



**European – Latin American Network for  
Science and Technology**

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**Call for Proposals for**

**“European – Latin American Network for  
Science and Technology EULANEST”**

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**Submission Deadline:**

**Full Proposal: December 4th, 2009 at 05.00 p.m. GMT**

For further information, please visit us under:

<http://www.S2lat.eu/eulanest>

or contact:

EULANEST Joint Call Secretariat (JCS)  
Internationales Büro des BMBF (IB)  
Heinrich-Konen-Strasse 1  
D-53227 Bonn

Phone: +49 (228) 3821-436  
Fax: +49 (228) 3821-444  
E-Mail: Inge.lamberzdebayas@dlr.de

## 1. Motivation

Promoting and coordinating research cooperation with Latin America countries (LAC) is a priority in the multilateral research policies of most European Member States, and in the international science and technology (S&T) policy of the European Union (EU). In this context, the ERA-NET for “European-Latin American Network for Science and Technology” (EULANEST; <http://www.S2lat.eu/eulanest>) fosters research co-operation and the networking of European policy-makers and programme managers involved in promoting research cooperation between European states and Latin America countries in all relevant fields of science.

This ERA-NET action supports its partners in the development and implementation of joint transnational research activities. EULANEST mapped and benchmarked the cooperation activities in S & T between European and LAC, identifying best practices and preparing for a Joint Action Programme. The final goal is to coordinate selected activities and launch a joint call between the partners.

EULANEST intends to overcome the fragmented S&T relations with Latin America which, until now, have its primary bases in the bilateral cooperation between European and Latin American states. In pursuing this goal, EULANEST aims to contribute towards building the European Research Area (ERA) and to strengthen its international dimension by initiating multilateral research co-operation with Latin America. Within this framework, one of its goals is the launch of European-Latin American joint programmes of research cooperation.

Research collaboration between Europe and Latin America will especially contribute to the building of research cooperation in the area of Sustainable Renewable Energies in the frame of climate changes and Nanosciences with emphasis on human health.

These two areas therefore build a prime example of research activities carried out at national or regional levels in the Member States that will strongly benefit from its international dimension by coordinating multilateral programmes on a transnational scale. The proposals should aim at creating new knowledge through a mixed consortium of LA-EU countries that join the critical mass to address crucial problems in the thematic areas for the call. EULANEST recognises that the opportunities for research funding for multinational projects between Europe and Latin America have been limited, and its intention in launching this programme is to encourage joint research activities to solve the problems addressed and networking activities to consolidate the mixed LA-EU consortium.

This joint project developed in the framework of EULANEST is considered to be a pilot programme to lay the foundations for long-lasting co-operation between the European Research Area (ERA) and the Latin American partner organisations.

The EULANEST partners have decided to open the first joint call for multilateral research projects:

- Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE), France
- Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR), France
- Research Institute for Development (IRD), France
- Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany
- International Bureau of BMBF (IB-BMBF), Germany
- Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portugal
- Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN), Spain

This first Joint Call is developed in cooperation with the following Latin American countries:

- Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva (MINCYT), Argentina
- Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq), Brasil

The call is being opened simultaneously by the PARTNERS in their respective countries.

## **2. Aim of the call**

The aim of this Call is to promote Sustainable Renewable Energies and Nanosciences research between Europe and Latin America by supporting Joint research activities and networking activities in these fields, including both European and Latin American scientists. The liaison of European and Latin American scientists shall build effective collaborations on a common research question based on complementarities, sharing of expertise and methodology.

The proposals must aim at creating new knowledge through a mixed consortium of Latin American and European scientists who are addressing the thematic fields for the

call. The joint programme thus also intends to provide opportunities for networking and developing experience.

The EULANEST Joint Call intends to bring together Latin American and European scientists to work on a joint topic of mutual interest and thereby build up a research network.

The Joint Call is aimed at European and Latin American scientists who have engaged in joint research collaboration as well as those aiming at starting a new collaboration.

The projects should be performed by teams that **include a minimum of one Latin American partner and two European partners**. Priority will be given to well-balanced consortia that include at least two partners in each region.

The Joint Call offers opportunities in a wide range of research areas in Sustainable Renewable Energies and Nanosciences. This broad definition of research topics is intended to offer maximum opportunity for flexibility among researchers in devising research proposals, possibly bringing together researchers interested in particular research questions and researchers experienced in Europe-Latin American collaborations.

Research projects and networks have to focus on a research question developed and presented jointly by the research consortium and should cover **only one of the two following topics, either Sustainable Renewable Energies or Nanosciences**:

### **1.) Sustainable Renewable Energies to solve Climate Change Challenges**

- New materials, advanced technologies and procedures for sustainable renewable energies:
  - Solar, wind, geothermal and other renewable sources of energy. Production of Biomass from agricultural/forest wastes
  - Related technologies, including energy carriers and standards and certification
- Social dimension of renewable energies
  - Social impact and social acceptance of renewable energies and their rational use. Adapting of behaviour regarding the resources available in the region for producing energy.
  - Assessment of social, economic and environmental impact of renewable energies. Development of tools to support decision making processes and to adapt solutions to the local requirements.

