



ANNOUNCEMENT

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

TRANSNATIONAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The 3rd joint call for transnational research projects of the anihwa ERA-Net initiative will open on November 17th, 2014 with a total budget in the region of approx. € 10 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 3rd joint call for transnational research projects of ANIHWA includes the following three (3) topics. Please see ANNEX 1 for a detailed description.

1. Disease control and surveillance

The topic addresses very specifically the subtopics: active surveillance, disease modelling, vector-borne diseases, vaccination and the role of wild-life reservoirs.

2. Production diseases

The topic addresses very specifically the subtopics: infection dynamics on-farm, antimicrobial and anti-parasitic treatment.

3. Animal Welfare

The topic addresses very specifically the subtopics: databases and automatic recording systems, research on dairy cattle, pigs, broilers, laying hens and fish.

(Included animals of all three (3) 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 (36 months).

Project consortia must involve a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of eight (8) 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 that they have their own secured resources.

Potential project consortia partners are highly 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/third-call from 17th of November 2014 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 (www.anihwa-submission-era.net) to the **anihwa call office** as the central communication point.

Pre-proposals: A pre-proposal contains information on all consortium partners, an abstract, and project aims, description, keywords, added value of international collaboration, a Gantt chart and an overview of project costs as outlined in the guidelines. Pre-proposals will be checked by the funders from each of the countries involved to ensure that they comply with national eligibility criteria. The **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/third-call). If one partner of a research consortium is ineligible to one of the funding organisations involved, the proposal of this research consortium will not be accepted to the full stage. This means all partners must be eligible and all partners should confirm eligibility with their national contact point before submission. The eligible pre-proposals will be peer-reviewed by an international external expert panel. After both checks the anihwa ERA-Net funders will decide, which consortia will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Full proposals will be peer-reviewed by an international expert panel that is different for each of the 3 topics.

TIMELINE

Call opening is on 17th of November 2014. The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is **12th of February 2015, 12:00 CET** (call closing pre-proposal phase).

Invitations for full proposals will be sent to project coordinators in the week of the 4th of May 2015.

The deadline for submitting full proposals will be the **2nd of July, 2015, 12:00 CEST** (call closing full proposal phase).

The funding decisions are expected to be announced end of October 2015.

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 electronically be submitted at www.anihwa-submission-era.net by the respective deadlines.

anihwa ERA-Net Call Office:

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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.



ANNEX 1: DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF TOPICS

(Included animals of all three (3) topics are: cattle, pigs, poultry, sheep, goats, horses, fishes, bees and minor species like rabbits.)

Topic 1: Disease control and surveillance

The “Disease control and surveillance” topic addresses very specifically the subtopics: active surveillance, disease modelling, vector-borne diseases, vaccination and the role of wild-life reservoirs. The research proposal should address one or more subtopics.

Active surveillance

Research to develop and improve approaches to surveillance activities e.g. with a focus on risk based and standardised outcomes, and development of cheaper and more sensitive diagnostic tests (serological tests, PCR’s, etc., including pen-site tests)

Disease modelling

Modelling spatial and temporal spread of current and emerging diseases, e.g. by outbreak simulation, taking the effect of climate change and globalization into account ; bio-economical modelling of cost/benefit for various control measures (e.g. herd culling, quarantine and vaccination) should be included.

Vector-borne diseases

Research to develop epidemiological models of vector-borne diseases, for mosquitoes, midges, sand flies and ticks including investigation of a number of parameters: geographic distribution, climatic factors, survival parameters, vectorial competence, possible overwintering in the vector, incubation period, its dependence on temperature, etc., and alternative possibilities for vector control. Projects addressing multiple factors or multiple disease/vector interactions are encouraged.

Vaccination

Estimate of the necessary vaccination coverage for a number of diseases e.g. by simulating various scenarios and estimating R₀-values for vaccinated vs. unvaccinated populations.

Role of wild-life reservoirs

Research on the role of wild-life reservoirs: systematic studies of transmission parameters and the effect of bio-security measures, e.g. physical barriers towards contact with wild-life. Social science investigation may help identify reasons for lack of compliance among essential stakeholders.

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

BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, IE, IL, IT, LT, NL, NO, SE, SK, UK

Note: DE only supports “Vector-borne diseases”. IE supports only “Active Surveillance”. In NL only NVWA supports “Active surveillance” of this topic. In UK BBSRC supports the subtopic “Vector-borne diseases” only. DEFRA supports this topic in whole; however DEFRA cannot confirm its budget until early 2015. Consortia including UK partners supported by DEFRA are encouraged and ANIHWAVE will establish a mechanism to mitigate against any perceived risk associated with including these UK partners.



Topic 2: Production diseases

The “Production diseases” topic addresses very specifically the subtopics: infection dynamics on-farm, antimicrobial and anti-parasitic treatment. The research proposal should address one or more subtopics.

