



Joint Call on Food Crops and Biomass Production Technologies

CALL TEXT AND NATIONAL / REGIONAL REGULATIONS

Original Proposal Submission Period:

Wednesday 10th February 2016 to Thursday 28th April 2016
(deadline of 12:00 (midday) CET / 20:00 Japanese time)

Extended Submission Period:

Tuesday 31st May 2016 to Wednesday 27th July 2016
(deadline of 12:00 (midday) CET / 20:00 JST)

Websites:

<http://www.concert-japan.eu/> (for Call Text and National/Regional regulations)
https://secure.pt-dlr.de/ptoutline/app/users/login/EIG_JC1JAPAN
(for online proposal submission portal)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART 1: CALL TEXT	3
1. Background and rationale of the EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call.....	3
1.1. <i>EIG CONCERT-Japan</i>	3
1.2. <i>EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Calls</i>	3
2. The EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call on Food Crops and Biomass Production Technologies ..	4
2.1. <i>The thematic area</i>	4
2.2. <i>Participating countries and regions</i>	5
2.3. <i>Eligible beneficiaries and composition of the consortia</i>	5
2.4. <i>Eligible costs and duration of funding</i>	6
2.5. <i>Call budget and funding principle</i>	6
3. Proposal submission	7
4. Proposal evaluation and funding decision	8
4.1. <i>Eligibility check</i>	8
4.2. <i>Online evaluation of proposals</i>	8
4.3. <i>Meeting of the Scientific Committee</i>	9
4.4. <i>Meeting of the Funding Organisations Forum</i>	9
5. Project implementation and reporting	9
6. Indicative timetable	10
PART 2: NATIONAL / REGIONAL FUNDING REGULATIONS	11
Japan - Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)	11
France - Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS).....	13
Germany - Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	12
Spain - Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO)	12
Turkey - The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)	12
PART 3: CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE EIG CONCERT-JAPAN JOINT CALL SECRETARIAT AND NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONTACT PERSONS.....	24

PART 1: Call Text

1. Background and rationale of the EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call

1.1. EIG CONCERT-Japan

The European Interest Group (EIG) CONCERT-Japan (<http://www.concert-japan.eu/>) is an international joint initiative to support and enhance science, technology and innovation (STI) cooperation between European countries and Japan. The EIG CONCERT-Japan is flexible and inclusive in nature, able to accommodate a range of forms of collaboration from unanimous concerted efforts to optional participation among its core members and other interested STI institutions.

The primary function of the EIG CONCERT-Japan is to collaboratively implement multilateral joint funding with the objective of enhancing the cooperation between European countries and Japan in various fields of STI. As far as it is relevant to that objective, the EIG CONCERT-Japan also aims to facilitate coordination between participating organisations in their activities relating to the programmes of the European Union (EU) and those undertaken within other international collaborative frameworks through the identification of common preferences, priorities and areas of mutual interest.

CONCERT-Japan began as an ERA-NET project funded by the 7th EU Framework Program for Research and Technical Development (FP7) from 2011 to 2014. As an FP7 project, CONCERT-Japan had a high impact on the coherence and coordination of European collaboration and joint funding activities with Japan as a partner country. Several years of experience in multilateral calls through ERA-NETs have shown a high relevance of the schemes and the need for continuation. Therefore, the European Interest Group was founded as a flexible platform for communication and coordination among STI institutions in Europe and Japan. The collaboration which began in the FP7 project is now continuing independently of EU support as an activity of the European Interest Group, hence the name “EIG CONCERT-Japan”.

As a collaborative funding activity of the EIG CONCERT-Japan (the third of CONCERT-Japan, the first as an EIG activity), the core members representing France, Germany, Spain, Turkey and Japan have decided to implement a Joint Call on the theme of “food crops and biomass production technologies”.

1.2. EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Calls

EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Calls aim to support sustainable and multilateral research cooperation between European and Japanese researchers, through:

- Enhancing inter-regional communication and cooperation
- Increasing and developing opportunities for high quality research networking between researchers
- Developing new partnerships and strengthening existing ones
- Exchanging existing knowledge and creating new knowledge

Previous CONCERT-Japan Joint Calls (during the ERA-NET phase) have been implemented on the themes of “efficient energy storage and distribution” and “resilience against disasters” (2012), and “photonic manufacturing” (2014), with more than 100 joint applications received in total.

2. The EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call on Food Crops and Biomass Production Technologies

2.1. The thematic area

This EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call will focus on the thematic area of **“food crops and biomass production technologies”**.

