**Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology, and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing**

**DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2016-17**

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# Call for Energy-efficient Buildings (EeB)

**H2020-EeB-2016/2017**

The EeB cPPP will support a high-tech building industry which turns the need for energy efficiency into an opportunity for sustainable business, fostering EU competitiveness in the construction sector at the global level.

In case materials modelling is proposed, the modelling Work Packages should be described similarly to the Review of Material Modelling <http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/pdf/modelling-brochure_en.pdf> ; If new software is developed, software engineering quality measures should be part of the proposals.

Proposers should consider participation in open data pilot (mandatory for modelling topics) and the European modelling market place initiatives (reference to the 2017 topic).

### EeB 01-2016 Highly efficient insulation materials with improved properties

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The role of insulation is essential to achieve energy efficiency in renovated buildings and in nearly zero energy buildings following the requirements of the recast of the Energy Performance of Building Directive (2010/31/EU). An improved insulation in buildings will have a large impact on the reduction of energy consumption and CO2 emissions at European level. It can also bring significant environmental, economic and social benefits both for the Member States and for the citizens.

Although currently many materials are available on the market, there is a strong need to develop affordable advanced insulation materials which exceed the performance of presently used materials, and also respect strict sustainability principles

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should address the development and characterisation of new insulation materials and solutions based on nanotechnologies and/or advanced sustainable materials and offering enhanced insulation properties and environmental performance. Moreover, proposals could also focus on the need for highly effective insulation materials that could also dynamically respond to environmental stimuli (temperature, light, humidity, air and biological pollution, etc..)

The proposed solutions should go well beyond the state of the art and take into account the final performance properties of the new materials and of the respective building components.

The following factors should also be considered: enhanced durability for increased use duration, reduced maintenance and reduced costs; respect of sustainability principles (the sustainability of each developed solution should be evaluated via life cycle assessment studies carried out according to the International Reference Life Cycle Data System - ILCD Handbook); reduced embodied energy and minimised environmental impacts; applicability to both new build and renovation; lightweight construction and ease of installation; realistic solutions at a competitive price fully compatible with a wide set of material combinations which reflect the wide variety of building typologies across the EU; limited impact on living space; increased comfort and noise reduction; fit for deconstruction; recycling/reuse of materials at end of life. Resistance to damaging agents such as fire, moisture, rodents etc should also be considered when relevant for the application. Standardisation aspects should be included particularly in relation with the work carried out in CEN/TC 350. Additional properties such as multi-functionality, load bearing capacity (and other mechanical properties), improvement of indoor air quality, and use of wastes may also be considered.

Proof of concept in terms of one (or more) component(s) containing the new materials developed should be delivered within the project, excluding commercially usable prototypes (2006/C323/01), but convincingly demonstrating scalability towards industrial needs duly justifying availability of the proposed materials for potential further massive use and wide replication across Europe. Information guides for applications, installation and training on the new solutions should be provided before the end of the project.

In addition to the industrial, academic and construction stakeholders, the participation of public authorities would also be an asset for the proposals, as public authorities own a large part of the building stock at European level.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

To maximise their impact, the funded projects are expected to cluster with each other in order to facilitate research cohesion, integration, and advancement of the EeB-PPP agenda.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL 6.**

 The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

Compared to state of the art materials and components, the newly developed materials should bring:

* Improvement by at least 25% of the insulation properties at component level;
* Reduction by at least 20% of the total costs compared to existing solutions
* Improvement by at least 20 % of durability at component level;
* Proof of high replication potential both in new built and renovation in Europe;
* Easier implementation;
* At least a 15% reduction of the energy spent during the whole life cycle of a building;
* Strengthening of the competitiveness of the European construction sector in the field of “green” construction technologies.
* Improvement in indoor air quality.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### EeB 02-2016: Performance indicators and monitoring techniques for energy-efficiency and environmental quality at building and district level

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The construction sector is a key player in the efforts to decarbonise the European economy with the goal to drastically reduce energy consumption and decrease CO2 emissions. Key Performance Indicators, along with appropriate methodologies and tools are crucial in order to quantify and benchmark the energy-efficiency and the environmental quality at building and district level. Adequate monitoring and management techniques are also needed, mixing results and practices from the building sector together with other relevant sectors like energy grid to ensure an effective performance improvement both at building and district level.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should focus on solutions beyond the state of the art, which will improve and provide a feedback on the experiences on energy efficiency and environmental quality from the latest generation of new and renovated buildings and their interactions in districts.

