



Annual Work Plan 2018

for the

Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)

Responsible person:

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This annual work plan describes planned activities under the PRIMA programme in 2018.

This document has been adopted by the PRIMA Foundation BoT on 26 January 2018. The European Commission approved it on 24 January 2018 following the positive outcome of an external evaluation by international peer review with regard to the objectives of the PRIMA programme

Please refer to the [PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda](#)

The PRIMA programme is an Art. 185 initiative supported and funded under Horizon 2020, the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.



Glossary

AC	Associated Country
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BoT	Board of Trustees
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
IA	Innovation Action
MED	Mediterranean
MOOC	Massive Open Online Course
MPCs	Mediterranean Partner Country
NCPs	National Contact Points
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PRIMA	Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area
PRIMA-IS	PRIMA Implementation Structure
PSC	PRIMA Stakeholder Community
PS	Participating States
PSIAS	Participating States' Initiated Activities
RIA	Research and Innovation Action based on Horizon 2020 rules (in section 2: Research and Innovation Activities, based on national rules ¹)
SAC	Scientific Advisory Committee of PRIMA Foundation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SRIA	Strategic Innovation and Research Agenda
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
TC	Third Country
TMA	Training and Mobility Actions
TRL	Technology Readiness Level

¹ Please note that the acronym RIA is used both for Section 1 and Section 2. In Section 1 the rules applying to these actions are the standard Horizon 2020 rules for participation (RfP). While the rules used in Section 2 are to some extent analogous to the Horizon 2020 RfP, specific rules, concerning participation and funding rates, apply. As the projects selected in Section 2 are funded directly by the national funding bodies they will be subject to the respective national regulations. For more details regarding the rules for Section 2 please refer to the guidelines for applicants on the PRIMA website.

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Preamble

The overall objective of the PRIMA programme is to build research and innovation capacities and to develop knowledge and common innovative solutions for agro-food systems, to make them sustainable, and for integrated water provision and management in the Mediterranean area, to make those systems and that provision and management more climate resilient, efficient, cost-effective and environmentally and socially sustainable, and to contribute to solving water scarcity, food security, nutrition, health, well-being and migration problems upstream.

The scale of the research and innovation necessary to address the challenges in the Mediterranean area is immense due to the systemic character of the major bottlenecks. The scope of research and innovation is complex, multidisciplinary and requires a multi-actor and cross-border approach. A collaborative approach among PRIMA Participating States can help to increase the required scale and scope, by pooling financial and intellectual resources. As of 26 October 2017, the PRIMA programme counts 15 Participating States (PS): Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey. In addition, it is expected that Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco², referred as 'to be Participating States' (tbPS), will become Participating States, upon entry into force or, at least, upon provisional application of their respective international agreements for scientific and technological cooperation with the Union setting out the terms and conditions of their participation in PRIMA. When the required international agreements start producing legal effects, these 'to be Participating States' will become Participating States. Section 6 outlines consequences of this change of the legal status for legal entities established in these states.

Based on Decision (EU) 2017/1324 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2017³ PRIMA programme will run over a period from 7 August 2017 to 31 December 2028. The European Union (EU) has decided to support the programme with a maximum financial contribution of up to € 220 million from the Horizon 2020 programme's Societal Challenge 2 ('Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research, and the bioeconomy') and Societal Challenge 5 ('Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials') and Industrial Leadership (Nanotechnologies, advanced materials, advanced manufacturing and processing, biotechnology). The conditions for the EU financial contribution are set forth in Art. 4 of the Decision (EU) 2017/1324.

The PRIMA Implementation Structure (PRIMA-IS) is legally established as a foundation under Spanish law in Barcelona, Spain and is also referred to in this document as 'PRIMA Foundation'.

² Article 1(2) Decision (EU) 2017/1324 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2017(OJ L 185, 18.7.2017, p. 1)

³ OJ L 185, 18.7.2017, p. 1

Introduction

The PRIMA programme is implemented by the PRIMA Foundation on the basis of annual work plans.

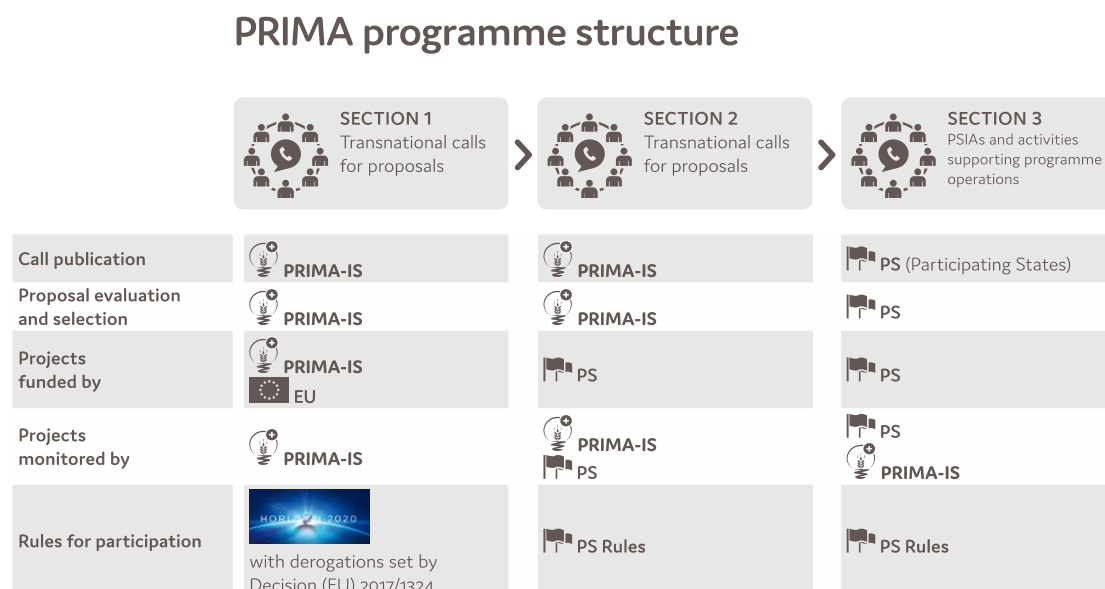
PRIMA annual work plans will be developed in compliance with the objectives and provisions set out in the Decision (EU) 2017/1324 and will be based on the priorities described in the PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) following a comprehensive consultation process, involving multiple stakeholders. The SRIA further shares its goals with the Union for the Mediterranean's Water Agenda⁴.

The present annual work plan for 2018 (AWP 2018) has been prepared taking into account past and ongoing research and innovation experiences and best practices in the Mediterranean area achieved in relevant EU projects such as ERANETMED and ARIMNET. This has allowed the creation of a strong network of stakeholders from both shores of the Mediterranean with diverse background and mutual trust that will be strengthened with PRIMA.

PRIMA programme activities will be implemented as following:

- 1) **Section 1: Actions and activities organised, managed and funded by PRIMA-IS⁵**
- 2) **Section 2: Activities selected following transnational open and competitive calls for proposals organised by PRIMA-IS and funded by the national funding bodies of PS (providing financial support mainly in the form of grants)**
- 3) **Section 3: Activities organised, managed and funded by the PS**
 - a. Activities under the national programmes of the Participating States including transnational projects referred to as “Participating States’ Initiated Activities” (PSIAs)
 - b. Activities organised and funded by PS supporting PRIMA programme implementation.

Figure 1. PRIMA programme Structure



⁴ cf. http://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Ministerial-Declaration-on-Water_Union-for-the-Mediterranean.pdf

⁵ In line with Art. 3(3)(a) of the Decision (EU) 2017/1324, this funding is covered by Union financial contribution. However, where appropriate, PS may also arrange for financial contributions to cover costs of indirect actions funded by PRIMA-IS (Art. 5(2)(a)).

Section 1 Actions are evaluated, selected and funded in line with the Rules for Participation of Horizon 2020 and are centrally managed by the PRIMA IS. Grant agreements are to be signed with PRIMA-IS on the basis of the H2020 Model Grant Agreement.

Section 2 Activities are evaluated and selected based on rules which are analogous to the Rules for Participation of Horizon 2020, following open calls for proposals centrally organised by the PRIMA IS. Such activities are funded in line with common principles (see 5.2.10). Grant agreements will be signed between participants and by relevant national funding bodies in accordance with national rules.

Section 3 PSiAs are funded following national evaluation, selection and granting processes implemented by one or several PS in line with common principles (see 5.2.10) agreed with the PRIMA-IS, on behalf of the Participating States, and the European Commission.

In sections 1 and 2 PRIMA AWP 2018 provides information about Calls for Proposals to be organised by PRIMA Foundation in 2018 including the challenge, scope and expected impact, as well as the eligibility requirements and other specific conditions for applying.

Detailed supporting information about the evaluation, selection and granting process, and applicable type of grant agreements and funding levels is summarized under each call topic, and described in more detail in the General Annexes (5.1: Section 1 and 5.2: Section 2) and in national funding rules (Section 2).

The PRIMA AWP 2018 also contains an overview of the national programmes of the PS referred to as “Participating States’ Initiated Activities” (PSiAs). In addition, other activities corresponding to in-kind contributions of the PS to the PRIMA programme will support programme operation and constitute an integral part of the PRIMA programme. These activities include transversal capacity building, networking, methodology, development for monitoring the impact of the PRIMA programme referring in particular to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at regional level.

This PRIMA Annual Work Plan for 2018 (AWP 2018) covers the priorities described in the PRIMA SRIA under the three PRIMA thematic areas:

- 1) Integrated and sustainable management of water for arid and semi-arid Mediterranean areas;
- 2) Sustainable farming systems under Mediterranean environmental constraints;
- 3) Sustainable Mediterranean agro-food value chain for regional and local development.

PRIMA programmes will support **research and innovation** through distinct types of actions/activities:

- In Section 1: Research & Innovation Actions (RIA), and Innovation actions (IA) as defined in the General Annexes of H2020
- In Section 2: Research and Innovation Activities (RIA*) based on national rules
- In Section 3: National research programmes (PSiAs)

** Please note that the acronym RIA is used both for Section 1 and Section 2. In Section 1 the rules applying to these actions are the standard Horizon 2020 rules for participation (RfP). While the rules used in Section 2 are to some extent analogous to the Horizon 2020 RfP, specific rules, concerning participation and funding rates, apply. As the projects selected in Section 2 are funded directly by the national funding bodies they will be subject to the respective national regulations. For more details regarding the rules for Section 2 please refer to the guidelines for applicants on the PRIMA website.*

PRIMA, as a whole, will also support **capacity building** in Mediterranean countries as a key transversal component of project proposals, enhancing research and innovation capacities in the field of water management and agro-food systems. A focused capacity building activity will be dedicated to the enabling environment for PRIMA through training programmes for young researchers and entrepreneurs.

Moreover, PRIMA will promote **networking, coordination**, collaboration and integration of national research programmes and activities among the PSs with specific activities managed directly by PS as well as with PRIMA observers (European Union and UfM Secretariat) and other international partners.

PRIMA will also contribute to the alignment of national research programs with PRIMA scope, it will be ensured through PS contribution with PSIAs.

The total EU contribution to the PRIMA AWP 2018 is planned to be € 20 million and the total funding commitments from PS (including EU Member States, third countries associated to Horizon 2020 and third countries not associated to Horizon 2020) are around € 40 million.

The 2017 administration costs of the programme have been funded by the PS. Administration costs for 2018 will be covered by the PRIMA-IS budget.

The table below shows the overview of different PRIMA activities and actions. Detailed budget tables are presented in part 4.

Table 1. Overview of PRIMA actions and activities covered by PRIMA AWP 2018 and allocation of corresponding contributions from the Union and Participating States

Actions / Activities	Contributions	
	EU	PS
Section 1: Actions and activities implemented and managed by the PRIMA-IS		
1.1. Indirect actions funded by PRIMA-IS (Union contribution) following Transnational Calls organised by PRIMA-IS. 2 RIA calls and 1 IA call	X	
1.2 Activities supporting programme operations funded and implemented by the PRIMA-IS (evaluation of the submitted proposals and dissemination activities)	X	
Section 2: Activities selected following Transnational Call organised by PRIMA-IS and funded by the PS		
2. 1 Call for RIA: Projects funding		X
2.2 Activities supporting programme operations funded and implemented by the PRIMA-IS (evaluation of the submitted proposals and monitoring of the funded projects)	X	
Section 3: Activities organised, managed and funded by the PS		
3.1 Participating States Initiated Activities (PSIAs)		X
3.2 Activities supporting programme operation funded and implemented by PS		X

The PRIMA AWP 2018 will also recognise the fact that 'to be Participating States' (tbPS) may become Participating States (PS) after its adoption. In this context, in the relevant sections, information will be provided in relation to tbPS. This information, although indicative at this stage, may be useful for the appreciation of the expected PRIMA activities in 2018 with a special focus on possible contributions to PRIMA by tbPS and their participation in its activities – after they become PS.

Section 1 – Activities and actions organised, managed by the PRIMA-IS

1.1 Indirect actions funded by PRIMA-IS (Union contribution) following transnational calls organised by PRIMA-IS

PRIMA-IS will launch calls for research and innovation proposals to mobilize the Euro-Mediterranean scientific communities, stakeholders and private entities and to support a wide range of research and innovation projects expected to produce a socio-economic impact in the near future. Participants to these calls will have to submit a scientific proposal to the PRIMA-IS that will be evaluated in a peer review process according to the H2020 standards. The successful projects will be funded directly by the PRIMA-IS through the signature of a grant agreement between the selected consortia and the PRIMA-IS. The grant agreements will be based on the Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement. The evaluation and selection of proposals as well as the monitoring of the projects will be done according to H2020 rules.

PRIMA-IS will be responsible for the evaluation of proposals. Participation of private entities (in their diversity, e.g. including companies/enterprises, SMEs, start-ups, non-profit organisations, NGOs...) will be encouraged in the research consortia, jointly with public research organisations, universities and end-users. The eligibility check of proposals will be done by the PRIMA-IS in line with eligibility criteria set forth in the Decision (EU) 2017/1324 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2017⁶ (PRIMA Decision).

For the AWP 2018, one priority in each thematic area from the PRIMA SRIA (priority 1.4, 2.2, and 3.3) have been selected by the PS taking into account outcomes of the Stakeholder forum and web-based public consultation over PRIMA SRIA. These priorities are crucial for addressing PRIMA challenges, and have been developed into 3 topics, each topic will be addressed in a specific call:

- Thematic Area 1-Water management: Topic 1 “Water reuse and water desalination for agricultural and food production”
- Thematic Area 2-Farming systems: Topic 2 “Sustainable productive ecosystems”
- Thematic Area 3-Agro-food chain: Topic 3 “Implementation of innovation in the Agro-food chain, promoting higher quality, sustainability and competitiveness, with particular reference to smallholders and SMEs”

Calls for Topic 1 and Topic 2 will be dedicated to RIA. In the two selected topics, research is still needed to find new solutions able to address the identified challenges. In order to maximize the chance that the research and innovation projects produce a focused solution, participation of private entities will be encouraged inside the projects.

⁶ OJ L 185, 18.7.2017, p. 1

Call for Topic 3 will be for IA, in order to enhance innovations produced by different actors of the agro-food value chains, for the benefit of consumers and societies. In this call, participation of private entities will be strongly encouraged.

Grant agreements for all three topics will be signed in 2019.

1.1.1. RIA Call – Topic 1: Water reuse and water desalination for agricultural and food production

Challenge

In a scenario where the fresh water available for agriculture and food processing industries is not enough to cover the current demand and additional gains in the water use efficiency are difficult to achieve, re-using water for multiple purposes is a possible solution. The challenge, in this sense, is to provide end-users with new more economically feasible water treatment technologies, taking into account the main environmental, socio-economic and legal and/or institutional constraints regulating the adoption of these technologies.

Scope

The reuse of wastewater is one of the main options available for water-supply decision-makers in the field of a sustainable water and soil management, of agro-food chain production and agriculture. However, in the Mediterranean, water reuse faces numerous barriers. Among them, regulatory, safety risks, economic including energy concerns and social acceptance can be currently defined as the main barriers considering that 1) safety risks (environment, human health) have been linked to the use of improperly treated wastewater; 2) treatment costs particularly linked to the energy and 3) public acceptance of reclaimed water varied according to its potential use. In addition, in the Mediterranean area treated wastewaters usually have the drawback of their salinity levels, which might limit the mid, long-term crop productivity. As a consequence, energy-efficient desalinization and other treatments, comprising technological and nature-based solutions (NBS), should be developed for treating both wastewater from municipal and industrial use. The seawater desalinization is an important source of water resources in certain areas of the Mediterranean region. Issues regarding the disposal and treatment of brines after seawater or wastewater treatment should be considered to ensure a low impact of water treatment on the environment, or in the fishery practices. On the other hand, treated wastewater can be also a source of nutrients, particularly for crop production, which should be better valorised and wastewater treatment technologies able to selectively maintain important macronutrients should be promoted. Innovative technologies, including those based on bioengineering and advanced materials such as nano-materials, and techniques like NBS and ecosystem-based approaches, may be developed to increase energy efficiency reduce pollutants loads including pathogens and emergent pollutants (i.e. pharmaceutical residues), in order to produce water of appropriate quality regarding the uses. For irrigation, appropriate practices and techniques should also be promoted to ensure good water reuse applications conditions at field level, to avoid clogging of drip irrigation systems, soil degradation and nutrient leaching to the environment. In addition, wastewater treatment techniques have to be developed not only for a direct reuse of water for agriculture, but also for an indirect use, considering hybrid approach including aquifer storage recovery. The recharge of reclaimed water into the subsoil can be considered as an additional treatment, reducing the cost and energy needs. Recharge into coastal aquifers may be considered as a hydraulic barrier against salt water intrusion. Finally, multidisciplinary studies should be enriched by analysing the economic and environmental suitability of the current implementation of the system, taking also into account the agronomic and food processing validation needed for its implementation, as well as the public acceptance. Under this proposed multi-actor approach, different type of entities should be involved in

the proposals; industrial entities (including SMEs) should play an important role, having a great potential for further replication and market uptake of the solutions developed. Innovative development of circular economy (i.e. zero waste concept, nutrients reuse) could also be proposed in the field of agro food chain production, considering the recycling of production water, in terms of quantity and quality.

Expected impact

Depending on the specific approach to be defined by the submitted proposal, some of the specific expected impacts should be achieved:

- Increasing the quantity, quality and safety of non-conventional water use for agriculture and food processing (direct use and indirect use of reclaimed water, i.e. artificial recharge, aquifer storage recovery approach)
- Increasing the efficiency of water management systems with particular regard to energy and water smart infrastructures
- Decreasing the cost of treating wastewater and, particularly, desalination by using more energy-efficient processes
- Obtaining socio-economic, environmental (soil conservation and nutrient pollution in particular) and technical information to influence Mediterranean countries policies in terms of wastewater use
- Deriving new solutions for brine disposal considering a holistic approach for desalination water

Table 2. Supporting information for the Section 1 Call for Proposals, Topic 1: “Water reuse”

Type of action	Research & Innovation Action (RIA)
Total indicative amount allocated to this Call	€ 6,1 million
Funding level	According to Horizon 2020 rules <i>Funding rate: 100%</i>
Technology Readiness Levels (TRL)	3 to 5
Expected number of grants	Up to 3 (projects up to € 2,033 million each, – indicative amount)
Eligibility conditions for participation	Please refer to section 5.1.1 The standard admissibility (section 5.1.2) and eligibility conditions (section 5.1.3) apply.
Submission and evaluation procedure	Two-stage application procedure. For the first stage, a short proposal (maximum 10 pages) must be submitted by the first deadline. Successful applicants in the first stage will be invited to submit a full proposal (maximum 70 pages) for the second stage. A timeline for the

	submission and evaluation of applications can be found in table 5.
Evaluation rules	The award criteria, scoring, thresholds and weightings for RIAs listed in part 5.1.6 will be used.
Grant agreement	PRIMA grant agreement (multi-beneficiary), based on Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement
Consortium agreement	Participants in projects resulting from this Call for Proposals will be required to conclude a consortium agreement prior to the conclusion of the PRIMA grant agreement.

