CALL DOCUMENTS

BIODIVERSA+ CALL

"SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS ACROSS LAND AND SEA"

- Document 1: Announcement of Opportunity
- Document 2: Pre-proposal application form
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History of changes:

Dates	Changes
4/10/2021	Participation of MoE_EE (Estonian Ministry of the Environment) is confirmed.
5/10/2021	Participation of MoE_FI (Ministry of the Environment) is confirmed.
7/10/2021	Participation of IFD (Innovation Fund Denmark) is confirmed.
12/10/2021	Participation of PROV.BZ (Autonomous Province of Bolzano/Bozen) is confirmed.
14/10/2021	Budget of RANNIS is changed
08/11/2021	New participation of UEFISCDI (Unitatea Executivă pentru Finanțarea Învățământului Superior, a Cercetării, Dezvoltării și Inovării), Romania
15/11/2021	Minor updates of the application forms (corrections of the number of characters indicated) New participation of a FAP: FAPESPA (Pará, Brazil) and updated budget of Brazil

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Document 1: Announcement of Opportunity

The Funding Organisations in Biodiversa+ Partnership
have joined efforts to organise and fund an

International call for transnational research proposals on

"Supporting the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems across land and sea"

Introduction

BiodivERsA (the pan-European network of national and regional funding organisations promoting research on biodiversity, ecosystem services and nature-based solutions since 2008), the DG Environment and the DG Research & Innovation of the European Commission are currently co-designing a co-funded European Biodiversity Partnership. This Biodiversa+ Partnership is one of the new actions included in the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 to 'make the bridge between science, policy and practice, and make nature-based solutions a reality on the ground'. The Partnership's activities will include co-funded calls for research projects, biodiversity monitoring, and science-based policy advising activities.

46 Funding Organisations are contributing to the funding of the present Biodiversa+ joint call for research projects to be co-funded by the European Commission as part of the Biodiversa+ European partnership (see the updated list on https://www.biodiversa.org/1938).

(1) Context

Increasing biodiversity[1] loss and climate change are two of the world's major crises, and they are interlinked. Both will have serious and lasting impacts on human health, welfare and well-being (World Economic Forum, 2021; UNEP, 2021), and are pushing the planetary boundaries of biosphere integrity (Rockstrom et al. 2009). Trends in natural resource extraction, pollution and invasive alien species have also led to considerable declines in biodiversity and ecosystem services (such as food security and healthy diets, FAO, 2019), and are likely to continue to pose considerable threats, particularly in combination with climate change. More than three quarters of the terrestrial and freshwater

[1] The Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) defines **biodiversity** as "the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems

habitats are affected by anthropogenic activities, and similarly overfishing, urban sprawl, nutrient run-off and climate change affect more than 85 percent of the marine biomes (IPBES, 2019). The costs of land and seafloor conversion, habitat fragmentation and use of wild species/wildlife trade can be huge; and the discussion of land-use induced spill-over effects have recently received more attention in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic (Reaser et al., 2020). Protecting (as well as restoring) biodiversity and well-functioning ecosystems are key to boost resilience of the EU's economy and societies to future threats (IPBES, 2020). Nature is also a vital ally in the fight against climate change and other global challenges (UNEP, 2021).

Land and sea use changes are amongst the major direct driver of the loss of both biodiversity and ecosystem services across the world, including in Europe and Central Asia. The impact of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the region is also increasing rapidly and is likely to be one of the most important drivers in the future alongside natural resource extraction including overexploitation, pollution and invasive alien species (IPBES, 2018).

Despite ambitious targets, Europe's biodiversity continues to be eroded and many agreed policy targets had not been achieved by the end of 2020 (EEA, 2020; European Commission, 2020a; JRC, 2020; CBD 2020). Similarly, assessments of species and habitats protected under the Habitats Directive for the period 2006-2012 revealed that 60% of species and 77% of habitats remain in unfavourable status (EEA, 2019). The European Union's Natura 2000 network of protected areas[2] and protected areas designated under national legislation are expanding but inland waters and marine habitats in particular remain poorly represented and conservation outcomes are generally not sufficient to halt biodiversity loss (EEA, 2020). Land and sea use change and direct exploitation in particular, can be managed through effective area-based conservation, with connected systems of protected and conserved areas (the latter also referred to as 'other effective area-based conservation measures', OECMs[3]). Increased connectivity between environmentally friendly managed and protected and conserved areas is needed to facilitate immigration and counteract possible extinctions, and to conserve response diversity of species communities for ensuring resilience of ecosystem services in changing environments (Grass et al., 2019; Woodley et al., 2019). Biodiversity conservation also raises questions on distribution of land and sea use, including by a growing global demand for food. Aspects of competition for land, as well as on respective benefits are discussed in relation to the concepts of land sparing (i.e. segregating land for nature conservation from land for productive use within a region) and land sharing activities (i.e. integrating

[2] The term "**protected area**" is defined in Article 2 of the CBD as "a geographically defined area, which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives"

[3] The CBD Decision 14/8 (2018) defines an **OECM** as "a geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values"

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nature conservation approaches into agricultural production/forestry across a region). National and international bodies have called for a shift toward more comprehensive marine ecosystem-based management that balances human activities and environmental stewardship in a multiple-use context (McLeod and Leslie, 2009). In addition, for many species also other types of protection measures may be needed to ensure the long-term protection of populations in their wild habitats across land and sea.

With its EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 (European Commission, 2020b), Europe is ready to show ambition to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030, and adopt a transformative post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Strategy commits, amongst others, to protect at least 30% of land and 30% of sea; with 10% of EU land and 10% of EU sea under strict protection, and to establish a truly coherent Trans-European Nature Network. It also requests Member States to ensure no deterioration in conservation trends and status of all protected habitats and species by 2030, and that at least 30% of species and habitats not currently in favourable status are in that category or show a strong positive trend. The EU is also raising the level of ambition and commitment worldwide, recognizing its increasing impact on biodiversity beyond its borders. For example, in line with the International Ocean Governance Agenda, the EU takes effort that a legally binding agreement on marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) is concluded. Greening trade, international cooperation and resource mobilization should also help to step up action globally, but science-based support will be needed to guide prioritization efforts, help identify the most important areas and species-specific measures for biodiversity and ecosystem protection, and to truly deliver on the new global targets.

Transboundary cooperation is needed to establish and strengthen regional networks of protected and conserved areas, to upscale species-specific measures, and to deliver on regional as well as global biodiversity targets. Research at pan-European and international level can help to ensure the effective conservation of habitats and species in coexistence with human activities, meeting the socio-economic, political and cultural needs of current and future generations. Such research would provide major advances in our knowledge, providing input to the implementation of the new EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (European Commission, 2020b), the EU Habitats and Birds Directive, the EU Forest Strategy, the Farm to Fork Strategy, the EU Water Framework Directive, Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, the EU IAS Regulation on invasive alien species and several others. It will also contribute to the integration of biodiversity and protected and conserved areas into sectoral policies such as the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the development of post-Covid nature-based recovery programmes (Kopsieker et al., 2021). Furthermore, it will also enable European commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, as well as provide information relevant to the role of healthy and diverse ecosystems as nature-based solutions for climate change impacts under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and in mitigating the impacts of land degradation foreseen under the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). More generally, research can also evaluate new approaches that could lead to new policy options not explored so far.

In this context, substantial inputs are expected from the research and knowledge community to provide science-based guidance to actions and policies aiming at conserving biodiversity at all levels (genes, species, ecosystems) and retaining ecosystem integrity[4] across land, freshwater and sea, suggest new approaches and policy options, and foster the rigorous assessments of the outcomes of conservation actions and policies. These include a focus on, amongst others, upscaling of protection efforts (including increased quality, quantify, integrity of sites), establishment of effective and resilient ecological networks[5], improving management of protected and conserved areas, identifying trade-offs between biodiversity protection and productive use of freshwater, marine and land resources, better understanding of enabling conditions ensuring long-term conservation outcomes, broadening the range of governance strategies in protected and conserved areas, and implementing a range of complementary area- and species-based protection tools.

(2) Priorities of the Call

This call is an opportunity to advance knowledge and inform more effective and integrative biodiversity management by enhancing the scientific underpinnings of biodiversity and ecosystem protection. It aims to support transnational research projects (3-years duration) focusing on measures regarding protected areas (including nationally designated protected areas), integrated area-based conservation measures reconciling conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services (including in landscapes and seascapes used to produce food and fiber), as well as measures contributing to effectively protecting species in the wild. The call covers all environments, i.e. terrestrial, freshwater and marine. It also covers research on biodiversity conservation in the Outermost Regions (ORs) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) of the EU.

Applicants are invited to submit proposals addressing one or more of the three themes outlined below. Projects combining aspects from several themes are encouraged. This call is focused on the protection of biodiversity in the wild. This does not, for example, include efforts for restoration of habitats and species, or *ex-situ* conservation.

[4] **Ecosystem integrity** refers to the completeness and functionality of an ecosystem; it is maintained by avoiding fragmentation, degradation, and loss of connectivity

[5] An **ecological network for conservation** is a system of core habitats (protected areas, OECMs and other intact natural areas), connected by ecological corridors, which is established, restored as needed and maintained to conserve biological diversity in systems that have been fragmented (Hilty et al., 2020)

THEME 1 – Knowledge for identifying priority conservation areas, establishing effective and resilient ecological networks, enhancing species-based protection and preserving genetic diversity

Biodiversity is unevenly distributed over Europe and many protected areas have been established in areas where there is the least conflict with human needs, with a bias to areas that are less productive and at higher elevations (Venter et al., 2018). Directing conservation efforts to, and creation of new protected sites in **areas important for biodiversity**, including Key Biodiversity Areas (IUCN, 2016), and policy designations such as World Heritage Sites, Ramsar Sites, Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSA) seems effective in delivering conservation outcomes. Protected and conserved areas also need to be big enough to sustain large scale and long-term ecological and evolutionary processes, provide everything organisms need, and be resilient to future changes (including climate change, land use and other processes that fragment ecosystems, and other drivers such as pollution). **Ecological connectivity**[6], through ecological corridors and stepping stones, and nature-inclusive management practices in the wider landscape and seascape (including land sharing, wildlife-friendly practices, human-wildlife coexistence practices and nature-inclusive design), can increase the effective size of protected and conserved areas by linking smaller units into **ecological networks**. Measures ensuring **ecological representation**[7] of these networks will further help to ensure the long-term persistence of all species and ecosystems in a changing landscape and climate. Furthermore, **broadening the range of area-based conservation tools** (i.e. now also including OECMs, offering opportunities for recognition and support for other management approaches that effectively conserve nature; IUCN/WCPA, 2019) as well as enlarging the toolbox for species-based protection can help to achieve efficient outcomes.

In this context, major knowledge needs under this theme include (**non-exclusive list**):

- Research to support systematic planning for identifying/designating/implementing additional protected areas and integrated area-based conservation measures, to protect terrestrial, freshwater and marine systems taking into account trade-offs in multifunctional land- and seascape use as well as local conditions. This could include, amongst other topics, research to better quantify ecosystem services and

[6] The UN Convention for Migratory Species (CMS, 2020 – resolution 12.26) defines **ecological connectivity** as "the unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes that sustain life on Earth"

[7] The goal of **ecological representation** is to have a representative sample of the full variety of biodiversity, at all levels of organization, to ensure the long-term persistence of all species and ecosystems within a protected areas network (CDB, 2010)

determine their contribution in support to designing ecological networks that deliver biodiversity outcomes;

- Research to maximize the biodiversity potential of terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats outside protected areas, and support a nature inclusive transition, to ensure an effective ecological network delivering on conservation outcomes;
- Better understanding of how the use of land, water and seafloor resources can change terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems, and the implications for protected areas and species;
- Research to make ecological networks viable in a changing climate, and future proof land- and seascapes in different ecological, social and economic contexts;
- Research to understand and promote the complementary role of Key Biodiversity Areas and their safeguard through other mechanisms (e.g., UNESCO Biosphere Reserves, Ramsar sites, private Protected Areas, OECMs, Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas; blue corridors; urban green spaces) in conservation planning and management, and their link to existing protection schemes such as Natura 2000 network (for EU countries)/Emerald Network (for non-EU countries);
- Better understanding of aspects related to ecological connectivity – including amongst other: quantifying the importance of effective habitat connectivity (allowing for species movements and preventing genetic erosion); better understanding of the relation between structural and functional connectivity, and of temporal dimensions; how to implement connectivity in a multi-jurisdictional context; and assessment of feasibility of implementation of ecological corridors (continuous and stepping stones), as well as their effectiveness;
- Research on the level of protection, management effectiveness and connectivity needed to deliver positive biodiversity outcomes;
- Research to support the legal identification, registration and protection of ecological corridors in the European context;
- Identification of most effective models (including appropriate financial and administrative instruments) of establishing and implementing protected areas in a European context;
- Research to support prioritization approaches that would not only preserve species numbers and ecosystem services (including potential for carbon sequestration, pollination potential, groundwater recharge etc.), but also evolutionary and functional components of biodiversity;
- Better knowledge to safeguard species, genetic and ecosystem diversity, considering the different causes, challenges, and consequences of different protection strategies and ethics and recognizing that some taxa and ecological/functional groups, environments (e.g. freshwater and marine) and dimensions of biodiversity (e.g., genetic and functional diversity, along with evolutionary processes) still need to be better accounted for in conservation approaches

THEME 2 – Multiple benefits and costs of biodiversity and ecosystem protection: synergies and trade-offs

Biodiversity and ecosystem protection can have **positive and negative impacts** on multiple components of human well-being by changing the availability of and access to ecosystem services, transforming institutional arrangements and power relationships, and through developing activities such as tourism (Woodhouse et al., 2018). For example - effectively managed protected areas are a critical tool for safeguarding biodiversity, maintaining ecosystem integrity, preserving important habitats for species, building resilience to climate change, providing food security, maintaining water quality, curbing spread of diseases and pests, and providing several other **benefits** to wildlife and human health. Protected areas can, however, also come with a societal **cost** such as displacement of local communities, crop damage by wildlife, and restricted access to resources and/or changes in land tenure (UNEP-WCMC, 2008). Similarly, ecological connectivity can be associated with costs (such as those related to spread of zoonotic diseases, invasive species and other threats operating through contagion) as well as benefits (UNEP-WCMC/IUCN, 2021). The nature of costs and benefits (not only economic, but also socio-ecological aspects) can vary depending on the protected area's status and governance, as well as its history of use. Optimizing conservation and other land and sea uses to reach biodiversity targets while minimizing costs is key to ensure sustainable land management, and to maintain values critical to sustainable development (Di Marco et al., 2016).

Major knowledge needs under this theme include (**non-exclusive list**):

- Analyse the contribution that existing protected areas and ecological networks can make as nature-based solutions to global challenges, food and water security and human health and well-being; assess their long-term socio-ecological benefits;
- Better understanding of carbon storage and sequestration potential of remaining primary and old-growth forests, as well as other carbon-rich ecosystems such as grasslands, wetlands, saltmarshes and seagrass meadows, and the dependence on different management practices (including animal husbandry);
- Developing models and scenarios to assess future conservation needs and adaptive management in the face of global change including assessment of climate refugia (also Theme 1);
- Knowledge and experiences from integrated protected area management to support better implementation of landscape and seascape approaches, such as the biosphere reserve concept, for reconciling conservation needs with agriculture, forestry, urbanisation, fishing, infrastructure building, tourism and other competing land and sea uses (also Theme 1);
- Assessment of benefits and costs from different conservation strategies like assisted colonization, land sharing versus land sparing, and rewilding or not-rewilding, and also in the context of other strategies (spatial plans, economic

development plans, etc.); research on where, and how such approaches contribute conservation outcomes in a global change context (including scenario studies)
- Research on possible negative impacts of corridors (e.g. increased predator activities, movement of invasive alien species and diseases, micro-habitat changes,…), and on human-wildlife conflicts;
- Economic valuation studies to assess the contribution of protected and conserved areas to local and regional economies and to indigenous people;
- Research to support tools and approaches mitigating trade-offs, and moving to win-win situations; how to ensure equal distribution of costs and benefits (distributive equity);
- Assessing trade-offs within and between different social and ecological outcomes, across spatial and temporal scales, and social groups;
- Analysis of synergies and trade-offs in achieving global biodiversity targets, including but not restricted to expanding protected areas;
- Developing and testing a broader set of economic and social-economic metrics to create further incentives for biodiversity and ecosystem protection.