Context

Against a background of changing global climate and shifting arable land ranges, plant and soil sciences play an increasingly important role in finding solutions to the internationally shared challenges of ensuring stable, safe and sustainable agricultural and biomass production. Moreover, there are growing demands for high-value agricultural products with substantially improved quality or novel functionality. In order to effectively meet these challenges and demands however, knowledge obtained from basic plant and soil sciences must be connected to innovative application in agriculture and plant cultivation. Specifically, it is necessary to foster the development of sophisticated – and environmentally-adaptive – plant breeding and cultivation technologies by collecting and analysing various data from a new perspective, incorporating molecular biology, chemistry, genetics, synthetic biology, ecology, pedology, engineering, ICT, statistics and information sciences with basic plant and soil sciences. By analysing “big data” such as various omics data enabled by advances in sequencing and measurement technologies, quantitative phenomics data obtained via smart imaging techniques, as well as quantified environmental factors, it is possible to build predictive models of various plant phenotypes such as growth, metabolism, soil and micro-organism interactions, and environmental responses and to create systems for plant design on the foundation of these models for improved breeding and cultivation technologies verified and demonstrated in the field. If we can achieve this goal of enabling the design of food and biomass plants that are adaptable to environmental changes, have increased yields and quality or even novel functionality, it would contribute significantly to achievement of sustainable and highly productive agriculture.

Scope

The overall aim of this call is to support scientific research to further our understanding of the various phenotypes of useful food crops and biomass (including also algae biomass) plant species under a variety of environmental conditions towards improved yield and quality/functionality of those species under changing global climate.

Research proposals selected for funding in this call are expected to produce outcomes that will contribute to improved design, control of growth and increased production and quality of important food and biomass plants (solanaceous, cruciferous, leguminous and gramineous plants, etc., including also algae biomass), based on a comprehensive and either ex situ (mesocosms) or field-verified understanding of their various phenotypes enabled by advanced sequencing and

measurement technologies as well as agricultural technologies taking into account the soil functioning.

Intensive research is required, for example, in: 1) Comprehensive omics analysis of plant and algal growth, metabolism and responses to environmental factors and biotic/abiotic stresses; 2) Better understanding of plant/soil/atmosphere interactions including nutrients transfers, importance of soil pedology and soil associated biodiversity; 3) Development of more sophisticated and high throughput quantitative analysis techniques (including imaging and sensing technologies) for plant and algal phenomics; 4) Construction of predictive models of various plant and algal phenotypes based on the combination of omics and phenomics data using bioinformatics and statistical approaches; 5) Development and advancement of plant and algal modification and cultivation techniques, agricultural practices and design systems (i.e. genetic engineering and cross-breeding to realise desired phenotypes in response to certain environments) and demonstration in the field or with ex situ controlled conditions experiments.

This Joint Call in the field of Food Crops and Biomass Production Technologies is not exclusive to the above mentioned research issues, but is also open to any other issues addressing progress in this field of research. Proposals that are oriented towards emerging technologies and ideas based on unique and innovative concepts are encouraged.

2.2. Participating countries and regions

The following national/regional funding organisations have agreed to participate in this Joint Call, leveraging their national/regional R&D programmes and applying their respective funding regulations:

- **Japan:** Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
- **France:** National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)
- **Germany:** Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
- **Spain:** Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO)
- **Turkey:** Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)

Only researchers based in these countries/regions are eligible for funding in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call.

2.3. Eligible beneficiaries and composition of the consortia

In general, this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is open to applications from **public and private legal RTD entities, higher education institutions and non-university research establishments**, as well as enterprises and other kinds of organisations (the “beneficiaries”) depending on the individual national/regional regulations and restrictions of the participating funding institutions (see Part 2).

Each project consortium submitting an application should consist of **at least 3 beneficiaries (project partners), one from Japan and two from two different European countries participating in the Joint Call**. The number of beneficiaries in a project consortium should be

appropriate for the aims of the research project and reasonably balanced in terms of multilateral participation. Applications should clearly demonstrate the added value of working together.

Each project consortium should choose **two project leaders, one from the Japanese side and one from the European side**. One of the two project leaders (the “principal project leader”) will be responsible for submitting the proposal on behalf of the whole consortium. Project leaders may participate in only one project proposal. Each beneficiary will be represented by one (and only one) Principal Investigator (PI) and this PI will be the contact person for the relevant national/regional funding organisation.

Researchers/research teams from countries/regions not participating in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call may participate as additional partners in a project consortium (after satisfying the minimum consortium criteria) if they can prove that they have secured funding from other sources that allows them to fulfil their obligations within the consortium. A **confirmation letter** from the external funding institution has to be submitted at the time of proposal submission.

A **partnering webtool** provided by DLR is available to help applicants finding potential research partners within the framework of the EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call on Food Crops and Biomass Production Technologies: <https://partnering.pt-dlr.de/JointCallJap2016>.

2.4. Eligible costs and duration of funding

Within the framework of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call, costs eligible for funding may be:

- **Research materials and small-scale research equipment:** Consumables, small equipment and subcontracting (for example for the fabrication of samples at a specialised facility) are eligible if their need is listed in detail and duly justified
- **Travel costs:** Only travel costs and associated living expenses incurred in travel to the countries participating in the same project consortium (including additional partners from countries/regions other than those participating in the Joint Call who secure their own funding) are eligible
- **Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events:** Room rent, catering, printing of conference brochures, travel and accommodation of invited external experts (that do not form part of the project consortium but are considered necessary for the success of the event) are eligible
- **Personnel costs**

The **eligibility of all costs for each applicant depends on the relevant national/regional regulations** applied by each Joint Call funding institution and should be calculated accordingly (see Part 2).

