



A Long term EU- Africa research and innovation Partnership  
on food and nutrition security and sustainable Agriculture



# Call for Full Proposals

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## African European collaborative research on Sustainable Agriculture and Aquaculture and on Food and Nutrition Security

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**Deadline | Thursday, 7 December 2017, 14:00 CET**



## **African European collaborative research on Sustainable Agriculture and Aquaculture and on Food and Nutrition Security**

A joint call for research & innovation proposals to the African-European  
ERA-NET Cofund (LEAP-Agri)

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## 1. Introduction

**LEAP-Agri is a partnership between partners from 19 European and African countries and the EU aimed at research and innovation for food and nutrition security as well as sustainable agriculture, including aquaculture. The instrument is an ERA-NET co-fund, a partnership financed by Ministries from these countries and co-funded by the European Commission supporting the implementation of the EU-Africa High Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).**

This call for full proposals invites consortia composed of at least four research organisations and/or private and public practitioners from four of the partner countries participating in the call (two African and two European) to submit project proposals for research and innovation in the countries concerned with an added value for the EU-AU partnership on food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture (FNSSA). The proposal development and execution should be driven by local demand and include an approach that contributes to enhancing impact. Specific requirements for applicants may differ between institutes/countries, in accordance with the respective eligibility criteria and funding regulations. Submission is only possible for consortia which have successfully gone through the preliminary proposal stage.

### 1.1 Structural objectives

This call includes research on technical and organisational, socio-cultural and/or socio-economic issues. Solutions should contribute to income generation and provide selling arguments to producers, service providers as well as young entrepreneurs.

The research & innovation (R&I) needs to be relevant to African and European priorities for sustainable agri- and aquaculture, food and nutritional security.

Applications should pursue a holistic (system) approach to find integrated solutions that can be implemented in the relevant context and should address the following aspects:

- Solving of complex economic, ecological and social challenges to improve local nutrition in a sustainable way using comprehensive system-oriented approaches;
- Expected impact of research and likelihood of uptake contributes to solutions and evidence for policy change, to positive agricultural and nutritional outcomes and to significant improvements in economies, wellbeing and resilience;
- Scalability of R&I, impact at national or regional scales;
- Contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### 1.2 Policy background

Access to food remains a global challenge, with around 795 million people not having enough to eat (World Food Programme Hunger Map 2015). Nutritional imbalances in Europe and Africa are increasing, characterized by persistent under-nutrition and growing diet-related diseases. It is projected that the global population will increase from 7 billion to more than 9 billion by 2050. A major part of this growth is expected to take place in Africa. The LEAP-Agri partnership is driven by concerns about how to achieve universal food and nutrition security.

LEAP-Agri operates under the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020, and its Africa-EU High Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), which includes the implementation of the jointly funded Africa-EU R&I Partnership focusing on FNSSA



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(endorsed by the Africa-EU Summit 2014). The research emanating from LEAP-Agri is expected to contribute to African-European joint interests in food and nutrition security. Improving agricultural markets and trade and sharing innovative technologies can benefit farmers and entrepreneurs in both continents.

### 1.3 Partnership background

The LEAP-Agri partnership builds upon long term collaborations between Africa and Europe. It is exemplified by the support of the ERAfrica and ProIntensAfrica initiatives for this co-fund. The ERAfrica Initiative is an independent consortium of African and European funding organisations building on the success of the former ERA-Net ERAfrica where African and European research agencies financed the joint call. The ProIntensAfrica project consortium has the experience of collaboration between Africa and Europe in the area of Food and Nutrition for Security and Sustainable Agriculture with the objective to develop a “strategic, long-term research and innovation partnership between Europe and Africa to raise sustainable food and nutrition security”. Additional partners have joined the LEAP-Agri collaboration.

### 1.4 Countries participating in the call

The call has been developed in partnership between the following countries/organisations:

**African countries:** Algeria (DGRSTD-MESRS), Burkina Faso (FONRID), Cameroun (MINRESI), Egypt (MHESR), Ghana (STEPRI-CSIR), Kenya (MOEST), Senegal (MESR), South Africa (NRF), Uganda (UNCST);

**European countries:** Belgium (FWO, FNRS, BELSPO), Finland (AKA), France (ANR, AFD), Germany (BLE, DLR-PT), The Netherlands (NWO, MINEZ), Norway (RCN), Portugal (FCT), Spain (MINECO), Turkey (TUBITAK);

**International organisations:** CIHEAM-IAMB (based in Italy)

The four partners (institutions) in a consortium have to be located/working in four of the aforementioned countries (two from each continent) and eligible for funding from their respective funding organisation. In addition to the general framework of this call, national eligibility criteria and funding regulations apply for each organisation or country. **Annex 1** provides an overview of participating organisations in 19 African and European countries with contacts for Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations and a link to the LEAP-Agri website for more detailed information (see also under Call links).

### 1.5 Governance of LEAP-Agri

LEAP-Agri consists of 30 consortium partners, 24 of which are funding the call. The project is coordinated by ANR (France) in collaboration with MEST (Kenya). The Group of Funding Partners (GFP), comprising all institutions which provide funding to LEAP-Agri, is the ultimate decision-making body regarding the joint call, including the final decision about the granting of proposals.

An International Review Panel (IRP) will assess the proposals and provide advice on ranking to the GFP. An operational Joint Call Secretariat (CS) has been established in order to align the necessary processes related to the call and assessment procedure. This CS will bring together the partners DLR-PT (Germany), NRF (South Africa), and NWO-WOTRO (The Netherlands).

The General Assembly (GA), comprising all consortium members of LEAP-Agri, will constitute the highest decision-making body and the core structure for oversight. It will be in charge of making strategic decisions, reviewing progress, and approving documents, results and approaches of the joint activities. An overview of all consortium partners is available on the LEAP-Agri website.



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All parties involved in evaluation and selection procedure and its administration will be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement and code of conduct form.

### 1.6 Practical information and deadline

The total finances available for this call for proposals amount to € 27 000 000. Consortia can apply for a total budget between € 300 000 and € 1 500 000. The budget for each country or organisation is mentioned in the *Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations* for that particular institute or country. Budgets should be balanced. Project duration is 36 months and a total of about 30 projects is expected to be funded.

This call is for full proposals that must be submitted electronically **before the deadline, Thursday 7 December 2017 | 14:00 CEST**. Submission is upon invitation for selected consortia from the preliminary proposal stage only. Detailed information on project proposal and submission guidelines can be found in the sections below.



## 2. Aim and the foci

### 2.1 Background

Despite a slight improvement in recent years, about 800 million people are still starving worldwide, and around 2 billion are suffering from “hidden hunger”, i.e. a vitamin and mineral deficiency, while 1.9 billion are overweighted and 600 million suffer from obesity. At the same time, the world population continues to grow, thus increasing the demand for food. Within the next three decades more than two third of this population growth will take place in Africa. Sub-Saharan Africa’s (SSA) urban/rural ratio will have reached 50% before 2040 and its rural population will continue to grow well after 2050. But despite this trend, a vast proportion of the world’s urban population will be living in African cities and hence farming for cities and urban farming has to increase. Changed consumption patterns in emerging economies coupled with an increased global need for sustainable raw materials for non-food products are leading to increased demand and competition in the agricultural sector. In addition, global challenges such as climate change, natural resource degradation, rural exodus, the pressure of the international market and a lack of resources are putting considerable pressure on agri- and aquaculture and the food system to adapt to the changes. These pressures will be higher in Africa, due to the demographic growth and its probable persistence for the next decades, combined with public resources scarcity generating competition between infrastructure, social needs (education and health) and economic development policies.