**2.) Nanosciences development and nanomaterials applications to key economic sectors, with a special emphasis on human health**

- Development of nanomaterials with special properties
- Development of nanodevices based systems for health diagnosis, treatment, intervention and control assessment
- Strategies for using nanosciences and nanotechnologies for environmental remediation, including urban sanitation (water supplies, waste disposal, etc.)
- Use of nanomaterials for improving content of foods for special segments of the population
- Ethical and regulatory issues

The following countries fund multilateral research projects in the following fields:

<b>Sustainable Energies</b>	<b>Renewable</b>	<b>Nanosciences</b>
France		_____
Germany		Germany
Norway		_____
Portugal		Portugal
Spain		Spain
Argentina		Argentina
Brazil		Brazil

**2.1 Types of Activities and eligible costs**

Scientists from different participating partner countries may apply for one or several types of activities and types of eligible costs. Within a given research consortium one or several funding modes may be applied for.

Types of activities which can be financed are:

- Research activities to solve the problems addressed
- Networking activities to consolidate scientific dialogue between both regions

Eligible costs that may be charged on the project **depending on national rules:**

- Personnel costs
- Travel costs
- Consumables
- Small equipment
- Other costs (Administration costs, Workshops, Seminar Series, Summer Schools etc )

**Funding can be provided for a period of one to two years. Joint projects should start in the first semester of 2010.**

Further clarification may be obtained from the contact person in each country (see Annex I).

### **3. Application**

#### **3.1 Funding recipients**

Applications may be submitted by a principal investigator (PI) from universities, higher education and research institutions. The eligibility of other types of partners taking part in national consortia and the costs which may be covered in a project will vary according to the regulations and eligibility rules of the national financial institution providing the funding.

**Only transnational projects will be funded.** Each proposal must involve a minimum of two research teams from two different participating European EULANEST member states as well as a minimum of one research group from the Latin American partner countries.

The number of participants should be appropriate for the aims of the research project and networking activities and reasonably balanced in terms of national participation. Each collaborative project should represent the critical mass to achieve ambitious scientific goals and should clearly demonstrate an added value from working together.

There should be one principal investigator for each national research team. One of these PIs should act as coordinator to represent the project externally and to be responsible for its internal management. Each PI will act as contact person for his or her national funders.

Research teams from other countries in Europe and Latin America not funding this Call may participate in projects if they secure their own funding. They have to state clearly in the proposal if these funds are already secured or how they plan to secure them before the start of the project. If the contribution of this type of partners is considered essential for the success of the entire proposal, they will be required to document the availability of their funds before the final funding decision.

## 3.2 Funding Procedure

**This Joint Call is funded as a Virtual Common Pot, which implies that each country funds their national researchers.**

Funding is available for projects with a duration of two years and is subject to national regulations. Eligible costs may vary according to the corresponding national funders regulations. Each research team is subject to the rules and regulations of its respective national funders.

## 3.3 Application Process

Proposals (in English) have to be submitted electronically by the coordinator via the EULANEST website (<http://www.S2lat.eu/eulanest>) by the **deadline no later than December 4, 2009 at 05.00 p.m. GMT**

The proposals must include the following information, provided on the respective forms (electronic application template for full proposal) available through the EULANEST website:

### Basic project data:

- Thematic area of the proposal
- Title of the project
- Project period (indicative)
- Name and affiliation of the coordinator
- Name and affiliation of the Principal Investigators (PIs) in each country (and if needed additional investigators)
- Scientific abstract (max. ½ page)

### Detailed information:

- Background and present state of the art in the research field in Latin America and in Europe (max. ½ page)
- Objectives of the project
- Added value of the proposed Latin American-European collaboration (incl. , motivation for cooperation and – if applicable – history of Latin American-European interaction; ½ page)
- Detailed information of the activities to be done by each partner
- Work plan (incl. aims, methodology, envisaged funding modes, involvement of participants, time plan, project coordination and management; max. 3 pages)
- Financial plan for each participating researcher provided on the respective table available within the electronic application data sheet. Justification of requested budget (also specifying co-funding from other sources necessary for the project, if applicable; max. 1 page)
- Annexes
  - o CV's and relevant publication record of the last five years of all participating researchers (1-2 pages for each researcher)
  - o if applicable: possible exploitation of expected project results including data management and data sharing (max. ½ page)
  - o if applicable: handling of intellectual property rights (IPR) (e.g. any barriers to sharing materials or results), both within and outside the research consortium (max. 1 page)
  - o if applicable: sketch of programme of workshops/summer schools etc. (max. 2 pages)
  - o Other relevant information (related project, additional funding, etc)

**A letter of intent, signed by the coordinator on behalf of the research consortium declaring the project partners willingness to collaborate if the project is approved, must be attached to the proposal.**

**Keeping in mind that funding is under one virtual common pot (please see 3.2), applicants are strongly advised to discuss their intentions and confirm eligibility with their respective funding organisations in advance of submitting an application.**

Once the project is selected for financing, a consortium agreement signed by all partners must be provided as a pre-requisite for starting the project.

