

1. Project title

Insert the same project title as on the Electronic Proposal Form (electronically generated fact sheet) in elan (max. 300 characters).

2. Project Acronym

Please insert the same short name for the project (maximum 11 characters), you used at the pre-proposal stage.

3. Composition of the consortium

Please insert full name, affiliation, and gender (optional) of the main applicant (Project Leader (PL) = applicant 1) and co-applicants (Principal Investigator (PI) for each project partner = applicants 2, 3, etc), including the non-ERA-CAPS -funded partners.

Applicant	Title	Last Name	First Name	P L/ PI	M / F	Organisation	Country	NFO *
1								
2								
3								
etc								

* NFO: National Funding Organisation (only acronym); please write "N/A" for self-funded partners

4. Call Themes & Keywords

Please tick the appropriate boxes to indicate to which sub call your proposal will be submitted and which of the following topics will be addressed (the modalities are explained in the Call Notice)

- Food and Nutrition Security:** research that contributes to the sustainable and secure supply of safe and nutritious food for an increasing global population. This includes yield optimisation, quality traits and nutrient use efficiency, amongst other research areas.
- Non-food crops:** this theme includes research into crops (or appropriate models) where the end-use includes bioenergy or industrial biotechnology.
- Adaptation to a changing climate:** research that addresses how plants can adapt, or be adapted, to grow in a changing environment.
- Biotic/abiotic stresses:** this theme includes research into plant responses to either biotic or abiotic stress, or how plants contend with a combination of biotic and abiotic stresses.
- Other topics** are also suitable that contribute to the development and expansion of the European Research Area in molecular plant science.
- Data Challenges Sub-Call:** proposal submitted to the ERA-CAPS Sub-Call on data challenges in plant sciences

5. Keywords

Keywords (to facilitate the search for evaluators, you are requested to identify at least three keywords that represent the scientific content of your proposal):

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6. Composition of the research partner teams

Give the names and titles of the project team-members for each Collaborative Research Project partner (CRP partner). The number of persons mentioned here should be limited to those scientists actually needed for performing the project tasks. Describe the particular expertise of the team member against the tasks to be performed by each project partner.

Please use consecutive numbering (1-1, 1-2, 1-3; 2-1, 2-2, ...), where the first figure refers to the project partner (use the applicant numbers, set in section 3), and the second figure represents the number of the team member.)

CRP Partner	Organisation	Name of team member: Last, First Name, Title	Expertise / Specialisation
1-1			
1-2			
1-3			
...			
2-1			

7. Project summary

In English, max. 3000 characters.

8. Project description

Maximum twelve A4 pages for project description (= sections 8.1 – 8.11 in total) for a CRP of 3 partners. For each additional partner that joins the consortium (incl. self-funded partners) an extra page will be allowed for description of the research plan (section 8.5).

Formatting: margins of 2.5 cm, font size of Times New Roman 11 point, with a line spacing of 15pt, spacing after paragraph 2pt.

8.1 Project Duration (months):

Maximum project duration in the framework of ERA-CAPS is **36 months**.

8.2 Intended starting date:

Note: a starting date before January 2018 may not be realistic.

8.3 Objectives of the project (max. 1 A4 page)

Describe as precisely as possible the scientific objectives of the project. Whenever possible, quantify the objectives in terms of measurable outcomes. Explain the novel character of the research proposed in view of the ambition of the third ERA-CAPS call.

8.4 Background (max. 2 A4 pages)

Give the scientific basis for your CRP and describe the present state-of-the-art concerning the specific research topics of your project. Identify important gaps to be filled in the current knowledge. Describe how the proposed project is embedded within the research currently existing in the consortium laboratories.

8.5 Research plan (max. 5 A4 pages)

Give an overall description and the general approach and methodology chosen to achieve the objectives. Describe fully the molecular approaches used in the research project. Highlight the particular advantages and limitations of the methodology chosen; quantify the expected project result(s). Break down the research programme into individual tasks (if appropriate by means of milestones & deliverables) attributed to the different partners in the consortium, showing the interrelation between the tasks. Explain why there is synergy between different tasks of the project and how this is going to be exploited.

For each additional partner (above the minimal required three partners; incl. self-funded partners) that joins the consortium an extra page will be allowed to describe the research plan.