The potential is enormous: agriculture is the basis of African economies and societies supporting more than half a billion Africans. An estimated 65% to 80% of the population of the respective African countries depend on small-scale farming as the primary source of livelihood. In many African countries agriculture remains the major job provider (62% of labour workforce are family farmers, 22% household informal enterprises, mostly connected to informal food systems). In line with the demographic dynamics in Africa, the role of agri- and aquaculture, food processing and food trade will remain crucial for many African countries and for jobs creation. While most agricultural actors are involved in primary production, a demand for value addition is rising. This point is crucial: the SSA’s incipient economic transition makes it necessary to keep workers in agriculture and food transformation, and to think cropping systems innovations taking into account the SSA’s job equation.

Despite the enormous potential in agriculture, key factors such as diminishing arable land and pastures and deforestation still remain major limiting factors in addressing food security in Africa, where land degradation is worsening. Desertification processes affect 46% of the African continent and 485 million people.<sup>1</sup> Taken together with the high energy costs for fuel and inputs, the degeneration of arable land and water systems and the lack of productivity present real challenges to the food system. In Europe the situation is less severe and trends indicate that soil qualities are even improving although clear and uniform data are lacking for both continents.

Many African and European countries largely depend on food imports making the population more vulnerable to food price volatility. Increasingly unpredicted climate patterns lead to crop failures and land degradation.

A large proportion of African farm labour is provided by women and youths, who often lack access to land, resources and education. As women are usually in charge of health, feeding, nutrition and education of the family, they are a key target group of agricultural and nutrition research in Africa.

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<sup>1</sup> See article: <http://mgafrica.com/article/2015-01-08-2015-is-the-year-of-soil-10-reasons-why-every-african-should-care>



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To improve the food situation, sustainable food systems must be developed and implemented. African-European research on agri- and aquaculture and food plays a key role in improving food systems and nutrition. For this reason, the LEAP-Agri ERA-NET consortium launches this call for proposals. Its objective is to develop practical solutions in a research process to improve the agricultural sector, the African and European population food and nutrition security and common markets. Applicants are requested to submit proposals for research projects with the potential to provide solutions to improve income generation, nutrition, access to food for disadvantaged populations, to promote sustainable agriculture and sustainable food systems, as well as competitiveness of African agricultural markets. Projects should take into consideration the different niches of agricultural production and trade covering the range of small scale producers, as well as medium and large scale producers, their contribution to local, regional and international markets and the processing of food and grocery marketing, with a focus on rural and urban population food and nutrition security.

## 2.2 Geographical focus and target groups

Proposals should consider European and African topics from the agricultural and aquaculture sector involving for-profit and not-for-profit key partners. Target groups are actors in agricultural production, food-processing and trade.

An inflexion toward farmers' organisations participation, especially smallholders' representatives', should be encouraged. As expressed and advised during the international year of family farming in 2014, research agendas will gain in being co-designed and field research will be more relevant with farmers' involvement. In addition attention for entrepreneurs, especially from SMEs, is highly recommended.

## 2.3 Gender and youth

The 2012 report of the OECD showed that investments in gender equality yield the highest returns of all development investments. This means investing in gender equality is not only the preferred mode of action in an ethical sense, but also when it comes to development and economic effectiveness. Proper nutrition deriving from sustainable agricultural and food processing practices is a key factor for preventing marginalisation in less privileged areas and especially among girls/women.

The projects are expected to integrate a gender approach in their research and to pay special attention to gender mainstreaming. This entails recognising the different roles of women and men and acknowledging the complementarity of both, in order to obtain full gender equality.

Agriculture worldwide is increasingly facing a generational problem, with many youths not pursuing agricultural and rural livelihoods. At the same time unemployment rates are high amongst the growing urban populations. In developing countries, over 60% of the population is below the age of 25, yet average farmer's age is often above 60. In these countries, the youth should play an important role in meeting the future challenges on access, availability and use of food in the context of trends of population growth, urbanization, globalization and climate change. In the European Union farming is predominantly a family activity and people employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing make up 5,2% of all employment. About 55% of all farm managers were age 55 or above in 2013, while only 6% was younger than 35. Applicants are therefore encouraged to include a plan for engagement with youths in their proposals. In addition, capacity development through the inclusion of young researchers is expected.



**Box 1 Innovation and transdisciplinary research**

**Innovation** is the process of developing new value adding ways to meet existing, new or inarticulate needs. Innovation is accomplished through more effective products, processes, services, technologies, policies or ideas that are readily available to governments, markets and society.

**Transdisciplinary research** crosses scientific disciplinary boundaries (inter-disciplinary) and integrates scientific and practitioners' knowledge in joint research.

## 2.4 Foci

Food and nutrition security is a complex challenge crossing many sectors, disciplines and policy areas as well as being exposed to profound dynamics at national, regional and global level. Food and nutrition security is intrinsically linked to significant challenges our societies face today. Systemic change and transformation is therefore needed. This requires a more holistic and integrated approach based on well-specified targets.

This call seeks proposals for projects developed in partnerships, which play an essential role in bundling expertise, innovation and outreach, focusing on bottlenecks in the agricultural sector and food system. Inter- and/or transdisciplinary research proposals should therefore be submitted by teams of researchers and other (public/private) partners from Europe and Africa.

**Box 2 The food system perspective**

The **food system perspective** considers food and nutrition to be the outcomes of interactions between different elements of a system. LEAP-Agri is interested in understanding the drivers (from the global to the local level) that shape the transitions in the food system that are necessary to improve food and nutrition availability, access, utilisation and stability. The policy environment, with its related institutions, at international, regional, national and local level, is a relevant aspect of the food system. In addition, the production and sharing of knowledge and information can influence the system, through skills, science & technology of various sources including farmer/fisher/consumer organisations, or the involvement of media and civil society organisations.

The African food system faces the challenge of producing more and nutritious food for growing populations and external international markets while reducing the environmental impact of food production systems and their demands on ecosystem services. Many regions are experiencing significant structural and organisational transformations in agri-,aquaculture and rural settings entailing far-reaching social changes. The transformation is slower than it was in today's developed and industrialised countries. Subsistence farmers must efficiently produce food for their families and also conquer the market as commercial farmers to increase income through enhanced land productivity and pay attention to possible social and environmental consequences of labour productivity enhancement.

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<sup>2</sup> Definition of "Sustainable Intensification": to produce more outputs (not limited to agricultural products) with a more efficient use of all inputs (not only improved seeds and fertilizers but also knowledge and know-how) on a durable basis, while building resilience and the social and natural capitals, reducing environmental damage and improving the flow of environmental services. This definition engages in multi-criterial evaluations to measure food systems' performances for the people and their natural environment.



