



## CALL PRE ANNOUNCEMENT

### ERANETMED SECOND JOINT CALL ON Environmental challenges and solutions for vulnerable communities

The present document is a pre-announcement of the second joint transnational research call of ERANETMED co-funded by the following Euro-Mediterranean countries\*:

**Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Germany, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey, Spain.**

#### WHO CAN APPLY

Research teams from the above mentioned countries are eligible for funding, unless otherwise specified in national rules of funding agencies which will be published on the official launch of the joint call.

Research teams from other countries are eligible provided that they fund their own involvement.

#### WHY A PRE ANNOUNCEMENT

It aims at giving sufficient time to research teams to prepare good proposals and submit them on time.

**\* Other countries may join before the official launch of the call**

#### IMPORTANT DATES

- ✓ Launching of the call: **21 March 2016**
- ✓ Deadline for submission of proposals: **31 May 2016**

**Further information:**  
[www.eranetmed.eu](http://www.eranetmed.eu)

**or contact:**  
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## 1. About ERANETMED

The ERA-NET scheme is an instrument of the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme providing funding to improve the cooperation and coordination of national research activities and thus strengthen the European Research Area (ERA) with other regions of the world.

ERANETMED is a EU FP7 initiative that aims at co-ordinating research activities of the different national research programmes from EU Members States, Associated Countries and Mediterranean Partner Countries. In particular, the ERANETMED objective is to strengthen the collaboration and common capacity of research programme owners from above countries to address some of the major challenges that the Mediterranean is facing and strengthen Euro-Mediterranean research co-operation.

## 2. Theme and scientific scope of the call

The aim of this call is to propose sustainable solutions for the environmental challenges of "Euro-Mediterranean vulnerable communities" intended as those communities living in areas –coastal zones or inland - in which local resources like biodiversity, land and water, energy or food are under serious threat by factors such as migration, environmental, socio-economic factors etc.

Therefore, it is of utmost importance – for the preservation and protection of local resources and ecosystems – to address the main environmental challenges of the region, contributing to a comprehensive and holistic approach. Communities and their resources and ecosystems in the Mediterranean region suffer common threats due to unstable or severe environmental conditions, global climate change pressure and demographic change, particularly in coastal zones and inland arid areas where the access to and supply of resources is limited and under pressure.

Considering the need of an holistic, multidisciplinary and comprehensive approach for the preservation and protection of local resources in vulnerable communities, projects will address one or more of the following research questions:

1. Land and soil management, climate and drought, erosion and desertification, including socio-economic and governance aspects as well as human induced hazard and risk, and their impact on water and food resources availability. As main results projects will provide an ecosystem-based water management, deep understanding and modeling of different natural and non-natural hazards processes in relation to impact on local resources (i.e. water and/or food), unravel critical relationships among different variables and factors and simulate combined impacts on local resources as well as providing sustainable impact mitigation measures.
2. Environmentally sound renewable and sustainable energy systems and production at community level with a view to support sustainable use of water resources, food production and ecosystems protection. As main results projects will provide a deep insight and modeling as well as simulation of sustainable and socially innovative energy-use related options to reduce environmental pressure, protect ecosystems and optimize use and cost of water and food production.



3. Reducing climate and demographic change pressure on environment and ecosystems through the efficient use of resources. As main results, projects will provide models and adaptable innovative schemes for the efficient use of local resources, with particular regard to water use efficiency and water saving, sustainable management and planning and conservation of ecosystems, providing modeling and quantification of potentially increased resources yields and quality of ecosystems after adoption of measures.
4. Relationships and complex interactions among societal dynamics, ecosystem variables and the transformations of resources (i.e.: water, energy or food) and related supply systems. As main results, projects will provide understanding and modeling of relevant multi-factor relationships, simulation of trajectories and impact of combined social dynamic and ecosystem processes on the use of resources while providing innovative and socially driven solutions for a sound management of resources transformation and their supply and empowering marginal groups providing driven trainings, collaborative management of ecosystems, etc. .

### **3. Expected impacts**

Projects will have to demonstrate tangible impacts on:

- Sustainability and quality of life of targeted communities.
- Communities' awareness and capacity to protect own local resources, environment and ecosystems.
- Improving methods, innovative approaches and governance for the mitigation of impacts on local resources and ecosystems due to natural and non-natural hazards.

### **4. Actions addressed**

All projects will have to include collaborative research. Collaborative research is compulsory and undertaken by a partnership of institutions (“consortium”) designed to produce new knowledge through scientific research, whereby each team within the partnership actively pursues specific task objectives with a view to pooling the results to contribute to the achievement of a set of common, well-defined project objectives. Collaborative research should have high impact and contribute to demand and policy driven research.

Other actions more related to innovation and mobility are strongly encouraged and their inclusion in the project work plan, will be carefully considered and positively evaluated.

More specifically, projects will deliver tangible outputs and/or align projects towards enhancing innovation or social innovation, depending on the research question addressed, while involving private sector, where possible, and particularly relevant SMEs. At the same time, projects will integrate in their work plan schemes for the mobility of young researchers / post graduates from non-EU Countries. The mobility scheme should allow at least 1 year mobility among project partners for training and support to research activities.

### **5. Cross-cutting issues**

Applicants are encouraged to take into account for their research important cross-cutting issues, particularly: socio-economic, governance, ICT and gender.



## 6. Participation rules

### 6.1 Applicants

Applicants must be eligible for funding according to the regulations of their respective national Funding Parties. They can represent research and higher education entities, companies, and other legal entities such as NGOs, once again subject to institutional restrictions set by individual Funding Parties (more details and national rules will be published with the official launch of the call on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016).

### 6.2 Consortia

The project consortium must comprise project partners from at least 3 different countries whose Funding Agencies contribute to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Call, of which at least one from an EU Member State/Associated Country and one from a Mediterranean Partner Country.

The Project Consortium designates a Project Coordinator which must belong to an entity legally established in one of the countries funding this Joint Call.

### 6.3 Duration

The duration of a project can range between 24 and 36 months.

### 6.4 Funding

The funding of an individual proposal will depend on the nature and duration of the proposed activities and must be justified in terms of the resources needed to achieve the objectives of the project. The funding requested should therefore be realistically adjusted to the actual needs of the proposal, taking into account synergies with any other funds available.

## 7. Submission of Proposals

This Call is a **one-step call**, which implies the direct submission of a full proposal.

To enhance the dialogue among applicants to the Calls of ERANETMED, and to create a platform for collecting ideas, suggestions and comments, please do not hesitate to use our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/eranetmed?ref=hl>