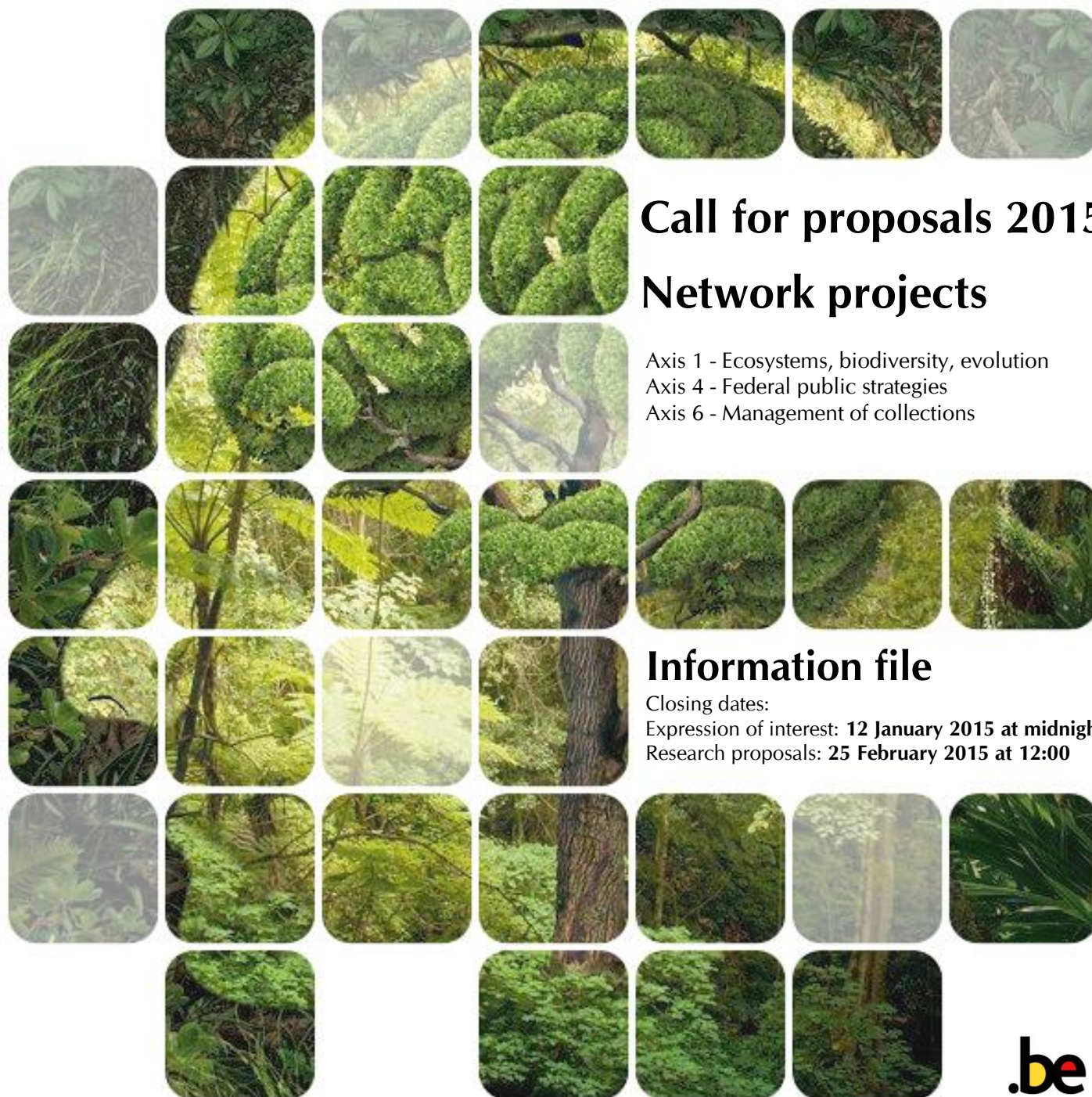


BRAIN-be

BELGIAN RESEARCH ACTION THROUGH INTERDISCIPLINARY NETWORKS



Call for proposals 2015 Network projects

Axis 1 - Ecosystems, biodiversity, evolution
Axis 4 - Federal public strategies
Axis 6 - Management of collections

Information file

Closing dates:
Expression of interest: **12 January 2015 at midnight**
Research proposals: **25 February 2015 at 12:00**

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1. MULTI-YEAR FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH - BRAIN-BE

On 5th October 2012, the Council of Ministers approved the launch of the first phase (2012-2017) of the recurrent framework programme for research, BRAIN-be (Belgian Research Action through Interdisciplinary Networks).

Through the funding of research projects based on scientific excellence and European and international anchorage, this framework programme allows the federal departments' scientific knowledge needs to be met as well as supporting the scientific potential of the Federal Scientific Institutions¹ (FSI - see annex 1).

The strategic objectives, which have been set, based on the federal visions and priorities (both political and scientific) underlying the BRAIN-be programme, are as follows:

- to promote a coherent scientific policy within the FSI, and to thereby support and reinforce scientific excellence;
- to facilitate access to the scientific potential, infrastructure and collections available within the FSIs;
- to align the research potential with societal needs;
- to supply the scientific knowledge necessary for the preparation, implementation and evaluation of federal policies/strategies, particularly those related to topics involving multiple departments;
- to provide the scientific support necessary for the development of a Belgian position within various international forums for policy development;
- to develop and reach a critical mass for research on topics deemed priority areas in order to reinforce the impact of the federal research;
- to stimulate cooperation within the Belgian scientific community;
- to align with the European and international research agendas and to encourage Belgian participation in transnational and international research activities;
- to provide scientists with a framework allowing them to take up their role in scientific watch and to anticipate issues related to the priority areas of the programme;
- to promote systemic, multi/interdisciplinary and integrative approaches;
- to create added value by strengthening the complementarity and synergies between the activities of BELSPO (including contributions to the international infrastructure and organisations);
- to meet the obligations in terms of research stemming from international agreements;
- to develop interfaces with potential users of research achievements.

The framework programme is structured around six thematic axes:

1. Ecosystems, biodiversity, evolution
2. Geosystems, universe and climate
3. Cultural, historical and scientific heritage,
4. Federal public strategies
5. Major societal challenges
6. Management of collections

BRAIN-be is open to the whole Belgian scientific community: universities, university colleges, public scientific institutions and non-profit research centres.

¹ the acronym FSI covers the institutions as defined in the Royal Decree of 30 October 1996 and the Centre for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Society (CEGES-SOMA)

Bearing in mind the priorities of the thematic axes, the framework programme enables participation in transnational programmes, such as the ERA-NETs and the Joint Programming Initiatives (JPI). The current programmes and actions concerned are:

- JPI Climate (<http://www.jpi-climate.eu>)
- JPI More Years, Better Lives - The Potential and Challenges of Demographic Change (<http://www.jp-demographic.eu/>)
- JPI Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (www.jpi-oceans.eu)
- JPI on Cultural Heritage and Global Change: a new challenge for Europe (<http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/>)
- ERA-net BiodivERsA (www.biodiversa.org)
- ERA-net SEAS-ERA (www.seas-era.eu)
- ERA-net⁺ Heritage Plus (<http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/heritage-plus/>)

The framework programme is based on the financing of two types of research project:

- 2 or 4-year network projects
- pioneer projects lasting a maximum of 2 years.