Indicative areas are suggested for joint research and innovation to improve sustainable food production, to ensure rural population well-being, and to reduce environmental degradation and resource depletion. These are outlined as follows:

- In line with the Paris COP 21 Climate Agreement and the last Marrakech COP 22 discussions, climate smart agriculture practices, including agroecology and agroforestry, and the role of agriculture in relation to both climate mitigation and adaptation to climate change;
- Appropriate soil, water, and input management, with a systemic approach, including improved mechanisation, landscape and integrated pest management, precision agriculture and good irrigation practices, with the aim of delivering the greatest benefits at lowest costs and environmental impact;
- Ecological intensification approaches which optimise the use of ecosystem services and maximize jobs creations to produce food at lowest costs and environmental impact;
- The identification and breeding of animals and crops to maintain/increase productivity and resilience under conditions of limited external inputs and increased abiotic and biotic stresses;
- Animal (incl. fish) and crop health, from farm to international scales, to develop sustainable approaches to optimise resource efficiency, minimise production losses and avoid geographical spreading of diseases/pathogens;
- More efficient biomass utilization, including tree sourced biomass, with a specific attention to relation to food security;
- Advanced informed marine spatial planning (MSP) and better understanding of functioning of marine ecosystems, and aquaculture technologies and systems that are environmentally and economically sustainable, towards increased production with minimal impact on ecosystem functioning and reduced environmental footprint;
- Social and economic roles of sustainable agri- and aquaculture intensification for populations and families, in relation to public goods for enhancing population well-being;
- Models and indicators aiming at measuring simultaneously production, environment and socio-economic issues, variables and parameters in order to compare situations and dynamics;
- Innovative, participative and systemic methods to measure the global impact and performances, all along the food systems frame, of each agriculture intensification pathways (from high inputs conventional agri- and aquaculture and agrifood business to agro and aqua ecological or organic models, from family farming and fishing and small food businesses to industrial and vertical integrated processes), aiming to comparative evaluations to nourish and facilitate policy orientations;
- Modifying microbiota for improved food/feed utilization and animal well-being.

#### ***2.4.2 Research & innovation focus 2: Agriculture and food systems for nutrition***

While agriculture is the basis for food production and therefore contributes substantially to nutrition, scope exists for research directed at improving agri- and aquaculture and food systems specifically for improved diets and nutritional outcomes. Malnutrition is an increasing challenge in Africa and linked to poor, unilateral diets. Besides, obesity is often linked to malnutrition, too, and a growing problem in both continents.

In order to reduce stunting and child mortality and to contribute to health, several determinants have to be taken into consideration: food availability, adequate nutrition, safe water and sanitation, better education of women<sup>3</sup>. It is now well known that food and nutrition security does not only rely on food quantities to be produced nor on farmers'/fishers' income increase. A technical transition is

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<sup>3</sup> Smith and Haddad 2013



necessary, but alone, without dedicated policies addressing all segments of food systems, will be deficient.

Dietary inadequacy takes very different forms, but all are linked to social behaviour, as well as to limitations in the production, availability, access, affordability and consumption of highly nutritious foods.

The challenge for societies is to address malnutrition, which leads either to under-nutrition and hunger, or obesity and non-communicable diseases, as well as to lack of micronutrients and vitamins. Research on improving agriculture and aquaculture for nutrition will therefore place particular emphasis on increasing the availability, accessibility and affordability of micronutrient-rich foods through improving sustainable production systems for nutritious crops, livestock and marine and freshwater fish.

Research will be funded that contributes to the following objectives:

- Retain nutritional value, shelf-life and food safety;
- Reduce seasonality of food insecurity, as well as food and nutrient losses;
- Improve the diets through diversification.

These objectives are consistent with the “Key recommendations for improving nutrition through agriculture and food systems”<sup>4</sup>.

Research & innovation proposals should deal with nutrition-sensitive food production. In particular, the contribution of a diversified agri- and aquaculture to combat malnutrition shall be analysed and appropriate approaches presented. Interdisciplinary research is welcome.

Research on nutrition-sensitive agri- and aquaculture and food systems for improved nutrition could include the following indicative topics:

- Improved food value chains for delivering more nutritionally rich food to consumers with minimal loss of nutritional value, little wastage and a high level of safety;
- Enhancing small food business performances, including in rural areas, in order to create jobs and improve proximity relationships in food markets;
- Understanding consumer behaviour with respect to healthy diets and nutrition, and the role of education and incentive systems, for improved nutrition;
- In addition, it is important to sensitise the local and national stakeholders of the target country/region for the subject of nutrition (actors from research, development and policy);
- Research on local and culturally determined dietary habits as well as on the local acceptance of innovations regarding food production, processing and packaging;
- Food quantity and quality improvement and waste reduction along the production, processing and trade chain;
- Public-private partnerships on improved nutritional quality of foods, particularly processed foods, in the marketplace.

### ***2.4.3 Research & innovation focus 3: Expansion and improvement of agricultural markets and trade***

Markets and trade play an important role in future growth at domestic and regional levels. Enhanced trade within and between the regions will benefit the farmers/fishers, consumers, and governments.

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<sup>4</sup> See FAO (2015): [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

Recommendation 8 of the “Key recommendations for improving nutrition through agriculture and food systems”.



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A wide net of markets offer primary products, are supplier for urban supermarkets and providers to processing industry. The African markets are challenged by pressure of the import-market, inadequacy in logistics, energy supply and infrastructure.

Africa's growing middle class, as well as the international markets, represent a major growth market for agri- and aquaculture, taking into consideration the need to ensure rural and poor urban population access to food.

Research & innovation proposals working on solutions to improve local access, agricultural markets and Africa-European trade could include the following indicative elements:

- Local and global value chains and markets, including territorial approaches: mechanisms for linking smallholder farmers/fishers & rural communities to markets; the development of local and short marketing channels; access to credit and investments; adding value to commodities through the processing chain; the impact of urbanisation on trade and rural-urban linkages; and new approaches to food safety;
- The question of land tenure systems and local, national and international agricultural land markets, in relation to food security;
- The use of new IT and communication technologies to enhance production, processing and marketing;
- Non-tariff trade barriers: Understanding differences of perception about quality and safety attributes for informing evidence-based decisions on non-tariff barriers to trade;
- Surveillance, monitoring and diagnostic systems: Lack of harmonisation of import and export requirements constitute an impediment to regional and international trade. Collaborative development and broad application of methodologies for detection, monitoring and assessing risks will permit improved trade in agricultural commodities;
- Food and input price stability and system resilience: Reduction of price volatilities in national and international markets and building of resilience for the benefit of consumers and agribusiness. Effects of globalisation of price transmission from international to domestic markets;
- Market logistics from farm to local consumer markets, regional and international markets;
- Improvement of processing and packaging of local products;
- Innovative and multiscale approaches to global food system policies and governance;
- Organisational innovations through new business models, farmer/fisher market information systems, successful producer associations, insurances, and land and water system use and availability, facilitating uptake of innovations across farms and rural communities.

## 2.5 Increasing impact

As development of research and innovation in private, governmental and civil society sectors is basically a continuous and iterative process, a clear strategy for Research Uptake needs to be provided. Research Uptake is part of the project formulation and execution from the very beginning and includes stakeholder engagement, capacity development and communication. It also aims at influencing an enabling environment.

