



"Spreading Excellence and Widening participation in Horizon 2020"

WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs

European Commission

DG RTD

Unit B.5 – Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

The Horizon 2020 logo, featuring a globe in the center of the word "HORIZON" and the year "2020". The background is a blue gradient with a glowing horizon line and a globe in the center.

HORIZON 2020

Research and
Innovation

WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs

- 1. Objectives of the action**
- 2. Proposal design**
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1- WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs – Objectives of the action

- Bring high quality researchers and managers to universities and other research organisations **with the potential for research excellence.**
- Institutions should implement **structural changes** to achieve excellence on a sustainable basis.

2- WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs

– Proposal design

- In **any scientific domain** of research and innovation but expected to be inline with regional/national **strategies for smart specialisation**.
- Shall comprise measures to foster compliance with **ERA priorities** (open recruitment, peer review, gender balance, innovative doctoral training).
- Include a plan to increase **Research Capacity**: measures for better use of the installed research capacity; description of any necessary investments in facilities and infrastructures and present a strategy to mobilise support for them (including possible support from Cohesion funds -ESIF).



3- WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs - Expected Impact

- Increased attractiveness of institution and region for **excellent researchers**.
- **Research excellence** in the fields covered by the ERA Chair.
- **Increase participation** of the institution in Horizon 2020 and other internationally competitive funding programmes
- Institutional changes to comply with **ERA priorities**
- Contribution to regional and/or national **smart specialisation strategies**, including obtaining support where appropriate from European Structural and Investment Funds.



4- WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs - The ERA Chair holder

- The ERA Chair holder should be an **outstanding researcher and research manager** with a proven record of leadership.
- The appointment of an ERA Chair holder must follow an **open and merit-based recruitment process**, and will be subject to monitoring by the European Commission.
- ERA Chair holder shall be designated as a **full time position** or equivalent contractual arrangement.
- The institution should ensure **autonomy** for the Chair and his/her team
- ERA Chairs can be of **any nationality**

5- WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs - Eligibility Criteria and budget

- As for the other measures under Widening, applicant organisations shall be established in eligible Members States and Associated countries indicated in the Work Programme.
- One **single applicant** (mono-beneficiary action).
- EU contribution not to exceed a **maximum of EUR 2,5 million** for up **to 5 years**
- EU contribution is limited to a **maximum of 90% of total** estimated budget

WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs

- Budget

- **Salaries** of ERA Chairs and his/her team.
- Contribution towards measures aimed at facilitating structural changes at the institution.
 - **ERA priorities,**
 - **Costs including training, meetings, publication and patenting costs, equipment (in duly justified cases), etc.**

The grant is not a measure to fund research *per se* and will **not cover research costs!**

6- ERA Chairs FP7 Pilot Call

6.1- Characteristics of the call

6.2- Analysis of results

6.3- Lessons learned during evaluation and negotiation

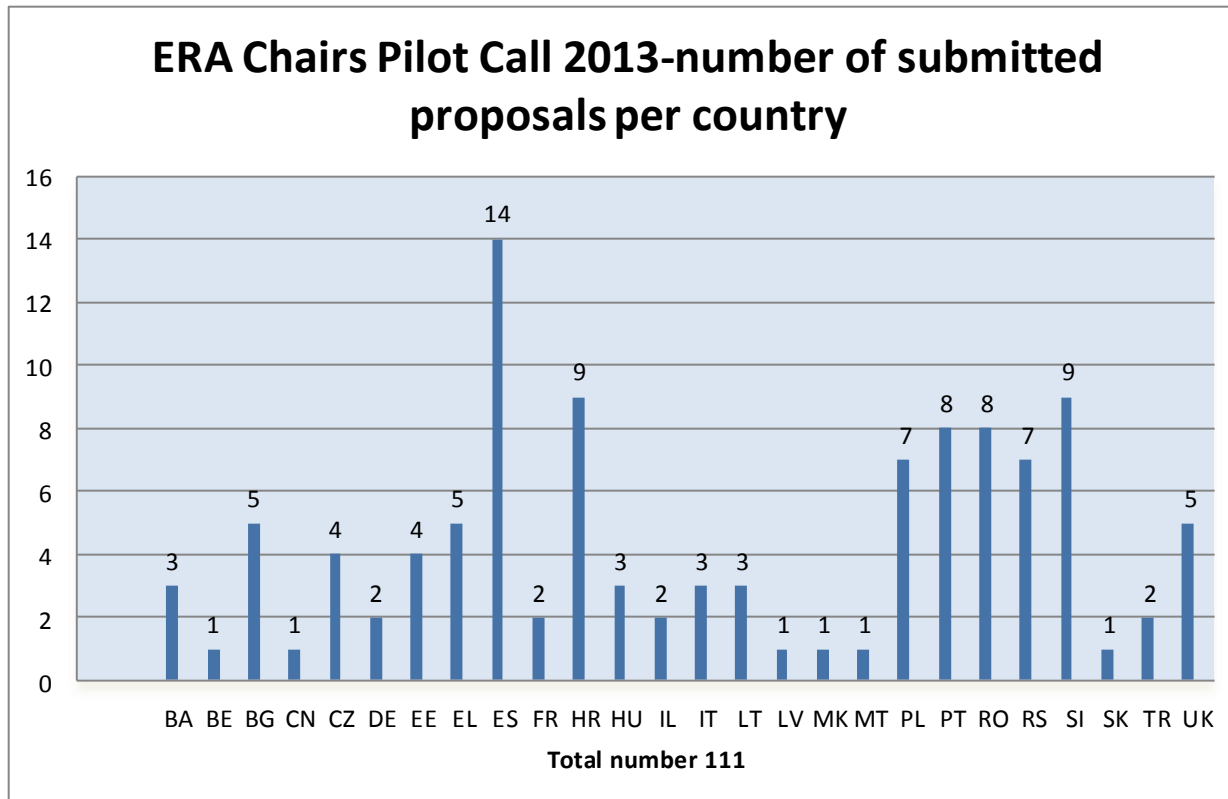
6.1- Characteristics ERA Chairs FP7 Pilot Call