1.1.2 RIA Call – Topic 2: Improving the sustainability of Mediterranean agro-ecosystems

Challenge

In the last decades a substantial proportion of agriculture in the Mediterranean area has been modernized and intensified. However, yield increases are still insufficient to face the ever-growing food demand. Furthermore, unsustainable intensification of practices has often led to pollution, overexploitation of natural areas and resources, loss of fertility of agricultural land, soil erosion and salinization, runoff, and in some cases desertification.

The objective of this call for proposals is to develop Mediterranean innovative cropping and livestock systems including inland aquaculture, able to cope with limited resources and environmental constraints while enhancing food production stability over time and ensuring a production of high quality agricultural outputs that will allow increase in farmers' income and preserve agro-ecosystems integrity and services.

Scope

This objective should be met by developing innovations at the level of the cropping, livestock or farming systems, taking into consideration the social, economic and environmental aspects. The projects should target the Mediterranean crops, animals and the Mediterranean farming systems and the specificities of their natural Mediterranean environment.

Design of new production systems should allow adaptation of the Mediterranean farming systems to climate change, reduction and optimization of use of natural resources in particular water and/or potentially polluting inputs (e.g. pesticides, organic and mineral fertilizers, manure and antibiotics), management of soil conservation and/or decrease in erosion and soil salinity.

Research projects are expected in the following thematic areas: better linkage between livestock (including freshwater aquaculture, as a component of proposals for agro-ecosystem projects) and crop

production; a range of different systems should be included (e.g. organic farming, agroecology, agroforestry, ...) as well as their resilience to climate change impacts taken into account; valorizing existing biodiversity through sustainable use of underexploited and new species, breeds or varieties of interest in farming systems; development of production of legumes or use of other local Mediterranean varieties/ species and its insertion in cereal soles, crops rotations and crops association. The projects could include the use of innovative technologies, such as digital technologies, smart space data and related data and technologies.

The inclusion of end-users (farmers' organisations, extension services, farmers, food industry, NGOs and consumer associations) in the research consortiums is encouraged to speed up innovation. Projects should consider the involvement of the different type actors as part of the Agricultural and Knowledge Innovation System and the multi-actor approach⁷.

Expected Impacts

Projects funded under this call for proposals must target Mediterranean farming systems taking into consideration the specificities of the Mediterranean climate and ecosystems. Project could deal with crops and/or animals systems. Projects should contribute to develop and propose new sustainable production systems by reducing negative impacts on the environment while increasing yields. The solutions proposed should increase the viability of farms and the incomes of workers thereby social aspects and employment should be considered.

More specifically, the impacts expected from the projects should concern one of the point listed below (potentially several):

- Development of low-input systems with high productivity and low environmental impact
- A more appropriate use of lands by diversified ago-ecosystems, integration of ecosystems services and mix cropping-livestock activities is expected
- Integration of ecological, agronomical and socio-economic knowledge to design and assess efficient productive systems based on agroecological concepts and to address the difficulties of transition of technical practices
- Promote and develop a sustainable use of underexploited and/or new species and Improved local species / breeds / products and farming systems best suited to Mediterranean conditions

Table 3. Supporting information for the Section 1 Call for Proposals, Topic 2: “Sustainable Ecosystems”

Type of action	Research & Innovation Action (RIA)
Total indicative amount allocated to this call	€ 6,1 million

⁷ The **multi-actor approach** aims to make innovation more demand-driven, and therefore should ensure genuine and sufficient involvement of various actors (end-users such as farmers/farmers' groups, foresters/foresters' groups, fishers/fisher's groups, advisors, businesses, etc.) all along the project: from the participation in the planning of work and experiments, to implementation, the dissemination of results and a possible demonstration phase. A multi-actor project proposal needs to demonstrate: how the project proposal's objectives and planning are targeting needs/problems and opportunities of end-users and how it complements existing research and best practices

Funding level	According to Horizon 2020 rules <i>Funding rate: 100%</i>
Technology Readiness levels (TRL)	3 to 5
Expected number of grants	Up to 3 (projects up to € 2,033 million each – indicative amount)
Eligibility conditions for participation	Please refer to section 5.1.1 The standard admissibility (section 5.1.2) and eligibility conditions (section 5.1.3) apply.
Submission and evaluation procedure	Two-stage application procedure. For the first stage, a short proposal (maximum 10 pages) must be submitted by the first deadline. Successful applicants in the first stage will be invited to submit a full proposal (maximum 70 pages) for the second stage. A timeline for the submission and evaluation of applications can be found in table 5
Evaluation rules	The award criteria, scoring, thresholds and weightings for RIAs listed in part 5.1.6 will be used.
Grant agreement	PRIMA grant agreement (multi-beneficiary), based on Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement.
Consortium agreement	Participants in projects resulting from this Call for Proposals will be required to conclude a consortium agreement prior to the conclusion of the PRIMA grant agreement.

1.1.3 IA Call – Topic 3: Implementing innovation in Mediterranean Agro-food chains by smallholders and SMEs.

Challenge

Horizontal and vertical fragmentation of the Mediterranean value chains and the lack of integration among the main food system actors are the biggest obstacle to the adoption of technological and organizational innovation. Furthermore, the small size of the firms and the weak entrepreneurial business culture make it even harder the adoption of such innovations.

Effective organizational and business models, replicable on most of the typologies of Med food companies are necessary to foster uptake of production of business solutions able to meet the needs of the market, food security needs and the opportunities given by Mediterranean values, heritage and biodiversity.

Adoption of technological and organizational innovations by smallholders and SMEs is one of the major challenge for Mediterranean economies and societies.

Scope

Proposals should clearly address food production and distribution in a changing social, economic and environmental scenarios. Activities should focus on chosen Mediterranean food product(s) and be in line with sustainability principles (e.g., consuming less water and energy, reducing environmental impact and waste, valorising by-products etc.).

Activities should aim to produce plans for new, modified or improved value chains, products, processes or services in line with Mediterranean values and heritage and biodiversity, and promoting the scaling-up of sustainable solutions in a chosen agro-food sector (e.g. vegetables, fruits, cereals, animal products, etc.). For this purpose proposals may include prototyping, testing, demonstrating, pilot projects or large-scale product validation and must include business and market replication analysis. Proposals are expected to produce innovative solutions for existing problems, as well as strategies that may potentially open new markets in an international context. Proposals may, if necessary, include limited research and development activities especially if there are clear market failures or cultural or behavioral barriers to overcome.

Proposals should include activities such as demonstration of the benefits for all the players along the food chain, validation of technical and economic performance at business and system level, identification of possible new standards in line with Mediterranean values and heritage, activities to prepare market uptake, ensure consumer acceptance and optimise dissemination of results towards the main sector's players and the consumers. Work is expected to benefit from contribution of social sciences.

Demonstration activities will require the active involvement of food processing companies, retailers, civil society organizations and consumer associations, to bridge the gap between ideas that have been developed and their practical implementation. Cooperation among relevant Mediterranean stakeholders in the food production and supply chains is encouraged to ensure the adoption of innovative, sustainable, technological and organizational solutions in line with citizens and community's needs.

Proposals could implement solutions to trace origin and identity, ensure safety or exploit digital opportunities. Liaison with EU and Mediterranean quality standardization bodies is encouraged.

To have the desired impact, proposals should show financial sustainability in the middle-long term, be harmonized in the context of the regulatory framework, implement communication and marketing strategies.

Expected Impact

The proposal's expected impacts should be clearly described in qualitative and quantitative terms (e.g. on new job opportunities, financial turnover, employment figures, market seize, IP management, increased sales, return on investment and profit). With a view to support more sustainable Mediterranean economies and societies, proposals should show how some, or all, of the following impacts, will be achieved with reference to the chosen agro-food sector:

- Deployment of wider, faster and profitable innovative solutions by smallholders and SMEs, overcoming the barriers to market uptake.
- Strengthen the food processing sector in line with Mediterranean values and heritage improving competitiveness.
- Create opportunities for growth, diversification and job creation particularly for smallholders and agro-food SMEs.

- Strengthen Mediterranean food value chains, supporting product quality, healthy food consumption and consumer trust.
- Reduce the negative impacts of food value chains on the environment with particular reference to water.
- Support the transition from a linear to a circular economy.

Table 4. Supporting information for the Section 1 Call for Proposals, Topic 3: “Innovation in the Agro-food chains”

Type of action	Innovation Action (IA)
Total indicative amount allocated to this Call	€ 6,1 million
Funding level	<i>According to Horizon 2020 Rules</i> 70% (except for non-profit legal entities, where a rate of 100% applies)
Technology readiness levels	5 to 8
Expected number of grants	Up to 3 (projects up to € 2,033 million each, – indicative amount)
Eligibility conditions for participation	Please refer to section 5.1.1 The standard admissibility (section 5.1.2) and eligibility conditions (section 5.1.3) apply.
Submission and evaluation procedure	Two-stage application procedure. For the first stage, a short proposal (maximum 10 pages) must be submitted by the first deadline. Successful applicants in the first stage will be invited to submit a full proposal (maximum 70 pages) for the second stage. A timeline for the submission and evaluation of applications can be found in table 5.
Evaluation rules	The award criteria, scoring, thresholds and weightings for IAs listed in part 5.1.6 will be used.
Grant agreement	PRIMA grant agreement (multi-beneficiary), based on Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement.
Consortium agreement	Participants in projects resulting from this Call for Proposals will be required to conclude a consortium agreement prior to the conclusion of the PRIMA grant agreement.

Table 5. Timetable for Section 1 Calls for Proposals in 2018

Action	Call Topics	Pre-announcement	Call publication and opening	Submission deadline Stage 1	Evaluation results Stage 1	Submission deadline Stage 2	Evaluation results Stage 2
RIA	Water reuse and water desalination for agricultural and food production	15-Jan-18	08-Feb-18	17-Apr-18	15-Jun-18	15-Sep-18	05-Dec-18
RIA	Sustainable productive ecosystems	15-Jan-18	08-Feb-18	17-Apr-18	15-Jun-18	15-Sep-18	05-Dec-18
IA	Implementation of innovation in the Agro-food chain (...)	15-Jan-18	08-Feb-18	17-Apr-18	15-Jun-18	15-Sep-18	05-Dec-18

The Eligibility check will be done by the PRIMA-IS after each deadline for submission and before the evaluation takes place.

PRIMA-IS may decide to publish and open the call up to two weeks prior or one month after the envisaged date(s).

PRIMA IS may delay other deadlines by up to two months.

All deadlines are at 17.00.00 Barcelona local time.

1.2 Activities supporting programme operations funded and implemented by the PRIMA-IS

1.2.1 Evaluation of projects proposals submitted to 2018 Calls

Objective: This activity consists of implementing the evaluation of all the eligible projects submitted to the 2018 PRIMA calls (Section 1 - Section 2) and preparing the decision of the Board of Trustees and of the national funding bodies for selection of projects to be funded. The evaluation process is described in detail section 5.1.6 and 5.2.6

PRIMA-IS will appoint external independent experts to evaluate the proposals and to be part of the evaluation panels.

For both section (1 and 2) PRIMA IS will assign to the independent experts the evaluation of both first-stage proposals and full proposals (stage 2). PRIMA IS will provide guidelines to the experts for the remote evaluation and for drafting their individual assessment report. At the end of this period of remote individual assessment, the experts will meet in a panel to draft the consensus report for each project. When a consensus is reached for each project, the panel will agree on the final assessment and will proceed with the ranking of the projects.

After the remote evaluation of the first-stage proposals and full proposals, a two-day and three-day meeting respectively will be organised to draft the consensus report and establish the ranking list.

For section 1, there will be one evaluation panel per call, so three panels in total and for section 2, there will be a single panel covering the entire range of topics.

PRIMA-IS will cover the independent expert fees, travels and accommodation and the other meetings-related expenses in accordance with international standards as well as the meeting of the board of trustees (section 1) and the funding bodies (section 2). The one-day meetings of the board of trustees and national funding bodies will be held at the end of each step (2 meetings for section 1 and 2 meetings for section 2)

Type of Action: Expert Contracts, Direct costs for meetings

Indicative budget: € 500,000

2. Section 2 – Activities selected following transnational call organised by PRIMA -IS and funded by PS (RIA call)

2.1 Transnational calls organised by the PRIMA-IS and funded by the PS

PRIMA SRIA identifies 12 priorities for facing Mediterranean challenges related to Water management, Farming systems and Agro-food chains. In 2018, the PRIMA Section 2 Call, funded by the PS, will encompass all priorities except the three that will be addressed in Section 1 as described previously.

Section 2 will focus on a unique call for RIA, as several priorities/topics are strongly interrelated (leading to several cross-cutting issues that have been highlighted as in the PRIMA SRIA, e.g. soil conservation and restoration and food security).

This call shall be implemented in compliance with common principles to be agreed by the Participating States and the European Commission, taking into account the principles set out in PRIMA basic act, in Part One of Title VI of the Financial Regulation No 966/2012 and Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013, in particular the principles of equal treatment, transparency, independent peer review evaluation and selection.

As for section 1 of the AWP 2018, the Section 2 call will be launched in a two-stage process. PRIMA-IS will be responsible for the evaluation of proposals, which will be conducted with analogous rules of H2020 rules in a peer review process with a panel that will rank the proposals. Eligibility of proposals will be first checked by the PRIMA-IS having regard to the eligibility criteria for participation set forth in the PRIMA Decision. In this section 2, to receive the funds, the beneficiaries will have to sign a grant agreement directly with their national funding bodies. Thus, a second eligibility check will be performed by the national funding bodies, aimed at the verification of eligibility for funding⁸. In this context proposals that are considered eligible for participation by PRIMA-IS (at the consortium level) will enter into the evaluation process. However, in the event of a negative outcome of the verification of eligibility for funding of any participant in the applicant consortium by a PS, PRIMA-IS may require additional information from a consortium or the participant concerned, such as an attestation that the funds to cover their participation in the project will be available.

At the end of the evaluation a unique ranking list will be produced by the panel in order to guarantee that high quality projects will be funded. As some funding bodies allocated a budget to one or more specific topic, and in the event that one or more projects cannot be funded (in case that a funding body runs out of money), the projects following directly in the ranking may be selected. For details on the evaluation and selection process please see sub-sections 5.2.6 and 5.2.7.

PRIMA Section 2 call will address the topics described in subsection 2.1 below (according to national priorities) and the cross cutting issues among them. Research projects can address issues that are cross cutting between two topics as long as they are both eligible for funding by the partner countries.

PRIMA Section 2 call will fund collaborative research projects that should have an impact and contribute to demand and policy driven research.

When funding for training and mobility is allowed by the funding bodies these actions will be encouraged and projects should integrate in their work plan schemes for the mobility of young researchers / post graduates / post doctorates, in accordance with the modalities set out in national regulation funding bodies.

Projects must deliver tangible outputs and enhance technological and social innovation, depending on the research question addressed. The projects could include the use of innovative technologies, such as smart digital technologies, space data and related data and technologies. When explicitly allowed

⁸Please refer to table 6 to see indicative budget distribution of Participating States and to be Participating States with respect to the calls covered by section 2.

by the national regulations of the funding bodies, innovation actions should involve the private sector in the project Consortium, and particularly relevant SMEs.

All participants to activities funded by the PRIMA IS or by Participating States of the PRIMA Programme are required to label or co-label any communication or publication related to their activities with the following acknowledgement "[name of the activity/grant code] is part of the PRIMA Programme supported by the European Union", as well as with the PRIMA logo.

2.1.1 Thematic area 1: Management of water

Topic 1.1: Water resources availability and quality within catchments and aquifers

The challenges now faced by water planners call for a new generation of water management models that addresses the broad impacts of global changes on aquifer storage and depletion trajectory management, groundwater-dependent ecosystems, seawater intrusion and salinization, anthropogenic and geogenic contamination of the whole water cycle, and long-term sustainability. On the other hand, Mediterranean surface water bodies are characterized by intermittent streams: ephemeral streams convey runoff from mountain headwaters to lowlands and help recharge alluvial aquifers, sustain water resources and provide the same hydrological and ecological functions as perennial streams by moving water and sediments throughout the watershed. Understanding the complexity of the system under present and future climatic and socio-economic conditions is of crucial importance for ensuring the long-term availability of water resources.

Topic 1.2: Sustainable, integrated water management

Water sustainability in the Mediterranean region should be ensured through improved technical tools coupled with socio-economic studies to define the limits of water and energy use in certain key regions under present and future global change scenarios. In this sense, it is necessary to recognize water-energy-food synergies and balance the potential trade-offs between water and energy-use efficiency. The issue of water transboundary cooperation through sound legal and institutional arrangements might be taken into consideration in certain critical parts of the Mediterranean area.

Topic 1.3: Irrigation technologies and practices

In the Mediterranean basin, agriculture is by far the main user of water resources, and irrigation is a crucial field practice influencing crop productivity and product quality. In addition, irrigation is a major driver of solute transport in arid and semi-arid environments, having an important role in the potentially negative impacts of improper water management on soil salinization and aquifer pollution. The challenge is therefore to improve irrigation water productivity while minimizing the possible environmental risks associated with irrigation. Technical solutions to be derived will have to consider current procedures and governance settings that might prevent the real scale adoption of improved irrigation technologies within the farmers' communities in the Mediterranean.

2.1.2 Thematic area 2: Farming system

Topic 2.1: Adaptation of agriculture to climate change

Climate change is dramatically impacting the Mediterranean area and solutions need to be found to adapt agricultural practices to rising temperatures, drought and soil salinity, and increasing occurrence of extreme events. The situation is predicted to worsen in the near future, with the northern part of

the region experiencing similar conditions to those existing today on the southern shores. Adapting to climate change is therefore a common necessity for Mediterranean agriculture. Genetic and plant breeding is key for this topic, but cropping system diversification, and spatial organisation, as well as diversification of animals and mixed farming are also important for improving resilience to climate change.

Topic 2.2: Preventing emergence of animal and plant diseases

The Mediterranean Region is a hotspot for biodiversity but it is also a rich and well-known centre of origin and dispersion for virulent plant and animal pests and diseases. They increase under the influence of climate change and of the intensification of trade flows inside the Mediterranean. The recent outbreak of *Xylella fastidiosa* in olive groves is a clear example of such kind of threat, but Mediterranean area faces many other similar situations where the invading species rapidly colonize the entire region. Plant and animal diseases and pests cause significant decreases in yield and quality of Mediterranean crops, in particular fruit, cereal and vegetables as well as Mediterranean animal productions, and have strong economic and social consequences. The objective of this call is to gain scientific knowledge in order to understand and foresee outbreaks and to develop preventive measures and Integrated Pest Management solutions.