- **Stakeholder engagement:** stakeholders need to be involved from the research & innovation proposal stage onwards. This includes an initial mapping of relevant stakeholders;
- **Capacity development and training:** activities directed at improving the capabilities of individuals, networks and institutes to learn and innovate, based on sustainable partnerships and the ability to both generate and build on knowledge;
- **Communication:** a communication strategy, including specification of target groups, messages to communicate, means of communication etc. is part of the proposal. The aim is



to make knowledge and research results available and accessible for stakeholders as well as the LEAP-Agri partners.

To focus and connect the knowledge sharing and research uptake activities, the invited consortia will be requested to design a Theory of Change (ToC) with a related Impact Pathway (IP) which mentions well-specified outputs and outcomes. The ToC describes the relationship, logical flow and/or causalities between planned activities, expected results (output), desired changes (outcome) and main objective (contribution to impact). A context analysis that includes the assumptions underlying the Research Impact Pathway should be part of the ToC (see figure 1 below).

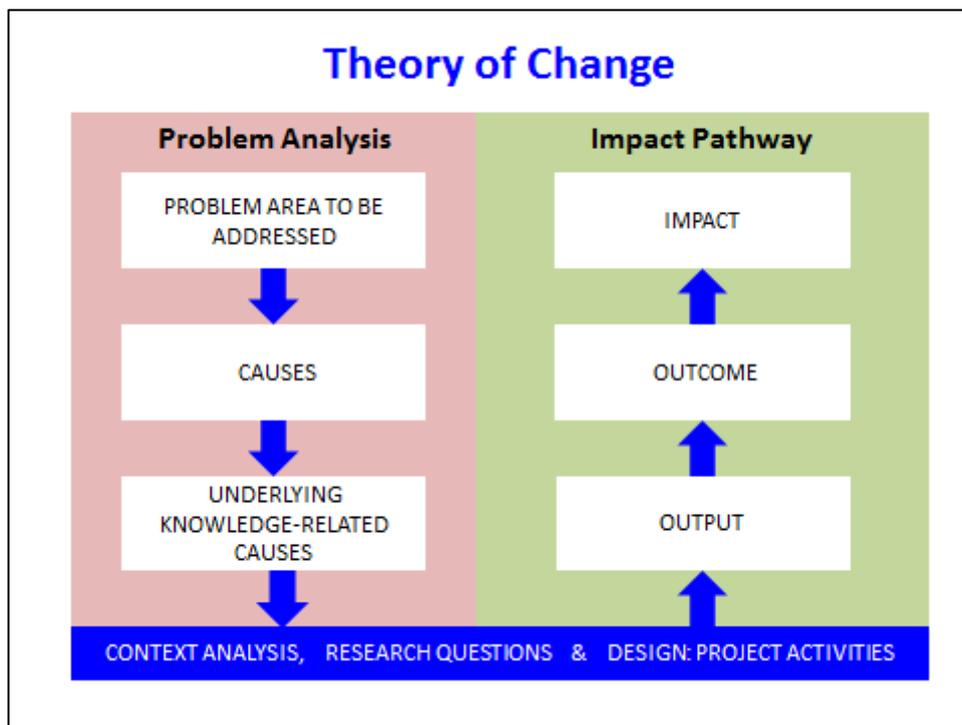


Figure 1: Theory of Change and the Impact Pathway

It is therefore important that in the proposal the project activities for increasing impact are well integrated and relate to the aim and objectives of the project. You are advised to include sufficient social science expertise in the research team to address impact.

**Box 3 Output, outcome and impact**

**Output:** the most immediate results of the research project. Research outputs by consortium members can be reckoned as falling under the direct span of control of the project. Research outcomes relate to the uptake of these outputs by external stakeholders and the effects thereof.

**Outcome:** The external use, adoption or influence of a project's outputs by next and final users that results in adopter-level changes needed to achieve the intended impact. Indicate the (economic, social, environmental) changes that are expected at the level of the adopters.

**Impact:** changes in economic, environmental and social conditions that the project is working toward.



## 2.6 Allocation of funds for Knowledge Sharing and Research Uptake activities

To increase research impact the funded research projects shall contribute to the development of a comprehensive set of recommendations to be presented to agricultural and food actors. Being embedded in a large African-European network, the research should involve target group and key players, including local players from the private (both for-profit and not-for-profit) and policy sector. Involving farmers/fishers, entrepreneurs, policy and NGOs already during the research provides a voice to demand and facilitates scaling-up. Next to this results have to be distributed to new or larger target groups.

Up to 20% of the eligible budget may be allocated for use for the Knowledge Sharing and Research Uptake components (see Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations for the costs that can be requested from the respective funders). Project consortia should organize activities as well as produce adequate tools such as radio programmes, videos, training modules, policy briefs, demonstrating the results of the research and elaborating on the potential for adaptation and options for up-scaling. National eligibility of budget items has to be taken into consideration when allocating funds for these activities.

The LEAP-Agri ERA-NET Cofund envisages to present the knowledge sharing and research uptake tools and videos with success-stories from the funded projects on a central platform.

## 2.7 Request for additional funding for clustering and up-scaling

In order to ensure the practical use of research results, the group of funders will avail funds from month 12-18 of the respective project period. Research consortia, which already have been awarded a LEAP-Agri grant in this call, may submit proposals to apply for additional funds to launch innovative approaches and/or scaling-up activities within the frame of the ongoing project.

Successful innovations need to be identified and methods to efficiently and effectively upscale these success stories to other target groups must be developed. These concepts require region-specific solutions considering local frame and site conditions. Promising findings should be tested, enhanced and translated in Knowledge Management and Communication Systems (KMCS). Results should be formatted to find entry into policy and educational programmes. Additional activities, cofunded projects outreach and scaling-up should lead to an enhanced level of sustainable outcomes and impact. More detailed information on how to apply for those additional funds will be made available at a later stage.



## 3. General and national eligibility criteria and funding regulations

### 3.1 Who can apply?

The submission of a LEAP-Agri full proposals is only possible by consortia which have gone through the preliminary proposal stage.

Applications can be submitted by consortia of at least four partners from four of the countries participating in the call. At least 2 African institutions in different countries and 2 European institutions in different countries must be part of the consortium.

Next to these four required project partners, additional consortium partners are allowed. Applicants must be eligible for funding according to the regulations of their respective national Funding Parties (FPs) which are available via the *Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations* and can be downloaded via the LEAP-Agri website ([link](#)). Addresses of the contact persons at the respective funding organisations can be found in **Annex 1** to this call. Applicants can represent research and higher education entities, companies, and other legal entities such as NGOs, once again subject to institutional restrictions set by individual Funding Parties (FP). These project partners must be eligible for funding according to the regulations of their respective FPs, which are members of the Group of Funding Partners (GFP). The main applicant is as Consortium Project Coordinator (CPC) responsible for all contact with LEAP-Agri and for informing the other consortium partners about the selection result as well as for synchronising the project start with her/his partners.

