and behaviours that need to be factored into citizens' and stakeholders' standpoints. In addition, we process difficult information in a variety of ways, and the social influence to which people are subject to plays a part. It is also important to identify barriers for the transfer of research results into practice and to find ways of overcoming them. Furthermore, the level of awareness for diverse interests and inequalities in power amongst the stakeholders is of interest.

The TP includes as an integral part a scientific theme on the development and evaluation of innovative communication strategies and methods adapted to needs of the funded scientific projects in Aquatic Pollutants. The research should be inter-disciplinary and break new ground compared to what have been seen as conventional studies of (environmental and health research) communication. Its analysis must be innovative and it must inspire new forms of communication practice. The research is expected to be conducted in many fields. Examples are psychology, education, environmental history, philosophy, sociology, political science, engineering and scientific studies, neural science, rhetoric, media and communication science and economics (For more details, see main call text in paragraph 2.2.).

The TP is supposed to network the scientific projects of AquaticPollutants across topics and to connect to other funded projects or activities by Water JPI, JPI AMR, JPI Oceans or other international or national research programmes. The three participating JPIs already implemented several activities dealing with the topics on risk

management, emerging pollutants and antimicrobial resistant bacteria, for example the Water JPI Pilot Call 2013 on emerging contaminants, the Water JPI 2015 call on wastewater treatment and water reuse, the JPI AMR transmission dynamic call 2016, JPI AMR intervention call 2017, the JPI Oceans micro-plastics calls 2015 and 2018 (considering their functions in pollutant migration), the MarTERA calls 2017 and 2019 and the EC research funding programmes (in particular FP7 and H2020). Furthermore, the actions carried out by the NORMAN Network and the COST action NEREUS should be considered. The TP should contribute to increasing the dissemination and transfer activities of the AquaticPollutants projects as a whole.

The most important cross-cutting issues will be identified shortly after the commencement of the scientific projects. Cross-cutting issues of great relevance to practice, industry, policymakers and the general public will be identified and synthesised. The clustering of important issues allows the better transfer of research results.

## 2. Call Description

### 2.1. Strategic aim of the Additional Joint Call

The 2020 ERANet Additional Joint Call within the ERANET Cofund AquaticPollutants aims to address research and development of methods for supporting scientific networking, knowledge transfer and public engagement based on research funded by the main Aquatic Pollutants Cofunded Call for Research Projects

The call is envisaged to support following themes:

- “Research and development of innovative strategies and methods for knowledge transfer, scientific networking, and increased public engagement”
- “Implementation and valorisation of new methods for transfer, communication, and dissemination”

### 2.2. Themes of the Additional Joint Call

#### 1) Research and development of innovative strategies and methods for knowledge transfer, scientific networking, and increased public engagement

- **Development of innovative methods adapted to supporting the transfer of research results of AquaticPollutants projects** –this requires the development of (i) a strategy that presents a novel method on enhancement of the working process; how to contribute to an understanding and improving of knowledge transfer and facts into policy or behavioural changes. (ii) a presentation of methodological development, that enhances Co-design, Co-Creation, Co-production.
- **Analysis of frame conditions** for a successful transfer process of research results (e.g. definition of end-user groups in industry, science, politics or society; timeframes for knowledge transfer activities)
- **Analysis and synthesis of political demands** and research results in the field of emerging pollutants, pathogens and antimicrobial resistance EU wide and beyond. Identify the knowledge gap between policy and the research frontier. All forms of publication should aim at bridging the gap. E.g. science-policy related papers, policy briefs, scientific articles or recommendations on scientific communication.

#### 2) Implementation and valorisation of new methods for transfer, communication, and dissemination

- **Strategic support in the transfer of research results of AquaticPollutants projects** – this requires the development of (i) a comprehensive strategy to summarize, disseminate, exploit and valorise results (concepts, products, innovations etc.) of the projects; (ii) a communication plan that describes concrete measures and activities directed towards various groups of stakeholders; (iii) development of measures to apply research results to international political fora and processes up to G7 summit.
- **Scientific networking with other thematically relevant national, European and possibly international research actors** – thereby consideration of other relevant research in the field of emerging pollutants and health aspects, previous activities of JPI Water, Oceans and AMR in the area and outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Water JPI Conference; consider the work done by the KHCEC
- **Increased involvement of and communication with (i) stakeholders and (ii) citizens** – communication and dialogue of results from research and innovation activities to key decision-makers, the water and health sector and the general public; this may encompass (i) public and administrative sectors, industry, authorities, associations, NGOs and (ii)citizens etc. to ensure the transfer of knowledge and research to decision-making, policy and civil society; development of recommendations and guidelines to influence legislation, regulation and standard-setting;
- **Preparation, implementation of meetings:** such as status seminars as well as discussion forums on overarching issues resulting from the AquaticPollutants projects; i.e. preparation of a session in the World Water Week in 2025 or other international conferences and the Water JPI Conference combining the 3 JPIs in spring 2024 in Sweden
- **Knowledge Transfer:** Based on the methodological approach and impact measurements defined in part 1 of the TP, it is the task of this project to ensure the uptake of knowledge outcomes from the AquaticPollutants projects by respective end-users (case studies) by different means. Mostly results are