Proposals should focus on the following main objectives:

* To establish a consolidated structured and geo-clustered analysis and compilation of the latest generation buildings and their interaction with district resources in order to develop the return of experience associated with them,
* To identify and analyse relevant sectorial indicators, data models and supporting ICTs enabling and supporting decision making for energy efficiency and environmental quality, from design to operational phases,
* To elaborate and develop operational and harmonised protocols supporting tools and systems to characterize the performances in real operational conditions,
* To develop benchmarks on the impact of the non-qualities on the overall energy performance, which protect privacy while allowing deep analysis,
* To understand the specific causes of non-performance or sub-optimal performance throughout the entire life cycle (from design to construction and operation) and promoting best practices to the industry.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 500.000 and 750.000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting other amounts. **No more than one proposal will be funded.**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

Impacts are expected on:

Impacts are expected on:

* Setting up more accurate guidance for all types of building that can be used by design teams. These accurate guidance shall match actual building operation more closely;
* Collecting Europe-wide data and knowledge on the effective performance of new and renovated buildings of the latest generation;
* Developing scientific and technical databases which shall be robust and shared to objectify and characterize performance in situ. These database shall also allow the comparison between forecasts and reality, and detail the need to change practices;
* Enabling statistical and knowledge analyses enabling to reach consensus on how to bridge the gap between performances expected at the design level and performances really obtained.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### EeB 03-2016: Integration of advanced technologies for heating and cooling at building and district level

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

* The energy used for space heating, cooling and hot water generation represents most of the overall energy consumption in buildings (70-90% of total energy). In order to reduce this consumption, state-of-the-art or new technologies need to be deployed, developed and integrated with high efficiency equipment, both for residential buildings and districts. The share of renewable energies in the energy supply for heating, cooling and hot water generation needs to be increased.
* Cost effective, practical and affordable solutions need to be demonstrated and validated to ensure the success of the retrofitting business. The current potential of energy saving in the EU through renovation activities is very high. In Europe there are two main categories and segments to cover: residential buildings and district networks connecting.
* Regarding the existing residential buildings which represent the largest part of the energy consumption, there is an urgent need to develop integrated solutions that would fit with the current natural gas boilers dominance in the EU market.
* For the district networks connecting buildings, systems should be improved with the support of high efficient control systems that manage better the demand/supply for heating and cooling, and that could fit with a better exploitation of the waste heat available from various industrial or commercial sources.

**SCOPE:**

Buildings retrofitting potential in the EU is huge and existing heating/cooling technologies do not sufficiently enable the integration of new advanced efficient systems. Proposals should embrace two types of buildings: residential buildings and district heating/ cooling connected buildings. For both types, the integration of new reliable systems should be based on new or existing reliable design tools which would facilitate taking the decision on the installation of the best solutions. The research activities should at least address the following areas:

* Integration of advanced heating and cooling technologies such as hybrid systems combining fossil based equipment with renewables systems (cost competitive heat pump kits, solar thermal or biomass systems are attractive combinations).
* Energy waste heat/cool sources that may be exploited in the system.
* Easy installation and integration of such equipment with concern to minimise the maintenance needed and to simplify the logistic.
* Control and monitoring of the entire system, to ensure an efficient match between the supply and demand of energy, including ICT and algorithms embedded in the equipment.

Concerning the district systems, advanced District Heat and Cooling (DHC) systems, i.e. systems operating at low temperatures, must be able to deal with both centralised and de-centralised hybrid sources (e.g. solar thermal, biomass, geothermal, heat pumps, waste heat, excess renewable electricity storage).

