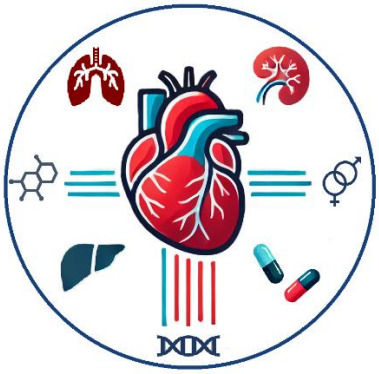
Call for proposals 2025 – JTC6 “InterHeart”

Understanding the interactions between cardiovascular disorders and comorbidities and/or their therapeutic treatments



Call Text

DEADLINES

March 7th, 2025 (12:00, CET) - SUBMISSION OF PRE-PROPOSALS

June 17th, 2025 (12:00, CEST) - SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS

https://ptoutline.eu/app/era4healthinterheart

For further information, please visit us on the website: https://era4health.eu/

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ACRONYMS

CA Consortium Agreement

CSC Call Steering Committee

CVD Cardiovascular diseases

CoI Conflict of Interest

DMP Data Management Plan

EC European Commission

ECN Early Career Network

ECS Early Career Scientist

JCS Joint Call Secretariat

JTC Joint Transnational Call

PI Principal Investigator

PRP Peer Review Panel

RRI Responsible Research and Innovation

AIM AND AMBITION OF ERA4HEALTH

The Partnership "Fostering a European Research Area for Health" (ERA4Health) aims at establishing a flexible and effective coordination between funding organisations in the European Research Area (ERA) for Health and Well-being. This Partnership brings the opportunity to increase European transnational collaborative research funding by creating a funding body for joint programming in priority areas addressing European Public Health Needs.

The general objective of ERA4Health is to reach an effective joint approach and generate knowledge and products (e.g. preventive guidelines, medical protocols) in the identified research areas as outlined in ERA4health Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)[1]. To achieve this, a comprehensive network will be created which aims at strengthening and expanding the existing conducive eco-system.

In this light, ERA4Health gathers public funders of health research in the European Research Area including the European Commission that jointly identify and implement a common funding strategy in priority areas to advance health research and develop innovation.

ERA4Health has 4 specific objectives:

- SO1. Support relevant medical research including clinical fields and intervention areas (prevention, diagnosis, treatment),
- SO2. Improve the utilisation of existing health technologies in clinical practice,
- SO3. Build capacity, in particular in conducting IICSs at European scale,
- SO4. Implement and advance the practice of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) across the breadth of the programme.

[1] https://era4health.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/ec_rtd_he-partnerships-era-for-health-1.pdf

RATIONALE

For decades cardiovascular diseases have been the leading cause of death globally. They are responsible for one third of all global deaths[2]. In Europe, cardiovascular diseases (CVD) cause over 4,1 million deaths in 2021. These represent to 45% and 39% of all deaths in females and males, respectively[3]. The prevalence of comorbidities in patients with CVD will even further increase in Europe due to the ageing European populations and better survival of severe disease conditions such as cancer or infections.

In the human body, organ crosstalk is necessary to maintain body homeostasis. A pathological development in one organ system can lead to functional and structural dysfunction of the cardiovascular system that may lead a chronic CVD in the long run. Hence, people with CVD often have other diseases or multiple organ dysfunction. With CVD established as a chronic disease, the combination of other morbidities (and vice versa) increases the burden of CVD. This is particularly true for older people but also for children (e.g. hypertension) and adults. It is therefore essential to have a better understanding of how organ disorders affect each other and the temporal sequence in which they occur. New research elucidating the mechanisms behind organs crosstalk could help prevent certain chronic diseases including CVD and improve patient condition.

In some case, it is not the other disorder that affects the cardiovascular system but its treatment. As a matter of fact, several pharmaceutical drugs have been shown to display some certain level of cardiotoxicity, and on the other hand, some have positive effects on the cardiovascular system. For example, it has been shown that anti-diabetes drugs have a surprisingly protective effect on the cardiovascular system. In addition, the treatments might interact with each other and result in an agonist or an antagonist effect or even an entirely new effect. Studies of the cellular and molecular pathways of the action of these drugs are needed to build knowledge and help healthcare providers to predict the side effects of future drugs on the cardiovascular system or to develop new CVD and other morbidities prevention strategies or treatment.

Studies on crosstalk between cardiovascular system and other organs/systems could also benefit from advances in artificial intelligence in the near future. However, to take advantage of this opportunity, efforts should be made to generate standardized data and to develop data management and stewardship plans for the data generated in the clinical field. Gathered data must adhere to the FAIR principles, i.e. data must be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.

In-depth, Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) which, among others, encourages two-way engagement with different actors from academia, clinicians, industry, as well as patients' organizations will be the basis to develop effective strategies to decrease the burden of CVD and other morbidities. This call promotes cooperation at transnational level and will advance basic knowledge and benefit patients worldwide.

[2] Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) (who.int)

[3] Timmis et al., European Society of Cardiology: cardiovascular disease statistics 2021 Eur Heart J. 2022 Feb, 43 (8) 716-799

AIM OF THE CALL

The aim of the call is to support research that:

- builds understanding of molecular and cellular mechanisms governing interactions between the heart and other organs during pathological state of either system,
- builds comprehensive approaches to understanding cardiovascular disease interactions, combining basic research, clinical translation, and digital innovation through international collaboration.
- enables transnational collaboration of multidisciplinary scientists (molecular and cellular biology including metabolic studies and (epi)-genetics, pharmacology, (patho-) physiology, clinical cardiology and other medical disciplines such as endocrinology, psychology, nephrology, oncology, immunology, etc.) from different countries to work together across borders, taking advantage of complementary expertise and leveraging diverse patient populations and sets of data.

The proposals should focus on expanding knowledge and understand:

- how CVD affect the performance of other organs/systems and/or their capacity to respond to treatments,
- how disorders other than CVD affect cardiovascular system performance including response to treatments,
- and/or how treatment for disorders other than CVD affect positively or negatively the performance of the cardiovascular system.

The proposals should include one of the following approaches:

- Mechanistic / experimental research
- Identification and validation of biomarkers of organs/systems/disorders crosstalk mentioned above (including epigenetics biomarkers)
- Generation of digital models of disease(s) to study disease-disease or/and disease-drug interactions.

Beyond the research topics, the following aspects should be considered, and all projects should embed responsible research and innovation throughout their lifecycle:

- Proposals must clearly demonstrate the potential health and/or economic impact(s) as well as the added value of transnational collaboration: sharing of expertise and resources (models, databases...), harmonization of data, access to innovative technologies, etc.
- Where relevant, cellular, 3D and patients' models should be preferred to animal models. The use of animal models must be justified[4] and the collection of the tissues should be optimised and if unused stored in biobanks. In the framework of this call small-scale clinical studies (up to phase 2), *in vitro* (e.g. human cells) are allowed. The inclusion of new digital model is strongly encouraged. **Pre-clinical and clinical studies are eligible subject to national/regional regulations (see Annex I)**.

[4] https://www.eara.eu/animal-research-law

- Applicants should make use of existing biobanks and existing cohorts, if applicable. Otherwise, it should be explained why existing biobanks/ cohorts are not used.
- Applicants are strongly recommended to apply a 'bedside to bench' approach, involving diverse and relevant stakeholders in the project from the conception stage to implementation and the dissemination. End-users can participate as partners (if eligible for funding by a national/regional funding organisation), as collaborators (participation with own budget) or as part of an advisory board. The participation of social scientists with expertise in co-production and co-design, patient organisations with experience in patient empowerment, as well as medical doctors and clinicians is strongly encouraged. SMEs (Small and Medium-size Enterprises) are also strongly encouraged to participate.
- Applicants should consider potential social moderators on effects such as age, sex, gender and ethnic or other demographic features/differences in the respective research approaches.
- Cross-validation of research results across different ethnic groups and different socio-cultural group is strongly encouraged.
- While the differences between men and women are well established in CVDs, the mode of action of the endocrine system should be studied especially during hormonal changes (e.g. menopause, gender transition)
- The use of approaches from personalized medicine is encouraged.
- Where possible, the consortia are encouraged to balance gender in the composition of the consortia and to balance the responsibilities between genders.
- Early Career Scientists (Master, PhD and post-docs) are encouraged to participate in the consortium.

Exclusion:

- Except for small-scale clinical studies up to phase 2, all other clinical studies are excluded in this call.
- Proposals that are not dealing with the cardiovascular system or CVD.
- Proposals that only study the cardiovascular system or CVD without studying the interaction with other organs, systems, diseases or the response to their treatment.
- Studies on how CVD treatments affect the performance of other system/organs.
- Development of therapeutics
- Infectious diseases, even if studied with CVD

EXPECTED IMPACT

Overall, the call is expected to advance knowledge and understanding of the interconnection between cardiovascular diseases and the onset of other diseases in adult and paediatric populations.

The transnational collaboration will contribute to important research-related activities such as the standardisation of protocols, the establishment of biobanks, the validation of new digital models, the integration of AI for a better patient classification, the development of new biomarkers and the development of tools for prediction of drug cardiotoxicity.

The development of better diagnostic tools and better patient classification tools will make it possible to guide clinical decision making and to find solutions for unmet medical needs. Unmet medical needs are either medical conditions for which there is no satisfactory method of diagnosis, prevention or treatment, or diseases for which there is a solution, but where new applications will significantly

improve patients' living conditions and/or prove cost-effective through new medical innovations in healthcare systems.

This research will benefit paediatric and adult populations by improving personalised prevention and treatment in CVD due to safer multi-drug combination strategies and by refining their phenotyping through multidisciplinary analysis.

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR APPLICATION

The initial duration of the projects will be 36 months.

