



# BlueBio 3<sup>rd</sup> Additional Call Targeted Announcement

Open to organisations already participating in a BlueBio project, and funded by one of funding organisations that are taking part in this call

**Published 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

*Amendment 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023*

"Amplifying project reach and knowledge impact"



Co-funded by the European Commission  
within the Horizon 2020 programme

**Project no:** 817992  
**Project title:** ERA-NET Cofund on Blue Bioeconomy (BlueBio) – Unlocking the Potential of Aquatic Bioresources  
**Instrument:** ERA-NET Cofund Actions  
**Project Start date:** 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018

## Table of Contents

1	Background of the Third Additional BlueBio Call .....	2
1.1	BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund .....	2
1.2	Objectives of BlueBio network .....	2
2	Participation in the Call and Funding Models .....	3
3	Call Scope and Priority Area .....	6
3.1	Dissemination of research and results (DISS).....	6
3.2	Training, exchange and capacity building (TECB) .....	6
3.3	Business and commercialisation preparation (BCOM).....	6
3.4	Mapping of relevant policy landscape (MPOL) .....	7
3.5	Barriers to commercialisation pathway (BARR) .....	7
4	Funding Details .....	8
5	Call Secretariat.....	8
6	Dates and Deadlines .....	8
7	Application – General Eligibility Criteria.....	9
8	Submission of Proposal .....	9
8.1	Project Manager .....	10
8.2	Required information to be entered in the submission tool.....	10
9	Eligibility Check for Funding .....	11
10	Evaluation of Proposals .....	11
11	Selection of Proposals .....	13
12	Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest .....	13
13	Contract Conditions (for funded projects) .....	13
13.1	Terms of Participation .....	13
13.2	Contractual Relationships.....	13
13.3	Funding Contracts.....	14
13.4	Consortium Agreement .....	14
13.5	Intellectual Property Rights, Use and Access to Results and Data .....	14
13.6	Start Date.....	14
13.7	Project Monitoring and Reporting .....	15
13.8	Dissemination Requirements .....	15
13.9	Publishable Data.....	15
14	Annexes .....	16
14.1	ANNEX 1 : NATIONAL/ REGIONAL CONTACTS .....	16
14.2	ANNEX 2: NATIONAL REGULATIONS/NATIONAL FACTSHEETS .....	17

# 1 Background of the Third Additional BlueBio Call

## 1.1 BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund

The ERA-NET Cofund on Blue Bioeconomy - Unlocking the Potential of Aquatic Bioresources (BlueBio) successfully continues the work of the ERA-NET Marine Biotechnology<sup>1</sup> (ERA-MBT, 2012 - 2017) and COFASP<sup>2</sup> (2012-2017) and was developed under the umbrella of JPI Oceans.

The ERA-NET Cofund instrument under Horizon 2020 is designed to support public-public partnerships between Member States (MS) and associated countries for the implementation and coordination of networking activities. The BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund launches calls for proposals and related activities.

BlueBio consists of a network of 32 partners from 17 European countries.

## 1.2 Objectives of BlueBio network

BlueBio aims to achieve a sustainable and competitive blue bioeconomy in Europe with the following objectives:

- knowledge generation for blue bioeconomy value chains,
- improvements to the transfer of bio-based products and services from research, innovation and demonstration to production scale through implementation of a multi-actor approach.

The BlueBio Cofund contributes to the production of safe, nutritious and valuable bio-products and services, applying the food first principle. To do this, BlueBio launches calls to attract projects on the use and added value of aquatic biomass (freshwater and marine) in integrated value chains from primary production to processing, generating innovative products and services within the bioeconomy. The biomass may be caught, harvested or produced in water or on land. To promote the circular economy concept, the use of production waste as a resource should be strongly considered, as well as the consequences of any new method or product from the wider value chain perspective. Gaps along the blue bioeconomy value chain(s) (Figure 1) have been identified and have been addressed in BlueBio funding calls.

By establishing a coordinated R&D funding scheme, BlueBio contribute to the development of research-based innovations and will strengthen Europe's position in the Blue Bioeconomy in the global market. This approach is building on the overlapping needs identified by the strategic work of the Marine Biotechnology Strategic Research and Innovation Roadmap developed by ERA-MBT, the Strategic Research Agenda of COFASP, and the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda of JPI Oceans.

Stimulation of new R&I, synergies and collaboration with industries (off-shore and land-based) will be sought, in particular with SMEs. This should include improvements in the integration of the biotechnology toolbox and knowledge within industrial sectors.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.marinebiotech.eu/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cofasp.eu/>

## R&I areas along the value chains – From biomass to products and markets

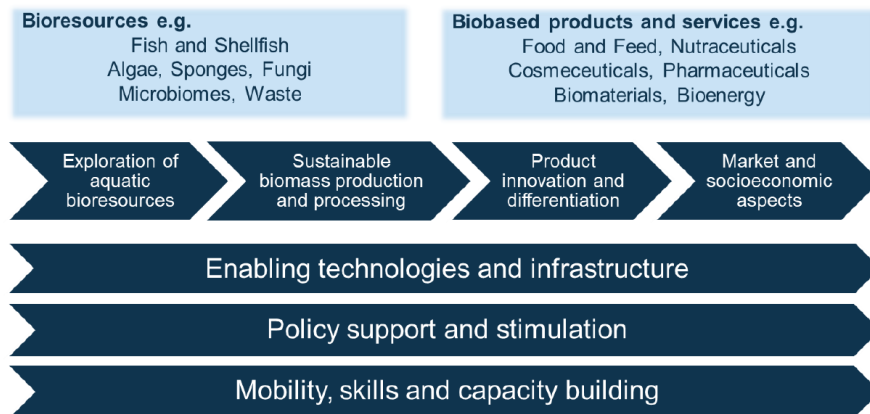


Figure 1. Blue Bioeconomy R&I areas along the value chains from biomass to products and markets, showing crosscutting R&I areas in lower part of the figure.

