anihwa
Animal Health and Welfare ERA-Net

ANNOUNCEMENT

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

TRANSNATIONAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The 2nd joint call for transnational research projects of the anihwa ERA-Net initiative will open on September 16th, 2013 with a total budget in the region of approx. € 11 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 2nd joint call for transnational research projects of ANIHWA includes the following 4 topics. Please see ANNEX 1 for a detailed description.

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

(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 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.

ANIHWA ERA-Net is funded by the European Commission’s Seventh Framework Programme. Contract No. 291815

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/second-call from 16th of September 2013 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, project aims, description, key-words, 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/second-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 full-proposals.

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

TIMELINE

Call opening is on 16th of September. The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is 19th of December, 2013, 17:00 CET (call closing pre-proposal phase).

Invitations for full-proposals will be sent to project coordinators in the week of the 17th of March 2013.

The deadline for submitting full-proposals will be the 21st of May, 2014, 17:00 CET (call closing full-proposal phase).

The funding decisions are expected to be announced middle of October 2014.

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 by the respective deadlines.

anihwa ERA-Net Call Office:

Contact: Sabine Dues (+49 [0]24 61 61 -92 86)
Emilie Gätje (+49 [0]24 61 61 -96 367)

e-mail: ptj-anihwa@fz-juelich.de

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.

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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.)

Topic 1: Promoting research integrating animal health and welfare: development of animal-based indicators of animal health and welfare, development and implementation of new husbandry systems ensuring good health and welfare.

The proposed study should 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:

- behavioral and physiological indicators, immunological and genetic markers, of adaptation to stress and to a changing environment
- disease sampling outcomes (including production diseases), data on antibiotics usage, and outputs from slaughter houses including ante- and post-mortem measures
- development and application of genomic and molecular indicators for animal breeding in relation to animal welfare and health (e.g. reduced aggressive behavior, reduced disease susceptibility, mitigation and adaption to climate change, etc)

Development and implementation of new livestock husbandry and management systems ensuring good health and welfare including:

- development of innovative livestock facilities, transport vehicles or practices and husbandry practices to improve AW in warm climatic conditions
- development of integrated models of livestock housing, transport, handling, and stunning, that take into account the behavior and welfare of animals
- development of new models of livestock production and management aiming at improving productivity and environmental, energetic and economic sustainability

Assessment of pain and suffering caused by:

- infectious or production diseases, including early indicators of preclinical disease,
- mutilation (beak trimming, castration, tail cutting, dehorning …) and commonly used management practices (social density/instability, handling, partial destocking [e.g. thinning in broilers], transport and slaughter conditions …).

Evaluation of the possibility of using management practices (e.g. during the pre- and perinatal period, during rearing and at specific handling events such as weaning and regrouping) and human-animal relationships for eliciting positive emotional states and reducing the animals' susceptibility to disease.

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

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

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Topic 2: Development of knowledge which may lead to new or improved tools for diagnosis and disease prevention, including vaccines.

Both production diseases and infectious diseases, including emerging diseases, vector-borne diseases, trans-boundary/epizootic 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.

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

- development of approaches to distinguish reliably between infected and vaccinated animals, including DIVA compatible vaccines,
- rapid tests to identify pathogens including their virulence, epidemiology and resistance pattern (molecular analysis, incl. nanotechnology e.g. lab-on-chip),
- better understanding of protective 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,
- new or improved adjuvants for parenteral and mucosal vaccination, improving the immune response and reducing side effects

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

BE, CH, DE, DK*[7], ES, FI, FR, IT, LT, NO, SE, SK, UK

*[7]: Denmark supports all 4 topics but with a priority to proposals submitted under topic 1 and 4

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

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

- development of potential models for prediction and spread of vector-borne diseases,
- information on the competence of EU vector species for vector-borne diseases
- early warning systems, risk assessment and communication networks to prevent outbreaks,
- disease modeling/bio-economical modeling to support systematic evaluation of efficacy of biosecurity measures and to better understand the consequences of outbreaks and develop scenarios for control of the diseases
- the role of wildlife, including impact of border crossing
- potential intervention strategies (e.g. biosecurity measures)

Proposals addressing zoonoses, production diseases and trans-boundary/epizootic diseases will be considered.

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

BE, CH, DE, DK*[7], ES, FI, FR, GR, IT, LT, SE, SK, UK

*[7]: Denmark supports all 4 topics but with a priority to proposals submitted under topic 1 and 4

Topic 4: Antimicrobial and anthelmintic resistance, and development of alternative curative and preventive therapies.

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

- prevalence of resistance in gut (micro-)organisms,
- rapid tests for identifying resistance,
- ecology of drug resistant bacteria and transfer of antimicrobial resistance in livestock production and to humans,
- analysis and mitigation of resistance genesis with emphasis on resistance critical for human infections,
- prudent use: strategies to reduce antibiotic / anthelmintic treatment, e.g. by use of competitive flora, prebiotic feed, other bio-therapeutics or potential alternatives and/or control and management procedures, like systematic vaccination and hygienic procedures based on improved knowledge of disease kinetics and epidemiology, including the development of eradication plans for endemic diseases.