Proposals **must clearly demonstrate the potential health, economic, and/or policy impacts,** as well as **the added value of transnational collaboration** i.e. sharing of resources (models, registries, diagnosis, etc.), harmonisation of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies.

Proposals should be aligned with Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI). All consortia should demonstrate a commitment to investigating and addressing social, ethical, political, environmental or cultural dimensions of the proposed research. The proposal template further elaborates on this and how RRI dimensions can be approached (see our guidelines p17-22).

Research supported by ERA4Health must respect fundamental ethical principles. Applicants have to fill an ethical grid and describe any potential ethical aspects of the work to be carried out, and how the project will fulfil applicable requirements in institutional, national and European Union legislation (including the ethical standards and guidelines of Horizon Europe[5]).

The individual project partners of the joint applications should be complementary, and the proposed work should contain novel, innovative and ambitious ideas with a high application potential for the end-users and/or with a high implementation potential to benefit of end-users/patients/citizens.

Furthermore, additional aspects need to be considered in the application:

- If appropriate: the design of the study (sample collection, statistical power, interpretation, relevant models for hypothesis validation) must be well justified and should be part of the proposal.
- For small-scale clinical studies up to phase 2: strategies for recruitment, retention, assessment, and analysis must be included. The study design and objectives should take into consideration the population that would be needed to reach the objective of the study. Data supporting the recruitment numbers is recommended.
- In case of an exploratory animal/ small-scale clinical study up to phase 2, a detailed description is required as part of the full proposal application form (requirements are included in the Guidelines for Pre-clinical and small-scale clinical studies up to phase 2). The review panel will scrutinize this information as part of the formal evaluation criteria (1-Excellence) of full proposals. Assistance for provision of the information on experimental design can be found in the general ARRIVE guidelines[6].

[5] https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf
[6] https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article/file?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.1000412&type=printable

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND RESPECTIVE FUNDING ORGANISATIONS

The following participating funding organisations have agreed to fund this call for transnational research projects:

Countries	Funding organisations	Acronym	Contribution (€)
Belgium	Fund for Scientific Research-FNRS	F.R.S.-FNRS	300 000
Belgium	The Research Foundation - Flanders	FWO	700 000
Denmark	Innovation Fund Denmark	IFD	1 000 000
France	French Research Funding Agency	ANR	2 000 000
Hungary	National Research, Development and Innovation Office	NKFIH	200 000
Italy	Ministry of Health	IT MOH	1 500 000
Latvia	Latvian Council of Science	LCS	600 000
Lithuania	Research Council of Lithuania	LMT	300 000
Poland	National Centre for Research and Development	NCBR	1 500 000
Slovakia	Slovak Academy of Sciences	SAS	120 000
Spain	State Research Agency	AEI	800 000
Spain	Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia	CSCJA	250 000
Taiwan	National Science and Technology Council	NSTC	810 000
Türkiye	The scientific and technological research council of Türkiye	TUBITAK	600 000

Table 1: Participating funding organisations

Project partners will be funded by their relevant national/regional funding organisations. Eligible costs and funding rules vary between the respective funding organisations (see Annex I).

SUPPORT FOR EARLIER CAREER SCIENTISTS

All project coordinators and principal investigators (PI) are asked to encourage the Early Career Scientists (ECS) who will be involved in the research projects to actively engage in the upcoming ERA4Health Early Career Network (ECN). The aim of the ECN is to foster the interaction, capacity and growth of Early Career Scientists (ECS) involved in ERA4Health-funded projects. Different networking, training and capacity building activities dedicated to ECS will be organised and implemented during the runtime of the projects.

To facilitate participation of the ECS in the ECN, the coordinators and PIs should: (I) include travel costs for the project ECS dedicated to the ECN activities in the proposal and (II) allow the ECS to dedicate a certain amount of their working time to the ECN. In addition, the research consortia are invited to

include training activities for Early Career Scientists into their proposals. Examples of training activities are mobility and lab visits of ECS between partners of the consortium or implementation of summer school(s).

APPLICATION

Eligibility criteria

Joint research proposals may be submitted by applicants belonging to one of the following categories (according to national/regional regulations; certain categories may not be eligible for funding by a specific funding organisation, please see Annex I):

- **A. Academia –** research teams working in public and private universities, other higher education institutions or research institutes.
- **B. Clinical/public health sector –** research teams working in hospitals/public health and/or other health care settings and health organisations, including primary health care.
- **C. Enterprises –** private companies of all sizes involved in health research and innovation.
- and **D. Operational stakeholders –** e.g. patient advocacy organisations, municipalities and local governments, local/national NGO's. In line with the concept of RRI, operational stakeholders should be in a position to provide useful knowledge to the consortium, ensure the consortium's research is useful and translatable to their (or other) organizational contexts, and/or influence decision making or create change within their organisations. Operational stakeholders should be engaged in the research process from conception of the study to dissemination.

Consortia submitting applications to this call are strongly encouraged to include partners from different categories (A, B, C and D) in line with the crosscutting/multidisciplinary nature of the call, which aim is to include partners at different levels in the value chain. The number of participants and their research contribution should be appropriate for the aims of the transnational research project and be reasonably balanced in terms of international participation. Each transnational collaborative project should represent the critical mass to achieve ambitious scientific goals and should clearly demonstrate an added value from working together. It is important to integrate partners from the category D in line with the aims of the proposal.

A partner search tool called PARTFINDER, available on ERA4Health website[7], can be used to help applicants find partners. Applicants can either directly look through the database or post an announcement with what they are looking for (partner or project).

Size of the consortium

The number of participants and their research contribution should be appropriate for the aims of the transnational research project and be reasonably balanced in terms of international participation. Each transnational collaborative project should represent the critical mass to achieve ambitious scientific goals and should clearly demonstrate an added value from working together.

Only transnational projects will be funded. The following conditions apply to the composition of consortia:

[7] https://era4health.eu/partner-search/

- A minimum of 3 (three) eligible and a maximum of 5 (five) eligible partners from at least 3 (three) different countries participating in the call.
- The maximum number of eligible partners can be increased up to 6 (six) or 7 (seven) if they include 1 (one) or 2 (two) partners, respectively, from the following participating countries: Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia and Türkiye.
- No more than 2 (two) eligible partners from the same country participating in the call will be accepted within one consortium.

A maximum of 2 (two) collaborators per consortium. Collaborators are self-funded partners: i.e., partners that do not request funds to any of the participating funding organisations (i.e., partners from non-funding countries or partners which are not fundable according to national/regional regulations of the participating funding organisations). The following conditions apply for collaborators:

  - Clear added value for the research project. This should be demonstrated in the proposal.
  - Secure own funding for participation with clear evidence in the proposal that this is already in place.
  - A letter of commitment of the collaborator(s) needs to be included as an annex to the pre-proposal/ full proposal.
  - A collaborator **cannot be work package leader**.

Number of partners requesting funding (eligible partners)	**3-5**	**6**	**7**
Partners from underrepresented countries	No constraints	At least 1	At least 2
Maximum number of collaborators	2	2	2

Table 3: Possible composition of a research consortium

Each project consortium must nominate **a project coordinator** from the participating principal investigators (NOT a collaborator). The project coordinator will represent the consortium externally and will act as contact person for the Joint Call Secretariat (JCS) and will be responsible during the entire process for the internal scientific management such as controlling, overseeing IPR issues, reporting, and contact with the JCS.

Each principal investigator can submit either 1 (**one) proposal as project coordinator or up to 2 (two) proposals as simple partner** (i.e. the coordinator of a proposal cannot be partner in another proposal). Please note that this rule may be subject to national/regional regulations. Applicants are consequently strongly encouraged to contact their national/regional contact points to check their national/regional eligibility rules before submission (see Annex I).

Financial and legal modalities

Project partners will be funded by their relevant national/regional funding organisation. Therefore, eligible costs, funding rules and the type of studies allowed will vary between the respective funding

organisations (see Annex I). Due to these differences, it is recommended that each project partner defines its own budget in accordance with the funding rules of its own country/region.

For information on the specific funding rules and eligibility criteria of the national/regional funding organisation:

- Carefully read Annex I and the national/regional announcements of the call
- In addition, applicants are strongly advised to reach out to their relevant funding organisation contact person before applying; please note that for some countries/regions it might be mandatory.

Please note that if a partner is found to be non-eligible at any step of the process by one of the funding organisations, the entire proposal could be rejected without further review.

Submission of joint proposals

There will be a two-step submission and evaluation procedure for joint applications, i.e. pre-proposals and full proposals, and the full proposal review process will be complemented by a rebuttal stage. For both submission steps, one joint proposal document (in English) shall be prepared by the partners of a joint transnational proposal and must be submitted to the JCS by uploading it on the electronic submission system by the project coordinator.

The two-step application process will have the following timeline:

January 7th, 2025	**Publication of call**
January 14th, 2025	**Webinar Infoday**
March 7th, 2025, 12:00 CET	**Deadline for pre-proposal submission**
May 7th, 2025	Communication of the results of the pre-proposal assessment (invitation for full proposal)
June 17th, 2025, 12:00 CEST	**Deadline for full proposal submission**
August 22nd – September 3rd, 2025	**Rebuttal stage**
End of October	Communication of the funding decisions to the applicants
December 2025 – May 2026	**Expected project start** (subject to national procedures)

Table 1: Timeline application process

The pre-proposal template will be available on the ERA4Health website (https://era4health.eu/calls/interheart2025.php).

An application template for the full proposal stage will be sent to the project coordinator by the JCS with the invitation to submit a full proposal.

Pre-proposals or full proposals submitted without using the relevant template will be declared non-eligible.

If applicable, a proposal should be submitted together with a legal/ethical approval document according to the concerned country's/region's regulations.

