

Country Italy



Participating organisation(s):

- Ministry of agricultural food and forestry policies – Mipaaf (Budget € 100.000,00)

National Contact Person(s):

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Website: <http://www.politicheagricole.it/RicercaSperimentazione/default>

Name of & link to the funding programmes:

The proposals should refer to the areas e priorities set in the Strategic Research and Innovation Plan for Agricultural, food and forestry sectors recently endorsed by the State Regions Conference:

<https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7801>

Minimum and/or maximum project duration:

Proposed projects may last from 12 to 36 months

Minimum and/or maximum funding per project:

Considering that the Ministry would like to support a number of projects, a maximum funding budget per project is not fixed. However project proposals matching almost the entire budget as financial request will be rejected during the eligibility check

Who can be eligible for funding (incl. industry participation)

National public research institutions and no-profit private bodies, with among their institutional and statutory scopes include “performing research activities” and not only “promoting or supporting research activities”, can apply for funding.

National public institutions include public bodies supervised by Ministries, regional and provincial centers, university departments and institutes, university consortia, interdepartmental centers.

It is mandatory, for all the no-profit private research bodies defined above, that they state in the official documents (statute and/or articles of incorporation, memorandum of association) that among their missions they also “perform research activities”.

SME or other private bodies can participate, giving an added value to the research project, if they are able to provide their own financial resources to carry out the work. A short description of the Enterprise involved in a proposal, its role and the added value bring to the project with its participation must be included together with a declaration on own-funding.

In order to participate in the call, the researchers/research Institutions, have to register themselves on the Meta Knowledge Base (<http://www.ict-agri.eu/>), which is a database developed within the activities of the ERA-Net Action, otherwise the proposal will not be considered by Italy.

The registration has two main scopes: the first one is to map people and structures working on ICT related issues and the second one is to offer a service for researchers and research Institutions to find partners to build the consortium and apply the ICT-Agri 2 call and/or for networking in this research area, even outside the umbrella of ICT-Agri 2.

Financial contribution.

The contribution amount for national participants of the selected projects will be as follows:

- *public Institutions and no profit private bodies can be financed up to 99% of the approved eligible project costs;*
- *SMEs and organisms with other statutory nature are welcome as participants if an added value to the project is proven and if their costs are covered by their own resources or by other external sources.*

According to the national regulations the transfer of funds will occur in three steps:

- 1) 65% of the approved costs immediately at the issue of the Ministry decree (contract between the Ministry and the beneficiary);*
- 2) 25% of the approved costs once the mid-term report (both scientific and administrative) has been approved;*
- 3) 10% of the approved costs once the final report has been approved.*

No profit private bodies and private research bodies participating in the project consortium, in order to receive the financial contribution must send a scanned copy of the following documents to Mipaaf: statute and/or articles of incorporation, memorandum of association by the pre-proposal submission deadline.

Eligible costs

A) Personnel

1) Salaries – *Only for non-permanent scientific staff of public institutions (including foreign visiting scientists, post docs, PhD students, fellowships and grants). Technical administrative staff can be included in the coordination. For no profit private institutions salaries of permanent and not permanent staff actually participating in the project activity can be funded.*

2) Travel expenses – *for permanent and not permanent staff.*

B) Consumables

C) External activity costs – *expenditures for activity carried out externally to the research applicant (Consultancy services, agreements, maintenance, repairs, material transportation when needed for the project implementation).*

D) Overheads – *no more than 10% of the total amount of the above mentioned costs (A+B+C)*

E) Coordination - if an Italian institution is also playing the role of coordinator the eligible costs will be those indicated in the above mentioned National Decree.

Additional forms.

Once the project has been approved for funding, the Ministry will ask the Italian research units of the approved projects, to fill in the model C and submit it to the funding Body (Mipaaf) to apply for contribution.

In case of a research unit acting as coordinator, also the general project description, including the activity of all partners and the financial sheet for coordination activity (model A project form) have to be presented to the funding body.

The forms will be made available on the Ministry website at the following address:
<http://www.politicheagricole.it/RicercaSperimentazione/default>

These forms must be written in Italian.