All project partners are advised to contact their National and Regional Contact Persons (see Part 3) for further information on eligible costs and national and regional specifications.

Funding will be provided for the maximum duration of 3 years. The funding of projects should start in November 2016 and should be concluded by October 2019.

2.5. Call budget and funding principle

This EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call follows the principle that the national/regional financial contributions to a virtual common pot will be assigned to project partners of that respective country/region only, in accordance with national and regional regulations. **Cross-border funding is not envisaged.**

The overall budget of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is the sum of the individual budgets allocated by each participating funding institution. If more than one funding institution from a given country participates in the Joint Call, the combined amount from these institutions is considered as the country's overall Joint Call contribution.

Below is an overview of the individual national/regional contributions assigned to this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call budget by each participating funding institution:

Country/funding institution	Amount
Japan: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)	€ 750,000
France: National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)	€ 110,000 *
Germany: Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	€ 600,000
Spain: Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO)	€ 250,000
Turkey: Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)	€ 1,000,000
Overall call budget	€2,710,000

[*CNRS personnel costs are not included in the framework of the EIG CONCERT-Japan Call budget. CNRS funding covers only the surcoût international of the project.]

It is expected that 5 projects will be funded in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call.

Some funding institutions may choose to set an upper limit on the amount that can be requested per project partner coming from their country/region. **Applicants should therefore thoroughly check the national and regional regulations (Part 2) and contact their National and Regional Contact Persons (Part 3) for information.**

3. Proposal submission

The original project proposals were to be submitted between Wednesday 10th February 2016 and Thursday 28th April 2016 electronically using the PT-Outline webtool:

https://secure.pt-dlr.de/ptoutline/app/users/login/EIG_JC1JAPAN

(The server will not accept proposals outside of this application period)

The submission period is extended. Project proposals are to be submitted between Tuesday 31st May 2016 to Wednesday 27th July 2016 (deadline of 12:00 (midday) CET / 20:00 JST) on the PT-Outline webtool.

The principal project leader should submit the proposal via the webtool on behalf of the whole consortium. Only one online proposal per project is needed. Proposals sent by post, e-mail, fax, telex or facsimile will be rejected. Proposals must be written in English.

Some participating funding institutions may require the applicant from their country/region to submit a parallel proposal in line with the national/regional requirements.

Before the submission of a proposal the national or regional regulations (see Part 2) applicable for each consortium partner should be thoroughly checked.

4. Proposal evaluation and funding decision

A four-step evaluation process will be implemented for proposals submitted within this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call.

4.1. Eligibility check

The Joint Call Secretariat and the National and Regional Contact Persons (see Part 3) will check the eligibility of all submitted proposals taking into consideration the general Joint Call criteria and the individual national/regional criteria respectively. If a partner is found to be non-eligible by one of the funding organisations, the entire proposal may be rejected without further review.

The **general eligibility criteria** are:

- Appropriate length and layout of the proposal (maximum number of pages adhered to and use of template for the Project Description)
- Inclusion of all necessary information in English
- Eligibility of all project partners
- Participation of at least three partners (beneficiaries), from a minimum of two different eligible European countries and Japan
- Eligible thematic focus
- Eligibility of requested funding
- Inclusion of a confirmation letter from the external sponsoring institution in case of additional partners that need to secure their own funding

The **national/regional eligibility criteria** of the participating funding institutions are given in the National and Regional Funding Regulations (Part 2).

Proposals meeting all eligibility criteria will be forwarded to the online evaluation stage.

4.2. Online evaluation of proposals

The selection of project proposals to be funded is based on an **international, independent evaluation by scientific peers**. Each proposal is assessed and given a written evaluation by at least two evaluators, nominated by the participating funding institutions.

The following **three evaluation criteria** are used:

1. Scientific excellence (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Sound research concept and quality of objectives
- Ambition, innovative potential and uniqueness of the research idea
- Scientific track-record / potential of the partners (including publications in scientific journals)

- Scientific standing of the organisations the applicants belong to

2. Impact of project results (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Impact of the project on the scientific field/community
- Contribution to enhancing innovation capacity and integration of new knowledge
- Expected exploitation and dissemination of the results
- Added value of the multilateral project consortium

3. Implementation (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Quality and effectiveness of the methodology
- Feasibility of the work plan (in relation to governance, adequate budget, resources, time schedule)
- Collaborative interaction and complementarity of project partners
- Expected sustainability of the collaboration
- Interdisciplinarity
- Involvement of early-stage researchers and gender balance

The **scoring system** is as follows:

- 5: EXCELLENT** – The proposal fully satisfies all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.
- 4: VERY GOOD** – The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are possible.
- 3: GOOD** – The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but improvements are necessary.
- 2: FAIR** – There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.
- 1: POOR** – The criterion is addressed in an inadequate and unsatisfactory manner.
- 0: FAILS / INCOMPLETE INFORMATION** – The proposal fails to address the criterion in question or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.