THEME 3 – Effective management and equitable governance to deliver bold conservation outcomes

Area targets alone are insufficient to halt biodiversity loss, and must be accompanied by a focus on quality and connectivity, including both **sound governance and effective/adaptive management** (Haddan et al., 2015; Geldmann et al., 2018). A large proportion of protected areas globally as well as in Europe are not well protected or effectively managed (Edgar et al., 2014; Gill et al. 2017), with many designated areas still threatened by loss of habitat, fragmentation and exploitation activities that are incompatible with conservation objectives. Transnational research to improve management approaches (including comparative analysis of the effectiveness of existing protected areas) is needed to deliver conservation outcomes and reach global benchmarks, while supporting a participatory approach. Moreover, while the majority of the world's protected and conserved areas are managed by governments, governance by indigenous and community groups, privately protected areas and mixed models are becoming increasingly recognised (IPBES, 2019). For example, while the EU's Natura 2000 Network includes strictly protected nature reserves, most of the land remains privately owned. Research can help to further develop **inclusive and adaptive governance strategies**, accounting for specific roles and needs of vulnerable/marginalised groups; and to better understand conservation implications for protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PADDD[8]) as

[8] **Protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PADDD)** refers to legal changes that ease restrictions on the use of a protected area, shrink a protected area's boundaries or eliminate legal protections entirely (https://www.conservation.org/projects/paddd-protected-area-downgrading-downsizing-and-degazettement)

currently ongoing in several countries around the world. Finally, development of robust but practical counterfactuals for assessing protected area impacts would be hugely beneficial.

Major knowledge needs under this theme include (**non-exclusive list**):

- Comparative analysis of current protected area governance and management approaches to determine what delivers effective conservation on land and at sea (e.g., levels of protection, governance, institutional, cultural and socioeconomic contexts); how to overcome implementation challenges;
- Research on different motives for protection (including for different sectors) and influence of power constellations upon these; role of incentive and sanctioning mechanisms; what are the enabling conditions that can ensure long-term conservation outcomes;
- Strengthened knowledge base for rights-based approaches in biodiversity and ecosystem protection, also reflecting plurality of world views, knowledge systems, different needs and values views and ensuring equity in all its dimensions (including recognition of different actors and their values, distribution of costs and benefits, and procedural rights);
- How to integrate development issues including human rights and social safeguards issues in biodiversity protection schemes;
- Identification of the role and effectiveness of existing types of protected areas, OECMs and other targeted conservation measures (e.g., for genetic diversity, individual species, or ecological function) in achieving bold conservation targets;
- How to ensure sustainable management of landscapes and seascapes, and therefore long-term conservation outcomes in areas outside designated protected areas. This includes, amongst others, comparison of nature inclusive management methods in forests, grasslands and croplands and assessment of their effectiveness in view of biodiversity and ecosystem protection;
- Assessing, enhancing and monitoring the effectiveness of protected areas against identified standard metrics;
- Optimizing spatial planning in marine ecosystems to establish no-take MPAs for biodiversity conservation and enhanced fisheries production;
- How to increase the participation of all relevant stakeholders (including indigenous peoples, vulnerable and minority groups) in the elaboration and implementation of effective conservation management plans; how to maximize acceptance and overcome societal opposition;
- How to decrease the pressure on protected and conserved areas from infrastructure, industrial and agricultural activities;
- Conceptual frameworks to address socio-ecological conflicts arising within protected areas (including human-wildlife conflicts);
- How to ensure a broad scale spectrum approach to biodiversity protections (e.g., through species-based approaches; protected areas, ecosystem-based management, OECMs and non-traditional conservation tools);

- Investigating current and potential modalities for sustainable financing and other incentives for effective protected areas and OECMs; what works well, and under which conditions;
- How to ensure ecological integrity of the last-remaining highly intact ecosystems, in Europe and globally;
- Conservation implications of protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PADDD);
- Legislative analyses to guide recognition of privately protected areas and OECMs on private land.

(3) Expected impacts and transnational added value

The unique diversity and characteristics of various places and regions mean that it is necessary to understand the details of local biodiversity, ecosystems and socio-cultural conditions in order to support effective actions for biodiversity protection across land and sea. However, research to be funded through this Joint Call co-funded by national/regional funders and the European Commission will have to go beyond single study cases. The physical, biological and social processes associated with biodiversity protection take place at a range of spatial scales, from the local to regional and global. Therefore, a sufficient understanding of the spread and connection of these processes cannot be revealed by research at a single local site, but rather relies on studies at multiple sites and scales. These in turn need to take explicit account of the ways in which processes at one scale might drive or constrain processes at one or more other scales, and how results obtained at one or a few sites are specific to these locations but also include generalities that apply across many places. A robust understanding of biodiversity protection is thus most efficiently and effectively developed through transnational collaboration. In addition, the contemporary situation of vast regional interactions/teleconnections often requires to take into account the global context. Research projects can therefore include study sites in non-European countries, as long as the transnational added value can be illustrated.

In term of methods, transnational collaboration in model development and the inter-comparison of different models is one of the approaches to be supported to advance research on biodiversity protection. Learning and information sharing is also key to social adaptation. Therefore, project participants will benefit from a collaborative approach to the problem.

Projects may cover a broad range of methodological approaches (experimentation, data analysis from observations and monitoring, modelling, scenario development, quantitative and qualitative social science methods, participatory processes, etc., or a combination of these). This call aims at funding transdisciplinary research projects demonstrating academic excellence, as well as potential societal impact and policy impact (see: BiodivERsA Guide on Policy Relevance). Research projects should thus provide relevant information for policy makers, authorities, institutions and practitioners concerned with decision making, planning, designing and managing a broad range of environments and outreach to society. More generally, applicants should consider how the knowledge can be co-produced with stakeholders, and disseminated in outreach actions in order to maximize societal impact (see: BiodivERsA Guide on Stakeholder Engagement). Participation of stakeholders (including private stakeholders) in research proposals is welcome.

This call will support research projects in which the approaches and skills of natural sciences, social sciences and humanities are integrated as needed to address the specific objectives of each research proposal.

As usual, it is expected that applicants will explicitly make clear the novelty of their research and how it adds to the existing knowledge base, including previously funded, ongoing projects. Large overlap with on-going international, European and national projects on this theme must be avoided. Complementary on-going research is, however, possible but must be clearly explained.

Applicants are encouraged to use existing resources and infrastructures for their project, including the data and information from Earth Observation Programmes such as Copernicus, and the existing biodiversity research infrastructures (see: BiodivERsA Mapping of Biodiversity Research Infrastructures). Link with projects funded under the LIFE Programme is also encouraged.

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(4) Procedures, eligibility and selection criteria

List of abbreviations:

CSC: Call Steering Committee (all participating Funding Organisations)

EPSS: Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS) – submission platform

EvC: Evaluation Committee

FCP: Funding Organisation Contact Point

Submission, deadlines and time schedule

Submission

A two-step process will apply, with a mandatory submission of pre-proposals at step 1 and submission of full proposals at step two. Pre-proposals and full proposals (in English) must be submitted electronically with the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS). Instructions for electronic submission will be available at https://www.biodiversa.org/1772 in October 2021.

Please note that:

- The online platform will stay open 5 minutes after the official deadline. Any proposals not correctly submitted at this moment will be declared ineligible.
- All completed proposals will be submitted automatically when the platform closes, to avoid a situation where an applicant does not have time to click on the submit button. In this situation, the proposal will be evaluated as it stands.

At step 1: Applicants have to submit pre-proposals: information (in English) on the project consortia, a 5-page description of the project and the required budget for each Partner must be submitted on the EPSS. **Submission of pre-proposals is mandatory**; it is not possible to enter the procedure at a later stage.

Only eligible pre-proposals can be invited to submit full proposals.

At step 2: Invited applicants only have to submit full proposals: information (in English) on the project consortia, a 16-page description of the project and the required budget for each Partner must be submitted on the EPSS.

The information submitted at Step 1 and Step 2 will be used to complete an eligibility check, to help finding appropriate evaluators for the evaluation of pre-proposals and of full proposals.

Deadlines and time schedule

The evaluation procedure will consist in an eligibility check and an evaluation of pre-proposals at a first step and an eligibility check and an evaluation of full proposals at a second step.
The call will go through the following processes and applicants must pay attention to the deadlines outlined below in the time schedule:

June 2021:	**Pre-announcement of the call**
1 October 2021:	**Official launch of the call**
30 November 2021, 15:00 CET (local time in Brussels):	**Deadline for submitting pre-proposal**

January 2022:	First eligibility check completed by the Call Secretariat and Funding organisation Contact Points (FCPs)
Mid-February 2022	Results of the first Evaluation Committee (EvC) meeting ➢ **Selected applicants are invited to submit full proposals**
14 April 2022, 15:00 CEST (local time in Brussels):	**Deadline for submitting full proposals**
May 2022:	Second quick eligibility check completed by the Call Secretariat and FCPs
June or July 2022:	Second EvC meeting > Ranked list of proposals established by the EvC
Late September 2022:	Recommendation for funding projects by the Call Steering Committee (CSC) ➢ **Results communicated to applicants**
1 December 2022:	**Earliest possible start of funded projects**
1 April 2023:	**Latest possible start of funded projects**

During the entire procedure, strict confidentiality will be maintained with respect to the identities of applicants and the contents of the proposals.

Eligibility of projects and Partners (call criteria):

The call is open to proposals and research consortia that meet the following criteria:

- The international, scientific research projects are performed by eligible organisations. Funding Organisations eligibility criteria (see Funding Organisations' rules) apply to research entities and for participation by private sector (profit and non-profit) organisations;
- The project coordinator is eligible and employed by an eligible organisation according to the terms and conditions of the participating Funding Organisation from which he/she applies for support;
- The project coordinator (person in charge) can only participate as coordinator in one proposal of this call. Apart from the position of coordinator, applicants can participate in several proposals (as long as this is in line with their Funding Organisation's eligibility rules);
- The project must be a transnational project involving **eligible research Partners from at least three different countries participating in the call** and requesting support from at least three different Funding Organisations. In addition, at least two Partners must be from different EU Member States or Associated Countries[9] participating in the call.
- Proposals must be written in English;

[9] https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

- The submission of a pre-proposal is compulsory. Applicants cannot submit a proposal at a later stage otherwise;
- Pre-proposals and full proposals must be received before the deadlines set for the submission;
- Proposals must meet all the formal criteria: submitted electronically, respect page limits and number/type of attachments allowed;
- The scope or scale of the proposed research should exceed a single country;
- The information given in the pre-proposals is binding. No changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed by the Call Steering Committee (CSC) between the pre-proposals and full proposals. However, it is still possible to make minor changes to improve your proposal if the objectives remain unchanged (you will have to declare these changes in your full proposal). Regarding the administrative details, a limited number of changes may be allowed by the Funding Organisation Contact Point (FCP) and/or CSC, provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the Funding Organisations:
    - **Minor change of budget can be allowed by the relevant Funding Organisation**. The FCP can decide according to its own rules whether it needs a justification for it. There is no need to inform the Call Secretariat.
    - **Changes in the consortium composition:**
        - **No changes of coordinator (person in charge) will be allowed**, except in case of force majeure. A request of change of coordinator must be submitted to the Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline for submitting full proposals and it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the CSC.
        - **Changes in the consortium composition are allowed (maximum two changes of Partners), provided approval by the concerned Funding Organisations.** Please note that the following actions are considered as changes: **addition, removal or replacement of a Partner (incl. subcontracted and self-financed partners).** Please note that the maximum number of changes applies to "Partner"; it does not apply to "team member".
            - All new Partners have to comply with their respective Funding Organisation's rules. If a new Partner is declared ineligible at step 2, the whole consortium will be declared ineligible and won't be evaluated.
            - In case of a removal of a Partner, consortia have to make sure that their consortium still includes the minimum number of requested Partners. If this is not the case, the project will be declared ineligible and won't be evaluated.

          In terms of procedure: The eligibility of new research Partners must be confirmed at least one week before the full proposal submission deadline. Changes must be asked to the FCP, with the Call Secretariat in copy, who needs to check the eligibility of the new Partner and agree with the change, before being implemented into the EPSS.

Please note that the following cases are not considered as one of the maximum two changes but the procedure mentioned above remains the same:
  - If the change is explicitly requested by a Funding Organisation after the eligibility decision at step 1
  - If a researcher in charge (person) remains the same but changes the institutions (within the same country), provided the institution fulfils eligibility criteria of the same funding organisation.
  - Similarly, if the institution remains the same but the researcher in charge (person) changes, provided the researcher in charge fulfils eligibility criteria of the same funding organisation.
- **The change(s) should not change the substance of the proposal**. Applicants will have to indicate in their full proposal the changes made as compared to the pre-proposals (for information for the EvC and the Call Secretariat).

Compliance with Funding Organisation eligibility criteria and rules (e.g. eligible budget items) is mandatory; it is thus strongly recommended that applicants approach their respective Funding Organisation Contact Point to make sure they respect all the eligibility criteria and rules (contact list and main Funding Organisations' rules are available in the call documents published on the Biodiversa website). **If one Partner is not eligible, the whole proposal will be considered ineligible and will not be evaluated, unless the elibility issue(s) can be fixed.**

Project duration

The project duration is 3 years.

Evaluation and selection

Potential applicants are advised to take careful note of the aims and scope of the call as described above in the Announcement of Opportunity. Applicants are strongly advised to assess the relevance of their proposed research against the thematic priorities set forth in the scientific text of the call. Any project that does not fit within the thematic priorities identified will not be recommended for funding, regardless of its quality.

Emphasis will be placed on the link between scientific excellence and relevance to policy and practice.

Proposals from the natural and social sciences and humanities are welcome.

A two-step evaluation process will be organised.

1) First step:

   An eligibility check will be performed by the Call Secretariat and Funding Organisation Contact Points (FCPs) as well as a first step evaluation of pre-proposals by an independent Evaluation Committee (EvC) against the following criteria:

(i) fit to the scope of the call,
(ii) novelty of the research
(iii) impact

Only successful pre-proposals will be invited to submit full proposals.

2) Second step:

An eligibility check of full proposals will be performed by the Call Secretariat and Funding Organisation Contact Points (FCPs).

Eligible full proposals will be evaluated by an independent Evaluation Committee (EvC) as well as by external reviewers (as far as possible 3 external reviewers per proposal, 2 scientific and 1 policy/management) against the following criteria:

(i) Excellence,
(ii) Quality and efficiency of the implementation,
(iii) Impact.

The EvC will consist of scientific experts from natural and social sciences and humanities, as well as policy/management experts. This composition should allow to cover, as far as possible, the range of topics within the scope of the call.

Members take part in the EvC as independent experts and do not represent any organisation nor can they send any replacements. This means that their work on this Committee does not represent any organisation or nation.

The EvC will assess the proposals according to the criteria defined (see “Assessment criteria” document in the call documents). At step 2, the EvC will also moderate the assessments provided by the external reviewers.

The EvC will discuss about the proposals and establish the final ranking of pre- and full proposals based on the set of criteria defined.

After Step 1: The Call Steering Committee (CSC) will decide on which projects to invite to Step 2, following the eligibility check and the evaluation made by the EvC.

After Step 2: The CSC will decide on which projects to recommend for funding, strictly adhering to the order of the ranking list established by the EvC.

Upon the final decision by the CSC, a list of funded projects will be published on the Biodiversa website.

Please note that **no appeal can be brought at the EvC and CSC levels to challenge the results of the selection procedure**. However, the decisions taken by the CSC do not take precedence over possible mandatory national or organisational requirements for eligibility and appeal processes.

(5) Funding

For this call a total amount of ca. 33 M€ has been provisionally reserved by the participating Funding Organisations.

Co-funded by the European Union

The European Commission (EC) will also provide funding for the funded projects depending on the final total funding amount for research proposals committed by the participating Funding Organisations eligible for EC-funding.

The indicative total budget for this call is thus of over 40 M€, including the EC contribution.

Indicative budgets for each Funding Organisation are given below. Each participant in a funded project will be preferentially funded by his or her Funding Organisation(s) participating in the call. The additional funding provided by the EC for the funded project will be distributed through the EC-eligible Funding Organisations.

Please note that the aim of the call is to fund medium size projects (typically project of 1.2-1.5M€ on average). However, this does not constitute a formal limit, but an indication.