achieved towards the project's end, so that the TP with a duration of 48 months exceeds the project duration of the AquaticPollutants scientific projects.

- **Coordination and networking within the funded projects and the ERANet Cofund Activities**- includes the content-related coordination and the identification of important cross-cutting issues among projects; set-up of the Stakeholder Forum;
- **Publication** - Publication of science-policy related papers, scientific articles or recommendations and presenting the AquaticPollutants project on thematically relevant European conferences, workshops or international fora
- **Public Relations** – dissemination measures such as the development and maintenance of a joint website, print material, newsletters, social media channels and other formats.

### 2.3. Expected impact

Tackling societal challenges always requires a transdisciplinary approach. Therefore, **all** proposals should emphasise the effective participation of researchers, stakeholders and end-users (including industry) in TP actions (participatory approaches).

**The expected impact of the 2020 Transfer Project Call is to:**

- Develop and evaluate methods for science communication, knowledge transfer and public engagement
- Enhance innovation capacity and integration and transfer of new knowledge;
- Strengthen the competitiveness and growth of companies by delivering such innovations to the public and private markets, including public administrators (public executive bodies) and civil society organisations;
- Support the development of technological solutions and services for the implementation of EU water policy.
- Support the generation of standardisation/ regulation and the valorisation of research results
- Address explicitly the communication to society (e.g. risk management measures) and dissemination to stakeholders for future implementation (e.g. best practice models)
- Help improving the scientific quality and societal relevance of the produced knowledge, technology and/or innovation in different socio-economic settings.

### 3. Call Structure

#### 3.1. Participating countries

The Funding Partner Organisations (FPOs) listed in Table 1 have agreed to launch the Transfer Project (TP) Joint Call, a transnational and transdisciplinary call for R&I proposals on the topic **“Research and development of methods for supporting scientific networking, knowledge transfer and public engagement based on research funded by AquaticPollutants Cofunded Research Projects”** in February 2020.

The TP projects initiated by this call can apply for funding or will get guidance (see national regulations) from the partner institutions listed in Annex C. The participation of applicants from other countries is allowed, if a national organisation is willing to fund successful national participants. In this case, the commitment of this organisation is to be provided upon submitting the pre-proposal. For more information to eligibility of institutions please see chapter 4.4.

#### 3.2. Financial Commitment

A total of **approx. 1 million Euro** (Table 1) has been provisionally allocated for this call for proposals by the FPOs. These funds will be used for R&I activities carried out by researchers and institutions according to the funding rules and legal frameworks of their respective FPOs.

Partners applying in a consortium cannot request more than their relevant FPO commitment to the Call, as listed in Table 1 (and should comply with national/regional regulations in chapter 4.3 and as listed in Annex C).

The financial commitment of the FPOs for the transfer projects is outlined in Table 1.

**Table 1: AquaticPollutants Transfer Project –FPOs**

| Country/ Region   | Funding Partner Organisation | National Contributions (tentative budget, EURO) |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---|
| France (FR)       | ANR                          | 200.000 €                                       |
| Germany (DE)      | Jülich                       | 750.000 €                                       |
| Sweden (SE)       | SRC                          | 100.000 €                                       |
| <b>TOTAL in €</b> |                              | <b>1.050.000 €</b>                              |

### 3.3. Call Process

The TP call process will be advertised online from the following web pages:

Online Submission Platform <https://aquaticpollutants-transfer.ptj.de>;

Water JPI - [www.waterjpi.eu](http://www.waterjpi.eu); JPI Oceans - [www.jpi-oceans.eu](http://www.jpi-oceans.eu); JPI AMR - [www.jpiamr.eu](http://www.jpiamr.eu).

The application process consists of one step:

The Consortium Coordinator must submit a proposal on behalf of the consortium, providing key data on the proposal. The deadline for the submission of the proposal is **18.05.2020, 17:00 CEST** (Berlin time).