## 2 Participation in the Call and Funding Models

The following partners are providing funding for this 3rd additional call: Croatia, Iceland, Ireland, Malta, and Norway.

This call is open to organisations that are part of any project consortium that is currently funded by the BlueBio ERA-Net Cofund (refer to Table 1) and that are funded by one of the above-mentioned BlueBio partners that are providing funding to this 3<sup>rd</sup> additional call.

**Applications are limited to one per country per BlueBio project, and one priority area per application.** For example, if there are 3 partners from Norway in the same project, only one application for that project from Norway is allowed. However, if there are also partners from Ireland in the same project, another application for funding under a different priority area may be submitted from an Irish partner.

Each application should address only one of the priority areas listed in Section 3 entitled *Call Scope and Priority Area*. Applications should be submitted by one partner in the BlueBio project consortium, as the project manager for the proposal. The participation of applicants (e.g. other partners from existing BlueBio project) not requesting funding is allowed and these must be referred to as ‘Associate Partners’.

Please note, while the maximum funding per application is €20k, with two exceptions:

1. Maximum funding for Croatian applicants is €10k (see National Regulations)
2. If two BlueBio projects would like to cooperate on a priority area, they may provide a joint application. In that case they could apply to different, or the same funding organisations, depending on who are funding the project partners responsible for the application. For example, if two projects have Icelandic partners who wish to cooperate, they could apply to the same funding organisation (i.e. RANNIS). In this case, the maximum funding received for a joint project is €30k.

Successful applicants will receive the grant directly from their national/regional funding institution in accordance with their terms and conditions.

**Applicants should be aware that the national funding organisations participating in this call may have different administrative rules. Therefore, applicants are strongly advised to consider the National Regulations/National Factsheets published in Annex 2 of this document. Applicants should contact their national or regional funding bodies prior to submission of the proposal for further information (Annex 1).**

The list of funded projects from previous BlueBio calls that are eligible to receive funding through this 3<sup>rd</sup> additional call, and their respective funding organisations that take part in this call are presented in Table 1. For the two projects that do not have national funders taking part in this call (CASEAWA and MedSpon), it will be possible for participation in this call through a joint project with a project that does have a funder. In particular, the Research Council of Norway would fund €30K to eligible joint projects, if scored highly in evaluation, between CASEAWA or MedSpon partners and a Norwegian partner from another BlueBio project. The one proposal rule will apply for these two projects.

Applicants will get guidance from the Call Secretariat and the National Contacts of the BlueBio consortium listed in Annex 1. All documents related to the Call (Call Announcement, National Contact Persons etc.) are available on [www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu).

**Table 1. BlueBio ERA-Net funded projects eligible to receive funding through this call (alphabetically sorted per call). X indicates the countries that are providing funding for this call relative per project.**

	<b>Acronym</b>	<b>CROATIA HRZZ</b>	<b>ICELAND RANNIS</b>	<b>IRELAND MI</b>	<b>MALTA MCST</b>	<b>NORWAY RCN</b>
<b>COFUNDED CALL</b>	AquaHeal3D					X
	AquaHealth					X
	AquaTech4Feed			X	X	
	BESTBROOD					X
	BIOSHELL					X
	BIOZOOSTAIN		X			
	BlueCC					X
	CASEAWA					
	DIGIRAS					X
	ImprovAFish			X		X
	InEVal			X		X
	MARIKAT		X			
	MedSpon					
	MINERVA		X	X		
	PlastiSea					X
	RASbiome					X
	SIDESTREAM					X
	SNAP					X
SuReMetS				X	X	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> ADDITIONAL CALL</b>	BlueBioChain		X		X	
	MARIGREEN					X
	Microalgae In IT		X			
	MuMiFaST	X		X		X
	PROFIUS		X		X	X
	QualiSea		X			X
	SMARTCHAIN		X			X
	SuMaFood					X
	TACO ALGAE		X			X
	TraceMyFish		X			X
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> ADDITIONAL CALL</b>	BIVALVI			X		X
	BIORAS_SHRIMP				X	X
	BlueGreenFeed		X			X
	EuFish_SustainableGrowth		X		X	
	ImPrESsiVE			X		X
	RightFish		X			X
	Seasoil	X		X		X

### **3 Call Scope and Priority Area**

#### **3.1 Dissemination of research and results (DISS)**

To ensure that scientific research and results have impact at social, economic and policy levels (i.e. they reach potential users and help progress the field), it is necessary to have effective dissemination and communication strategies. Having impact and reach for your project means finding the right audience which could be the public, policy makers, researchers, industry or others. Each of these groups find information using different channels and media, so it is vital that the appropriate medium/activity is used. Although funded research projects consider the audience and communication methods/activities to be used during the proposal stage, it is highly likely that both of these areas will evolve as the project progresses. There are a variety of different and cost-effective methods to increase dissemination of knowledge of research findings, thereby maximising impact.