PROVISIONAL LIST OF FUNDING ORGANISATIONS WITH COMMITMENTS

Country	Funding organisation	Acronym	Reserved budget (low) in euros	Reserved budget (high) in euros
Austria	Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung	FWF	1,300,000	1,300,000
Belgium	Service Public Fédéral de Programmation Politique Scientifique	BELSPO[#]	500,000	750,000
Belgium (Flanders)	Fonds Voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen	FWO[#]	750,000	750,000
Belgium (Wallonia-Brussels)	Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique	F.R.S.-FNRS[#]	300,000	300,000
Bulgaria	Bulgarian National Science Fund	BNSF[#]	306,775	306,775
Brazil	Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies	CONFAP[#]	1,020,00 (final budget to be confirmed)	1,020,00 (final budget to be confirmed)
Brazil	Brazilian National Council for Scientific and Technological Development	CNPq[#]	100,000	100,000
Czech Republic	Technology Agency of the Czech Republic	TA CR[#]	730,000	730,000
Denmark	Innovation Fund Denmark	IFD[#]	1,000,000	1,200,000
Estonia	Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur	ETAg[#]	150,000	150,000
Estonia	Estonian Ministry of the Environment	MoE_EE[#]	100,000	100,000
Estonia	Estonian Ministry of Rural Affairs	MEM[#]	100,000	100,000

Country	Funding organisation	Acronym	Reserved budget (low) in euros	Reserved budget (high) in euros
Finland	Suomen Akatemia	AKA#	850,000	850,000
Finland	Ministry of the Environment	MoE_FI#	250,000	400,000
France	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	ANR#	2,000,000	2,000,000
Germany	VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH	VDI/VDE-IT (on behalf of BMBF)	2,000,000	2,000,000
Germany	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V.	DFG	1,500,000	1,500,000
Greece	General Secretariat for Research and Innovation	GSRI#	500,000	500,000
Hungary	Nemzeti Kutatási, Fejlesztési és Innovációs Hivatal	NKFIH#	250,000	250,000
Iceland	Icelandic Centre for Research	RANNIS#	700,000	700,000
Ireland	Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland	Irish EPA#	600,000	1,250,000
Israel	Ministry of Environmental Protection	MoEP#	250,000	250,000
Italy	Ministry of Universities and Research	MUR#	2,000,000	2,000,000
Italy	Autonomous Province of Bolzano/Bozen	PROV.BZ#	500,000	500,000
Latvia	Latvian Council of Science	LCS#	300,000	300,000
Latvia	State Education Development Agency	VIAA#	300,000	300,000
Lithuania	Lietuvos mokslo taryba	LMT#	150,000	150,000

Country	Funding organisation	Acronym	Reserved budget (low) in euros	Reserved budget (high) in euros
Moldova	National Agency for Research and Development	NARD#	100,000	100,000
Morocco	Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research	MENFPESRS #	300,000	300,000
Netherlands	Dutch Research Council	NWO#	1,400,000	1,400 000
Norway	Research Council of Norway	RCN#	3,000,000	3,000,000
Poland	Narodowe Centrum Nauki	NCN#	500,000	1,000,000
Portugal	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia	FCT#	400,000	400,000
Portugal - Azores	Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia	FRCT#	200,000	200,000
Romania	Unitatea Executivă pentru Finanțarea Învățământului Superior, a Cercetării, Dezvoltării și Inovării	UEFISCDI#	500,000	500,000
Slovakia	Slovak Academy of Sciences	SAS#	240,000	240,000
Slovenia	Ministry of Education, Science and Sport	MIZS#	630,000	630,000
South Africa	Department of Science and Innovation	DSI#	400,000	400,000
Spain	Fundación Biodiversidad	FB#	500,000	500,000
Spain	Agencia Estatal de Investigación	AEI#	1,500,000	1,500,000

Country	Funding organisation	Acronym	Reserved budget (low) in euros	Reserved budget (high) in euros
Sweden	The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning	Formas#	2,300,000	2,750,000
Switzerland	Swiss National Science Foundation	SNSF	1,830,000	1,830,000
Taiwan	Ministry of Science and Technology	MOST#	500,000	500,000
Tunisia	Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research	MHESR#	300,000	300,000
Turkey	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	TAGEM#	200,000	200,000
Turkey	Turkiye Bilimsel Ve Teknolojik Arastirma Kurumu	TUBITAK#	350,000	350,000

* The Funding Organisations marked by "#" have defined maximum allowed budget per project and/or per research Partner. Please consult the Funding Organisations' rules and contact your Funding Organisation Contact Point for more information.

Please note that all Funding Organisations have defined specific rules (read carefully the Funding Organisations' rules and contact your Funding Organisation Contact Point in case of any questions or doubts regarding these rules).

(6) Programme structure and management

Programme activities

The funded projects are considered to form part of an international research programme for which joint activities will be organised, in particular:

- a **kick-off meeting** at the beginning of the funding period, to be possibly organised back-to-back with other workshops
- a **mid-term meeting** to present and discuss the mid-term reports,
- a **final conference** to present and disseminate the project results at the end of the funding period.

At least the Coordinator of each funded consortium should participate in these joint activities. **The costs for attendance to two physical meetings should be included in the budgets of their proposals (at least one event will be done remotely).**

Project management and reporting

Funded projects will be required to submit via the coordinator a **mid-term report and a final report** on research and activity progress. Some Funding Organisations may request additional specific reports.

(7) Eligible budget items

Eligible costs and the maximum allowed requested budget per project and/or per research Partner are governed by Funding Organisations' specific rules. Specific questions should be addressed to the Funding Organisation Contact Points (updated list available on the Biodiversa website).

In case of a significant financial pressure on a Funding Organisation due to the high number of teams requesting budget from this Funding Organisation in the submitted applications, the applicants may be asked to adjust downward their budget.

(8) Further information

The Call Secretariat is responsible for organising the call implementation procedure and for all communication with applicants related to joint aspects of the call and procedure.

However, for Funding Organisation eligibility criteria, the Funding Organisations' documented rules must be consulted and Funding Organisation Contact Points should be approached (both lists are available in the call documents published on the Biodiversa website), in particular with regard to eligibility of research Partner, eligible costs and other country-specific aspects of the call. The compliance with Funding Organisations' rules is mandatory, and relevant Funding Organisation Contact Points should be contacted to obtain further information if needed.

According to their respective rules, the Funding Organisations may require that the project members selected for funding establish a project consortium agreement. The requirement will thus apply to all the project members, even if their respective Funding Organisation does not require a project consortium agreement.

We draw your attention on the fact that you will be requested to produce data management plans and regularly update them in the couse of your project (data manangement plan should indeed be seen as living documents). Biodiversa+ strongly encourages you to make available publicly the new databases, with metadata that you will produce within your project. Please note that your respective Funding Organisation may also have specific requirements in terms of open access to data. You are thus strongly encouraged to plan resources to ensure data open access and comply with the requirements of your Funding Organisations (if any). For more information, please refer to the data policy (see "data policy"D5 in the call documents).

Applicants may have to fulfil specific requirements defined by the respective Funding Organisations related to open access to data. We highlty encourage you to plan resources in your project to meet these requirements.

We draw the attention of the applicants to the fact that if they plan to use genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in their project, they will have to ascertain towards the competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually decided terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements.[10] Please refer to the competent authorities for more information.

Main contact points:

- **For technical questions regarding submission, please contact the Call Secretariat:** biodiversa.cs@agencerecherche.fr

- **For technical questions regarding the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS), please contact the EPSS technical helpdesk:**

  Taavi Tiirik: epss.biodiversa@g.etag.ee

- **For budgetary questions and other national/regional issues, please contact the relevant Funding Organisation Contact Point (FCP)** - who are listed and updated at https://www.biodiversa.org/1938. Funding organisations' rules are also advertised and updated on the Biodiversa website and are mandatory. Should you have any question on these aspects, please contact the relevant FCP.

10 Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity and REGULATION (EU) No 511/2014 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation in the Union and related implementing acts.

Document 2: Pre-proposal application form

This template is an indicative model of pre-proposal application form. All pre-proposals have to be submitted online via the electronic proposal submission system (EPSS). The format of the pre-proposal application form will be modified to fit the EPSS.

PRE-PROPOSAL APPLICATION FORM

Call for transnational research projects on "Supporting the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems across land and sea"

Project title*	
Short name / Acronym* *(max 20 characters including spaces)*	

* Please note that the project title and acronym should be considered as definitive

Keywords: *(max 10 keywords)*

General guidance for all applicants:

- The proposal must be written in English;
- The different sections of the application should not exceed the prescribed maximum space;
- Any documents other than those requested as part of the proposal **will not be forwarded** to Evaluation Committee members.

I. Administrative details

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

You will have to provide in this section information on the coordinator and Partners involved, as well as the requested budget per Partner.

What is a Partner?
Note that depending on the Funding Organisation, a "Partner" can be:
- *a researcher,*

- *an institution,*
- *a laboratory, a department of an institution.*

Please make sure to respect the eligibility rules of the call.

*Please also consult Funding Organisations' rules advertised on the Biodiversa website which are compulsory**. Applicants are strongly advised to contact their respective Funding Organisations (list available on Biodiversa website) and to confirm their eligibility with their Funding Organisations before submitting the pre-proposal.***

Please note that the information given in the pre-proposals is binding. No major changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed by the CSC between the pre-proposals and full proposals. Regarding the administrative details, a limited number of changes may be allowed by the FCP and CSC, provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the Funding Organisations:

- ***Minor change of budget** can be allowed by the relevant Funding Organisation. The FCP can decide according to its own rules whether it needs a justification for it. There is no need to inform the Call Secretariat.*
- ***Changes in the consortium composition**:*

 No changes of coordinator (person in charge) will be allowed, except in case of force majeure. A request of change of coordinator must be submitted to the Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline for submitting full proposals and it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the CSC.

 Changes in the consortium composition are allowed (maximum two changes of Partners), provided approval by the concerned Funding Organisations. Please note that the following actions are considered as changes: addition, removal or replacement of a Partner (incl. subcontracted and self-financed partners). Please note that the maximum number of changes applies to "Partner" ; it does not apply to "team member".

Please note that the following cases are not considered as one of the maximum two changes:

o If the change is explicitly requested by a Funding Organisation after the eligibility decision at step 1

o If a researcher in charge (person) remains the same but changes the institutions (within the same country), provided the institution fulfils eligibility criteria of the same funding organisation.

o Similarly, if the institution remains the same but the researcher in charge (person) changes, provided the researcher in charge fulfils eligibility criteria of the same funding organisation.

<u>ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING</u>

Please note that if you plan to use genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in your project, you will have to ascertain towards the competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable *access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually decided terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements[11].*

Please also note that if the utilisation of genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources takes place in an EU Member State, users in those states will have to comply with the general due diligence obligation under Art. 4 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014, as well as the obligation to file due diligence declarations under Art. 7 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014[12].

For funding, there are 3 categories of Partners:

1. *Partners from countries (and organisations) eligible for direct funding (designated Partners 1, 2… N)*
2. *Sub-contracted partners from countries (and organisations) ineligible for direct funding, but subcontracted by a Partner 1, 2…N (designated Partners 1a, 2a… Na) (e.g. Partner 1a is subcontracted by Partner 1). Subcontracted partners are subject to the terms and conditions of each Funding Organisation and need to comply with their rules. Generally speaking, subcontracting is understood as the externalization of the execution of a (minor) project task that this partner cannot execute.*
3. *Fully self-financed Partners from any country who bring their own secured budget (designated Partner A, B).*

Coordinator – Partner 1			
Researcher in charge:		*ORCID id.*	
Family name		*First name*	
Title		*Gender*	
Phone		*E-mail*	
Career Stage[13]	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher)*	*Nationality*	
Web site			

11 Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
12 Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation in the Union
13 Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: “director of research”
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: “senior researcher” or “principal investigator”.
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

<table>
<tr><td>Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</td><td colspan="3"></td><td colspan="2">Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation[14]</td><td colspan="6"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Status: Private or public?</td><td></td><td colspan="2">Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No</td><td></td><td>Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[15]:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory</td><td colspan="6"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Street name and number</td><td colspan="6"></td></tr>
<tr><td>PO Box</td><td></td><td>Postal code</td><td></td><td>Cedex</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Town</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>Country</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="5" colspan="3">Employment status information</td><td colspan="4">☐ on permanent position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">☐ on fixed-term position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">If on fixed term position:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Duration of contract:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Funding body:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="7">Other team members involved in the project*</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="7">Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id.
Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id.
Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id.

* Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined"</td></tr>
</table>

Partner 1a (Subcontracted)	
Researcher in charge:	*ORCID ID:*

[14] A 9-digit number serving as a unique identifier for organisations (legal entities) participating in EU funding programmes / procurements. A search tool for organisations and their PICs is available on https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/participant-register-search .

[15] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

Family name		*First name*			
Title		*Gender*			
Phone		*E-mail*			
Career Stage[16]	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher)*	*Nationality*			
Web site					
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:			
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[17]:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town		*Country*			
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id.					

[16] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: “director of research”
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: “senior researcher” or “principal investigator”.
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

[17] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

Co-funded by the European Union

**Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*

Please insert as many copies of the above table as necessary for other Partners 1b, 1c

<table>
<tr><td colspan="6">Partner 2</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Researcher in charge:</td><td colspan="3">ORCID id.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Family name</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>First name</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Title</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>Gender</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Phone</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>E-mail</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Career Stage[18]</td><td colspan="2">(Category A: Top grade researcher
Category B: Senior researcher
Category C: Recognised researcher
Category D: First stage researcher)</td><td>Nationality</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Web site</td><td colspan="5"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation</td><td colspan="5"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Status: Private or public?</td><td></td><td>Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No</td><td></td><td>Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[19]:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory</td><td colspan="5"></td></tr>
</table>

[18] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: "director of research"
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: "senior researcher" or "principal investigator".
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: "researcher", "investigator" or "post-doctoral fellow".
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: "Ph.D. students" or "junior researchers" (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)
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Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town			*Country*		
Employment status information			☐ on permanent position ☐ on fixed-term position If on fixed term position Duration of contract: Funding body:		
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate “to be determined”.*					

Partner 2a (Subcontracted)			
Researcher in charge:		*ORCID ID:*	
Family name		*First name*	
Title		*Gender*	
Phone		*E-mail*	
Career Stage20	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher)*	*Nationality*	
Web site			
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:	

20 Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: “director of research”
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: “senior researcher” or “principal investigator”.
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[21]:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town		*Country*			
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. … Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate “to be determined”.*					

Please insert as many copies of the above table as necessary for other Partners 2b, 2c…

Partner 3			
Researcher in charge:		*ORCID ID:*	
Family name		*First name*	
Title		*Gender*	
Phone		*E-mail*	
Career Stage[22]	*(Category A: Top grade researcher*	*Nationality*	

[21] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

[22] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: “director of research”

	Category B: Senior researcher *Category C: Recognised researcher* *Category D: First stage researcher)*				
Web site					
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:			
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[23]:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town		*Country*			
Employment status information		☐ on permanent position ☐ on fixed-term position If on fixed term position Duration of contract: Funding body:			
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id.					

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: “senior researcher” or “principal investigator”.
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

[23] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

***Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".**

<table>
<tr><td colspan="6">Partner N</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Researcher in charge:</td><td colspan="3">ORCID ID:</td></tr>
<tr><td>Family name</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>First name</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Title</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>Gender</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Phone</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>E-mail</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Career Stage[24]</td><td colspan="2">(Category A: Top grade researcher
Category B: Senior researcher
Category C: Recognised researcher
Category D: First stage researcher)</td><td>Nationality</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Web site</td><td colspan="5"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation</td><td colspan="5"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Status: Private or public?</td><td></td><td>Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No</td><td></td><td>Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[25]:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory</td><td colspan="5"></td></tr>
</table>

[24] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: "director of research"
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: "senior researcher" or "principal investigator".
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<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Street name and number</td><td colspan="4"></td></tr>
<tr><td>PO Box</td><td></td><td>Postal code</td><td></td><td>Cedex</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Town</td><td colspan="2"></td><td>Country</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3" rowspan="5">Employment status information</td><td colspan="3">☐ on permanent position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">☐ on fixed-term position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">If on fixed term position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Duration of contract:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Funding body:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">Other team members involved in the project*</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id.
Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id.
Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id.

*Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate “to be determined”.</td></tr>
</table>

Please insert as many copies of the above table as necessary for other applicants

<table>
<tr><td colspan="4">Self-financed Partner A</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Researcher in charge:</td><td colspan="2">ORCID ID:</td></tr>
<tr><td>Family name</td><td></td><td>First name</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Title</td><td></td><td>Gender</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Phone</td><td></td><td>E-mail</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Career Stage[26]</td><td>(Category A: Top grade researcher
Category B: Senior researcher
Category C: Recognised researcher
Category D: First stage researcher)</td><td>Nationality</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Web site</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</td><td></td><td>Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
</table>

[26] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: “director of research” Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: “senior researcher” or “principal investigator”.
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.
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These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[27]:	

Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town			*Country*		
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*					

Please insert as many copies of the above table as necessary for other Partners B, C…

II. Summary of the project

(max 3,000 characters including spaces)

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Theme(s), environment(s) and/or socio-economic sector(s) targeted if relevant, scientific discipline(s) involved and study area(s)/country(ies) covered in the project

Please indicate the theme addressed by your project, and the type of environment(s) that are studied in your project (please use the percentage box), and list the socio-economic sectors, the scientific disciplines involved and the study areas/countries covered by the project.