For some countries or regions, it might be mandatory for the applicants to submit an application or to provide some information directly to their national/ regional funding organisations, sometimes even before the deadline of general submission. Therefore, applicants are strongly advised to check their funding organisations specific regulations. See Annex I for more details.

The Call Steering Committee (CSC, composed of one representative from each funding organisation participating in the call with funds) will take all lawful steps to ensure confidentiality of the information and documents obtained during the evaluation and selection procedure of the joint call.

For the submission of full proposals, **the widening concept** will be applied. It will therefore be possible, but not mandatory, to add partners that are eligible for funding by specific funding organisations (with low number of eligible applicants at the second step). The inclusion of a new partner should be relevant for a proposal, and the new partner should be well integrated in a consortium. The list of funding organisations/countries taking part in the widening process will be provided by the JCS when the results of the first step will be communicated to the coordinators. The maximum of 7 partners within the consortium should still be respected. Finally, **it is mandatory for the new partner to contact her/his national funding organizations prior to submission of the full proposal and receive eligibility confirmation and approval** (see contact details in Annex I of the call text).

Further information

For additional information, please contact the JCS, or your national/regional funding organisation Contact Person (see Annex I).

EVALUATION AND DECISION

Eligibility check and evaluation procedure

Formal check and evaluation of pre-proposals

The JCS will check all proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal criteria (date of submission; number and category of participating countries; inclusion of all necessary information in English; appropriate limits on length). In parallel, the JCS will forward the proposals to the national/regional funding organisations, which will perform a check for compliance with national/regional regulations.

Each proposal passing the eligibility check (JCS and country/region) will be evaluated by three reviewers for a first evaluation (see evaluation criteria below). The reviewers will perform the assessment of the pre-proposal and complete a written evaluation form with scores and comments for each evaluation criterion. Based on the scores in the written evaluations a ranking list will be established. Potential conflicts of interests of the evaluators will be taken into consideration during the allocation of the proposals. The CSC members will meet to decide which proposals will be invited to submit a full proposal based on the reviewers' recommendations and to ensure a reasonable balance of requested and available national/regional budgets. Pre-proposals which do not pass this

assessment will not be invited for the full proposal stage. The consortia will receive the evaluation reports without scores, including advice on their RRI approach where appropriate.

Formal check and evaluation of full proposals.

The JCS will check the full proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal criteria and have not changed substantially from the respective pre-proposals before sending them to the reviewers. Any fundamental change between pre- and full proposals, e.g. concerning the composition of the consortium, the objectives of the project or the requested budget must be communicated to the JCS and to the national/regional involved funding organisations. In exceptional cases, these changes may be admitted if detailed justification is provided and if they are accepted by CSC.

Each full proposal will be allocated to three reviewers taking into consideration the potential conflicts of interest. The reviewers will perform the assessment of the full proposal and complete a written evaluation form with scores and comments for each criterion (see evaluation criteria below). During a Peer Review Panel (PRP) meeting, the reviewers will discuss all proposals and produce a ranking list of proposals recommended for funding. RRI advisors will also be present during the meeting.

Before the PRP members meet to discuss each **full proposal** in a PRP meeting, each coordinator is given the opportunity to read and comment the arguments and evaluations of the reviewers (see section "Rebuttal").

Evaluation criteria

1. Excellence

a. Scientific quality of the proposal:

- Significance of the research question.
- Clarity and relevance of the objectives.
- Credibility and clarity of the proposed approach and methodology (including power calculations, randomisation, blinding and bias, target group(s) studied, as well as approach to responsible research and innovation).
- Expected progress beyond the state-of-the-art, clearly demonstrating an innovation potential.
- Quality of the project consortium: international competitiveness of participants in the field(s), previous work and specific expertise of the participants, complementarity of the participants, multidisciplinary nature of the consortium, benefit of the transnational collaboration.

b. Novelty and ambition (including translatability of the proposed research to human health).

2. Impact

a. Unmet public and societal need and potential impact of the expected research results for future clinical, public health, and/or other socio-economic health relevant applications including patients' needs and/or for industry (i.e. product development).

b. Added value of transnational collaboration and potential for fostering international network: gathering a critical mass of patients, sharing of resources (biological material, models, databases, etc.), harmonization of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, etc.

c. Projects with high potential of applicability at short/medium term: expected time for market and transfer to patient towards clinical and public health applications, pharmaceutical/health device applications, other industrial applications including market and end user's scenario, quality of dissemination, exploitation and business plan. (when appropriate/applicable).

d. Participation/engagement with end-users such as patients, industry, clinicians (when appropriate/applicable).

e. Effectiveness of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of intellectual property rights), to communicate the project results in a tailored manner to the different audiences (e.g. policy makers, industry, patients), and to manage research data where relevant.

Sub-criterion 2e will be evaluated at the full proposal evaluation stage.

3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation

a. Feasibility of proposal and likelihood of successful completion of proposed research.

b. Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan (including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, resources and timeframe).

c. Use of existing biobanks and existing cohorts (when appropriate/applicable).

d. Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk, innovation management and RRI and ethical considerations.

e. Adequacy of the budget: appropriate distribution of resources in relation to project activities, partner's responsibilities and time frame.

f. Sustainability of the research capacities initiated by the project (e.g. FAIR data management, Open Science practices). Quality of Intellectual Property management.

Sub-criterion 3e and 3f will be evaluated at the full proposal evaluation stage.

Proposals not relevant to the call topic and objectives (out of the scope) will not be funded, independently of their scientific quality.

Scoring system

Evaluation scores will be awarded for the three main criteria. Each criterion will be scored out of five. The weight of each of the three main criteria is equal.

0 = Failure. 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.

Only integer values are accepted.

A full proposal will be considered fundable if the threshold score for individual criterion is 3 points and the overall score at least 10 points.

Rebuttal stage

Before the PRP meeting, each coordinator is provided with the reviewers' assessments. This so called rebuttal stage allows applicants to comment on factual errors or misunderstandings that may have occurred in the review process and to reply to reviewers' questions. However, issues not related to reviewers' comments or questions cannot be addressed and the work plan cannot be modified at this stage.

The applicants will have up to 13 days (August 22nd – September 3rd, 2025) for this optional response to the reviewers' comments. Answers sent after the notified deadline, or not related with reviewers' comments or questions will be disregarded.

PRP meeting

The JCS will give the PRP members access to full proposals, reviews and rebuttals, avoiding any conflicts of interest. The PRP will meet to discuss each proposal and, after consideration of the evaluation criteria, eventual external reviews, rebuttals, and their own reviews and discussions, the PRP will assign final scores, make a classification of the proposals, and rank proposals recommended for funding. The final summary review report prepared by the PRP members will be sent to the respective project coordinators.

Ethical clearance

After the PRP meeting, Ethical experts will remotely check the full proposals, which are recommended for funding by the PRP and selected for funding by the CSC, for alignment with ethical norms and regulations[8]. A meeting will also be organised for a discussion between the various ethics experts. If necessary, the ethics experts may ask the consortium for clarifications on the ethical points related to the proposed research approaches and for documents such as the patient consent form. The Ethics experts may highlight some vigilance points that need to be monitored during the implementation of the funded project. Only those proposals approved by both the scientific evaluation and ethical assessment (complying with all central Horizon Europe and regional/national ethical requirements), will be funded.

Decision

A final decision, based on the ranking list established by the PRP, available funding and the ethical clearance, will be taken by the national/regional funding organisations.

[8] Reference to EU Regulation 2021/695 and how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf (europa.eu)

Project coordinators having submitted an eligible proposal will be informed about the funding recommendation regarding their proposal by the JCS. The projects coordinators are responsible to communicate this information to their project partners.

REDRESS PROCEDURE

Applicants can appeal against the evaluation outcome if they suspect a breach in the application of the evaluation and selection procedures. This redress procedure only covers the procedural aspects of the evaluation and/or central formal eligibility checks.
Requests for redress on national/regional eligibility decisions will not be handled by the JCS and need to be addressed to the responsible national contact point. A mere disagreement with peer reviewers or panel members' comments are not grounds for an appeal. The redress procedure will not call into question the scientific or technical judgement of appropriately qualified experts.

In this case the applicants shall submit their appeal to the JCS via email (interheart@agencerecherche.fr) up to 7 calendar days after the date of the eligibility check or evaluation outcome email notifications by the call secretariat at the end of each step (eligibility check, first or second evaluation stage).

Admissibility of appeals

For an appeal to be admissible the following conditions must be met:
- The appeal must be submitted by the coordinator of the proposal to which the appeal relates
- Only one appeal per proposal can be submitted after each step
- The appeal must be submitted via email within the 7 calendar days deadline. The appeal must contain the following minimum information:

- The name of the call for proposals
- The proposal acronym
- The title of the proposal
- A description of the alleged shortcomings of the evaluation procedure

The appeal must demonstrate a procedural irregularity, factual or manifest errors in the evaluation process, misuse of powers, or a conflict of interests. Appeals that do not meet the above conditions, or do not deal with the evaluation of a specific proposal or express mere disagreement with the result or the reasoning of the evaluation will be judged as not suitable for redress.

Procedure

Upon receipt of an appeal, an acknowledgement of receipt will be sent by the call secretariat as soon as the email is read. The acknowledgement shall report the redress process and the anticipated date by which a decision on the appeal will be communicated to the appellant.
All appeals received by the 7 calendar days deadline will be processed together by a designated Redress Committee and the decision will be communicated to the appellant **within 10 calendar days** from the deadline for submitting the appeals.