Under this priority area, applicants are asked to propose a dissemination activity/strategy that will maximise reach and impact of their project. This must be complimentary but not overlapping with the dissemination in place for the BlueBio funded project. This could include but is not limited to open access publications, developing online project profiles, videos for raising awareness, policy briefs, other and novel communication and dissemination methods to both scientific and non-scientific audiences, including policy makers, citizens and potential end-users. The communication methods used should contribute to accelerating the development of a BlueBio Knowledge Community in Europe that fosters cooperation and support, strengthens collaborative research and provides products, services, jobs and sustainable Blue Growth.

#### **3.2 Training, exchange and capacity building (TECB)**

Human capacity building, including training and staff exchange, is fundamental for the development of the blue bioeconomy sector. Incorporating training and education into research projects helps to facilitate innovation, and ensures that people have the appropriate multi-disciplinary knowledge to address societal challenges. Applications for this priority area should propose training, exchange and capacity building that would facilitate sharing of knowledge and/or technology within or between ongoing projects to deliver the greatest impact. Proposals should address activities that are not already included in the existing funded BlueBio project. This could include but is not limited to training for capacity building and short term staff exchange (including post-graduate students) and travel between partners for training purposes. Training and mobility can be between countries and/or sectors (e.g. research to industry, industry to research, industry to policy) and should improve professional skills and competences within the blue bioeconomy.

#### **3.3 Business and commercialisation preparation (BCOM)**

One of the ambitions of BlueBio is to make improvements to the transfer of bio-based products and services from research, innovation and demonstration to production scale. To this end, all funded projects have industry partners and are expected to increase Technology Readiness Level (TRL) throughout the duration of the research. In order to bring products or services to the market, it is necessary to engage in business and commercialisation preparation. This priority area aims to assist projects in determining and developing their needs in this area. Some suggested activities that could

be included are feasibility studies, business plans, identifying commercialisation needs with an aim to facilitate market research, meetings with relevant stakeholders and potential customers/focus groups. The main aim of the activity should be to support the transition from research and innovation to commercialisation of a blue bioeconomy product or service.

### **3.4 Mapping of relevant policy landscape (MPOL)**

Understanding the policy landscape for any emerging sector is important for progressive development. This is particularly the case with the blue bioeconomy (and bioeconomy in general) because innovation is taking place at a pace that policy cannot necessarily keep up with. Within the sector, there are also specific situations where policy may not reflect the current status of the science and could hinder progress. This may be exacerbated by differences between EU, national, and even regional policies which are not necessarily fully aligned. Conducting a mapping of the relevant policy landscape can help to understand how regulations are developed and policies implemented. In addition, it can facilitate the identification of barriers to or opportunities for engagement with policy-makers. Applicants are expected to address a knowledge gap in the area of policy landscape mapping in the blue bioeconomy, with relevance for their BlueBio project or broader. Activities that could be funded include but are not limited to facilitating policy dialogues between policy makers and researchers to inform research for science policy, desktop studies, development of policy briefs.

### **3.5 Barriers to commercialisation pathway (BARR)**

Through their funded BlueBio project, beneficiaries often have the knowledge and technical expertise to transform a concept or idea into an innovative technology, product or service however they require support to identify the market potential and commercialise their discovery. There are many barriers to commercialisation to be considered when developing a new product or service. This is particularly relevant in the blue bioeconomy sector where many are developed from novel bioresources, innovative research, innovation and production processes. Barriers to entry are obstacles that hinder a company from entering a given market. Factors include regulatory (policy restricting use), finance (high start-up costs), technology (e.g. access to) and operational (e.g. consumer and societal perception). Applications to this topic could, for example, examine the barriers from the policy/regulatory perspective to move product/process further down the pipeline to market (e.g. using rest raw ingredients in certain products, new species, new processing techniques etc.). An alternative could be to examine factors that preclude researchers from gaining access to external knowledge (market research and feasibility, IP check), to ensure that they maintain their level of competitiveness. Consideration should be given to how these barriers may be overcome, who the stakeholders are to facilitate this, and the time frame involved.



## 4 Funding Details

The funding available for the BlueBio 3<sup>rd</sup> additional call is outlined below in Table 2. This includes the budgets from respective funding bodies, specifics regarding funding for industry or research institutions.

**Table 2. Overview of funding opportunities for third additional BlueBio call 2022**

Country	Funding Organisation	Budget (€)	Can fund	
			Industry*	Research Institutions
Croatia	Croatian Science Foundation	20k	N	Y
Iceland	RANNIS	50k	Y	Y
Ireland	Marine Institute	50k	Y	Y
Malta	Malta Council for Science and Technology	40k	Y	Y
Norway	Research Council of Norway	400k	Y	Y
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>560k</b>		

\* State Aid rules apply for industry applicants. To be eligible for financial support under the de minimis aid, the applicant may not have received more than a total of EUR 200 000 in *de minimis* aid during a period of three fiscal years.