Themes in the joint 2021-2022 Biodiversa+ call	%
T1: Knowledge for identifying priority conservation areas, establishing effective and resilient ecological networks, enhancing species-based protection and preserving genetic diversity	

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T2: Multiple benefits and costs of biodiversity and ecosystem protection: synergies and trade-offs	
T3: Effective management and equitable governance to deliver bold conservation outcomes	
TOTAL	*Should be 100%*

Environment(s) studied if relevant	%
1. Terrestrial	
2. Inland water (including wetlands)	
3. Coastal	
4. Marine	
5. Air	
TOTAL	*Should be 100%*

Socio-economic sector(s) studied and policies if relevant

To be selected from a standardised list (available on the EPSS) – multiple choices

- Agriculture/ forestry/ food/ aquaculture
- Biological resources management (including cultivated plants, pollinators, pests, invasive alien species, genetic resources, …)
- Business/private sector
- Climate change
- Conservation/ protection/restoration/ nature-based solutions/ ecosystems services
- Education/communication
- Environmental policy and governance
- Health/well-being
- Infrastructure (including linear infrastructures, green and blue infrastructures, …)
- Non-biological natural resources management (including soil protection, water management, natural renewable resources, …)
- Sustainable development
- Tourism/ recreation
- Urban planning/spatial planning and management (including landscape and land-use planning and management)
- Other (please specify):

Scientific disciplines involved

Please indicate in this section the scientific disciplines mobilized in your project, depending on the expertise of the members of your consortium

To be selected from a standardised list (available on the EPSS) – multiple choices

Study areas/countries covered by the project (please do not indicate here the nationality of the members of the consortium but the areas and countries studied in your proposals (research scope, studied sites, etc.) *(max 3,500 characters including spaces)*

III. Short project description

(max. 5 pages – including title and citations – Arial font, 11pts, single spaced, margins of 1.27 cm
Footnotes are allowed, if you respect the above-mentioned layout criteria. Links and hyperlinks are not allowed)

NB: This part will have to be uploaded as a single pdf on the EPSS.

The project description should include the following elements:

- Fit to the call and thematic priorities;
- Scientific objectives and main research questions;
- A short description of the hypothesis and theories;
- Explanation of the novelty of the research planned, in relation to the present state-of-the-art.
- Relevance for policy and/or society, and importance of the research for solving pressing issues related to biodiversity; this can include elements indicating how stakeholder engagement and results dissemination are envisaged.[28]
- Transnational added value of the research proposed, from a scientific and/or societal/policy impact as appropriate.

IV. Preliminary Data Management Information

(max 2,500 characters including spaces)

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Please detail the data management approach envisaged for your project (type of datasets to be produced / reused, how will you ensure that the data meets the FAIR principles (i.e. they should be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable), possible restrictions on data, etc.).
For guidelines, we invite you to consult the document 5 'data policy' in the Call documents.

V. Brief CVs for the principal investigator of each Partner involved in the project

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS, using the CV template below.

When relevant, please include the CVs of self-financed and sub-contracted Partners.

[28] For guidelines, consult the BiodivERsA Stakeholder Engagement Handbook (http://www.biodiversa.org/702) and Policy Guide (http://www.biodiversa.org/1543)

When relevant, please specify in the CVs, the Partners' capacity to involve stakeholders.

Participation status: *<Coordinator or principal investigator of a partner>*
Name:
Nationality:
Institution, City, Country:
E-mail:
URL / website of the researcher (including complete list of publications):
Professional status: <Professor, Assistant professor, Associate professor, Senior scientist, Post-Doc, PhD-student, Other>
Education <Year; type of education; organisation; country > <Year ; type of education; organisation; country > …
Academic Positions <Year; Position; organisation; country > <Year; Position; organisation; country > …
Awards received / other responsibilities *(max 1,000 characters including spaces)*
General expertise and its relevance for the project *(max 1,000 characters including spaces)*
Up to 5 most important publications relevant to the proposal over 2016-2021 <…> <…> <…> <…> <…>

VI. Exclusion of potential reviewers (optional)

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

List here potential reviewers who, you think, should not be asked to evaluate the project for reasons of direct competition and partiality (Table VI.a). Also provide the names of significant collaborators that should not be used as reviewers due to conflicts of interest (Table VI.b).

VI.a. Potential competitors

	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Rationale for excluding the reviewer
1						
2						
3						
N						

Insert as many lines as needed

VI.b. Collaborators with conflict of interest

	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Rationale for excluding the reviewer
1						
2						
3						
N						

Insert as many lines as needed

VII. Suggestion of potential reviewers (optional)

Please indicate up to 4 experts who could review your proposal, including their field expertise. The rules on conflict of interest set forth in document 'Code of conduct for conflict of interest, confidentiality and non-disclosure' apply to these suggestions.

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Link to his/her website	Field of expertise
1							
2							
3							
4							

Please note that these are only suggestions for consideration by the Evaluation Committee (EvC) and Call Steering Committee (CSC). The final attribution of reviewers to proposals is the responsibility of the EvC and CSC.

VIII. Budget

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

!! Please note that you should indicate in this table an indicative repartition between the differents categories of costs, the total budget / total costs of the project and the budget requested to your Funding Organisation for this 2021-2022 Biodiversa+ call. Please make sure to follow your Funding Organisations' rules. !!

Please note that for each Partner you are requested to indicate both the total costs of the project and the requested funding budget:

- The total costs/expenses (column Total costs) comprise all the costs related to the project independently of national funding rules. You have to indicate here all the costs of the project (including personnel costs of permanent staff not eligible; etc.)
- Requested funding budget (column Funding request) comprises costs or expenses for personnel (including permanent salaries depending on Funding Organisations' rules), travelling, consumables, overheads (if fundable), subcontracts etc. that you will request to your Funding Organisation.

For requested funding budget, the cost calculation has to be based for each Partner on its Funding Organisations' rules; for questions, please contact your Funding organisation Contact Point.

!! Please note that some Funding Organisations cannot provide 100% of eligible costs. Please make sure to follow your Funding Organisations' rules!!

MANDATORY COSTS:

The funded projects are considered to form part of an international research programme for which activities will be organised, namely a kick-off meeting (possibly back-to-back with other workshops), a mid-term meeting and a final conference. At least the coordinators of funded projects should participate in these joint activities. **The cost for attendance to two of these meetings must be included in the budgets of the pre-proposals** (at least one of these meetings will be organised remotely). Given the intercontinental collaborations expected under this call, it is recommended that proposals reserve a total of approximately 3,000 euros for the attendance to these two meetings.

The indicated requested budget per Partner should be considered definitive, unless adjustment is requested by the Funding Organisations. Between pre-proposal and full proposal stage, only minor change of budget can be allowed by the relevant Funding Organisation provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the Funding Organisations. The Funding Organisation can decide according to its own rules whether it needs a justification.

(Please insert as many lines in the table below as necessary for other Partners)

			Funding organisation(s) to which you are applying for funding *(1)*	Total cost *(in EURO, incl. VAT)* *(7)*	**Funding request** *(in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules)* *(6)*
Partner 1 Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Fellowships			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Participation to joint activities of the call			3,000€ (5)	3,000€ (5)
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs (2)				
	Total				
Partner 1a (4) (subcontracted)	Salaries	Permanent	[redacted]		0 €
		Fellowships			0 €
		Temporary			0 €

Name Country		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €
	Other costs				0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
Partner 2 Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Fellowships			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs(2)				
	Total				
Partner 2a (4) (subcontracted) Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			0 €
		Fellowships			0 €
		Non-permanent			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €

Co-funded by the European Union

	Other costs		[redacted]		0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
Partner 3 Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Fellowships			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs (2)				
	Total				
Partner N Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Fellowships			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs (2)				
	Total				

Self-financed (4) *Partner A Name Country*	Salaries	Permanent	[redacted]		0 €
		Fellowships			0 €
		Non-permanent			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €
	Other costs				0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
Total (3)					

(1) Please indicate to which Funding Organisation you are requesting funds. If more than one Funding Organisation from your country is participating in the call, please indicate which one should fund your project (it may be possible to indicate all of them). If you are eligible for funding from different Funding Organisation within one country, and if budget calculations (e.g. for non-permanent salaries or overheads) differ between the Funding Organisations of a same country, please insert the higher amount in each cell.
(2) Indicate here the total budget and requested budget for your subcontracted Partners and/or any other subcontracting costs.
(3)

The total for the column “total costs /expenses” should include the costs of sub-contracted and self-financed Partners (Partners 1a, 1b, 2a, etc.); the total for the column “Funding request” should not include the costs of sub-contracted and self-financed Partners as these Partners do not directly request funding. For subcontracted Partners, when eligible, their budget should be included in the requested budget of the subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).
(4) Subcontracted and self-financed Partners have to indicate the total budget per cost category (column ‘Total costs’). Please note that for subcontracted partner, you should indicate 0€ in the column ‘Funding request’.. The share of their costs for which you will request funding to your Funding Organisation should be included in the ‘Funding request’ of the subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).
(5) This is the recommended amount to participate to the joint activities of the call (kick-off meeting, mid-term meeting and final conference): please note that you are free to adjust this amount depending on your needs and please make sure that this is in line with your Funding Organisations’ rules.

(6) Please make sure that VAT is eligible according to national/regional legal framework and Funding Organisations' rules. If not, please do not include VAT.

For self-financed Partners, please indicate shortly how their participation to the project will be funded.

Self-financed Partner A Name Country	The Partner will be funded through …

(Use as many lines as needed)

IX. Do no significant harm principle[29]

Does your project comply with the "Do no significant harm principle"? YES / NO

If no, please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1000)

X. Confirmation of submission & use of data

For information: the data provided in this pre-proposal application form will be used:

[29] The Do no significant harm principle was introcued in the European Green Deal to ensure that the research and innovation activities do not make a significant harm to any of the six following environmental objectives (EU Taxonomy Regulation): climate change mitigation, climate change mitigation, sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources, Pollution prevention & control, Transition to a circular economy and Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems. You can find more information on what is considered as doing significant harm to the above objectives in the following note: https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/c2021_1054_en.pdf (section 1: what is do no significant harm).

- communicate with you about the call and application process
- allow the funding organisations to perform an eligibility check of the applicants
- assess the competencies and complementarities of your proposal and consortia by the EvC members and external reviewers
- award funding if your application is successful
- analyse and describe our applicant pool (the name of applicants are anonymised in our analysis)
- collect your feedbacks and improve our communications with potential future applicants in future Joint Calls

Anonymity and confidentiality will be maintained throughout processing of these data for the production of statistics. Please note that these data will be accessible to Funding Organisations participating to the call, including the ones based in non-EU or non-EEA countries (i.e. Brazil, Moldova, Morocco, South Africa, Taiwan, Tunisia and Turkey). **Protection of personal data and compliance with the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679) (GDPR) is however ensured.**

Retention of personal data shall take an end in accordance with the EPSS General Data Protection Policy and Biodiversa+ Privacy and Data Policy.

You can find more information in the EPSS General Data Policy and Biodiversa+ Privacy and Data Policy.

Document 3: Full proposal application form

This template is an indicative model of full proposal application form. All proposals have to be submitted online via the electronic proposal submission system (EPSS). The format of the full proposal application form will be modified to fit the EPSS.

FULL PROPOSAL APPLICATION FORM

Call for transnational research projects on "Supporting the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems across land and sea"

Project title*	
Short name / Acronym* *(max 20 characters including spaces)*	

* Please note that the project title and acronym should be the same as in the pre-proposal.

NB: This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposals.

Keywords: *(max 10 keywords)*

NB: This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposals.

General guidance for all applicants:

- The proposal must be written in English;
- The different sections of the application should not exceed the prescribed maximum space;
- Any documents other than those requested as part of the proposal **will not be forwarded** to External Reviewers or EvC Members. This includes letter(s) of support, which are not expected (except for "Self-financed" Partners who must provide letter of commitment to demonstrate that their organisations will support their activities).

I.A. Administrative details

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.

You will have to provide in this section information on the coordinator and Partners involved, time to be dedicated per Partner to the project and declare if you have submitted this proposal to other funding programmes in parallel and currently under evaluation.

What is a Partner?

Note that depending on the Funding Organisation, a "Partner" can be:

- *a researcher,*
- *an institution,*
- *a laboratory, a department of an institution.*

Please make sure to respect the eligibility rules of the call.

*Please also consult Funding Organisations' rules advertised on the Biodiversa website which are compulsory**. Applicants are strongly advised to contact their respective Funding Organisations (list available on the Biodiversa website) and to confirm their eligibility with their Funding Organisations before submitting the full proposal.***

Please note that the information given in the pre-proposals was binding. No major changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed by the CSC between the pre-proposals and full proposals. However, applicants still have the possibility to make minor changes to improve their proposals as long as the objectives remain unchanged. The changes made will have to be declared in the full proposal application form. Regarding the administrative details, a limited number of changes may be allowed by the FCP and CSC, provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the Funding Organisations:

• ***Minor change of budget** can be allowed by the relevant Funding Organisation. The FCP can decide according to its own rules whether it needs a justification for it. There is no need to inform the Call Secretariat.*

• ***Changes in the consortium composition**:*

 No changes of coordinator (person in charge) will be allowed, except in case of force majeure. A request of change of coordinator must be submitted to the Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline for submitting full proposals and it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the CSC.

 Changes in the consortium composition are allowed (maximum two changes of Partners), provided approval by the concerned Funding Organisations. Please note that the following actions are considered as changes: addition, removal or replacement of a Partner (incl. subcontracted and self-financed partners). Please note that the maximum number of changes applies to "Partner"; it does not apply to "team member".

o All new Partners have to comply with their respective Funding Organisation's rules. If a new Partner is declared ineligible at step 2, the whole consortium will be declared ineligible and won't be evaluated.

o In case of a removal of a Partner, consortia have to make sure that their consortium still includes the minimum number of requested Partners. If this is not the case, the project will be declared ineligible and won't be evaluated.

In terms of procedure: The eligibility of new research Partners must be confirmed at least one week before the full proposal submission deadline. Changes must be asked to the FCP, with the Call Secretariat in copy, who needs to check the eligibility of the new Partner and agree with the change, before being implemented into the EPSS.

Please note that the following cases are not considered as one of the maximum two changes but the procedure mentioned above remains the same:

o If the change is explicitly requested by a Funding Organisation after the eligibility decision at step 1

o If a researcher in charge (person) remains the same but changes the institutions (within the same country), provided the institution fulfils eligibility criteria of the same funding organisation.

o Similarly, if the institution remains the same but the researcher in charge (person) changes, provided the researcher in charge fulfils eligibility criteria of the same funding organisation.

ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING

Please note that if you plan to use genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in your project, you will have to ascertain towards the competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually decided terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements[30].

Please also note that if the utilisation of genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources takes place in an EU Member State, users in those states will have to comply with the general due diligence obligation under Art. 4 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014, as well as the obligation to file due diligence declarations under Art. 7 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014[31].