4.3. Meeting of the Scientific Committee

A Scientific Committee, comprising one expert nominated by each participating funding institution and chaired by an independent chairperson, will **rank the proposals based on the online evaluations and internal discussion and recommend to the Funding Organisations Forum a list of proposals to be funded.**

4.4. Meeting of the Funding Organisations Forum

The Funding Organisations Forum, comprising representatives of each participating funding institution, will take **the final decision on the project proposals to be funded on a consensus basis**, based on the recommendations of the Scientific Committee and in consideration of available budget. Funding will be administered in accordance with the rules and regulations of the participating national and regional funding institutions.

All applicants will be informed by the Joint Call Secretariat of the outcomes of the evaluation.

5. Project implementation and reporting

Following announcement of the funding decision to successful applicants, the project partners of each proposal to be funded will conclude an individual funding contract with their respective national/regional funding institution. Support to funded projects will be provided on the basis of these funding contracts and in accordance with all applicable national/regional rules and regulations.

Each project consortium funded in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is **required to conclude a Consortium Agreement** listing the rights and responsibilities of each project partner. Depending on the nature of the funded project, special regulations should be included in the Consortium Agreement regarding **Intellectual Property Rights**. Scientific and technological outcomes and any other information derived from the collaborative activities funded in this call can be announced, published or commercially exploited with the agreement of all partners in a funded project and according to the national/regional regulations as well as international agreements concerning intellectual property rights. The Consortium Agreement must be signed by all project partners and sent to the Joint Call Secretariat no later than six months after the official project start date.

The principal project leaders of the funded projects will be requested to send **interim reports (after one and two years of funding) as well as a final report (after three years of funding)** to the Joint Call Secretariat. The reports should highlight the main results and outputs of the projects and any problems that have arisen and how they have been solved. Report templates will be prepared to ensure the comparability of information.

Additional reporting to the individual national/regional funding institutions may also be necessary depending on national/regional regulations (see Part 2).

In case of any significant changes in the work program or the consortium composition, the principal project leader must inform the Joint Call Secretariat, who will inform the relevant funding organisations, who will decide upon the proper action to be taken.

6. Indicative timetable*

Publication of the Call for Proposals	Wednesday 10 th February 2016
Deadline for proposal submission	Thursday 28 th April 2016 (deadline of 12:00 (midday) CET / 20:00 JST)
Reopening of the Call for Proposals	Tuesday 31 st May 2016
New Deadline for proposal submission	Wednesday 27 th July 2016 (deadline of 12:00 (midday) CET / 20:00 JST)
Eligibility check	28 th July – 12 th August 2016
Online evaluation	15 th August to 9 th September 2016
Scientific Committee meeting	September 2016
Funding Organisations Forum meeting	September 2016
Preparation of national/regional funding contracts	September - October 2016

Start of projects	November 2016
Interim project reporting 1	October 2017

[* This is an approximate implementation schedule and is subject to change]

PART 2: National and Regional Funding Regulations

Japan - Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

The official national call announcement for Japan is published on the JST website:

https://www.jst.go.jp/sicp/announce_cj3.html

→ Who can apply?

Any independent researcher personally affiliated with (and actively conducting research at) a domestic Japanese research institution (or who would fulfil this requirement by the start of the research project if not currently affiliated with a research institution in Japan), regardless of nationality, is eligible to apply.

“Domestic Japanese research institution” in Japan refers to universities, independent administrative institutions, national/public testing and Research Institutions, specially authorized corporations, public-service corporations and enterprises, etc. that must satisfy predetermined requirements designated by MEXT. Please refer to the MEXT homepage for more information:

https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kansa/houkoku/1301688.htm

In addition to the joint application process, Japanese applicants will have to register their applications on the Cross-Ministerial R&D Management System (e-Rad):

<https://www.e-rad.go.jp/index.html>

Applicants must complete a research ethics training program conducted by the research institute with which they are affiliated and then declare the completion of the program to JST within 30 days after the deadline of the call for proposals. If it would be very difficult for them to undertake a program provided by their own institute, they should contact JST to register for a research ethics program provided by CITI Japan. Unless applicants complete a research ethics program, their application will be deemed ineligible for funding.

Funded researchers will also have to complete a consortium agreement and should consult within their own institutions regarding their regulations. Further guidance can be found on the JST website:

<https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/sicorp/contract.html> (available in Japanese only)

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Japan?

The level of the funding available to Japanese researchers may be up to 4,600,000 Japanese Yen in direct costs per year (i.e. overall around 13,800,000 Japanese Yen for the three years of funding) plus 30% of that amount as indirect costs. Funding will be made in Japanese Yen.

1. Eligible direct costs

In principle, eligible direct costs are those costs directly necessary for accomplishing the research, indicated below from 1.1 to 1.4. Please refer to the guidance documents available at the following link for further details of eligible direct costs (available in Japanese only).