Each year, a call for proposals is launched for these two types of research project. This information file concerns the call related to network projects.

BRAIN-be is implemented under the responsibility of the Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO), assisted by an accompanying plenary committee made up of representatives of the federal departments and the FSIs. The plenary committee has appointed six thematic committees open to all of the federal departments and FSIs, whose primary role is to identify the priorities for research to be included in the calls for network projects.

For more information about the programme and the various thematic areas, please see www.belspo.be/BRAIN-be.

CALENDAR OF THE CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

The calendar and the indicative budgets for the calls for proposals as mentioned in the note to the Council of Ministers are as follows:

Available budget in MEUR	end 2012	begin 2013	begin 2014	end 2014	end 2015	end 2016	TOT
Axis 1: Ecosystems, biodiversity, evolution		6.93		7.19		7.36	21.48
Axis 2: Geosystems, universe and climate	6.93		7.19		7.36		21.48
Axis 3: Cultural, historical and scientific heritage	6.93		7.19		7.36		21.48
Axis 4: Federal public strategies		5.65		5.86		5.99	17.50
Axis 5: Major societal challenges	5.65		5.86		5.99		17.50
Axis 6: Management of collections		3.66		3.80		3.89	11.35
Pioneer Projects	0.94	0.94	0.98	0.98	1.00	1.00	5.84

2. SCOPE OF THE CALL

The current call concerns the thematic axis 1, 4 and 6.

The total available budget for every axis is:

- 6,79 million euros for Axis 1 - Ecosystems, biodiversity, evolution
- 5,86 million euros for Axis 4 - Federal public strategies
- 3,70 million euros for Axis 6 - Management of collections

The research priorities for these thematic axes are described in this chapter.

2.1 THEMATIC AXIS 1: ECOSYSTEMS, BIODIVERSITY, EVOLUTION

The frame of this thematic axis is described as follows in the note approved by the Council of Ministers:

Thematic axis 1 is geared towards the description and comprehension of various biotic modules – soil, plants, bodies of water, atmosphere - their processes and interactions (bio/geo/chemical cycles). It is also geared towards the comprehension and prediction of the evolution of life, of the natural dynamics of ecosystems and of biodiversity as well as their reactions to the pressures of mankind and climate.

Finally, the research would provide the necessary scientific support for the management and sustainable utilization of biodiversity and ecosystems and associated policies.

This theme will allow the establishment of monitoring or surveillance if this should prove useful in the context of the research.

Call contents

There is increasing evidence that biodiversity is key in maintaining healthy ecosystems and their components such as animals, plants and humans. The present call aims at studying different aspects of the complex interactions between health and biodiversity.

The call is organised around three main themes:

1. Understanding the vital role of biodiversity in maintaining the health of marine ecosystems.
2. Generating new knowledge to tackle issues emerging at the intersection of health and biodiversity
3. Assessing the effects of human production and consumption patterns on the health (and services) of the ecosystems in sub-Saharan Africa.

Applicants should ensure that their proposals are clearly anchored in the knowledge requirements described in one (or more) of the three themes and should take care that their analyses, in particular, provide clarifications and recommendations for the federal state's action. The applicants are expected to contribute to improve the science-user interface. As such, the applicants are invited to make use of the stakeholder engagement handbook recently published by the ERAnet biodivErsA network: see <http://www.biodiversa.org/695>. Where applicable, research proposals should also optimally use the research infrastructures developed by the federal state, for instance, the collections of the federal scientific institutions, GBIF, ICOS, LIFEWATCH, BCCM, the research vessel Belgica, and the Princess Elisabeth Base in Antarctica. They will also take into account knowledge

acquired in research projects financed in the past in the programmes "Science for sustainable development" and "Scientific support plans for a sustainable development policy".

The call is open for projects of 2 or 4 years. If possible, BELSPO intends to fund at least one project per theme.

2.1.1 UNDERSTAND THE VITAL ROLE OF BIODIVERSITY IN MAINTAINING THE HEALTH OF MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

International context

Marine strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Europe2020 Strategy and Blue Growth initiative, Marine knowledge 2020, JPI Oceans, Antarctic treaty, SCAR, EU biodiversity 2020 strategy

Strategic context

Oceans and seas form one of the most valuable natural resources of our biosphere and regulate the Earth's climate. However, the marine environment is under huge pressure from human activities and climate change. The consequences can be particularly significant in shallow coastal seas adjacent to highly industrialized countries, such as the North Sea, and also in fragile marine ecosystems such as Polar Regions. Those pressures also affect the sustainability of activities depending strongly or solely on the sea such as transportation, exploitation of the resources, recreation, etc.

This call will focus on one hand on the Belgian part of the North Sea (BPNS) and regions having a direct or measurable influence on the North Sea (the Channel, the Scheldt Estuary, the Southern Bight, the Central North Sea) and on the other hand on the Southern Ocean.

Specific objectives

- improving existing knowledge about the role of biodiversity in functioning of marine ecosystems and in regulating the major biogeochemical cycles of the seas and oceans
- improving the understanding of the human and natural pressures on the marine ecosystem functioning and evaluate the adaptation and resilience of the marine (eco)systems to those pressures
- developing methods and indicators to support the implementation by Belgium of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, in particular the further work on biotic descriptors of the Good Ecological Status, in a regional context

This call will not fund monitoring as such.

2.1.2 GENERATE NEW KNOWLEDGE TO TACKLE ISSUES EMERGING AT THE INTERSECTION OF HEALTH AND BIODIVERSITY

International context

The One World - One Health initiative (OIE, FAO, WHO, Unicef, Unsc, World Bank etc...); The Ecohealth; Aichi Biodiversity Targets 14 & 5 - CBD; WHO, FAO Committee on Genetic Resources from Food and Agriculture; Sustainable development goals; EPPO, IPPC (International plant protection convention), EU biodiversity 2020 strategy

Strategic context

Health of humans, plants or animals is inextricably linked to biodiversity: disturbances to biodiversity may have large consequences for health. Globalization and unprecedented movements of commodities, animal and plant species, and people, combined with the inflating demography, climate change and fragmentation/loss of habitats causing changes in biodiversity, which in turn gives pathogens of all kinds the opportunity to spread and multiply around the world, therefore increasing the risk of disease.

This fact therefore calls for more collaborative effort of multiple disciplines— working locally, nationally, and globally to understand the health implications of current and anticipated biodiversity changes to identify solutions to promote both (human, animal, or plant) health and ecosystem integrity.

