



# ANNOUNCEMENT

## COORDINATION OF EUROPEAN RESEARCH ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE (ANIHWA ERA-Net)

### TRANSNATIONAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

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The 1<sup>st</sup> joint call for transnational research projects of the ANIHWA ERA-Net initiative will open on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012 with a total budget in the region of approx. €14 million. This announcement will provide you with the relevant information on the topics, project eligibility criteria, forms and guidelines, application procedure, timeline and contact details.

### CALL TOPICS

The 1<sup>st</sup> joint call for transnational research projects of ANIHWA includes the following 4 topics. Please see ANNEX 1 for a detailed description.

1. Promoting research on the interface between animal health and welfare: development of practical animal-based indicators of animal health and welfare, development and implementation of new husbandry strategies ensuring good health and welfare.
2. Development of knowledge which may lead to tools for diagnosis and disease prevention, including vaccines.
3. Improvement of preparedness for emerging and exotic diseases (including vector-borne diseases and zoonoses) by epidemiological approach to risk pathways identification.
4. Antimicrobial and anthelmintic resistance and development of alternative curative and preventive therapies, like

biotherapeutics and other potential alternatives.

(Included animals of all four (4) topics are: cattle, pigs, poultry, sheep, goats, horses, fishes and bees and minor species like rabbits.)

Topics will be funded by different combinations of countries (funders), according to a distributed scheme. Please see ANNEX 2 “Funding Scheme”. Applicants should first contact their National Contact Points of the various funding agencies (see ANNEX 3 “National Contacts”) to establish their interest in funding particular topics.

### PROJECT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In order to increase the capacity of European animal health science and research and to enhance the coordination and collaboration of pan-European research activities in this field, funding opportunities will be offered to excellent and innovative transnational R&D projects.

The maximum project duration is three years.

Project consortia must involve a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of ten (10) partners from at least three (3) and a maximum of eight (8) different participating countries. Consortia members from other countries, including from outside Europe, are welcome provided they have their own secured resources.

In case of doubt, potential project consortia partners are advised to contact their National Contact Points of the various funding agencies



(see ANNEX 3) to confirm national funding availability for the particular topic before agreeing to participate. National call documents are legally binding.

Proposals coming forward with support (financial or in kind) from industry or other non-ANIHWA funding bodies are encouraged.

## FORMS AND GUIDELINES

Forms and guidelines are available at [www.anihwa-submission-era.net](http://www.anihwa-submission-era.net) from 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2012 onwards.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

**Applications will involve a two-step submission procedure** with a **pre-proposal** and a **full-proposal**. All proposals must be electronically submitted to the **ANIHWA ERA-Net call office** ([www.anihwa-submission-era.net](http://www.anihwa-submission-era.net)) as the central communication point.

**Pre-proposals:** The project description of such a pre-proposal may not exceed two (2) pages, plus a one (1) page project abstract and information on the research consortium coordinator and the partners involved as outlined in the guidelines. Pre-proposals will be checked by the partners from each of the countries involved to ensure that they comply with national eligibility criteria.

**ANIHWA ERA-Net** will check the submitted pre-proposals for formal ANIHWA ERA-Net eligibility criteria (see Guidelines for Applicants on [www.anihwa-submission-era.net](http://www.anihwa-submission-era.net)). After this check the ANIHWA ERA-Net funders will decide, based on relevance to the call and national eligibility criteria, including strategic priorities of each Party involved, which consortia will be invited to submit full-proposals. **Full-proposals**

will be peer reviewed by an international expert panel that is different for each of the 4 topics.

## TIMELINE

The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is **November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 17:00 CET**.

Invitations for full-proposals will be sent to project coordinators by the **middle of December 2012**.

The deadline for submitting full-proposals will be **February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 17:00 CET**.

The funding decisions are expected to be announced **middle of May 2013**.

## CONTACTS

Please do not hesitate to contact the ANIHWA ERA-Net call office or your national contact points of the various funding agencies (see ANNEX 3) if you need support. We will be pleased to assist and guide you through this process. Pre- and full-proposals must be electronically submitted at [www.anihwa-submission-era.net](http://www.anihwa-submission-era.net) by the respective deadlines.

ANIHWA ERA-Net Call Office:

**Sabine Dues**

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e-mail: [s.dues@fz-juelich.de](mailto:s.dues@fz-juelich.de)

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**ANIHWA** is concerned with the development of a sustainable focused network of national research funders in Member and Associated States of the EU for the purpose of sharing information, coordinating activities and working towards a common research agenda and mutual research funding activities in the field of animal health and welfare. For more information please visit [www.anihwa.eu](http://www.anihwa.eu).