Topic 2.3: Developing farming systems able to generate income, to create employment and to contribute to a balanced territorial development

Integrated and multidisciplinary research approaches should be developed to enhance the potential benefits of agriculture in terms of employment and poverty alleviation. The objective is to encourage the development of labour-intensive agricultural activities and the design of profitable farming systems for small-scale agriculture, of technologies adapted to diverse farming systems. The growth of rural employment is critical for fighting rural poverty. Potential synergies among activities of the various economic sectors in rural areas and rural/urban synergies should be enhanced. Integrated approaches should be implemented at different levels (farms, region, territories...).

2.1.3 Thematic area 3: agro-food value chain

Topic 3.1 Valorising food products from traditional Mediterranean diet

Mediterranean areas are characterised by traditional diets connected to traditional local products. However, life-style changes have led to dietary changes and consumption of lower quality food, poor in essential nutrients, micronutrients and health-promoting bioactive ingredients. Research is needed to develop new products and processes to increase the quality of Mediterranean foods by combining improvement of raw material composition with better use of innovative and soft production and processing technologies. The result will be a better nutritional quality of food products, as well as stable (micro) nutrient-dense ingredients, bioactive extracts, functional ingredients and new products.

Topic 3.2: Food Safety in local food chains

Food safety is a key issue for the Mediterranean agro-food sector. Lack of efficiency and food safety problems are recurrent in Mediterranean agro-food value chains, both regarding upstream suppliers who struggle to assess the quality of raw materials, and downstream suppliers, who struggle to comply with the increasingly stringent standards of quality, traceability, product homogeneity and supply regularity required by the sector. Research should focus on the elaboration and adoption of innovative solutions aimed at improving quality control in supply chains at local and regional levels in order to ensure food quality and safety throughout the food chain, as well as enhancing links between place of origin, food processing and food quality and safety.

Topic 3.3 Implications of dietary shifts and sustainable diets for the Med populations and food industry

While the traditional Mediterranean lifestyle composed by three main pillars (Mediterranean diet, physical activity pattern and socio-cultural behaviours) is considered an ideal combination and particularly healthy, the Mediterranean is paradoxically one of the areas of the world where overweight and obesity are most prevalent—a clear sign of lifestyle shift in progress in several modifiable factors: excess consumption of carbohydrates, sugars, saturated fat and salt, lower consumption of fruits, vegetables and fibres; decreased physical activity; loss of Mediterranean traditional socio-cultural habits. The emergence of chronic diseases related with lifestyle such as diet and physical activity (heart disease, cancer, chronic respiratory disease and diabetes) is massive in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean. The complex Relationship between lifestyle and health in the Mediterranean context needs to be understood, as well as the diet and physical activity habits, their heterogeneity and their determinants, and the vulnerability of specific populations should be addressed (i.e. child obesity). The goal is also to prevent lifestyle-related diseases by raising awareness among both Mediterranean population and policy-makers.

Table 6. Planned activities and indicative budget distribution of Participating States and to be Participating States

	Participating States															'to be' Participating States			
	PT	SI	CY	EL	FR	TN	ES	TR	DE	HR	IT	LU	MT	IL	DZ	EG	LB	JO	MA
Total commitment (K€)	750	100	200 to 400	2000	4000	1000	3000	1000	3300	285	7000	300	500	1000	2000	3000	500	1500	2000
Thematic area 1 Sustainable water management for arid and semi-arid med areas	250			750			1100	400		55			200		700	900		500	
TOPIC 1.1 Water resources availability and quality within catchments and aquifers	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TOPIC 1.2 Sustainable, integrated water management	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TOPIC 1.3 Irrigation technologies and practice	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Thematic area 2 Sustainable farming systems under Med environmental constraints	250			600			800	300		135			150		800	600		500	
TOPIC 2.1 Adaptation of agriculture to climate change	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TOPIC 2.2. Preventing animal and plant pests and diseases outbreaks	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

TOPIC 2.3. Farming Systems able to create employment and territorial development	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Thematic area 3 Mediterranean Food Value Chain for Regional and Local development	250			650			1100	300		95			150		500	1500		500	
TOPIC 3.1. Valorising food products from traditional Mediterranean diet	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TOPIC 3.2. Food safety and quality in local food chains	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TOPIC 3.3. Health effects of the dietary shifts and promotion of healthy and sustainable diets for the Med populations	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X

Abbreviations of the table: PT: Portugal; SI: Slovenia; CY: Cyprus; EL: Greece; FR: France; TN: Tunisia; ES: Spain; TR: Turkey; DE: Germany; HR: Croatia; IT: Italy; LU: Luxembourg; MT: Malta; IL: Israel. DZ: Algeria; EG: Egypt; LB: Lebanon; JO: Jordania; MA: Morocco.

* The PRIMA AWP 2018 will also recognise the fact that 'to be Participating States' (tbPS) may become Participating States (PS) after its adoption. In this context, in the relevant sections, information will be provided in relation to tbPS. This information, although indicative at this stage, may be useful for the appreciation of the expected PRIMA activities in 2018 with a special focus on possible contributions to PRIMA by tbPS and their participation in its activities – after they become PS.

Table 7. Information about the Section 2 Call - 2018

Type of action	Research & Innovation Activities (RIA)
Total indicative amount allocated to this call	EUR 30 million
Funding level	depending on National Regulations
Expected number of grants	20 to 30
Additional eligibility conditions	<p>In addition to the standard admissibility, and eligibility (section 5.2.2 and 5.2.3) the following additional eligibility condition applies to this Call for Proposals (section 5.3.1):</p> <p>Each participant in a bidding consortium must check its own eligibility for participation/funding in accordance to their national regulations.</p> <p>In this context, participants have to check also the eligibility for funding of each topic per country (as indicated in table 7 above and part 5.2.3 of the AWP 2018)</p>
Submission and evaluation procedure	<p>Two-stage application procedure. For the first stage, a pre-proposal (maximum 10 pages) must be submitted by the first deadline. Successful applicants in the first stage will be invited to submit a full proposal (maximum 70 pages) for the second stage. A timeline for the submission and evaluation of applications can be found in table 8 of the AWP 2018.</p>
Evaluation rules	<p>The scoring, thresholds and weightings for RIAs listed in section 5.2.6 will be used.</p>

Grant agreement	<p>Each national funding body will fund the beneficiaries established in its own country, thus, the national funding rules apply.</p> <p>Each national funding body will sign a grant agreement (or any official documents acting as contract) with their national beneficiaries taking part in the selected project (section 5.2.11). The coordinator of the project has to decide with his/her partners of a common starting date of the project and send this information to all the funding bodies involved in funding this project in order to ensure that the national contracts are synchronized in time to cover all the period of the project.</p>
Consortium agreement	<p>A consortium agreement mentioning the distribution of the tasks among partners (as listed in the proposal) must be concluded. Some national funding bodies may require this document before signing the grant agreement then it is necessary to refer to the national regulations and draft this document accordingly (section 5.2.11)</p>

Table 8. Timetable for Section 2 Call for Proposals in 2018

Action	Call Topics	Pre-announcement	Call publication and opening	Submission deadline Stage 1	Evaluation results Stage 1	Submission deadline Stage 2	Evaluation results Stage 2
RIA	Sustainable water management, farming systems and innovation in the agro-food chain (9 topics)	15-Jan-18	08-Feb-18	27-Mar-18	6-Jun-18	4-Sep-18	05-Dec-18

PRIMA-IS may decide to publish and open the call up to two weeks prior or one month after the envisaged date(s).

PRIMA-IS may delay other deadlines by up to two months.

All deadlines are at 17.00.00 Barcelona local time.

2.2 PS contributions dedicated to the implementation of proposals resulting from transnational calls organised by the PRIMA-IS and funded by the PS

This section refers to the costs incurred by the PS for the management of successful proposals resulting from the calls organised by the PRIMA foundation and funded by the PS.

These costs shall not exceed 6 % of the individual financial contribution by each Participating State in Section 2. For 2018, the total amount of these contributions shall not exceed € 2 008 243.

3. Section 3 – Activities and actions organised, managed and funded by the PS

PRIMA PS implement and fund by their own an array of national activities that contribute to the objectives of the PRIMA programme. Also as the PRIMA-IS have to face cash flow issues in 2017, PS have covered the administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS from the 7 of August 2017 in order to ensure the launching of the activities as planned in the AWP. The participation of the PS can be divided in three type of activities:

- a. National research programs implemented, managed and funded by the PS: PSIAS
- b. Activities supporting programme operation funded and implemented by PS
- c. Financial and in kind support of the PS to cover the administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS

3.1 Participating States Initiated Activities (PSIAs)

The PRIMA Basic Act states that PRIMA activities may include activities under the national programmes of the Participating States including transnational projects.

Those activities, included as so-called Participating States Initiated Activities PSIAs in the PRIMA AWP, shall be implemented in compliance with common principles to be agreed by the Participating States and the European Commission, taking into account the principles set out in PRIMA basic act, in Part One of Title VI of the Financial Regulation No 966/2012 and Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013, in particular the principles of equal treatment, transparency, independent peer review evaluation and selection.

The Participating States Initiated Activities (PSIAs) listed below gather activities under national programmes of PS spanning from national calls for research and innovation, training actions and/or supports to joint research project or joint research units managed and funded directly by the PS. They are in-kind contributions of the PS to the PRIMA programme and constitute an integral part of the PRIMA programme contributing to the alignment of national programmes to PRIMA. The PSIAs listed in this section of the AWP 2018 are in line with PRIMA objectives.

All participants to activities funded by the PRIMA Foundation or by Participating States of the PRIMA Programme are required to label or co-label any communication or publication related to their activities with the following acknowledgement "[name of the activity/grant code] is part of the PRIMA Programme supported by the European Union", as well as with the PRIMA logo.

Table 9. Participating States Initiated Activities in 2018 (details of the calls are given in Section 7)

Code	Activity title	Key words	Action	Countries involved	Duration of the PSIA (in month) or type of budget allocation	2018 Total PS indicative commitment (€)
ES.2018.1	State RDI Programme aimed at the societal challenges 2 and 5/ Programme for Agricultural and Food Technologies and Resources (AGL). Subprogramme ACU (aquaculture), AGR (agriculture), ALI (food), FOR (forestry), GAN (livestock)	Water, agriculture and aquaculture	RIA	Spain	annual call for RDI Projects	3 500 000
ES.2018.2	State RDI Programme aimed at the societal challenge 2 (RTA). Programme for Resources and Agricultural Technologies in coordination with the Autonomous Regions (RTA)	Agriculture and Food Science and Technology	RIA	Spain	annual call for RDI projects	1 300 000
ES.2018.3	National Programme for the Promotion of Talent and Its Employability. Pre and post-doc contracts for Mediterranean countries beyond the EU to work in Spanish Research Centres and Universities.	Mobility, training	TMA	Spain and Non-EU Mediterranean countries. Collaborating countries can only be identified after the selection of the projects	annual calls	600 000
FR.2018.1	Research Projects funded by ANR under the Annual National Call for proposals on PRIMA related issues	water, agriculture, food, Mediterranean Area	RIA	France, + potentially non-EU med countries. Collaborating countries can only be identified after the selection of the projects	annual call for research proposals	1 500 000

FR.2018.2	Hubert Curien Programme : Mobility for researcher with south med countries	water, agriculture, food, Mediterranean Area	TMA	France, + non-EU med countries (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Turkey, Lebanon, Israel)	Annual or bi annual call	300 000
DE.2018.1	German-Egyptian Research Fund (GERF)	water, agriculture, food	RIA	Egypt	co-funded call for research proposals	2 000 000
IT.2018.1	CNR National Research Council of Italy Department of Biology, Agriculture and Food Sciences	Functional food, food safety, nutrition, ICT	RIA	Italy	Annual call	1.500.000
IT.2018.2	Cooperative programme of the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation between The National Research Council of Italy (CNR) and The National Council for Scientific Research of Lebanon (CNRS-L)	Food safety and nutrition	TMA	Lebanon	Bi annual	20 000
IL.2018.1	Israel Innovation Authority, Bilateral Programs with Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Slovenia, Spain etc.	Water, agriculture and food	IA	Bilateral programmes with France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Cyprus	Annual call	1 000 000
IL.2018.2	Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MOARD)	Water, agriculture and food	RIA and IA		Several calls /year	1 500 000
IL.2018.3	Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	Water technologies and agriculture	RIA, Scholarship	Germany, Italy, Slovenia, China...	Annual call	1 000 000

3.2 Activities supporting programme operations funded and implemented by PS

3.2.1 Capitalization on results achieved by research and innovation projects

Objective:

The objective of this task is twofold. On one hand it is to prepare the procedures and guidelines for monitoring and follow up of the projects that will be funded by PRIMA, and thus to enable the PRIMA-IS to provide clear instructions and information on these aspects for the projects that will be selected in 2018. On the other hand, it will address a more fundamental issue, which is the way capitalization of results will be done inside PRIMA.

We expect that the large amount of projects that will be funded through PRIMA produces a real advance in research and innovation, but this requires strong action to share data, knowledge and results. Capitalization of results will be an important part of the PRIMA activities, that will allow PRIMA to have a real impact and, as intermediate step, to ensure that the design of Annual Work Plans will build upon on previous results.

Capitalization of results will cover PRIMA funded projects but also projects in other related initiatives (e.g. on-going projects funded in previous related ERA-NETs – ERANETMED and ARIMNet –, in H2020 and other initiatives) as well as those implemented at national level (in particular the projects funded in PRIMA-Section 3). This is a condition for PRIMA to achieve efficiently its role towards alignment of National Programmes.

In 2018, a systematic individual, collection and classification of previous Euro-Mediterranean projects on agro-food and water, and a critical, qualitative and quantitative analysis of research and innovation outputs will be performed. Research and innovation outputs will be analyzed in terms of i) partnerships created among countries and between public and private sectors, ii) scientific impact using quantitative methods such as citation counts, journal impact factors and specific metrics, iii) new products and innovations and their potential economic, social and environmental impact.

Then, guidelines and procedures for researchers will be established to facilitate the capitalization of the knowledge that will be produced by PRIMA funded projects in the following years. A particular attention will be given on the incentives for researchers to share their results (open data, dedicated dissemination tasks inside research projects).

Regarding the procedures for monitoring and follow up the PRIMA funded projects, they will be both established for projects selected in section 1 and section 2 calls, before the starting dates of projects selected for funding in 2018. A particular attention will be given to the monitoring of projects funded in section 2. Thanks to the analysis of the previous experience in ERA-NETs, this activity should warn PRIMA about common problems already encountered in the past and then ensure that all the conditions are gathered to avoid the same difficulties.

Type of action: Development of guidelines for scientific monitoring and valorisation, implemented and Managed by France

Indicative budget: € 150,000

Timetable: the activity will begin in the second quarter 2018.

3.2.2 Networking, engagement and communication to stakeholders

Objective:

This activity aims to engage stakeholders through the creation of a PRIMA Platform of actors (enterprises and researchers) involved (or that could be involved) in Research and Innovation projects on food and water themes.

Therefore, an open web-based platform of such actors will be setup and updated during the whole duration of the programme. This platform will be included in the general one implemented on the website of PRIMA. The platform could be articulated in specific sections dedicated to report synthetic profile descriptions of each member and business cases presentations; forums useful to boost dialogue and interactions among PRIMA stakeholders.

This action could be also useful to promote a Mediterranean Agro-food sector Observatory able to understand the features of present and future agro-food business scenario, to monitor the state of art of MED agro-food sector during the programme implementation, with the aim to disseminate periodically PRIMA impacts, best practices and emerging innovations/issues and to support and facilitate the match between the need of enterprises and the solutions offered by innovators and researchers.

A PRIMA Stakeholder working group will be established to give support and advice to PRIMA Scientific Advisory Board and Steering Committee, by informing, providing inputs on needs and priorities of Mediterranean agri-food business sector. This working group will also suggest how participation of companies and research actors in PRIMA could be further extended over time and will directly involve other relevant agri-food players in the Mediterranean area through dedicated engagement activities.

Moreover, workshops (Forums, Business Speed Dating and Matchmaking events) will take place in both shores of the Mediterranean aiming to engage actors in the Euro-Mediterranean Research and Innovation, reinforcing the link between research, innovation and industrial know-how, enlarging the PRIMA stakeholder community, communicating intermediate outcomes produced by the programme, promoting and stimulating adoption of innovation in Mediterranean companies of the agri-food sector.

Type of action: Networking implemented by Italy

Indicative budget: € 150,000

Timetable: The activity will begin in the first quarter of 2018.

3.2.3 Synergies with other related initiatives

Objective:

Organise a two-days' workshop with other existing related initiatives. One-day meeting with European initiatives representatives (e.g. JPI Water, KIC Climate, KIC Food, JPI FACCE, HDHL, etc.) in order to identify synergies and possible areas of collaboration having in mind the strategic agendas and also the calls already launched and the gaps still not covered.

This action will support all costs necessary to organize the workshop, including the travel costs of selected PRIMA staff and coordinators of pre-selected projects funded by the different initiatives.

A two-day meeting to enhance participation in and uptake by international programmes in the fields of water and food (FAO, CGIAR, IPGRI, ICARDA, SDSN)

Type of action: workshops implemented by Greece

Indicative budget: € 100,000

Timetable: Before summer 2018

3.2.4 Potential impact of PRIMA on Mediterranean societies including migrations: Enhancing the role of Science Diplomacy

Objective:

By improving the prospects of sustainable agriculture, water management and food chain added value across the Euro-Mediterranean region, PRIMA shall constitute a relevant instrument backing overall intercultural exchange and economic development, while addressing other issues of overarching socio-political concern, including migrations, stability and peace within the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean.

Envisaged actions hereby shall consist of gatherings of research and innovation actors in the field of agriculture, water and food and counterparts (civil society, private sector, administration at both national and regional level, national and international dimension) involved in discussion over implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Mediterranean area.

These gatherings will also aim to frame the research and innovation actions undertaken within the PRIMA Annual Work Plan in light of the multiple obligations that the State has when SDGs are at stake and assess the impact of the research and innovation actions in terms of promotion of the relevant SDGs.

Such activities will add a peculiar perspective, potentially useful to impact on national policies and legislations, as well as on the empowerment of local communities.

These should be organised as participatory meetings, where all those participating are involved, there is a shared agenda and the process leads to the co-construction of outcomes, in a process that strengthens collaboration skills, trust and knowledge on each other characteristics.

The objectives are:

- To identify and mobilize actors across the PRIMA domain and concurring activities of diplomatic relevance;
- To share information on ongoing activities and exchange of views on the state of play;
- To identify differences and complementarities among possible partners;
- To generate recommendations for future actions to be included in the PRIMA work plan, while influencing other institutions' agendas with PRIMA's views.
- To increase visibility of PRIMA as key instrument for Scientific Diplomacy in the Mediterranean region, engaging with relevant actors, including universities and knowledge-community.
- To underscore and address the main shortcomings that limit the implementation and fulfilment of SDGs in the region.
- To frame research and innovation actions as positive vehicle for the fulfilment of circular economy and critically assess their impact.
- To promote educational tools and activities towards a better understanding of the impact on SDGs of PRIMA related research activities
- The actions will be implementation of up to 4 workshops (1-2 days) in Portugal (3), in close relations with Egypt and Morocco (mainly) and Italy (1), with key actors from the PRIMA SRIA and representatives of national and international organizations of relevance;

The outcomes of the 4 above-mentioned workshops will be the elaboration of repository of best practices on approaches at national and local governmental level on the enhancement of SDGs within the PRIMA perspective.