Specific objectives

- Further addressing the links between biodiversity and health:
 - examine how changes in biodiversity (on genetic, species and ecosystem level) is related to (1) water or airborne diseases; (2) infectious diseases (including zoonotic and vector-borne); (3) diseases due to imbalance of microbial communities
 - demonstrate how transdisciplinarity tested out on surveillance, control, prevention or mitigation case studies would benefit health, ecosystems and society
- Understanding the future short, medium and long term risks of the spread of human, animal and plant diseases, taking into account different potential scenarios of changes in biodiversity
- Exploring how the "health and biodiversity" nexus can be integrated into the following policies: development cooperation (incl. land tenure); international trade (incl. safety and challenges of wildlife and domestic trade); tourism and human migration; climate-change; environmental and health impact assessments

2.1.3 ASSESS THE EFFECTS OF HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

International context

CBD, Poverty-Environment Initiative (PEI) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); UNEP International Resource Panel, Europe 2020 strategy and Resources efficiency flagship initiative, EU biodiversity 2020 Strategy

Strategic context

Sub-Saharan Africa is the poorest region of the world. The poor, in particular the rural poor, are directly and vitally dependent on the ecosystems and their services, since natural resources are often the very basis of their livelihood.

Ecosystem services are commonly grouped into four broad categories: "provisioning", such as the production of food, natural medicine, fresh water, timber, biomass; "regulating", such as the control of climate, disease, natural hazards, crop pollination, water purification; "supporting", such as nutrient cycles, soil formation and primary production; and "cultural", such as spiritual and recreational benefits.

The direct reliance on ecosystems for their health and livelihoods makes African populations particularly vulnerable to overexploitation of their natural assets and destruction of their natural ecosystems.

The ecosystem health and services are mainly threatened by a combined effect of climate change, the rapid urbanization and changes of land use and land cover, which is notably explained by an increasing natural resources demand in both developing and developed countries

Specific objectives

- Better understanding the impacts of urbanization and/or of the increasing of natural resources demand in both developing and developed countries, and ensuing changes of human production and consumption patterns on sub-Saharan African biodiversity and ecosystems services such as food productions (incl. fish), biomass, drinking/fresh water, timber, and genetic resources, under different scenarios of consumption and production patterns.
- Developing/identifying SMART indicators for a sustainable use of sub-Saharan ecosystems services and biodiversity in the production and consumption chain (agriculture, forestry, agroforestry, ...).

2.2 THEMATIC AXIS 4: FEDERAL PUBLIC STRATEGIES

The frame of this thematic axis is described as follows in the note approved by the Council of Ministers:

The federal government deploys its competencies by means of public policies that organise and/or regulate the life of its citizens and its own functioning. We have in mind public policies applied by the federal public services such as Foreign Affairs, the Interior, the Economy, Public Health & Environment, Social Security, Defence, Employment, and Justice... like in any modern state, the organization and monitoring of these policies relies on scientific results among other input. This thematic area aims to finance the activities and support of the competencies of the Federal Authorities, from a perspective that is historical, contemporary and prospective.

Priority will be given to issues that touch upon multiple areas of federal competency and which offer a coherent and complementary framework for the research conducted by the departments in order to minimize the fragmentation of the research.

The topics of research will be based on the strategic orientations of Belgian policy.

Call contents

The 2014 call for proposals is centred on the following topics, for which applicants are invited to submit proposals:

2.2.1 ADAPTATION AND INNOVATION IN THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION

Innovation in the public sector is an imperative in a rapidly changing society. According to the consensus European definition of Public Sector Innovation (PSI), "*innovation is seen as a means to address growing budgetary pressures, through more efficient administration or service delivery, and new societal demands, through different and more effective service design*". It applies across all areas of the public sector, covers services and processes, and is motivated by the need to do new or existing things better, more quickly, and more cheaply. Innovation in this sense goes far beyond the standard "modernisation" of the administration in responses to internal drivers. Public sector innovation is both an imperative and an opportunity for governments today. It calls for a cultural and political shift from government to governance by using new insights and new approaches, from policy design to service delivery, to improve the performance and responsiveness of the public sector. Therefore, tomorrow's public policy development will depend on - along with swift, efficient, effective and innovative approaches, policies and practices - creative and inclusive thinking.

The Belgian federal administration has a longstanding tradition of continuous adaptation and innovation in the management of its human resources, structures, organisation, and the way tasks are executed and policies defined.

Scientific research can identify these efforts, e.g. by pointing out positive and negative aspects of on-going innovations in the broad sense, in order to build policy recommendations. In this call for proposals, researchers are invited to submit projects that will be centred on the one hand on innovation in many aspects of public management - strategy, coordination, human resources, organisational culture, performance, diversity, leadership, adaptation to the digital revolution, etc.- and on the other hand in the field of citizen or stakeholder participation, co-creation, co-production co-evaluation or adaptation as an external driver or enabler, in a context of both scarcity of means, human (ageing, high specialization) and financial, and an expanding (and invasive) e-society.

Projects can be generic or based on a test case. The test case should however be chosen in such a way that the results can be useful for many, if not all, federal administrations (in this respect, the call

anticipates interaction with contacts in federal administrations - an information session and a follow-up committee, to be completed in the proposal, that should contain contacts with potential federal users). In their proposals, researchers will take into account existing digital developments (E-Gov, electronic administration, etc.) and those that enable better access, preservation, sharing and enrichment of public information. Applicants will also bear in mind the ageing, reduced, but more qualified federal workforce². And finally, applicants shall not overlook the budgetary constraint that requires efficient use of resources and priority setting in essential tasks within the core business.

Within this general framework of studying PSI at the federal level, potential foci for research projects are:

- Developing the right workforce, organisational culture and New Ways of Working as an integrated part of a new service delivery culture and practice. It comprises and combines material aspects like telework, satellite offices, digital government, big data, new technologies (app technology, social media, embedded internet, etc.) and technology-driven service delivery with ideological aspects like communication with stakeholders, departure from the classical hierarchical relations, and the need for sharing resources and data. PSI also suggests the need for a skill set that includes flexibility, soft skills, problem solving, networking, innovative thinking, a higher degree of technological literacy and social media savvy, among others, and study of the psychosocial and security risks that the New Ways of Working might lead to in the workforce;
- Transversal organisation, follow-up and evaluation of tasks: more and more, policies are required to span traditional jurisdictions, across borders and involving multiple levels of government/governance. This multi-governance is implied by Europeanization and federalisation of competencies. This trend is also induced by a more transversal approach within federal jurisdictions, where thematic collaborations, synergies, coordination structures, etc., are established (see for example the recent multiplication of federal plans involving many different departments around a given theme, such as the federal plan to combat poverty, the Health in All Policies federal structure, the Plan for the integration of Biodiversity in four key federal sectors - science Policy (BELSPO), development cooperation, economy and transport- the federal plan for sustainable development, the Pedestrian Plan in preparation, etc.). This implies more cooperation and complementarity across and within multiple administrations (horizontal and vertical policy integration). This transversal approach questions the classical vertical organisation of policies and calls for new ways of working and creation of new tools to follow up and evaluate actions and policies;
- Open government implies the development of new styles of partnerships with civil society groups, private enterprise and other societal participants. How can closer interaction between administrations and citizens be developed in the design, development, delivery and impact of policies, programs and services (such as access to public data and information) with a view to restoring or developing trust in government? How can one better integrate consultations with and opinion of citizens and business in order to have a better understanding of actual situations and their development over time?