Proposals should provide detailed information on the energy data of the buildings (current energy use and proposed reduction with new equipment, the gross floor area of the building together with the targeted annual energy use per m2, broken down by space heating, cooling, domestic hot water production, and lighting). The energy use should achieve at least the national limit values for new buildings according to the applicable legislation based on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL 6.** A significant participation of SMEs with R&D capacities is encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requiring other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Demonstrate a high potential of replication across Europe contributing to large scale market deployment before 2025 with in particular the support of dedicated tool kits, which would be easy to install and would require a limited workforce.
* Cost-effective highly energy-efficient equipment with target reduction of energy consumption of 20 -30 % (including renewables).
* Payback period of below 10 years.
* Best practice examples for the construction sector based on innovation and competitiveness, with benefits for the citizens and the environment.

**TYPE OF ACTION**: Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### EeB 04-2016: New technologies and strategies for the development of pre-fabricated elements through the reuse and recycling of construction materials and structures

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

As a consequence of economic development, construction and demolition waste (CDW) has become a serious problem, creating serious environmental pollution in certain areas of the world. In the EU, CDW accounts for approximately 25% - 30% of all waste generated and consists of numerous materials, many of which can be recycled.

Advanced research actions and technical solutions are required for large-scale reuse and recycling of construction materials in building refurbishment, contributing to overall CO2 and energy reduction. At the same time pre-fabricated components are now commonly used in the construction sector not just to reduce costs but also to facilitate installation/dismantling and re-use of components.

The development of pre-fabricated elements containing a high share of recycled materials and of energy-efficient building concepts considering a high fraction of material replacement is needed. The main focus would be on the recovery/ recycling of materials that have the highest technical and economic interest and which are associated to refurbishment or demolition processes.

At the same time, the possibility to reuse different materials to be reused in energy-efficient buildings should be further investigated through a proper characterisation of their properties. Also the development of processes for easy disassembly needs to be considered as well as the need to address strict regulations and standards (eg. anti-seismic) in several European regions.

The EC Waste Directive mentions under Art 11- 2b that: " by 2020, the preparing for re-use, recycling and other material recovery, including backfilling operations using waste to substitute other materials, of non-hazardous construction and demolition waste excluding naturally occurring material defined in category 17 05 04 in the list of waste shall be increased to a minimum of 70 % by weight."

**SCOPE:**

Energy-efficient Building concepts using new or adapted prefabricated components need to be developed, in order to implement construction processes allowing the reuse and recycling of different materials and structures while reducing energy use and minimising environmental impacts.

In the case of building retrofitting with traditional construction methods poor results are frequently obtained. Recent developments show that even with new constructions the use of recycled materials is still a challenge when prefabrication is concerned. There is a need to address material flows (on-site and off-site processes) and harmonize the way to acquire and use all the information related to the building and its stakeholders (procurers, builders, owners, users, operators, etc.) in order to radically modify the construction processes (e.g. lean construction and higher degree of industrial building prefabrication), and the off-site production of components (e.g. prefabricated components).

Proposals should cover the following areas:

* Optimisation of recyclability properties of the materials and development of solutions to recycle and reuse construction materials and existing building structures in particular through the uptake by the manufacturing chain.
* Innovative solutions integrating the latest developments in recycling and reuse of CDW as well as in construction and installation processes which show clear evidence of technical and economic viability for structural and non-structural components with a life-cycle perspective.

The project should also address the demonstration of the recycling technologies in the construction or refurbishment of energy-efficient buildings representative of at least two different climatic zones across Europe, allowing for a high replication potential.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* CO2 savings (by min. 30 %), energy savings (by min 20%), and higher resource efficiency (minimum share of recycled materials in final product of at least 10-15 %) will ultimately contribute to a resource-efficient and climate change resilient economy.
* Creation of new value chains by expanding the size and attractiveness of CDW recycling and reuse for energy-efficient buildings construction and refurbishment, properly tackling non-technological barriers.
* High replication potential of the solutions obtained, with the possibility to export EU technology worldwide.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### EeB 05-2017: Development of near zero energy building renovation

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Buildings and more specifically the housing sector represent about 40% of EU energy consumption. Ambitious renovation of the ageing building stock offers huge potential to reduce that energy consumption. Lowering the energy costs for households while increasing in-house comfort will not only help to achieve EU environmental objectives, but will also benefit EU economy and contribute to social well-being.