## **4. Evaluation**

### **4.1 Formal check of proposals**

The Joint Call Secretariat, together with the national partners, will assess all proposals to ensure that they meet the Call's formal criteria (date of submission; number of participating countries; inclusion of all necessary information in English; appropriate limits on length; suitability of the field of research) and that applicants are eligible to submit applications according to national rules.

### **4.2 Peer-review of proposals**

Scientific experts in the field will carry out the scientific evaluation of proposals according to specific evaluation criteria (see below) and suitable international scientific expertises using a common *Evaluation Form*. The review process will involve written peer reviews and a panel meeting.

A scoring system from 0 to 5 will be used to evaluate the proposal's performance with respect to the different evaluation criteria:

0: fails or missing/incomplete information; 1: poor; 2: fair; 3: good; 4: very good; 5: excellent

### **4.3. Evaluation Criteria**

- 1) Relevance to the aim(s) of the call
- 2.) Scientific quality and originality of the project and of the research plan (innovative potential, adequate methodology)
- 3.) Scientific excellence of the applicants (e.g. previous scientific track record, publications in scientific journals, standing of the institute the applicants belong to).
- 4.) Scientific relevance of the expected results
- 5.) Feasibility of the project (project governance, adequate budget, resources, time schedule; cost effectiveness, risk and assumption)
- 6.) Level of collaborative interaction between the teams and added value of the consortium
- 7.) Contribution to the scientific community, expected exploitation of the results

#### **4.4. Funding decision**

Based on the recommendations from the review process, the Programme Steering Committee consisting of representatives from the participating ministries and funding organisations will meet to select the projects to be funded. Based on this selection, each national funding institution will then implement the procedure for funding their national researchers.

### **5. Funding scheme, responsibilities, reporting requirements**

This call is aimed at projects with duration of one to two years. Funding is expected to start in the first semester of 2010.

Individual research teams of successful collaborative projects will be funded directly by the respective national funding organisations according to the terms and conditions of the responsible national funding organisations, taking into account all other applicable national regulations and legal frameworks.

The project coordinator who represents the consortium toward the ERA-Net EULANEST and externally will be responsible for the internal management of the project. Although he or she bears the overall scientific responsibility for the project, each national Principal Investigator is fully responsible for the research outcome towards its national funding institutions.

The project coordinator, on the basis of the information provided by the national teams, will consolidate and submit an annual scientific report including information on financial aspects on the whole project (in English). In addition, each research group may have to report to its funding party, in accordance with the respective national funding agency's regulations.

## Annex I:

The following institutes/institutions and contact persons will assist European scientists to engage in European-Latin American research networks in Sustainable Renewable Energies and Nanosciences development research.

Research Institution	Contact person	Contact Details
<b>Argentina</b> Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva (MINCYT)	Agueda Menvielle Eduardo Trigo Mónica Silenzi Luciana Ayciriex	<a href="mailto:amenvielle@mincyt.gov.ar">amenvielle@mincyt.gov.ar</a> <a href="mailto:etrigo@mincyt.gov.ar">etrigo@mincyt.gov.ar</a> <a href="mailto:msilenzi@mincyt.gov.ar">msilenzi@mincyt.gov.ar</a> <a href="mailto:lacyciriex@mincyt.gov.ar">lacyciriex@mincyt.gov.ar</a> Tel: +5411 4891-8470 (Int. 6409/6412)
<b>France</b> Research Institute for Development (IRD), (Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE); Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research (MENESR))	Manon Rabanit	<a href="mailto:Rabanit@msem.univ-montp2.fr">Rabanit@msem.univ-montp2.fr</a> Tel.: +33-467149038 Mobile: +33-667879417
<b>Norway</b> The Research Council of Norway (RCN)	Ellen Vollebaek	<a href="mailto:ev@rcn.no">ev@rcn.no</a> tel.: + 47- 2203 7577
<b>Germany</b> International Bureau of BMBF (IB-BMBF) (Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF))	Inge Lamberz de Bayas Elisabeth Suntrup-Andresen (on behalf of BMBF)	<a href="mailto:Inge.lamberzdebayas@dlr.de">Inge.lamberzdebayas@dlr.de</a> <a href="mailto:Elisabeth.suntrup-andresen@dlr.de">Elisabeth.suntrup-andresen@dlr.de</a> Tel.: +49-228-3821436 Tel.: +49-228-3821398
<b>Spain</b> Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN)	Gloria Villar	<a href="mailto:gloria.villar@micinn.es">gloria.villar@micinn.es</a> Tel.; +34 91 603 79 52 Fax.; +34 91 603 70 21
<b>Portugal</b> Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT)	Jose Bonfim	<a href="mailto:jose.bonfim@fct.mctes.pt">jose.bonfim@fct.mctes.pt</a> (351) 21 391 15 28 Jose.Bonfim@fct.mctes.pt

<b>Brasil</b> Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq)	Jose Roberto Drugowich de Felício Paulo Siqueria	<a href="mailto:psiqueira@cnpq.br">psiqueira@cnpq.br</a> mvelo@cnpq.br
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