<https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/sicp/contract.html>

1.1 Research materials and small-scale research equipment

Research equipment, spare parts, prototypes, software (in-line product), and purchase of books, reagents, materials and consumables

1.2 Personnel costs

Personnel costs of the researchers, temporally staff, etc., who are hired for the research, and other costs such as honoraria for invited lecturers

1.3 Travel costs

Travel costs and associated living expenses of the Project Leader as well as research project members registered in the research project plan, and costs of inviting external experts

1.4 Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events in Japan

Rental costs for the event venue, food & beverage (excluding alcohol) costs and other costs which are deemed to be necessary for organizing the event

2. Eligible indirect costs

Please refer to the following link for the provisions regarding indirect costs:

<https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/compefund/shishin2.pdf>

→ Who can apply?

Research proposals may be submitted by any laboratory or joint research unit (UMR) affiliated to CNRS.

→ What types of funding are eligible for French researchers?

1. Eligible direct costs

The level of the funding of French researchers may be up to around **EUR 8,000-12,000** per project per year, over 3 years.

National rules and CNRS internal processes will apply.

1.1. Travel costs

Travel costs are eligible for funding and will be paid by the sending country. Travel costs for French project partners who travel to foreign countries will be covered (economy class flight / train ride 2nd class).

1.2. Living expenses

Living expenses are eligible for funding and will be paid by the sending country. The amounts of the allowances (lump-sum) vary according to the destination country. For calculation purposes, CNRS standards apply.

1.3. Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events in France

In general, all costs directly related to the preparation and the implementation of events like international workshops, conferences, etc. in relation with the project are eligible.

→ Room rent, catering, printing of conference brochures, travel and accommodation of invited external experts (that do not form part of the project consortium but are considered necessary for the success of the event), translation...

The upper limit of 20% of the project budget per partner/year should not be exceeded.

1.4. Research materials and small-scale research equipment

Costs for consumables and small equipment (research equipments, prototypes, computer hard or software, office supplies, purchase of books, etc) are eligible only on a limited scale and if its need is demonstrated.

Any consumables necessary for the implementation of the project may be considered as direct eligible costs (i.e. consumable: unit cost less than 800 EUR and/or duration of use less than one year). Consumables are only eligible costs under the project if bought ("service fait") after the start date of the project. Consumables belonging to the applicant's basic facilities are not eligible.

The upper limit of 20% of the project budget per partner/year should not be exceeded.

1.5. Personnel costs

Personnel included in the project may be from CNRS laboratories including joint research units (UMR), whether they are hired by CNRS or by its partner institution. Nonetheless, personnel costs are not eligible for funding.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

→ Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

No

Germany - Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

Please review German call documents on www.bmbf.de or www.internationales-buero.de as well.

→ Who can apply?

In Germany, German research establishments and higher education institutions as well as SMEs are eligible. Research establishments that are financed jointly by Bund and Länder can (in addition to their basic funding) only obtain funding for their additional expenses under certain circumstances.

Grants for commercial companies are calculated on the basis of the total project-related costs eligible for funding, up to 50% of which can, as a rule, be covered by government grants, depending on how near the project is to application. The BMBF's policy requires an appropriate own contribution towards the eligible costs incurred - as a rule at least 50%.

Grants for universities, research and science institutions and similar establishments will be calculated on the basis of the eligible project-related expenditure (grants for Helmholtz centres and the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft (FhG) will be calculated on the basis of the project-related costs eligible for funding), up to 100% of which can be covered in individual cases.

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Germany?

The level of the funding of German researchers may be up to 40,000.00 Euro per year (i.e. overall 120.000 Euro for maximum three years of funding). In case two or more partners of a project are located in Germany, they may together request the aforementioned maximum sum.

1. Eligible direct costs

The national rules will be applied.

1.1 Travel costs: As a general rule, travel costs (from the point of departure to the location of the project partner) will be paid by the sending country. Travel costs for German project partners who travel to foreign countries will be covered (economy class flight / train ride 2nd class). Visa fees for Japan and vaccine costs for vaccinations officially recommended for Japan by the German Foreign Ministry will also be reimbursed.

1.2 Living expenses (including accommodation costs): As a general rule, the daily subsistence allowance for exchanges between countries participating in the EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint call will be covered by the sending country. For Japan the daily subsistence allowance for German project partners is 107 Euro per day for up to 22 working days. For stays between 23 and 30 working days, a monthly fee of 2392 Euro will be paid for each 30 days. For individual days in a subsequent month a per diem of 80 Euro will be paid. The stay of young German scientists in Japan will be supported by a monthly fee of 2392 Euro (for a max. of 3 months). For individual days in a subsequent month a per diem of 80 Euro will be paid.

For Turkey, France and Spain, the daily subsistence allowance for German project partners is 94 Euro per day for up to 22 working days. For stays longer than 23 days a monthly fee of 2116 Euro will be paid for each 30 days. For individual days in a subsequent month a per diem of 70 Euro will be paid.

1.3 Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events in Germany (including the invitation of external experts): Grants can be provided towards expenses such as room rent and catering, accommodation of guests, transfer costs in Germany (daily allowances will not be paid in this case). The upper limit of 20% of the project budget per partner / year should not be exceeded.