Besides the Project Partners receiving funds from national agencies it is possible to add additional partners, including from other countries, as Associated Partners (AP), who would then be fully part of the consortium. Associated Partners may not request financing from LEAP-Agri, but could be funded by other funding agencies, either national, regional or international, including Development Banks such as the World Bank.

Full proposals must address one or more of the thematic areas supported within the framework of the LEAP-Agri call. For specific requirements national eligibility requirements should be consulted. A consortium can only submit one proposal. Individual consortium members can be part of other consortia. Consortia submitting proposals are obliged to report submission of the same or similar proposals to other funding schemes, as well as funds awarded as a result of such submission. LEAP-Agri retains the right to reconsider the granting of funds should the concerned project consortium fail to report double submissions or the funds awarded as a result of such submissions.

### 3.2 What can be applied for?

The total funding of one project must be between € 300 000 and € 1 500 000 for a period of 36 months. The funding of an individual proposal will depend on the nature and duration of the proposed activities and must be justified in terms of the resources needed to achieve the objectives of the project. The funding requested should therefore be realistically adjusted to the actual needs of the proposal, taking into account any other funds available.

Eligible costs depend on the *Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations*. The following general categories apply:

- Personnel costs (as defined by the relevant FP and according to its local rates and currency) of the research staff and other personnel;
- Mobility costs (travel and subsistence expenses);
- Costs related to organising seminars and workshops within the project;
- Costs for attending the kick-off, mid-term and final workshops of all funded projects;



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- Acquisition of material and small-scale research equipment;
- Capacity building, Knowledge Sharing and Research Uptake, and dissemination;
- Research costs;
- Overhead.

Other relevant costs may be funded according to the FPs' institutional regulations, while some of the items listed above may not be eligible for funding by individual FPs. For this reason, it is imperative that applicants take notice of the rules of the FPs concerning the costs they are able to fund prior to proposal preparation. The national contact should be consulted well before the submission deadline. Co-funding is not required, but is encouraged.

### 3.3 Obligations of Funded Projects

Consortium members are guided by the general requirements of this call as well as their respective national eligibility criteria and granting requirements. Below the general obligations are listed. After granting, a specification of requirements will be included by the funder in the grant letter for each consortium partner. The main applicant is responsible for ensuring the consortium meets all the general obligations. Each consortium partner should approach their national contact at the respective funding organisation for further explanation.

#### 3.3.1 Consortium Agreement

The consortium of applicants will be requested to draw up a Consortium Agreement, which should include the fair handling of IPR, taking into consideration the regulations of all applicants' funding organisations. The final Consortium Agreement must be signed before the respective funding arrangements can be finalised. An unsigned concept Consortium Agreement must be added to the full proposal and should at least address the following:

- Internal organisation and management of the consortium;
- Intellectual property arrangements;
- Settlement of internal disputes.

#### 3.3.2 Open Access

Open access (OA) addresses the problem of limited access to (peer-reviewed) scholarly research. It is the practice of providing online access to scientific information (e.g. articles, conference proceedings, monographs, books, theses) that is free of charge to the reader, and licensed so that the information can be further used and exploited by researchers, by the industry and by citizens.

Milestone definitions of Open Access include those of the Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI) and the Berlin Declaration (October 2003) on open access.

As a general requirement, a copy of the accepted version (either author final manuscript, post-prints or publisher version) of all peer reviewed journal articles, supported, either in their entirety or in part by LEAP-Agri research funding, will be expected to be deposited in a suitable open access repository immediately upon acceptance for publication, with the metadata (minimum set of metadata: title, abstract, keywords, name of author(s), affiliation of author(s), publication info (including journal title, volume, issue, publication date)) openly available from the time of deposit. Grant holders are required to report all publications coming forth from research funded under LEAP-Agri as deliverables in their project reports.

Institutions/grant holders agree that by receiving funding from LEAP-Agri they have accepted the terms and conditions of this OA policy. Further details are available on the [website](#). You may also



consult the recommendations on Open Access made by the [European Research Advisory Board \(EURAB\)](#) as well as the [Scientific Council of the European Research Council](#).

### ***3.3.3 Project data management***

All research data and associated metadata resulting from funded projects should be deposited in a suitable open data repository. The publication of research data, however, is not mandatory. The proposal should provide a data management plan.

### ***3.3.4 Published information on granted projects***

A list of the funded projects will be published after granting and updated during the execution of the projects. Therefore applicants should be aware that the following information from the proposals will be published by ERA-NET LEAP-Agri:

- Project title and project acronym;
- Duration of the project;
- Total funding of the project;
- Name of the project consortium coordinator (including contact information as email and telephone number);
- Country, organisation and name of each partner;
- A short publishable summary of the project.

This information will be updated with an annual progress summary, activities and output. Projects are expected to provide this information in their reporting.

Data on each project participant and abstracts of the project proposal will be provided to the European Commission, for publication and evaluation purposes. Information on each funded project, including data on each participant and overview on the results will be updated and send to the EC at the end of ERA-NET LEAP-Agri.



## 4. General eligibility criteria

After submission proposals will first be checked by the Joint Call Secretariat for the following general eligibility criteria. Each proposal must:

- Be submitted by consortia which went through the preliminary proposal stage;
- Be complete according to the rules and in line with the required proposal structure described in the guidelines;
- May not substantially deviate from the preliminary proposal in content of the proposed project, approach, composition of the consortium and budget;
- Conform to the scope and the thematic focus of the call;
- Be submitted by at least 4 applicants (2 European and 2 African) from 4 different countries from the GFP;
- Comply with the maximum allowed duration of 36 months;
- Comply with the funding requirements, including those for each of the partners;
- Comply with the terms of the submission procedure;
- Be submitted in the English language;
- Be submitted electronically using the \*PT-outline' tool and the required format (<https://secure.pt-dlr.de/ptoutline/app/leap-agri>);
- Meet the submission deadline.

In a second step, the eligibility of each applicant participating in a proposal consortium will be checked by their respective funder according to the *Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations* of the funder concerned.

Finally, the GFP will approve the list of eligible proposals.

- Only proposals meeting all the above-mentioned eligibility criteria will be processed;
- Non-eligible proposals will be rejected;
- Eligible proposals will be included in the evaluation and selection procedure;
- The applicants will be informed by the Joint Call Secretariat, which is responsible for carrying out the call and selection procedure.



## 5. Evaluation and selection procedure

The fundamental principles governing the evaluation of project proposals are:

- **Transparency.** The process for reaching funding decisions will be clearly described and available to any interested party;
- **Equality of treatment.** All proposals shall be treated alike, irrespective of where they originate or the identity of the proposers;
- **Ethical considerations.** Any proposal that contravenes fundamental ethical principles of a Funding Party (FP) may be excluded from being evaluated and selected at any time by decision of the GFP.

The evaluation and selection procedure will be monitored by independent observers of the EC and the LEAP-Agri ethics board, who will oversee the process and report on it.

### 5.1 Description of the two-stage process

The Call follows a two step-procedure:

#### Step 1) Preliminary proposal stage

The preliminary proposal stage for this call has already been finalised. More information on the procedure can be found in the call for preliminary proposals as well as on the website [www.leap-agri.com](http://www.leap-agri.com).