Better organisation of the federal administration will enable it to achieve its objectives in a more efficient way and therefore reduce non-take-up of its provisions. The following topic of this call enables in-depth examination of this theme for specific groups of citizens/firms/provisions.

Applicants can submit proposals for 2 or 4 years. The indicative budget allocated to this topic is 2,34 M€.

² By 2020, 20% of the federal workforce will be retired, which raises concerns at organisational level and in terms of the loss of expertise that need to be taken into account.

2.2.2 NON-TAKE-UP OF PUBLIC PROVISIONS

The federal state provides general public services. In some cases service delivery is reserved for and adapted to given categories of citizens and companies with specific needs. It happens that some of these special provisions are not - or only partially - taken up.

Different reasons can explain the non-take up, especially:

- Lack of knowledge or awareness, in which the potential claimant is ignorant or unaware of the possible benefits or services available, or of his entitlement to claim;
- Decision not to claim, in which the potential claimant is aware of his entitlement but chooses not to claim. The complexity of the system or the inappropriate level or quality of aid can be an underlying factor in this respect;

This non-take-up (NTU) of federal provisions makes it necessary to evaluate the proper allocation of these transfers, especially when they are targeted toward specific groups. This also calls for a more efficient management of the supply of provisions (foreseen and real impacts). In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that NTU occurs across a whole range of sectors linked through combined entitlement conditions for given groups of citizens or companies. Consequently, applicants are invited to examine ranges of provisions that involve different areas, and not simply focus on one alone. It is also important to consider direct and indirect reasons and causes for the NTU, whether they are systemic, institutional or individual. It's important to stress that NTU also involves a cost for potential recipients and providers; loss of indirect incomes for the targeted groups, and consequences in terms of deprivation... immediate savings for public budgets vs. additional costs in the long term and waste of wealth due to the loss of taxes inferred from the non-public spending.

Considering the whole range of public provisions for citizens and companies at federal level, researchers are invited to help better understand NTU, examine causes and consequences and provide recommendations that would ensure a better match between federal policies and beneficiaries.

Applicants can submit proposals for 2 or 4 year projects. The indicative budget allocated to this topic is 1,17 M€.

2.2.3 ADAPTATION OF SPECIFIC POLICIES

Specific problematic situations or groups call for either adaptation of existing policies or establishment of new ones.

Researchers are invited to focus their proposals on the ones listed below. Only 2 year projects are eligible. The indicative budget allocated to topic 3 is 2,34 M€.

a) Homeless populations

In spite of the recurrent empirical evidence of an increasing number of emergency situations and the public interventions that follow, little is known about how many people in Belgium live without a home. Their living conditions are also poorly known. Therefore, the development of a methodology for counting these groups and systematically managing statistical knowledge appears as a necessity in the framework of a public monitoring system to be set up. This monitoring system is an essential part of a strategy of data collection at the national/regional level (also using administrative data) and implements an essential recommendation from the Jury of the European Consensus Conference on homelessness under the Belgian Presidency during the second semester of 2010. This recommendation was given substance as an action point in the second Federal Plan to Combat

Poverty adopted by the Council of Ministers in 2012 and was given form as a chapter on "knowledge management and statistical data collection" within the Cooperation Agreement on homelessness between the Federal state, the Communities and the Regions.

Acquisition of new knowledge on the phenomenon of homelessness through this monitoring system would enable federal and regional/community authorities to design, plan and implement policies better suited to the realities of this specific population.

Research proposals should focus on:

- 1) developing a methodological toolkit for data collection (stock and flow data) that will later enable the monitoring system to be continued by the relevant authorities, bearing in mind the European ETHOS typology (European Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion) as a framework for the definition of homelessness. The result of the study should contain a methodological toolkit based upon a participative approach. This methodological toolkit will contain identification of data sources, the period to be covered, geographical coverage, collection methods, groups to be covered, and mechanisms to ensure data quality.
- 2) studying the role of public authorities and social services (providing public provision by delegation) at all levels, including social services.
- 3) providing more insights into the living conditions of these populations (their needs, characteristics and experiences).

b) Working poor

In Belgium, the subgroup of the working poor is rather limited in absolute numbers, but grows rapidly, as it does in the rest of Europe. This group brings into question the capacity of employment, social security and social integration policies to preserve the population from poverty. To have a clearer view of its forms and to characterize this group, it is necessary to better understand the complexity of the phenomenon: the type of employment (part/full time, sector and subsector of activity, precarious jobs, working conditions, etc.), family situation, health situation, gender, regions, ethnic origin, lifestyle (indebtedness, etc.) and so forth, in order to provide recommendations for the federal employment, social security and social integration policies. A scientific analysis that goes beyond mapping and understanding the phenomenon by taking into account notions of PSI (as developed in the first topic of this call) is not a prerequisite but could generate valuable insights.

c) Chronic patients

The large increase in numbers of chronic patients threatens the standard model of care provision. According to the latest figures, one third of the Belgian population suffers from one or more chronic diseases. This calls for innovative models of integrated care provision.

In this respect, researchers will in particular examine in their proposals ways to organize health care provision for chronic patients affected with comorbidities. Within a context of patient empowerment as cited in the Orientation Note on health provisions for patients affected by chronic diseases (www.chroniccare.be) approved by the Interministerial conference on health, applicants will focus their proposals on one (or more) of the following knowledge needs:

1. examination of the implementation modalities and scientific basis of the case management of chronic patients in the context of the existing Belgian health care organisation;
2. specification of the competences for health care personnel and informal caregivers;
3. examination of effective measures that lead to the improvement of the caregiver's and/or patient's outcomes;
4. development of generic evidence-based guidelines for chronic patients with comorbidities.

d) Recidivists

Applicants are invited to examine the phenomenon of recidivism under two angles:

- life events and that can influence desistance and recidivism, within the scope of socio-professional integration, mental health, and education, but also private events (family, friends, relation to religion, etc.);
- the effect of repressive federal public policies on the rate of recidivism (modalities of release, degree of the sanction, type of sanction, etc.).

The aim of a research project should be focused not only on the study of criminal careers but also on development of approaches centred on federal policies and their implementation.

e) Manufactured Nanomaterials

While Manufactured Nanomaterials (MNM) have a high development potential in industry and research, they also raise questions in terms of their impact on our health and on the environment.

Given these uncertainties, the precaution principle should prevail. This lack of knowledge makes it difficult to set up protective frameworks and regulations for the citizen/consumer/worker at the Belgian level, whereas it is addressed at the European level.

In the framework of this call, multidisciplinary research should enable the federal state to prepare itself within the European context. Specifically, proposals should support establishment of a federal strategy based on a transversal approach with all federal competencies concerned. Questions such as an unambiguous definition of MNMs, traceability of MNMs, protection of workers and consumers and the environmental and regulatory frameworks shall be part of this overall approach. In this respect, proposals should examine how systems and models of exposure of populations and the environment could be put in place in the Belgian context, using existing data or identifying gaps.