1.4 Research materials and small-scale research equipment (no basics, e.g. Computer hard- or software, office supplies, etc.): only on a limited scale and if its need is demonstrated. An upper limit of 10% of the project budget per partner / year should not be exceeded.

1.5 Personnel costs: only for the preparation of events (max. 1 Person Month / salary group E 13 / TVöD Bund and max. 1 MM administrative staff E 9 / TVöD Bund per year). The upper limit of 20% of the project budget per partner / year should not be exceeded.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

→ Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

Yes. General BMBF funding regulations apply. German researchers whose proposal is recommended for funding by the scientific committee will have to submit a formal proposal in order to prepare the contracts.

Spain - Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO)

→ Funding organisation

Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO)

→ Funding programme

Programa Estatal de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación Orientada a los Retos de la Sociedad, Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica y Técnica y de Innovación 2013-2016. [Enlace a Plan Estatal](#)

The instrument for funding the Spanish groups will be the Spanish Call on International Joint Programming Actions (*Acciones de Programación Conjunta Internacional*), which will be launched in 2016 (APCIN 2016). Only as a reference, the beneficiaries are advised to read the call. [APCIN 2015](#)

The Spanish legal entities granted are obliged by the regulations established in this APCIN call and by the funding limits specified below.

Call will be managed by the [Deputy Directorate General for International Projects \(SGPINT\)](#).

→ Purpose of funding

The projects granted by the MINECO must be aligned with the main objectives described in the [Programa Estatal](#).

→ Initial funding pre-commitment

Maximum funding for the EIG CONCERT- Japan call: 250.000 €

→ Eligibility

Projects on all EIG CONCERT-Japan call **topics** are eligible for MINECO funding with the exception of those related to biomass.

The **eligible entities** for MINECO funding are:

Non-profit research organizations according to the APCIN call 2016 (*Acciones de Programación Conjunta Internacional 2016*).

Although private enterprises will not be funded through the APCIN Call, the Spanish industrial sector is welcome to participate in the transnational consortia using their own funds. Nevertheless, MINECO may provide additional support in order to promote cooperation between the Spanish public and private sectors.

Final rules on eligibility will be defined in the APCIN 2016 call, to be published [here](#).

→ Additional eligibility criteria

Mandatory:

Spanish Principal Investigators **must be** eligible according to the APCIN 2016 call and must have experience as investigators in projects funded by the *Plan Nacional I+D+i 2008-2011*, the *Plan Estatal I+D+i 2013-2016*, ERC Grants, or European Framework Programmes.

Not allowed:

- Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal of this EIG CONCERT-Japan call.

- Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal in APCIN 2016 call. This must be taken into account when participating in different ERA-Nets or other international initiatives.
- A maximum of two Spanish entities per proposal are allowed to apply for funding in this transnational EIG CONCERT-Japan call.
- Important note: Principal Investigators who obtained funding in the APCIN 2015 calls are not allowed to apply neither in APCIN 2016 nor in this transnational EIG CONCERT-Japan call.

MINECO will avoid double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding), and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded.

→ Eligible costs

- Personnel costs for temporary employment contracts (scholarships are not eligible).
- Current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
- Indirect costs (overheads) or clinical assays (proofs of concept, proofs of principle) are not eligible for funding in the APCIN call.

→ Funding rates (approx.)

The following funding limits are considered eligibility criteria by MINECO. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared non eligible.

The maximum amount of funding is 100.000 € per proposal and legal entity (additional 50.000 € if the principal project leader of the international consortium is based in Spain).

When two Spanish legal entities participate in the same proposal, the total funding of the Spanish part should not exceed 150.000 € per proposal (additional 50.000 € if the principal project leader of the international consortium is based in Spain).

Centres formed by different Spanish legal entities will be considered as one unique entity, and thus the maximum funding should not exceed 100.000 € per proposal (for example, mixed centres).

The final funding will take into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration, the participation of the industrial sector and the financial resources available.

→ Mandatory acknowledgement

Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge MINECO funding: "Project (reference nº XX) funded by MINECO through APCIN 2016".

Turkey - The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)

In the frame of this call, the applicants from Turkey will be funded by the following support programmes of TÜBİTAK:

- ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme (The Support Programme for Scientific and Technological Research Projects)
- TEYDEB 1509 International Industrial R&D Funding Programme

Proposals that are more academic research oriented are advised to apply for the ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme.

Proposals that are more industrial research oriented are advised to apply for the TEYDEB 1509 International Industrial R&D Funding Programme.

In addition to the national funding regulations provided herewith, all Turkish applicants are strongly advised to check the web page of related programme for the conditions of funding, and before applying they are strongly advised to contact with the Turkish national contact person.

→ Who can apply?

1001 Programme

Eligible applicants for the ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme:

Applicants can apply from universities (public and private), research institutes, public and private corporations.