RESPONSIBILITIES, REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND DISSEMINATION

Consortium agreement

It will be the responsibility of the project coordinator to draw up a Consortium Agreement (CA) suitable to the project partners in order to manage the delivery of the project activities, finances, intellectual property rights (IPR), to handle confidential data (e.g. patient data) and to avoid disputes which might

be detrimental to the completion of the project. The project consortium is strongly encouraged to sign this CA before the official project start date, and in any case the CA should be signed in the first 6 months of the project**.** Please note that national regulations may apply concerning the requirement for a CA (e.g. certain funding organisations may need the signed CA to release some funds). Further instructions will be provided by the JCS to the coordinators of the projects selected for funding.

Open science

Importantly, all funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of transnational ERA4Health-funded projects are published with Open Access. All research projects funded by ERA4Health are eligible to publish on **Open Research Europe (ORE)**, the Platform of the EC[9] at no cost.

The new research data resulting from the project should be treated according to the FAIR[10] principles, and deposited and shared, according to the national rules of the countries involved. To make research data findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable (FAIR), a Data Management strategy for the proposed full projects is mandatory in the second evaluation stage. Projects selected to receive funding in the current call, will be requested to present a more detailed Data Management Plan (DMP) before month 6 from the official start of the project and an update of the DMP will be asked at the end of the projects.

Progress report

The project coordinator is required to submit an annual scientific progress report on behalf of the consortium to the JCS in March of each year, detailing how the project is progressing in relation to planned objectives. Furthermore, a final scientific report must be sent to the JCS within a period of two months after the project has ended. In addition to the reports, information related to some indicators related to the project may be collected on a platform/survey.

National funding organisations may also request financial and/or scientific annual progress reports and/or a final report on the project from the partners from their respective country.

In addition, the coordinators of each consortium may be asked to participate in a kick-off meeting and present two progress updates, one mid-term and one final status symposium. An appropriate travel budget should be included and justified in the financial plan for the proposal. In case some of the events are organised as an online conference, all partners of the consortia will be encouraged to participate.

Communication

The project coordinator will represent the consortium externally and will be responsible for all communication with the relevant ERA4Health bodies. The coordinator must promptly inform the JCS in case of ANY significant changes in the work plan or the consortium's composition. The JCS will inform the relevant funding organisations, who will decide upon the proper action to be taken.

Project coordinators, upon notification, are required to deliver an abstract of their project suitable for communication and dissemination purposes.

For the effective contribution of the project to the objectives of the ERA4Health, the project coordinator should be available to participate in meetings/workshops with the aim of:

[9]https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/
[10] https://www.nature.com/articles/sdata201618

- exchanging project results;
- developing a joint strategy to coordinate and facilitate integration of the planned activities of ERA4Health;
- communicating results across ERA4Health.

Importantly, all funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of transnational ERA4Health funded projects include proper acknowledgement of the ERA4Health partnership and the respective funding partner organisations.
"*This project received funding from [name of funding organisations, or an acknowledgment as requested by your national/regional funding organisations] under the umbrella of the Partnership Fostering a European Research Area for Health (ERA4Health) (GA N° 101095426 of the EU Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme).*"

CONFIDENTIALITY

The ERA4Health JCS takes all reasonable steps to ensure that information provided in the application is treated confidential.

The proposals will be handled confidentially by the JCS and by the national/regional funding organisations. In selecting the international experts for the PRP, the JCS shall endeavour to avoid any possible conflicts of interest (CoI).

Each expert will have to sign a declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest. In case of a CoI the reviewer will be withdrawn from evaluating the respective proposal. Conflicts of interest are managed and recorded throughout the evaluation process.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

The following Data Privacy Notice applies:

By submitting an application, the applicants consent to the use, processing and retention of their personal data[11], in accordance with article 6.1 (e) and (c) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2016/679) and for the purposes of:

- processing and evaluating the application where processing shall be lawful only if and to the extent that processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller,
- administering any subsequent funding award,
- managing the funding organisations relationship with them,
- analysing and evaluating the call,
- providing aggregate data to national and European surveys and analyses on the funded projects,

[11] Last name, first name of the researchers, date of birth, professional contact information, degree(s), position (current and previous), fields of activity, place of work, organisation, address(es), curriculum vitae, ORCID number, name and reference of projects, pre-proposals, project proposals (scientific document, administrative and financial appendix).

- and complying with audits that may be initiated by the funding organisations and the European Commission (or its agencies).

The members of the CSC may share applicant's data with third parties (some of which may be based outside the European Economic Area) in relation to the above activities including evaluators, auditors and the European Commission (or its agencies).

The members of the CSC may link the data that funding recipients provide in the application with national, bibliographic or external research funding data which are available through public subscription-based databases (e.g. Scopus, Web of Science, etc.) or other national / open datasets.

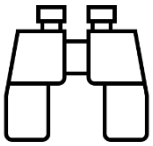
ERA4HEALTH RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (RRI) GUIDELINES

What is RRI and why do we need it?

Health research and innovation is crucial for maintaining and improving European public health. In this context, it is easy to acknowledge that science is not separate from society but part of it, which confers an important social responsibility on science. It is important, therefore, that funders, researchers and other key groups involved in the development of science, technology and innovation think about: (i) the potential directions of research being taken; (ii) who might benefit from new research and inventions and who might not; and (iii) how consideration of the potential social, environmental and ethical issues can be considered throughout the science and innovation process. Responsible research and innovation (RRI) is not about adjudicating what is 'good 'or 'bad', 'positive 'or 'negative', or 'responsible 'or 'irresponsible'. Instead, RRI offers techniques, tools and frameworks to think about questions of social responsibility and ensure scientists, funders and technologists don't lose sight of the context in which they do science, technology and innovation.
RRI is closely related to other cross-cutting issues, and actions can be taken that address both RRI and other important values, such as public/user engagement, open science or ethical assessments.

What is ERA4Health's approach to RRI?

ERA4Health's approach to RRI is focused on improving the quality of research and innovation by keeping the broader context of your work visible. It encourages you to embed methodologies and processes to consider four important dimensions related to research and innovation:

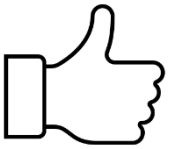


Anticipation. What might the future desirable and undesirable effects of your work be? Who will benefit from it, and who might not? Can decisions be made now to encourage the good, while minimising the bad effects? This isn't about exhaustive prediction but about building a sense of preparedness for the future.

Inclusion. Whose voices and knowledge are shaping your research project? In health research, much evidence shows that patient organisations, health

care users and health professionals (amongst others) can improve the quality of innovation. Inclusion is about creating opportunities for two-way exchange of information, co-design or knowledge co-production to draw important outside voices into the research process.

Reflection. Are there opportunities for you and your team to pause and take stock' about what you're doing? Would everyone agree with your goals and the decisions you've taken so far? Reflection is about making sure there is space and time to collectively ask hard questions about a project's foundations.



Responsiveness. What are the key decision points in your project? Are there opportunities to change course, if you need to? The final dimension is a reminder that the work you do under the label of RRI needs to shape the design, governance or use of your research or innovation.

In sum RRI provides a framework to ask how research and innovation should be carried out in order to ensure that we achieve the societal goals of research and innovation in an open and inclusive way. ERA4Health believes that the RRI methodology improves the quality of research proposals and projects, and substantively engaging with this framework will therefore be rewarded in the proposal evaluation process.

How should you include RRI in your project?

Experience with past funding programmes shows that these four dimensions – anticipation, inclusion, reflection and responsiveness – provide a useful heuristic to think about social responsibility across a range of domains. However, the diversity of health science and the range of local contexts engaged within ERA4Health means that there cannot be a one size fits all approach. The specific approach to RRI must be tailored to the actual social, environmental and ethical issues raised by a project's research and innovation activities.

This means that ***the commitment*** to RRI is clear and fixed in the programme, but there is an openness about the issues addressed and the specific ways to practise responsibility – these must be adapted to each project. In general, your approach to RRI should be proportionate to your proposal – disruptive, ground-breaking or high-TRL (Technology Readiness Level) work is likely to require a more substantive engagement with RRI. If the research is exploratory then RRI components can also be exploratory – teasing out the potential visions, goals and end uses of a project. Overall, the goal is to demonstrate that you have engaged and seriously considered the tensions and meaningful societal benefits associated with health research and innovation.

The text below therefore provides overall ideas and advice but cannot give a recipe that all potential applicants may use. However, the following four points will provide a good foundation as to how develop your approach to RRI in your proposal:

1. Treat **RRI as an integrated part of the project** involving as many project members as possible. Do not think of RRI as distinct from the science but as central to it. It is a process

that will increase the likelihood of delivering applications with real utility, fair accessibility and concrete value for citizens.

2. It is important to develop a **shared understanding of the project's RRI aspects** as early as possible, and for the work plan to be specific to the project. Avoid writing generic, boiler-plate text. By 'RRI aspects' we mean implications or characteristics of your research that touch upon societal, ethical and environmental values.

3. **Develop the scientific and RRI components in tandem.** This means you will need to have conversations about the goals, uncertainties and assumptions associated with the scientific ideas. It is important to continue these conversations if the project is funded.

4. **Make sure you adequately resource RRI.** It takes time, effort, expertise and money to do RRI well. While there is no one approach to operationalising RRI within a project, ideally RRI needs to be coordinated and should have a lead.

But what should you actually do?

Starting points to help you identify the most relevant dimensions for your project.
The following questions will direct you to different RRI perspectives applicable for health research and innovation projects. Many of these perspectives can be explored in a structured way with a range of methodologies (for additional resources, see box below).
Please be aware that these options neither represent a complete list of examples, nor the mandated approaches to RRI by ERA4Health.

