

Selection Criteria

A successful proposal will combine significant contributions by scientists from at least three of the participating countries and conform to program aims and the designated research fields addressing the objectives of this call.

The selection criteria are as follows:

i. Quality/Intellectual Merit

- *Scientific quality and innovativeness of the goals and objectives of the joint research plan*
- *Added value to be expected from the international research collaboration*
How well does the activity advance knowledge and understanding within its own field and across different fields?
Does the proposal contribute to scientific excellence and significant progress toward the state of the art?
To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative, original concepts?
If these partnerships currently exist what does this new funding allow them to do that they could not do otherwise?
What is the added value of the international cooperation? Where appropriate this should also include the extent to which Partner Organizations' existing investments are leveraged in the proposed project.

ii. Fit to call objectives (including user engagement and societal/broader impacts)

- *Addressing at least one of the three topics with emphasis on vulnerable areas*
- *Engagement of research users (relevant policy makers, regulators, NGOs, communities or industry) and effectiveness of proposed knowledge exchange activities*
- *Expected impacts: e.g. societal, policy related, economical*
What may be the benefits of the proposed activity to society (e.g. policy-development, economies)?
How have users been engaged and how effective are the proposed mechanism for knowledge transfer to decision makers?
Does the research collaboration focus on global challenges for which solutions can only be achieved by global scientific approaches?

iii. Personnel/Quality of the Consortium (and Trans-disciplinarity for topic 3)

For topics 1, 2 and 3:

- *Competence and expertise of teams and complementarities of consortium?*
How well qualified are the proposers (Leading Principal Investigator and team) in terms of science knowledge, expertise and experience to conduct the project?
What is the quality of previous work in terms of past or potential contributions to, and impact on the proposed and other areas of research?
Is the Leading Principal Investigator team (including any identified Co-Principal Investigators) able to lead the project, e.g. having strong management and leadership skills, or having complementarity of expertise and synergy of the members of the team?

Additional item if topic 3 addressed:

- *Inter-disciplinary between natural and social sciences, and other sciences where relevant*

- *Trans-disciplinary approaches within the consortium (co-construction, co-identify, co-develop) consortium*

How strong is the collaboration between the natural and social sciences?

iv. Resources and Management

- *Appropriateness of resources and funding requested*
- *Balanced cooperation*

How well conceived and organized is the proposed activity?

Is there an operational plan with well defined milestones in place?

Is the coordination plan adequate?

Is there sufficient access to resources?

Are the requested investments well justified and relevant?

Are the scientific and financial contributions requested of the Partner Organizations from each country well balanced?