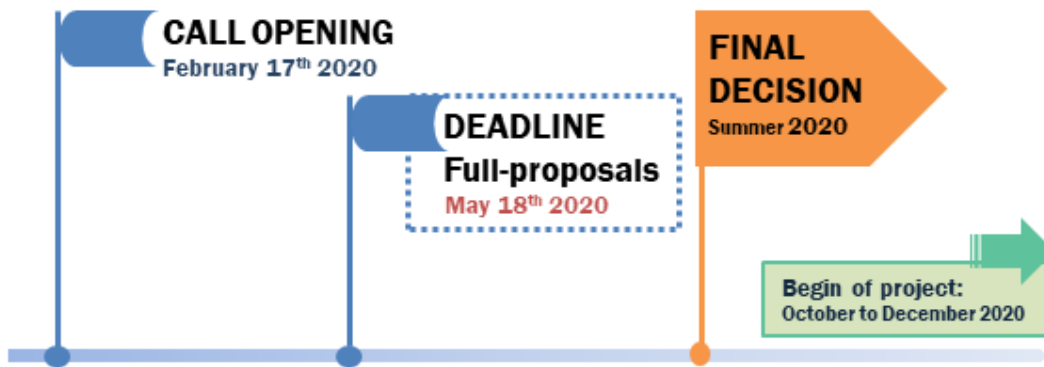


Figure 1: TP application process

The Annexes of this document provide the contact information of the National Contact Points (NCP) in each participating country/region and the national regulations. It is recommended that each partner in a consortium contacts his/her NCP(s) to be informed about the rules in his/her country/region prior to submission of a pre-proposal and a full proposal.

### 3.4. Dates and deadlines

| Time Schedule of the TP Call |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 30 March 2020                | Webinar to clarify procedures with NCPs and Call Secretariat                      |
| 16 April 2020 (17:00 CEST)   | Deadline submission of the TP proposals   |
| 18 May 2020 (17:00 CEST)     | Update: due to the Corona pandemia we will postpone the deadline of full proposal |
| Summer 2020                  | Notification to applicants by Call Secretariat                                    |
| October to December 2020     | Start of Transfer Project   |

### 3.5. Confidentiality & Conflict of interest

Research plans (proposals), abstracts, and evaluation statements are confidential documents. Proposal documents are therefore handled and stored with due care and confidentiality.



AquaticPollutants consortium and its Call Secretariat ensures complete confidentiality to applicants during the evaluation process, i.e. the proposals will only be available to the national/regional funding organisations and the mandated experts responsible for the evaluation of the proposal. Experts appointed for the evaluation will sign a confidentiality agreement and will be asked to declare any conflict of interest. The proposals will be handled by the AquaticPollutants Call Secretariat. Each of the funding organizations will subsequently handle projects approved for funding. Accordingly, national law will govern. Projects approved for funding will be governed by the confidentiality rules in the national law of the funding organisations.

The publishable information of the projects selected for funding as listed in section 3.6 will be published at the end of the call process.

### **3.6. Publishable Information**

A list of the funded projects will be published at the end of the call process (once the projects have been selected). Therefore applicants should be aware that the following information from the proposals may be published by AquaticPollutants and FPOs for promotional purposes: (1) Project Title and Project Acronym, (2) Publishable abstract, (3) Duration of the project, (4) Total costs and total funding of the research project, (5) Organisation name and country of each partner, (5) Name of the Project Coordinator.

### **3.7. Privacy Policy**

The Online Submission Tool provides information about the Privacy Policy. By submitting the application, the Consortium Coordinator and partners agree to the use, the share (for specific purposes: e.g. evaluation, for future nomination of experts, AquaticPollutants' specific communication) and the storage of the information according to the Privacy Policy and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Further information on [Privacy Policy](#) is presented on the Online Submission Platform and the according JPI Websites.

## 4. Eligibility criteria

Partners should note that the general eligibility criteria (4.1) and the national regulations (4.2) are decisive for the evaluation step. Before submitting an application, the Consortium Coordinator should verify that all partners of the consortium have read their corresponding national/regional regulations. Coordinators and project partners must be aware that national funding agencies require the submission of national documents in addition to the international proposal.

**Proposals, which do not meeting all 2020 Transfer Project Call general eligibility criteria, will be declined without further review. Non-eligibility of a partner applying for funding in a proposal may cause the rejection of the entire proposal without further review.**

**Proposals passing** the eligibility check will be forwarded to the evaluators for assessment. The Call Secretariat (CS), on behalf of the Call Steering Committee (CSC), will communicate the results of the eligibility check and the decisions taken to the coordinator of each consortium.