1. **Who will benefit from your project**, who will not, and who may experience new risks? Are those answers acceptable to you?

   a. Does your project address a specific health-related or societal problem or need?
   b. Will your innovation be affordable and accessible? If not, is that a problem?
   c. Does your framing of the problem fit with other people's understanding of it? Can you access these alternative framings?
   d. How does your approach to the health challenge compare to others approaches?
   e. What is the most appropriate form of intellectual property (IP) for your project goals and affordability aspirations? Do classical IP strategies deliver the broadest benefit? Can new strategies (e.g. Open Material Transfer Agreements) be adopted at certain points of the research process?
   f. How could commercial or non-commercial organisations benefit from your research?
   g. Are there foreseeable risks that you can mitigate now? For instance, what are the potential risks of data being released? How can you take care to ensure these data are interpreted appropriately?

2. Have you identified and involved **relevant stakeholders and have you considered public engagement activities**? Are there opportunities for stakeholders and the public to contribute to your work? Stakeholders are people or organisations with a vested interest in the project (both positive and negative), who may also contribute knowledge to it. They could be patients, minorities and marginalised groups, health system users, special interest groups, health professionals, companies, non-profits, or advocacy organisations. A number of different considerations for stakeholder engagement are important:

a. **Think about the methodology you will use**. For instance, 'co-design' and 'knowledge co-production' methodologies are good at generating trust and allowing stakeholders, including the public, to contribute their knowledge to the problem your project is trying to address.
b. **Think also about the appropriate timing** of different stakeholders' inclusion: certain kinds of knowledge may be more useful early on, whereas other knowledge may be useful later.
c. It will likely be valuable (but not obligatory) to **include expertise beyond the medical and health science**s – such as lawyers, social scientists or philosophers – to provide anticipatory and reflective methodologies or to address key challenges. Approach them early in your project design.
d. Think about **how best to formalise and include stakeholder knowledge** in your project. Are they best placed as scientific collaborators, as members of an advisory board, or as consultants to deliver only specific tasks? Check if your approach is in line with the national/regional funding rules before designing your proposal.

3. **Have you created good deliberative spaces** for your project team, partners and aforementioned stakeholders, including the public, to anticipate and reflect on the broader social, political, ethical or environmental context of your research? If not, RRI experts in Science and Technology Studies, medical sociology, bioethics and science communication may be able to help you with this in project design and implementation. A number of different approaches are possible, e.g.:

a. Focusing on your day-to-day research work ("philosopher in the lab approach").
b. Using foresight and critical futures methodologies.
c. Utilising a diverse advisory board.
d. Trans-disciplinary reflection at consortium meetings.
e. Using stage-gate approaches where explicit decisions about technological choices are taken.

4. Have you reflected on/considered adapting **your choice of research methods** regarding, for example:

a. Ethical issues in the project (including ethical considerations in the design of participatory science and possibly broader than the "ethics self-assessment")?
b. The use of data in your project – where does it come from, how will it be used and where will it go? How will ethical use be ensured?
c. In vivo/in vitro experiments and need for use of animals in experiments?
d. Use of new approaches such as "Safe(r) by Design"?
e. Your ability to increase the likelihood of translation by outlining e.g. strategies of scientific rigour, and strategies to reduce bias, inclusion of sex/gender as a biological variable in study design?
f. Open Science (such as open data, open code, open protocol or other low barrier data sharing practices) and other publication practices (including report all results, also negative or so-called null results)?
g. And are there ways that your project can advance common practices on these issues?

5. Have you engaged with important aspects of **your research environment** such as:

a. gender, ethnicity and intersectional equality, diversity and inclusivity?
b. career progression and precarity?

c. equity between partners in your research consortium?

6. Have you shown how the project (and product) satisfy requirements for **patient and production safety** and efficiency? Will there be clear benefits for the patient by, for example by:
   a. listening to/satisfying user needs and safety concerns, or involving them in design;
   b. involving regulatory affairs professionals (toxicity tests, etc.),
   c. communicating with regulatory entities as early as possible (the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or the European Medicines Agency (pharmaceuticals and medical devices), etc.

7. Have you considered and evaluated **environmental impacts and sustainable solutions**, in line with the **Do No Significant Harm principle**[10], by including, for example:
   a. lifecycle analysis (LCA)?
   b. ecotoxicology studies?
   c. safer- sustainable-, or recyclable-by-design methodologies?

How does ERA4Health support and evaluate RRI?

Health research and innovation happens in many different locations (e.g. universities, hospitals, care homes, companies, policy organisations), involves different stages of research (i.e. across the TRL spectrum) and different research cultures. Responsibility for innovation must be shared, and RRI therefore requires a multi-level approach.

ERA4Health is taking a systemic approach to RRI, considering it in the development of the annual work programme and the resulting funding calls. These guidelines were developed in collaboration with members of the ERA4Health community, and will be updated on a rolling basis. The programme's capacity building activities will also facilitate a dialogue among stakeholders in health research about RRI and ethical issues.

At the level of research projects, **ERA4Health requires that all proposers explain how their projects demonstrate a commitment to investigating and addressing the social, environmental, ethical, political or cultural dimensions of the proposed research.** Integration of RRI should lead to an improved understanding and awareness of the possible benefits, risks, and uncertainties of health science across a broad cross-section of society. This may include (but is not limited to) any of the approaches described in the above section.

In the (pre-)proposal templates, three sections/points refer to RRI and ethics considerations and leave space for you to explain your approaches:

- General RRI aspects
- Involvement of stakeholders and the public
- Ethical considerations (in your ethics self-assessment)

RRI components will be given advise on/evaluated by experts as integral components within the scope of all evaluation criteria (Excellence, Impact, and Implementation). RRI does not detract from the overall scoring but contributes to it: Proposals that explicitly aim to advance processes of anticipation, reflection, inclusion and responsiveness by developing new analyses or methodologies will be rewarded in the review process and the scores will be adjusted accordingly. In pre-proposals: The research consortia will receive advice on the RRI dimension from their proposal via written comments from an RRI Adviser that will be shared with the reviewers. In full proposals: RRI Advisers will comment on proposals before the Per Review Panel (PRP) meeting and be invited to give additional advice on RRI and support the discussions during the PRP meeting.

The kinds of questions the RRI Advisers/reviewers will ask regarding RRI are:

Relating to Excellence

- Is the RRI approach proportionate to the content of the scientific proposal?
- Does RRI extend across the lifespan of the project? (e.g. as a sub-project, an advisory board or to be considered in annual meetings)
- Are there clear deliverables associated with the RRI work, with ambitions to contribute to RRI scholarship and/or new knowledge of the social, political, ethical or environmental dimensions of health science?

Relating to Impact

- Are there clear opportunities for the RRI work to shape the project's scientific trajectories?
- Does the RRI work help align the project's research better to the needs and values of society?

Relating to Implementation

- Is there appropriate RRI expertise in the project?
- Is RRI work adequately resourced? Is it clear how the objectives will be achieved?
- Is it clear how the work is organised? (e.g. as a work package, a cross-cutting issue, outsourced etc.)
- Is it clear who is doing the work and what they will do?

WEB RESOURCES FOR INCLUDING RRI IN YOUR PROJECT:

www.rri-tools.eu provide numerous resources for practical RRI.

https://thinkingtool.eu/: The Societal Readiness Thinking Tool guides you through the steps of including RRI in a project.

The Centre for Digital Life Norway has also compiled a range of resources that may help develop your approach.

Tools for public engagement: https://www.publicengagement.ac.uk/resources and http://actioncatalogue.eu/

Further examples specific to health science and innovation will in the future be provided on the RRI webpage of ERA4Health (coming).

ERA4HEALTH's approach to RRI builds on previous frameworks published by the UK's EPSRC, the Research Council of Norway, the European Commission and funding programmes such as M-ERA.NET, ERA CoBioTech and EuroNanoMed3.

ANNEX I

Country	Belgium
Funding organisation	Fund for Scientific Research-FNRS
National contact person	Dr. Maxime Bonsir +32 2 504 9236 Joël Groeneveld +32 2 504 9270 international@frs-fnrs.be
Funding commitment	300.000 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	1
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	300.000 € per project for 3 years
Eligibility of partners	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations. This call is NOT co-funded by the European Commission. It is **strongly advised** to contact the F.R.S.-FNRS prior to submission regarding the eligibility criteria. Please note that the F.R.S.-FNRS only funds Basic research (low Technology Readiness Level) carried out in a research institution from the "Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles". The F.R.S.-FNRS will not fund industrial partners or any activity related to the private sector. Nevertheless, partners funded by the F.R.S.-FNRS can be in a consortium where there are also partners from the private sector.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations. Please note that personnel costs (Article III.6) have an annual average cap of 80 000 euros for this call. **Clinical studies are not eligible for funding by the F.R.S.-FNRS** For "overhead" costs: - Operating expenses: up to 1% within the granted budget. This percentage should be included in the requested operating budget. - Personnel: up to 2% outside of the granted budget. This percentage will be paid upon reimbursement of expenses to institutions by the F.R.S.-FNRS.
Submission of the proposal at the national level	Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding must provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application on e-space within 5 working days after the general deadline of the ERA4Health JTC6 call to be eligible. Please select the "PINT-MULTI" funding instrument when creating the administrative application. Proposals invited to the second stage will be able to complete the pre-proposal form and provide information for the full proposal upon validation by the F.R.S.-FNRS.
Submission of other information at the national level	As described in the PINT-MULTI regulations.

Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Financial reporting must be submitted to the F.R.S.-FNRS. As described in the PINT-MULTI regulations.
Further guidance	PINT-MULTI regulations, e-space

Country	Belgium
Funding organisation	The Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)
National contact person	Toon Monbaliu (FO) europe@fwo.be +32 (0)2 550 15 70 Kristien Peeters (SBO) europe@fwo.be +32 (0)2 550 15 95
Funding commitment	700.000 EUR
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	2
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Maximum 350.000 EUR per project/consortium (overhead included).
Eligibility of partners	The FWO integrates two of its funding channels within this multilateral framework. The choice of funding channel depends on the type of project the researchers from Flanders wish to undertake. The eligibility of research institutions and its researchers can be verified in the relevant and respective chosen funding channels regulations, which can be consulted on the FWO website: - FWO Research Projects (FO) - Strategic Basic Research (SBO)
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	The respective funding channel regulations apply (see links to national rules above), and both are capped at max. 350.000 EUR per project/consortium (incl. overhead, for which the calculation method diverges per funding channel). The FWO foresees a budget of 700.000 EUR, which allows for the funding of at least 2 projects. For the overhead calculation, the fundamental (FO) and strategic research projects (SBO) entail the same approach: a structural overhead rate should be applied on the total project costs, with an overhead rate of 6% for 'FO' projects, and a 17% overhead rate for 'SBO' projects. Some practical examples: • FO: the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 12.000 EUR (6% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 212.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR. • SBO: the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 34.000 EUR (17% of 200.000 EUR) and the total

	requested cost is 234.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR. **The FWO funds up to pre-clinical research.**
Submission of the proposal at the national level	Applicants for FWO funding must submit a **mandatory administrative application via the FWO e-portal**. For fundamental research projects (FO) select the application type: "Research projects – European programme fundamental research". For strategic basis research projects (SBO) select the application type: "Research projects – European programme strategic basic research". In case the consortium includes more than one partner requesting funding from FWO, a single online form should be submitted containing all relevant information from the different Flemish partners. The deadline to submit the administrative application to the FWO is identical to the deadline of the joint transnational call (preproposal stage). To ensure the eligibility of the proposal, it is recommended to consult the FWO administration at least one week in advance. **Failure to comply with these requirements can lead to ineligibility.**
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	• No additional, national scientific reporting is required: the ERA4Health ' InterHeart' call reporting requirements suffice in this regard. • Financial reporting is similar to the national framework. One additional feature: at the end of the project the FWO will ask for a cost statement, in the light of its own reporting requirements.

Additional eligibility rules/ Further guidance	• Participation in this call does not interfere with the 'regular/national' project submission framework, and is consequently not taken into account for calculating the max. available number of new applications and running projects combined. However, **researchers can only participate within 2 different international consortia in this call** (and only once if they act as coordinator in one of the proposals). • Projects aiming at the development of a spin-off company are not eligible in this context. • The **project duration is limited to 36 months**, which implies the funding has to be budgeted and spent accordingly. An automatic prolongation and using positive (financial) balances after the end date is not applicable in this framework. As such article 28 of the FWO Research Projects and article 14 of the Strategic Basic Research (SBO) regulations do not apply in this context. • The PI, for each of the participating institutions applying for FWO funds, must hold an **appointment that fully covers the duration of the research project.** Linked to this, and when it comes to the FWO research project regulations (FO): article 10, §7 is not applicable in this framework. I.e. supervisors (-spokespersons), or coordinators/consortium partners who are granted **emeritus** status during the calendar year of submission of the project application or during the duration of the project are **not eligible**. • It is strongly advised to contact the FWO contact persons mentioned above, in order not to jeopardize any research projects/consortia.

Country	Denmark
Funding organisation	Innovation Fund for Denmark
National contact person	Katrine Boeriis Katrine.boeriis@innofond.dk Internationale@innofond.dk
Funding commitment	1 000 000 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Both a maximum funding amount and maximum funding rates apply. The maximum funding amount is 300.000 € per partner and (if there is more than one Danish partner) 500.000€ per project. Additionally, maximum funding rates apply according to IFD's Guidelines.
Eligibility of partners	
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	• Salaries; • Equipment (equipment, materials, etc.); • Other project-related costs (events, transportation, travel, audit costs, etc.), • External services (consultancy costs, subcontracting or services); Overhead (for the applicable rate please refer to the IFD's Guidelines)
Submission of the proposal at the national level	Usually 2-4 weeks after the proposal submission deadline, Danish applicants will receive and invitation to upload the proposal to the e-grant system.
Submission of other information at the national level	Private companies will be requested further documentation, which can be found under Documents on the IFD website.
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Every 6 months after project start.
Further guidance	Link to IFD Guidelines: https://innovationsfonden.dk/sites/default/files/2024-03/Guidelines%20International%20Collaborations%20March%201%202024.pdf Additional documents: https://innovationsfonden.dk/en/p/international-collaborations#accordion7906

Country	France
Funding organisation	French Research Funding Agency
National contact person	Anais Fradet/Martine Batoux Phone number: +33 1 73 54 81 74 /+33 1 73 54 81 40 ERA4HealthCall@agencerecherche.fr
Funding commitment	2 000 000 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	5-7
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	ANR funding will be limited to 250 000 € per French applicant. For a French Partner taking over the coordination of the project, the maximum budget can be increased up to 300 000 €. Minimum amount per partner: 15 000 €. If there are two French partners in one project, the maximum amount per project is 400 000 €.
Eligibility of partners	ANR may finance fundamental research, industrial research and experimental developments. ANR may fund research organisations and undertakings, as defined by the EC regulation on State aid for research, development and innovation (see the ANR Funding regulations for further reference). Only research organisations that have their primary establishment in France may be funded. As for undertakings, ANR may fund those that have their real head office in an EU member State and an establishment (primary or secondary) in France. Within this framework, research institutions such as EPST, EPIC, Universities, Hospitals as well as most Foundations, Associations and Enterprises can apply. Entities leading research are entitled to apply (eg: EPST, EPIC, Universities, Hospitals as well as most Foundations, Associations and Enterprises…). This list is not comprehensive and funding rates vary. Please fill the form related to economical activities to identify your funding rate and consult the ANR Funding regulations for more details: http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/RF Please note that companies with economic difficulties are excluded from ANR subventions. Countries subject to sanctions applicable to the research field by the European Union authorities are excluded from this call. Projects involving Partners established in these countries will be declared ineligible by the ANR. At the date of publication, these exclusions concern partners from the following countries Russia, Belarus. This list may evolve in case of new sanctions decided by the European Union.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	Standard ANR funding rules apply for eligible costs, unless stated otherwise in the Annex « *Modalités pour les partenaires sollicitant une aide de l'ANR* ».

	These rules are specified in ANR's "ANR Funding regulations". An explanatory note regarding the eligible costs is also available at: https://anr.fr/fr/rf/fiche-couts/ Eligible costs (e.g.: personnel costs, costs of instruments and equipment, additional overheads and other operating expenses incurred directly as a result of the research project such as, for instance: travel costs) and funding rates vary based on the type of research and research partner. Please note that expenses related to permanent staff stipends are not eligible for the Beneficiaries "à coût marginal".
Submission of the proposal at the national level	No additional documents should be submitted to ANR during the submission phase.
Submission of other information at the national level	When a project is selected for funding, administrative and financial data of the partners funded by ANR must be entered by the applicant on the ANR platform.
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	The ANR funded partners must communicate to ANR the required Scientific reports, Consortium Agreement, Data management plans according to the funding contract and as required to the project coordinator by ERA4Health. Financial reports must be communicated to ANR according to the provisions of ANR Funding regulations. If applicable, Declarations of Due Diligence for the financed projects (Nagoya Protocol) must also be transmitted to ANR in due time.
Further guidance	ANR does not allow double application nor double funding and will not finance projects or part of projects that have been funded through other calls. See Annex « *Modalités pour les partenaires sollicitant une aide de l'ANR* » for additional ANR rules available on the ANR website The above-mentioned terms and conditions are only summarized translations of those entailed in the ANR Funding regulations and in the Annex. In case of inconsistencies, the terms of the ANR Funding regulations and the Annex shall prevail. Please consult these documents for more details.

Country	Hungary
Funding organisation	National Research, Development and Innovation Office
National contact person	Zsuzsanna Kürti National Research, Development and Innovation Office Budapest 1077, Kéthly Anna tér 1. nemzetkozi@nkfih.gov.hu zsuzsanna.kurti@nkfih.gov.hu
Funding commitment	200 000 EUR
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	2
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	200 000 EUR
Eligibility of partners	Eligible applicants from Hungary: • enterprises with legal entity • non-profit organisations with legal entity • higher education and research institutions • budgetary units and entities, municipalities; Please note that within these categories specific eligibility rules may apply. Please check the Hungarian national call on specific eligibility rules: https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/horizont-europa-europai-partnersegek-magyar-szervezetek-tamogatasa-2024-121-he-partnerseg/palyazati-felhivas
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	Please consult the Hungarian national call on the eligibility of specific cost categories: https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/horizont-europa-europai-partnersegek-magyar-szervezetek-tamogatasa-2024-121-he-partnerseg/palyazati-felhivas
Submission of the proposal at the national level	The Guide for Applicants for the 2024-1.2.1-HE_PARTNERSÉG national call is applicable. https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/horizont-europa-europai-partnersegek-magyar-szervezetek-tamogatasa-2024-121-he-partnerseg/palyazati-felhivas
Submission of other information at the national level	The Guide for Applicants for the 2024-1.2.1-HE_PARTNERSÉG national call is applicable. https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/horizont-europa-europai-partnersegek-magyar-szervezetek-tamogatasa-2024-121-he-partnerseg/palyazati-felhivas
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	The Guide for Applicants for the 2024-1.2.1-HE_PARTNERSÉG national call is applicable. https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/horizont-europa-europai-partnersegek-magyar-szervezetek-tamogatasa-2024-121-he-partnerseg/palyazati-felhivas
Further guidance	Hungarian national call on partnerships and related documents at https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/horizont-europa-europai-partnersegek-magyar-szervezetek-tamogatasa-2024-121-he-partnerseg/palyazati-felhivas