2.3 THEMATIC AXIS 6: MANAGEMENT OF COLLECTIONS

The frame of this thematic axis is described as follows in the note approved by the Council of Ministers:

The Belgian State manages numerous collections, defined in the broadest sense as coherent gatherings of tangible or intangible elements. This concerns material or immaterial artistic and cultural, scientific and documentary data based on observation and monitoring and administrative records and other sources of information of the ESF and the public Federal authorities.

Managing these collections is understood as entailing their acquisition, conservation, restoration, maintenance and valorisation.

This thematic area deals with the financing of scientific research aimed at improving this management with the aim of supporting its exploitation, particularly in a scientific way.

These activities cover the development and/or the test of best practices of techniques and methodologies of sampling, digitization, documentation or filing, identification and conservation and access to the information.

They take place upstream of the thematic research in and of itself, their scientific exploitation forms part of other thematic areas.

Call contents

The two priorities of the 2014 call concern the following issues:

- **new digital collections and data**
- **sustainable conservation and restoration of physical collections**

They are described below.

Given the specificities of the overall programme and budget constraints, the research projects must satisfy the following criteria:

- The research will federate the expertise of the scientific community - in the scientific institutes, universities and research centres - by demonstrating their ability to get the methodological approaches applied in the disciplines concerned to collaborate and converge in order to achieve a broad and diversified understanding of the issues addressed.
- The techniques, materials and methodologies developed will potentially concern collections owned and/or managed by the federal state - at the level of the federal departments (BELSPO included), as well as at the level of scientific institutes - and / or where a federal expertise in the domain is mobilised. They should exceed a purely theoretical approach and be tested in case studies, limited to representative parts of the federal heritage.
- The project duration can be 2 or 4 years. Given the limited budget available, the choice of a 4-year project should be justified with regard to the objectives and expected outcomes of the research.

The international anchoring of research is one of the programme's objectives. Closely related initiatives on the international level and in other countries exist. A possible convergence with these initiatives should be taken into account. For instance, in the area of cultural heritage, Belgium is engaged on a European level in the *Joint Programming Initiative 'Cultural heritage and global change'*.

2.3.1. NEW DIGITAL COLLECTIONS AND DATA

The exponential increase in digital collections and data requires specific methodological and technological developments in terms of acquisition, processing and preservation. This represents a major challenge for scientific institutes and federal public services which generate, use and conserve ever-increasing, richer and more complex digital information. Among the challenges for the coming years are efforts to achieve standardisation and interoperability according to standards that are in some cases still under development, the availability of data through high-performance aggregator systems, the development of crowdsourcing in order to encourage citizen participation, and the digitisation of tangible collections within the framework of the federal collections digitisation programme.

The current call is targeting the development of methods and techniques that allow the collection and homogenisation of data and the creation of digital collections, in particular:

- crowdsourcing,
- multispectral high definition digitisation,
- multilingual thesauri and metadata,
- quality control of the digitisation,
- the development of long series of homogeneous data.

The projects must therefore explicitly prove their relevance in relation to at least one of these particular priorities: their usefulness in the preservation and processing of existing digital collections and data – other than the homogenisation of long data series – may be an asset, but cannot be their main objective.

Open-source solutions are encouraged.

2.3.2. SUSTAINABLE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF PHYSICAL COLLECTIONS

The Federal State is responsible for the preservation of numerous physical collections in order to pass this heritage onto future generations in an optimal state of conservation. Conservation and restoration interventions are aimed at the sustainable preservation of these valuable and unique collections. The products and treatment methods used should be able to withstand the test of time.

This call focuses on the development and validation of sustainable conservation/restoration materials, techniques and methods, as an alternative for existing ones that are no longer valid due to changing regulations.

The main aim of the projects must be to develop materials, techniques and methods for sustainable conservation and restoration of physical collections based on known degradation processes: the knowledge of the diagnosis of the preservation conditions and the causes of their degradation are to be obtained from available research results carried out on a national or international level.

The validation should be achieved in part through the development of analysis protocols and simulation models that enable long-term predictions. The determining factors for validation are compatibility, environmental friendliness, and reversibility. Thereby, the sustainability should be envisaged at the level of the treatment as well as at the level of the treated heritage and the alternatives must be evaluated in comparison with the existing methods.

3. GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING THE PROPOSAL FORM

The proposers can choose for a **research project of 2 or 4 years, except for certain sub-themes for which the project duration is limited to 2 years** (see chapter 2 - content of the call).

The projects selected within the context of the current call will start in September 2015.

Please read these instructions carefully before completing the proposal form.

3.1 COMPLIANCE OF THE PROPOSAL WITH THE SCOPE OF THE CALL

Explain/justify how the proposal:

- 1) answers and makes a scientific contribution to the research priorities of the call;
- 2) makes use of interdisciplinarity at the level of:
 - mobilised scientific disciplines,
 - and / or the integration of methodological approaches
 - and / or the various ways to apprehend the studied topics
 - ...

3.2 SUBJECT OF THE PROPOSAL

3.2.1 STATE OF THE ART AND OBJECTIVES

Define the objectives of the proposal and its complementarity and added value with respect to national activities and initiatives (existing or in preparation).

3.2.2 METHODS

Describe and motivate the used methods.

3.2.3 DATA

Describe the kind, the scope, the availability and cost of the data-sets needed for the project. In case of gathering new data, describe and justify its necessity, added value and methodology.

Concerning the use of existing data or the collection of new data, proposal submitters should take the following guidelines into account:

- Whenever possible, the partners should make use of existing (administrative or non-administrative) databases to meet the needs of their research. For this, they must check beforehand whether the data are accessible, at what cost, and how much time it will take to acquire the data. If, after the start of the research, it appears that due to partner negligence or insufficient knowledge of the field, the data files will not be available in time, this may constitute a reason for BELSPO to cancel the contract.
- If the proposal requires collecting new data (e.g. via a survey), the team must justify with clear and convincing arguments its choice of methodology, referring to the objectives of the study and specifying why this particular form of data collection is required and preferable to other approaches. This means the proposers must provide sound and detailed argumentation in support of the chosen methodology (sampling, etc.) and highlight its added value in comparison to existing databases. In addition, the partners must provide the budget required for this data collection.
- As the data collected within the framework of the proposed research must be available to other users for other purposes, the proposal must clearly indicate when and in what format

the data are made accessible, specifying which categories of users are likely to benefit from access to the data.

- If the project needs earth observation data, BELSPO's the space research and applications service can provide them on the basis of a justified request (see <http://eo.belspo.be>)

3.2.4 WORK PLAN AND DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE TASKS

Describe and justify the work plan and the proposed approaches in relation to the state of the art, including:

- the tasks in detail, incl. numbering, name and responsible for the tasks in accordance with the timetable. The description of tasks covered by the international partner (also the tasks covered by the co-financing by a third party), the non-financed partners, the possible subcontractors should also be included.
- the means, tools, procedures ... for the integration of the partners' contributions, for the overall organisation, timing, coordination, ... of the project.
- the valorisation and dissemination activities. These must include **concrete proposals for valorisation and dissemination** of the research and the research results, and the required budgets must be foreseen. This might involve, for example, the organisation of thematic debates and meetings, proposals for disseminating and popularising the results, proposals to integrate data into computerised databases on national and international levels, the elaboration of targeted messages intended for experts, policy-makers or managers regarding the content of specific results, including its limitations, the related uncertainties, the hypotheses and methods used, etc. The target groups of these valorisation proposals must be explicitly described.

