

National Annex: Germany – DFG

PARTNER: The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG (German Research Foundation) is the central, self-governing research organisation in Germany that promotes research at universities and other publicly financed research institutions.

NOTICE: The DFG supports the Second Call for Proposals of the ERA-NET ERA-CAPS “Expanding the European Research Area in Molecular Plant Sciences”, aiming to facilitate international collaboration and to stimulate synergy in the area of molecular plant science on the basis of excellent research.

ELIGIBILITY, NATIONAL FUNDING MODALITIES AND ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES:

Applications to this call will be Collaborative Research Projects (CRPs) as defined in the ERA-CAPS Call Notice for the Second Call. The DFG will fund project parts of scientists based in Germany in the framework of its **Research Grants Programme** under conditions specified below.

Themes of research, application, evaluation and selection of research proposals will follow the procedure that is defined in the Call Notice. Once all evaluation steps have been completed, the final funding decisions for German project parts rest with the DFG Grants Committee.

Project parts by researchers applying to the DFG can be funded to the extent they prove to be competitive within the pool of DFG Individual Research Grant proposals of the plant science field. There is no pre-defined DFG budget for the Second Call of ERA-CAPS.

Apart from the rules and procedures defined in the Call Notice scientists seeking DFG funding for project parts within ERA-CAPS CRPs need to consider the following points:

Eligibility

General DFG rules and conditions apply as defined in the DFG form **50.01 “Guidelines Research Grants Programme”** (10/2011). This document is available electronically on the DFG website at: http://www.dfg.de/foerderung/programme/einzelfoerderung/sachbeihilfe/formulare_merkblaetter/index.jsp

As an exception from the conditions stated there, eligibility requirements for applicants follow the rules for DFG’s coordinated research programmes (Research Unit or Priority Programme).

The DFG cannot fund research of private industry. Companies can generally be involved as partners in DFG funded projects if an added value to the project is proven and if their costs are covered by their own resources or by other external sources. However, regulations concerning Intellectual Property Rights have to be taken into account (please refer to the *Call Notice* and the document “*IPR conditions ERA-CAPS 2012*”). Consortia involving DFG applicants as well as partners from industry are, therefore, requested to contact the National Call Coordinator prior to submission of the proposal. Applicants must guarantee that information, resources and results obtained in DFG projects are made publicly available within a reasonable period of time and that this is not in conflict with obligations of the Principle Investigator within this or any other projects.

Instructions for proposal preparation and submission; Eligible costs

Pre-proposals are to be submitted as described in the respective Guidelines for Application. Please note that the online submission of pre-proposals is independent from DFG’s electronic submission system ELAN. There is no need to submit any information or documents to ELAN at this stage.

Full proposals (invited after successful completion of the pre-proposal stage) will be submitted via DFG’s ELAN system.

Requested funds have to be specified via an electronically generated fact sheet. Eligible cost categories (as part of a number of online selectable “Modules”) are specified in DFG forms 52.01 – 52.07, available on the DFG website mentioned above (standard: “Basic Module”, form 52.01). Please provide descriptions and justifications for the different budget items in the *Application form*, and/or in an annex (e.g. if requesting equipment). Please note that the “Programmpauschale” cannot be requested in the electronic fact sheet but will be added automatically by the electronic system. In the budget tables included in the *Application form*, please increase the total of the funds requested from DFG by 20% in order to account for the “Programmpauschale”.

For further information, please contact the ERA-CAPS call coordinator for the DFG:
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