Reports will be available publicly.

Type of action: workshops implemented by Portugal and Italy

Indicative budget: € 125,000 (€ 75,000 from Portugal and € 50,000 from Italy)

Timetable: the activity will begin in the first quarter of 2018, after adoption of the AWP

3.2.5 Enhancing Youth entrepreneurship

Objective:

Youth unemployment is still an urgent issue in many countries across the Mediterranean region, where 25.4 million people are unemployed, of whom 7-8 million are aged 15-24⁹.

The objective of this action is to create a new generation of young entrepreneurs, able to create spin-offs and other businesses in the water, agriculture, food topics covered by PRIMA. This action will support training activities to young Mediterranean water and agri-food entrepreneurs, especially in terms of development of business ideas, design and implementation of novel business models in particular of management and operational mechanisms, processes and procedures allowing the implementation of innovations. Particular emphasis will be placed on PRIMA areas of research better suited to technological innovation and cross cutting issues across the PRIMA thematic research areas. Training courses and their related bibliographic material should be available and open to the Mediterranean audience through on-line mechanics, using digital technologies and tools such as Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

Brokerage events will be also organised to put in contact young entrepreneurs and researchers with the various members of innovation community, matching innovation demand with supply. They will encourage the connection between public and private sector, by increasing interest of researchers to develop a business-oriented career and involvement of the Mediterranean private sector in research and innovation.

In addition, in order to facilitate the knowledge transfer between research and agri-food firms and, more generally, among all relevant actors of agri-food innovation systems a training activity of 2 weeks aimed to the creation of a new professional figure of innovator broker will be organised.

This professional figure is in charge of catalyzing innovation through bringing together actors and facilitating their interaction, adopting a broad systemic, multi-actor, innovation systems perspective.

Type of action: Capacity building implemented by ITALY

Indicative budget: € 75,000

Timetable: The activity will begin in the second quarter 2018

3.2.6 Assessment of PRIMA impacts in SDGs perspective

Objective:

The impact assessment and monitoring will work at regional and local scale adopting evaluation tools and indicators selected in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This framework will allow to identify the performance produced by PRIMA and each funded project. On the macro level the activity provides to define and adopt:

- a baseline useful to understand the state of art of MED area respectively with current (economic, social and environmental) issues reported in PRIMA SRIA;

⁹ World Bank 2014; United Nations World Population Prospects 2015.

- a dashboard able to analyse the working progress of PRIMA, monitoring the overall impacts and cross-cutting issues which affect simultaneously the achievement of more SDGs.

These tools should address the “expected impact” section of each PRIMA call.

Type of action: Methodology development for monitoring PRIMA with SDG indicators implemented by Italy

Indicative budget: € 80.000

Indicative timetable: The activity will begin in the first quarter of 2018, after adoption of the AWP.

3.3 PS funded Administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS

To ensure in a timely manner the start of the activities described in this AWP 2018, the PS have contributed to the administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS in Barcelona. Besides the fees to become member of the board of trustees, several PS contributed extra means (€ 165 000) in August 2017 to face the cash flow issues of the foundation.

The fees of the PS to become member of the Foundation (€ 15 000 per country) are not mentioned in the table below as they are paid once for all the duration of the PRIMA program.

Only the extra financial contribution sent by the PS to cover specifically the administrative cost of the PRIMA-IS in 2017 (from the 8th of August 2017) is mentioned. This financial contribution is supplemented by a contribution in kind via seconded staff. Seven persons are seconded to work in the premises of the PRIMA-IS in Barcelona for the first 6 months (from 28 August 2017 to 28 February 2018, representing a total amount of 200 000 euros) to ensure the functioning of the structure and preparation of all the logistical aspects and the necessary legal documents to face the *ex ante* assessment planned in September 2017. As there is no AWP 2017 but the costs are existing, the contribution of the PS is sum up in the table below. This extra contributions will cover the salaries of the director and vice director, the allowances of the seconded personal, travels and missions of the director, consumables and website development.

Table 10. PS funded Administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS for the period from 28 August 2017 to 28 February 2018.

Support to PRIMA-IS administrative costs (EUR)		
Participating States	Financial contributions	In-kind contributions (salaries seconded staff)
Algeria		23 335
France	35 000	110 000
Germany	85 000	
Italy	15 000	
Portugal	15 000	
Spain	15 000	
Turkey		43 330
Sub Total PS	165 000	176 665
To be Participating States	Financial contributions	In-kind contributions (salaries seconded staff)
Jordan		23 335
Sub Total tbPS		23 335
Grand total	365 000	

4. Administrative 2018 budget of the PRIMA-IS for the implementation of the PRIMA programme

In 2018, the administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS will include the following items:

4.1. Personnel

- Personnel costs, will include the salaries and social costs of the following personnel: Director, Vice Director, Scientific Officers (2), Legal Officer, Grants Finance Officer, Audit Officer, IT manager, Communication Officer, Administrative Assistants (2).

4.2. Meetings and missions

- Meetings of the Board of Trustees, the Steering Committee and the Scientific Advisory Committee
- Administrative Staff travel and accommodation costs

4.3. Consumables and supplies

- Postage and courier
- Office consumables & stationery
- Printing and photocopying

- Bank charges
- Office furniture and equipment (depreciation)
- Office utilities: electricity, water and gas
- Repairs and maintenance
- Computers and other IT equipment (depreciation)

4.4. Service contracts

- Foundation audit fees (reporting to the EC and annual statutory accounts)
- Telecommunications (voice and data)
- IT support services
- Office cleaning

4.5. Dissemination activities and materials

- Creation of materials for external communication (leaflets, posters, newsletters, etc.). (Costs will be under Service contracts section)
- Organization of an info day in a southern PS. This info day will be organized to present the AWP 2019 to the public in October or November 2018. (Costs will be under Mission and travels section)

4.6 Budget overview tables

Table 11. Indicative budget for the administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS for the implementation of the PRIMA programme in 2018

Description	Amount
Personnel	1 050 000
Missions and meetings / Dissemination activities	60 000
Consumables and supplies	20 000
Service contracts / Dissemination materials	70 000
Total	1 200 000

TABLE 12. OVERVIEW OF PLANNED COMMITMENTS TO ACTIVITIES OF THE PRIMA PROGRAMME 2018 BY THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU), THE PARTICIPATING STATES (PS) AND THE TBPS IN EUROS

Activities	Contributions (in €)				Grand Total
	EU	PS	Total	tbPS	
Programme Implementation					
EU funded Transnational Calls for Proposals RIA and IA (Section 1)	18.300.000		18.300.000		18.300.000
Participating States Transnational co-funded Call for Proposals, managed by PRIMA-IS (Section 2)		26.470.715	26.470.715	7.000.000	33.470.715
Activities Supporting the Programme Implementation					
Evaluation of Projects	500.000		500.000		500.000
Participating States funded activities managed by PS to support programme implementation		680.000	680.000		680.000
PS contributions dedicated to the implementation of proposals resulting from PS funded calls		1.588.243	1.588.243	420.000	2.008.243
Participating States Initiated Activities		14.220.000	14.220.000		14.220.000
Sub-Total Implementation	18.800.000	42.958.958	61.758.958	7.420.000	69.178.958
EU-funded administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS	1.200.000				1.200.000
Sub-Total Administration	1.200.000				1.200.000
Total Budget	20.000.000	42.958.958	61.758.958	7.420.000	70.378.958

* Information provided for indicative purposes, not part of PRIMA Budget 2018. The entry of tbPS' commitments into PRIMA Budget is conditional upon the entry into force (or provisional application, where applicable) of the respective International Agreement.

Table 13. Detailed overview of planned commitments to activities of the PRIMA programme in 2018 by the European Union (EU) and the Participating States (PS) and the tbPS*

Planned commitments (in €)							
	Programme CALLS	PRIMA-IS administrative costs	PS management costs	Activities supporting programme operations	PSIAs	Total in 2018	Total cumulative commitment
	Financial contributions	Financial contributions	In-kind contributions	Financial Contributions	Financial contributions		
European Union (EU)							
European Commission	18.300.000	1.200.000		500.000		20.000.000	
Sub-Total EU	18.300.000	1.200.000		500.000		20.000.000	
Participating States (PS)							
Algeria	2.000.000		120.000			2.120.000	
Croatia	285.715		17.143			302.858	
Cyprus	400.000		24.000			424.000	
Portugal	735.000		44.100	75.000		854.100	
France	3.965.000		237.900	150.000	1.800.000	6.152.900	
Germany	3.215.000		192.900		2.000.000	5.407.900	
Greece	2.000.000		120.000	100.000		2.220.000	
Israel	1.000.000		60.000		3.500.000	4.560.000	
Spain	2.985.000		179.100		5.400.000	8.564.100	
Italy	6.985.000		419.100	355.000	1.520.000	9.279.100	
Slovenia	100.000		6.000			106.000	
Luxembourg	300.000		18.000			318.000	
Malta	500.000		30.000			530.000	
Tunisia	1.000.000		60.000			1.060.000	
Turkey	1.000.000		60.000			1.060.000	
Sub-Total PSs	26.470.715		1.588.243	680.000	14.220.000	42.958.958	
Sub-Total EU and PSs	44.770.715	1.200.000	1.588.243	1.180.000	14.220.000	62.958.958	
To be Participating States (TbPS)							
Egypt	3.000.000		180.000			3.180.000	
Jordan	1.500.000		90.000			1.590.000	
Lebanon	500.000		30.000			530.000	
Morocco	2.000.000		120.000			2.120.000	
Sub-Total tbPS	7.000.000		420.000			7.420.000	
Grand Total	51.770.715	1.200.000	2.008.243	1.180.000	14.220.000	70.378.958	

* Information provided for indicative purposes, not part of PRIMA Budget 2018. The entry of tbPS' commitments into PRIMA Budget is conditional upon the entry into force (or provisional application, where applicable) of the respective International Agreement.

Table 14. Overview of planned EU contributions towards PRIMA Calls for Proposals in 2018 and other activities for the implementation of the PRIMA programme, including administrative expenses of the PRIMA-IS

EU-funded PRIMA activities		Indicative EU contribution (in €)
Research & Innovation Actions	Section 1 Call 1	6 100 000
	Section 1 Call 2	6 100 000
	Section 1 Call 3	6 100 000
	Section 2 Call 1	0
Other Activities	Activities for supporting the implementation of the programme	500 000
Administrative costs of the PRIMA-IS	Personnel, Missions, Consumables and supplies,	1 200 000
	Service contracts	
	Dissemination activities	
Total planned contributions in 2018		20 000 000

5. General Annexes

5.1 Section 1 – Transnational calls organised and funded by the PRIMA-IS (Union contribution)

5.1.1 List of countries eligible for funding

Legal entities established in the following countries and territories will be eligible to receive funding through PRIMA grants:

a) The PRIMA Participating States¹⁰ :

¹⁰ New PS may join PRIMA and the regularly updated list of PS will be provided by PRIMA-IS (at the following link to be inserted to PRIMA webpage).

- The following Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU): Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia. It includes the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) linked to these Member States¹¹:
- The following Third Countries associated to Horizon 2020 (AC): Israel, Tunisia, and Turkey.
- The following Third Countries not associated to Horizon 2020 (TC), upon condition that they have concluded international agreements for scientific and technological cooperation setting out the terms and conditions of their participation in PRIMA: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco.*

* As of 26 October 2017 the agreement for scientific and technological cooperation setting out the terms and conditions of Algeria's participation in PRIMA has been provisionally applicable and Algeria is a PRIMA Participating State. The eligibility to receive PRIMA funding for legal entities established in the 'to be Participating States', i.e. Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco, is conditional upon the entry into force or start of provisional application of international agreements with the Union setting out the terms and conditions of their participation in PRIMA. Legal entities established in these countries, which apply for funding, will be eligible for funding if the required international agreements start producing legal effects by the time the relevant Grant Agreement is signed (details in Section 6)

These Associated (AC) and Third Countries (TC) mentioned above are the Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC).

In addition, the following entities are eligible to receive funding through PRIMA grants:

- b) Any legal entity created under Union law
- c) Any international European interest organization, as defined in point (12) of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013¹²
- d) Any international organization or any legal entity established in countries not listed above as PS will be eligible for funding provided that at least one of the following conditions is fulfilled:
 - participation is deemed to be essential for carrying out the action;
 - such funding is provided under a bilateral scientific and technological agreement or any other arrangement between the Union and the international organisation or, for entities established in a country which is not a Participating State, the country in which the legal entity is established.

The latest information on the PRIMA PS can be found on PRIMA webpage:
<http://www.prima4med.org/>

¹¹ Entities from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) are eligible for funding under the same conditions as entities from the Member States to which the OCT in question is linked.

¹² These are international organizations, the majority of whose members are Member States or associated countries, and whose principal objective is to promote scientific and technological cooperation in Europe

Participants from countries not listed in point 5.1.1.a), and not falling under b), c) or d) above, can be part of a consortium but they have to fund their own participation. They cannot coordinate the project and they are not taken into account in the minimum number of participants required to have an eligible consortium (see section 5.1.3). They also have to attach to their proposal a letter from their organization (signed by a legal representative of the structure) attesting that the funds to cover their participation to the projects (task(s), participation to meetings, etc.) in the project will be available.

5.1.2 Standard admissibility

1. For all actions under AWP 2018, proposals must comply with the admissibility requirements set out in this sub-section, unless they are supplemented or modified in the call conditions.

To be considered **admissible**, a proposal must be:

- (a) Submitted in the electronic submission system before the deadline given in the call conditions
- (b) Readable, accessible and printable.
- (c) **Complete** and inclusive of the requested administrative data, the proposal description, and any other obligatory supporting documents specified in the call conditions;
- (d) Include a **draft plan for the exploitation and dissemination of the results**, unless otherwise specified in the call conditions. The draft plan is not required for proposals at the first stage of two-stage procedures.

2. In addition to the above admissibility requirements, page limits will apply to parts of proposals/applications. Unless stated otherwise in the call conditions, the limit for a first-stage proposal is 10 pages, while the limit for a full proposal is 70 pages.

Excess pages (in over-long proposals/applications) will not be taken into consideration by evaluators.

Proposals must be written in a legible font. Further guidance on acceptable fonts, margins and other page formatting will be included in the proposal templates.

The structure of proposals must correspond to the requirements specified under each section of the proposal template.

3. The following supporting documents will be required to determine the operational capacity of each applicant for grant proposals, unless otherwise specified in the call:

- A curriculum vitae or description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed research and/or innovation activities;
- A list of up to five relevant publications, and/or products, services (including widely-used datasets or software), or other achievements relevant to the call content;

- A list of up to five relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal;
- A description of any significant infrastructure and/or any major items of technical equipment, relevant to the proposed work;
- A description of any third parties that are not represented as project partners, but who will nonetheless be contributing towards the work (e.g. providing facilities, computing resources).

This scrutiny will be carried out by the evaluators during the evaluation process under the selection criteria, in particular the award criterion 'Quality and efficiency of the implementation'. Please refer to Section 5.1.6 "Evaluation rules".

5.1.3 Standard eligibility conditions

All proposals must comply with the eligibility conditions set out in the Rules for Participation of Horizon 2020 Regulation No. 1290/2013 and any derogations to these as specified in the Decision (EU) 2017/1324.

Furthermore, proposals must comply with the eligibility conditions set out in this sub-section, unless they are supplemented or modified in the call conditions.

A proposal will only be considered eligible if:

- (a) its content corresponds, wholly or in part, to the scope and objectives of the topic to which it is submitted
- (b) it complies with the eligibility conditions for participation set out in the table below, depending on the type of action

Type of Action	Eligibility conditions for participation ¹³¹⁴¹⁵
Research & Innovation Action (RIA)	<p>At least three legal entities established in three different countries considered as Participating States as defined in point 5.1.1. Each of the three must be established in a different country considered to be PRIMA PS by submission deadline under the relevant call , out of which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -at least one must be established in a EU Member State or a third country associated to Horizon 2020 participating in PRIMA and not being a MPC¹⁶; and -at least one must be established in a third country bordering the Mediterranean Sea (MPC) considered as a Participating State¹⁷ <p>All three legal entities must be independent of each other.</p>

¹³ Natural or legal persons, groups or non-State entities covered by the Council sanctions in force are not eligible to participate in Union programmes. Please see the consolidated list of persons, groups and entities subject to EU financial sanctions, available at http://eeas.europa.eu/cfsp/sanctions/consol-list_en.htm.

¹⁴ Given that the EU does not recognise the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol, legal persons established in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the city of Sevastopol are not eligible to participate in any capacity. This criterion also applies in cases where the action involves financial support given by grant beneficiaries to third parties established in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the city of Sevastopol (in accordance with Article 137 of the Financial Regulation No 966/2012). Should the illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol end, this Work Plan will be revised.

¹⁵ The eligibility criteria formulated in Commission notice Nr. 2013/C 205/05 (OJEU C 205 of 19.07.2013, pp.9-11) apply for all actions under this Work Plan, including for third parties that receive financial support under the action (in accordance with Article 137 of the Financial Regulation No 966/2012), notably programme cofund actions.

¹⁶ These countries include Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain.

¹⁷ The latest information on the PRIMA PS, including MPC, can be found on PRIMA webpage: <http://www.prima-med.org/>. In order to qualify as a MPC, and thus be counted towards the eligibility conditions for participations, the third country will need to be considered a PS by submission deadline under the relevant call.

Innovation actions (IA)	<p>At least three legal entities established in three different countries considered as Participating States as defined in point 5.1.1. Each of the three must be established in a different country considered to be PRIMA PS by submission deadline under the relevant call , out of which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -at least one must be established in a EU Member State or a third country associated to Horizon 2020 participating in PRIMA and not being a MPC¹⁸: and -at least one must be established in a third country bordering the Mediterranean Sea (MPC) considered as a Participating State¹⁹ <p>All three legal entities must be independent of each other.</p>
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¹⁸ These countries include Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain.

¹⁹ The latest information on the PRIMA PS, including MPC, can be found on PRIMA webpage: <http://www.prima-med.org/>. In order to qualify as a MPC, and thus be counted towards the eligibility conditions for participations, the third country will need to be considered a PS by submission deadline under the relevant call.

5.1.4 Types of action: specific provisions and funding rates^{20,21}

Research and innovation actions (RIA)

Description: Action primarily consisting of activities aiming to establish new knowledge and/or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution. For this purpose they may include basic and applied research, technology development and integration, testing and validation on a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment.

Projects may contain closely connected but limited demonstration or pilot activities aiming to show technical feasibility in a near to operational environment.

Funding rate: 100%

Innovation actions (IA)

Description: Action primarily consisting of activities directly aiming at producing plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services. For this purpose they may include prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication.

A 'demonstration or pilot' aims to validate the technical and economic viability of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution in an operational (or near to operational) environment, whether industrial or otherwise, involving where appropriate a larger scale prototype or demonstrator.

A 'market replication' aims to support the first application/deployment in the market of an innovation that has already been demonstrated but not yet applied/deployed in the market due to market failures/barriers to uptake. 'Market replication' does not cover multiple applications in the market of an innovation²² that has already been applied successfully once in the market. 'First' means new at least to PRIMA countries or new at least to the application sector in question. Often such projects involve a validation of technical and economic performance at system level in real life operating conditions provided by the market.

Projects may include limited research and development activities.