3.2.5 TIMETABLE

Elaborate and fill in in accordance with the work plan and the detailed description of the tasks. Include all tasks (incl. the meetings with the follow-up committee and valorisation and dissemination activities).

Include all involved research partners as well as the non-financed partners, the international partner and the possible subcontractors.

3.3 EXPECTED RESEARCH RESULTS AND THEIR IMPACT FOR SCIENCE, SOCIETY AND DECISION MAKING

3.3.1 EXPECTED RESEARCH RESULTS

Describe the expected research results.

3.3.2 EXPECTED IMPACTS OF THE RESEARCH AND COMPLIANCE OF THE RESEARCH WITH THE EXPECTED IMPACTS

Specify and justify the expected impacts of the research at the level of::

- scientific / research community
- policy support / policy makers
- societal / society in general

Estimate the relative importance accorded by the proposal to the three types of impact (in percentage for a total of 100%).

Demonstrate the compliance of the proposal - methodology incl. the valorisation and dissemination tasks - with the addressed expected impacts.

3.3.3 FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE

Each selected project is accompanied by a follow-up committee. The objective of this committee is to provide **active follow-up** of the project and to **valorisation of the research**. It will carry out this role through the exchange and provision of data and information, giving advice, suggesting possibilities to valorise the research, etc. The follow-up committee is composed of **potential users of the results**, such as representatives of public authorities at national, regional, European, or international level, social actors, scientists, industrial actors, etc. The members of the follow-up committee are non-funded.

It is up to the candidates to specify in their proposal the functioning and specific goals of the committee (number of meetings, method of information exchange, etc.), and the role and profiles of its members.

To the extent possible, members will be identified by name and, if applicable, will express their interest and possible contribution to the project. If relevant for the proposal, the applicants may contact the Federal departments via the contact list in annex 3.

The final composition of the follow-up committee will be defined in collaboration with BELSPO.

3.3.4 SUSTAINABILITY, GENDER DIMENSION, ETHICS

Describe how the project and its research takes into account or includes issues such as sustainability, animal welfare, environmental respect, informed consent of the studied population ...

Describe and specify how the gender dimension, if relevant, is taken into account in the research topics.

If for methodological, budgetary or other reasons those aspects are not taken into consideration a justification is required.

3.4 NETWORK

Each proposal is submitted by an **interdisciplinary network**, belonging to at least two separate Belgian scientific institutions.

The network partners must conduct complementary activities related to a common issue and the integration of achieved results.

All funded teams will jointly share all obligations and responsibilities during the implementation of the project. The contributions of the different network partners may differ according to the content. Accordingly, different partners may receive different shares of the total budget and devote different numbers of man-months to the research, provided they all bear in mind the principles of a network project.

The call is intended for Belgian university institutions, university colleges, public scientific institutions, non-profit research centres³.

The project may require specific expertise, which can be delivered in the form of **subcontracting**.

The participation of **Federal Scientific Institutions** and the cooperation between partners from **different Communities** is encouraged. In case of equal scientific quality between the proposals submitted, preference will be given to consortiums in which one or more FSIs are involved.

If it offers an added value to the project and to the development of Belgian expertise, submitters may propose a cooperation with **non-Belgian universities or public research institutes** (except for international institutions such as the Joint Research Centre). This participation will take place on a **co-funding** basis. The non-Belgian partner is responsible for the co-funding, from other sources, for at least the same amount as that requested from BELSPO.

A **coordinator** (belonging to a Belgian research institute) must be designated in each proposal. In addition to his/her scientific and management qualifications, the project coordinator must be able to synthesise and integrate the research results in order to promote applications and support for decision-making. The specific role of the coordinator is:

- to coordinate all activities to be carried out in the framework of the project;
- to coordinate the internal meetings between the network members;
- to coordinate the meetings with the Follow-up Committee and write the reports of these meetings;
- to coordinate the production of the interim and final project reports intended for BELSPO;
- to inform BELSPO of any problems that might interfere with the correct implementation of the project;
- to coordinate the synthesis and translation of the research results, with a view to applications and support for decision-making;
- to coordinate the publication and dissemination of the research results;
- meetings related to the project's progress between the network and BELSPO.

The programme wants to promote equality between men and women in research, therefore, the projects should take this into account in the choice of the researchers.

3.4.1 PARTNERS' EXPERTISE

³ for a list of recognised non-profit research centres see http://www.belspo.be/belspo/fisc/wi_list_nl.stm (Dutch) or http://www.belspo.be/belspo/fisc/wi_list_fr.stm (French)

Each financed project partner must provide the following, in a clear and precise manner:

- His/her background
- His/her top 5 best publications that concern the subjects covered in the proposal (indicate clearly the publications accepted by international peer reviewed journals).
- A list of the research projects carried out over the past five years in the field under consideration or related areas (specify the duration of the work and funding source).
- A list of their (inter)national contacts and the (inter)national networks to which he/she belongs within the context of the proposal.
- Describe also the management skills of the coordinator.

If possible, include weblinks.

3.4.2 NETWORK'S COMPOSITION

Justify the composition of the network (complementarity, interdisciplinarity) and if applicable the added value of the collaboration with the international partner for the project and for the development of Belgian expertise taking into account the existing knowledge/expertise in Belgium.

3.4.3 GENDER

Describe how the gender issue is taken up in the network (network composition,...) or justify why it could not be taken into account (budget, needed expertise, ...).

3.5 INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION OF THE PROJECT

Describe the complementarity and added value of the proposal with respect to international activities and initiatives (existing or in preparation) and opportunities for new international collaboration.

3.6 RESOURCES

Within a project, **the budget of each financed Belgian institution is between 15% and 60% of the total budget** of the project in order to guarantee a balanced participation among the various partners.

The project budget is reserved exclusively for the project activities.

The different categories of expenditure financed by BELSPO are:

Staff: Pre-tax wages associated with increases in the cost of living, employers' social security and statutory insurance contributions, as well as any other compensation or allowance due by law and secondary to the salary itself and tax-free scholarships. Tax-free scholarships refer to a grant subject to a tax exemption under the tax laws. BELSPO prefers staff to be hired under a labour contract.

The staff costs are limited to a maximum amount of:

- 66.000 €/year for a scientist with a Master's degree (regardless of years of experience)
- 90.000 €/year for a scientist with a PhD (regardless of years of experience)
- 50.000 €/year for a technician (regardless of years of experience)

Those amounts are not applicable to persons that are identified by name in the proposal.

At least 60% of the total proposal's budget has to be devoted to staff.

General operating costs: this includes all current expenditures related to the project's implementation such as usual supplies and products for the laboratory, workshop and office, documentation, travel and accommodation, use of IT facilities, software, organisation of meetings, workshops and events, etc. The total amount of these operational costs is set at a flat rate of 15% maximum of the staff budget for the coordinator and 10% maximum of the staff budget for the other partners.