Infection dynamics on-farm

Generate knowledge on infection dynamics on-farm as related to age group, animal density, housing conditions, containment, etc.; perform well-designed studies, reflecting the farm conditions, particularly for multiple pathogens and their interactions and/or multi-factorial diseases. This may be combined with a risk-factor analysis or bio-economical modelling to further define acceptable levels of clinical/subclinical infection or to identify suitable changes of management.

Alternatives to antimicrobial treatment

Research into the proper formulations of probiotics and prebiotics, in order to improve the intestinal microbiota and reduce the need for antimicrobial treatment; research on the potential of non-traditional compounds and methods, such as antimicrobial peptides, medicinal plants, silencing RNA and bacteriophages as practical candidates for alternatives for antimicrobial use.

Alternatives to anti-parasitic treatment

Research into alternative control methods for parasite infestations, which may include: management approaches for outdoor rearing and/or non-traditional compounds with anti-parasitic effects.

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

BE, CH, DK, ES, FI, FR, IE, IT, LT, NL, NO, SE, SK

Note: FPS-CR of BE only supports the sub-topics “Alternatives to antimicrobial treatment”. CODA-CERVA of BE only supports the subtopics “Infection dynamics on-farm” and “Alternatives to antimicrobial treatment”. DAFM of IE supports only “Infection dynamics on-farm”. In NL only EZ supports subtopics “Infection dynamics on-farm” and “Alternatives to anti-parasitic treatment”.

Topic 3: Animal Welfare

The “Animal Welfare” topic addresses very specifically the subtopics: databases and automatic recording systems, research on dairy cattle, pigs, broilers, laying hens and fish. The research proposal should address one or more subtopics, with particular emphasis on production conditions.

Databases and automatic recording systems

Development and validation of automatic recording systems (video, etc.) of animal behaviour and the design of the necessary algorithms for treating and sharing such data.

Identification, selection and consolidation of data on animal welfare for deposition/storage in community defined searchable and sustainable databases with harmonised and standardised data, including tools to analyse and interpret datasets and analysis of links between measures, factors and



welfare outcomes. Data should include, amongst others, recordings of animal, resource and management-based measures and slaughterhouse recordings.

Dairy cattle

Research improving the understanding of the welfare effects of: pain associated with injury, acute and chronic infectious production diseases, and/or exhaustion associated with prolonged high metabolic demand, with the aim of developing improved methods for quantitative and semi-quantitative measurements of welfare on farms.

Pigs

Research addressing the biological relevance and prevention of: pain, frustration and other positive and negative emotional states with the aim of developing animal-based measures to be used as welfare outcome indicators on-farm.

Broilers and laying hens

Research which allows closer elucidation of the animals' behavioural needs, such as understanding the causes of and remedying feather pecking. This may include genetic selection and modification of the housing conditions. Development of an on-farm feather and injury scoring method that covers the extent of damage caused by aggressive behaviour.

Fish

The proposed research should include one or more of the following aspects: slaughter techniques, nutrition, natural behaviour, population density, environmental quality, and transport.

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

BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, IL, IT, LT, NL, NO, SE, SK, UK

Note: In BE only FWO supports this topic. In NL only EZ supports subtopic on "Pigs (tail docking)" and "Laying hens (feather pecking)".



ANNEX 2: FUNDING SCHEME BY COUNTRY AND ORGANISATION

Funding Organisation	Country	Budget	Topic 1: Disease control and surveillance	Topic 2: Production diseases	Topic 3: Animal welfare
Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment - Contractual Research (FPS-CR)	BE	€200.000 ^{*4}	Yes	Yes ^{*7}	No
Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA)	BE	In kind ^{*4}	Yes	Yes ^{*8}	No
Research Foundation-Flanders (FWO)	BE	€200.000 ^{*4}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)	CH	€670.000 ^{*3}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food (BMEL)	DE	€150.000 ^{*4}	Yes ^{*9}	No	Yes
Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD)	DK	€500.000 ^{*3}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spanish National Institute of Agriculture and Food Research and Technology (INIA)	ES	€200.000 ^{*5}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM)	FI	€200.000 ^{*4}	Yes	Yes	Yes
French National Research Agency (ANR)	FR	€1.500.000 ^{*1}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine (DAFM)	IE	€500.000 ^{*4}	Yes ^{*10}	Yes ^{*11}	No
Kimron Veterinary Institute	IL	€180.000 ^{*4}	Yes	No	Yes
Ministry of Health, General Secretariat, (MoH)	IT	€1.000.000 ^{*3}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania/Veterinary Academy of Lithuanian University of Health Science (LSMU)	LT	€100.000 ^{*4}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ministry of Economic Affairs (EZ)	NL	€200.000 ^{*4}	No	Yes ^{*12}	Yes ^{*13}
Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA)	NL	€200.000 ^{*4}	Yes ^{*14}	No	No
The Research Council of Norway (RCN)	NO	€550.000 ^{*3}	Yes ^{*15}	Yes ^{*15}	Yes ^{*15}
The Swedish Research Council Formas (FORMAS)	SE	€1.500.000 ^{*2}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)	SK	€75.000 ^{*4}	Yes	Yes	Yes
Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)	UK	€1.000.000 ^{*4/17}	Yes ^{*16}	No	Yes
Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	UK	Not available ^{*4/6}	Yes	No	No

*1 maximum funding request per applicant should not exceed 15% of available fund

*2 maximum funding request per applicant should not exceed of 25% of available fund

*3 maximum funding request per applicant should not exceed of 30% of available fund

*4 maximum funding request per applicant must explicitly be requested

*5 INIA does not have official authorization for their expenditure, yet. However, INIA will express its commitment once the budget is officially authorized. Maximum funding request per applicant is 75.000€.