Funding rate: 70% (except for non-profit legal entities, where a rate of 100% applies)

20 Eligible costs for all types of action are in accordance with the Financial Regulation No 966/2012 and the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013. In addition, as training researchers on gender issues serves the policy objectives of Horizon 2020 and is necessary for the implementation of R&I actions, applicants may include in their proposal such activity and the following corresponding estimated costs that may be eligible for EU funding:

- (a) Costs of delivering the training (personnel costs if the trainers are employees of the beneficiary or subcontracting if the training is outsourced);
- (b) Accessory direct costs such as travel and subsistence costs, if the training is delivered outside the beneficiary's premises;
- (c) Remuneration costs for the researchers attending the training, in proportion to the actual hours spent on the training (as personnel costs).

21 Participants may ask for a lower rate.

²² A new or improved technology, product, design, process, service or solution.

5.1.5 Technology readiness levels (TRL)

Where a topic description refers to a TRL, the following definitions apply, unless otherwise specified:

- TRL 1 – basic principles observed
- TRL 2 – technology concept formulated
- TRL 3 – experimental proof of concept
- TRL 4 – technology validated in lab
- TRL 5 – technology validated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
- TRL 6 – technology demonstrated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
- TRL 7 – system prototype demonstration in operational environment
- TRL 8 – system complete and qualified
- TRL 9 – actual system proven in operational environment (competitive manufacturing in the case of key enabling technologies; or in space)

5.1.6 Evaluation rules

Selection Criteria

1. *Financial capacity*: In line with the Financial Regulation No 966/2012 and the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013. For grants, coordinators will be invited – at the proposal stage – to complete a self-assessment using an on-line tool.

2. *Operational capacity*: As a distinct operation, carried out during the evaluation of the award criterion ‘Quality and efficiency of the implementation’, experts will indicate whether each individual participant has, or will have in due time, a sufficient operational capacity to successfully carry out its tasks in the proposed work plan. This assessment will be based on the competence and experience of the applicant, including its operational resources (human, technical and other) and, if applicable, exceptionally the concrete measures proposed to obtain it by the time of the implementation of the tasks.

3. For prizes and for first-stage proposals in a two-stage submission procedure, neither financial capacity nor operational capacity is subject to evaluation.

Award criteria, scores and weighting

1. Grant proposals will be evaluated by experts, on the basis of the **award criteria** ‘excellence’, ‘impact’ and ‘quality and efficiency of the implementation’ see Article 15 of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013).

The aspects to be considered in each case depend on the types of action as set out in the table below, unless stated otherwise in the call conditions:

Type of Action	Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
All Types of Actions	<p>The following aspects will be taken into account, to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the topic description in the work plan.</p> <p>Clarity and pertinence of the objectives;</p> <p>Soundness of the concept, and credibility of the proposed methodology;</p> <p>Fit with the scope and objectives of the PRIMA programme and the call topic description;</p>	<p>The following aspects will be taken into account:</p> <p>The extent to which the outputs of the project would contribute to one or several of the expected impacts mentioned in the work plan under the relevant topic.</p> <p>Scores of the proposals will not depend on the number of expected impacts covered.</p>	<p>The following aspects will be taken into account*:</p> <p>Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables;</p> <p>Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management;</p> <p>Complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium as whole brings together the necessary expertise;</p> <p>Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role.</p>

Research & Innovation Actions (RIAs); Innovation actions (IA)	<p>Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art, and demonstrates innovation potential (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models)</p> <p>Appropriate consideration of interdisciplinary approaches and, where relevant, use of stakeholder knowledge and gender dimension in research and innovation content.</p>	<p>Any substantial impacts not mentioned in the work plan, that would enhance innovation capacity, create new market opportunities, strengthen competitiveness and growth of companies, address issues related to climate change or the environment, or bring other important benefits for society;</p> <p>Quality of the proposed measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR), and to manage research data where relevant. • Communicate the project activities to different target audiences. 	
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* not all aspects are relevant to proposals involving just one beneficiary

2. Scoring and weighting:

Unless otherwise specified in the call conditions:

- Evaluation scores will be awarded for the criteria, and not for the different aspects listed in the above table. For full proposals, each criterion will be scored out of 5. The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. The overall threshold, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be 10.
- For Innovation actions to determine the ranking, the score for the criterion 'impact' will be given a weight of 1.5.
- For the evaluation of first-stage proposals under a two-stage submission procedure, only the criteria 'excellence' and 'impact' will be evaluated. Within these criteria, only the aspects in bold will be considered. The threshold for both individual criteria will be 4. For each indicative budget-split in the call conditions, the overall threshold, applying to the sum of the two individual scores, will be set at the level such that the total requested budget of proposals admitted to stage 2 is as close as possible to three times the available budget, and in any case, not less than two and a half times the available budget.
- The actual level will therefore depend on the volume of proposals received. The threshold is expected to normally be set at 8 or 8.5.

3. **Priority order** for proposals with the same score:

Unless the call conditions indicate otherwise, the following method will be applied (except for the first stage of two-stage calls, where proposals having the same score are kept together and no prioritisation is made.)

If necessary, the panel will determine a priority order for proposals which have been awarded the same score within a ranked list. Whether or not such a prioritisation is carried out will depend on the available budget or other conditions set out in the call fiche. The following approach will be applied successively for every group of ex aequo proposals requiring prioritisation, starting with the highest scored group, and continuing in descending order:

a) Proposals that address topics, or sub-topics, not otherwise covered by more highly-ranked proposals, will be considered to have the highest priority.

b) The proposals identified under (a), if any, will themselves be prioritised according to the scores they have been awarded for the criterion excellence. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on scores for the criterion impact. In the case of Innovation actions this prioritisation will be done first on the basis of the score for impact, and then on that for excellence.

c) If necessary, any further prioritisation will be based on the following factors, in order: size of EU budget allocated to SMEs; gender balance among the personnel named in the proposal who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the research and/or innovation activities.

d) If a distinction still cannot be made, the panel may decide to further prioritise by considering how to enhance the quality of the project portfolio through synergies between projects, or other factors related to the objectives of the call or to Horizon 2020 in general. These factors will be documented in the report of the Panel.

e) The method described in (a), (b), (c) and (d) will then be applied to the remaining ex aequos in the group.

4. For prizes, the award criteria, scoring and weighting will be set out in the Rules of contest.

Evaluation procedure

1. Calls may be subject to either a one-stage or two-stage submission and evaluation procedure.

2. Proposals are evaluated by independent experts (see Article 15(7) Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013 for exceptional cases).

As part of the evaluation by independent experts, a panel review will recommend one or more ranked lists for the proposals under evaluation, following the scoring systems indicated above. A ranked list will be drawn up for every indicative budget shown in the call conditions.

3. Proposal coordinators receive an Evaluation Summary Report (ESR), showing the results of the evaluation for a given proposal. For proposals that successfully pass the first stage of two-stage calls, common feedback is provided to all coordinators, but the first stage ESR is only sent after the second stage evaluation.

4. If special procedures apply, they will be set out in the call conditions.

5.1.7 Funding decision and communication

The final decision of funding will be taken according to the rank of the project as established in the ranking list produced by the panel (starting by the project rank number 1 in the list in a descending order) until funds are available.

Proposal coordinators receive an Evaluation Summary Report (ESR), showing the results of the evaluation for a given proposal. For proposals that successfully pass the first stage of two-stage calls, common feedback is provided to all coordinators, but the first stage ESR is only sent after the second stage evaluation.

Applicants whose proposal is awarded funding will receive a formal communication informing them that the grant preparation phase can start.

If special procedures apply, they will be set in the call conditions.

5.1.8 Budget flexibility

The budgets set out in AWP 2018 are indicative.

Unless otherwise stated, final budgets may vary following evaluation.

The final figures may vary by up to 20% compared to those indicated in AWP 2018, for the following budgeted activities:

- Total expenditure for calls (up to 20% of the total expenditure for each call);
- Repartition of call budgets within a call (up to 20% of the total expenditure of the call);
- Evaluation and monitoring (up to 20% of the total expenditure for all these activities);

The cumulated changes above may not exceed 20% of the maximum contribution provided for this Work Plan.

5.1.9 Conditions related to open access to research data

Participants will engage in research data sharing, according to Article 29.3 of the PRIMA Model Grant Agreement(s). This means that beneficiaries must deposit and take measures to make it possible for third parties to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate, free of charge for any user:

(1) data needed to validate the results presented in scientific publications ('underlying data'); and (2) other data as specified by the beneficiaries in their Data Management Plan (DMP, see below).

Projects can "opt-out" of these provisions before or after the signature of the grant agreement (thereby freeing themselves from the associated obligations) on the following grounds:

- a) Incompatibility with the Horizon 2020 obligation to protect results that are expected to be commercially or industrially exploited
- b) Incompatibility with the need for confidentiality in connection with security issues
- c) Incompatibility with rules on protecting personal data
- d) Incompatibility with the project's main aim
- e) If the project will not generate / collect any research data, or
- f) If there are other legitimate reasons not to provide open access to research data.

Any costs related to the implementation of these provisions are eligible for reimbursement during the duration of the grant.

A proposal will not be evaluated more favourably if the consortium agrees to share its research data, nor will it be penalised if it opts out.

Further information on open access to research data is available on the PRIMA electronic submission system.

A Data Management Plan (DMP) details what data the project will generate, how it will be exploited and made accessible for verification and re-use, and how it will be curated and preserved. The use of a Data Management Plan is obligatory for all projects that do not opt-out. Projects that opt-out are also strongly encouraged to submit a Data Management Plan if relevant for their planned research. Further information on Data Management Plans is available on PRIMA electronic submission system.

5.2 Section 2 – Transnational calls organised by PRIMA-IS and funded by the Participating States

5.2.1 List of countries eligible for funding

Legal entities established in the following PRIMA Participating States²³ will in general be eligible to receive funding through PRIMA grants:

- The following Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU): Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia. It includes the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) linked to these Member States²⁴:
- The following Third Countries associated to Horizon 2020 (AC): Israel, Tunisia, and Turkey.
- The following Third Countries not associated to Horizon 2020 (TC), upon condition that they have concluded international agreements for scientific and technological cooperation setting out the terms and conditions of their participation in PRIMA: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco.*

*As of 26 October 2017 the agreement for scientific and technological cooperation setting out the terms and conditions of Algeria's participation in PRIMA has been provisionally applicable and Algeria is a PRIMA Participating State. The eligibility to receive PRIMA funding for legal entities established in the 'to be Participating States', i.e. Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco is in general conditional upon the entry into force of start of provisional application of international agreements with the Union setting out the terms and conditions of their participation in PRIMA by the time the relevant Grant Agreement is signed.

²³ New PS may join PRIMA and the regularly updated list of PS will be provided by PRIMA-IS (at the following link to be inserted to PRIMA webpage).

²⁴ Entities from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) are eligible for funding under the same conditions as entities from the Member States to which the OCT in question is linked.

These Associated (AC) and Third Countries (TC) mentioned above are the Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC).

Participants from countries not listed above can be part of a consortium but they have to fund their own participation. They cannot coordinate the project and they are not taken into account in the minimum number of participants required to have an eligible consortium (see section 5.2.3). They also have to attach to their proposal a letter from their organization (signed by a legal representative of the structure) attesting that the funds to cover their participation to the projects (task(s), participation to meetings...) in the project will be available.

Ultimately, the national funding rules of a PS will determine whether a particular entity would be eligible for funding. PRIMA-IS will request PS to verify the eligibility of participants in applicant consortia for national funding. In the event of a negative outcome of the verification of eligibility for funding of any participant in the applicant consortium by a PS, PRIMA-IS may require additional information from a consortium or the participant concerned such as an attestation that the funds to cover their participation in the project will be available (analogous to the attestation required from participants from non-PS).

The information provided in this section is without prejudice to the national funding rules of PS which may also envisage eligibility for funding for specific entities not established in these PS.

Please refer to table 6 which presents indicative budget distribution of Participating States and to be Participating States with respect to the calls covered by section 2. Based on this table prospective participants may establish whether the PS / tbPS plans to allocate certain budgets to the Thematic Areas and particular topics they are interested in.

The latest information on the PRIMA PS can be found on PRIMA webpage:
<http://www.prima-med.org/>

5.2.2 Standard admissibility and related requirements

1. For all actions under AWP 2018, proposals must comply with the admissibility requirements set out in this sub-section, unless they are supplemented or modified in the call conditions.

To be considered **admissible**, a proposal must be:

- (a) Submitted in the electronic submission system before the deadline given in the call conditions
- (b) Readable, accessible and printable.
- (c) **Complete** and inclusive of the requested administrative data, the proposal description, and any other obligatory supporting documents specified in the call conditions;

(d) Include a **draft plan for the exploitation and dissemination of the results**, unless otherwise specified in the call conditions. The draft plan is not required for proposals at the first stage of two-stage procedures.

2. In addition to the above admissibility requirements, page limits will apply to parts of proposals/applications. Unless stated otherwise in the call conditions, the limit for a first-stage proposal is 10 pages, while the limit for a full proposal is 70 pages.

Excess pages (in over-long proposals/applications) will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators.

Proposals must be written in a legible font. Further guidance on acceptable fonts, margins and other page formatting will be included in the proposal templates.

The structure of proposals must correspond to the requirements specified under each section of the proposal template.

3. The following supporting documents will be required to determine the operational capacity for grant proposals, unless otherwise specified in the call:

- A curriculum vitae or description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed research and/or innovation activities;
- A list of up to five relevant publications, and/or products, services (including widely-used datasets or software), or other achievements relevant to the call content;
- A list of up to five relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal;
- A description of any significant infrastructure and/or any major items of technical equipment, relevant to the proposed work;
- A description of any third parties that are not represented as project partners, but who will nonetheless be contributing towards the work (e.g. providing facilities, computing resources).

This scrutiny will be carried out by the evaluators during the evaluation process under the selection criteria, in particular the award criterion 'Quality and efficiency of the implementation'. Please refer to Section 5.2.6 "Evaluation rules".

5.2.3 Standard eligibility conditions

All proposals must comply with the eligibility conditions analogous to those set out in the Rules for Participation of Horizon 2020 Regulation No.1290/2013 and any derogations to these as specified in the Decision (EU) 2017/1324.

Furthermore, proposals must comply with the eligibility conditions set out in this sub-section, unless they are supplemented or modified in the call conditions.

A proposal will only be considered eligible if:

- (c) its content corresponds, wholly or in part, to the topic for which it is submitted
- (d) it complies with the eligibility conditions for participation set out in the table below, depending on the type of action

Type of Action	Eligibility conditions for participation
<p>Research & Innovation Action (RIA)</p>	<p>At least three legal entities established in three different countries considered as Participating States as defined in point 5.2.1 by the submission deadline under the relevant call , out of which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -at least one must be established in a EU Member State or a third country associated to Horizon 2020 participating in PRIMA and not being a MPC²⁵; and -at least one must be established in a third country bordering the Mediterranean Sea (MPC) considered as a Participating State ²⁶ <p>All three legal entities must be independent of each other.</p>

For Section 2 calls, after the eligibility check done by PRIMA-IS, a second eligibility check will be performed by the national funding bodies, aimed at the verification of eligibility for funding. In this context proposals that are considered eligible for participation by PRIMA-IS (at the consortium level) will enter into the evaluation process. However, in the event of a negative outcome of the verification of eligibility for funding of any participant in the applicant consortium by a PS, PRIMA-IS may require additional information from a consortium or the participant concerned, such as an attestation that the funds to cover their participation in the project will be available.

²⁵ These countries include Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain.

²⁶ The latest information on the PRIMA PS, including MPC, can be found on PRIMA webpage: <http://www.prima-med.org/>. In order to qualify as a MPC, and thus be counted towards the eligibility conditions for participations, the third country will need to be considered a PS by submission deadline under the relevant call.

For funding rules, in particular the criteria for eligibility for funding of their participation in the activities following transnational call organised by PRIMA-IS, applicants should refer to the national funding rules and if necessary contact their national funding bodies.

Applicants must be eligible for funding according to their national funding body rules (national regulations). The national regulations mention the eligible structures or entities that are allowed to apply (for example, some funding bodies can fund private entities and other cannot). Each funding body establishes its own national regulations that provide to the applicants the topics that are funded under the call (see table below) and a list of criteria to check for their eligibility. National regulations also provide a comprehensive list of eligible costs (for example some funding bodies can support mobility or sub-contracting and other cannot). Therefore before applying to the call of the section 2, applicants must verify their own national eligibility by reading carefully the national regulations and by contacting the national contact point appointed for this task (the list of the national contact points is included in the call announcement).

5.2.4 Types of activities: specific provisions and funding rates²⁷

Description of the activities: Research and innovation activities (RIA)

These activities primarily consist of activities aiming to establish new knowledge and/or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution. For this purpose they may include basic and applied research, technology development and integration, testing and validation on a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment.

Projects may contain closely connected but limited demonstration or pilot activities aiming to show technical feasibility in a near to operational environment.

All the 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 tasks and objectives with a view to pooling the results to contribute to the achievement of a set of common, well-defined project objectives.

Funding level

The level of funding and the list of eligible costs are given in the national regulations. Each applicant has to comply with the requirements stated in their own national regulations. A contact point established in each country and who can be contacted directly by the applicant belonging to the same country, will inform the applicants about the rules.

5.2.5 Technology readiness levels (TRL)

Where a topic description refers to a TRL, the following definitions apply, unless otherwise specified:

²⁷ Participants may ask for a lower rate.

- TRL 1 – basic principles observed
- TRL 2 – technology concept formulated
- TRL 3 – experimental proof of concept
- TRL 4 – technology validated in lab
- TRL 5 – technology validated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
- TRL 6 – technology demonstrated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
- TRL 7 – system prototype demonstration in operational environment
- TRL 8 – system complete and qualified
- TRL 9 – actual system proven in operational environment (competitive manufacturing in the case of key enabling technologies; or in space)

5.2.6 Evaluation rules

Selection Criteria

1. *Financial capacity*: Financial capacity will be checked in accordance with the rules analogous to those included in the Financial Regulation No 966/2012 and the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013. For grants, coordinators will be invited – at the proposal stage – to complete a self-assessment using an on-line tool.

2. *Operational capacity*: As a distinct operation, carried out during the evaluation of the award criterion ‘Quality and efficiency of the implementation’, experts will indicate whether the participants have sufficient operational capacity to carry out the proposed work, based on the competence and experience of the individual participant(s).

Award criteria, scores and weighting

1. Grant proposals will be evaluated by experts, on the basis of the **award criteria** ‘excellence’, ‘impact’ and ‘quality and efficiency of the implementation’ (see Article 15 of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013).