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

BE, CH, DK, FI, FR, GR, IE, IT, LT, SE, SK, UK

ANNEX 2: FUNDING SCHEME BY COUNTRY

Ctry	Organisation	Budget	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4
BE	Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment - Contractual Research	200.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	x
BE	Research Foundation-Flanders	200.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	x
BE	Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA) *[6]	in kind*[4]		x	x	x
CH	Federal Veterinary Office	670.000 €*[3]	x	x	x	x
DE	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection	700.000 €*[3]	x	x	x	
DK	Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation*[7]	500.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	x
ES	Spanish National Institute of Agriculture and Food Research and Technology	200.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	200.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	x
FR	French National Research Agency	1.000.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	x
GR	Hellenic Agricultural Organization -DIMITRA former National Agricultural Research Foundation - N.AG.RE.F.	in kind*[4]	x		x	x
IE	Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine	250.000 €*[4]				x*[5]
IT	Ministry of Health, Dep. for Veterinary Public Health, Nutrition & Food Safety	1.167.200€*[3]	x	x	x	x
LT	Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania/Veterinary Academy of Lithuanian University of Health Science	100.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	x
NO	The Research Council of Norway	600.000 €*[3]	x	x		
SE	The Research Council FORMAS	1.500.000 €*[2]	x	x	x	x
SK	Slovak Academy of Sciences	75.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	x
UK	Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council	2.200.000 €*[4]	x	x	x	x
UK	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	data not published*[4]		x	x	

*[1]: maximum funding request per applicant of 20% of available fund
*[2]: maximum funding request per applicant of 25% of available fund
*[3]: maximum funding request per applicant of 30% of available fund
*[4]: maximum funding request per applicant not published, must explicitly be requested

*[5]: The department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine of Ireland focus on pig sector only.

*[6]: CODA-CERVA will not support projects in the field of Topic 1. For Topic 2 «Development of knowledge which may lead to new or improved tools for diagnosis and disease prevention, including vaccines», CODA-CERVA is interested in items 1, 2 and 3. For Topic 3 "Improvement of preparedness for emerging and exotic diseases by an epidemiological approach to risk pathways identification", the first two items have CODA-CERVA's priority. As for Topic 4 «Antimicrobial and anthelmintic resistance, and development of alternative curative and preventive therapies» only the item with regards to alternative approaches to combat antibiotic selection, is of interest for CODA-CERVA.

*[7]: Denmark supports all 4 topics but with a priority to proposals submitted under topic 1 and 4.

ANNEX 3: NATIONAL CONTACTS

In total, the following 18 anihwa partners from 15 different countries will take part in the **SECOND 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.

Ctry	Organisation	Contact person	e-mail	Phone
BE	Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment - Contractual Research	Dominique Vandekerchove	Dominique.Vandekerchove@health.belgium.be	+32 2 524 9091
BE	Research Foundation-Flanders	Olivier Boehme	olivier.boehme@fwo.be	+32 2 550 1545
BE	Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA)	Hein Imberechts	hein.imberechts@coda-cerva.be	+32 2 379 0426
CH	Federal Veterinary Office	Eric Breidenbach	eric.breidenbach@bvet.admin.ch	+41 31 323 3702
DE	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection	Babette Breuer	babette.breuer@ble.de	+49 228 6845 2925
DK	Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation	Peder Fode	pff@fi.dk	+45 72318386
ES	Spanish National Institute of Agriculture and Food Research and Technology	Anabel de la Peña	eranets@inia.es	+34 9 1347 8776
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Katri Levonen	katri.levonen@mmm.fi	+358 2 9516 2385
FR	French National Research Agency	Heidi Ligeret	heidi.ligeret@agencerecherche.fr	+33 1 7809 8044
GR	Hellenic Agricultural Organization - DIMITRA former National Agricultural Research Foundation - N.AG.RE.F.	Loukia Ekateriniadou	ekateriniadou@vri.gr	+30 23 1036 5392
IE	Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine	Crammond Dale	dale.crammond@agriculture.gov.ie	+353 1 6072302
IT	Ministry of Health, Dep. for Veterinary Public Health, Nutrition & Food Safety	Marina Bagni	marina.bagni@sanita.it	+39 06 5994 6129
LT	Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania/Veterinary Academy of Lithuanian University of Health Science	Antanas Sederevicius	antanas@lva.lt	+370 37 363362
NO	The Research Council of Norway	Siri Anzjøn	sia@rcn.no	+47 2203 7098/ +47 4740 0171
SE	The Research Council Formas	Johanna van Schaik Dernfalk	johanna.dernfalk@formas.se	+46 8 775 4041
SK	Slovak Academy of Sciences	Jan Barancik	barancik@up.upsav.sk	+421 2 5751 0137
UK	Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council	Merewyn Loder	merewyn.loder@BBSRC.ac.uk	+44 1 793 41 3283
UK	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Kathryn Woolaway	kathryn.woolaway@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk	+44 207 238 6497

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