For funding, there are 3 categories of Partners:

1. *Partners from countries (and organisations) eligible for direct funding (designated Partners 1, 2… N)*
2. *Sub-contracted partners from countries (and organisations) ineligible for direct funding, but subcontracted by a Partner 1, 2…N (designated Partners 1a, 2a… Na) (e.g. Partner 1a is subcontracted by Partner 1). Subcontracted partners are subject to the terms and conditions of each Funding Organisation and need to comply with their rules. Generally speaking, subcontracting is understood as the externalization of the execution of a (minor) project task that this partner cannot execute.*
3. *Fully self-financed Partners from any country who bring their own secured budget. (designated Partner A, B)*

Coordinator – Partner 1	
Researcher in charge:	*ORCID ID:*

30 Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity

31 Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation in the Union

<table>
<tr><td>Family name</td><td></td><td>First name</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Title</td><td></td><td>Gender</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Phone</td><td></td><td>E-mail</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Career Stage[32]</td><td>(Category A: Top grade researcher
Category B: Senior researcher
Category C: Recognised researcher
Category D: First stage researcher)</td><td>Nationality</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Web site</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</td><td></td><td>Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Status: Private or public?</td><td></td><td>Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No</td><td></td><td>Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[33]:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Street name and number</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>PO Box</td><td></td><td>Postal code</td><td></td><td>Cedex</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Town</td><td></td><td>Country</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="5">Employment status information</td><td colspan="3">☐ on permanent position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">☐ on fixed-term position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">If on fixed term position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Duration of contract:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Funding body:</td></tr>
</table>

[32] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: “director of research”
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: “senior researcher” or “principal investigator”.
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

[33] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

Other team members involved in the project*
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*

Partner 1a (Subcontracted)					
Researcher in charge:			*ORCID ID:*		
Family name			*First name*		
Title			*Gender*		
Phone			*E-mail*		
Career Stage[34]	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher)*		*Nationality*		
Web site					
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company			Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:		
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[35]:	

[34] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: "director of research"
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: "senior researcher" or "principal investigator".
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: "researcher", "investigator" or "post-doctoral fellow".
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: "Ph.D. students" or "junior researchers" (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

[35] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town			*Country*		
Team members involved in the project (when the Partner is an institution, a laboratory, a department)*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate “to be determined”.*					

Please insert as many copies of the above table as necessary for other Partners 1b, 1c

Partner 2					
Researcher in charge:			*ORCID ID:*		
Family name			*First name*		
Title			*Gender*		
Phone			*E-mail*		
Career Stage[36]	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher)*		*Nationality*		
Web site					
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company			Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:		
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-		Statistical Classifica	

[36] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: “director of research”
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: “senior researcher” or “principal investigator”.
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

		sized Enterpris e (SME status): Yes/No		tion of Economic Activities (NACE)[37]:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town			*Country*		
Employment status information	☐ on permanent position				
	☐ on fixed-term position				
	If on fixed term position				
	Duration of contract:				
	Funding body:				
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*					

Partner 2a (Subcontracted)			
Researcher in charge:		*ORCID ID:*	
Family name		*First name*	
Title		*Gender*	
Phone		*E-mail*	
Career Stage[38]	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher*	*Nationality*	

[37] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

[38] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: "director of research"
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: "senior researcher" or "principal investigator".
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: "researcher", "investigator" or "post-doctoral fellow".
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: "Ph.D. students" or "junior researchers" (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

	Category C: Recognised researcher *Category D: First stage researcher)*				
Web site					
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:			
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[39]:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town		*Country*			
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate “to be determined”.*					

Please insert as many copies of the above table as necessary for other Partners 2b, 2c…

Partner 3			
Researcher in charge:		*ORCID ID:*	
Family name		*First name*	
Title		*Gender*	
Phone		*E-mail*	

[39] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Career Stage[40]</td><td colspan="4">Category A: Top grade researcher
Category B: Senior researcher
Category C: Recognised researcher
Category D: First stage researcher)</td><td colspan="3">Nationality</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Web site</td><td colspan="10"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</td><td colspan="3"></td><td colspan="3">Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation</td><td colspan="8"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Status: Private or public?</td><td colspan="2"></td><td colspan="2">Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No</td><td colspan="1"></td><td colspan="2">Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[41]:</td><td colspan="1"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory</td><td colspan="8"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Street name and number</td><td colspan="8"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">PO Box</td><td colspan="2"></td><td colspan="2">Postal code</td><td colspan="2"></td><td colspan="2">Cedex</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Town</td><td colspan="4"></td><td colspan="2">Country</td><td colspan="4"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" rowspan="5">Employment status information</td><td colspan="10">☐ on permanent position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="10">☐ on fixed-term position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="10">If on fixed term position</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="10">Duration of contract:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="10">Funding body:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="12">Other team members involved in the project*</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="12">Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email
Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email</td></tr>
</table>

[40] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: “director of research” Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: “senior researcher” or “principal investigator”.
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D).
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Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*

Partner 4			
Researcher in charge:		*ORCID ID:*	
Family name		*First name*	
Title		*Gender*	
Phone		*E-mail*	
Career Stage[42]	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher)*	*Nationality*	
Web site			

Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:	
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation			

Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[43]:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					

[42] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: "director of research"
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: "senior researcher" or "principal investigator".
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: "researcher", "investigator" or "post-doctoral fellow".
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[43] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town			*Country*		
Employment status information	☐ on permanent position				
	☐ on fixed-term position				
	If on fixed term position				
	Duration of contract:				
	Funding body:				
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*					

Partner N			
Researcher in charge:		*ORCID ID:*	
Family name		*First name*	
Title		*Gender*	
Phone		*E-mail*	
Career Stage	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher)*	*Nationality*	
Web site			
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:	
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation			

Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic	

				Activities (NACE)[44]:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town		*Country*			
Employment status information	☐ on permanent position				
	☐ on fixed-term position				
	If on fixed term position				
	Duration of contract:				
	Funding body:				
Other team members involved in the project*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*					

Please insert as many copies of the above table as necessary for other applicants

Self-financed Partner A			
Researcher in charge:		*ORCID ID:*	
Family name		*First name*	
Title		*Gender*	
Phone		*E-mail*	
Career Stage[45]	*(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher*	*Nationality*	

[44] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

[45] Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted.❖Example: "director of research"
Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ❖Example: "senior researcher" or "principal investigator".
Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited.❖Examples: "researcher", "investigator" or "post-doctoral fellow".
Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree.❖Examples: "Ph.D. students" or "junior researchers" (without a Ph.D).
These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm (page 249)

	Category D: First stage researcher)				
Web site					
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company			Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:		
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)[46]:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box		*Postal code*		*Cedex*	
Town		*Country*			
Team members involved in the project (when the Partner is an institution, a laboratory, a department)*					
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, phone, email, ORCID id. **Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*					

Please insert as many copies of the above table as necessary for other Partners B, C…

I.B: Time to be dedicated to the project per member

In the following table, please specify the names and countries of each Partner.

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Partners	Team members*	Time to be dedicated to the project in person

[46] The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at Eurostat website https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2 and the classification can be downloaded at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#

	**Please include all the team members to be involved in the project*	month *(costs associated to the working time spent on the project can be covered either by the money requested in this call or as a self-contribution from the institution)*
Funding Organisation 1 Name Country	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
Funding Organisation 1a *Name* *Country*	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
Funding Organisation 2 Name Country	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
Funding Organisation 2a *Name* *Country*	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
Funding Organisation 3 Name Country	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
…		
Funding Organisation N Name Country	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
Self-financed Funding Organisation A Name country	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	

I.C: Declaration of parallel submissions of this proposal (whole or parts) to other funding programmes or to the same programme and currently under evaluation:

Provide details of any proposal related to this one, which you or another project Partner have submitted to other funding opportunities, including title, funding source, extent of overlap and expected decision date.

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Duplication of funding is not allowed for the same (whole or part) research project.

!! Please note that some Funding Organisations have specific rules on the possibility to apply as applicant in different proposals. Make sure you comply with your Funding Organisations' rules. !!

II. Summary of the project

(max 3,000 characters including spaces)

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.

Please note that this summary could be published online by Biodiversa+ and/or your respective Funding Organisation, should you be selected for funding.

III. Theme(s), environment(s) and/or socio-economic sector(s) targeted if relevant, scientific discipline(s) involved and study area(s)/country(ies) covered in the project

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.

Please indicate the theme addressed by your project, and the type of environment(s) that are studied in your project (please use the percentage box), and list the socio-economic sectors, the scientific disciplines involved and the study areas/countries covered by the project.

Themes in the joint 2021-2022 Biodiversa+ call	%
T1: Knowledge for identifying priority conservation areas, establishing effective and resilient ecological networks, enhancing species-based protection and preserving genetic diversity	
T2: Multiple benefits and costs of biodiversity and ecosystem protection: synergies and trade-offs	
T3: Effective management and equitable governance to deliver bold conservation outcomes	
TOTAL	*(should be 100%)*

Environment(s) studied if relevant	%
1. Terrestrial	
2. Inland water including wetlands	
3. Coastal	
4. Marine	
5. Air	
TOTAL	*(should be 100%)*

Socio-economic sector(s) studied and policies if relevant
To be selected from a standardised list (available on the EPSS) – multiple choices ➢ Agriculture/ forestry/ food/ aquaculture ➢ Biological resources management (including cultivated plants, pollinators, pests, invasive alien species, genetic resources, …) ➢ Business/private sector ➢ Climate change ➢ Conservation/ protection/restoration/ nature-based solutions/ ecosystems services ➢ Education/communication ➢ Environmental policy and governance ➢ Health/well-being ➢ Infrastructure (including linear infrastructures, green and blue infrastructures, …) ➢ Non-biological natural resources management (including soil protection, water management, natural renewable resources, …) ➢ Sustainable development ➢ Tourism/ recreation ➢ Urban planning/spatial planning and management (including landscape and land-use planning and management) ➢ Other (please specify):

Scientific disciplines involved *Please indicate the scientific disciplines mobilized in your project, depending on the expertise of the members of your consortium*
To be selected from a standardised list (available on the EPSS) – multiple choices

Study areas/countries covered by the project (please do not indicate here the nationality of the members of the consortium but the areas and countries studied in your proposals (research scope, studied sites, etc.)) *(max 3,500 characters including spaces)*

IV. Workpackages, deliverables and milestones

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Work packages (WP) - Title only, detailed descriptions should be included in the project description section		
No. of WP	Responsible Partner(s)	Title
1		
2		
3		

N		

(Use as many lines as needed)

Estimated working time (in person/month) per work package[1)]						
No. of WP	Partner 1	Partner 1a	Partner 2	Partner 3	Partner N	Self-financed Partner A
1						
2						
3						
N						

(Expand this table [rows, columns] as required)

[1)] This estimation should include the estimated total working time of all the team members involved in the project (financed, subcontracted and self-financed Partners, permanent & non-permanent staff, etc.)

Deliverables			
No.	Title	Delivery date[1)]	Related WPs
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
N			

(Use as many lines as needed)
[1)] Indicate month number from the start of the project, e.g. month 12, month 24…

Milestones			
No.	Title	Date [1)]	Related WPs
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
N			

(Use as many lines as needed)
[1)] Indicate month number from the start of the project, e.g. month 12, month 24…

V. Description of the project

NB: This part will have to be submitted as a single pdf in the EPSS.

(In total, the project should be of max. 16 pages, Arial font, 11pts, single spaced, including references if necessary, margins of 1.27 cm)

Footnotes are allowed, if you respect the above-mentioned layout criteria. Links and hyperlinks are not allowed

V.A. Detailed description of the research area and research plan and approach to stakeholder engagement and expected societal and/or policy impact
(max. 11 pages, Arial font, 11pts, single spaced, including references if necessary, margins of 1.27 cm)

Part II.A. should include:

- *A short description of the hypothesis, theories and/or main research questions, and explanation of the novelty of the research planned;*
- *Scientific objectives with detailed account of their relationship to the theme of the call and to ongoing relevant projects. Organise the objectives into a list so that each objective is accurately defined and quantified;*
- *Give a detailed description and the approach and methodology chosen to achieve the objectives. Highlight the particular advantages of the methodology chosen; quantify the expected project result(s);*
- *Break down the research program into individual tasks, showing the interrelationship between the tasks. Explain why there is synergy between different tasks of the project and how this is going to be exploited;*
- *Added-value – In instances where the proposed work builds on previous activities, describe how this collaborative proposal will complement or build on previous activities as well as the incremental value of the proposed work.*
- *Transnational added value of the proposed research (including overseas) and of the transnational collaboration: demonstrate how the project will increase synergy between teams across Partner countries and how transnational collaboration adds a particular value;*
- *Approach to stakeholder engagement and expected societal and/or policy impact, including:*
  - ➢ *Describe the relevance of your project for application to society and/or policy, and the importance of the research for solving pressing issues related to biodiversity.*
  - ➢ *Detail the proposed plan for the exploitation of results by end-users, as well as plans for knowledge and/or technology transfer to practitioners, policy makers, and/or other relevant end-users*
  - ➢ *Describe how you plan to engage stakeholders directly in your project and at which stage of the project; identify the stakeholders to be engaged in your project, describing their specific interest and/or contributions to the project and the status of their engagement at the proposal development stage.*

NB:

- ○ *Biodiversa produced a stakeholder engagement handbook for researchers to help them to engage with stakeholders all along their research projects. This handbook is accessible online (http://www.biodiversa.org/stakeholderengagement) and we recommend you to use it when designing your project and preparing your proposal.*

- *Similarly, Biodiversa developed a guide for policy relevance of research projects to help researchers understand what is meant by policy and societal relevance and how this is evaluated in proposals. This guide is available online (http://www.biodiversa.org/1543) and we recommend you to use it when designing your project and preparing your proposal.*

Please note that letters of support are NOT requested and will NOT be considered for the evaluation except for self-funded partners.

V.B. Communication and outreach plan

(max. 1 page, Arial font, 11pts, single spaced)

Describe how the consortium will deal with the transfer, dissemination, publication, and, protection of results generated in the project. Specify who will receive information on the project (scientists, non-scientific stakeholders, general public…). Describe what, why, when and how they will receive it. Specify planned project publications and outputs (scientific and other), and their expected exploitation and impact.

V.C Description of project coordination and management

(max. 1,5 pages, Arial font, 11pts, single spaced, margins of 1.27 cm)

Describe how the overall coordination, monitoring and control of the project will be implemented. Outline the management processes foreseen in the project (decision boards, coordination meetings, etc.) and clearly indicate the distribution of tasks among the consortium members.

It is recommended that milestones be presented in a detailed diagram (e.g. PERT or Gantt charts) providing the time schedule of the tasks and marking their interrelationships; add when decisions on further approaches will have to be made; indicate a critical path marking those events which directly influence the overall time schedule in case of delays. *[Please note that the Pert or Gantt chart can be included in the part below "Time schedule and working programme"]*

Explain how information flow and communication will be managed and enhanced within the project (e.g. collaboration and task meetings, exchange of scientists, dissemination of results and engagement with stakeholders).

Risk management: Indicate where there are risks of not achieving the objectives and describe potential solutions, if appropriate.

V.D. Time schedule and working programme (use a Gantt chart or equivalent)

(max. 1 page, Arial font, 11pts, single spaced, margins of 1.27 cm)

V.E. Proposed Data Management Approach

(max.1 page, Arial font, 11pts, single spaced, margins of 1.27 cm)

For this section, we recommend you to first consult the Data policy in the Call Documents and the BiodivERsA and Belmont Forum guidance document on data management, open data, and the production of Data Management Plans.

In this section, please address the following questions:

1. What types of datasets and other digital outputs of **long-term value** do you expect the project will produce or reuse?
    - "Long-term" means those data and digital outputs that will or may be of value to others within your research community and/or the wider research, innovation and stakeholder communities.
2. How do you intend to ensure that the data and digital outputs from your project confirm to the present Data policy and the **FAIR principles** (i.e. they should be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable)?
3. Which **member(s) of your team will be responsible** for developing, implementing, overseeing, and updating the Data and Digital Outputs Management Plan?
4. How do you intend to **manage the data and digital outputs** during the project to ensure their long-term value is protected?
    - For example, where will the data be held during the project, who will have access, and will a specialised data manager be part of the project team?
5. How and by whom will the data and other digital outputs be **managed after the project ends** to ensure their long-term accessibility?
    - For example, will the outputs be published with a Persistent Unique and Resolvable Identifier (such as a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), Accession Number, Handle, etc.), and/or be placed in a recognised, trustworthy long-term domain or other repository or data centre. When will this occur? (Further information about repositories include, but are not limited to, the Re3data.org registry of research data repositories, CoreTrustSeal list of certified data repositories, etc.)
6. What **restrictions**, if any, do you anticipate could be placed on how the data and digital outputs can be accessed, mined or reused?
    - The present policy is that the data should be as open as possible to commercial and non-commercial users, though with managed access where appropriate and necessary; for example, if there are sensitive data involving human subjects.
7. How will you ensure that any **data security, privacy, and intellectual property restrictions** associated with datasets and digital outputs will be honoured and preserved in derivative products?
8. What **supporting documentation and other information** (e.g. metadata) do you plan to make publicly accessible to support the longer-term re-use of the data and digital outputs?

9. How have you accounted for the **costs** required to manage the data and digital outputs to ensure long-term accessibility?

V.F. Links to national and transnational research projects and programmes

(max. 0,5 page, Arial font, 11pts, single spaced, margins of 1.27 cm)

Indicate here links to national and transnational research projects / programmes / networks that are relevant for your project. This should include a description of existing involvement of Partners in on-going projects / programmes / networks, as well as cooperation you plan to develop during your project with national or transnational research projects / programmes / networks

VI. CVs for the principal investigator of each Partner involved in the project

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS using the CV template below. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.

When relevant, please include the CVs of self-financed and sub-contracted Partners. When relevant, please specify in the CVs, the Partners' capacity to involve stakeholders.