The aspects to be considered are set out in the table below, unless stated otherwise in the call conditions:

Type of Action	Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Research & Innovation Activities (RIAs)	<p>The following aspects will be taken into account, to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the topic description in the work plan.</p> <p>Fit with the scope and objectives of the PRIMA programme and the call topic description;</p> <p>Importance, relevance/pertinence and clarity of the objectives;</p> <p>Soundness of the concept and credibility of the proposed approach/methodology.</p> <p>Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art, and demonstrates innovation potential (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models)</p> <p>Appropriate consideration of interdisciplinary approaches and, where relevant, use of stakeholder knowledge.</p>	<p>The following aspects will be taken into account:</p> <p>The extent to which the outputs of the project would contribute to one or several of the expected impacts mentioned in the work plan under the relevant topic.</p> <p>Any substantial impacts not mentioned in the work plan, that would enhance innovation capacity, create new market opportunities, strengthen competitiveness and growth of companies, address issues related to climate change or the environment, or bring other important benefits for society;</p> <p>Quality of the proposed measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR), and to manage research data where relevant. <input type="checkbox"/> Communicate the project activities to different target audiences 	<p>The following aspects will be taken into account:</p> <p>Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables;</p> <p>Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management;</p> <p>Complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium as whole brings together the necessary expertise;</p> <p>Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role.</p>

-Scoring and weighting:

Unless otherwise specified in the call conditions:

- Evaluation scores will be awarded for the criteria, and not for the different aspects listed in the above table. For full proposals, each criterion will be scored out of 5. The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. The overall threshold, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be 10.
- For the evaluation of first-stage proposals under a two-stage submission procedure, only the criteria 'excellence' and 'impact' will be evaluated. The threshold for both individual criteria will be 3.5. For each indicative budget-split in the call conditions, the overall threshold, applying to the sum of the two individual scores, will be set at the level such that the total requested budget of proposals admitted to stage 2 is as close as possible to three times the available budget, and in any case, not less than two and a half times the available budget.
- The actual level will therefore depend on the volume of proposals received. The threshold is expected to normally be set at least 7 or 7.5 (stage 1)

Evaluation procedure

- Individual Evaluation: Each eligible proposal is evaluated remotely by at least three expert evaluators (see Article 15 of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation no. 1290/2013), who carry out a technical evaluation on the basis of the criteria mentioned above. An Individual Evaluation Report, which includes comments and scores for all evaluation criteria, is prepared by each evaluator.
- Panel review: after the remote individual evaluation, evaluators meet in a panel to discuss and find agreement on the initial comments and scores attributed to each proposal. They will prepare an Evaluation Summary Report (ESR) for each proposal, which shows the outcome of the evaluation of the project proposal.

The panel is also responsible for the preparation of a ranking list of the proposals by consensus. Project funding decisions will be taken on the basis of this ranking list. The panel configuration allows evaluators to have an overview of all eligible proposals, not just the one they have evaluated, which enables them to decide fairly when ranking the proposals.

In case of disagreement or in case of project proposals with the same score (only for two stage proposals), the panel shall determine the priority order for proposals described in the section below.

Priority order for proposals with the same score:

Unless the call conditions indicate otherwise, the following method will be applied (except for the first stage of two-stage calls, where proposals having the same score are kept together and no prioritisation is made.)

If necessary, the panel will determine a priority order for proposals, which have been awarded the same score within a ranked list. Whether or not such a prioritization is carried out will depend on the available budget or other conditions set out in the call fiche. The following approach will be applied successively for every group of ex aequo proposals requiring prioritization, starting with the highest scored group, and continuing in descending order:

- a) Proposals that address topics, or sub-topics, not otherwise covered by more highly-ranked proposals, will be considered to have the highest priority.
- b) The proposals identified under (a), if any, will themselves be prioritized according to the scores they have been awarded for the criterion excellence. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on scores for the criterion impact.
- c) If necessary, any further prioritization will be based on the following factor; presence of SMEs, gender balance among the personnel named in the proposal who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the research and/or innovation activities.

- d) The panel may decide to further prioritize by considering how to enhance the quality of the project portfolio through synergies between projects, or other factors related to the objectives of the call or to PRIMA in general. These factors will be documented in the report of the Panel.
- e) The method described in (a), (b), (c) and (d) will then be applied to the remaining ex aequos in the group.

At the end of the panel meeting, the panel will recommend one or more ranked lists for the proposals under evaluation, following the scoring systems indicated above. A ranked list will be drawn up for every indicative budget shown in the call conditions.

5.2.7 Funding decision and communication

In line with Article 6(10)(c) of Decision (EU) 2017/1324, the proposals will be ranked according to evaluation results. The selection of proposals to be funded will be made by PRIMA-IS based on this ranking. However, since the funding of participants in the activities will be responsibility of PS and not PRIMA-IS, the respective PS will need to provide adequate funding in line with the national rules. In the event that one or more projects cannot be funded by the PS, PRIMA-IS may decide to select for funding the projects directly following them in the ranking list(s).

Proposal coordinators receive an Evaluation Summary Report (ESR), showing the results of the evaluation for a given proposal. For proposals that successfully pass the first stage of two-stage calls, common feedback is provided to all coordinators, but the first stage ESR is only sent after the second stage evaluation.

Applicants whose proposal is awarded funding will receive a formal communication informing them that the grant preparation phase can start.

If special procedures apply, they will be set out in the call conditions.

5.2.8 Budget flexibility

The budgets set out in AWP 2018 are indicative.

Unless otherwise stated, final budgets may vary following evaluation.

The final figures may vary by up to 20% compared to those indicated in AWP 2018, for the following budgeted activities:

- Total expenditure for calls (up to 20% of the total expenditure for each call);
- Repartition of call budgets within a call (up to 20% of the total expenditure of the call);
- Evaluation and monitoring (up to 20% of the total expenditure for all these activities);
- Other individual actions not implemented through calls for proposals (up to 20% for each one).

5.2.9 Conditions related to open access to research data

Participants are encouraged to engage in research data sharing, This means that beneficiaries are encouraged to deposit and take measures to make it possible for third parties to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate, free of charge for any user:

(1) Data needed to validate the results presented in scientific publications ('underlying data'); and (2) other data as specified by the beneficiaries in their Data Management Plan (DMP, see below).

Projects can "opt-out" of these provisions on the following grounds:

- a) Incompatibility with the need to protect results that are expected to be commercially or industrially exploited
- b) Incompatibility with the need for confidentiality in connection with security issues
- c) Incompatibility with rules on protecting personal data
- d) Incompatibility with the project's main aim
- e) If the project will not generate / collect any research data, or
- f) If there are other legitimate reasons not to provide open access to research data

A proposal will not be evaluated more favorably if the consortium agrees to share its research data, nor will it be penalized if it opts-out.

Further information on open access to research data is available on the PRIMA electronic submission system.

A Data Management Plan (DMP) details what data the project will generate, how it will be exploited and made accessible for verification and re-use, and how it will be curated and preserved. The use of a Data Management Plan is encouraged for all projects that do not opt-out. Projects that opt-out are also strongly encouraged to submit a Data Management Plan if relevant for their planned research. Further information on Data Management Plans is available on PRIMA electronic submission system.

5.2.10 Applicable common principles to all the actions and activities

In accordance with Article 6(9) of the Decision (EU) 2017/1324, activities included in AWP 2018 that are funded by the PS without the Union financial contribution shall be implemented in compliance with common principles adopted by PRIMA-IS after obtaining approval from the Commission.

Equal treatment

Participation in PSiAs, including the right to receive funding, should in general be open to any type of legal entity, private or public. It is understood and acceptable however, that national legislation or specific objectives of an action may dictate that only certain legal entities, e.g. public institutions, can participate and receive funding in certain actions.

Funding to PSiA actions should to the largest possible extent be allocated through open calls for proposals, and the PRIMA programme should be mentioned in the call text. It is understood and

acceptable however that existing national research infrastructures and organisations, e.g. publicly funded research institutes, can be used to implement parts or the entire PSIA. Funding may therefore not be allocated through open calls for proposals, but either through internal competition within the research infrastructure or according to an overall strategic research plan.

The principle of equality and non-discrimination based on gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age and sexual orientation should be observed and promoted.

Transparency

Evaluation and selection criteria and details of the review process should be published before applicants submit proposals.

The awarding of funds through calls for proposals or through institutional funding is made public.

Any communication or publication related to PSIA, whether undertaken by the PRIMA Foundation, a Participating State, or participants to an activity, shall be labelled or co-labelled as '[name of the PSIA] is part of the PRIMA programme supported by the European Union'.

Independent peer review evaluation

Applications submitted through open calls for proposals should be evaluated by panels of leading independent domestic and/or non-domestic experts (peer review).

In case of direct funding to a national research infrastructure or organisation, the quality of the research output by the national research infrastructures or organisation should be assessed on a regular basis and structured manner, preferably through independent peer review.

Ethics and scientific integrity

The principles of scientific integrity as defined in the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity should be observed and promoted.

Fundamental ethical principles and in particular those related to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the European Convention on Human Rights and its Supplementary Protocols, should be adhered to and enforced, both during selection of actions for funding and during the subsequent implementation of the actions.

Appeal and complaints

A peer review appeal system should be established to provide applicants the opportunity to seek reconsideration of the initial review results if they believe the review process was flawed.

Exploitation and dissemination of results

The findings of research activities included as PSIA in the PRIMA annual work plan must be made available to the research community and the public in a timely manner.

5.2.11 Specific additional information and relations between the beneficiaries and their national funding bodies

Grant agreement

Each beneficiary will be funded directly by its own national funding body, therefore a grant agreement is concluded between each beneficiary and its national funding body. The rules applying for this agreement are the national rules set in the national regulations. The grant agreement will cover the entire duration of the project and must be synchronized in time (starting date of the activities and end of the project) between the different funding bodies involved in funding of the project.

Consortium agreement

A consortium agreement is required and must be sent to all the funding bodies involved in the project. This consortium agreement must address at least:

- The repartition of the tasks between partners
- The sharing of the intellectual property rights of the project results
- The conditions of publication and dissemination of the results
- The technology transfer and the exploitation of the results
- Any specific requirements from a funding body

There is no template provided by the funding bodies for the consortium agreement.

The Project Coordinator

Each Consortium need to appoint a Coordinator, who will have the following role:

For the preparation and the submission of the proposal:

- Be the single point of contact between the PRIMA-IS secretariat and the consortium partners from proposal preparation to submission
- Ensure that all the partners involved in the consortium are eligible for participation
- Submit the Application Form on behalf of the Consortium

During the implementation of the project:

- Be the single point of contact between the PRIMA-IS secretariat and the consortium partners from proposal preparation to submission
- Be the single point of contact between the Funding bodies and the consortium partners in case of requiring a grant extension or scientific/managerial modifications
- Ensure the role of supervision of the project workflow with the help of WP leaders;
- Compile and submit the common reports/deliverables of the overall project to the funding bodies. The funding bodies will then send these documents to the PRIMA-IS secretariat.

The Coordinator will not be responsible for the financial management of PRIMA research funding, which will be handled directly between national beneficiaries and their national funding bodies in each participating country.

6. Additional Participating States in PRIMA – practical aspects

This section outlines the consequences for eligibility for participation and funding of legal entities established in a country that becomes a PRIMA Participating State in 2018, after the adoption of this AWP.

Calls managed and funded by PRIMA IS (EU contribution)

Consequences for eligibility for participation: Legal entities established in tbPS* count towards the minimum number of participants in the consortium if the international agreement with the country where they are established produces legal effects (through provisional application or entry into force) at the latest by the day of the submission deadline under the relevant call for proposals organised and funded by PRIMA IS.

Consequences for funding of legal entities: Legal entities established in tbPS* that applied for funding in calls launched by the PRIMA IS funded from EU contribution (under Article 6(1)(a) PRIMA Decision) shall be eligible for funding if the international agreement produces legal effects at the latest on the day the Grant Agreement (GA) is signed. If the international agreement does not produce legal effects on that day, these entities are still eligible for participation, however, without funding.

If the international agreement starts producing legal effects after the GA is signed, the GA may be amended to provide for redistribution of funding (and related tasks) among the entities in the consortium. Such amendment cannot, however, give rise to additional funding for the project

Calls managed by the PRIMA IS and funded by the PS

Consequences for eligibility for participation: Legal entities established in tbPS* count towards the minimum number of participants in the consortium if the international agreement with the country where they are established produces legal effects (through provisional application or entry into force) at the latest on the day of the submission deadline under the relevant call for proposals organised by PRIMA IS.

Consequences for funding of legal entities: The eligibility for funding for legal entities established in tbPS* are determined by the funding rules applicable to them in a given tbPS.

*tbPS countries are those states with whom an international S&T cooperation agreement on terms and conditions of country's participation in PRIMA at the time of adoption of this Work Plan does not yet produce legal effects either through its entry into force or provisional application.

7. Detailed description of the Participating States Initiated Activities (PSIAs)

Code	ES.2018.1
Theme:	Water, agriculture and aquaculture topics
Activity title	State RDI Programme aimed at the societal challenges 2 and 5/ Programme for Agricultural and Food Technologies and Resources (AGL). Subprogramme ACU (aquaculture), AGR (agriculture), ALI (food), FOR (forestry), GAN (livestock)
Activity description	
Abstract (publishable)	<p>This is the main call for projects nourishing applied research on challenges covering the PRIMA topics. It is one of the main instruments to support the Spanish STI system through competitive calls.</p> <p>Main objectives are to stimulate the generation of the critical mass in RDI of an interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral nature on the <i>Challenges on food safety and quality; productive and sustainable agriculture and on climate change and efficiency in the use of resources</i>, to promote a close relationship between scientific and technical research, the development of new technologies and the medium and long term business application of new ideas and techniques, contributing to their transfers to products and services; and to reinforce the international leadership capability of the Spanish System for STI and its stakeholders, and contributing to improving the competitiveness of the business sector and to articulate the RDI capabilities as well as the fostering and financing instruments with other regional and international stakeholders, for developing a true joint programming.</p>
Rationale/Impact	<p>Together with the support of infrastructures, human resources, and research centers, this is the main instrument to support the Spanish STI system through competitive calls. This main call for projects nourishes applied research in all three PRIMA pillars.</p> <p>Approximate figures are given of projects dealing with agriculture, aquaculture, water management in the Mediterranean.</p>
Objectives	<p>The general objectives of the programme are (1) To stimulate the generation of the critical mass in RDI of an interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral nature necessary for advancing in the search for solutions according to the priorities established in the <i>Challenges on food safety and quality; productive and sustainable agriculture and on climate change and efficiency in the use of resources</i>; (2) to promote a close relationship between scientific and technical research, the development of new technologies and the medium and long term business application of new ideas and techniques, contributing to their transfers to products and services; (3) to reinforce the international leadership capability of the Spanish System for Science, Technology and Innovation and its stakeholders, and contributing to improving the competitiveness of the business sector and (4) to articulate the RDI capabilities as well as the fostering and financing instruments with other regional and international stakeholders, for developing a true joint programming.</p>

Deliverables	<p>Deliverables:</p> <p>Call text: Link to call 2017, as a reference: http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es/portal/site/MICINN/menuitem.dbc68b34d11ccbd5d52ffeb801432ea0/?vgnextoid=b460bc05f418b510VgnVCM1000001d04140aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=33f85656ecfee310VgnVCM1000001d04140aRCRD</p> <p>Granting Resolution will be published early in 2018 (contract of the Agency with the awarded PIs)</p>
Information on the potential Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	Call for grants of the State RDI Programme aimed at the societal challenges
Publication date	June 2018
Deadline for applications	July 2018
Expected date of award	March 2019
Scope of the Call for Proposals	Research projects on the mentioned area. Collaboration with other countries is possible although not required.
Implementation	
Type of Activity	RIA, support to research and doctoral students (contracts).
Start date of the activity	2019
Duration	36 months
Funding institution	Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) – Ministerio de Economía, Industria y Competitividad
Funding beneficiaries	<p>Please indicate the exact name(s) of the beneficiary(ies) of the funds allocated to the initiative.</p> <p>Several kinds of beneficiaries (more than 100 RDI centres and universities): Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y alimentaria (INIA) Spanish Universities Regional Research Centres Technological Centres</p>
Countries where research is conducted	<p>Please indicate the name of the Countries or the geographical area(s) where research is conducted.</p> <p>Spain</p>
Collaborating partner(s)	
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of	<p>Estimated: 3,5 M€ average annual budget allocated to agro-food and aquaculture topics focused in the Mediterranean.</p> <p>Total grants covering the abovementioned areas summed up in 2015 and 2016 more than 8,7 M€ and 4,9 M€ respectively.</p>

the activity (in €)	<p>The estimated 3,5 M€ has been calculated from the total grants approved in the 2016 call -last year with data available to date, November 2017- (= 4,9 M€), after applying a deduction of around 30% of FEDER cofunding.</p> <p>It must be taken into account that the actual participation of non-EU Mediterranean countries in these projects can be only traced after approval.</p>
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	<p>This research projects address common agro-food and aquaculture challenges in the Mediterranean area in all three pillars.</p>
Website	<p>http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es/portal/site/MICINN/menuitem.dbc68b34d11ccbd5d52ffeb801432ea0/?vgnextoid=b460bc05f418b510VgnVCM1000001d04140aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=33f85656ecfee310VgnVCM1000001d04140aRCRD</p>

Code	ES 2018.2
Theme:	Agriculture and Food Science and Technology.
Activity title	Annual call: State RDI Programme aimed at the societal challenge 2 (RTA). Programme for Resources and Agricultural Technologies in coordination with the Autonomous Regions (RTA)
Activity description	
Abstract (publishable)	<p>This call is launched every year to support research, innovation and technology transfer on agriculture and food science and technology. The call is intended to provide solutions to the societal challenges related with the Spanish bio-economy activities.</p> <p>Public-private collaboration is supported with the possibility of including private companies within the consortium. The project duration varies normally between 24 and 36 months. Each projects partner is coordinated by a principal investigator supported by a research team. Spanish researchers have the possibility to participate within this call at full (1.0 EDP) or part time (0.5 EDP) dedication, being 1.0 EDP the total research time available for each researcher.</p>
Rationale/Impact	<p>Every year, the Ministry of Economy, Industry and competitiveness through the National Institute for the Agricultural and Technology in the past, and currently through the State Research Agency, launches one generic call for</p>

	proposals aimed at the Spanish scientific community working on Agriculture Science and Technology.
Objectives	To fund national research projects carried out by single institutions or by multiple partners within a consortium.
Deliverables	Contracts with the principal investigators (resolutions) Reports of the granted projects
Information on the Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	PROYECTOS DE INVESTIGACIÓN FUNDAMENTAL ORIENTADA Y AACC EN EL MARCO DEL PROGRAMA ESTATAL DEL I+D+I ORIENTADA A LOS RETOS DE LA SOCIEDAD (RETO DE SEGURIDAD Y CALIDAD ALIMENTARIA, ACTIVIDAD AGRARIA PRODUCTIVA Y SOSTENIBLE, SOSTENIBILIDAD DE LOS RECURSOS NATURALES E INVESTIGACIÓN MARINA Y MARÍTIMA (RTA).
Publication date	2018
Deadline for applications	2018 (tbd)
Expected date of award	2018
Scope of the Call for Proposals	It is intended to promote coordination among different Autonomous Communities to solve common problems fundamental to the primary sector and derived industry and stimulate cooperation between research groups, and avoid the tendency towards fragmentation and dispersion of resources. It aims to promote the efficiency of agricultural production, its sustainability, the optimal use of resources for food and agricultural activity as support for integrated rural development.
Implementation	
Type of Activity	Mostly Research & Innovation Action (RIA)
Start date of the activity	

Duration	36 months
Funding institution(s)	Currently AEI (State Research Agency)
Funding beneficiary(ies)	Regional and state research centres, universities,
Countries where research is conducted	Spain
Collaborating partner(s)	Various Spanish Institutions
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	Total programme: 13.842.400,00 € (2015 call figures, funded in 2016) Mediterranean related projects: 1,3 Meuros
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	Perfect alignment with PRIMA SRIA for all the three scientific pillars Specific Mediterranean topic in about 10 % of the projects.
Website	http://www.aei.gob.es/

Code	ES.2018.3
Theme:	Pre and post-doc contracts for Mediterranean countries beyond the EU to work in Spanish Research Centres and Universities.
Activity title	National Programme for the Promotion of Talent and Its Employability / Programa Estatal de Promoción de Talento y Empleabilidad
Activity description	
Abstract (publishable)	One of the main instruments to support the Spanish STI system through competitive calls to support nationals in their scientific careers and attract researchers from other countries including non-EU countries. This is a set of calls offering contracts to the best young investigators, in three stages along their careers: predoc (FPI subprogramme), young post-doc (Juan de la Cierva subprogramme, consolidator post-doc (Ramón y Cajal subprogramme, RyC).