A large-scale deep rehabilitation of the residential building stock to match the net-zero energy standards at affordable price must be achieved. Breakthrough solutions are required to reduce energy consumption in building (e.g. in space heating/cooling and domestic hot water production, maximising the envelope performances, heat recovery and local use of renewables) with the support of advanced BEM (Building Energy Management) systems. Proposals should go beyond the state of the art and previous project results of the EeB PPP.

**SCOPE:**

Research should address in-depth analysis and subsequent improvement of the renovation process, including innovative technical elements/products/processes aiming to improve the decision-making, and should be based on a collaborative multi-value multi-stakeholder exercise. Methodology, guidelines and effective operational tools are needed to ease the selection between renovation scenarios. The analysis should take into account life cycle assessment, life cycle costing, indoor environment quality, as well as user behaviour and acceptance. Research should lead to innovative concepts for a systemic approach to retrofitting which integrates the most promising cost-effective technologies and materials, in order to reduce heat losses through the building envelope and also the energy consumption by ventilation and other energy distribution systems, while increasing the share of renewable energy in buildings.

The new tools will help revalorisation of existing buildings in the long term, including the energy performance of the building as a factor of the total property value. This should be reflected in the definition of innovative business models where all relevant actors are involved, including public authorities and investors.

Proposals should aim at maximizing the capacity of replication of the developed concepts and methods for integrated sustainable renovation. Large-scale market uptake should be addressed, for example by targeting buildings with similar use conditions and/or comparable blocks of buildings or districts in need for renovation.

Proposals should show clear evidence of technical and financial viability of the solution through their application on real case demonstrations.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- Suitable for SMEs

Significant participation of SMEs is encouraged.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL 6**. Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Reduction of at least 60% in energy consumption in order to reach the target of near zero energy compared to the values before renovation, while enhancing indoor environmental quality.
* Decrease of installation time by at least 30% compared to typical renovation process for the building type.
* Demonstration of a high replicability potential and of large market uptake capacity.
* Affordability considering all costs involved, with a payback period below 15 years.
* New generation of skilled workers and SME contractors in the construction sector capable of applying a systemic approach to renovation.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### EeB 06-2017: Highly efficient hybrid storage solutions for power and heat in residential buildings and district areas, balancing the supply and demand conditions

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

* The storage of thermal or electric energy needs optimised operational technical solutions in order to better manage and synchronise the overall supply and demand (at residential, district and urban level). Good management of the peak loads, especially stemming from an increase of renewable energy production, would reduce the overall energy consumption and the cost of operation of the installations.
* Hybrid solutions are needed, inherently addressing the seamless conversion and integration of renewable electricity and heat, as to anticipate the future energy grid that will fully allow an exchange of different energy carriers. Such hybrid solutions form a next step in the electrification of the heat supply market.
* To go beyond current state of the art on thermal storage (i.e. compact systems) for residential buildings, it is necessary to bring research activities in this field closer to pre-commercial stage, to demonstrate their technical and economic viability, and to optimise the operation of such hybrid solutions in view of combining them with the surplus of renewable electricity with low temperature heat and cooling demand.
* In the EU, there are nowadays just a few examples of operationally integrated solutions for the optimal interaction in district networks, combining both electricity and heat/cooling energy supply and storage.
* Efficient use of renewable energy in hybrid systems for the storage and generation of energy needs to be achieved.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should develop advanced innovative high-density hybrid energy storage devices, targeting the efficient use and further increase of renewable energy in the built environment, and demonstrating its value in terms of flexibility in the energy systems. They should address both electrical and thermal applications and able to reach a rapid release.