### 4.1. General eligibility check

The general eligibility criteria are summarized in Table 2. In the case of not fulfilling these requirements, the proposal will not be considered for funding

Please be aware that partners from countries/regions participating in the call must also meet the national criteria as outlined in the national regulations.

**Table 2: General Eligibility Criteria**


|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Scope</b>                  | Topics of the proposals must be <b>in the scope</b> of the 2020 Transfer Project Call.  |
|                               | Proposals have to address <b>both topics</b> .  |
| <b>Consortium composition</b> | Each consortium must be composed of eligible independent entities from <b>at least one partner of the countries and according FPOs involved in this Call</b> . The maximum number of partners from the same country within the consortium should comply with national/regional regulations.   |
|                               | In each proposal, one of the entities must act as the Consortium Coordinator who has the responsibility for submitting the proposal.<br><br>A Consortium Coordinator can only participate <b>in one proposal</b> of either a scientific project (AquaticPollutants Joint Transnational Call) or a Transfer Project.   |
|                               | Researchers from FPOs participating at the AquaticPollutants ERA-Net Cofund consortium or affiliated institutions <b>cannot apply</b> to this Call.   |
| <b>Duration</b>               | Project duration must be a maximum of <b>48 months</b> .  |
| <b>Submission</b>             | Proposals must be received <b>before the deadlines</b> .<br><br>The proposal must be submitted correctly and completely before the respective deadlines via the Submission Tool ( <a href="https://aquaticpollutants-transfer.ptj.de">https://aquaticpollutants-transfer.ptj.de</a> ) according to the Application procedure (Chapter 6) and the Guidelines for Proposal Submission (published on the Submission Tool website). Applicants should note that failure to comply with the submission rules will cause ineligibility of the project and therefore exclusion from the application process. |
|                               | Proposals must be <b>written in English</b> .   |

## 4.2. National/regional eligibility criteria

In addition to the general eligibility criteria, each project partner must ensure that his/her contribution to the overall project conforms to:

- Where applicable, relevance of the proposal to the topic(s)/subtopic(s) of national/regional programmes and strategies;
- Compliance with national/regional funding criteria and regulations; and
- Compliance with limits to budget requests.

The table in Annex C describes important restrictions related to each national/regional regulations.

An empty cell means that no specific rules apply to this criterion. ATTENTION!  means that you need to check the corresponding national/regional regulations available on the online Submission Platform. Eligibility of international research institutions

The following eligibility rules count for international research institutions:

- **The Joint Research Centre (JRC)** can participate in a proposal as a partner. Coordinating the proposal is not possible, since they do not “belong” to any FPO country. They will have to participate at their own expenses (as in Framework Programmes and H2020) (they are not, as stated above, an eligible institution for any of the FPOs). They will not count in the "eligible entities" rule from the FPOs for eligibility purposes.
- **Partners from countries not participating in the Call** may join consortia (as non-coordinator), but participation will be at the institutions' own expense. Moreover, such partners will have to demonstrate in the proposal that they will achieve the related tasks.
- **International institutions**, e.g. UN institutions, need to investigate their respective national eligibility guidelines for national and/or global funding.

## 5. Recommendations of project proposals

### Scope

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- Proposals should go beyond the state of the art by providing high quality R&I, and when appropriate, to make use of innovative technologies, approaches and concepts to do so;
- Proposals should consider on-going research activities funded by other instruments, programmes or projects. Cooperation with these activities is of high importance;
- Proposals should consider and incorporate as appropriate cross-cutting issues, such as socio-economic and/or capacity development.
- Collaboration with the parallel running AquaticPollutants scientific projects during execution is encouraged.

### Consortium composition

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- Partners who are not eligible for funding may participate at their own expense or if they have their own separate source of funding (self-funded project partners). The applicants have to prove (letter of intent/commitment) the willingness to self-fund their own activities or the willingness of other partners to fund their own activities. They have to follow the rules given in this Call Announcement and have to be part of the consortium agreement. However, they cannot coordinate a project. They are not considered in the minimum requirement of eligible partners and countries in the eligibility criteria.
- It is encouraged but not compulsory to involve stakeholders (i.e. small and medium enterprises (SMEs), industries, authorities, public administrations, associations, as well as civil society organisations) as partner or associated partner. The modalities of participation of stakeholders are defined in the national regulations.
- All proposals shall integrate the [gender dimension](#) of R&I activities.

### Budget

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The requested total budget for proposals should be around 1 M€. - The requested budget of proposals is limited by the budget of each partner. **Please consider the national regulations of each FPO with regard to the specific budget limitations.**

## 6. Application procedures

A one-step application procedure will be used in this Transfer Project Call. Proposals must be submitted electronically via a specifically designed web platform, the Submission Tool (<https://aquaticpollutants-transfer.ptj.de>), using the provided templates. The link to the Submission Tool will be made available on the official website of the 3 JPIs.