	<p>Grants are aimed at promoting the formation and incorporation of national and foreign researchers with an outstanding trajectory in R&D centers through, on the one hand, by granting their employment contracts and, on the other hand, by granting the creation of permanent jobs for their subsequent incorporation in the agents of the Spanish science system, technology and innovation beneficiaries.</p> <p>These calls mean a tangible and real international collaboration through the integration of foreign investigators, at all stages, in the Spanish research teams.</p>
<p>Rationale/Impact</p>	<p>The State Plan for Research addresses the human resources in R&D policy as most important. One of the main instruments to support the Spanish STI system through competitive calls to support nationals in their scientific careers and attract researchers from other countries, since it is open to foreign researchers.</p> <p>This is a set of calls offering contracts to the best young investigators, in three stages along their careers: predoc (FPI subprogramme together with the ES.2018.1 activity), young post-doctoral investigators (Juan de la Cierva subprogramme JdC), and consolidation post-doc contracts (Ramón y Cajal subprogramme, RyC).</p> <p>The selection is based on a rigorous process of competitive concurrence of the candidates based on their curricular merits and based on their capacity to lead a line of research, depending on the scientific and professional experience as well as the independence of their trajectory.</p> <p>These calls mean a tangible and real international collaboration through the integration of foreign investigators, at all stages, in the Spanish research teams.</p>
<p>Objectives</p>	<p>The FPI subprogramme is aimed at training of doctors through the financing of predoctorate contracts, in R&D centres, wishing to carry out a doctoral thesis <u>linked to a research project</u> under different State programmes and subprogrammes.</p> <p>The JdC and RyC subprogrammes are aimed at promoting the incorporation of national and foreign researchers with an outstanding trajectory in R&D centers through, on the one hand, by granting their employment contracts and, on the other hand, by granting the creation of permanent jobs for their subsequent incorporation in the agents of the Spanish science system, technology and innovation beneficiaries.</p>
<p>Deliverables</p>	<p>Contracts for the formation and incorporation of researchers from Mediterranean non-EU countries.</p> <p>Call text: Link to call 2017: http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es/portal/site/MICINN/menuitem.d20caeda35a0c5dc7c68b11001432ea0/?vgnnextoid=baf505e42afee310VgnVCM1000001d04140aR_CRD</p> <p>Granting Resolution in 2018 (contract of the Agency with the awarded PIs) Contracts signed by the beneficiaries. Doctoral thesis. Intermediate and final activity reports by the applicants.</p>

Information on the eventual Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	- Ayudas para contratos predoctorales para la formación de doctores (FPI) - Ayudas para contratos Juan de la Cierva (JdC) - Ayudas para contratos Ramón y Cajal (RyC)
Publication date	Q2-4 each year
Deadline for applications	Q2-3 year n+1
Expected date of award	Q3-4 year n+1
Scope of the Call for Proposals	Formation and incorporation of the best young researchers from Spain and abroad in the Spanish STI system.
Implementation	
Type of Activity	Support to pre- and post-doctoral grants for young researchers
Start date of the activity	2018
Duration	Four year grants for FPI Two year grants for JdC Five year grants for RyC
Funding institution(s)	Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) – Ministerio de Economía, Industria y Competitividad (MINECO / MEIC)
Funding beneficiaries	The beneficiaries are individuals from non-EU Mediterranean countries working at different research centres, which are the intermediate beneficiaries: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y alimentaria (INIA) Spanish Universities Regional Research Centres
Countries where research is conducted	Spain and others (mobility actions allow the researchers to collaborate with other countries by doing short stays abroad)
Collaborating partner(s)	No partner is required for the Spanish side. The call is open to individual applicants from all over the world. The mobility actions are open to any country willing to invite students for a short stay
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	Estimated: average annual budget (last year's grants) of 600.000 euros for two to five year grants to support contracts for non-EU Mediterranean post-docs. Given that the activity is a competitive call, it is in principle not possible to know in advance the number of non-EU researchers who will apply and be selected.
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	Capacity building for young researchers from the non-EU Mediterranean countries in PRIMA topics. This is a very open programme, which has offered the possibility to many foreign students to do their doctoral thesis in Spain. The number of nationals from non-EU Mediterranean countries has been increasing in the last years. It is envisaged that more and more foreign students will apply in the future.

Website	http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es/portal/site/MICINN/menuitem.d20caeda35a0c5dc7c68b11001432ea0/?vgnnextoid=baf505e42afee310VgnVCM1000001d04140aR_CRD
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Code	FR.2018.1
Theme:	All PRIMA thematic areas and topics
Activity title	Research Projects funded by ANR under the annual national call for proposals
Activity description	
Abstract (publishable)	<p>Each year the French National Research Agency launches a call for proposals covering all fields of research; Inside this call, a budget of around € 40 million is allocated to the French societal challenge 1 (Efficient resource management and adaptation to climate change) and challenge 5 (Food security and demographic challenges) and allows to fund around 80 projects.</p> <p>This call is open to French research teams but projects can include foreign research teams (funded by their own). Some of these projects address PRIMA topics (Water, agriculture or Food in the Mediterranean Area) and we can estimate that each year a budget of around 1.5M€ is allocated to projects inside the PRIMA scope.</p>
Rationale/Impact	<p>The French National Research Agency (ANR) is a public body under the authority of the Ministry of research</p> <p>ANR provides funding for project-based research in all fields of science - for both basic and applied research - to public research organisations and universities, as well as to private companies (including SMEs). Evaluation is based on competitive peer reviews according to international standards</p>

Objectives	<p>ANR's activities aim at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Developing science and technology <input type="checkbox"/> Speeding up knowledge creation and transfer, and fostering academic-industry partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Promoting collaborative work and interdisciplinary dialogue <input type="checkbox"/> Preparing a new generation of talents <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitating European and international collaborations
Deliverables	
Information on the Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	<p>French National Research Agency: Annual Generic Call for Proposals societal challenge 1 (Efficient resource management and adaptation to climate change) and challenge 5 (Food security and demographic challenges).</p>
Publication date	July each year
Deadline for applications	October each year
Expected date of award	July (n+1)

<p>Scope of the Call for Proposals</p>	<p>Challenge 1: In the light of world population growth and ever-increasing needs in terms of energy, raw materials, products and services, environmental changes are becoming an increasingly pressing matter at all levels. Challenge 1 works within the framework of the European Research Area, notably through the Horizon 2020 programme "Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials and the context of the COP21. Given systems' complexity, a wide variety of multi/inter/transdisciplinary projects is expected, as well as theme-dependent research ranging from academic research to partnerships with the private sector, public sector and communities</p> <p>Challenge 5: Food security means ensuring the global population access to a healthy and nutritional diet sufficient in quantity for everybody to meet their needs and food preferences. Food security is linked to a set of interdependent sustainable development goals: reduction of inequality, access to energy and water, preservation of biodiversity and the fight against climate change. Food systems and non-food use of biomass are at the core of the transformations necessary to cope with these global issues. Making said transformations sustainable involves both the reduction of the environmental footprint from land and marine bio-resource production and adapting production to global changes affecting climate, biodiversity, the world population, dietary practices and the globalisation of trade.</p>
<p>Implementation</p>	
<p>Type of Activity</p>	<p>RIA</p>
<p>Start date of the activity</p>	<p>Annual Basis –Projects starting dates first quarter N+1</p>
<p>Duration</p>	<p>Research projects duration :24-48 months</p>
<p>Funding institution(s)</p>	<p>ANR</p>
<p>Funding beneficiary(ies)</p>	<p>All type of French public research organisations and private companies associated</p>
<p>Countries where research is conducted</p>	<p>Besides France, field works and collaborations can be carried out in/with Mediterranean Partners , in particular Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Egypt</p>

Collaborating partner(s)	Potentially all south med countries,
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	Around € 1 500 000 /year
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	The projects funded are in the scope of the thematic areas of PRIMA (water, agriculture and food), and/or cross cutting issues (soil, food security)
Website	http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/en/

Code	FR.2018.2
Theme:	Mobility for researcher with south med countries
Activity title	Hubert Curien Programme
Activity description	

<p>Abstract (publishable)</p>	<p>Hubert Curien Partnerships programme promotes the mobility of scientists involved in bilateral research projects and is an important piece of France’s program of scientific cooperation. A French initiative coordinated within France by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MAEDI) and the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education, and Research (MENESR), the partnerships are financed in equal measure by France and the foreign partner as a concrete expression of commitment to scientific cooperation between the two countries.</p> <p>The funds allocated to research teams under the Hubert Curien Partnerships are designed to finance the mobility of researchers engaged in a research project (by meeting the “international overload” for transportation and lodging). The direct costs of the joint research are not covered. Funding is granted on an annual basis for a period of one to two years (or three years, in exceptional circumstances)</p>
<p>Rationale/Impact</p>	<p>By funding mobility and training, the Hubert Curien Partnerships has the objective to contribute to the development of new partnerships and to the strengthening of advanced scientific and technological exchanges between research centers in France and partner countries.</p>
<p>Objectives</p>	<p>This programme intends to provide leverage for the development of networks that will include additional teams from other European countries and that can take advantage of the scientific and economic opportunities offered under the Horizon 2020 framework program for research and innovation.</p>
<p>Deliverables</p>	
<p align="center">Information on the Call(s) for Proposals</p>	

Title of the Call for Proposals	<p>PHC TOUBKAL (with Morocco)</p> <p>PHC IMHOTEP (with Egypt)</p> <p>PHC MAGHREB TRANSVERSAL (multi counties Maghreb)</p> <p>PHC MAÏMONIDE (with Israel)</p> <p>PHC TASSILI (with Algeria)</p> <p>PHC UTIQUE (with Tunisia)</p> <p>PHC CEDRE (with Lebanon)</p> <p>PHC BOSPHORE (with Turkey)</p>
Publication date	Annual or bi annual call
Deadline for applications	
Expected date of award	
Scope of the Call for Proposals	<p>Hubert Curien Partnerships are designed for public or private research laboratories affiliated with institutions of higher education, research organizations, or corporations, without restriction as to field or subject. The humanities and social sciences are not excluded, nor are thematic programs bringing together several fields of science.</p>
Implementation	
Type of Activity	TMA
Start date of the activity	2018
Duration	12-24 months (exceptionally 36 months)
Funding institution(s)	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development</p> <p>Ministry of National Education, Higher Education, and Research</p>
Funding beneficiary(ies)	French Public or private research laboratories affiliated with institutions of higher education, research organizations, or corporations

Countries where research is conducted	Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, Israel, Turkey, Lebanon, Tunisia
Collaborating partner(s)	
Commitments	
Collaborating partner(s)	Around € 300 000 /year (around 12 projects are in line with PRIMA SRIA with a mean budget of € 25 000/project)
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	PRIMA 3 thematic areas
Website	http://www.campusfrance

Code	DE.2018.1
Theme:	<p>International cooperation in education, science and research is important for Germany to tap into this wealth of knowledge and to secure its competitive position as a location for science and business. The Federal Cabinet adopted the new Strategy of the Federal Government for the Internationalization of Education, Science and Research in February 2017. The Strategy was developed under the leadership of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). It follows up on the Federal Government's Internationalization Strategy of 2008 in response to new trends and challenges which have arisen and have significant impact on international collaboration in education, science and research. These trends and challenges include increasing globalization, digitalization, the further development of the European Research Area and the emergence of new global centres of innovation outside of established scientific hubs. (https://www.bmbf.de/en/internationalization-strategy-2209.html).</p> <p>The joint research fund GERF supports the bilateral Cooperation in Science, Research and Innovation with development and emergency countries facing global and societal challenges as defined in the mentioned thematic areas 1-3.</p>
Activity title	German-Egyptian Research Fund (GERF)

Activity description	
Abstract (publishable)	<p>On the occasion of the closing event of the "German-Egyptian Year of Science and Technology 2007" in Berlin, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MoHESR) agreed to establish a German-Egyptian Research Fund (GERF) for the support of joint application-oriented research projects.</p> <p>Both sides have agreed to announce joint calls for proposals in the frame of the German Egyptian Research Fund (GERF) regularly in order to support innovative, application-oriented research projects.</p> <p>The grants, which are awarded bi-annually from the Joint Fund, are generally open to German-Egyptian research teams based at public or non-public Egyptian and German research organizations, public or non-public institutions of higher education, non- university research institutions or commercial companies, particularly SMEs, and non-governmental and civil society organizations. The participation of industrial/business enterprises – especially those headquartered in Germany or Egypt – is highly welcomed.</p> <p>Since the joint funding tool was implemented in 2008, the BMBF and the Egyptian Science and Technology Development Fund STDF have published a total of four joint calls for proposals (2008, 2010, 2012, 2015) in subjects related to the fields prioritised in the Year of Science – (e.g. <i>Biotechnology, Medicine, Material Sciences, Water, Renewable Energies, Humanities and Social Sciences</i> etc.) - which have in the interim been supplemented by wide-ranging topics of common research interest (e.g. <i>Climate Change, Urban Planning & Transportation, ICT</i> etc.) and societal challenges (e.g. <i>Food, Water, Energy</i> etc.).</p> <p>Since 2011, GERF is in funds of a total of € 1 million per year from each side and can provide grants up to € 200,000 for each joint project (German and Egyptian side up to € 100,000 each). The maximum duration of a joint project is 24 months.</p>
Rationale/Impact	<p>Junior research groups in particular from Egypt and Germany are offered the opportunity through the joint funds to implement innovative, application-oriented, industry-relevant research projects. A further goal of the bilateral research fund is the support of scientific networks when applying for funding from the EU Framework Programme HORIZON2020 or from national funding programmes.</p>

Objectives	GERF provides support for German-Egyptian research cooperation in areas of mutual interest. The funding grants are intended to give researchers – including young scientists – an opportunity to address new areas of scientific research. Research results generated in these projects are to be developed into concrete applications. In addition, a further aim of the joint research fund is to help scientific networks apply for funding under the EU's HORIZON2020 Research Programme or under national funding schemes.
Deliverables	Since the joint funding tool was implemented in 2008, the BMBF and the Egyptian Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) have published a total of four joint calls for proposals (2008, 2010, 2012, 2015) in subjects related to the fields prioritised in the Year of Science - Biotechnology, Medicine, Material Sciences, Water, Renewable Energies, Humanities and Social Sciences - which have in the interim been supplemented by wide-ranging topics of common research interest. Both sides finance the research fund to an equal degree, with up to one million euros per year on each side. Since 2008/9 – 2017 Germany and Egypt have been funded ca. 70 joint projects in application-oriented and, to an increasing extent, in industry-relevant research, through the GERF, with a total volume of over ten million euros.
Information on the eventual Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	Federal Ministry of Education and Research - Announcement within the framework of the Federal Government's Strategy for the Internationalisation of Science and Research Fifth Joint announcement(s) by the Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) of the Federal Republic of Germany of regulations governing the funding of joint innovative projects in the field of applied research through the "German-Egyptian Research Fund" (GERF).
Publication date	The GERF Call for proposals is foreseen to be published in 2018.
Deadline for applications	For GERF: Foreseen deadline in the second quarter of 2018
Expected date of award	Starting 2018/2019

Scope of the Call for Proposals	<p>GERF's exemplary character as an effective instrument for further institutionalized German-Arab research cooperation programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demand driven approach and equal financing from both sides - Agreement on thematic priorities of mutual interest, on the text of the call and on the funding regulations as well as on the selection criteria and their relative importance in advance of the selection process - Joint final evaluation of the successful projects - Establishment of a joint operative steering committee with representatives from the research community and industry - Awareness-raising activities to attract the attention of potential applicants
Implementation	
Type of Activity	Funding of bilateral innovative, application-oriented research projects (R&D)
Start date of the activity	2018/2019
Duration	Every project/activity will be funded up to 24 months maximum.
Funding institution(s)	Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) on Egyptian side and Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) (- managed by DLR PT) on German side.
Funding beneficiary(ies)	German-Egyptian research teams based at public or non-public Egyptian and German research organizations, public or non-public institutions of higher education, non-university research institutions or commercial companies, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and non-governmental and civil society organizations are eligible for funding.
Countries where research is conducted	Egypt and Germany
Collaborating partner(s)	<p>BMBF (managed by DLR PT) on German side; Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) on Egyptian side</p> <p>Universities and research centres, SME's</p>
Commitments	

Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	BMBF provides up to € 100.000 funding per project for the duration of 2 years. In sum national funding can be provided up to € 2 million.
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	The GERF Call (foreseen to be published in the first quarter 2018) with the thematic focus on Agricultural Research and Natural Resource Management (including Water Resources, Food Production and Food Safety) will be in alignment with pillar 1 -3.
Website	Please indicate the exact URL of the website dedicated to the initiative. https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/bekanntmachung-1008.html (as an example - 2018 call not yet published) http://www.internationales-buero.de/en/229.php https://www.bmbf.de/en/egypt-2281.html

Code	IT.2018.1
Theme:	<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptation of agriculture to climate change <input type="checkbox"/> Developing sustainable and productive agro-ecosystems <input type="checkbox"/> Valorising food products from traditional Mediterranean diet <input type="checkbox"/> Food Safety in local food chains <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation of innovation in the Agro-food chain, promoting higher quality, sustainability and competitiveness, with particular reference to smallholders
Activity title	CNR National Research Council of Italy Department of Biology, Agriculture and Food Sciences "FOOD&HEALTH" (CIBO & SALUTE - CI&SA)
Activity description	

Abstract (publishable)

The project "Food&Health" (Ci&Sa) aims at improving and developing the Italian food system, as a model of Mediterranean food style, by finding proper and efficient solutions to meet new and increasing food needs and to address food safety/sustainability problems. Specifically, the project aims at assuring a perspective for healthy, safe and quality food, at any scale (local to global), addressing dietary needs, especially by the population affected by nutrition disorders, and by diseases related to diet. Ci&Sa is made by 8 work packages (7 technical-scientific WPs and one for coordination) each of which is broken down in specific tasks. This structure will allow to coordinate research actions to improve knowledge about Production of Quality Food, in relation with Agriculture and the Environment (WP 1), develop new functional foods and nutraceutical compounds (WP2), strengthen the healthy function of food and its potential to prevent/treat diet-related human diseases (WP3, WP4), provide new technologies to support food traceability (WP5) and rapid diagnosis of contaminants for food safety (WP 6), and, finally, introduce ICT, Smart Technologies and Social Innovation to generate greater awareness in the population behaviors related to nutrition, and more informed food consumption (WP7). Advanced biotechnologies and agritechnologies will be developed to support product and process innovation, thus enabling the production of quality foods, especially functional metabolites-rich foods and new functional foods with healthful benefits, also contributing to the valorization of Mediterranean diet and of its typical products (Made in Italy). New sources of nutraceutical compounds from different sources (marine, plant, microorganisms) will be searched, especially as alternative sources of protein with high productivity and nutritional quality (eg. microalgae, marine biomass, bioactive compounds from agro-food processing waste, mushrooms), adopting low environmental impact technologies for recovering active principles and thus sustainability of productions. The study of the relationships between food and health, in healthy and ill people (eg. In people with neurodegenerative, gastrointestinal problems) will allow identifying and proposing new strategies and diets, aiming at the "personalization" of diets and medicine. Healthier food means safer food. Regarding food safety, the project will contribute to improve food production standards, by using new ICT and sensor technologies and fast and precise diagnosis of chemical and biological contaminants, also to be used to fight food adulterations and frauds. Finally, the project will introduce smart solutions in the field of consumer science, encouraging the spreading of good dietary practices and healthy lifestyles, aimed at ensuring a high level of physical, mental and social well-being.