Project Personnel requirements:

Principal Investigator*, Researchers and Advisors:

- ✓ University personnel should have a PhD degree,
- ✓ Those working in a public institution or a private corporation should have an undergraduate diploma,
- ✓ The Principal Investigator (PI) should be the permanent staff of the organization making the project proposal,
- ✓ Except advisors, the PI and researchers (Co-PI) should reside and work in Turkey (Foreign nationals can be PI/researcher in the projects if they are working in an organization in Turkey),
- ✓ A researcher should have a contribution of at least 10% of the project workload,
- ✓ An advisor is allowed if the project requires special expertise on a specific subject. The number of advisors in a project is limited to the number of specific subjects in the project. The role of advisor in the projects should be explained in detail in the project proposal.

*University presidents and vice presidents, surgeons general, general secretaries, general managers or state department heads, members of the executive committee and advisory board of TÜBİTAK groups cannot be the principal investigator if they are working in those positions as of the application date. They can be researchers in at most two projects.

Please note that further conditions may apply.

1509 Programme

Only private companies established in Turkey can apply. For large firms 60% of the project expenditures, for SMEs 75% of project expenditures that is deemed eligible in the monitoring phase are granted to the beneficiary. Under the programme a certain fraction of eligible expenditures deemed appropriate by TÜBİTAK, is paid to the beneficiary firm, after these expenditures for project activities are made and paid according to financial regulations by the beneficiary firm. Beneficiary firm may demand a certain amount of pre-payment to cover the expenditures to be made.

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Turkey?

1001 Programme

The maximum funding per project is 360.000 TL (total for three years) to be shared between participating Turkish partners. There is no annual budget limit for the projects. This amount includes the scholarship payments, however, it excludes payments to the PI, Co-PIs and overhead costs. The total funding will not exceed 100% of the eligible costs.

1. Eligible direct costs

The maximum funding per project is 360.000 TL (total for three years) to be shared between participating Turkish partners. There is no annual budget limit for the projects. This amount includes the scholarship payments, however, it excludes payments to the PI, Co-PIs and overhead costs. The total funding will not exceed 100% of the eligible costs.

Eligible types of funding under this programme are limited to **personnel costs (scholarships), travel and subsistence, equipment and materials**. Please see below for a detailed description of each item. Projects that involve building infrastructure are not funded.

Research Material and small-scale research equipment

Proposals for machine/equipment purchases should be balanced with the total budget. Purchase of consumables should also constitute a reasonable amount balanced with the total budget.

Personnel Cost

Personnel costs include only the scholarships. The scholarships for master/PhD students and post-doc researchers are as follows:

If the scholar is not working for a certain fee:

Undergraduate student: 500 TL/month

Graduate student: 2.200 TL/month

PhD student: 2.500 TL/month

Post-doc researcher: 2.800 TL/month

If the scholar is working:

Graduate student: 400 TL/month

PhD: 500 TL/month

Travel Costs

The budget for travel (including living expenses), workshops and seminar organization cannot exceed 25,000 Turkish Liras for the entire project duration. Travels in business class are not accepted. For the travel of Turkish researchers, the amount of allowances varies according to the

destination country and the conditions of the personnel.

Expenses for the organization of small scientific events

Organization of dissemination events such as meetings, workshops for the project is eligible and limited to 10.000 TL.

Important Note 1: It should be noted that no overhead costs should be stated in international application. The overhead costs and all other payments to the Principle Investigator and Co-Principle Investigators (PTI payments) for the ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme application will be calculated later by TÜBİTAK.

Note 2: ARDEB 1001 Scientific Project Programme terms about funding of researchers situated abroad for a certain time in the project are not valid for international cooperation projects.

For ARDEB 1001 Scientific Projects Programme, eligibility of indirect costs should be checked from the programme web page: <https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tr/destekler/akademik/ulusal-destek-programlari/icerik-1001-bilimsel-ve-teknolojik-arastirma-projelerini-destekleme-pr>

1509 Programme

For the below described eligible direct cost items, there is no upper limit or percentage share of the total budget except costs of international R&D services and consultancy which should not exceed 20 % of total budget.

Research material and small-scale research equipment

Supplies and consumables are eligible direct costs. Tools, equipment, software and technical documents are also eligible direct costs.

Personnel Costs

Personnel expenses are eligible direct costs. The details can be seen in the implementation principles belonging to programme.

Travel Costs

Travel expenses are eligible direct costs. Eligible travel costs incurred in the frame of the projects funded in this programme can be international or intercity travels by plane, train, bus and ship in economy class.

Living Expenses

Living expenses (subsistence, allowance etc.) are not eligible.

Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events

Organisation of small scientific events is not an eligible cost.

Other eligible direct costs

Other eligible direct costs include the following:

- Costs of R&D services and consultancy related to the project from universities and/or R&D institutions. Costs of international R&D services and consultancy should not exceed 20 % of total budget.
- Costs pertaining to the checking and validation of periodic expenses of funded projects by a chartered accountant.

2. Eligible indirect costs

1001 Programme

For ARDEB 1001 Programme, eligibility of indirect costs should be checked from the programme web page <https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tr/destekler/akademik/ulusal-destek-programlari/icerik-1001-bilimsel-ve-teknolojik-arastirma-projelerini-destekleme-pr>

Note: It should be noted that no overhead costs should be stated in international application. The overhead costs for the ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme application will be calculated later by TUBITAK.