### 6.1. Online Submission System

The submission of a proposal is mandatory; it is not possible to enter the application procedure at a later stage. The information given in the proposal will be used to check for eligibility and to evaluate the proposal.

1. The project coordinator creates an account on the Submission Platform.
2. The coordinator can enter, edit and save the electronic forms, add partners to the consortium, upload the project description and submit the proposal. Partners can enter and edit their own data only.
3. It is possible to update and submit as many times as estimated necessary the proposal until the submission deadline (**16 April 2020, 17:00 CEST**).

No other document is accepted at this stage. Nevertheless, the participating funding organisations may require additional documents according to their national/organisational regulations, but these issues shall be handled directly with the respective participating funding organisation.

For any technical questions regarding the submission, please contact the AquaticPollutants Call Secretariat.

When applying, keep in mind that the submission system will close at **17:00 CEST** of the deadline date. However, the CS can only ensure responses to email support requests up to **13:00 CEST**. The respective email contacts by the CS, NCPs and JPI secretariats are listed in this document (Annexes C and D).

Please note, that partners also need to submit an application directly to their respective national/regional FPOs, justifying funding requests and describing the work they propose to develop within a consortium. For further details about these procedures and schedule, please consult the national/regional regulations and/or your NCP. Failure to do so will result in disqualifying the partner in question and will invalidate the full proposal submission.

### 6.2. Further considerations

Applicants should also take into consideration the following advice:

- All Partners and the Consortium Coordinator must comply with the applicable national and EU rules and legal provisions, for instance as regards competition and EU State aid rules, environment, utilisation of genetic resources, equal opportunity and gender, and public contracting whenever applicable.
- The evaluation criteria need to be considered, and the proposal elaborated accordingly.
- Plan and complete the application process as soon as possible in order to avoid an eventual overload of the system by the deadline and ensure the opportune support by the CS or the NCPs in case of need;
- The financial plan and allocation of resources (table available in the electronic submission system and filled in by the Consortium Coordinator following the instructions given by all Partners) should be coherent with the work plan proposed. Funding requests, which are not adequately justified, may affect the evaluation score given to the proposal.

### 6.3. Ethical Issues

Ethical issues are taken into account in the scientific evaluation of proposals and when making the funding decisions. Applicants should always describe any relevant ethical aspects in their research plans. If a research permit or a statement by an ethics committee is required for the implementation of the project, applicants should provide information on the permits or permit proposals.

Any proposal which seems to contravene fundamental ethical principles will not be selected, and may be excluded from the evaluation and selection procedure. Judgment of the significance of ethical issues will be made by using the criteria published by the Commission in its [guidelines for the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme](#).

## 7. Evaluation of Proposals

### 7.1. Evaluation Procedures

Proposals that are submitted correctly and within the deadline will be checked for eligibility against criteria defined in chapter 4 by the Call Secretariat and according to national/regional criteria (see national regulations) at a national/regional level.

All eligible proposals will be subject to a scientific evaluation by external evaluators based on three criteria - ‘**Excellence**’, ‘**Impact**’ and ‘**Quality and Efficiency of Implementation**’ (see Table 3). All proposals will be reviewed by at least **three EP members** (with experience in the domain of the relevant proposal). Each expert is independent of any funding organisation involved in this call and the Call Steering Committee (CSC) will ensure that no **Conflict of Interest** exists concerning the proposal evaluated.

A ranked list of proposals will be produced based on the final scores given to the aforementioned criteria.

The **final ranking list** will be forwarded to the CSC which will meet to decide on the project to be funded. For this decision, the CSC will take into account the order of the ranking list and the funding availability. The applicants will be informed about the final outcome of the call.

The Call Secretariat will be the contact point for the reviewers throughout the evaluation period and will assist them during evaluation.