Specific operating costs (invoices will be required): this includes specific operating costs not covered by the general operating costs such as costs for analysis, maintenance and repair of specific equipment purchased by the project, surveys, ...

Equipment (*only for the Belgian partners*): Purchase and installation of scientific and technical apparatus and instruments, including computer hardware. Equipment needs to be purchased in the first half of the project.

Overheads (*only for the Belgian partners*): Institutions' general overheads that cover, in one lump sum, administration, telephone, postal, maintenance, heating, lighting, electricity, rent, machine depreciation, and insurance costs. The total amount of this item may not exceed 5% of the total staff and operating costs.

Subcontracting (*only for the Belgian partners*): Expenses incurred by a third party to carry out tasks or provide services that require special scientific or technical competences outside the institution's normal area of activity. The amount may not exceed 25% of the total budget allocated to the Belgian partner concerned.

The total requested budget for **international partners** may **not exceed 20% of the total proposal's budget** and only covers staff and operating costs (general and specific).

3.7 ANTARCTICA CAMPAIGN BUDGET (IF APPLICABLE)

In addition to the financing of the project, BELSPO will take care of the real expenses of the **researchers of Belgian Institutions employed by the project** for taking part in field work campaigns in Antarctica.

These campaigns costs must not be budgeted in the overall budget tables of the proposal.

Expenses which are reimbursed by the State within the context of these campaigns cover: (i) travelling costs and stay and (ii) transportation and insurance of their scientific equipment. All other costs should be included in the overall project budget.

The campaigns should be explained in the detailed description of the tasks and timetable.

3.7 EXPERTS

The network may propose, via a specific form, a maximum of 5 scientific experts capable of evaluating the proposal.

The experts must meet the following criteria:

- be outstanding and internationally well recognized in their research field
- be able to evaluate as much as possible all the aspects covered by the proposal
- be foreign (European) experts not working or living in Belgium
- not belong to the same institution as the foreign partner
- have no direct link with the network
- have no co-publications with any of the partners within the last 5 years

It is up to BELSPO's consideration to appeal to any of the proposed experts.

4. PROCEDURES

This paragraph describes the procedures for submitting a proposal, the project selection procedures, and the principal contractual obligations applying to selected projects.

4.1 INFORMATION MEETING

The information and networking sessions will be organized at BELSPO, Avenue Louise 231, 1050 Brussels on **2 and 5 December 2014**.

To participate, please register beforehand on the website: www.belspo.be/brain-be

4.2 HOW TO ANSWER TO THIS CALL FOR PROPOSALS?

The submission takes place in two steps, first by filing an expression of interest and then by filing a research proposal.

4.2.1 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Interested parties must submit an expression of interest, using the form intended for this purpose. These expressions of interest will be used by BELSPO **only** in order to seek **foreign experts for the evaluation of the research proposals**. The network has at this stage already the possibility of proposing 5 international experts. The experts need to be confirmed in the proposal.

Expressions of interest are submitted in **English**.

Interested parties are asked to **only** use the form available on the BELSPO website:

<http://www.belspo.be/BRAIN-be>

The expression of interest must be sent **in electronic form** to the following address:

BRAIN_call2015@belspo.be

To facilitate the treatment of the expressions of interest it is asked to include in the "subject" of the email "**Axis [X] _ [Acronym proposal]**" and to rename the file of the expression of interest in the format: "**[acronym proposal] _ [name of coordinator] _ [institution coordinator]. docx/odt**".

The expression of interest must reach BELSPO no later than:

12 January 2015 at midnight

A receipt will be sent by e-mail.

BELSPO will disregard expressions of interest submitted after the closing date.

4.2.2 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Only proposals for which an expression of interest has been submitted on time will be taken into account.

The submitter is asked to **only** use the form that is downloadable from the BRAIN-be's website (<http://www.belspo.be/BRAIN-be>). Only the research proposals that fulfil all the eligibility criteria will be considered (see annex 1).

No annexes to the submission file will be taken into consideration during the evaluation and selection procedure.

The proposal must be sent in English and only electronically (**Word/Open office and signed copy in pdf format**) to the following address:

BRAIN_call2015@belspo.be

The original signed documents must be kept and can be requested during the procedure.

To facilitate the treatment of the research proposals it is asked to include in the "subject" of the email "**Axis [X] _ [Acronym proposal]**" and to rename the file of proposal in the format: "**[acronym proposal] _ [name of coordinator] _ [institution coordinator]. docx/odt/pdf**".

The proposal must reach BELSPO no later than:

25 February 2015 at 12:00

BELSPO will disregard proposals submitted after the above-mentioned closing date and time.

A receipt will be sent by email by 27 February 2015 at the latest.

The forms can be obtained from the BELSPO website at the following address:

<http://www.belspo.be>

4.3 EVALUATION AND SELECTION

4.3.1 SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection process of the research proposals is done in two steps: a scientific evaluation, followed by a strategic choice. The scientific evaluation is conducted by foreign experts who are specialized in the fields of the call for research proposals. The selection decision is made by the Minister of Science Policy among the highest ranked proposals on the basis of the strategic advice of the programme's plenary committee.

4.3.2 BASES FOR THE EVALUATION

The eligible proposals (see annex 2) will be evaluated externally by foreign scientific experts qualified in the research field involved.

The text of the call for proposals serves as the basis for evaluating and selecting the proposals.

4.3.3 EVALUATION CRITERIA

The general evaluation criteria to be taken into consideration by the experts are the following:

Compliance with the aims of the programme and content of the present call

Scientific quality

- clarity of the objectives and tasks; relevance of the methodology; coherence of the objectives, the tasks and the methodologies; alignment of the proposal with the state of the art in the proposed field;
- scientific originality of the proposed research, taking into account the innovative character of the potential results, value of the research in light of other research underway in the field in question.

Potential impact of the project on science, society in general and on decision-making in particular

- positioning/relevance of the research with regard to the orientations of the call;
- potential use or integration of the project results by the scientific community, society and decision-makers;
- relevance of the proposals for distributing the results and making them available;
- profile of the members, role and functioning of the follow-up committee;
- integration of relevant societal themes such as sustainability, the gender aspect, etc.

Quality of the network

- level of scientific excellence or expertise of the candidates;
- complementarity of the competences among the partners;
- interdisciplinary nature of the network;
- distribution of tasks between partners;
- gender dimension;
- added value of the foreign partner's contribution;
- scientific quality, management, synthesis and communication skills of the coordinator.

Compliance of project/resources

- balance of the distribution of resources between partners;
- realism of the means deployed (duration, budget, personnel);
- gathering, use and accessibility of the data necessary for the project;

International anchoring

- positioning of the project in relation to international activities (existing or in preparation)

4.4 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

4.4.1 CONTRACTS

For the proposals selected, a contract is drawn up between BELSPO and the network of funded teams.

For this purpose, the submitters of the proposal will be asked at the end of the evaluation and selection procedure to concisely formulate the specifications on the basis of which the contract is to be drawn up. This **technical annex** to the contract will be drawn up in consultation with BELSPO and will take into account the recommendations formulated by the foreign experts and the Programme Committee. Adaptations to the original proposal may relate to the content of the research, the composition of the network or Follow-up Committee, the budget, the choice of the coordinator, the proposals for valorising the research, etc.