8.6 Complementarity of the teams and transnational added value (max. 1 A4 page)

Describe clearly the contribution of each partner to your project. It is expected that unless the academic or industrial involvement is at the level of sub-contracting for specific tasks, public laboratory or industrial companies will be true research partners in the consortia and will contribute significantly to the development of the research programme. Reviewers will be asked to comment and rate the value added by the involvement of all partners in order to assist the assessment of these projects.

Demonstrate how the project will increase synergy between teams around Europe (and beyond, if applicable) and enhance quality and competitiveness of molecular plant research over and above other currently funded research.

8.7 Plan for use and dissemination of knowledge (max. 0.5 A4 page)

Describe how the consortium will deal with the dissemination, publication, and, protection of results generated in the project. Applicants are strongly recommended to read and use the 'IPR Conditions' (Annex II to the Call Notice) which have been established by the ERA-CAPS Working Group on intellectual property rights.

Note: *A separate detailed Data Management Plan has to be submitted along with this Grant Application. For guidelines to establish such a document applicants are referred to 'ERA-CAPS Data Sharing Policy' (Annex III to the Call Notice). The Data Management Plan should be a separate document, and will not count towards the maximum page length of the application form.*

8.8 Coordination with outside groups (max. 0.5 A4 page)

If the proposed activity is part of a different national or international collaborative project, grouping or network, describe the relationship between the existing activity and this proposal, and how the

components will be coordinated if appropriate. If there is national or international activity in the area of the proposed project which the consortia is not directly engaging with, please describe with justification whether and how efforts will be made to integrate with this activity.

8.9 Economic, societal and/or environmental relevance (if appropriate) (max. 0.5 A4 page)

Explain the relevance and timeliness of the research programme proposed, in terms of economic, societal and environmental impact. If appropriate, describe why the biological questions your proposal tries to answer are of relevance to the development of a strong and competitive bio-economy.

8.10 Project management and internal reporting (max. 1.5 A4 page)

Describe how the overall coordination, monitoring and control of the project will be implemented. If possible, provide a project organisation chart.

If appropriate, set up a detailed diagram giving the time schedule of the tasks and mark their interrelations; add milestones where important goals will be reached and/or decisions on further approaches will have to be taken; indicate a critical path marking those events which directly influence the overall time schedule in case of delays. Explain how information flow and communication will be enhanced within the project (e.g. collaboration and task meetings, exchange of scientists).

Risk management: Indicate where there are risks of not achieving the objectives and fall-back positions, if applicable.

Note that a Consortium Agreement should be signed among the partners of a research consortium prior to the start of the project. This Agreement should include a reporting scheme. A template for the Consortium Agreement will be available at <http://www.era-caps.org/era-caps-calls/era-caps-third-call>.

Note that in addition to internal reporting to the ERA-CAPS initiative, individual National Funding Organizations (NFO) may require additional reporting consistent with NFO guidelines.

8.11 Legal requirements

Is the proposed research in compliance with the different national legislation, e.g.

- if you are planning to undertake research on biological material from a foreign country and / or traditional knowledge associated with such genetic resources, are you familiar with the regulations on access and benefit sharing*;*
- have the required permits for experimental work, such as GMO trials, been obtained?*

Yes No (if “no” explain the current status)

** 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 Utilization in the Union and related implementing acts.*

8.12 References (max. 2 A4 pages)

List of publications to which references are made in the project description.

9. Breakdown of costs

In this section an overview of requested costs and own contributions related to the project should be inserted with justification. The tables should provide evidence that the requested means are balanced and justified when compared to the work proposed.

Please insert in Table 9.1 per partner the number of person months and category of personnel to be appointed (use one line per position), and give an overview of the total requested costs (in k€).

In Table 9.2 you are asked to give an overview of the total own contribution to the project costs.

Explain why the requested costs as well as the own contribution are needed in view of accomplishing the research programme.

Next to this summary, some funding agencies require a detailed specification according to national funding rules. For the appropriate forms see the National Annexes, contact your National Call Coordinator (contact details see section 1) or refer to the website of your National Funding Organisation.