Such hybrid approaches encompass different aspects, which may be addressed separately or coherently:

* high efficiency conversion and storage of surplus renewable electricity into heat;
* multifunctional use in both heating and cooling applications at different temperature grades;
* different time scales, e.g. in seasonal storage of high temperature solar heat and peak-shaving in lower temperature heat–pump applications.

Research and innovation activities should address:

* electricity applications, where the technologies covered may include batteries, flywheels and capacitors suitable for applications in the power range of several tens of KW to 1 MW as well as other technologies related to storage of large-scale power needed for district areas.
* thermal applications, where these hybrid solutions should develop the high efficiency conversion and storage of surplus renewable electricity into heat. The hybrid system should take into account the optimal ²integration of various potential heat storage media. Therefore, preference will be given to systems that exploit chemisorption or physisorption technologies (solid/ liquid) and/or latent heat (PCM). The innovation part of the project should include the possibility that energy systems may be connected, and of merging energy from different sources, e.g. renewable electricity combined preferably with electric storage and heat, industrial waste heat, heat grids, ground systems.

Proposals are expected to cover the various aspects of the overall system, such as design, storage materials, interfaces with various components and auxiliaries (heat exchangers, reactor etc) and include monitoring and control of the overall technologies/ components (BEMS).

Proposals should preferably include demonstration pilots for both residential and district connected buildings in at least two different climatic regions. They also need to integrate strategies for optimal interaction with the energy grid, and assess the value of this integration in view of flexibility in the energy system.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.** A significant participation of SMEs with R&D capacities is encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requiring other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

For residential buildings which are not connected to District Heating and Cooling

* Demonstration of the economic viability of the overall storage systems when operating in real conditions in residential buildings with a return of investment period of 9-10 years and proof of the potential for market penetration
* Technologies which are reliable and ensure a minimum of 20 years life time
* Solutions compatible with existing building configurations – with compact systems using limited spaces in existing building (volume of storage limited to 3 m3).
* Demonstration of an overall net energy reduction by 20 %
* Validated contribution to energy system flexibility

For Residential buildings connected to District Heating and Cooling

* Demonstration of the economic viability of the overall storage systems with return of investment of less than 20 years and proof of the potential for market penetration
* Technologies which are reliable and operating for a minimum of 30 years
* Provide compact systems (volume of storage limited to 1 m3)
* Overall net energy gain of minimum 30%

**TYPE OF ACTION**: Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### EeB 07-2017: Integration of energy harvesting at building and district level

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Integration of energy harvesting approaches is a major challenge, in particular the development and integration of different renewable energy sources at building and district scale.

The envelope should be considered as an active and/or adaptive skin that interacts with the external environment and strongly influences the building energy performance and indoor comfort. Indeed, in view of a large-scale deployment of nearly-zero energy solutions in existing buildings, besides reducing energy demand through highly insulating materials and reduction measures, the possibility to harvest energy in the building envelope is of great importance.

The district dimension should be taken into account, both because of a higher potential for integration and optimisation of renewable energy sources, and because of the potential of additional energy harvesting approaches

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should aim at maximising the harvesting of renewable energy (for heating, cooling, electricity, domestic hot water, etc.) at building and district scale (e.g. exploiting large renewable energy source installations and heating and cooling networks). Research results shall contribute to drastic energy saving and CO2 emission reduction while enabling massive replication in low zero energy buildings and energy self-sufficient districts. the focus is on a cost-effective and easy installation in a wide variety of buildings and surroundings.

Buildings are connected with various entities like suppliers and distribution system operators through different networks (internet, smart meter linked to the grid, energy storage systems, electric vehicles, etc.). Therefore, proposals should take into account an appropriate integration of monitoring and control systems for the developed solutions, combining, where relevant, additional functionalities such as safety and security.

Proposals shall be flexible to cope with different designs and architectural concepts, with components being especially shaped and integrating different material combinations (such as glass, pre-casted elements, membranes).

The modular dimension is important to allow a cost-effective and easy installation in a wide variety of buildings and processing practices.