Participation status: *<Coordinator or principal investigator of a partner>*
Name:
Nationality:
Institution, City, Country:
E-mail:
URL / Website of the researcher (including complete list of publications):
Professional status: <Professor, Assistant professor, Associate professor, Senior scientist, Post-Doc, PhD-student, other>
Education <Year; type of education; organisation; country > <Year; type of education; organisation; country > …
Academic Positions <Year; Position; Organisation; Country> <Year; Position; Organisation; Country > …
Awards received / other responsibilities *(max 1,000 characters including spaces)*
General expertise and its relevance for the project *(max 1,000 characters including spaces)*

Up to 5 most important publications relevant to the proposal over 2016-2021
<…>
<…>
<…>
<…>
<…>

Other relevant publications from the consortium
Other references cited in the text *(author(s), title, journal, year) (max 15 references)*
-
-

VII. Budget

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Budget instructions

FUNDING RULES:

Please note that each Partner will be funded by his own Funding Organisation.

Please make sure to comply with the Funding Organisations' rules (e.g. subcontracts, overheads, inclusion of VAT…). ***The compliance with Funding Organisations' eligibility rules is mandatory. Funding Organisations' rules are advertised on the Biodiversa website, together with the list of the Funding Organisation Contact Points (FCPs), which should be contacted for further help on*** **Funding Organisation *eligibility rules.***

MANDATORY COSTS:

The funded projects are considered to form part of an international research programme for which activities will be organised, namely a kick-off meeting, a mid-term meeting and a final meeting. At least the coordinators of funded projects should participate in these joint activities. **The cost for attendance to two of these meetings must be included in the budgets of the full proposals (**at least one of these meetings will be organised remotely). Given the intercontinental collaborations expected under this call, it is recommended that proposals reserve a total of approximately 3,000 euros for the attendance to these two meetings.

PARTNERS INELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Partners from countries (and organisations) ineligible for direct funding under this call:

- Can be associated in the projects, **as NON-FUNDED PARTNERS, if they can bring a secured budget from a different source of funding *(specify below in the first budget table); (= Self-financed Partners A, B…)***

- **May be subcontracted by other Partners in some cases *(= Partners 1a, 1b, 2a…)***. Subcontracted partners are subject to the terms and conditions of each Funding Organisation and need to comply with their specific rules. Generally speaking, subcontracting is understood as the externalization of the execution of a (minor) project task that this partner cannot execute. Please, refer to the Funding Organisations' rules, as some Funding Organisations have specific restrictions about subcontracting costs and your proposal will be ineligible if you do not follow national rules**.** The list of Funding Organisations' rules is available on the Biodiversa website.
- **CANNOT REQUEST FUNDING**. In Table 1, please do not request funding for countries ineligible for direct funding **(*Partners 1a, 1b, 2a and Self-financed Partners A, B*)**: indicate 0€ in the column "Funding request". . **The whole proposal will be ineligible if a Partner from a country not participating in the call requests funding.**

Budget tables

Please provide clear evidence of how the funds requested will be used to fulfil the activities of each Partner and a clear justification that the requested funds are sufficient to achieve the work proposed.

Table 1: Total costs per Partner[47] (in Euro, incl. VAT depending on national rules)
Applicants have to consult the FCP chart available in the call documents on the Biodiversa website and should contact their relevant FCP to verify the level of detail required, in particular for the inclusion of VAT and permanent salaries.

Please note that for each Partner you are requested to **indicate both the total costs of the project and the requested funding budget**:
- The **total costs/expenses (column Total costs)** comprise all the costs related to the project independently of national funding rules. You have to indicate here all the costs of the project (including personnel costs of permanent staff not eligible; etc.)
- **Requested funding budget (column Funding request)** comprises costs or expenses for personnel (including permanent salaries depending on Funding Organisations' rules), travelling, consumables, overheads (if fundable), subcontracts etc. that you will request to your Funding Organisation. For requested funding budget, the cost calculation has to be based for each Partner on its Funding Organisations' rules; for questions, please contact your Funding organisation Contact Point.
- Please note that some Funding Organisations cannot provide 100% of eligible costs. Please make sure to follow your Funding Organisations' rules!

			Funding organisation(s) to which you are applying for funding *(1)*	Total cost *(in EURO, incl. VAT)* *(7)*	**Funding request** *(in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules)* *(6)*
Partner 1 Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Fellowships			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				

[47] The total duration of projects cannot exceed 36 months and starting dates shall be comprised between 1 December 2022 and 1 April 2023.

	Participation to joint activities of the call			3,000€ (5)	3,000€ (5)
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs (2)				
	Total				
Partner 1a (4) *(subcontracted) Name Country*	Salaries	Permanent	[redacted]		0 €
		Fellowships			0 €
		Temporary			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €
	Other costs				0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
Partner 2 Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Fellowships			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				

	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs(2)				
	Total				
Partner 2a (4) *(subcontracted) Name Country*	Salaries	Permanent	[redacted]		0 €
		Fellowships			0 €
		Non-permanent			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €
	Other costs				0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
Partner 3 Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Fellowships			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs(2)				
	Total				

Partner N Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Fellowships			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs (2)				
	Total				
Self-financed (4) *Partner A Name Country*	Salaries	Permanent	[redacted]		0 €
		Fellowships	[redacted]		0 €
		Non-permanent	[redacted]		0 €
		Total	[redacted]		0 €
	Travel		[redacted]		0 €
	Consumables		[redacted]		0 €
	Equipment		[redacted]		0 €
	Other costs		[redacted]		0 €
	Overheads		[redacted]		0 €
	Total		[redacted]		0 €
Total (3)					

(1) Please indicate to which Funding Organisation you are requesting funds. If more than one Funding Organisation from your country is participating in the call, please indicate which one should fund your project (it may be possible to indicate all of them). If you are eligible

for funding from different Funding Organisation within one country, and if budget calculations (e.g. for non-permanent salaries or overheads) differ between the Funding Organisations of a same country, please insert the higher amount in each cell.
(2) Indicate here the total budget and requested budget for your subcontracted Partners and/or any other subcontracting costs.
(3) The total for the column "total costs /expenses" should include the costs of sub-contracted and self-financed Partners (Partners 1a, 1b, 2a, etc.); the total for the column "Funding request" should not include the costs of sub-contracted and self-financed Partners as these Partners do not directly request funding. For subcontracted Partners, when eligible, their budget should be included in the requested budget of the subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).
(4) Subcontracted and self-financed Partners have to indicate the total budget per cost category (column 'Total costs'). Please note that for subcontracted partner, you should indicate 0€ in the column 'Funding request'.. The share of their costs for which you will request funding to your Funding Organisation should be included in the 'Funding request' of the subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).
(5) This is the recommended amount to participate to the joint activities of the call (kick-off meeting, mid-term meeting and final conference): please note that you are free to adjust this amount depending on your needs and please make sure that this is in line with your Funding Organisations' rules.
(6) Please make sure that VAT is eligible according to national/regional legal framework and Funding Organisations' rules. If not, please do not include VAT.

Table 2: Costs per Partner and requested funding budget
Please note that this table will be partly generated automatically in the EPSS, based on the information provided in table 1.

Partner	Funding organisation(s) to which you are applying for funding	A -Total costs/expenses Including subcontracts *(in EURO, incl. VAT)*	B – **Total Funding request** Including subcontracts *(in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules)*	C – **Total Funding request** Including subcontracts *(in national currency-when other than EURO)*	Funding rate (B/A)
Partner 1 Name / Country					
Partner 1a		Subcontracting value	0 €	0 €	

(of which subcontracted) Name / Country					
Partner 1b (of which subcontracted) Name / Country		Subcontracting value	0 €	0 €	
Partner 2 Name / Country					
Partner 2a (of which subcontracted) Name / Country		Subcontracting value	0 €	0 €	
Partner 3 Name / Country					
Partner N Name / Country					
Self-financed Partner A			0 €	0 €	
Self-financed Partner B			0 €	0 €	
Total					

Explanation and/or remarks concerning the proposed budget (table 1 and 2):
Please give explanation regarding your budget.
Please also indicate here the other sources of funding you have for your project (co-funding, self-funding, etc.) that will cover the costs for which you do not request funding.
Please note that Funding Organisations might ask for more details separately, if needed.

Partner 1 Name Country	
Partner 1a (subcontracted) *Name* *Country*	
Partner 2 Name Country	
Partner 2a (subcontracted) *Name* *Country*	
Partner 3 Name Country	
Partner N Name Country	
Self-financed Partner A *Name* *Country*	

VIII. Exclusion of potential reviewers (optional)

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

List here potential reviewers who, you think, should not be asked to evaluate the project for reasons of direct competition and partiality (Table VI.a). Also provide the names of significant collaborators that should not be used as reviewers due to conflicts of interest (Table VI.b).

VIII.a. Potential competitors

	First Name	*Last Name*	*Organisation*	*Country*	*E-mail address*	*Rationale for excluding the reviewer*
1						
2						
3						
N						

Insert as many lines as needed

VIII.b. Collaborators with conflict of interest

	First Name	*Last Name*	*Organisation*	*Country*	*E-mail address*	*Rationale for excluding the reviewer*
1						
2						
3						
N						

Insert as many lines as needed

IX. Suggestion of potential reviewers (optional)

Please indicate up to 4 experts who could review your proposal, including their field expertise. The rules on conflict of interest set forth in document 'Code of conduct for conflict of interest, confidentiality and non-disclosure' apply to these suggestions.

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

	First Name	*Last Name*	*Organisation*	*Country*	*E-mail address*	*Field of expertise*	*Link to his/her website*
1							
2							
3							
4							

Please note that these are only suggestions for consideration by the Evaluation Committee (EvC) and Call Steering Committee (CSC). The final attribution of reviewers to proposals is the responsibility of the EvC and CSC.

X. Ethics self-assessment and do no significant harm principle

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Please go through the table below and indicate which elements concern your proposal by answering 'Yes' or 'No'. If you answer 'Yes' to any of the questions, please detail how you plan to deal with the mentioned ethic issue.

For more information on each of the ethics issues and how to address them, including detailed legal references, please consult the Horizon Europe Programme Guidelines "How to complete your ethics self-assessment"[48].

1. HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS AND HUMAN EMBRYOS	**Y/N**	**If yes, please detail and indicate how you plan to deal with this ethic issue.**
Does this activity involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?	**Y/N**	
If yes, will they be directly derived from embryos within this project?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they previously established cells lines?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are the cell lines registered in the European registry for human embryonic stem cell lines?	**Y/N**	
Does this activity involve the use of human embryos?	**Y/N**	
If yes, will the activity lead to their destruction?	**Y/N**	
2. HUMANS		
Does your research involve human participants?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they volunteers for nonmedical studies (e.g. social or human sciences research)?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they healthy volunteers or medical studies?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they patients for medical studies?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they potentially vulnerable individuals or groups?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they children / minors?	**Y/N**	

[48] https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf

If yes, are they other persons unable to give informed consent?	**Y/N**	
Does your research involve physical interventions on the study participants?	**Y/N**	
If yes, does it involve invasive techniques?	**Y/N**	
If yes, does it involve collection of biological samples?	**Y/N**	
Does this activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the Clinical Trial [Regulation (EU 536/2014)?] (using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products).	**Y/N**	
If yes, is it a clinical trial?	**Y/N**	
If yes, is it a low-intervention clinical trial?	**Y/N**	
3. HUMAN CELLS / TISSUES		
Does this activity involve the use of human cells or tissues?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they human embryonic or foetal cells or tissues?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they available commercially?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they obtained within this project?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they obtained from another project, laboratory or institution?	**Y/N**	
If yes, are they obtained from biobank?	**Y/N**	
4. PERSONAL DATA		
Does this activity involve processing of personal data?	**Y/N**	
If yes, does it involve the processing of special categories of personal data (e.g.: sexual lifestyle, ethnicity, genetic, biometric and health data, political opinion, religious or philosophical	**Y/N**	
If yes, does it involve profiling, systematic monitoring of individuals, or processing of large scale of special categories of data or intrusive methods of data processing (such as, surveillance, geolocation tracking etc.)?	**Y/N**	
Does this activity involve further processing of previously collected personal data (including use of pre-existing data sets or sources, merging existing data sets)?	**Y/N**	
Is it planned to export personal data from the EU to non-EU countries?	**Y/N**	
If yes, specify the type of personal data and countries involved:		
Is it planned to import personal data from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country?	Y/N	

If yes, specify the type of personal data and countries involved:		
5. ANIMALS		
Does your research involve animals?	Y/N	
If yes, are they vertebrates?	Y/N	
If yes, are they non-human primates (NHP)?	Y/N	
If yes, are they genetically modified?	Y/N	
If yes, are they cloned farm animals?	Y/N	
If yes, are they endangered species?	Y/N	
6. NON-EU COUNTRIES		
Will some of the activities be carried out in non-EU countries?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the countries		
In case non-EU countries are involved, do the activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethics issues?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the countries		
Is it planned to use local resources (e.g. animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)?[49]	Y/N	
Is it planned to import any material (other than data) from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? For data imports, see section 4.	Y/N	
If yes, specify material and countries involved:		
Is it planned to export any material (other than data) from the EU to non-EU countries? For data exports, see section 4.	Y/N	
If yes, specify material and countries involved:		
Does this activity involve low and/or lower-middle income countries? (if yes, detail the benefit-sharing actions planned in the self-assessment)	Y/N	
Could the situation in the country put the individuals taking part in the activity at risk?	Y/N	
7. ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH and SAFETY		
Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to the environment, to animals or plants (during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)?	Y/N	

[49] Please note that for access to genetic resources, you must also comply with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and EU Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 which implements this Protocol. You will also have to ascertain towards the competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually agreed terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements.

Does this activity deal with endangered fauna and/or flora / protected areas?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to humans, including those performing the activity (during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)?	Y/N	
8. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE		
Does this activity involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence? (if yes, detail in the self-assessment whether that could raise ethical concerns related to human rights and values and detail how this will be addressed).	Y/N	
11. OTHER ETHICS ISSUES		
Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration?	Y/N	
Please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1000)		
12. DO NO SIGNIFICANT HARM PRINCIPLE[50]		
Does your project comply with the "Do no significant harm principle"		Y/N
If no, please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1000)		

XI. Declaration of changes between pre-proposals and full proposals

REMINDER: the information that was given in the pre-proposals is binding. No major changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed by the CSC between the pre-proposals and full proposals. However, applicants still have the possibility to make minor changes to improve their proposals as long as the objectives remain unchanged. The changes have to be declared in this section. Regarding the administrative details, a limited number of changes may be allowed by the FCP and CSC, provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the Funding Organisations:

- **Minor change of budget** can be allowed by the relevant Funding Organisation. The FCP can decide according to its own rules whether it needs a justification for it. There is no need to inform the Call Secretariat.
- **Changes in the consortium composition**:

[50] The Do no significant harm principle was introcued in the European Green Deal to ensure that the research and innovation activities do not make a significant harm to any of the six following environmental objectives (EU Taxonomy Regulation): climate change mitigation, climate change mitigation, sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources, Pollution prevention & control, Transition to a circular economy and Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems. You can find more information on what is considered as doing significant harm to the above objectives in the following note: https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/c2021_1054_en.pdf (section 1: what is do no significant harm).

 No changes of coordinator (person in charge) will be allowed, except in case of force majeure. A request of change of coordinator must be submitted to the Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline for submitting full proposals and it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the CSC.
 Changes in the consortium composition are allowed (maximum two changes of Partners), provided approval by the concerned Funding Organisations. Please note that the following actions are considered as changes: addition, removal or replacement of a Partner (incl. subcontracted and self-financed partners). Please note that the maximum number of changes applies to “Partner”; it does not apply to “team member”.
o All new Partners have to comply with their respective Funding Organisation’s rules. If a new Partner is declared ineligible at step 2, the whole consortium will be declared ineligible and won’t be evaluated.
o In case of a removal of a Partner, consortia have to make sure that their consortium still includes the minimum number of requested Partners. If this is not the case, the project will be declared ineligible and won’t be evaluated.
In terms of procedure: The eligibility of new research Partners must be confirmed at least one week before the full proposal submission deadline. Changes must be asked to the FCP, with the Call Secretariat in copy, who needs to check the eligibility of the new Partner and agree with the change, before being implemented into the EPSS.

Please note that the following cases are not considered as one of the maximum two changes but the procedure mentioned above remains the same:
o If the change is explicitly requested by a Funding Organisation after the eligibility decision at step 1
o If a researcher in charge (person) remains the same but changes the institutions (within the same country), provided the institution fulfils eligibility criteria of the same funding organisation.
o Similarly, if the institution remains the same but the researcher in charge (person) changes, provided the researcher in charge fulfils eligibility criteria of the same funding organisation.

