



JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS

ForestValue - Innovating the forest-based bioeconomy

Background

The ForestValue Research Programme is launching a transnational call for proposals for research, development and innovation in the forest-based sector. The indicative total available budget amounts to 25 million € (national public funding including EU top-up funding of 5 million €). The total call volume with industrial co-funding is estimated to be over 30 million €.

The topics of the planned ForestValue joint call will contribute to transforming the global economy from a dependence on fossil and non-renewable raw materials to a sustainable “bio-based economy”.

In this call a competitive two-stage submission process is used. Deadline for submitting pre-proposals is January 23rd 2018 13:00 CET. On 15.11.2017 a networking webinar will be organised to give researchers the chance to interlink with each other and enlarge consortia. Projects are expected to start late 2018/early 2019. The topic for this ERA-NET Co-fund on innovative forest-based bioeconomy has been prepared in collaboration with three forest-based ERA-NETs to complement the WoodWisdom-Net Research Programme and the targets of the SUMFOREST and FORESTERRA ERA-NETs with a strategic thematic area of high European relevance.

Details of the Call

For all details regarding the call scope and its procedure, please refer to the call webpage. The complete call text as well as information on the pre-proposal content can be found under:

- ForestValue website (incl. link to submission tool): to be opened soon at <http://www.forestvalue.org>
- www.woodwisdom.net/news-events/
- www.sumforest.org/news/

Please do read them carefully.

For Swiss partners interested in the call, please find important additional remarks about the specific conditions for Swiss participants in this document.

The joint Call has been launched on Tuesday, 17th October 2017.



The application process consists of two separate and consecutive steps: Pre-proposal and full proposal.

Pre-proposal:

This first step is now opened and will be closed on **January 23, 2018; 13:00 (CET)**.

Eligible pre-proposals will be peer-review evaluated and ranked by an international evaluation panel IEP. The ForestValue Call Steering Committee (composed by representatives of all ForestValue funding organisations contributing to this co-funded call) will select proposals for the second application step based on the ranking of the IEP.

The ForestValue Call Office will inform the project coordinators of the results of the first assessment step via e-mail by end of May 2018. The coordinators of the selected pre-proposals will be invited to submit a full proposal on behalf of their consortium.

International Submission deadline: **January 23, 2018; 13:00 (CET)**

Together with the pre-proposal, a CTI/Innosuisse application needs to be submitted to the CTI/Innosuisse office.

The pre-proposal submitted to the central call office is a compulsory attachment to the CTI application (please also refer to the document “National Regulations”).

National Submission deadline is: **February 6, 2018; 17:00 (CET)**

Full proposal:

The deadline for submitting full proposals (only for projects that passed the pre-proposal phase successfully) will be: **August 14, 2018 13:00 (CEST)**.

The online submission tool for the submission of full proposals will be available here.

Important remarks for Swiss applicants

The Commission for Technology and Innovation CTI and the Federal Office for the Environment FOEN are participating funder organisations in this ERANET ForestValue. Swiss applicants submitting with their international partners an application can be supported by CTI or FOEN, if they meet the criteria of either CTI or FOEN for Innovative Projects.

Please note that - in parallel to the application on the European level (with the EU-Partners) – the Swiss Partners must submit an application (CTI or FOEN application form incl. the European pre-proposal application form) demonstrating the research work to be performed by the Swiss Partners.

CTI/Innosuisse Conditions and Criteria

Facilitation measures apply for the CTI/Innosuisse proposal in this call 2017/18:

To keep preparation time and effort as efficient as possible, the elaboration of the CTI proposal during the pre-proposal phase of this call 2017 can be done in a somewhat reduced form: the preparation of the project plan as well as the work packages do NOT need to be presented in a fully detailed manner yet. However, all other relevant points in the CTI application form have to be explained sufficiently plausible to allow the CTI experts to evaluate the innovation content, the strategy how the team plans to solve the problem and the implementation of the project results in the market. Of importance will be. to show what the added value for Switzerland in the value chain will be.

In case the CTI evaluation result is positive, the applicants will be informed about possible further obligations that have to be fulfilled (preliminary works). The applicants then have to hand in these preliminary works later to the CTI/Innosuisse office (during the subsequent full proposal phase of the call, deadline of the full proposal on August 14, 2018).

At least the following documents have to be submitted to the CTI for the pre-proposal:

- CTI application form
- European Pre-Proposal application form as attachment

Deadlines for submissions at the CTI/Innosuisse (nationally for the Swiss partners):
February 6, 2018; 17:00 (CET)

The documents have to be submitted to info@kti.admin.ch.

Below you find the main national conditions for the submission of the application to the CTI (Commission for Technology and Innovation CTI, Switzerland):



For Swiss participants, the transnational application to the central call office is not sufficient. It is compulsory for Swiss partners to provide an additional application during the pre-proposal phase to the Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI) for the proposals where the expected national project part of the work is clearly described in more detail. The usual CTI funding rules and application forms will apply

For details see:

Link: <https://www.kti.admin.ch/kti/en/home/unsere-foerderangebote/fuer-forschende/f-e-projekte.html>

This means that:

- At least one Swiss company and one Swiss 'not-for-profit' research institution or university research center (University, Federal Institute of Technology, University of Applied Sciences) recognised for funding by the CTI must be involved in a CTI funded R&D project. Projects involving several participants are particularly encouraged. Only applications with a Swiss implementation partner actively participating in the project will be evaluated by CTI and qualified as eligible.
- **The Swiss industry partner has to cover at least 50% of the project costs from the total project work of the Swiss partners.** The industry partner(s) must also provide a cash contribution to its academic partner / their academic partners.
- There is no federal funding allowed to companies.
- The project focuses on innovation. In general, no funding will be given to projects which propose marginal improvements of existing products, nor for projects with purely basic research content.
- The criteria for proposal assessment are: degree of innovation with its economic impact, and scientific excellence, commercial potential, contribution to sustainable development, clear work program and a transparent budget.
- The project must have quantified, measurable goals and a coherent and structured schedule with verifiable progress milestones. It must be based on a thorough appraisal of the current state of the relevant technology and on an evaluation of the corresponding data base and patent rights.
- A contract on intellectual property rights must be signed prior to the start of the project. A confidentiality clause should be included where necessary.
- Regular reviews by CTI experts help the partners to adhere to the project contents and time schedule where necessary by asking for timely corrections.
- At the end of the project, a plan must be presented showing how the results will be implemented.



For more details, please refer to the CTI webpage with following link:
<https://www.kti.admin.ch/kti/en/home/unsere-foerderangebote/fuer-forschende/internationale-netzwerke-und-forschungskooperationen/internationale-f-e-projekte--multilateral-.html>

We strongly suggest, that you contact CTI/Innosuisse prior to decide to participate in this call.

Contact persons at the Commission for Technology and Innovation CTI are:

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or

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For more details on the **FOEN** conditions and criteria, please contact:

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www.bafu.admin.ch

For any additional support the national thematic Network **Swiss Wood Innovation Network S-WIN** is happy to advise you on this call. Please contact:

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