Proposals shall enable a reduction of maintenance and operation costs, in particular when many sensors and actuators are cost-effectively distributed throughout the envelope.

Applicability in different geographical areas is important.

Clear evidence of technical and economic viability should be provided by validating and demonstrating the proposed adaptable envelope in real case retrofitting projects.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL 6**. A significant participation of SMEs with R&D capacities is encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requiring other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* The cost related to new technologies should not exceed conventional standard building costs by more than 20%.
* Demonstration of the replicability potential in a real case-study.
* Solutions with a payback period of below 10 years.
* The integrated harvesting systems will cover at least 30-40 % of the overall energy demand for new buildings and 20% for renovated buildings

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### EeB 08-2017: New business models for energy-efficient buildings through adaptable refurbishment solutions

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The most important benefit associated with the refurbishment of an existing building comes from improving the energy performance, which gives an essential contribution to reach the EU 2020 consumption goals, taking into account that buildings represent 40% of the energy use in the EU. A key challenge for its large-scale implementation is the necessity to manage a broader involvement of stakeholders representing different interests and different responsibilities influencing the potential solutions and actions. This regards not only the choice of technologies, but also the design and renovation methods, as well as a number of socio-economic issues.

Nowadays, decentralised energy generation technologies have been demonstrated in a number of building applications in Europe and beyond but large scale uptake and business deployment of these technologies is still in its early stage. Currently, the renovation level is about 1.2% of the building stock in Europe per year and it should increase, according to the European Performance Building Directive (EPBD), to 2 - 3 % per year until 2030. Innovative business models which allow consumers and the market to invest with confidence in long term operation, maintenance, reliability and service levels need to be developed.

**SCOPE:**

Activities should focus on the benchmark and the assessment of innovative business models, evaluating different refurbishment packages enabling the selection of the most attractive and efficient ones for different building types (residential/District Heating Cooling connected) and climatic conditions, taking the maximum advantage of user behaviour and geo-clustering.

Adequate assessment tools and the methodological challenges facing analyses addressing the issue of comprehensive analytical approaches in order to inform business decisions in this respect need to be discussed. Life cycle models as input to the decision making process in the feasibility phase of the renovation project also need to be considered.

Proposals need to assess different highly resource-efficient business models for refurbishing buildings including the possibilities provided by public procurement options, appropriate combinations of public and private, or only private funding. These concepts need to be developed taking into account the building owners, the socio-economic impacts, and the current EU crisis.

Proposals should also develop effective methods for steering and governance especially paying attention to the local scale, including the variety of actions by cities and municipalities that can define obligations or encourage voluntary actions. In particular the business models developed should support the preparation of innovation-related public building procurements by local/regional/national authorities or at European level.

The business models should cover the complete cycle as from the design phase of the building: decentralised energy generation technologies, integration, installation, commissioning, operation, servicing and maintenance, etc. In this framework, activities should cover business model design and optimisation, market and customer segmentation approaches for decentralised energy generation, consumer behaviour and decision driver research for optimising business model structures, supply chain and concept delivery optimisation, new earning models and financing mechanisms. In addition, proposers should also seek solutions to increase participation of stakeholders, considering methods to engage end users living in the buildings/neighbourhood and methods to increase the interest and commitment of building owners and market partners.

Socio-economic impacts of refurbishment should be taken into account considering the possibly drastic effects of high renovation costs on house owners and tenants, and seeking possible solutions to reduce costs, as well as addressing the needed commitment by users to energy efficiency after renovation.

