Eligibility criteria:
consortium, partners, proposal
Who can apply?

INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM

- minimum of 3 partners (research groups) from 3 different countries participating in the Call;

- one partner acts as the coordinator for the consortium and is the single point of contact with QuantERA.

Sic! One Principal Investigator may not coordinate more than one proposal.
• Can the consortium include more than six partners?

The standard consortium size is three to six partners. In some specific cases justified by the nature of planned research effort the number of partners can be larger. The appropriateness of the consortium size will be eventually judged by the evaluation panel and external reviewers.
Eligibility of Partners

It is necessary that both the consortium is eligible for QuantERA and all partners requesting funding are eligible to be funded.

The eligibility criteria for partners are specific to the chosen funding organisation.

Be aware that some funding organisations:
• Require that eligibility of partners is checked with them prior to applying;
• Fund only non-commercial research.

Proposals are submitted by consortia, but funding is provided directly to selected individual consortium partners by the respective national/ regional RFO.
ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION SERVICE (ESS)

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

FUNDING

Partner 1

Partner 2

Partner 3

RFO 1

RFO 2

RFO 3
• Is it possible to add external partners to QuantERA proposals?

Research groups from countries not participating in the call or not meeting eligibility criteria cannot receive QuantERA funding. Adding such partners is possible in principle, but the evaluation panel reviewing the proposal would need to be satisfied that they will be committed to the project objectives and that they will have resources required to carry out planned work.
Frequently Asked Question

• How can industries participate in the Call?

Industrial partners can participate in the call if allowed by regulations of a respective funding organisation and the planned work fits the scope of the call.
• What is the impact of including a partner from the EU widening countries?

This has no impact on the evaluation. However, in the case of proposals ranked ex aequo by the evaluation panel, if they cannot be all selected for funding due to lack of budget availability, priority might be given to proposals involving partners from the EU widening countries.
Frequently Asked Question

• What about UK partners in QuantERA projects and Brexit?

QuantERA is a consortium of national/regional research funding organisations and the participating UK funding organisations are fully committed to participation in this initiative as stated in the call documents.
Eligibility of the Proposal

• prepared by the Coordinator on behalf of the whole consortium;

• planned duration of the project should be either 24 or 36 months;

• the proposed research must have a clearly defined goal;

• must secure a portion of the budget related to future reporting and dissemination → consortia must present the status of their project at the follow-up events organised by QuantERA (three or four).

BALANCED BUDGET

• max. 60% of the total requested funding may be requested by partners from one country;

• max. 40% of the total requested funding may be requested by a single partner;

• national/regional eligibility criteria.
Frequently Asked Question

• What is the technology readiness level required in general in a proposal?

As implied by the description of research targeted in the call, the planned work should relate to low technology readiness levels.
What is the expected total budget of a QuantERA project?

When constructing the budget for a QuantERA proposal, please note that national rules apply for costs borne by individual partners. Some of funding organisations participating in the call give explicit guidelines with respect to budgets of individual partners.

Partners are strongly discouraged from requesting greater budgets than are necessary for the activities being proposed.
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Call Budget
Budget of the QuantERA Call 2017

- National / Regional Contributions of 30 Research Funding Organisations from 26 countries: €22,5 M
- EU top-up funding: €11,5 M

Total: €34 M
Submission: Process and Recommendations
1. Ensuring the Proposal is Valid
   • The research is in line with the scope of the call;
   • The consortium meets the eligibility criteria;
   • Each partner meets the eligibility criteria;

2. Submitting the Proposal
   • Pre-proposal stage (max. 10 pages) – 15th March;
   • Full proposal stage – 30th June.

3. Rebuttal stage
   • possibility to comment on the evaluations, in order to address any factual inaccuracies raised by the experts.

Proposals need to be:
   • consistent (any changes explained and justified);
   • prepared using the templates;
   • submitted via the electronic submission system
Submit your Pre-proposal: March, 15th