Country	Italy
Funding organisation	Italian Ministry of Health (IT-MoH) www.salute.gov.it
National contact person	• Francesca Turco – Scientific Officer - f.turco@sanita.it • Chiara Ciccarelli – NCP and Programme Officer - c.ciccarelli@sanita.it
Funding commitment	1 500 000 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	4
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Max. 400K € per project
Eligibility of partners	Only IRCCS (Istituti di Ricovero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico) researchers areeligible to apply. **Not fundable:** Universities, other research Institutes, companies. Simultaneous PI participation in different 2025 JTCs funded by the Ministry of Health is not allowed. No more than two Italian PIs (Principal Investigators) are eligible to apply for the same project. Italian PAOs can be funded as a sub-contractor of an IRCCS if they fulfil the eligibility criteria of the EC. The maximum amount eligible for a sub-contract is **≤ 10% of the total budget** (from the IRCCS Budget). Italian PAOs can still participate in Consortia as "Collaborators" with their own funds.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	Direct Costs: • Personnel (only temporary contracts or permanent contracts for the amount of hours dedicated to the project, **≤ 60%**); • Consumables /Supplies; • Animals /Model costs; • Equipment (only on leasing or rent); • Travel (**≤ 30%**); • Dissemination activities (**≤ 1%**); • Publication costs: < 2%; open access < 5%; • Patients recruitment costs; • IT Services and Data Bases; • Coordination costs Indirect Costs: • Overhead (<10%, included in the total);Other indirect costs are not eligible.

	Transfer of eligible funds abroad is not allowed.
	Subcontracts are allowed only upon approval, by presenting via Workflow – code ER, a request together with the National pre-elegibility form, the latest 20 days before the deadline of the pre-proposal submission.
Submission of the proposal at the national level	In order to expedite the eligibility check process, the Ministry of Health will grant an eligibility clearance to the applicant prior to the submission of the proposals. Tothis end, **it is mandatory that the applicants fill out and return to the IT-MoH a pre-submission eligibility check form through their IRCCS, using WFR System-> ERcommunication code,** before submitting their proposal to the Joint Call Secretariat. It is strongly recommended that the form, completed and duly signed, is returned **at least 10 working days before the proposal submission deadline.** Applicants willbe sent written notification of their eligibility status. Changes in acronyms and budgets provided in the pre-submission eligibility check are not allowed. The pre-eligibility form can be downloaded here: https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_pagineAree_4441_0_file.pdf
Submission of other information at the national level	-
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Submission of annual scientific and financial reports at the national level will berequired according to the rules of the Ministry of Health (Ricerca Corrente).
Further guidance	Further information on the rules of the Ministry of Health can be requested to thenational contact persons.

Country	Latvia
Funding organisation	Latvian Council of Science
National contact person	Maija Bundule E-mail: Maija.Bundule@lzp.gov.lv Tel: +371- 26514481 Uldis Berkis E-mail: Uldis.Berkis@lzp.gov.lv Tel.: +371-29472349
Funding commitment	600 000 EUR
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	2
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	300.000 Euros per partner, not exceeding 100.000 EUR per year Funding rates under Regulation EC 651/2014 shall be respected in case of state aid. Maximum 2 Latvian partners per proposal
Eligibility of partners	Only the following **legal persons** are eligible: 1) Research institutions registered in the Latvian Registry of Scientific Institutions, e.g. - Research Institutes - Universities And must have the status of Research and knowledge dissemination organization (Regulation EC 651/2014) 2) Business enterprises entered into the Latvian Commercial registry as companies, assumed they are eligible to do the specific research and have specific capacity and resources to do the research in Latvia and have their main activity in Latvia. Limitations of EU legislation apply (Regulation 651/2014) together with financial reporting requirements, in this case it is state aid. Two previous statements with sworn auditor's approval should be provided and they must reflect the correspondence to the regulation as well as prove the evidence of previous scientific activity and presence of capacity. Enterprises not having closed two annual financial periods are not eligible. Latvia allows max 2 Latvian partners per proposal, they must be fully independent on legal, financial and personnel basis.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	• Personnel costs incl. taxes; • Consumables; • Subcontracts (up to 25% of direct costs), needs detailed justification, includes all external services, project core activities cannot be subcontracted;

	• Equipment (only depreciation costs during project directly attributable to project tasks); • Replaceable and fully consumable during project elements of equipment (e.g. electrodes); • Travels (according to travel plan); Indirect costs (up to 25% of direct costs excluding subcontracting).
Submission of the proposal at the national level	Not during the application phase. The proposal shall be attached to the request for funding in case the proposal is selected for funding
Submission of other information at the national level	Applicants for State aid must send before the call deadline (both 1st and 2nd stages) to the e-mail address lzp@lzp.gov.lv, stating the acronym and the title of the project, applicant name and registration number in Latvia, the following document: a certification that the applying legal person does not correspond to the criteria laid down in laws and regulations to be subject to insolvency proceedings at the request of the creditor. It must be electronically signed by valid legal representative (s). Upon request applicants for State aid must provide all requested documents to evaluate the financial situation and financial viability. Undertakings in difficulty are not eligible for funding. (Regulation 651/2014) In case of State aid, the undertakings are assessed for eligibility at each of the application stages and at the conclusion and during execution of the contract with LCS for project funding. If the eligibility criteria are not fulfilled, project funding cannot be approved or continued.
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Annual or in some cases half-annual financial and scientific reporting is mandatory. Final audit according to the LCS regulations.
Further guidance	Support is provided according to Provisions Nr 259, 26.05.2015 of the Latvian Cabinet of Ministers (http://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-dalibaistarptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas-petniecibas-un-tehnologiju-joma) These provisions should be respected without exceptions. The maximum rates should respect the Provisions. The requirements in the provisions to specific applicant groups must be respected. LCS cannot fund implementation support, nor training activities. LCS is not funding any activity beyond experimental development. LCS is funding only research. To receive funding by LCS, Consortium agreement duly signed should be presented. Application for the state aid must be submitted before the start of the project which is stated in the consortium agreement. Enterprises shall provide audited statements of 2 previous closed financial periods on request.

Country	Lithuania
Funding organisation	Research Council of Lithuania (Lietuvos mokslo taryba), LMT
National contact person	Živilė Ruželė E-mail: zivile.ruzele@lmt.lt Tel. +37067614383
Funding commitment	300 000€
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	1-2 projects
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Within a single project proposal, the maximum funding can be: up to EUR 150 000 – for a mere consortium partner; up to EUR 200 000 – for a coordinator or 2 eligible mere partners in a consortium; up to EUR 250 000 – for a coordinator and 1 eligible mere partner in a consortium
Eligibility of partners	Eligible for funding institutions are Lithuanian research and higher education institutions that are included in the Register of Education and Research institutions, public healthcare institutions, academy of science mentioned in the state Law on Science and Studies, other state public institutions such as National libraries, archives, museums. Beneficiary institution (grant holder) manage the state budget funds allocated to the project following the rules stated in the legal acts, as well as representing the project partners (if applicable 'project partner' means public or private legal entity that, together with the eligible institution, created the conditions for project implementation). PI must be a PhD holder.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	Only costs (direct) generated during the lifetime of the project, related to project are eligible. Direct costs: personnel, travel, purchase (assets, services, consumables), subcontracting. Overheads (indirect costs): up to 20 % from direct costs.
Submission of the proposal at the national level	Not required
Submission of other information at the national level	Following funding decision, grant signing institution and the PI must complete and submit the national document (the template can be found following this link) containing this information: more detailed planed budget, foreseen dissemination and communication activities and expected outputs from project results with the granted research team contribution (scientific papers, patents, etc.). Midterm and final reports nationally are required by the end of the project.

Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Quarterly and yearly financial reports and two (2) scientific reports (mid-term and final) are required.
Further guidance	For any information, please refer to contact person. All information about the call is published on LMT website under Calls webpage. General information for applicants submitting proposals to European Partnerships calls can be found here.

Country	Poland
Funding organisation	National Centre for Research and Development
National contact person	Dr Marcin Chmielewski T: +48 22 39 07 109 M: +48 571 226 666 marcin.chmielewski@ncbr.gov.pl Department of International Cooperation, ul. Chmielna 69, 00-801 Warszawa, Poland
Funding commitment	1 500 000 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	4
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	400 000 € per project
Eligibility of partners	Following entities are eligible to apply: • Micro, Small, Medium and Large enterprise; • Research organisation; • Group of entities (within the meaning of art. 37 section 1, point 1a of The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 2279, 2022;). Entity must be registered in Poland; • For enterprises it is strongly advised to state in the Pre-proposal application form the KRS number of the enterprise and the size of the enterprise (micro/small, medium, large); • A condition for the participation of a group of entities as the Applicant in the competition is its formal existence on the date of submission of the pre-proposal, confirmed by its members concluding, at least conditionally, agreement on the creation of a group of entities; Please note that group of entities counts as at least two project partners from Poland (it meets the limit on the number of participants from the same country, please refer to call text for details).
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	The eligible costs shall be the following: 1. **personnel costs** (researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the research project); 2. **operating costs** including costs of instruments, equipment, technical knowledge, patents, costs for buildings and land, costs of materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity. 3. **cost of contractual research**, costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the research activity; this cost type cannot account for more than

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>70% of all eligible costs of a project; the subcontracting can be obtained from consortium partner only in justified case, this need will be verified by a national expert panel.

4. additional overheads incurred indirectly as a result of the research project; that costs are exactly 25% of eligible project costs and are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above and the rest of direct costs, excluding subcontracting (3); It means 4 = (1+2)*25%.

Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for research organisations. In the case of enterprises, funding quota will be decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the size of the company, type of research/development, risk associated with the research activities and commercial perspective of exploitation, under the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on criteria and rules on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1456, 2020.

<table>
<tr><th></th><th>Large Enterprises</th><th>Medium Enterprises</th><th>Small Enterprises</th><th>Research organizations</th></tr>
<tr><td>Fundamental/Basic Research</td><td>Not eligible</td><td>Not eligible</td><td>Not eligible</td><td>Not eligible</td></tr>
<tr><td>Industrial/Applied Research</td><td>Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)</td><td>Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)</td><td>Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)</td><td>Up to 100 %</td></tr>
<tr><td>Experimental development</td><td>Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)</td><td>Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)</td><td>Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)</td><td>Up to 100 %</td></tr>
</table>

Only Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental Development will be funded. Other type of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) is not eligible for funding as separate research tasks in the project schedule.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Submission of the proposal at the national level</td><td>Polish Participants will be informed and invited to submit Polish proposal once the international evaluation and the ranking list will be established.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Submission of other information at the national level</td><td>-</td></tr>
<tr><td>Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level</td><td>Annual scientific reports are obligatory.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Further guidance</td><td>Sample documents are available at:
https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/wniosek-krajowy</td></tr>
</table>

	We encourage you to learn about and use our "PartFinder" (Partner Search Tool), which allows you to match science and industry entities from around the World with each other. The search engine is available at: https://partfinder.ncbr.gov.pl/

Country	Slovakia
Funding organisation	Slovak Academy of Sciences
National contact person	Katarina Bibova bibova@up.upsav.sk
Funding commitment	120.000€
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	1
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Up to 120.000€ per project
Eligibility of partners	Only research Institutes of the Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible organisations for funding by SAS (up to 100%). 1. The Slovak principal investigator must have a job contract for more than 50% working hours in the SAS organization for which the project proposal or participation in the project proposal is submitted. 2. Other researchers, except for doctoral students, must have a working relationship with the SAS organization. 3. Each researcher of the Slovak partner research team of a project consortium (other than the Slovak Principal Investigator) must have a job contract with or a fellowship with the Slovak Principal Investigator, lasting until the end of the project or beyond.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	Total eligible costs = Permanent salaries + Other costs (DC + IC) • Permanent salaries 45 000 € (36 months) • Other costs: 75 000 € (36 months) Direct costs (DC): Personnel (max. 15% of DC), Consumables, Equipment (max. 40% of DC) and Travel costs Indirect costs (IC, Overheads): max. 20 % of DC. Limitations and specifications are available: (https://oms.sav.sk/wp-content/uploads/Financne-pravidla-od-1.1.-2023-schvalene-P-SAV-15.12.2022.pdf)
Submission of the proposal at the national level	Submission of the proposal at the national level will be required once the international evaluation has taken place and the ranking list has been endorsed by the Joint Call Steering Committee (CSC). The Slovak partner will be informed about recommendation for funding by the project consortium coordinator and invited by SAS to submit the national proposal form (MVTS

	form). The Presidium of SAS makes the final decision concerning the approval of funding (according to internal rules of SAS).
Submission of other information at the national level	no
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Annual financial reporting
Further guidance	

Country	Spain (Full table will be updated soon)
Funding organisation	Agencia Estatal de Investigación
National contact person	Era4Health@aei.gob.es
Funding commitment	800.000 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	
Eligibility of partners	
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	
Submission of the proposal at the national level	
Submission of other information at the national level	
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	
Further guidance	

Country	Spain
Funding organisation	Consejería de Salud y Consumo de la Junta de Andalucía (CSCJA)
National contact person	Alicia Milano Curto Tel: +34 955040450 email ep.fps@juntadeandalucia.es
Funding commitment	250.000,00 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	1-2
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	125.000€, 250.000€ if coordinator (including 21% indirect costs)
Eligibility of partners	Eligibility criteria established in Orden de 10 de agosto de 2023 de la Consejería de Salud y Consumo de la Junta de Andalucía. • Eligible organisation must be Andalusian Non-profit entities registered as Agents of the Andalusian Knowledge System (Registro de Agentes Andaluces del Conocimiento) with research and innovation activity in Biomedicine and Health Sciences, ie: Research managing foundations of the Andalusian Public Health System • Principal investigators must be linked through a civil servant, statutory or labour relationship with the applicant or performing centre. For Health Research Institutes (Institutos de Investigación Sanitaria, IIS), the link may be with any of the public or private law entities that are part of the IIS provided that the entity meets all the specific requirements determined in each action, and, in any case, be personnel assigned to the IIS. • More than one partner from Andalusia may participate in the same project • A PI can only participate in one application per call. • For receiving regional funding, the final funding decision issued by the corresponding program's decision-making body must be accredited • The duration of the projects shall be determined by the corresponding JTC. In any case, this period shall be stated in the award resolution.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	a) Goods and services: consumables, bibliographic material, equipment rentals, software licenses and external services. b) Personnel costs: specifically hired for the project, including salaries, employer Social Security contributions, legally established compensation and other duly justified expenses derived. c) Travel, accommodation and subsistence according to the maximum amounts of compensation for service established in Decree 54/1989, of March 21, on compensation for service of the Junta de Andalucía, exclusively for people who are part of the research group or hired under the funded project. Exceptionally, any expense outside these amounts, or for people other than those listed before, must be authorised by the granting

	body. d) Registration fees for congresses or conferences for the presentation and dissemination of the results. Publication costs: e) Other expenses duly justified and necessary for carrying out the project. f) Indirect costs 21% g) Subcontracting costs: cannot exceed 50% of the funding and need prior authorization from the granting body. Nor Scientific aspects nor the management of the project should be subcontracted. The following are not considered eligible expenses - Equipment or Equipment repair and maintenance - Items or amounts that, after analysis, are not considered justified - Amounts paid to persons participating in the project, with the exception of expenses necessary for special attention to patients that involve compensation for their participation in the project not derived from an employment relationship. The sum of the funding or income received for the same purpose may in no case exceed the cost of the funded activity.
Submission of the proposal at the national level	• Regional applications must be submitted to the General Secretariat of Public Health and R&D&I in Health exclusively by telematic means (please see section 10.c Orden de 10 de agosto de 2023). • The deadline for the submission of regional applications will be established in the regional call and will be informed through the website of the Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs.
Submission of other information at the national level	- The documents to be provided are detailed in section 14 of the Orden de 10 de agosto de 2023) - For projects involving invasive procedures on human beings, their biological material and/or clinical data, a favourable report or a document accrediting the request for its evaluation by the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee has to be provided
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Beneficiaries must submit financial and scientific reports to Consejería de Salud y Consumo de la Junta de Andalucía (please see section 22.b) 3º and 25.f) 1º Orden de 10 de agosto de 2023)
Further guidance	The projects must respect the fundamental principles established in national and international declarations, protocols and conventions on research ethics, as well as respect the requirements established in national and regional legislation in the field of biomedical research, development and innovation, personal data protection and bioethics. When the results are not susceptible to protection of industrial or intellectual property rights, the scientific publications resulting from the funding granted must be made available in open access, in accordance with article 37 of Law 14/2011, of June 1.

Country	Taiwan
Funding organisation	National Science and Technology Council
National contact person	Dr. Ching-Mei Tang Email: cmtom@nstc.gov.tw Tel: +886-2-2737-7557
Funding commitment	810,000€
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	2-3
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	-The maximum amount per year per project is €90,000.00 (about NTD3,000,000). -The decision regarding the exact amount of the grant is dependent on the result of the NSTC's internal reviews. -The number of grants of every principal investigator must comply with NSTC's regulation of the max number of two international cooperation projects granted by NSTC for the same duration.
Eligibility of partners	All research institutes, universities, hospitals, public organisations in Taiwan endorsed by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) as eligible institutions
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	Including personnel, consumables, hosting expenses for foreign researchers, and travel expenses for international destinations-joint research & overseas studies, for more information please refer to: https://www.nstc.gov.tw/folksonomy/list/f6d5c23c-b3ce-438e-911b-12a705dbac5a?l=ch
Submission of the proposal at the national level	No official national application is needed in the pre-proposal or full proposal phase. But must notify the national contact person in the National Science and Technology Council of your submission to the ERA4Health joint transnational call via email, together with your application as an attachment.
Submission of other information at the national level	-Taiwanese project partners shall submit a proposal to the NSTC for national financing after the project has been selected and approved for funding through the ERA4Health evaluation and selection process. -The proposals are required to be submitted to NSTC for funding as soon as possible as the internal process of the NSTC generally takes 6 months.
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	please refer to: https://www.nstc.gov.tw/folksonomy/list/f6d5c23c-b3ce-438e-911b-12a705dbac5a?l=ch

Country	Türkiye
Funding organisation	TUBITAK
National contact person	Şükran Alpdemir sukran.alpdemir@tubitak.gov.tr
Funding commitment	600 000 Euros
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	2-3 projects
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Up to 225 000 Euros per project, max. 125 000 Euros for public institutions and max. 225 000 Euros for private companies with 60% funding of the eligible costs for large companies and 75% funding of the eligible costs for SMEs (these amounts do not include extra payments, please refer to the related TUBITAK website for further information).
Eligibility of partners	For further information about application rules and procedures, please refer to the related TUBITAK website.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	For further information about application rules and procedures, please refer to the related TUBITAK webpage.
Submission of the proposal at the national level	Yes
Submission of other information at the national level	Yes
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Yes
Further guidance	Participants from Türkiye should also submit their proposals to TUBITAK electronically via (https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr/) for the pre-proposal phase. Only the PIs from successful projects that are listed for funding after the second stage of international evaluation are required to submit their full proposals. The applications should be completed via e-signature.