## 5 Call Secretariat

The Call Secretariat will provide administrative and technical support to applicants for the call, call documents and procedures. It is the primary point of contact between the applicant and the BlueBio funding parties for all general matters in relation to the co-funded call. The Call Secretariat is hosted by JUELICH (Table 3).

All personal data offered for project applications as well as for subscription to newsletters, other 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) 2016/679). A data protection officer (DPO) is appointed to ensure compliance with GDPR rules.

**Table 3. Point of contact for third additional BlueBio call.**

Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH Wilhelm-Johnen-Str. D-52428 Jülich	<b>For application and submission issues</b>	
	Dr. Stefan Lampel	E-mail: <a href="mailto:s.lampel@fz-juelich.de">s.lampel@fz-juelich.de</a> Phone: +49 2461 61 4817
	Dr. Veronika Jablonowski	E-mail: <a href="mailto:v.jablonowski@fz-juelich.de">v.jablonowski@fz-juelich.de</a> Phone: +49 2461 61 5083

## 6 Dates and Deadlines

Important dates and deadlines relating to the third additional BlueBio call are shown in Table 4. The call will be open for applicants for at least 60 days.

**Table 4. Important dates and deadlines for third additional BlueBio call**

DATE	EVENT
29 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Call opened for proposals
Early December 2022	Call information session (online)
15 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 13:00 (CEST)	<b>Deadline for proposal submissions</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023	Eligibility check
24 <sup>th</sup> February – 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Evaluation (peer review)/ Selection
End of May	Start of negotiation and start of the projects

## 7 Application – General Eligibility Criteria

The application must meet and consider the following general eligibility criteria:

- Only organisations that received funding by one of the BlueBio partner countries listed in Annex 2 from any of the projects listed in Table 1 are eligible to apply.
- Only one application per country per BlueBio project listed in Table 1 will be accepted.
- The application should not duplicate what is already described in the proposal of the existing BlueBio project.
- In each proposal the project manager will be the only beneficiary (with the exception of any joint applications from two BlueBio projects). Any partners from the existing project that wish to participate should be added as ‘Associate Partners’ in the portal and will not receive funding.
- Proposals can consist of a maximum of **two** eligible partners (i.e. partners requesting funding – with one of the partners identified as the “project manager”). If 2 partners, these must be from 2 separate BlueBio projects. There is no limit to the number of ‘Associate Partners’.
- The application must be written in English.
- Projects should have a **maximum** duration of **18 months**.
- The total requested funding cannot exceed **€20,000** per proposal (€30,000 in the case of two projects collaborating).

## 8 Submission of Proposal

The proposals must be submitted electronically via the BlueBio submission website ([www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu)) by **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023, 13.00 CET**. Detailed instructions for the use of the electronic submission are described on the BlueBio website ([www.bluebio.eu](http://www.bluebio.eu)).

It will be possible to update and resubmit the proposal as many times as required up to the submission deadline, but not after the deadline has expired.

Applicants should note that the online system may experience high traffic volumes in the last hours before the submission deadline and it is therefore highly recommended that the final version of the proposal is submitted well in advance of the deadline to avoid any last-minute technical problems. Requests for extensions to the deadline due to last minute technical problems will not be considered.

Applicants should also note that applicants might need to submit national/regional application forms in accordance with their respective funding agencies’ terms and conditions. National/Regional application forms must be submitted directly to the national/regional agency by the deadlines stated (see Call Documents at [www.submission-bluebio.eu](http://www.submission-bluebio.eu)).

## 8.1 Project Manager

The project manager, in any commissioned project, has the following role and responsibilities:

- Be the primary point of contact between the Call Secretariat and the applicant on behalf of the project from proposal submission until publication of the final report;
- Submit the application;
- Responsible for compilation and submission of the final report and other deliverables to the BlueBio network on behalf of the project;
- Ensure that all project milestones and deliverables are met;
- Inform the BlueBio consortium about any event that might affect the implementation of the project;
- Is fully responsible for the overall project coordination and will ensure that all work is carried out to a high standard;
- Is responsible for sharing all information with project team.

## 8.2 Required information to be entered in the submission tool

- Reference to the existing BlueBio project/projects
- Reference to funding organisation
- Project Manager Profile
  - Contact information, including first and last name, name of the organisation, status of the organisation, address and phone number, e-mail address, team members;
  - Short description (max. 1,000 characters) about current position of the project manager, partners and collaborators in the project, fields of expertise and other relevant experience. Description of how this proposal adds impact to the ongoing/existing BlueBio project(s);
  - Confirmation to act in compliance with EC Guidelines on ethical issues: [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/ethics\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/ethics_en.htm)
- Project Title (max. 255 characters)
- Project Acronym (max. 25 characters) Applicants asked to use the existing BlueBio project acronym with an addition of letters representing the priority areas e.g. MINERVA\_DISS, MINERVA\_TECB, MINERVA\_BCOM, MINERVA\_MPOL, MINERVA\_BARR.
- Project Summary (max 1,000 characters)
- Project Description (max. 5,000 characters), including
  - Relevance to the scope of the call
  - Approach and methodology
  - Main results of the project that can be expected
- List of Associated Partners (if relevant):
  - Contact information, including first and last name, name of the organisation, status of the organisation, address and phone number, e-mail address;
  - Confirmation to act in compliance with EC Guidelines on ethical issues: [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/ethics\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/ethics_en.htm)
- Priority Area (Tick box)