• Two documents need to be uploaded
  ➢ Pre-proposal Form
  ➢ Financial Form

• The submissions considered are the accounts with both documents uploaded (by March 15, 17:00 CET)
  ➢ Stick to the page limit! The platform will not accept documents above 10 pages!
  ➢ National level
    ✓ Check that your partners have checked their eligibility status with their agencies
    ✓ Check that they have submitted the necessary additional forms (if any)
• The coordinator is in charge
• The platform used is the system of the French National Research Agency (ANR)
  ➢ Recently adapted to QuantERA call requirements;
  ➢ A document will be at your disposal to guide you through this online submission process
  ➢ Should you have any more questions → mathieu.girerd@anr.fr / +33 1 7354 8213
• Opening: Next week (week of February 20)
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Evaluation and Selection Process
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>March 15, 17:00 CET</td>
<td>Pre-proposal submission deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>End of April</td>
<td>1st Evaluation Panel meeting &amp; Funder meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Early May</td>
<td>Feedback to applicants (selection decision &amp; reviews)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>June 30, 17:00 CET</td>
<td>Full proposal submission deadline</td>
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<td></td>
<td>September</td>
<td>Rebuttal stage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Early October</td>
<td>2nd Evaluation Panel meeting &amp; Funder meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October</td>
<td>Feedback to applicants (selection decision &amp; reviews)</td>
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</table>
• The evaluation is handled by a dedicated joint international Evaluation Panel (EP). Panelists cannot apply in this call
• The task of the EP is to evaluate the proposals based on the criteria publicised in the Call Announcement and to produce a ranking
• The EP evaluates, the funders select
Evaluation Criteria

- Standard EC criteria:
  - Excellence (60%)
  - Impact (20%)
  - Quality and efficiency of the implementation (20%)

- ‘FET Gatekeepers’
  - FET like nature of the research targeted
  - Impact sub-criteria, which are inspired by sub-criteria used in the FET programme

- The pre-proposal and full proposal templates are designed so that you can answer the criteria
- Same quality threshold at both stages: 4 for Excellence criterion, 3 for the two others
Evaluation Criteria cont’d

Excellence (threshold: 4/5, weight: 60%)

Compliance with ‘FET Gatekeepers’

i. Clarity and novelty of long-term vision, and ambition and concreteness of the targeted breakthroughs towards that vision

ii. Novelty, non-incrementality and plausibility of the proposed research for achieving the targeted breakthrough and its foundational character

iii. Appropriateness of the research methodology and its suitability to address high scientific and technological risks

iv. Range and added value from interdisciplinarity, including measures for exchange, cross-fertilisation and synergy
**Impact** (threshold: 3/5, weight: 20%)

*Extent to which the outputs of the project contribute at the European or international level to:*

i. *The expected impacts (see ‘Research Targeted in the Call’ page 4)*

ii. *The transformation of technology and/or society*

**Quality of the proposed measures to:**

iii. *Exploit and disseminate the project results (incl. management of intellectual property rights), and to manage research data where relevant*

iv. *Communicate the project activities to different target audiences*
Quality and efficiency of the implementation (threshold: 3/5, weight: 20%)

i. Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables

ii. Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management

iii. Complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise

iv. Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role
1st Stage Evaluation

- In-panel review
- Each pre-proposal is reviewed by at least 3 panelists (written reviews)
  - Note that most assignments are based on the pre-proposal abstract → Be precise!
- EP meeting is organised to compare the pre-proposals
  - Consensus report is produced for each pre-proposal
  - Ranking of the pre-proposals reaching the quality threshold is established
1st Stage Selection

- The pre-proposals invited to the 2nd stage are the pre-proposals above the quality threshold (i.e. in the ranking) and above the funding threshold.
- Funding threshold
  - Is decided by the funders taking into account the demand vs budget availability.
  - Is at maximum around 3 times the call budget.
- Feedback to the applicants
  - Decision of the funders (not invited / invited to 2nd stage)
  - Consensus report and individual reviews
2nd Stage Evaluation

• Each proposal is reviewed by at least 3 panelists and at least 2 external reviewers
  ➢ They produce written reviews
  ➢ Note that most assignments are based on the proposal abstract → Be precise!
• Rebuttal stage: The coordinator is given the option to comment the reviews of the external experts before the EP meeting
• A meeting of the EP is organised to compare the full proposals
  ➢ A consensus report is produced for each full proposal
  ➢ A ranking of the full proposals reaching the quality threshold is established
• The proposals are selected following the ranking list established by the EP
• Secondary selection criteria: If not all ex aequo full proposals can be funded, priority will be given considering:
  ➢ Involvement of partners from the widening countries
  ➢ Maximising the output of the call (budget consumption)
  ➢ Maximising the number of the funders involved in the selected full proposals
• Feedback to the applicants
  ➢ Decision of the funders (selected / not selected)
  ➢ Consensus report and individual reviews
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CONTACT
National Science Centre – Coordinator

Konrad Banaszek  konrad.banaszek@ncn.gov.pl
Sylwia Kostka  sylwia.kostka@ncn.gov.pl
Marlena Wosiak  marlena.wosiak@ncn.gov.pl