BELSPO grants the selected projects the **funds** required for their implementation. BELSPO shall reimburse at most, and up to the amount specified in the granted budget, the actual costs proven by the partners providing these costs are directly related to the implementation of the project.

4.4.2 EXTERNAL EVALUATION

All research projects are subject to one or more external evaluations. These evaluations, conducted by foreign experts, concern the project's scientific quality (methodology and interim results) and strategic impact, in the light of its initial objectives.

4.4.3 REPORTS AND PROGRESS MEETINGS

The contract will define the various reports to be submitted to BELSPO. These reports are to be included in the project work plan and the cost of preparing them (including translations) must be covered by the project budget.

As well as the reports, meetings on the project's progress will be organised between the network and BELSPO.

4.4.4 DATA, RESULTS, INTELLECTUAL OWNERSHIP AND OPEN ACCESS

Foreground shall be the property of the institution carrying out the work generating this foreground, as mentioned in article 11 of the general conditions of the contract (annex 2). As regards existing information and data, ownership remains the same.

Each institution shall ensure that the foreground of which it has ownership, is disseminated as fast as possible.

Furthermore, each institution undertakes to make the foreground available in a freely accessible institutional deposit (institutional open access repository), immediately and free of charge, in order to be able to read, download, copy, print, or distribute it or to carry out a search within it.

For research areas concerning the marine environment, biodiversity and the Antarctic, researchers must bear in mind that a copy of the analysis and measurement data and/or metadata will nevertheless be transferred to specific databases such as:

- IDOD/BMDC (<http://www.mumm.ac.be/datacentre>),
- AMD (Antarctic Master Directory) (<http://gcmd.gsfc.nasa.gov/KeywordSearch/Home.do?Portal=amd&MetadataType=0>),
- GBIF (Global Biodiversity Information Facility) (<http://www.gbif.org/>) with possibly the help of the biodiversity platform (<http://www.biodiversity.be>)

The promoters of projects that include tasks in which biological materials are used, must ensure the preservation of this biological material by depositing it in a culture collection (Biological Resource Centre), and preferably one in Belgium. This does not apply to material that promoters can prove has already been deposited in a culture collection or for which existing agreements (Material Transfer Agreement) do not allow it to be deposited. Biological material includes cultivable organisms such as microorganisms, viruses, plant, animal and human cells as well as the replicable parts of these organisms, such as non-modified and recombinant plasmids (including those with DNAc inserts).

4.4.5 RESEARCH ETHICS

The first code of ethics for scientific research in Belgium was drawn up in 2009 (see http://www.belspo.be/belspo/organisation/publ/pub_ostc/Eth_code/ethcode_en.pdf).

The "Code of Ethics for Scientific Research in Belgium" is a joint initiative of the Académie Royale des Sciences, des Lettres and des Beaux-Arts de Belgique, the Académie Royale de Médecine de Belgique, the Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten and the Koninklijke Academie voor Geneeskunde van België, with the support of the Belgian Science Policy Office.

All projects must take this code of ethics into account in their research.

5. COMPLAINTS

BELSPO places great importance on the quality of its service and on improving the way it operates. A special form to handle complaints has been created.

The **complaint form** is available at the following address:

http://www.belspo.be/belspo/organisation/complaints_en.stm

Complaints submitted anonymously or which are offensive or not related to our organisation will not be processed.

A complaint is handled as follows:

- once your complaint has been filed, a notification of receipt will be sent.
- the complaint will be forwarded to the relevant departments and individuals and will be processed within one month.
- an answer will be sent by e-mail or letter;
- the complaint will be treated with strict confidentiality.

If you are dissatisfied by the initial response to a complaint, you can always contact the Médiateur Fédéral/Federal Ombudsman, rue Ducale 43, 1000 Brussels. (email contact@mediateurfederal.be).

6. CONTACTS

Further information can be obtained by contacting the **secretariat**:

BRAIN-BE@belspo.be

02/238 37 61 (FR)

02/238 36 12 (NL)

ANNEX 1: LIST OF FEDERAL SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS (FSI)

1. National Archives and State Archives in the Provinces (ARA-AGR)
2. Royal Library of Belgium (KBR)
3. Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy ((BIRA-IASB)
4. Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS)
5. Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage (KIK-IRPA)
6. Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium (RMI)
7. Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA)
8. Royal Museums of Art and History (RMAH)
9. Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium (RMFAB)
10. Royal Observatory of Belgium (ROB)
11. Scientific Institute of Public Health (IPH)
12. Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (VAR)
13. National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology (NCIC)
14. Royal Museum of the Armed Forces and Military History (MRA)
15. The Centre for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Society (CEGES-SOMA)

"BRAIN-be" Programme Call 2015 - Network Projects Eligibility of Proposals

The Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO) ensures that proposals meet all the eligibility criteria listed below. Proposals that do not meet one or more eligibility criteria will not be evaluated. Coordinators of ineligible proposals will be informed by BELSPO. The eligibility of each proposal is verified on the basis of information provided by the submitters in the submission file.

List of criteria

For all proposals submitted, the following criteria are examined. Only those that meet ALL these criteria are used for evaluation.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ➤ The submission was preceded by an expression of interest for the same research topic | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ➤ The submission file is complete (all required forms have been completed) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ➤ The submission file was submitted in electronic format (in Word/Open Office and pdf) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ➤ The submission file was submitted no later than 25 February 2015, 12:00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ➤ The proposal duration is in accordance with the call | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ➤ The proposal concerns a network of at least two different Belgian institutions | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ➤ The proposal coordinator is employed by a Belgian research institution | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ➤ The network consists of participants from universities and/or public scientific institutions, and/or non-profit research centers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ➤ Budgetary aspects: | |
| • the budget of each financed Belgian institution is between 15% and 60% of the project budget | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • at least 60% of the project budget is spent on personnel | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • the budget for subcontracting does not exceed 25% of the total budget allocated to the concerned partner | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • the budget of the foreign partners does not exceed 20% of the total budget requested by the network | <input type="checkbox"/> |

ANNEX 3: LIST OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

The Federal departments can be directly contacted by the proposers for specific issues concerning their interest, competences and for possible participation in the Follow up committee.

Institution	Name	E-mail
FPS Economy, SMEs, Self-Employed and Energy	Mr. Etienne Mignolet	etienne.mignolet@economie.fgov.be
FPS Employment, Labour and Social Dialogue	Mr. Alain Piette	alain.piette@emploi.belgique.be
FPS Justice		
FPS Mobility and Transport	Mrs. Anne-Lise Depasse	annelise.depasse@mobilite.fgov.be
FPS Personnel and Organisation	Mr. Ben Smeets	ben.smeets@p-o.belgium.be
FPS Health, Food chain safety and Environment	Mrs. Marielle Smeets	marielle.smeets@environnement.belgique.be
PPS Social integration	Mr. Jo Locquet	jo.locquet@mi-is.be
FISD - Federal Institute for Sustainable Development	Sophie Sokolowski	sophie.sokolowski@ifdd.fed.be