- Work and Communication Plan (GANTT chart with milestones and deliverables indicated, upload as PDF)
- Financial Plan
- Finances (requested and own contribution including overhead) and Financial comments (max. 1,000 characters)
- Uploads (CV of max. 2 DIN A4 pages and 1 MB; letter of commitment of max. 5 DIN A4 pages and 2MB; figures: max. 2 with a max. size of each: 600px x 600px and 2MB)

The information given in the proposal will be used to check for eligibility, to find appropriate evaluation experts and to evaluate the proposal.

## 9 Eligibility Check for Funding

Proposals that are submitted correctly and within the deadline will be checked against different eligibility criteria.

- **General eligibility criteria:** The proposal must comply with the call eligibility criteria mentioned in Section 7.
- **National/regional eligibility criteria:** All project managers must assure that requested costs and thematic areas are in line with the respective national/regional eligibility criteria published in the national factsheets (see Annex 2). In case of uncertainties regarding the national/regional criteria and regulations, please contact your National Contacts, see Annex 1.

Any additional application requirements will be described in the national factsheets (Annex 2).

Proposals which are eligible in terms of the formal and national/regional eligibility criteria will be identified. Only proposals which meet these criteria will be forwarded to the expert evaluation.

Ineligible proposals may result in immediate rejection of the entire project.

## 10 Evaluation of Proposals

Eligible proposal evaluations will be executed by an independent International Review Panel (IRP), installed by the Call Steering Committee. The IRP will be from inside and outside the Consortium countries, and balanced in terms of nationality, age, gender and expertise background, while avoiding conflict of interest with applicants or applications. The independent IRP chair and members will be researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders with high standing and expertise in the relevant research areas and the overall objectives of the call.

The evaluation procedure will involve two individual experts per project, one of them acting as rapporteur.

The proposed projects must be in line with the scope and priority areas of this call.

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following three standard Horizon 2020 criteria:

**1. Excellence of the proposal (Threshold 3/5)**

- The extent to which the concept is sound, credible and novel.
- The extent to which the project objectives are clear and relevant.
- The quality of the proposed deliverables from the project.

**2. Impact of the project results (Threshold 3/5)**

- The extent to which the expected effects are specified.
- The extent to which the expected impacts on the system and society are specified.
- The quality of the proposed communication and dissemination activities.
- The extent to which it is credible that the proposed outputs will contribute to the specified effects and impact.

**3. Implementation of the project (Threshold 3/5)**

- The extent to which the Project Manager and project group (if applicable) are qualified and have the necessary expertise and are positioned to implement the project.
- The extent to which management structures and procedures are appropriate.
- The extent to which objectives and measures are coherent.
- The extent to which the project has the support and leadership of the project manager and partners, and allocation of roles is clear.
- The extent to which the budget is realistic and appropriate, and resources are allocated where relevant to ensure all parties can fulfil their role.
- The extent to which potential risks have been discussed.

Scores will be awarded for each of the three main criteria. Sub-criteria are aspects that the expert will consider in the assessment of that criterion. Each criterion will be scored out of 5 (only full scores allowed). Points one and three will be weighted equally, while point 2 will be weighted 50% more than each of the others, results in a maximum total score of 17.5 ( $5*1+5*1.5+5*1$ ).

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. |

The scores of the two evaluators will be agreed on by the two experts involved in the proposal evaluation. The final score for each proposal will be set at the full panel of rapporteurs for all proposals. Any proposal receiving a mean score below the threshold for one of the main criteria and/or a final score below 10 will not be selected for funding (thresholds 3/5 and 12.5/17.5). Evaluation by the IRP will result in a ranking list according to the final scores and an evaluation report for each eligible proposal.

## **11 Selection of Proposals**

On the basis of the ranking and available funding, the Call Steering Committee will prepare a list of projects recommended for funding. The funding organisations will take the final decision for national funding following the order of the ranking list provided by the IRP and taking into account the available budget of each funding organisation<sup>3</sup>. The number of selected projects will depend on the available budget of the involved funding organisations.

The outcome of the selection will be communicated to the project coordinators, who will be required to inform their partners respectively. Unsuccessful applicants can request feedback from Domnica Cotet (e-mail: [domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro](mailto:domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro)).

## **12 Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest**

The proposals will be handled confidentially by the BlueBio Call Secretariat, by the national funding organisations and the mandated experts responsible for the evaluation of the proposal.

The BlueBio Call Secretariat will take all lawful steps to ensure confidentiality, avoidance of conflict of interest and anonymity of evaluators during the evaluation and selection procedures.

Each expert will have to sign a declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest. The online evaluation tool will include a feature which will prevent access to the proposal in case a conflict of interest is declared by the expert.