### 7.2. Evaluation criteria

If the proposal is within the scope of the call, the following scoring system will be applied. The evaluation is based on the following award review criteria:

Table 3: Evaluation criteria

| Excellence  | Impact  | Implementation   |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Threshold: 3/5</b>   | <b>Threshold: 3/5</b>   | <b>Threshold: 3/5</b>  |
| <p><b>1.1 Relevance to the AquaticPollutants Thematic themes</b></p> <p><b>1.2 Qualification, scientific expertise and transfer experience of the consortium</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the participants in the proposal well-suited and committed to the tasks assigned to them (necessary expertise)?</li> <li>- Do the participants adequately complement each other?</li> </ul> <p><b>1.3 Quality of the concept in terms of analysis, synthesis and networking including trans-disciplinary considerations.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the profile of the proposal a clear transfer and impact-oriented one?</li> </ul> | <p><b>2.1 Extent of transfer and cross-cutting issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the methodology to support for the transfer of research results and knowledge of the funding initiative clearly outlined?</li> <li>- Does the proposal produce additional knowledge, innovative solutions and cross-cutting issues for the funding initiative?</li> </ul> <p><b>2.2 Extent to which the activities and exploitation and/or dissemination plans are adequate to ensure optimal use of own results and results of the funding initiative.</b></p> | <p><b>3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, the consortium, the management structures and procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the proposed organization and management of the transfer project effective and efficient?</li> <li>- Are the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management, appropriate?</li> <li>- Are the resources assigned to the work packages in line with their objectives and deliverables?</li> </ul> |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p><b>1.4 Innovation level (progress beyond the state of the art)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the proposal contributing and/or increasing the advance of the S&amp;T knowledge?</li> <li>- Does the proposal take scientific and/or technological risk? Does the proposal have a potential breakthrough despite this risk-taking?</li> </ul> <p><b>1.5 Quality of the S/T approach and methodology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the proposal objectives clear, feasible, suitable and focused especially with regard to methods and management of scientific risks?</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the effectiveness of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate own results and those of the funding initiatives clearly outlined?</li> <li>- Is there consistency of the exploitation plan in terms of expected results, application potential and implementation concepts to achieve European and international awareness of the topic and outreach to the users?</li> </ul> | <p><b>3.2 Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the tasks well balanced among partners?</li> </ul> <p><b>3.3 Appropriateness of the allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment ...)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the estimated costs appropriate?</li> <li>- Is it ensured that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role?</li> <li>- Do the work and financial plan plus the time schedule show prospects for success?</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Overall score Threshold: 10/15</b></p>   |  |  |

### 7.3. Scoring System

Evaluation scores will be awarded globally for each of the three criteria, but not at the level of the sub-criteria. The sub-criteria are issues which the expert should consider in the assessment of that criterion. They also act as reminders of issues to rise later during the evaluation of the proposal. Each criterion will be scored out of 5 (no half-marks allowed).

The scores indicate the following with respect to the criterion under examination:

**0 – LIMITED** - 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.

The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. **The overall threshold**, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be **10**.

Evaluators will identify strengths and weaknesses (if any) for each criterion and provide context for their comments based on the application, i.e. evaluators will be asked to score proposals as they were submitted,

rather than on their potential if certain changes were to be made. When an evaluator identifies substantial shortcomings, he/she must reflect this by awarding a lower score for the criterion concerned. There should be consistency between the numerical scores and written comments.

The following approach will be applied for every group of proposals with the same scoring, and which require prioritisation:

- If a distinction still cannot be made, the CSC may decide to approve additional factors. These factors will be documented in the Evaluation Report.

**NOTE:** No appeal can be brought to challenge the evaluation results or decisions of the CSC.

#### **7.4. Funding recommendation**

Based on the ranking lists of the proposals described above, the Transfer Project will be recommended for national/organisational funding by the CSC.

Formal funding decisions are made by the participating funding organisations. **The funding recommendation is irrevocable and therefore no redress procedure is possible.**



## 8. Project funding and reporting

### 8.1. Negotiation of grant agreements

After a positive funding recommendation, the outcome of this process will be communicated by the CS to the Consortium Coordinator, who will then have to inform the project partners. The project partners must directly contact their NCP in order to start the contract negotiation and accomplish the remaining steps until the Transfer Project can start.

The Consortium Coordinator is responsible for synchronising the project start with his/her partners.

Each funding organisation will fund its own national/regional partner(s) within the project (funding of project partners is provided by the participating funding programmes according to applicable national/organisational funding rules).

Applicants are therefore strongly advised to consider the national regulations published in Annex C of this document.

### 8.2. Consortium Agreement

A successful consortium should negotiate the Consortium Agreement **before commencement of the project**. This should address matters such as the regulation of intellectual property rights, decision making and actions to be taken in the event of unsatisfactory performance by one or more partners. In some countries/regions, such an agreement might be required for release of the funds. Applicants have to obey national/organisational regulations (national regulations) regarding this issue. Support for the preparation of a Consortium Agreement can be found on the DESCA webpage <http://www.desca-2020.eu/>.

Upon request, this consortium agreement must be made available to the concerned funding organisations.