- A pilot call to test the measure set up under FP7 with a deadline for submission on **30 May 2013** and an indicative budget of **EUR 12 million**.
- Call **published in the 2012-13 Capacities WP** which focuses on **convergence regions**.
- Similar conditions for the 1st H2020 call **except that maximum one successful project per country** to be funded.
- Call largely **oversubscribed** (total of **111 submissions**)
- Budget **increased to EUR 24 million** (allowing for 11 ERA Chairs) to increase geographical scope.
- **Negotiations completed for the 11 successful proposals**

ERA Chairs FP7 Pilot Call: Criteria

1. **One ERA Chairs max per country**
2. **One single legal entity in eligible countries/regions**
3. **Eligible countries/regions = convergence regions 2007-13 and associated countries**
4. **EU contribution** is limited to a **maximum of 90% of total** estimated budget
5. **Requested EU** contribution not to exceed a **maximum of EUR 2,4 million** for up to **5 years**

6.2- ERA Chairs FP7 Pilot Call: Results



ERA Chairs FP7 Pilot Call: Results

- Wide **geographical spread** among applicants
- With the exception of Austria, **all Member States with eligible regions were represented**
- **55 proposals from the "New" Member States** with all eligible states represented
- Significant number of **submissions from eligible regions in associated and candidate countries**
- Of the 111 proposals submitted, **14 were deemed ineligible** (by the dedicated Eligibility Committee)
- Of the **97 proposals evaluated, 48 passed all thresholds** while the others failed to obtain minimum marks in, at least, one of the criteria and were thus not ranked.

ERA Chairs FP7 Pilot Call: Results

- The ranking list encompassed **all the main scientific fields** in R&I
- Successful institutions are committed to “**Smart specialisation strategies**” in collaboration with regional authorities and other local or regional stakeholders.

ERA Chairs FP7 Pilot Call: ...and the winners are...

Country	Institution	Acronym	Project subject
Belgium	Université de Mons	Re-SIZED	Energy efficiency in cities
Croatia	University of Zagreb -Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	VetMedZed	Molecular veterinary medicine
Czech Republic	Masarykova univerzita	CEITEC	Life sciences
Estonia	Tallinna Tehnikaulikool	TUTIC GREEN	Chemistry and biomass treatment
Poland	Instytut Genetyki Roslin Polskiej Akademii Nauk	BIOTALENT	Plant biology
Portugal	MITI – Madeira Interactive Technologies Institute Associacao	LEAPFROG	Human computer interactions
Republic of Serbia	Institut Za Nuklearne Nauke Vinca	MAGBIOVIN	Nanotechnology
Slovakia	Zilinska Univerzita v Ziline	ERADIATE	Transport systems and communication technologies
Slovenia	Institut Jozef Stefan	ISOFOOD	Food analysis through radioactive isotopes
Spain	Universidad de las Palmas de Grand Canaria	ECOAQUA	Aquaculture
United Kingdom	Falmouth University	GRO	Digital games design

6.3- ERA Chairs FP7 Pilot Call: Lessons learned during evaluation and negotiation

1. **Define objectives** towards institutional changes
2. Demonstrate the **role and autonomy of the ERA Chair** holder
3. **Work Packages** should be consistent and contribute to an overall Action Plan
4. **Management structures** need to be well defined and simple.
5. Establish links **with regional funding (smart specialisation)**.

7- WIDESPREAD 2: ERA Chairs Calls

- **A total of 3 calls are foreseen during H2020 with a total budget of EUR 240 million**

Provisonal call deadlines: 2014; 2017 and 2019

Indicative budget: 1st call EUR 34 million; 2nd EUR 100 million and 3rd EUR 110 million

- **Widespread 2-2014: 1st Call Open since 11 December 2013!**

*Call deadline: 15 october 2014=> Proposals evaluated by **December 2014***

EU contribution: maximum of EUR 2,5 million for up to 5 years

Funding scheme: CSA-SA (Supporting Action)



WIDESPREAD 2-2014: ERA Chairs – Additional information

Participant Portal

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/calls/h2020-widespread-2014-2.html>

ERA Chairs webpage:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/era-chairs_en.html

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!