#### Step 2) Full proposal stage

Only consortia, who were successful in the preliminary proposals stage are invited to submit a full proposal. Applicants are asked to provide more detailed information on the aims and objectives of the project outline than in step 1. Full proposals will be assessed by at least three external peer-reviewers (evaluators). Applicants will receive the reviews and will be given the opportunity to write a reply and provide comments to the expert's assessments (rebuttal). The International Review Panel (IRP) will rank all proposals based on the application itself, the reviews and the rebuttal. The final funding decision will be made by the GFP in line with EC regulations and based upon the IRP ranking, taking into consideration availability of funds.

The deadline for the submission of full proposals is **7 December 2017, 14.00hrs CET**.

### 5.2 Criteria for full proposals

The external reviewers as well as the International Review Panel (IRP) will assess all full proposals based on the following criteria and indicators, in line with EC regulations. All three criteria are assessed separately and each weighs one third in the final qualification.

- I. Excellence of the proposal:
  - Strong potential to generate new knowledge, insights and/or innovations and sufficient complementarity to other research programmes;
  - Adequacy of the research approach including the robustness of the conceptual framework and experimental set-up and the coherence of the hypotheses, research questions and methods;
  - Quality and adequacy of integrating the food system perspective;



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- Clear alignment of the proposed research scope with the foci and objectives of the call.

II. Expected Impact of the project:

- Clear rooting of the proposal in the demands of partners and/or stakeholders, including appropriate integration of gender and youth;
- The research questions and intended research results are expected to contribute to sustainable food systems and/or challenges for food and nutrition security as approached in the call;
- Quality and feasibility of the research impact pathway with indicators;
- Adequate potential for uptake/application of results including quality of the knowledge sharing approach with appropriate stakeholder engagement, capacity development and communication strategy.

III. Quality and efficiency of the implementation:

- Complementarity, range and level of integration of the consortium and research team, appropriate for implementing the proposed research project;
- Adequacy and feasibility of the research methodology/approach and activities, in relation to research questions and objectives as well as the related work plan;
- Adequacy, feasibility and coherence of the various activities to enhance impact, in particular by influencing the policy and/or (food chain) business environment;
- Appropriateness and efficient use of the requested budget including coherence of different partners' budget.

### 5.3 Timetable

Invitation for full proposal application	<b>mid-September 2017</b>
Deadline for full proposals	<b>7 December 2017, 14:00hrs CET</b>
Option for correction of small eligibility issues and resubmission	<b>Before December 21</b>
Proposals assessed by reviewers	<b>January-February 2018</b>
Rebuttal	<b>February/March 2018</b>
IRP meeting	<b>April 2018</b>
Funding decision	<b>April 2018</b>
Procedure with national funder	<b>April-August 2018</b>
Deadline starting date projects	<b>August 2018</b>
Finalisation of projects – no extension possible!	<b>August 2021</b>

Whilst LEAP-Agri aims to meet the target dates provided above, we reserve the right to change these at any stage.



## 6. Submission of Proposals

Only submissions through the official online submission system (“pt-outline\*”) which has been used for the preliminary proposal will be accepted. Proposals sent by mail, e-mail, telex, or facsimile will be rejected without further notice. All members of the GFP will be provided reading access to the online submission system.

### 6.1 How to use the Online Submission System

#### 6.1.1 Registration for the Online Submission System

In order to submit a full proposal the Project Coordinator has to join the online submission system again through (<https://secure.pt-dlr.de/ptoutline/app/leap-agri>). Your **user ID** and **password** will remain the same as the ones for the full proposal.

#### 6.1.2 Access to the Submission System

The **password** grants all partners in the consortium access to the project proposal submission page, where it is possible to complete parts of the project proposal or to place or replace the proposal in part or in full. The exact mode of writing the proposal is at the discretion of the consortium, which may choose to share the workload, or not, in whatever way they wish. In order to avoid overwriting, mis-editing or other complications applying consortia are advised to have the coordinator fill in all relevant data in the online submission tool. **Submission just before the deadline should be avoided.** High Internet traffic during the last days before the submission deadline of the Call may make access difficult. Differences in time zone should also be taken into account in this regard. In case of technical difficulties applicants are encouraged to contact the helpline (contact details given on the web page) well ahead of the deadline.

#### 6.1.3 Acknowledgement of receipt and registration number

After final submission of the full proposal, the Project Coordinator will automatically receive by e-mail an acknowledgement of receipt with the proposal’s registration number.

#### 6.1.4 Deadline

All proposals must be submitted by the Project Coordinator before the deadline of **7 December 2017 | 14:00 CET** (Central European Time). Once finally submitted changes to the proposal will no longer be possible. Delayed proposals will be considered non-eligible. Access to the online submission system will be closed for applicants after the deadline.

### 6.2 Structure of the Proposal

Applicants are required to follow the structure as outlined in the online submission system and use the template provided. Only applications submitted with the correct template and in the correct format will be allowed into the procedure. Full proposals must be submitted in Arial font, size 11, 1.2 spacing, using the LEAP-Agri structure for the project description in the online submission tool PT-Outline.



## 7. Guidelines for Applicants – Full Proposal stage

Please consult the feedback received on your preliminary proposal and read carefully the call guidelines as there is additional information requested compared to the preliminary proposal Stage. Please note that the eligibility check for full proposals will be very strict and that your admission in the preliminary stage does not guarantee automatic admission in the full proposal stage. Please contact your respective funding organisation before submitting to check eligibility and budget.

The following structure will be given in the online submission tool, PT-Outline. Some of the information you provided for the preliminary proposals will already be pre-filled. Please change/add to this information if necessary.

### I General information

#### **Full Proposal Details**

- a) Title Give the title of your proposal (less than 200 characters).
- b) Short Title or Acronym (max. 20 characters)

#### **Keywords**

Identify the 5 most relevant keywords that represent the scientific subject.

#### **Research and innovation foci selection**

Select the appropriate research and innovation focus/foci for your proposal.

#### **Duration of the project**

Indicate the duration of the project (max. 36 months).

#### **Countries**

Countries focused on in the research & innovation proposal.

#### **Total funding applied for**

Take the final requested budget from each of the partners together. This figure has to be identical to the overall requested funding in the uploaded excel file (see explanation below). As a general rule this figure may not be higher than indicated in the preliminary proposal. In case of an increase in the budget you must contact the respective partner's funder before the submission to discuss whether this is permitted. Please also check the individual eligibility regulations for more information.

#### **Summary for a broader audience** (max. 2000 characters including spaces)

Summarise the main questions and/or approach and objectives; give a short description of the activities and expected results of the project. This summary was manually inserted into the relevant section in 'PT-Outline' and cannot be uploaded as a word document or PDF. You can revise this summary for the full proposal if you wish.

The summary of granted projects will be used for the LEAP-Agri website and other communication.

### II Consortium Project Coordinator

#### **Composition of the consortium: project leader**

Please check again the information on the consortium project coordinator, who will be the



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applicant and submits the full proposal. Also verify once again the funding organisation that you are requesting money from. If you are eligible for funding from more than one funding agency in your country please indicate this in PT-Outline and the respective amount of budget you are asking for from each funding agency. If you are eligible for funding from more than one funding agency, one of which is located outside your country (for Senegal and Burkina Faso), please choose the one in your country. The distribution of the funds will be settled amongst the funders after the funding decision.