### 8.3. Project Reporting

In addition to the reporting required by the national/organisational rules, a Consortium Coordinator will be required to submit a **Mid-term Progress Report and a Final Report** (and certain deliverables needed to monitor the progress) to the CSC according to common templates which will be provided. All partners will have to deliver input for these reports. The monitoring will be conducted during the life span of the project.

Funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of the Transfer Project include a proper acknowledgement of AquaticPollutants, Water JPI, JPI Oceans, JPI AMR and the respective FPOs.

In addition, each project partner must comply with the reporting requirements of its respective national FPOs.

More information on the monitoring and reporting procedures will be provided to a coordinator that is recommended for funding.

### 8.4. Dissemination and communication

AquaticPollutants will organise a minimum of three events for the projects funded in the frame of the present call (see Table 4). Relevant stakeholders will be invited to these events. Funded projects should dedicate appropriate resources for dissemination activities including for participation in activities organised by AquaticPollutants.

**Table 4: Meetings of AquaticPollutants**

| Events  | Participants  | When        | Where |
|---|---|-------------|-------|
| AquaticPollutants Kick-off meeting of the scientific projects of the Joint Transnational Call | Coordinators and partners of funded projects, stakeholders, CSC | Spring 2021 | tbc   |
| AquaticPollutants Mid-term Meeting  | Coordinators of funded projects, CSC, stakeholders              | Autuum 2022 | tbc   |
| AquaticPollutants Final Meeting   | Coordinators and partners of funded projects, stakeholders, CSC | Spring 2024 | tbc   |

### Dissemination

Dissemination of project results is essential and the dissemination plan should propose communication routes such as scientific papers, posters, courses or training material, web based tools, workshops or direct intervention towards end users and the policy, economy and society as a whole.

Dissemination to national end-users is necessary in all partner countries. A dissemination plan will be requested for the proposal and should specify how the planned activities will contribute to the impact of the project.

### Open Access and Open Data

The optimisation of the impact of publicly-funded research is of fundamental importance to improve conditions to i) minimise the time spent searching for information and accessing it, ii) be able to speed up scientific progress, and iii) make it easier to cooperate across and beyond the EU.

Open Access requirements for all publications produced by the 2020 Transfer Project Call will support Green Open Access (immediate or delayed open access provided through self-archiving), or Gold Open Access (immediate open access provided by a publisher for the most important outputs). In the case of Green Open Access, partners will (as soon as possible and at the latest on publication) deposit a machine-readable electronic copy of the published version or final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication in a repository for scientific publications. In addition, partners will ensure open access to the deposited publication and bibliographic metadata.

In case of any Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issue for some project data and products the consortium may decide to go for Opt Out Option and cover this within the project consortium agreement.

In case of any IPR issue, the project consortium can go for Opt Out Option before or after the signature of the consortium agreement (thereby freeing themselves from the associated obligations) on the following grounds:

- Incompatibility with the need for confidentiality in connection with security issues;
- Incompatibility with rules on protecting personal data;
- If there are other legitimate reasons not to provide open access to research data.

Depending on the funding rules of the FPOs, the costs related to the implementation of these provisions are eligible for reimbursement during the duration of the grant. A proposal will not be evaluated more favourably if the consortium agrees to share its research data, or will it be penalised if it opts-out.

The funded Transfer Project will be requested to submit metadata to the **AquaticPollutants Open Data Contact Point** on all the data resources directly generated by the project, as well as additional information on how these data will be exploited, if and how data will be made accessible for verification and re-use, and how it will be curated and preserved. Metadata and additional information will be made publicly available via the JPI websites. All specific information and procedures on this issue will be provided on the JPIs website.

Regarding access and benefit, sharing of genetic resources is required for the implementation of the project, applicants shall provide information on the permits or permit proposals to the public.

## A. GLOSSARY

### **2020 Transfer Project Call**

Call for proposals of Transfer Project.

### **AquaticPollutants**

ERA-NET project supported by the European Commission in the frame of Horizon 2020.

### **ERA-NET**

It is an instrument under Horizon 2020 designed to support public-public partnerships in their preparation, establishment of networking structures, design, implementation and coordination of joint activities as well as topping up single Joint Transnational Calls and actions of a transnational nature.

### **AquaticPollutants Call Secretariat**

The Aquaticpollutants Call Secretariat, hosted by Projektträger Jülich, Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH, Germany, is the central contact point for applicants regarding all technical and general issues of the submission.

### **Associated Partner**

All institutions or persons who do not apply for or are not eligible for funding from FPOs, may join an application if they are interested in the research results or see an added value joining the project. They can participate in a project as associated partners, but have to pay for their own participation and receive no financial support from the funding organizations involved. Associated Partner don't belong formally to the project consortium.