## **13 Contract Conditions (for funded projects)**

### **13.1 Terms of Participation**

The national funding of the third additional BlueBio Call is offered under the coordination of the Horizon 2020 ERA-NET BlueBio. Partners of the Research and Innovation Project consortium are required to recognise the coordinating role of BlueBio throughout the duration of the funded research projects until the publication of the final report. Each Project consortium will be asked for feedback on the processes in order to help refine them for the future use.

### **13.2 Contractual Relationships**

BlueBio is a collaboration between national funding parties with the aim of establishing transnational research collaboration. The contracts with researchers and industries are the responsibility of the national/regional funding organisations.

In case of a joint project, care will be taken to ensure that the individual contracts are synchronised, both in time and content, so that the project consortium can deliver transnational outputs as described in the project proposal. The national/regional funding partners must ensure that common BlueBio conditions are met (e.g. common start date of a given project, reporting requirements etc.).

### **13.3 Funding Contracts**

For the duration of the contract, it is the responsibility of the project coordinator to inform the BlueBio consortium about any changes in the project, i.e. modifications of the work plan, the project consortium or the contract. All communications should be through the BlueBio Monitoring Group and approved by the Joint Call Secretariat.

Financial issues are the responsibility of each national/regional funding partner involved in the approved project.

### **13.4 Consortium Agreement**

Existing BlueBio funded projects already have Consortium Agreements (CA) in place. It is not deemed necessary to sign a new CA for the projects funded under this call as they are aligned with a funded BlueBio project. Should it apply, an addendum to the existing CA to address new activities may be considered. It will be the responsibility of the Project Manager to liaise with the existing BlueBio Project Coordinator to ensure that any existing CA is suitable to their own group.

### **13.5 Intellectual Property Rights, Use and Access to Results and Data**

Results and new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) resulting from projects funded through the BlueBio Call will be owned by the project partners according to the conditions stated in their Consortium Agreement. At the project level, IPR will be considered according to national rules. Applicants should consult the individual funding agency should any queries arise.

Data collected during the project must be collected, stored and processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679). Researchers are encouraged to actively exploit the results of the research project and make them available for use, whether for commercial gain or not, for public benefit to be obtained from the knowledge created. It is expected that publication of results should be carried out in accordance with the Horizon 2020 policy on Open Access<sup>4</sup>.

### **13.6 Start Date**

Projects should start from May 2023. In the case of a joint project, the start date will be after all national/regional contracts have been signed and agreed, unless national contracts allow for an early start of the research activities. Once the national contracts come into force, eligible national costs may be claimed according to the national procedures.

---

<sup>4</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants\\_manual/hi/oa\\_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-pilot-guide\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-pilot-guide_en.pdf)

### 13.7 Project Monitoring and Reporting

Projects must be completed within a maximum of **18 months**.

Project coordinators are required to provide a final report as well as a non-confidential summary of the outcomes of their project for publication via the website ([www.bluebio.eu](http://www.bluebio.eu)) and the BlueBio newsletter. The newsletter will be built on the news section on the same webpage. Hereby, BlueBio wants to reach out to the wider research community and interested public. BlueBio will provide a template for the final report.

### 13.8 Dissemination Requirements

A primary aim of this 3<sup>rd</sup> additional BlueBio funding call is the further dissemination of project outputs and amplification of impacts. Dissemination is the responsibility of the project manager and, if applicable, partners including associate partners. This can be organised in the form of various communication routes such as scientific papers, posters, course or training material, web-based tools, stakeholder involvement, workshops or direct intervention towards end users. Where relevant, the projects should consider how to engage with consumers to provide them with knowledge needed to make informed decisions about safe, healthy and sustainable food and policy makers with robust scientific advice.

**Further, the project partners must acknowledge the transnational funding of the BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund under Horizon 2020 and the individual national/regional funding partners in any document that is published (in written, oral or electronic form) within the research project.**

### 13.9 Publishable Data

A list of the funded projects will be published at the end of the evaluation process (after the funding decision). Therefore, applicants should be aware that the following data from the full proposal will be published:

- Project Title and Project Acronym
- Priority area of the project
- Organisation name and country of each project manager
- A short publishable summary of the project



## 14 Annexes

### 14.1 ANNEX 1 : NATIONAL/ REGIONAL CONTACTS

Country	Organisation	Name	Contact details (E-Mail/Telephone)
Croatia	Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ)	Jasminka Boljević	<a href="mailto:jasminka@hrzz.hr">jasminka@hrzz.hr</a> +385 12356 600
Iceland	Rannsóknamiðstöð Íslands (RANNIS)	Sigurdur Bjornsson Lýður S. Erlendsson	<a href="mailto:sigurdur.bjornsson@Rannis.is">sigurdur.bjornsson@Rannis.is</a> +354 5155800
Ireland	Marine Institute (MI)	Veronica Cunningham	<a href="mailto:veronica.cunningham@marine.ie">veronica.cunningham@marine.ie</a> +353 91 387532
Malta	Malta Council for Science & Technology (MCST)	Maria Azzopardi	<a href="mailto:maria.azzopardi.2@gov.mt">maria.azzopardi.2@gov.mt</a> , +356 2360 2175
Norway	Norges forskningsråd (RCN)	Kristin E. Thorud Anne Magunssøn	<a href="mailto:ket@rcn.no">ket@rcn.no</a> , +47 930 24 722 <a href="mailto:anm@rcn.no">anm@rcn.no</a> +47 415 17 891

