



RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION PROGRAMMES

FUNDING SCHEME

«RESTART 2016-2020» Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation

PROGRAMME

«European Initiatives – National Development»
(PRIMA)

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

P2P/PRIMA/0525



RESEARCH
& INNOVATION
FOUNDATION



INTRODUCTION

The Research and Innovation Foundation announces the Call for Proposals for the «**European Initiatives – National Development**» Programme within the framework of the «**RESTART 2016-2020**» Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation for the period **May 2022- June 2025** and invites potential beneficiaries to submit relevant Project Proposals (Proposals).

The present Call is announced in the framework of the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) under the Article 185 of the EU Treaty in which the RIF participates together with other Euro-Mediterranean Research Funding Agencies and is co-funded by the European Commission through Horizon 2020.

GENERAL CALL INFORMATION

Pillar	I. Smart Growth
Programme	European Initiatives – National Development
Call Identifier	P2P/PRIMA/0525
Call Budget	400.000 Euro
Maximun Funding Per Project for PRIMA Call- Section 2	200.000 Euro for the Cypriot Consortium
Publication Date	9 May 2025
Deadline for Proposal Submission to PRIMA (one stage)	8 th July 2025, 17:00 (Barcelona time)
Deadline for Proposal Submission to the RIF (one stage)	15 th July 2025, 13:00 (Cyprus time)

The English version of the Call, even though an official translation endorsed by the Research and Innovation Foundation, is provided for information purposes only. Only the Greek version of the Call is legally binding and shall prevail in case of any divergence in interpretation.

OBJECTIVES

The «European Partnerships» Programme aims to encourage the participation of Cypriot organisations to participate in international cooperation networks for the development of research and innovation projects in priority areas of importance for the country, which are implemented in the framework of the Joint Programmes of the European Partnerships of the EU's «Horizon Europe» Framework Programme in which Cyprus participates. At the same time, it promotes extroversion, cooperation and networking of research organisations and enterprises in Cyprus with institutions from other countries through their participation in the projects.



Participation in the European PRIMA Partnership aims to encourage Cypriot organisations to participate in international research and development projects related to water management, agroecology and food systems. In addition, it aims at networking and cooperation of Cypriot organisations with foreign organisations through their participation in international research and development projects.

DESCRIPTION

The PRIMA Joint Programme, by funding Research & Innovation through competitive calls, aims to build research and innovation capacities and to develop knowledge and common innovative solutions for agro-food systems, to make them sustainable, and for integrated water provision and management in the Mediterranean area, to make those systems and that provision and management more climate resilient, efficient, cost-effective and environmentally and socially sustainable, and to contribute to solving water scarcity, food security, nutrition, health, well-being and migration problems upstream.

This Call for Proposals concerns proposals submitted to the **Call Section 2** of PRIMA Programme, specifically in the following thematic areas:

- 1 Thematic Area 1-Water Management in the Nexus:**
Topic 2.1.1-2025 (RIA) Enhancing Policy Development through Impact-Driven Water Footprint and Virtual Water Concepts in the Mediterranean Region.
- 2 Thematic Area 2-Farming systems in the Nexus:**
Topic 2.2.1-2025 (RIA) Upscaling Agroecology Practices at the Farm Level in the Mediterranean.
- 3 Thematic Area 3-Food value chain in the Nexus:**
Topic 2.3.1-2025 (RIA) Towards a Plant-Based Alternative Protein products Transition in the Mediterranean Region

BENEFICIARIES

Research Organisations, Enterprises, Other Organisations

SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Participation conditions and requirements for the International Consortium, are described in the relevant [Call for Proposals 2025](#) of the «Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area» (PRIMA) Initiative.

Host Organisation (of the Cypriot Consortium) could be an Enterprise, a Research Organisation or an Other Organisation.

Research Organisations, Enterprises and Other Organisations can participate as Partner



Organisations (in the Cypriot Consortium). Maximum number of organisations in the Cypriot Consortium should be between one to three (1-3).

It is noted that the organisations from the Cooperation Countries are funded by the relevant funding agencies in their country.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Projects can include Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development activities. Projects must fall within Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 3-8 in compliance with the relevant definitions adopted by the EU¹.

The Cypriot Consortium should necessarily be involved in Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development activities.

The participation of Cypriot organisations that will only undertake dissemination activities in the transnational project is not eligible.

DURATION OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Up to 36 Months

BUDGET

€ 400.000

MAXIMUM FUNDING PER PROJECT

€200.000 (for the Cypriot consortium)

ELIGIBLE COSTS

Personnel costs, Instruments and Equipment Costs, Costs for External Services, Costs for Travelling Abroad, Consumables, Other Specific Costs, Overheads.

The Technology Readiness Levels adopted by the EU are the following:

- TRL 1 - basic principles observed,
- TRL 2 - technology concept formulated,
- TRL 3 - experimental proof of concept,
- TRL 4 - technology validated in lab,
- TRL 5 - technology validated in relevant environment,
- TRL 6 - technology demonstrated in relevant environment,
- TRL 7 - system prototype demonstration in operational environment,
- TRL 8 - system complete and qualified,
- TRL 9 - actual system proven in operational environment (competitive manufacturing in the case of key enabling technologies).