<p>Rationale/Impact</p>	<p>Fill in the gap by describing the reason according to which the activity is relevant and therefore should be carried out, also enlisting and briefly describing the impacts that the activity has generated or aims to generate.</p> <p>Relevant changes are being observed in the society: healthier habits and life styles produce emerging requests for food safety assurance, food quality, and healthy diets preventing or assisting in the therapies of human diseases. On the other hand, an increasing number of feeding disorders are observed worldwide (including in Italy), and diseases arising from incorrect diets and/or low quality foods assumptions is also increasing. Diet diseases yearly cause death of about two millions of people at global level, according to the World Health Organization. This problem is complex and worldwide recognized, as highlighted by the European Commission attention in the current framework program Horizon 2020. Ci&Sa will address the need of providing better food quality, food safety, and food security with an interdisciplinary and innovative series of research.</p>
<p>Objectives</p>	<p>The project aims at assuring a perspective for healthy, safe and quality food, at any scale (local to global), addressing dietary needs, especially by the population affected by nutrition disorders, and by diseases related to diet.</p> <p>The specific objectives that the initiative aims to accomplish are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving knowledge about Production of Quality Food, in relation with Agriculture and the Environment - Developing new functional foods and nutraceutical compounds - Strengthening the healthy function of food and its potential to prevent/treat diet-related human diseases - Providing new technologies to support food traceability and rapid diagnosis of contaminants for food safety - Introducing ICT, Smart Technologies and Social Innovation to generate greater awareness in the population behaviors related to nutrition, and more informed food consumption

Deliverables	<p>FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> New genetic and metabolic markers <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable agronomic techniques <input type="checkbox"/> New tracers <input type="checkbox"/> NGS techniques <input type="checkbox"/> New fermentation starters <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Database <input type="checkbox"/> New sustainable business model <input type="checkbox"/> Biomonitoring methods <input type="checkbox"/> Recycle of waste innovative solutions <p>FUNCTIONAL FOODS AND NUTRACEUTIC COMPOUNDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> New functional foods (snacks, yogurt, dairy products, drinks) <input type="checkbox"/> New whole-grain doughes <input type="checkbox"/> New ready-to-eat products <input type="checkbox"/> Gluten-free products <input type="checkbox"/> New sustainable marine-vegetal- waste food sources: jellyfish, insects, algae <p>NUTRITION AND WELL-BEING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> New insights into the relationships between individual genetic profile, nutrition, diet and health (Microbiome, Immunome, Metabolome, Epigenetics) <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation of the impact of food on ageing and disease (Food and Neurodegenerative diseases, Food and Obesity, Food and Cancer) <p>TRACEABILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> DNA Barcoding <input type="checkbox"/> Markers for traceability <input type="checkbox"/> Micro-Biochip for OGM detection <p>FOOD SAFETY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated platform for pathogen detection <input type="checkbox"/> New portable devices for contaminant detection <input type="checkbox"/> Array of sensors for detection <p>ICT, SMART TECHNOLOGIES AND SOCIAL INNOVATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Array of sensors for sustainable production <input type="checkbox"/> Smart active packaging <input type="checkbox"/> Big Data Analytics <input type="checkbox"/> UAV system for Precision Farming <input type="checkbox"/> Customized diet <input type="checkbox"/> Legal framework for novel foods
	Information on the Call(s) for Proposals
Title of the Call for Proposals	Decreto Ministeriale 5 agosto 2015 n. 543 - Criteri di riparto della quota premiale per l'anno 2014

Publication date	2018 tbc
Deadline for applications	CUT-OFF date TBD
Expected date of award	2018
Scope of the Call for Proposals	
Implementation	
Type of Activity	Research and Innovation Action
Start date of the activity	2018
Duration	12 months
Funding Institution(s)	MIUR
Funding beneficiary(ies)	National Research Council of Italy – Department of Biology, Agriculture and Food Sciences
Countries where research is conducted	Italy
Collaborating partner(s)	The project is built on a strong integration of advanced and interdisciplinary skills of 7 Departments of the National Research Council of Italy (CNR), and specialized skills of three public research bodies, the National Institute of Metrological Research (INRIM), the Anton Dohrn Zoological Station (SZN), and the National Institute of Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics (OGS).
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	4.646.113 for the first year - Eligible funding for 2018: around 1.500.000

Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	<p>PILLAR 2 and 3</p> <p>The activity is in line with PRIMA SRIA because it contributes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> to develop the productivity, efficiency and sustainability of agricultural farming systems <input type="checkbox"/> to guarantee food quality and safety throughout the food chain <input type="checkbox"/> to ensure food security in the Mediterranean <input type="checkbox"/> to study the relationship between nutrition and diseases
Website	

Code	IT.2018.2
Theme:	THEMATIC AREA 3
Activity title	Cooperative programme of the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation between The National Research Council of Italy (CNR) and The National Council for Scientific Research of Lebanon (CNRS-L)
Activity description	
Abstract (publishable)	<p>In the framework of AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION</p> <p>BETWEEN THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF ITALY (CNR) AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OF LEBANON (CNRS-L)</p> <p>PERIOD 20-201</p> <p>The following activities are foreseen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Joint research projects b) Joint workshops c) Other cooperative activities as may be mutually agreed upon
Rationale/Impact	
Objectives	<p>Projects may be submitted in one of the following priority research areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marine Sciences and Biodiversity 2. Management of Natural Resources 3. Renewable Energy

	<p>4. Food security</p> <p>5. Archeology</p> <p>6. Water</p>
Deliverables	<p>Multimycotoxin occurrence in Lebanese and Italian spices and herbs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> To catalogue and group the spices and herbs marketed in Italy and Lebanon. <input type="checkbox"/> To collect a significant and representative number of samples of spices and herbs marketed in Italy and Lebanon. <input type="checkbox"/> To analyze the samples of spices and herbs for aflatoxins, ochratoxin A, fumonisins, T-2 and HT-2 toxins, zearalenone, deoxynivalenol and nivalenol by using an LC-MS/MS method based on the use of multi antibody column cleanup. <input type="checkbox"/> To analyze the samples of spices and herbs for altenuene, alternariol, tentoxin, alternariol monomethyl ether and tenuazonic acid by using an LC-MS/MS method based on SPE column cleanup. <input type="checkbox"/> To identify the most frequently occurring mycotoxins in spices and herbs marketed in Italy and Lebanon <input type="checkbox"/> To identify spices and herbs most frequently contaminated by mycotoxins <input type="checkbox"/> To establish correlations between the origin of spices and herbs and mycotoxin contamination <input type="checkbox"/> To estimate, in Italy and Lebanon, human exposure to mycotoxins through consumption of spices and herbs <input type="checkbox"/> To produce occurrence data of mycotoxins in spices and herbs that will be useful for future regulation of mycotoxins other than aflatoxins and ochratoxin A, in order to support LIBNOR in setting a standard for MRL's for spices and herbs.
Information on the eventual Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	ITALY – LEBANON: agreement on scientific and technological cooperation
Publication date	2018
Deadline for applications	October 2018
Expected date of award	
Scope of the Call for Proposals	Research & Innovation, Demonstration activities

Implementation	
Type of Activity	Research and Innovation Action
Start date of the activity	2018
Duration	24 months (Mid 2018 – Mid 2020)
Co-Funding institution(s)	The National Council for Scientific Research of Lebanon 2016-2017
Funding beneficiary(ies)	Institute of sciences of food production (10.000 euro); Arab University of Beirut (€ 10.000)
Countries where research is conducted	Italy – Lebanon
Collaborating partner(s)	
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	Total cost of the initiative: € 20.000
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	Mediterranean diet: safety assessment and sustainable control and reduction of mycotoxin contamination are in line with PRIMA thematic areas 3
Website	http://www.cnr.it/sitocnr/IICNR/Attivita/Attivitainternazionali/Mobilita_file/Alview.html?id=37

Code	IL.2018.1
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Theme:	<p>The framework supports joint industrial R&D projects, focusing on developing innovative products and applications in all technological and application areas.</p> <p>All the PRIMA thematic</p>
Activity title	<p>The bilateral programs for parallel support of industrial R&D are based on government-to-government (G2G) international agreements and implementation agreements between government agencies and regional authorities that constitute a platform for promotion of technological innovation among industrial and research entities.</p>
Activity description	
Abstract (publishable)	<p>Promote international cooperation in R&D based on significant technological innovation, in order to increase competitiveness and the relative advantage of Israeli companies in the global market. In addition to providing a conditional grant that allows the sharing of the risk inherent in project funding, these programs also offer assistance in finding technology and business partners, as well as access to governmental support for the project.</p>
Rationale/Impact	
Objectives	<p>Technological industrial companies from all industry sectors that wish to develop or upgrade the development of products, services or manufacturing processes with an industrial company from a foreign country.</p> <p>Israeli technology companies and start-ups seeking to create strategic alliances and partnerships with companies and organizations abroad, to expand their operations, gain access to innovative R&D infrastructure abroad (labs, simulators, etc.), locate additional sources of financing, break into new markets and benefit from the access to knowledge and technology existing overseas.</p>
Deliverables	
Information on the Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	<p>Bilateral Programs with Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Slovenia, Spain etc.</p>

Publication date	Once a year, depends on the specific call
Deadline for applications	See above
Expected date of award	
Scope of the Call for Proposals	
Implementation	
Type of Activity	<p>The support provided is subjected to the provisions of the R&D Law applicable to the relevant incentive program, and in accordance with the various bilateral agreements. The criteria for submission of applications to the bilateral programs are detailed in specific calls for proposals, and in most cases include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The product, service or industrial process to be developed within the framework of cooperation should be innovative, suitable for commercialization in the target markets, and have added value for the Israeli economy and for the project partner. <input type="checkbox"/> The partner companies must have the ability to implement the project and the R&D processes necessary for its completion, as well as the ability to fund their proportionate share in the process required for project realization. <input type="checkbox"/> Research institutes and academic entities are allowed to take part in the cooperation as subcontractors. <input type="checkbox"/> The partner companies must demonstrate that the cooperation between them is necessary for the development of a value-added technology, resulting from the transfer of knowledge between the companies, as well as from sharing of resources, infrastructure or commercial relationships, innovative application of existing technologies to new markets and more. <input type="checkbox"/> The partner companies will sign an agreement to regulate the rights to their intellectual property (IP) and ownership of new IP, which will be produced during the project and its commercialization. This agreement is to be subject to the national R&D Law.
Start date of the activity	
Duration	
Funding institution(s)	

Funding beneficiary(ies)	
Countries where research is conducted	
Collaborating partner(s)	
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	During 2017, the Israel Innovation Authority, provided financial support of about € 1 million through the various bi-lateral programs, as describe above in thematic area related to PRIMA. We assume that during 2018, similar budget will be allocated
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	
Website	http://www.iserd.org.il/

Code	IL.2018.2
Theme:	<p style="text-align: center;">Background and Themes</p> <p>Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MOARD)main objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure continuous supply of fresh & healthy agricultural products for the local market, at cost-effective prices for both consumers & farmers ▪ To develop novel production technologies, resource efficiency and maintenance of sustainable green ecological agriculture ▪ To promote populating rural areas by providing means for adequate income employment <p>MOARD Chief Scientist Office(CSO) major goals and activity aimed at supporting MOARD to reach its main objectives by promoting innovative agricultural R&D.</p> <p>Israel's need to be an independent producer of its food became a drive for development of innovative agriculture. The major constraints that should be Overcome are:</p>

- Shortage of water resources & shortage of precipitation
- 2/3 of the land is semi-arid or arid
- Complex geopolitical environment
- Long distance from the export markets
- Shortage in local “on-farm labor”

Accordingly, the current public research priorities & areas and the designated Thematic Goals, supported & controlled by MOARD chief Scientist, are:

- **Efficient & safe water management (potable; brackish; recycled; desalinated)**
- **Horticulture & ornamental plants: quality improvement & new varieties**
- **Improved animal production and aquaculture**
- **Food safety & quality; organic farming**
- **Shelf-life improvement of fresh agricultural products**

Accompanied by:

- **Advanced animal & plant integrated pest management**
- **Sustainable and ecological agriculture; alternative pest management**
- **Reducing man-power needs by novel technologies (engineering and biological)**

In addition to these focused and partanic subjects, MOARD CSO activates highly coordinated multi-disciplinary, high skill level & collaborative R&D system, daeling with the following Cross-border Thematic Goals:

- **Facing agricultural threats associated with global & local:**
 - Climate change
 - Food security crisis
 - Alternative energy
- **Precision agriculture (ICT = Information & Communication Technologies)**
- **Agricultural biotechnology and its legal and societal regulation**
- **Market-oriented novel agricultural products**
- **Economic, marketing and rural development policy**

Most of these cross-border thematic goals are performed through joint venture R&D of MOARD with other funding bodies and are:

- **Agricultural ecology and forestry (together with KKL-JNF, Water Authority)**
- **Biodiversity and Gene Banks (Plants & Zoological) (together with the Nature Preservation Org.)**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improving agricultural-related energy use and production (together with the Min Energy & Water) ▪ Production of innovated agricultural products by the private sector (together with the Min Economics) ▪ Plant genomics assisting future agriculture; ICT; Veterinary; Mediterranean Agriculture; Industrial Biotechnology; Joint Program Initiative on Food & energy Crisis & Climate change (within the framework of the EU Commission ‘Horizon 2020’) ▪ Bi-lateral calls with the USA, Germany, Italy & China ▪ Public-Private Partnership in industrial oriented projects [e.g. CRISPR: Gene-editing; Microbiome; Food improvement] (with the local industry)
Activity title	To initiate and support target-oriented the public agricultural research in Israel and its implementation
Activity description	
Abstract (publishable)	<p>The goals of the Chief Scientist Office(CSO) of Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development aimed at supporting MOARD to reach its main objectives promoting innovative agricultural R&D:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to identify obstacles that prevent reaching the Ministry goals due to knowledge gaps ▪ to determine research objectives & missions aimed to bridge such gaps ▪ to fund such target-oriented research activity and to monitor research performance ▪ to bridge between the obtained scientific data and its implementation ▪ to plan and update the agricultural R&D strategy <p>Accordingly, the current public research priorities & areas and the designated Thematic Goals, supported & controlled by MOARD chief Scientist, touch most areas that need solutions for problems related to promote agriculture in arid and semi-arid zones like Israel.</p> <p>In addition to funding and accompanying local specific subjects, MOARD CSO activates highly coordinated multi-disciplinary, high skill level & collaborative R&D system, daeling with Cross-border Thematic Goals. Most of these cross-border thematic goals are performed through joint venture R&D of MOARD with other funding bodies, resulted in both national and international R&D collaboration</p>
Rationale/Impact	Most of the agricultural R&D initiated by MOARD-CSO enabled to solve critical agricultural problems that were obstacles for achieving the ministry goals, and to promote and establish innovative and constructive related R&D system.

Objectives	To promote collaborative and multidisciplinary R&D activity aimed at solving national and international obstacles in the areas of food & nutrition security, desertification, sustainable agriculture and bioeconomy. For details see above
Deliverables	
Information on the Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	Various calls regarding MOARD-CSO objectives and new arising subjects
Publication date	All year around
Deadline for applications	
Expected date of award	
Scope of the Call for Proposals	
Implementation	
Type of Activity	Research & Innovation Action; Support to research; collaborative action with MOARD's Extension Service, Farmers and the private agricultural industry to implement the research results
Start date of the activity	
Duration	
Funding institution(s)	MOARD (via CSO)
Funding beneficiary(ies)	All eligible Research Centers and Universities, and probably local private-public industries
Countries where research is conducted	Israel and collaborative countries

Collaborating partner(s)	
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	During 2018, MOARD expect to support research projects related to PRIMA in the sum of € 1.5 million.
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	See above
Website	http://www.moag.gov.il/

Code	IL.2018.3
Theme:	The framework supports academic research projects, focusing on applied science in the field areas.
Activity title	<p>The Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) of Israel, has two main funding routes: 1) national level programs, 2) bilateral programs.</p> <p>The national programs aim to promote the applied research level including support of the scientific infrastructure (manpower, equipment), for developing successful platform that will support scientific breakthroughs and technological innovations in the relevant specific fields.</p> <p>The bilateral programs support joint applied science projects and are based on government-to-government (G2G) international agreements for leveraging the scientific collaborations between the two countries in the specific areas.</p>
Activity description	

Abstract (publishable)	As a semi-arid country with unstable yearly rain precipitations and inherent water stress, The Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) of Israel highly prioritize the fields of water technologies and agriculture (specifically semi-arid one). The high priority is manifested by designated several research programs for the Israeli academic intuitions aimed at developing successful platforms that will leverage scientific breakthroughs and technological innovations for further industrial applications that could alleviate the water-food challenges. These research programs are being conducted both at the national level and also within bi-lateral programs.
Rationale/Impact	
Objectives	Development, support and promotion of applied science researches in the water and agricultural topics in Israeli academic institutes for improving the knowledge, educating professional manpower and enabling the proper creative and merit environment for technological innovation.
Deliverables	
Information on the eventual Call(s) for Proposals	
Title of the Call for Proposals	National programs: research calls, scholarships, conferences. Bilateral Programs with Germany, Italy, Slovenia, China etc.
Publication date	Once a year, depends on the specific call
Deadline for applications	See above
Expected date of award	
Scope of the Call for Proposals	Water Technology, Agriculture, Mariculture.
Implementation	

Type of Activity	<p>We had several programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Calls which their themes are <u>directly</u> related to PRIMA's topics, such as water technologies (both national and bi-lateral programs) <input type="checkbox"/> Calls with <u>indirect</u> themes relevant to PRIMA's topics such as climate changes (both national and bi-lateral programs), and part of the proposals (the agricultural impacts by climate changes) is relevant to PRIMA. <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships to students/postdocs that their research subjects are relevant to PRIMA. <input type="checkbox"/> Organising or supporting conferences which have indirect relevancy to PRIMA topic such as symposium on Water Technologies or attempts to organise conference about innovative agricultural technologies.
Start date of the activity	
Duration	
Funding institution(s)	
Funding beneficiary(ies)	
Countries where research is conducted	
Collaborating partner(s)	
Commitments	
Total national public commitment for entire duration of the activity (in €)	During 2017, MOST has provided financial support of about € 1 million through the various national and bi-lateral programs, as described above in thematic area related to PRIMA. We assume that during 2018, similar budget will be allocated
Alignment with PRIMA Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda	
Website	http://most.gov.il/English/Pages/default.aspx

Please note that in accordance with Article 6(9) of the Decision (EU) 2017/1324, activities included in AWP 2018 that are funded by the PS without the Union financial contribution shall be implemented in compliance with common principles adopted by PRIMA-IS after obtaining approval from the

Commission.

For the list of common principles, please refer to Section 5.2.