- Was there any change made regarding the **<u>total budget</u> requested to a funding organisation** between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage?
   YES NO

Insert as many lines as needed

Give the name(s) of the Partner(s) involved	Has the Funding Organisation(s) already approved the change?	Detail the change and give rationales for such change
	Yes/No/Decision still pending	

- Was there any change made regarding **the coordinator and/or the Partner(s)** between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage? (This question does not apply to “team members”).

□ YES □ NO

Insert as many lines as needed

Give the name(s) of the Partner(s) involved	Has the Funding Organisation(s) already approved the change?	Has the Call Secretariat already approved the change?	Detail the change and give rationales for such change
	Yes/No/Decision still pending	Yes/No/Decision still pending	

- Would you like to declare any others changes between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage?
  □ YES □ NO

Insert as many lines as needed

Give the name(s) of the Partner(s) involved	Has the Funding Organisation(s) already approved the change?	Has the Call Secretariat already approved the change?	Detail the change and give rationales for such change
	Yes/No/Decision still pending	Yes/No/Decision still pending	

XII. Confirmation of submission

1. Each Partner MUST carefully read the documents and – in case of any questions or doubts – contact his Funding Organisation Contact Point (FCP) regarding any original official paperwork required by his Funding Organisation.

This must be submitted in accordance with Funding Organisations' rules and in any case as soon as possible. **You will NOT be funded without the fulfilment of requirements of each relevant Funding Organisation.**

Further information is available on the Biodiversa website: https://www.biodiversa.org/1938.

2. **"Self-financed" Partners must provide evidence that their organisations will support their activities.** They should upload a signed official letter of commitment from their Head of Department or Financial administrator (as appropriate) on the EPSS (.pdf). The letter of commitment should be maximum 1 page for each self-financed partner and should be written in English. It is the responsibility of the coordinator to compile the letters

of all self-financed partners. The letters of commitment are only requested for self-financed partners. Any other letters of support WILL NOT be considered for the evaluation.

As coordinator:

1. Please ask all of your self-financed partners to send such letters of commitment to you;
2. Combine the letters (in case there are several self-financed partners) into one PDF document;
3. Upload a single PDF file containing all the letters of commitment of all self-financed partners on the EPSS

3. **Use of data**:

For information: the data provided in this full proposal application form will be used for:

- communicate with you about the call and application process
- allow the funding organisations to perform an eligibility check of the applicants
- assess the competencies and complementarities of your proposal and consortia by the EvC members and external reviewers
- award funding if your application is successful
- analyse and describe our applicant pool (the name of applicants are anonymised in our analysis)
- collect your feedbacks and improve our communications with potential future applicants in future Joint Calls

Anonymity and confidentiality will be maintained throughout processing of these data for the production of statistics. Please note that these data will be accessible to Funding Organisations participating to the call, including the ones based in non-EU or non-EEA countries (i.e. Brazil, Moldova, Morocco, South Africa, Taiwan, Tunisia and Turkey). **Protection of personal data and compliance with the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679) (GDPR) is however ensured.**

Retention of personal data shall take an end in accordance with the EPSS General Data Protection Policy and Biodiversa+ Privacy and Data Policy.

You can find more information in the EPSS General Data Policy and Biodiversa+ Privacy and Data Policy.

Document 4: Checklist for applicants

Please note:
- Proposals must be written in English.
- Proposals that do not meet the Funding Organisations' eligibility criteria and requirements will be declined without further review.
- For the pdf to be submitted on the EPSS: you should use Arial 11, single-spaced, margins of 1.27 cm.
- Please make sure to follow the page limit. The page limit will be applied automatically. After the deadline, excess pages (in over-long proposals/applications) will be automatically made invisible, and will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators.
- The proposal is a self-contained document. Experts will be instructed to ignore links and hyperlinks to information that is specifically designed to expand the proposal, thus circumventing the page limit.
- Self-financed Partners have to provide evidence that their organisation supports their activity (official letter(s) of commitment from their Head of Department to be uploaded on the EPSS). The letter of commitment should be maximum 1 page for each self-financed partner and should be written in English).
- Letters of support, apart from self-financed Partners who need to provide a letter of commitment, are NOT requested and WILL NOT be forwarded to the Evaluation Committee.

In order to make sure that your application is eligible to this call, **please collect the information required to tick all the sections below before starting to complete the pre-proposal and full proposal application forms**:

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

☐ The project proposal addresses the **AIM(S)** of the call
☐ The project proposal meets the **THEMES** of this call

Nota bene: any project that does not fit within the thematic priorities described in the complete announcement of opportunity will not be recommended for funding, regardless of its scientific quality.

COMPOSITION AND ELIGIBILITY OF THE CONSORTIUM:

☐ The project proposal involves eligible Partners **from at least three different countries participating in the call** and is supported by at least three different Funding Organisations.

In addition, part of the eligible Partner, at least two are from different EU Member States or Associated Countries[51] participating in the call.

☐ The project coordinator is eligible and is or will be employed by an eligible organisation in one of the countries participating to the call. No change of coordinator (person in charge) will be allowed between pre-proposal and full proposal stage, except in case of force majeure. A Consortium Coordinator (person in charge) can only participate as coordinator in one proposal of this call.

☐ I have carefully checked that all Partners within my proposal are eligible in particular in case of changes(s) in the consortium.

☐ Each Partner involved in the project has carefully read its respective Funding Organisations rules and – in case of any questions or doubts – has contacted its Funding Organisations to confirm their eligibility and make sure it complies with its Funding Organisation's rules.

☐ Non-eligible self-financed Partners are aware that they cannot request funding and that they must provide a letter of commitment signed by their organisation or financial department which declares that the organisation will cover the full costs of their activities at the second step.

BUDGET SECTIONS:

☐ I have correctly made the difference between the total costs of the project and requested costs (i.e. the total costs comprise all the costs related to the project independently of national funding rules; whereas the requested costs comprise the costs for which you will request funding to your Funding Organisation. For requested funding budget, the cost calculation has to be based for each Partner on its Funding Organisations' rules).

☐ Each Partner involved in the project has carefully read its respective Funding Organisations rules and in case of doubt has contacted its Funding Organisations to make sure it complies with its Funding Organisation's rules.

☐ The budget of subcontracted Partners is detailed in the lines dedicated to subcontracted Partner, yet the subcontracted Partners do not request any funding. The budget requested for the subcontracted Partners is included in the requested budget of the subcontracting Partner in the section "Subcontracting costs".

[51] https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

Note: The language below is intended to be an annex to the call text to guide applicants regarding data management and data sharing.

Document 5: Data policy

Why Data Management Plans (DMPs) are required.

Biodiversa+ supports transnational transdisciplinary research with the goal of providing knowledge in the context of this call related to biodiversity and ecosystem protection across land and sea.

To meet this challenge, Biodiversa+ emphasises open sharing of research data and digital outputs to stimulate new approaches to the collection, reuse, analysis, validation and management of data and information, thus increasing the transparency of the research process and robustness of the results. However, Biodiversa+ fully recognises that there are legitimate reasons to constrain access, for example, when an individual's privacy would be at risk from sharing data containing (or derived from) personally identifiable information.

For this call, the participating agencies consider that the development and implementation of project-specific Data Management Plans is an essential to enable the sharing of research data.

Research data and digital outputs include, but are not limited to:

- Quantitative and qualitative digital information and objects created during or reused in research activities such as experiments, analyses, surveys, interviews, measurements, instrumentation, observations, video, audio, and computer simulations;
- All metadata describing the data and digital outputs, their acquisition (including model description and related metadata for simulations and workflows), and other details for the use and the reuse of the data;
- Secondary data resulting from data reduction, transformation, analyses, and results, together with the associated code, software, workflows, and provenance information;
- Stakeholder-oriented digital outputs such as maps (including GIS layers), decision support tools, tutorials, videos, local language resources, lesson plans, curricula, policy memos, and whitepapers; and
- Descriptions of, and metadata relating to, physical samples connected with the call - but not the actual physical samples.

Each project awarded through this call is required to develop and implement a Data and Digital Outputs Management Plan to ensure ethical approaches and compliance with the present data policy, as well as the FAIR Data Principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable).

BiodivERsA and the Belmont Forum developed a guidance document on data management, open data, and the production of Data Management Plans, which may help you when developing your Data management plan.

Project specific Data Management Plans should adhere to relevant standards and community best practices, which may vary by subject and disciplinary area. Data and Digital Outputs Management Plans should also comply with public access policies and applicable national laws for the respective Funding Organisations supporting this call. Research data and digital outputs should be open by default, and publicly accessible, possibly after a short period of exclusivity, unless there are legitimate reasons to constrain access. Data and digital outputs must be discoverable through machine readable catalogues, information systems and search engines. To enable data and digital outputs (including models, workflows, software and methods, etc.) with acknowledged long-term to be discoverable, accessible, understandable, interoperable and effectively reused by others (including those outside the discipline of origin and the context of acquisition), sufficient metadata must be provided and made openly accessible. Data and digital outputs must be curated, including maintaining integrity, quality and veracity, using internationally or community agreed standards and protocols. Data and digital outputs must be preserved, protected from loss and remain accessible and usable for future research in sustainable and trustworthy repositories.

Resulting publications must list where or how to locate the underlying supporting data and other research materials, including agreed persistent identifiers, processing details and any workflows, software, and code. Academic journals may also set specific requirements for Data Accessibility Statements to be included within published research results (primary research articles). Researchers should ensure that metadata created to support research datasets and other digital outputs retained for the long-term is sufficient to allow other researchers a reasonable understanding and trust of those materials, thereby minimising unintentional misuse, misinterpretation or confusion.

In the development of data infrastructures, it is important to leverage existing resources, platforms, standards, and recognised practices together with a clear sustainability plan. Projects that propose to develop data infrastructures are asked to work closely with, and support relevant international networks, infrastructures, and standards organisations. They should make as much use as possible of existing certified domain, national or international data repositories (for further information, possible resources include, but are not limited to, re3data.org, CoreTrustSeal, Group on Earth Observations (GEO) FAIRsharing.org, etc.). Projects should also coordinate with, and make use of, the products and practices developed by recognised research and operational data policy and sharing organisations such as the Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA), the Research Data Alliance (RDA), and the ICSU-World Data System (WDS).

For assistance in developing data and digital outputs management plans, project leaders are encouraged to first consult with relevant domain repositories, librarians and information specialists at their respective institutions. When appropriate repositories have been identified for depositing and sharing data and digital outputs, staff at these repositories can provide additional guidance on the preparation of data and digital outputs management plans, as well as processes for fulfilling specific requirements for organising and formatting data and metadata.

Applicants are strongly recommended to follow these guidelines when developing their data management plan, at the pre-proposal and full proposal phases. Teams must agree to cooperate with Biodiversa+ who will provide a support to the funded projects to further develop their Data Management Plans and ensure that they comply with these guidelines.

A data management workshop will indeed be organised at the beginning of the funded projects (back-to-back the kick-off meeting) to exchange best practices related to data management, present hands-on advices, and work with the funded projects on how they can improve their data management plans (DMPs) and practices related to open data.

At least the coordinator of each funded projects is expected to participate to this workshop and should plan resources to attend. It is recommended to also plan resources to allow the data manager of the project (if different from the coordinator) to attend this workshop.

Data Management Planning Process

It is important to consider data management issues from the inception of a research project submitted to this call, in order to plan and budget appropriately for data sharing, management and curation. This section explains the expectations for Data Management Plans (DMPs) at the stages of pre-proposals, full proposals, and Awarded Projects.

Pre-Registration - Preliminary Data Management Information

In the data management section of pre-proposals, please address the following questions:

- Who on your team will be responsible for developing, implementing, overseeing and updating the data management plan?
- What data sets of long-term value do you expect that the project will produce? “Long-term” means those data sets that, over time, will or may be of value to others within your research community and/or the wider research and innovation community. Data of long-term value should meet the FAIR principles; i.e. they should be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.
- How have you accounted for the costs required to manage the data and other materials to ensure long-term availability?

Full proposals - Proposed Data Management Plan Approach

In the data management section (to be included in your single pdf to be uploaded on the EPSS), please address the following questions (those that are repeated from the earlier stage should be elaborated on as appropriate):

1. What types of datasets and other digital outputs of **long-term value** do you expect the project will produce or reuse?
    - “Long-term” means those data and digital outputs that will or may be of value to others within your research community and/or the wider research, innovation and stakeholder communities.

2. How do you intend to ensure that the data and digital outputs from your project confirm to the present Data policy and the **FAIR principles** (i.e. they should be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable)?
3. Which **member(s) of your team will be responsible** for developing, implementing, overseeing, and updating the Data and Digital Outputs Management Plan?
4. How do you intend to **manage the data and digital outputs** during the project to ensure their long-term value is protected?
    - For example, where will the data be held during the project, who will have access, and will a specialised data manager be part of the project team?
5. How and by whom will the data and other digital outputs be **managed after the project ends** to ensure their long-term accessibility?
    - For example, will the outputs be published with a Persistent Unique and Resolvable Identifier (such as a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), Accession Number, Handle, etc.), and/or be placed in a recognised, trustworthy long-term domain or other repository or data centre. When will this occur? (Further information about repositories include, but are not limited to, the Re3data.org registry of research data repositories, CoreTrustSeal list of certified data repositories, etc.)
6. What **restrictions**, if any, do you anticipate could be placed on how the data and digital outputs can be accessed, mined or reused?
    - The present policy is that the data should be as open as possible to commercial and non-commercial users, though with managed access where appropriate and necessary; for example, if there are sensitive data involving human subjects.
7. How will you ensure that any **data security, privacy, and intellectual property restrictions** associated with datasets and digital outputs will be honoured and preserved in derivative products?
8. What **supporting documentation and other information** (e.g. metadata) do you plan to make publicly accessible to support the longer-term re-use of the data and digital outputs?
9. How have you accounted for the **costs** required to manage the data and digital outputs to ensure long-term accessibility?

Awarded Projects - Full Data Management Plan

Awarded projects will be requested to provide a data management plan at the beginning of their project. They'll also have to report on updates made in their data management plan in their mid-term and final reports.

Please note that your Funding Organisation may also have specific requirements related to data management and data open access.

A full Data and Digital Outputs Management Plan (DMP) for an awarded project is a living, actively updated document that describes the data management life cycle for the data and other digital outputs to be collected, reused, processed and/or generated. As part of making research data as open as possible, findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable (FAIR), the DMP for a funded project should elaborate on the information provided at the Full proposal stage, and include the following additional information:

1. Agreed standards to be used for data and metadata format and content (where existing standards are absent or deemed inadequate, this should be documented along with any proposed solutions or remedies);
2. Policies for broad access and sharing including provisions for appropriate protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, intellectual property, or other rights or requirements;
3. Policies and provisions for mining, reuse, re-distribution, and the production of derivatives;
4. Contact information for the person(s) responsible for updating the DMP as needed to comply with these guidelines, and
5. A list of anticipated trustworthy, long-term repositories or data centres that will be used to ensure preservation of access to data and digital outputs following completion of the project.

Applicants are advised to include the full costs of implementing the data management plan in their proposed project budget.

Document 6: Assessment criteria

A two-step evaluation process will be organised:

- The first step will consist in an **eligibility check** by the Call Secretariat and relevant Funding Organisations **and an evaluation of the (eligible) pre-proposals by the independent Evaluation Committee** (EvC) against the following criteria: fit to the scope of the call, novelty of the research and impact.
  The Call Steering Committee (CSC) will decide on the number of proposals to be invited to step 2, following the evaluation made by the EvC. Only successful pre-proposals will be invited to submit full proposals.
- The second step will consist in an **eligibility check and an evaluation of full proposals by the EvC and external reviewers**. The EvC will convene to evaluate and make the final ranking of the submitted full proposals according to the following assessment criteria: excellence, quality and efficiency of the implementation and impact; and taking into account the reviews obtained from external reviewers.

The criteria to be used to assess the quality of pre- and full proposals are detailed below.

I. CRITERIA FOR STEP 1

Criteria 1 and 2 will be evaluated by scientific EvC members, and criterion 3 will be evaluated by policy/management EvC members.

No additional criteria should be used for the evaluation.

1. Fit to the scope of the call (yes/no)

Evaluation Committee members will assess the relevance of the proposed research against the thematic priorities and objectives set forth in the text of the call. Any project that does not fit within the thematic priorities described or does not address the objectives identified in the call text will not be recommended for funding, regardless of its scientific quality.

Please note that for this criterion 'Fit to the scope of the call', proposals should be evaluated according to the adequacy of their objectives and research questions with the thematic priorities of the present call. The quality of the methods however should not be evaluated part of this criterion.

2. Novelty of the research (1-5; threshold: 3)

Evaluation Committee members will assess the novelty / originality and innovation of the research goals and objectives, i.e. to what extent the proposed work has innovation potential, and goes beyond the state of the art (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches).