## 14.2 ANNEX 2: NATIONAL REGULATIONS/NATIONAL FACTSHEETS



### CROATIA

**Participating organisation:** Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ)

**Indicative Budget: € 20.000**

**National Contact Person(s):**

Jasminka Boljević

Phone: +385 1 2356 600

E-Mail: [jasminka@hrzz.hr](mailto:jasminka@hrzz.hr)

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**

n/a

**Max. project duration:** proposed projects may last up to 18 months

**Max. funding per project: € 10.000**

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Only Croatian entities funded by HRZZ through the BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund as part of the co-funded, 1<sup>st</sup> additional and 2<sup>nd</sup> additional calls, are eligible to apply.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

Supporting all the 5 topics listed in Section 3 of the Call Text.

**For full proposal**

The HRZZ requests the Croatian applicants to send the following documentation, not later than 2 days after the submission of the full proposal:

1. BlueBio Full proposal (in PDF format, sealed on the date of Call deadline);

The electronic version of the requested documentation shall be sent via e-mail to the following address:

[jasminka@hrzz.hr](mailto:jasminka@hrzz.hr).

**Submission of financial reports at the national level** The funded Croatian applicants will have to submit annual Financial reports and justifying documentation (e.g. invoices, contracts, pay slips and similar) to HRZZ, together with a Declaration on VAT status and Declaration on the prevention of double financing for the year in question.

**Eligible costs are:**

- *Dissemination of research and results (DISS) up to € 10.000*
- *Training, exchange and capacity building (TECB) up to € 10.000*
- *Business and commercialisation preparation (BCOM) up to € 10.000*
- *Mapping of relevant policy landscape (MPOL) up to € 10.000*
- *Barriers to commercialisation pathway (BARR) up to € 10.000*



ICELAND

**Participating organisation:** Rannsóknamiðstöð Íslands (RANNIS)

**Indicative Budget:** €50,000

**National Contact Person(s):**

Lýður Skúli Erlendsson / Sigurður

Björnsson Phone: +354 5155800

E-Mail: [sigurdur.bjornsson@rannis.is](mailto:sigurdur.bjornsson@rannis.is)

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**

Technology Development Fund

**Max. project duration:** proposed projects may last up to 18 months

**Max. funding per project:** Maximum funding is 20k € per project for Icelandic entities and the maximum funding in Icelandic krona is IKR 3.000.000 per project over a project period of 18 months.

Own contribution for research institutes and companies is in accordance with the Technology Development Fund rules for the grant type "[Growth](#)".

The contract will be in ISK. The total sum is based on the actual currency on the date for deadline for the proposal.

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

All legal entities (public and private sector) that have been funded in previous BlueBio funded projects.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

Rannis can support projects that comply with the 3<sup>rd</sup> additional call priorities description.

**Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:**

n/a

**Additional information:**

n/a



## IRELAND

**Participating organisation:** Marine Institute (MI)

**Indicative Budget:** €50,000

**National Contact Person(s):**

Veronica Cunningham, Research Funding Office, Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore, Co. Galway H91 R673,

Ireland Phone: +353 91 387532

Email: [veronica.cunningham@marine.ie](mailto:veronica.cunningham@marine.ie)

### **Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**

The call is supported by the Marine Institute and the Irish Government, funded under the Marine Research Programme.

Research to be undertaken by Irish partners should be consistent with the aims of the national strategies, such as Food Vision 2030, Impact 2030, Climate Action Plan 2022, etc.

Applicants are strongly advised to contact their National Contact Point prior to submission of any application under this call.

**Max. project duration:** proposed projects may last up to 18 months

**Max. funding per project:** 20,000 Euro

**Max. of two Irish partners requesting funding per application (must be from different existing projects).**

Maximum overheads allowed is 30% of all costs excluding Equipment and Subcontracting.

Subcontracting to a third party for specialist resources/skills is allowable, subject to normal procurement guidelines. Subcontracting costs are limited to 20% maximum 4,000 Euro.

Refer to the National Rules (as per Annex 2 of the Grant-Aid Agreement) for full details of all eligible costs allowed under this call.

### **Institutional eligibility criteria:**

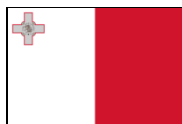
- Irish partners successful under the previous BlueBio calls (refer to Table 1 page 4).
- The maximum Grant-Aid reimbursement for Industry is 50% for Large Scale Enterprises and 75% for Small- Medium Sized Enterprises of eligible costs. Grant-Aid reimbursement for Higher Education Institutions and Other Public Research Bodies is up to 100% of eligible costs.

### **Institutional thematic priorities:**

Applications may apply under any of the priority areas.