1509 Programme

There is no indirect eligible cost in this programme.

→ Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

Please kindly note that Turkish applicants should make simultaneous application to either TEYDEB 1509 or ARDEB 1001 programme in addition to the international applications made in the frame of the EIG CONCERT-Japan call. Otherwise their applications to this call would be invalid.

In TEYDEB 1509 Programme, the deadline for the application is 28.07.2016 23.59 Turkish time.

The applications made simultaneously to the TÜBİTAK TEYDEB 1509 International Industrial R&D Funding Programme will be subject to TÜBİTAK review in addition to the evaluation made by independent peer-reviewers in the frame of the EIG CONCERT-Japan call. The national proposal is submitted to TUBİTAK by using online system called PRODİS (<https://eteydeb.tubitak.gov.tr>) Before submitting the project via PRODİS, pre-authorization should be taken by sending related documents (specified in PRODİS) to TUBİTAK. These documents should be sent to TUBİTAK at least 10 days prior to the submission date.

TÜBİTAK will only fund the projects which have successful passed both review processes.

In ARDEB 1001 Programme, the deadline for the application is also 27.07.2016.

The [national project proposal form](#), [project budget form](#), CVs of the project personnel and other related documents should also be submitted to TÜBİTAK by sending mail to National Contact Point (NCP), Mrs. Elif DOĞAN ARSLAN and Dr. Meltem SOYDAN KARABACAK. The deadline for this application is **-28.07.2016**. All the printed documents should be sent to TÜBİTAK by **04.08.2016**. The national proposal form and additional documents could be reached through NCPs or TÜBİTAK website.

Please kindly check the TÜBİTAK website below for the programme conditions and the necessary documents.

The printed documents should be sent to:

Dr. Meltem SOYDAN KARABACAK

TUBITAK-TOVAG

Tunus Cad. No:80 Kavaklıdere

06100 ANKARA

It should be noted that any project which will be decided to be funded by TÜBİTAK in the framework of ARDEB 1001 Programme, will have to fill in full ARDEB 1001 proposal forms and will have to provide all other requested accompanying documents in order to be funded.

PLEASE CHECK TUBITAK WEBSITE FOR THE PROGRAMME CONDITIONS:

For ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme:

<https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tr/destekler/akademik/ulusal-destek-programlari/icerik-1001-bilimsel-ve-teknolojik-arastirma-projelerini-destekleme-pr>

For TEYDEB 1509 International Industrial R&D Funding Programme:

<https://tubitak.gov.tr/tr/destekler/sanayi/uluslararasi-ortakli-destek-programlari/icerik-1509-tubitak-uluslararasi-sanayi-ar-ge-projeleri-destekleme-programi>

and

https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tubitak_content_files/TEYDEB/1509/basvuru/1509_Uygulama_Easlari.pdf

For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point

Mrs. Elif DOĞAN ARSLAN

T +90 312 298 94 35

www.tubitak.gov.tr

elif.doganarslan@tubitak.gov.tr

concertjapan@tubitak.gov.tr

For the ARDEB 1001 Programme, please kindly contact:

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T +90312 298 12 64

meltem.soydan@tubitak.gov.tr

For the TEYDEB 1509 Programme, please kindly contact:

Mr. Işık AŞAR

TEYDEB-BİYOTEG

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T +90 312 –298 18 44

isik.asar@tubitak.gov.tr

PART 3: Contact information of the EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call Secretariat and National and Regional Contact Persons

The EIG **CONCERT-Japan Joint Call** Secretariat (JCS) is entrusted with the overall operational management of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call. It is the general contact point for questions related to the Joint Call, the application process and the use of the PT-Outline webtool.

The **National and Regional Contact Persons (NRCPs)** are located in each country/region participating in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call. One of their main tasks is to advise potential applicants from their countries/regions on the applicable national/regional regulations during the proposal submission process.

CONCERT-Japan Joint Call Secretariat & Contact Person for France

Ms. Sandrine Plaud-Guérin
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)
E-mail: concert-japan-jcs@cnrs.fr
Phone: +33(0)1 44 96 40 11

Contact Persons for Japan

Mr. Dai Minowa, Mr. Michael Vogelsanger and Mr. Martin Gadsden
Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
E-mail: concert@jst.go.jp
Phone: + 81 3 5214 7375

Contact Person for Germany

Dr. Sabine Puch
Project Management Agency of the German Aerospace Center (DLR)
E-mail: sabine.puch@dlr.de
Phone: +49 228 3821 1423
Fax: +49 228 3821 1444

Contact Person for Spain

Leonor Gómez García de Vinuesa
Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO)
E-mail: CONCERT-Japan@mineco.es
Phone: +34916037269

Contact Person for Turkey

Mrs. Elif DOĞAN ARSLAN
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)
E-mail: concertjapan@tubitak.gov.tr
Phone: + 90 312 298 94 35