3. Impact (1-5; threshold: 3)

Evaluation Committee members will assess the impact on the basis of the following sub-criteria:

- Expected contribution of the proposed research to society and/or policy (sub-score 1-5): to what extent could the proposed work lead to novel / original contribution for tackling societal and/or policy challenges.
- Transnational added value (sub-score 1-5): what is the transnational added value to be expected from the collaboration from the perspective of society and/or policy (see Box 1 – what is meant by transnational added value?)

II. CRITERIA FOR STEP 2

Proposals will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee and external reviewers according to the three criteria detailed below. Criteria 1 and 2 will be evaluated by scientific EvC members and scientific external reviewers, and criterion 3 will be evaluated by policy/management EvC members and policy/management external reviewers.

No additional criteria should be used for the evaluation.

1. Excellence (1-5; threshold: 3.5)

A- Fit to thematic priorities (yes/no): Evaluation Committee members will assess the relevance of the proposed research against the thematic priorities set forth in the scientific text of the call. Any project that does not fit within the thematic priorities described or does not address the objectives identified in the call text will not be recommended for funding, regardless of its scientific quality.

Please note that for this criterion, proposals should be evaluated according to the adequacy of their objectives and research questions with the thematic priorities of the present call. The quality of the scientific methods however should not be evaluated part of this criterion but part of the sub-criterion “scientific excellence aspects” ; and the quality of, e.g. stakeholder engagement, will be evaluated part of the “impact” criteria by policy/management experts.

B- Scientific excellence aspects (1-5; threshold: 3.5), including transnational added value will be assessed by means of the following criteria:

a) Scientific quality of the proposed research goals and objectives: how well does the activity advance knowledge and understanding within its own field and across different fields? Does the proposal contribute to scientific excellence and significant progress toward the state of the art?

b) Novelty / Originality and innovation of the research goals and objectives: to what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative, original concepts?

c) Clarity of the hypothesis, theories and/or research questions

d) Transnational added value to be expected from the collaboration from a scientific perspective (see Box 1 – what is meant by transnational added value?)

e) Level of mobilization and integration of different scientific disciplines and competencies in the proposed research (level of inter- and multi-disciplinarity). This should be evaluated in terms of relevance regarding the topics and research questions addressed (i.e. to what extent the right disciplines and skills have been mobilized to tackle these topics and research questions)

f) Relation to other projects (does the project plan to link-up with other relevant existing projects?)

Considering that a given project fits within the thematic priorities of the call, its scientific quality is considered before all other criteria and is a prerequisite for funding (as reflected by the threshold value and weighting system of the scores).

2. Quality and efficiency of the implementation (1-5; threshold: 3)

a) Quality and efficiency of the management structure and procedures, its organisation and coordination: how well conceived and organised is the proposed activity? Is there an operational plan with well-defined milestones in place?

b) Competence and expertise of the consortium (including complementarity, balance): how well qualified are the applicants in terms of science knowledge, expertise and experience to conduct the project? What is the quality of previous work in terms of past or potential contributions to, and impact on the proposed and other areas of research? Is the Leading Principal Investigator team (including any identified Co-Principal Investigators) able to lead the project, e.g. having strong management and leadership skills, or having complementarity of expertise and synergy of the members of the team?

c) Level of integration and collaboration between partners involved in the proposal

d) Appropriateness of resources and funding requested, with justification (budget, staff, equipment): are the requested investments well justified and relevant?

e) Project feasibility and risk management

f) Data management plan overview and data sharing

3. Impact (1-5; threshold: 3)

The expected Impact of the proposed research for society and/or policy and the quality and efficiency of plans for stakeholder engagement (see Box 2) will be assessed by means of the two following criteria. It should be noted that proposals may choose and argue, as appropriate and in relation to the proposed research, to focus on achieving impacts for society or policy exclusively, or for both. Such a choice should however be explicit and substantiated according to the issues tackled.

Criteria A relates to the expected societal and/or policy impact the proposed work seeks to achieve, and its transnational added value from the impact perspective, while criteria B relates to the approach to stakeholder engagement and precise engagement activities planned in the project.

A- Societal and/or policy relevance and importance of the research for solving pressing issues (sub-score 1-5):

The criteria used to evaluate societal and/or policy relevance – which will be used by the Evaluation Committee and which applicants are invited to consider – are the following:

a) Clear statement of the application for policy and/or society. Any proposal must highlight the importance of the proposed work for solving wider pressing societal and/or policy issues related to the scope of the call, and contain details on the relevance of the proposed research to, e.g., specific management plans and processes, policy instruments or current legislation.

b) Clearly identified end-users of the research results and ways to engage them. End-users may be different than stakeholders directly mobilised in the project (criteria B). The proposal will be expected to identify clearly end-users of the project outcomes, highlight potential arrangements for their wider uptake of knowledge and results and, as far as possible, to name organisations and individuals with whom the project plans to work on towards the wider uptake of its results[52].

c) Transnational added value to be expected from the collaboration from the perspective of society and/or policy (see Box 1 – what is meant by transnational added value?)

B- Approach to stakeholder engagement[53] (sub-score 1-5):

The criteria used to evaluate stakeholder engagement planned at the different stages of the project - which will be used by the Evaluation Committee and which applicants are invited to consider – are the following:

a) Rationale for the stakeholder engagement planned in the project

b) Identification of appropriate stakeholders to be engaged in the project, i.e. precise organisations and as far as possible, individual representatives of these organisations, what role they would have, and the desired outcomes of their engagement.

c) Description of precise interests and support/investment from identified stakeholders on the specific aims of the project, including of their involvement at the proposal development stage[54]

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[52] BiodivERsA produced a stakeholder engagement handbook and a guide on policy relevance and science-policy interfacing for researchers preparing a proposal, both relevant to help plan the wider uptake of knowledge results in policy and/or society. These are accessible online (Stakeholder Engagement Handbook: http://biodiversa.org/stakeholderengagement; Guide on Policy Relevance: http://www.biodiversa.org/1543) and will be given as background information to the Evaluation Committee. We recommend you to use them when designing your project and preparing your proposal.

[53] The level of transdisciplinarity, as defined in Box 2, will be evaluated part of this criterion

[54] E.g. relating precise project objectives to specific stakeholders' ongoing and/or future activities. Please note that letters of support are NOT requested and will NOT be considered for the evaluation.

d) Methods/activities proposed for engagement of relevant stakeholders, planning of the engagement and allocation of sufficient resources to its implementation
e) Evidence that the necessary skills to engage stakeholders are available in the project team or will be obtained (e.g. through relevant training, or the use of external sources)
f) Methods and plans for knowledge and/or technology transfer

Box 1 – What is meant by Transnational added value?

Transnational added value is the value resulting from the transnational research project, which is additional to the value that would have resulted from research projects funded at national level. The added value may vary, depending on the type of project, and there can be various answers to this question.

However, there should be clear evidence of added value either directly within the countries involved in the research, or indirect value accrued as a result of, e.g. learning from models applied to countries outside of the countries involved.

Transnational added value may include: relevance to international policy statements or processes, legislative frameworks or management plans; clear added value to national research projects across the world by linking expertise and efforts across national teams and across studied areas and research models; bringing about comparisons at the local level between researchers and stakeholders who are not used to work together; standardisation of methods, general increase of common knowledge in biodiversity relative to the themes of the call, etc.

This definition is purposefully not prescriptive; however, applicants should clearly highlight the arguments sustaining the transnational added value of their project.

Box 2 – What is meant by transdisciplinarity?

Though several definitions of transdisciplinarity coexist, the definition used here is the involvement of stakeholders at the different stages of the project where relevant, for instance to define research objectives and strategies, facilitate inputs from non-academic stakeholders, better incorporate the diffusion of learning produced by the research and facilitate a systemic way of addressing a challenge.

- ➢ This will thus be evaluated by policy/management experts, part of the criteria “Impact”

III. SCORING SYSTEM

Scoring system at step 1

The two first criteria (fit to the scope of the call and novelty of the research) will be assessed by the scientific experts of the EvC, while the impact criteria will be assessed by the policy/management experts of the EvC.

For the criteria ‘novelty of the research’ and ‘impact’, a score out of a scale of five will be assigned to each proposal.

The Evaluation Committee has the possibility to use half scores.

Threshold:

Proposals that do not meet the criterion ‘Fit to the scope of the call’ will not be ranked nor considered for invitation to step 2.

Besides, there is no shared interest for proposals with a final score lower than 3 for ‘novelty of the research’ and for ‘impact’. These proposals will not be ranked, and will not be considered for invitation to step 2.

Final score:

The final score given to a proposal will correspond to an aggregation of the scores given to the two criteria (equal weight for the two criteria). The overall score will correspond to a score out of a scale of ten points.

The EvC ranks the pre-proposals based on their scores and assigns them to one of the following three categories:

- “A” very favourable for invitation to Step 2;
- “B” could be invited to Step 2;
- “C” not favourable for invitation to Step 2.

As needed, and if deemed relevant, the EvC can differentiate proposals within a same group (i.e. define sub-groups within one group).

The CSC will decide on the number of projects to be invited to step 2, based on the list made by the Evaluation Committee and their explanations.

Scoring system at step 2

The overall aim of the ranking system is to allow a transparent ranking that still allows for some flexibility, and to fund as many high-level projects as possible.

The two first criteria (‘excellence’ and ‘quality and efficiency of the implementation’) will be assessed by the scientific experts of the EvC and scientific external reviewers, while the ‘impact’ criteria will be assessed by the policy/management experts of the EvC and policy/management external reviewers.

For each criterion, a score out of a scale of five will be assigned to each proposal.

The Evaluation Committee has the possibility to use half scores.

Threshold:

Proposals that do not meet the criterion 'Fit to thematic priorities' will not be be ranked nor considered for funding.

Besides, there is no shared interest for proposals with a final score lower than 3.5 for 'excellence' and lower than 3 for 'quality and efficiency of the implementation' and for 'impact'. These proposals will not be ranked, and not be considered for funding.

Weighting system:

The following weighting system will apply for the different criteria:

Criteria	**Weight**
Excellence	7
Quality/efficiency of the implementation	3
Impact	6

The final score given to a proposal will correspond to an aggregation of the scores given to the three criteria, taking into account their respective weights. The overall score will be transformed into a score out of 15 points.
The EvC ranks as many projects as possible. However, around the threshold, the EvC can decide to equally rank proposals with a same final score that it considers of equal quality.

Example:

If a proposal receives a score of 4 for excellence, 4 for quality and efficiency of the implementation and 5 for impact, the aggregation of the scores taking into account their respective weight will give a score of 70. This score will be transformed into a score out of 15 points, i.e. 13.

Document 7: Code of conduct for conflict of interest, confidentiality and non-disclosure

This code applies to the Call Steering Committee and related Funding Organisation Contact Points, the independent observer, the Evaluation Committee and the external reviewers.

Conflict of interest

An important aspect of this code is the avoidance of any conflicts between personal interests and the interests of the applicants. Call Steering Committee and related Funding Organisation Contact Points, the independent observer, the Evaluation Committee and the external reviewers must perform their work impartially and take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the work is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest ('conflict of interests').

Definition of the conflict of interest.

The following situations will automatically be considered as conflict of interest:

- Being involved in (the preparation of) any pre- and/or full proposal;
- Having submitted a proposal as a principal investigator or a team member, under the call;
- Being director, trustee or partner or in any way involved in the management of an applicant;
- Being employed or contracted by one of the applicants;
- Having close professional proximity, e.g. being a member of the same scientific institution with a hierarchical or department relation or impending change of the reviewer/EvC member to the institution of the applicant in a position with a hierarchical or department relation or vice versa;
- Having close family ties (spouse, domestic or non-domestic partner, child, sibling, parent etc.) or other close personal relationship with the applicants of the proposal;
- Having (or having had during the last five years) a close scientific collaboration with an applicant of the proposal;
- Having (or having had) a relationship of scientific rivalry or professional hostility with an applicant of the proposal;
- Having (or having had), a mentor/mentee relationship with the principal investigator of the proposal;
- Having a current or prior (past 5 years) activity in advisory bodies of the applicant's institution, e.g. scientific advisory boards;
- Having direct or indirect benefit if any proposal submitted is accepted or rejected;

- Having personal economic interests in the funding decision.

Other situation preventing the EvC members or reviewers to participate in the evaluation impartially could be considered as conflict of interest and should be reported as such by the EvC members or reviewers.

Rules for the prevention of conflict of interest

Call Steering Committee members and associated Funding Organisation Contact Points, the independent observer, Evaluation Committee members and External Reviewers have to sign a conflict of interest, confidentiality and non-Disclosure declaration to confirm that they will comply with the principles state herein.

For each proposal they have to evaluate, Evaluation Committee members and External reviewers will have to declare online, through the electronic evaluation Submission system (EPSS) that they do not have a conflict of interest with the concerned proposal.

If Evaluation Committee members and External reviewers are (or become) aware of a conflict of interest, they must immediately inform the Call Secretariat and stop working until further instructions.
Reviewers and EvC members must work independently, in a personal capacity and not on behalf of any organisation and should not be used in case of a conflict of interest.

Evaluation Committee members, the independent observer and Call Steering Committee members must leave the room during the discussion of a proposal in case of a possible conflict of interest.

Applicants included in a pre-proposal or a full proposal submitted to this call (including all the team members) may not serve as Evaluation Committee members or external reviewers.

Call Steering Committee members and associated Funding Organisation Contact Points, the independent observer, Reviewers and Evaluation Committee members may not apply for a project in the call.

Confidentiality and non-disclosure policy

All submitted proposals, the correspondence forwarded to you, the reviews and the identity of the reviewers must be treated as strictly confidential. They must not be revealed to third parties.

Therefore, the responsibilities of a reviewer may only be undertaken personally and may not be delegated to third parties.

The scientific content of the proposal may not be exploited for personal or other scientific purposes.

A reviewer should not identify himself/herself to the applicant or any third party.

The obligations under this document shall not extend to confidential information which is required to be disclosed by national applicable law or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction or other regulatory body.

Code of conduct for members of the Call Steering Committee (CSC), Funding Organisation Contact Points (FCP), Independent observer, Evaluation Committee (EvC) and External Reviewers

Performing the work (for Evaluation Committee (EvC) and External Reviewers only)

1. You must work independently, in a personal capacity and not on behalf of any organisation.

2. You must:
   - evaluate each proposal in a confidential and fair way,
   - perform your work to the best of your abilities, professional skills, knowledge and applying the highest ethical and moral standards;
   - follow the instructions and time-schedule given by the Call Secretariat

3. You may not delegate the work to another person or be replaced by another person

4. If a person or entity involved in a proposal approaches you before or during the evaluation, you must immediately inform the Call Secretariat.

5. You may not be (or become) involved in any of the actions resulting from the proposal(s) that you evaluated (at any stage of the procedure).

Impartiatlity and Conflicts of Interests (for all)

As a member of the Evaluation Committee, an External Reviewer, independent observer, FCPs or member of the CSC, you will be asked to contribute to the evaluation process. You must perform your work impartially and take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the work is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest ('conflict of interests').

You might have a conflict of interest (see definition above) with one or more submitted proposals. Should any conflict arise during your term, or when asked to do a review, you must bring the matter to the attention of the Call Secretariat who will determine how the matter should be handled and will tell you what further steps, if any, to take.

No Use of "Insider" Information (for all)

Your designation gives you access to information not generally available to the public. You must not use that information for your personal benefit or make it available for the personal benefit of any other individual or organisation.

Confidentiality of Proposals and Applicants (for all)

Proposals are received with the expectation of protection of the confidentiality of their contents.

You must thus keep confidential all call related data, documents or other material (in any form) that are disclosed to you (whether in writing, orally, or any other form).

You must keep your work under this Call strictly confidential, and in particular:

- not disclose (directly or indirectly) any confidential information relating to proposals or applicants, without prior written approval by Call Secretariat
- not discuss proposal(s) with other persons that are not directly involved in the evaluation of the proposals
- not disclose:
    - details on the evaluation process or its outcome, without prior written approval by the Call Secratariat
    - details on your position/advice;
    - the names of other experts participating in the evaluation (both external reviewers and Evaluation Committee members).
- not communicate with applicants during the evaluation or afterwards.

Confidentiality of the Review Process and Reviewer Names (for all)

The names of external reviewers won’t be made public.

The names of the Evaluation Committee members will be made public after the announcement of awards. Which EvC members assessed which proposals will however be kept confidential.

Name:

Function (CSC, FCP, EvC, External Reviewer):

DATE:

Signature:
By signing this document, I certify that I read the code of conduct and that I agree with it and will respect it.