

**JOINT CALL:
SOURCES, DISTRIBUTION & IMPACT OF MICROPLASTICS IN THE MARINE
ENVIRONMENT**

NATIONAL GUIDELINES BELSPO

GENERAL

The call is supported by the Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO) via the BRAIN-be 2.0 research programme.

The official national call announcement will be published on :
https://www.belspo.be/belspo/organisation/call_en.stm

Applicants are advised to contact their National Contact Point before starting to prepare proposals for application. For contact details please see below.

BUDGET

The budget foreseen for this call is up to 500 000 EURO.

ELIGIBILITY AND NATIONAL FUNDING MODALITIES

ELIGIBLE PARTNERS AND/OR INSTITUTIONS:

The eligible partners are the Belgian university institutions, university colleges, public scientific institutions and non-profit research centres belonging to the list below:

http://www.belspo.be/belspo/fisc/wi_list_nl.stm (Dutch)

http://www.belspo.be/belspo/fisc/wi_list_fr.stm (French)

The private sector and international research organisations based in Belgium are not eligible.

MAXIMUM REQUESTED BUDGET PER PARTNER AND/OR PER PROJECT:

The maximum amount that a Belgian partner can request is 250 000 EURO. In case there is more than one Belgian partner in a consortium than this amount should be shared among the Belgian partners.

ELIGIBLE COSTS

ELIGIBLE PERSONNEL COSTS (PERMANENT/TEMPORARY)

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.

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.

OPERATING COST (TRAVEL AND CONSUMABLES)

General operating costs (flat rate): 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 10% of the personnel budget or 15% of the personnel budget if the Belgian partner is the coordinator of the project.

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, ...

EQUIPEMENT

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

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 personnel and operating costs.

SUBCONTRACTING

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.

CONTACT

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