It is noted that, all beneficiaries that have not previously participated in the RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes, should make use of the simplified cost Method «Standard Scales of Unit Costs» for the calculation of personnel costs.

Costs on dissemination activities is only eligible for organisations falling under Category A (Research Organisations) and C2 (Other Public and Public Sector Organisations).

SERVICES OF THE CENTRAL KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER OFFICE (KTO)

Beneficiaries of this Programme will automatically become Beneficiaries of the services and tools for knowledge transfer offered by RIF, in the framework of the Central Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO) and the Innovation Factory.

Aiming at enhancing the projects' potential for exploitation of research results, all Project Consortia funded under the present Call are **obliged** to contact the Central Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO), for the preparation of a specialised Service Delivery Plan. It is noted that, the **acceptance of the Service Delivery Plan** by the Project Consortia and the utilization of the central KTO services will be optional.

RESTART 2016-2020 WORK PROGRAMME

All general rules and procedures for the participation of organisations and individuals, the eligible activities and costs, as well as the specific information regarding the RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes, are included in the **RESTART 2016-2020 Work Programme**, which is the main reference document and an important information source for interested parties and can be found on the Research Promotion Foundation's **IRIS (Innovation Research Information System) Portal** (<https://iris.research.org.cy/#/documentlibrary>).

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

- ⬡ The Host Organisation should submit to Competent National Registries updated data regarding their ultimate beneficial owners as per «The prevention and suppression of money laundering and terrorist financing Law of 2007 (188(I)/2007)». RIF reserves the right to carry out checks in the competent Registers and to request an official proof for the registration. Furthermore, during contract preparation, all private law entities are obliged to submit the Declaration of Beneficial Owners accompanied by the official proof of registration. In addition, all Private Law Entities applying for funding exceeding EUR 150.000 must also submit in the Declaration of Beneficiaries the details of their actual beneficiaries (Name, Identity Card/Passport Number and Date of Birth).
- ⬡ The budget of the proposal to be submitted to the RIF should be the same with the budget of the Cypriot participant(s) included in the transnational proposal budget. If the two budgets differ, during the contract preparation stage the RIF will accept as budget for each cost category, the amount included in the transnational proposal. In



any case, requested funding in the Contract should not exceed: (a) the requested funding included in the transnational proposal, and (b) the maximum funding per project as defined in the national Call for Proposals.

Funded Projects should comply with the «Do No Significant Harm» principle, according to which they must not include or support activities that could cause significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives, as per Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 2020/852, on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment.

SUBMISSION

The Proposal is submitted electronically (on-line application form) by the Transnational Project Coordinator, through the [PRIMA electronic submission system](#).

Furthermore, the Coordinator of the Cypriot Consortium should also submit a Proposal on the RIF's IRIS Portal (<https://iris.research.org.cy>), not later than the deadline specified in the Table «General Call Information» above.

It is noted that, the Project Coordinator and all local participating organizations of the Cypriot Consortium, should register in advance on the IRIS Portal.

Potential applicants are advised to read the «Guide for Applicants», which contains guidelines and clarifications regarding the Submission procedure and the «IRIS Portal User Manual» which can be found on the IRIS Portal (<https://iris.research.org.cy/#/documentlibrary>).

The Research and Innovation Foundation encourages in all its Calls for Proposals:

- ⬡ *the participation of women as Project Coordinators, and*
- ⬡ *a gender-balanced participation in Projects.*

The Proposal submitted to the RIF includes only general information regarding the Transnational Proposal (Title, Acronym etc), the Coordinator of the Cypriot Consortium and the partner organisations of the Transnational Consortium (including the Cypriot organisations) as well as detailed budget for each partner participating in the Cypriot Consortium. The budget of each organization should be the same with the budget to be included in the Proposal submitted to PRIMA.

The Project Proposal consists of the following parts:

1. Part A – General Information & Budget (electronic form (fields) to be completed online through the IRIS Portal).

It is noted that, at the contract preparation phase the Coordinators of the Cypriot Consortia in the selected Proposals will be requested, to submit additional information and complete forms concerning the role and the activities that the Cypriot Consortium will undertake during the project implementation.



PROJECT SELECTION

Evaluation Procedure

Proposals with Cypriot participation submitted to RIF's IRIS Portal will undergo Eligibility Check, as described in the RESTART 2016-2020 Work Programme for the period May 2022- June 2025.

It is noted that any proposal with Cypriot participation that is not submitted to IRIS will not proceed with scientific evaluation.

The PRIMA Initiative applies its own procedures and regulations regarding the submission and evaluation of proposals, and project selection, which are described in the Programme Documents of the Call and the Programme Guidebooks. All the above documents are available on the Initiative's website. Interested parties are invited to study these documents carefully before submitting a proposal.

Evaluation Criteria

The Evaluation Criteria are described in detail in the PRIMA 2025 Call for Proposals.

Selection

Projects are selected centrally by all Programme countries, considering the results of the Scientific Evaluation and the available budget of each country/region. During the selection process, RIF will select the project proposals with Cypriot participation with the highest scores in the Scientific Evaluation Ranking List, until the budget is exhausted and if they are supported by the other countries.

INFORMATION – CONTACT DETAILS

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The Research and Innovation Foundation may at its discretion, proceed to the extension or revocation of the present Call by applying the same publication procedure.