

ERASysBio 2nd Transnational Call for Collaborative Research Proposals

The consolidation of systems biology research- stimulating the widespread adoption of systems approaches in biomedicine, biotechnology and agri-food

National Annex: ES - MICINN

The MICINN supports the ERASysBio 2nd Call for Proposals and encourages its systems biology research community to apply for funding for collaborative research in the European Research Area. This initiative accomplishes the main objectives described in the *Programa Nacional de Internacionalización de la I+D* and in both the *Acción Estratégica de Biotecnología* and the *Acción Estratégica de Salud* within the *Plan Nacional de I+D+I 2008-2011*. The MICINN will support research institutions located in Spain and will be responsible for taking the final decision regarding the awarding of funds to the Spanish partners, taking fully into account the transnational evaluation of the cooperative project and the financial resources available.

Specific priorities for Collaborative Research Proposals

Under this 2nd Call, the MICINN will fund all areas of its remit seeking to apply systems approaches to biological research from molecular systems to cells, organs up to whole organisms and agri/eco-systems. The MICINN wishes to specially encourage the submission of Collaborative Research Proposals addressing the following specific priorities:

- Integration of systems at the cellular and physiological level, aimed to the understanding of biological functions of animal cells, organs and whole organisms, under normal conditions or abnormal processes related to human diseases.
- Systems biotechnology, including the pharmaceutical and health care, the agri-food, and the biomaterial and bio-energy sectors. Synthetic biology approaches for the construction of novel proteins, genetic circuits and metabolic networks.

Exceptions:

- Research on microorganisms (bacteria and fungi) is under the scope of other transnational initiatives (SysMO, PathoGenoMics), and hence it is excluded from this call.
- Research on plants or plant cells will be considered for funding only when it is complementary to research funded under the PLANT-KBBE programme.

Eligibility and national funding modalities

The entities eligible for MICINN funding are universities and other public research institutions and *centros tecnológicos*, as well as private non-profit institutions. Industrial participants are welcomed as project partners for development and/or valorisation of the research results (companies providing materials and/or services are not eligible as project partners); in this case they must do it together with at least one Spanish public research or private non-profit institution in the same consortium. Enquiries can be directed to the national contact (julio.barbas@mec.es).

The following categories of expenses can be financed within this programme: 1) personnel costs for temporary contracts (fellowships are not eligible); 2) current costs necessary to carry out the proposed activities (overheads are not eligible). For public research institutions, up to 100% of the marginal costs of the project can be financed. For private industrial partners, it can be funded up to 50% on the basis of actual costs.

Specific national regulations and guidelines

Once the transnational evaluation procedure has been completed and the researchers involved have been notified, the Spanish applicants from public institutions that are offered funding will be invited to formally apply to the call of the *Programa Nacional de Internacionalización de la I+D* that will be implemented by the *Dirección General de Cooperación Internacional-MICINN*.

National Call Secretariat

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