## **ANNEX 1: DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF TOPICS**

(Included animals of all four (4) topics are: cattle, pigs, poultry, sheep, goats, horses, fishes and bees and minor species like rabbits.)

### **1. Promoting research on the interface between animal health and welfare: development of practical animal-based indicators of animal health and welfare, development and implementation of new husbandry strategies ensuring good health and welfare.**

The proposed study may include one or more of the following aspects:

- Validation of measurable and practical animal-based indicators of both health and welfare under indoor and outdoor conditions including:
  - behavioural and physiological indicators,
  - disease sampling outcomes, data on antibiotics usage, and outputs from slaughterhouses including ante- and post-mortem measures.
- Assessment of pain and suffering caused by:
  - infectious or production diseases, including early indicators of preclinical disease,
  - management practices (beak trimming, castration, tail cutting, dehorning ...) and stress conditions (social density/instability, handling, partial destocking [e.g. thinning in broilers], transport and slaughter conditions ...).
- Evaluation of the efficiency of management practices (e.g. pre- and peri-natal, during rearing and at specific handling events e.g. at weaning) and of good human-animal relationships in animal production for eliciting positive emotional state and reducing the animals' susceptibility to disease.

This topic will be supported in whole or in part by the following countries:

BE(FWO); CH; DE; DK; ES; FI; FR; GR; IL; IT; LT; NL(EL&I); NO; SE; SK; UK

### **2. Development of knowledge which may lead to tools for diagnosis and disease prevention, including vaccines**

Both production diseases and infectious diseases, including emerging, vector-borne diseases and zoonoses are targeted.

For the infectious diseases, the development of new or improved diagnostic tools and vaccines should be based on the study of pathogen biology and host-pathogen interactions, taking into account interacting cells and molecules involved in virulence, pathogenesis, immunity and escape strategies.

Diseases of interest would for example include (but not be limited to) pulmonary infections, mastitis, African swine fever, Mycoplasma infections, influenza, mycobacterial infections (bovine paratuberculosis), brucellosis, Q-fever, vector borne encephalitis, etc. Proposals on metabolic diseases as forms of production diseases are also included.

The proposed study may include one or more of the following aspects:



- the development of assays to distinguish more reliably between infected and vaccinated animals,
- rapid tests to identify pathogens including their virulence, epidemiology and resistance pattern (molecular analysis, incl. nanotechnology e.g. lab-on-chip),
- defence mechanisms, cytokine production and cell-mediated immunity, and post-infection/post-vaccination immunity, including modulation of the host immune response to improve the level of protection, elucidation of the mucosal immune mechanisms, particularly of the gastro-intestinal tract and the respiratory tract, and genetic engineering/delivery of selected molecules,
- disease susceptibility.

This topic will be supported in whole or in part by the following countries:

BE; CH; DK; ES; FR; GR; IL; IT, NL(EL&I); NO; SE; SK; UK

### **3. Improvement of preparedness for emerging and exotic diseases (including vector-borne diseases and zoonoses) by epidemiological approach to risk pathways identification.**

The list of diseases of interest may include (but is not limited to):

Ruminant pox virus infection, Peste des petits ruminants, Swine Vesicular Disease, food borne diseases, Nipah virus, mycobacterial infections (bovine tuberculosis), Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever, African Horse Sickness, African Swine Fever.

The proposed study may include one or more of the following aspects:

- development and concepts of potential future models for prediction and spread of vector-borne diseases,
- early warning systems and communication networks to prevent outbreaks,
- sentinel traps,
- the role of wildlife,
- vector knowledge which may lead to dissemination control measures for mosquitoes, midges, ticks,
- potential intervention strategies (e.g. biosecurity measures).

This topic will be supported in whole or in part by the following funding organisations:

BE; CH; DE (BMELV); DK; FI; FR; IL; IT, LT; NL (VWA); NO; SE; SK; UK

### **4. Antimicrobial and anthelmintic resistance, and development of alternative curative and preventive therapies, like biotherapeutics and other potential alternatives.**

The proposed study may include one or more of the following aspects:

- prevalence of resistance in gut (micro-)organisms,
- rapid tests for identifying resistance,
- analysis and mitigation of resistance genesis with emphasis on resistance critical for human infections,



- prudent use: strategies to reduce and prevent resistance development,
- ecology of drug resistant bacteria and transfer of antimicrobial resistance in livestock production and to humans,
- use of competitive flora, prebiotic feed, and other biotherapeutics or potential alternatives,
- control of infections and eradication plans.