Please include the budget requested from your funder (see below for instructions). Also remember to upload the more detailed budget (excel template) for all project partners together in section 'IV Project description and uploads'.

### **III Project Partners**

#### **Composition of the consortium: project partners and associated partners**

- a) Composition of consortium: Fill in the information requested for the fundable project partners/consortium partners (together with the project leader minimum 4: 2 African, 2 European from 4 different countries);
- b) Associated Partners: list all Associated Partners (AP), not eligible for funding. They may be from other countries and institutes than the ones required for funding.

**Please list all project partners first and associated partners after.**

Also verify once again the funding organisation that you are requesting money from. If you are eligible for funding from more than one funding agency in your country please indicate this in PT-Outline and the respective amount of budget you are asking for from each funding agency. If you are eligible for funding from more than one funding agency, one of which is located outside your country (for Senegal and Burkina Faso), please choose the one in your country. The distribution of the funds will be settled amongst the funders after the funding decision.

Please include the budget requested from your funder (see below for instructions). Also remember to upload the more detailed budget (excel template) for all project partners together in section 'IV Project description and uploads'.

**Requested funding by II Consortium Project Coordinator and III Project Partners (Budget excel table)** in section 'IV Project description and uploads'. Please check the general requirements as well as the *Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations*. National rules may differ for specific budget items that can be applied for and are legally binding. You are requested to contact your funding organisation for further information.

Employment costs comprise gross salary and all additional taxes, social insurance payments etc. The employment costs should be detailed by person not position (e.g. please indicate the costs of each Senior Researcher, Ph.D. student, etc. separately). Please indicate as e.g. PhD1, PhD2, etc. in case the names of personnel are not known yet.

Research costs include travelling costs (including plane tickets for researcher and supervisor(s), travel in the field and costs of accommodation and travel for short visits); durables (research equipment); consumables, research assistance and other costs. Equipment/material with a cost below € 1000 should be listed under the category "Other costs". The cost of Equipment indicated should be weighted by the percentage of allocation to the project, e.g. if an item will be used 30% for the project and 70% for other unrelated tasks, then the cost to be entered is [cost of the item x 0.3].



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Travel and meeting costs also include subsistence costs as well as other costs necessary for the organisation of the project meetings (e.g. rental of premises, catering, etc.).

LEAP-Agri kick-off, mid-term and final workshops: a minimum of two participants per project are expected to attend each workshop; please calculate at least € 3000 per workshop (€ 9000 for all the partners for the duration of the project). You may calculate for more than two partners of your project to attend but please note that LEAP-Agri may limit the participation to four partners per project for logistical reasons.

Knowledge Sharing and Research Uptake may include both the costs for scientific publications (e.g. Open Access publications) and other dissemination materials (e.g. reports, leaflets, websites, etc.), workshops and trainings for stakeholder engagement, capacity building, communication and other (scientific) output, including targeting end users and the general audience.

Overheads are all eligible costs which cannot be identified as being directly allocated to the project but which can be justified by the accounting system of the beneficiary's organisation. They comprise costs connected with infrastructures and the general operation of the organisation such as rental or depreciation of buildings, water/gas/electricity, maintenance, insurance, supplies and petty office equipment, communication and connection costs, postage, etc. and costs connected with horizontal services such as administrative and financial management, human resources, training, legal advice, documentation, etc. Overheads must be in accordance with normal accounting practices of the beneficiary and must be extracted from or reconciled with the official accounts.

Other costs should list any other costs that cannot be categorized in the above sections.

An overview of the budget should be provided in the excel template budget table to be uploaded in section 'IV Project description and uploads'. Please note that you are required to enter the budget information separately for each funding organisation your project is requesting funding from.

#### **IV Project description and uploads**

**Please download the template via PT-Outline before starting your project description.**

Project description plus all annexes have to be compiled into one pdf before uploading. Note that the information requested is not the same as in the preliminary proposal stage. You are required to take the feedback from your preliminary proposal into consideration when developing the full proposal. The development of your project proposal should be a joint consortium effort.

##### **1. Background, Questions and Objectives (max. 1000 words)**

Provide a detailed explanation of the objectives of the project within the context of the state-of-the art of the scientific area related to the project:

- Present the research and/or innovation questions the project intends to address within the framework of the relevant thematic scope.
- Precisely describe the scientific and innovation objectives of the project.
- Explain the novel character of the scientific and innovation proposed and describe the present state-of-the-art concerning the specific topics of the project. Show how the objectives of the project aim at significant advances in the state-of-the-art through extending the current knowledge and/or filling the gaps identified.
- Highlight the interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary character of the project and explain how its added value is to be exploited and is best suited to address the



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challenges of food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture identified.

- Explain the added value and effect of Africa-Europe and related transnational collaboration on the challenges identified.
- Explain the relevance and importance of the research and innovation proposed, in terms of applications/use (new products, services, processes, social innovations) and/or in terms of economic and societal impact. If the proposal is part of a larger national or international project, explain its precise role and how it fits into this wider context.

Be aware that proof of concept is required in case of funding from Uganda.

**2. Project Description** (max. 1500 words)

Provide an overall description of the project and justify the approach/methodology chosen to reach the objectives.

- Explain the general approach and methodology chosen to achieve the project objectives. Highlight the particular advantages of the methodology chosen; specify the expected project results (in quantitative terms where appropriate).
- Explain where a potential for synergy may exist between different tasks of the project and how this is going to be exploited.
- Include references of relevant scientific publications.

**3. Impact of Project Results** (max. 1000 words)

***Theory of Change***

Please describe in narrative the relationship, logical flow and/or causalities between planned activities, expected results (output), desired changes (outcome) and main objective (contribution to impact). A context analysis that includes the assumptions underlying the Research Impact Pathway should be part of the Theory of Change.

***Research Impact Pathway***

Please complete the detailed impact pathway diagram for your project using the template provided (max. 2 pages).

Use the boxes provided to elaborate on:

- I. Research objective: the main objective of the research project, in relation to the objectives of the call;
- II. Outputs: the most immediate results of the research project. Research outputs by consortium members can be reckoned as falling under the direct span of control of the project. Research outcomes relate to the uptake of these outputs by external stakeholders and the effects thereof;
- III. Outcomes: The external use, adoption or influence of a project's outputs by next and final users that results in adopter-level changes needed to achieve the intended impact. Indicate the (economic, social, environmental) changes that are expected at the level of the adopters;
- IV. Impact: changes in economic, environmental and social conditions that the project is working toward.

For the related ***knowledge sharing and research uptake*** that should lead to increased impact for all countries involved. Please provide the following:



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- Stakeholder engagement: Include an initial mapping of relevant stakeholders and their roles and contributions in the project at all stages.
- Capacity development: Describe the activities incorporated in the project with the purpose of capacity development.
- Communication with stakeholders (including communication strategies, methods and technologies): Describe the proposed activities and their timeline. Include in this section a description of the planned communication activities, specifying target groups, specific objectives, communication issues and products as well as means of communication.
- Scientific output.