Table 9.1 Requested costs (overview)

Applicant		Partner Affiliation	Country	Personnel costs (total) (k€)	Consumables (k€)	Travel (k€)	Equipment (k€)	Other (k€) [Overheads in brackets]	Total requested (k€)
No.	Last name, first name								
P1									
P2									
P3									
Totals									

Please give a justification for all requested costs in the different categories (per Partner):

Breakdown of Personnel costs

Applicant		Type of personnel [postdoc/ PhD/ technical assistant/ other]	Person months	Person costs/ month (k€)	Personnel costs (total) (k€)
No.	Last name, first name				
P1					
P1					
P2					
P2					
...					
P4					

Please justify requested personnel category and persons months in each case.

A breakdown of requested costs for standard consumables is not generally required. Non-standards items, especially if costly, should be mentioned and justified.

For a breakdown of requested travel costs, please list the total amount for conference visits, the amount for visiting collaboration partners, and any other project-related travel costs.

Requested pieces of equipment should be listed and justified.

“Other costs” should be specified and justified. Overhead costs should be listed in brackets under “Other costs” unless specified otherwise by the respective national financial regulations.

Specific national requirements regarding budgets (please also refer to the National Annexes!)

ANR applicants: One collaborative research project (CRP) can require a minimum of 15,000 € per French partner and up to 200,000 € in total from ANR per CRP.

BBSRC applicants: the UK component of applications should be costed on the basis of full economic costs (fEC). If the grant is awarded, BBSRC will provide funding on the basis of 80% of fEC (in Pounds Sterling). Indirect and estates costs should be included in the “Other” column of Table 9.1 and detailed in the justification of costs. There is no need to include the remaining 20% fEC provided by the institution in the “Own Contribution” section (Table 9.2).

Please tick this box to confirm that BBSRC applicants have included their costs in Euros at the exchange rate of 1 GBP = 1.3 EUR and that the total amount requested is equivalent to the 80% that will be requested from BBSRC.

DFG applicants: For the budget figures in Table 9.1, please add 22% of the requested total direct costs (i.e. the “Programmpauschale”) to the “Other costs” category. Accordingly, the total “requested funding” for DFG applicants in this table will also include the “Programmpauschale”. However, please note that the “Programmpauschale” cannot be entered in the electronic fact sheet in elan, but will be added automatically by the electronic system.

FWF applicants: Simultaneously to the application to the ERA-CAPS-Call, the Austrian partner has to send in FWF forms with stamps and signatures, itemization of requested funding, abstracts in German and English. Requested Funding should only contain FWF eligible costs (no overheads) in Table 9.1 or elan.

MPNTR applicants: The total budget earmarked by the MPNTR for the third call is up to 150,000€

NCN applicants: Please make sure to check the information about budgets in the National Annex for NCN.

EURO exchange rate: 1 EUR = 4.3440 PLN

Please note that at the full proposals stage, all applicants must register their applications in the OSF submission system (<https://osf.opi.org.pl/app/adm/start.do> : UNISONO application). This application includes a budget table.

NSF applicants: All US applicants should include in the budget the indirect costs as designated for a submitting US institution. To calculate the indirect costs in the case of multiple institutions, a single lead institution should be selected with subawards designated to participating institutions and co-applicants. In this case, guidelines in the current [Proposal and Awards Processing Guide NSF 1-17](#) should be followed for calculating indirect costs through a subaward mechanism. Other questions about budget should be directed to the US National Call Coordinator. Note that NSF does not request completion of Table 9.2 for unfunded senior personnel or collaborators.

SNSF applicants: Please note that overhead contributions cannot be applied for. Overhead contributions are calculated on the basis of the research funding acquired by eligible institutions under eligible funding schemes.

Table 9.2 Own contribution

Applicant		Person months	Type [postdoc/ PhD/ technical assistant/ other]	Personnel costs (total) (k€)	Consumables (k€)	Travel (k€)	Equipment (k€)	Other (k€)	Total contributed (k€)
No.	Last name, first name								
P1			[staff member 1] [staff member 2]						
P2									
P3									
Totals									

Please give a justification of the own contribution in the different categories.

Please note that “Own contributions” are not necessarily required by all participating funding organisations.

For “self-funded” partners, budget information in Table 9.2 is obligatory.

10. Funding from other sources for all or part of this work

Please indicate if funding is applied for or obtained from elsewhere, including funding from industry partners if applicable