- *⁶ Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs cannot confirm its budget until early 2015. Consortia including UK partners supported by DEFRA for Topic 1 are encouraged and ANIHWAA will establish a mechanism to mitigate against any perceived risk associated with including these UK partners.
- *⁷ Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment - Contractual Research only supports the sub-topic 'Alternatives to antimicrobial treatment' of Topic 2.
- *⁸ Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA) only supports the sub-topics 'Infection dynamics on-farm' and 'Alternatives to antimicrobial treatment' of Topic 2.
- *⁹ Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food supports only subtopic "Vector-borne diseases" of Topic 1.
- *¹⁰ Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine supports only the subtopic on "Active surveillance" of Topic 1.
- *¹¹ Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine supports only the subtopic on "Infection dynamics on-farm" of Topic 2.
- *¹² Ministry of Economic Affairs only supports subtopic on "Infection dynamics on-farm" and "Alternatives to anti-parasitic treatment".
- *¹³ Ministry of Economic Affairs only supports subtopic "pigs (tail docking)" and "laying hens (feather pecking)"
- *¹⁴ Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority only supports subtopic on "Active surveillance" of Topic 1.
- *¹⁵ Research Council of Norway: Proposals within the marine sector / fisheries will not be invited, unless they represent basic research with relevance also for the agricultural sector, included animals; as in the call text, except from horses: Relevance will be considered in relation to the Swedish/Norwegian Programme of Research on Horses.
- *¹⁶ BBSRC supports the subtopic "Vector-borne diseases" of Topic 1 only.
- *¹⁷ BBSRC confirmed participation on the 19th of November 2014.



ANNEX 3: NATIONAL CONTACTS

In total, the following 20 anihwa partners from 16 different countries will take part in the **third 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.

Funding Organisation	Country	Contact person	e-mail	Phone
Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment - Contractual Research (FPS-CR)	BE	Dominique Vandekerchove	dominique.vandekerchove@health.belgium.be	+32 2 524 9091
Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA)	BE	Hein Imberechts	hein.imberechts@coda-cerva.be	+32 2 379 0426
Research Foundation-Flanders (FWO)	BE	Olivier Boehme	eranet@fwo.be	+32 2 550 1545
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)	CH	Eric Breidenbach	eric.breidenbach@blv.admin.ch	+41 58 463 37 02
Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BMEL)	DE	Babette Breuer	babette.breuer@ble.de	+49 228 68452925
Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD)	DK	Peder Fode	peder.fode@innofond.dk	+45 6190 5036
Spanish National Institute of Agriculture and Food Research and Technology (INIA)	ES	Anabel de la Peña	eranets@inia.es	+34 9 1347 8776
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM)	FI	Katri Levonen	katri.levonen@mmm.fi	+358 2 9516 2385
French National Research Agency (ANR)	FR	Serena Battaglia	serena.battaglia@agencerecherche.fr	+33 1 78 09 80 14
Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine (DAFM)	IE	John Egan Dale Crammond	john.egan@agriculture.gov.ie dale.crammond@agriculture.gov.ie	+353 1 615 7138 +353 1 607 2302
Kimron Veterinary Institute	IL	Michel Bellaiche	michelb@moag.gov.il	+972 3 968 1682
Ministry of Health, General Secretariat (MoH)	IT	Marina Bagni	marina.bagni@sanita.it	+39 06 5994 6129
Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania/Veterinary Academy of Lithuanian University of Health Science (LSMU)	LT	Antanas Sederevicius	antanas@lva.lt	+370 37 363362
Ministry of Economic Affairs (EZ)	NL	Françoise Divanach	f.t.m.divanach@minez.nl	+31 70 378 6083
Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA)	NL	Jos Cornelese	jos.cornelese@vwa.nl	+31 6 5241 2502
The Research Council of Norway (RCN)	NO	Siri Anzjøn	sia@rcn.no	+47 2203 7098/ +47 4740 0171
The Swedish Research Council Formas (FORMAS)	SE	Johanna van Schaik Dernfalk	johanna.dernfalk@formas.se	+46 8 775 4041
Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)	SK	Jan Barancik	barancik@up.upsav.sk	+421 2 5751 0137
Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)	UK* ¹⁷	Sadhana Sharma	sadhana.sharma@BBSRC.ac.uk	+44 1 7934 13099
Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	UK	Kathryn Woolaway	kathryn.woolaway@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk	+44 207 238 6497

*¹⁷ BBSRC confirmed participation on the 19th of November 2014.