This topic will be supported in whole or in part by the following funding organisations:

BE; CH; DE(BMBF); DK; FI; FR; GR; IL; IT, LT; NL (EL&I); NO; SE; SK; UK;



## ANNEX 2: FUNDING SCHEME BY COUNTRY

Country	Name of Organisation	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4
BE	Veterinary & Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA) * <sup>1</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
BE	Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
CH	Swiss Federal Veterinary Office (FVO)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DE	Federal Ministry of Education & Research (BMBF) * <sup>2</sup>	Yes	No	No	Yes
DE	Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV) * <sup>3</sup>	Yes	No	Yes	No
DK	Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation (DASTI)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ES	Spanish National Institute of Agriculture and Food Research and Technology (INIA)	Yes	Yes	No	No
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
FR	The French National Research Agency (ANR)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
GR	Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs, General Secretariat for Research & Technology, International S&T Cooperation Directorate (NAGREF)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
IL	Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development (MOARD)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
IT	Ministry of Health– Dep. for Veterinary Public Health, Nutrition & Food Safety (HA, DSVETOC)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LT	The Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania (LSMU)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
NL	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture & Innovation (EL&I)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
NL	Food & Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA)	No	No	Yes	No
NO	The Research Council of Norway (RCN)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SE	The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences & Spatial Planning (FORMAS)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SK	Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
UK	Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
UK	Department of for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

### Please note:

\*1: The Belgian CODA-CERVA (the Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre) will fund research on either: 1. the development and validation of multivalent diagnostic tools (e.g. multiplex molecular tests for respiratory disease in pigs, single test multiple detection of specific antibodies), 2. the origin of ESBL resistance and measures to prevent spread, 3. atypical Mycobacterium infections: improved diagnosis, prevalence and zoonotic potential, 4. detection of emerging and exotic infectious diseases, or 5. development of methods for non-invasive sampling of animals, for diagnostic use."

\*2. The BMBF partly supports topic 1 and topic 4 of this call, please see national announcement or contact the national contact person.

\*3. The BMELV partly supports topic 1 and topic 3 of this call, please see national announcement or contact the national contact person.



## ANNEX 3: NATIONAL CONTACTS

In total, the following 20 ANIHWA partners from 16 different countries will take part in the **FIRST ANIHWA Call** with a “distributed common pot” funding. Please get in touch with your national contacts of the various funding agencies before submitting a proposal.

Country	Name	National Contacts	Contact details (e-mail and phone)
BE	Veterinary & Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA)	Hein Imberechts	hein.lmberechts@coda-cerva.be +32 2 379 0426
BE	Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)	Olivier Boehme	olivier.boehme@fwo.be +32 2 550 1545
CH	Swiss Federal Veterinary Office (FVO)	Eric Breidenbach	Eric.Breidenbach@bvet.admin.ch +41 (0)31 323 37 02
DE	Federal Ministry of Education & Research (BMBF)	Sabine Dues	s.dues@fz-juelich.de +49 2461 61 9286
DE	Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV)	Till Schneider	till.schneider@ble.de +49 228 996845 3568
DK	Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation (DASTI)	Nils Gøtke	nigoe@fi.dk +45 5083 6048
ES	Spanish National Institute of Agriculture and Food Research and Technology (INIA)	Anabel de la Peña	anaisabel.delapena@inia.es +34 913 47 8776
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM)	Katri Levonen	katri.levonen@mmm.fi +358 40 723 3887
FR	The French National Research Agency (ANR)	Serawit Bruck	serawit.bruck@agencerecherche.fr +33 173 54 81 70
GR	Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs, General Secretariat for Research & Technology, International S&T Cooperation Directorate (NAGREF)	Chrysoula Diamanti	cdiama@gsrt.gr +30 210 74 58 190
IL	Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development (MOARD)	Orit Shmueli	orits@moag.gov.il +972 3 948 5430
IT	Ministry of Health– Dep. for Veterinary Public Health, Nutrition & Food Safety (HA, DSVETOC)	Marina Bagni	marina.bagni@sanita.it +39 06 5994 6129
LT	The Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania (LSMU)	Antanas Sederevicius	antanas@lva.lt +370 37 363362
NL	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture & Innovation (EL&I)	Jacob van Vliet	j.vanvliet@mineleni.nl +31 (0) 70 7573164
NL	Food & Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA)	Jos Cornelese	jos.cornelese@vwa.nl +31 6 5241 2502
NO	The Research Council of Norway (RCN)	Siri Anzjøn	sia@rcn.no +47 2203 7098
SE	The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences & Spatial Planning (FORMAS)	Johanna van Schaik Dernfalk	Johanna.vanSchaikDernfalk@formas.se +46 8 775 4041
SK	Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)	Jan Barancik	barancik@up.upsav.sk +421 2 5751 0137
UK	Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council Department for the Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (BBSRC)	Sadhana Sharma	sadhana.sharma@bbsrc.ac.uk +44 1793 413 099
UK	Department of for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	Scott Sellers	scott.sellers@defra.gsi.gov.uk +44 207 238 3107