You are advised to include sufficient social science expertise in the research team to address impact.

**4. Consortium information** (300 general description, and max. 250 words per partner)

- Describe the overall consortium and the links between the participating consortium members / and the organisations/companies to which they belong.
- Describe the background and particular expertise of the consortium in relation to the tasks to be performed. Explain how the partners complement each other in the execution of the project.
- Describe prospects for establishing efficient and sustainable partnerships within the network, including transfer of know-how and experience.
- Describe the additional team members and collaborators necessary to perform the work proposed, with the relevant instrumentation and infrastructure available in view of the tasks assigned to the team.
- For each consortium partner, the following information should be given, **included as Annex 1: Curriculum vitae 1 page**

Brief CV for each consortium partner (once converted into Pdf document: max. 1 page DIN-A4, Arial font, size 11, 1.2 spacing per consortium partner) Please follow this format:

- A. Name, Date of birth, Position title. Education/training (Master, PhD, Specialization ... only mention Institution, Degree, Year, Field).
- B. Positions, honours and research support (selection relevant to the call)
  1. Positions and Employment;
  2. Other Experience and Professional Memberships;
  3. Honours, awards and research support.
- C. Publications
  1. Best 5 selected peer-reviewed scientific publications, relevant for this proposal;
  2. Best 5 selected non-scientific publications, e.g. policy documents, guidelines or newspaper articles etc.

Please note that the maximum of 1 page applies to sections A and B only.

**5. Project management** (max. 500 words)

- Describe how the overall coordination and monitoring of the project will be implemented. Provide if possible a project organisational chart. Indicate the decision-making bodies and processes foreseen as part of the project execution (decision boards, coordination meetings).
- If appropriate, set up a Gantt chart or detailed diagram giving the time schedule of the tasks and mark their interrelations; add milestones where important goals will be



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reached and/or decisions on further approach will have to be made; indicate a critical path marking those events which directly influence the overall time schedule in case of delays.

- Explain how information flow and communication will be enhanced within the project (e.g. via the use of communication software, through consortium- and task meetings, by the temporary placement of project participants at other partner institutions). Provide details of specific planned meetings and exchanges, and highlight factors likely to lend additional value to these, such as the involvement of young researchers.
- Risk management: Indicate where there are risks of not achieving the objectives and fall-back positions, if applicable.

**6. Follow-up on project results (max. 500 words):**

Sketch out a result exploitation plan in line with the Research Impact Pathway which explains:

- i. How the new knowledge generated through the project and other deliverables of the project will be exploited after the project duration;
- ii. If relevant: how innovative results will be further exploited through an implementation plan for the project results/innovations;
- iii. How intellectual property, including foreground knowledge, patents, copyrights, license agreements and any other arrangements will be managed.

**7. Ethics, gender and the inclusion of youth and young researchers (max. 500 words)**

- If applicable: Clearly explain the way(s) in which the project intends to deal with ethical issues that may be associated with the project.
- Explain how gender is taken into account in the project and provide a gender approach.
- Explain how youth is taken into account in the project.
- Explain how young researchers and their capacity development are supported through the project activities.

**8. Implementation of feedback from the preliminary proposal stage (max. 250 words)**

Please summarise how you implemented the feedback you received regarding your preliminary proposal.

**9. Date and signature of the coordinator and other consortium partners**

Please include scanned versions of the signatures of all consortium members. As a general rule this signature should be provided by the consortium partners themselves. In instances where the national or institutional regulations do not permit the consortium members to sign research proposals themselves, please enquire with the legal department of your institution who the appropriate person is to provide this signature. For some partners this may be the head of department, dean or director.

**10. Annexes:**

All annexes must be compiled into one pdf together with the project description before uploading.

**Annex 1: CVs consortium partners**

Explanation on format see above.



### **Annex 2: draft consortium agreement**

Please include a draft consortium agreement taking into consideration the regulations of all applicants' funding organisations. The final Consortium Agreement must be signed before the respective funding arrangements can be finalised. The concept Consortium Agreement must be added to the full proposal and should at least address the following:

- Internal organisation and management of the consortium;
- Intellectual property arrangements;
- Settlement of internal disputes.

### **Annex 3: possible other annexes requested by individual funders**

#### **Separate upload: Budget excel sheet**

Please complete the budget table provided in PT-Outline. Budget information of all consortium partners has to be provided, separately for each funding organisation. Upload the completed file separately in Section IV of PT-Outline 'IV Project description and uploads'. For each team, give the cost breakdown and a brief justification for all allowable costs. All costs should be given in EUROS. All projects must include costs for the participation in three joint LEAP-Agri meetings (kick-off, mid-term and final conference of all projects granted in the call). At least two participants per project are expected to attend (one African, one European) and projects should calculate at least €3000 per meeting (€ 9000 per project for all three meetings).

#### **V Final Check & Submission**

Please conduct a final check of all documents before submitting. Note that **no changes can be made to the proposal after submission.**

To submit your project proposal please click the 'submit now' button. Only after having clicked on this button will your proposal be successfully submitted.

#### **Double submission**

A given proposal may only be submitted for one or more of the thematic areas supported within the framework of the LEAP-Agri call. A consortium can only submit one proposal. Individual consortium members can be part of other consortia. Consortia submitting proposals are obliged to report submission of the same or similar proposals to other funding schemes, as well as funds awarded as a result of such submission. LEAP-Agri retains the right to reconsider the granting of funds should the concerned project consortium fail to report double submissions or the funds awarded as a result of such submissions.



## 11. Procedure for proposals selected for funding

Consortium partners of proposals selected for funding will have to follow national/institutional procedures after a positive funding decision of LEAP-Agri. These might include additional application and/or registration of your project at national/institutional level. More information about this can be found in the respective national/institutional funding regulations. It is also advisable to contact your funding body as soon as possible in case your proposal is granted to discuss the national requirements that have to be met before the start of the project.

### Call annexes

- Annex 1: Participating organisations with contact persons for Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations
- Annex 2: Format for Impact Pathway
- Annex 3: List of abbreviations

### Call links

- Online submission system (PT-Outline) with application form: <https://secure.pt-dlr.de/ptoutline/app/leap-agri>
- *Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations* information: <http://www.leap-agri.com/index.php/2014-10-27-15-56-42/guidelines-for-submission>
- Frequently asked questions for applicants: <http://www.leap-agri.com/index.php/2014-10-27-15-56-42/faq>



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**Annex 1: Participating organisations in 19 African and European countries with contacts for Individual Eligibility Criteria and Funding Regulations**

Comprehensive information and full contact details can be found at [www.leap-agri.com](http://www.leap-agri.com).

Country	Participating Organisation	Contact Persons per Participating Organisation
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### Annex 3: List of Abbreviations

JCS	Joint Call Secretariat
LEAP-Agri CA	LEAP-Agri Consortium Agreement
FNSSA	Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture and Aquaculture
FP	Funding Party/ies
GA	General Assembly
GFP	Group of Funding Parties
IRP	International Review Panel
JC	Joint Call
NCP	National Contact Point
PCA	Project's Consortium Agreement
R&I	Research and Innovation
RCP	Regional Contact Point