### **Additional information:**

Any clarifications or queries with respect to the National Rules should be sent to the national contact point specified above or to [funding@marine.ie](mailto:funding@marine.ie)



## MALTA

**Participating organisation:** Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST)

**Indicative Budget:** €40,000

**National Contact Person(s):**

Maria Azzopardi

Phone: +00356 23602175

E-Mail: maria.azzopardi.2@gov.mt

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:**

<https://mcst.gov.mt/funding-opportunities/>

**Max. project duration:** proposed projects may last up to 18 months

**Max. funding per project:** €20,000

**Institutional eligibility criteria:**

Any Eligible Undertaking with an operating base in Malta, which carries out Fundamental, Industrial Research or Experimental Development projects and is a) a partnership constituted under the Companies Act, being a partnership en nom collectif, en commandite or a limited liability company; or b) be duly registered as a co-operative society under the Co-Operative Societies Act, c) professional body; d) self-employed; e) NGO; f) Non-profit making entity (including Foundation), will be eligible for funding subject to the terms and conditions laid out in the full version of the National Rules for Participation.

Financial assistance provided to a single undertaking (as defined in the National Rules for Participation) is in line with the Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid, as amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/972 of 2 July 2020, amending Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 as regards its prolongation and amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 as regards its prolongation and relevant adjustments (the *de minimis* Regulation). The total amount of *de minimis* aid granted to a single undertaking shall not exceed the amount of €200,000 over any period of three consecutive fiscal years. This period covers the fiscal year concerned as well as the previous two fiscal years. 'Fiscal year' means the fiscal year as used for tax purposes by the undertaking concerned.

Any Public Entity or Public Research or Knowledge-Dissemination Organisation registered in Malta, that do not carry out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU, will be eligible for funding subject to the terms and conditions laid out in the full version of the National Rules for Participation.

Only Malta-based entities funded by MCST through the BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund as part of the co-funded, 1<sup>st</sup> additional and 2<sup>nd</sup> additional calls, are eligible to apply.

**Institutional thematic priorities:**

Supporting all the 5 topics listed in Section 3 of the Call Text.

**Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded:**

N/A

**Additional information**

The detailed National Rules for Participation for Malta can be accessed from the MCST website -

<https://mcst.gov.mt/funding-opportunities/>



## NORWAY

**Participating organization:** Norges forskningsråd/The Research Council of Norway (RCN)

**Indicative Budget:** 400 000 €

**National Contact Person(s):**

Name: Kristin E Thorud / Anne Magnussøn Phone: +47 930 24 722 / +47 415 17 891

E-Mail: [ket@rcn.no](mailto:ket@rcn.no) / [ism@rcn.no](mailto:ism@rcn.no) / [cwr@rcn.no](mailto:cwr@rcn.no) / [ken@rcn.no](mailto:ken@rcn.no)

**Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information**

[The portfolio on Oceans](#)

[The portfolio on Enabling technologies](#)

**Max. project duration**

Proposed projects may last up to 18 months.

**Max. funding per project**

Budget for Norwegian participation in this call is 400 000 €.

The requested total funding from Norwegian partners cannot exceed 20 000 € per proposal. One exception is if the project is in collaboration with one of the two BlueBio projects without a corresponding funding organisation. In that case maximum funding can be increased to 20 000 €

The actual payout will be in Norwegian kroner. The total sum is based on the actual currency on the date for deadline for the proposal.

**Institutional eligibility criteria**

RCN may fund both research institutions and industry partners in projects. Norwegian applicants for funding from RCN will need to comply with RCN requirements regarding applications and eligible institutions: [General application requirements](#) and [Research institutions](#) or [Industry](#)

For Industry the aided part of the project is set by the State Aid Rules:

<https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/funding-from-the-research-council/Conditions-for-awarding-state-aid/>

State aid awarded by the Research Council is granted under the General Block Exemption Regulation for state aid, Article 25: Aid for research and development projects.

To be eligible for financial support under the de minimis aid, the applicant may not have received more than a total of EUR 200 000 in de minimis aid during a period of three fiscal years (i.e. the year the aid was disbursed and the two preceding years). The disbursement of de minimis aid by the Research Council must not lead awardees to exceed this ceiling.

**Institutional thematic priorities**

RCN is financing all priority areas in the call.

**Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded**

Not relevant.

**Additional information**

Project proposals with Technology Readiness Level (TRL) ranging up to 7 will be considered.

Projects should propose advancements in TRL levels during their lifetime.

The Norwegian participation must follow RCN's General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects.

General RCN conditions for funding: <https://www.forskingsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/Budget/what-to-enter-in-the-project-budget/>

Norwegian project partners receiving funding from RCN will need to sign a separate contract with RCN. Norwegian partners that are coordinators of the projects will be asked to also coordinate the Norwegian partners of the projects. The budget for the Norwegian partners shall follow RCN cost model and RCN regulations.

Support from the RCN awarded to research institutions is normally awarded for non-economic activity. When an entity also pursues economic activities, the financing, the costs and the revenues of those economic activities must be entered in separate accounts.

To ensure that support is awarded in compliance with the state aid rules, RCN asks all applicants selected for conditional allocation of funding to provide supplementary information. The Project Owner must be able to document that its own institution and all its partners (all recipients of state aid) are eligible to receive state aid. Support from the RCN constitutes state aid when it is awarded to an "undertaking", i.e. an actor that carries out an economic activity consisting of offering products or services on a given market.

**Open access**

The Research Council has stipulated requirements for full and immediate open access to scientific articles produced in connection with R&D projects funded by the Council. Read more about The Research Council's requirements for Open Access to Scientific Publications:

<https://www.forskingsradet.no/en/Adviser-research-policy/open-science/plan-s/>