### **Call Steering Committee (CSC)**

The Call Steering Committee (CSC) will be composed of one representative per participating funding organisations and will be the decision-making body in the framework of this call.

### **Consortium/Consortia**

Transnational group(s) of partners, submitting collaborative proposals.

### **Consortium Coordinator (CC)**

Coordinator of the transnational collaborative proposal. Coordinates the submission of the proposal prepared by the partners to the Transfer Project Call online submission system, represents the Consortium before the CSC and the CS and, if funded, is responsible for the internal project management.

### **Funding Partner Organisation (FPO)**

Ministries and authorities contributing financially to the call.

### **National Contact Point (NCP)**

Each participating Funding Partner Organisation in this call has nominated NCP(s) to provide information on national/regional funding rules and procedures. It is required that each partner in a consortium contacts his/her NCP prior to the submission of proposals.

### **Principal Investigator (PI)**

Researcher/Leader of the research team of an applicant organisation/institution.

### **Project costs**

The total sum of all eligible costs that are necessary for the implementation of the foreseen project. Regarding the conditions for eligibility of costs please contact your NCP.

### **Self-funded project partner**

Project partners who are not eligible for funding may participate at their own expense or if they have their own separate source of funding. The applicants have to prove (letter of intent/commitment) the willingness to self-












fund their own activities or the willingness of other partners to fund their own activities. They have to follow the rules given in this Call Announcement and be part of the consortium agreement.

## **B. COMPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION**

- Guidelines for proposal submission
- National/regional regulations (including National Contact Points)

All documents are available for download: Online Submission Platform: <https://aquaticpollutants-transfer.ptj.de>

### C. NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS (NCP) AND NATIONAL FUNDING REGULATIONS

| Country      | Funding Partner Organisation (FPO) | National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)     |  | NOT Funding All Themes and Sub-Topics   | Limits on Requested Budget per proposal   | All types of partners are eligible for funding                                      | Different rules apply for different types of institutions                           | Partners need to submit documentation to their FPO                                  |
|--------------|------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|
|              |                                    | Name                                      | Email address  |   |   |   |   |   |
| Germany (DE) | Jülich                             | Stefanie Pietsch<br>Sabine Sorge          | <a href="mailto:ptj-aquapollut_call@fz-juelich.de">ptj-aquapollut_call@fz-juelich.de</a>   |   |  |   |  |  |
| France (FR)  | ANR                                | Tristan LESCURE                           | <a href="mailto:tristan.lescore@anr.fr">tristan.lescore@anr.fr</a>   |  |  |  |  |   |
| Sweden (SE)  | SRC                                | Patriq Fagerstedt<br>Anna Maria Fleetwood | <a href="mailto:Patriq.Fagerstedt@vr.se">Patriq.Fagerstedt@vr.se</a><br><a href="mailto:anna.maria.fleetwood@vr.s">anna.maria.fleetwood@vr.s</a> |  |  |  |   |  |

## D. 2020 TRANSFER PROJECT CALL SECRETARIAT AND RELATED CONTACT DETAILS

| Contact details                                     |   |
|---|---|
| <b>AquaticPollutants Call Secretariat</b>           |   |
| Stefanie Pietsch                                    | Project Management Jülich<br>s.pietsch@fz-juelich.de  |
| Sabine Sorge  | Project Management Jülich<br>s.sorge@fz-juelich.de  |
| <b>AquaticPollutants Online Submission Platform</b> |   |
| Uwe Selig   | Project Management Jülich<br>u.selig@fz-juelich.de  |
| Christian Stolle                                    | Project Management Jülich<br>c.stolle@fz-juelich.de   |
| Submission Platform                                 | <a href="https://aquaticpollutants-transfer.ptj.de">https://aquaticpollutants-transfer.ptj.de</a><br><a href="mailto:ptj-aquapollut.call@fz-juelich.de">ptj-aquapollut.call@fz-juelich.de</a> |
| <b>AquaticPollutants - Open Data Contact Point</b>  |   |
| Larissa Vargas                                      | Agence Nationale de la Recherche<br><a href="mailto:waterpicommunication@agencerecherche.fr">waterpicommunication@agencerecherche.fr</a>  |
| <b>JPI Websites</b>                                 |   |
| Water JPI   | <a href="http://www.waterjpi.eu/">http://www.waterjpi.eu/</a>   |
| JPI Oceans  | <a href="http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/">http://www.jpi-oceans.eu/</a>   |
| JPI AMR   | <a href="https://www.jpiamr.eu/">https://www.jpiamr.eu/</a>   |