Clear evidence of technical, environmental and economic viability should be provided. The possibility to engage municipalities planning to integrate renewable energy sources in the built environment could be an added value.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- Suitable for SMEs

- Social Sciences and Humanities

- Gender relevance

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 500.000 and 1 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

* Cost-effectiveness of the renovation compared to current costs.
* Adaptive renovation packages with low environmental impact.
* Increased awareness of and commitment to improved energy-efficiency of the building stock.
* Increased capacity of municipalities to effect the renovation of building stocks, in particular through the use of public procurement tools.
* Better quality standards and performance guarantees while improving indoor environment and remaining cost-effective.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

Conditions for the Call for Energy-Efficient Buildings call

Opening date(s), deadline(s), indicative budget(s):[[1]](#footnote-2)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topics (Type of Action) | Budgets (EUR million) | Deadlines |
| 2016 | 2017 |
| Opening: 01 Oct 2015 |
| EEB-01-2016 (IA)EEB-02-2016 (CSA)EEB-03-2016 (IA)EEB-04-2016 (RIA) | 48.50 |  | 21 Jan 2016  |
| EEB-05-2017 (IA)EEB-06-2017 (RIA)EEB-07-2017 (IA)EEB-08-2017 (CSA) |  | 51.00 | 19 Jan 2017  |
| Overall indicative budget | 48.50 | 51.00 |  |

Indicative timetable for evaluation and grant agreement signature:

For single stage procedure:

1. Information on the outcome of the evaluation: Maximum 5 months from the final date for submission; and
2. Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 8 months from the date of informing applicants.

Eligibility Admin Condition: The conditions are described in parts B and C of the General Annexes to the work programme

Evaluation Criteria:

Evaluation Procedure:

The full evaluation procedure is described in the relevant [guide](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/pse/h2020-guide-pse_en.pdf) published on the Participant Portal.

Consortium agreement:

# Call for Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials biotechnology and Production

**H2020-NMBP-2016/2017**

In case materials modelling is proposed, the modelling Work Packages should be described similarly to the Review of Material Modelling <http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/pdf/modelling-brochure_en.pdf> ; If new software is developed, software engineering quality measures should be part of the proposals.

Proposers should consider participation in open data pilot (mandatory for modelling topics) and the European modelling market place initiatives (reference to the 2017 topic).

## Advanced materials and nanotechnologies for high added value products and process industries

This part meets the challenge of enabling inventive combinations of materials, process industries, business models, and links to public-private partnerships in delivering innovative products to markets and customers that demand them.

### NMBP 01-2016: Novel hybrid materials for heterogeneous catalysis

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

In many currently explored applications of organic-inorganic hybrid materials, the achievement of superior properties is often hampered by the weak chemical (i.e. van der Waals, hydrogen bonding) interactions existing between the inorganic building blocks, leading, *inter alia*, to leaching of the inorganic components, agglomeration, phase separation, low mechanical stability. This is particularly critical for heterogeneous catalysis applications, where a robust linkage between the components would afford better performances also in terms of recovery and re-use of the catalyst. Even in the case of phase-boundary catalysis, where strong chemical bonds prevent the leaching of the active species, covalent bonds are a preferred option.

A further factor affecting the actual effectiveness of heterogeneous catalysts is the accessibility of the active component, being facilitated by either i) a porous microstructure or by ii) a loosely cross-linked structure enabling swelling of the hybrid catalyst in the reaction medium, where the substrate is dispersed.

In the latter case, an important role is played by the polarity of the medium in which the catalysis is carried out, being the interaction between the heterogeneous catalyst scaffold and the species affected by their polarities.

**SCOPE:**

Explore novel concepts in hybrid materials design for heterogeneous catalysis, also resorting on templating-effects, surface functionalisation and based on one-step synthesis, accomplishing i) the formation of a robust structure based on covalent bonds between organic and inorganic components and ii) accessibility of the catalysis-active moiety by tailoring the morphology and the polarity of the resulting materials, according to the targeted conditions and application such as condensations and asymmetric reactions.

A further aspect to be taken into account is the possibility to tune the cross-linking degree of the obtained hybrid materials by changing the synthetic parameters and synthesis route, to achieve different microstructures. The novel routes should be based on easy synthetic step(s) being scalable and adjustable for industrial scale, where toxic properties and LCA are taken into consideration.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

Green and sustainable chemistry.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 5**.

The European Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 5 to 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

* Scientific and technological breakthroughs in the development of novel concepts in hybrid materials design for industrial heterogeneous catalysis.
* Proposals addressing novel C-C bond forming and recyclable hybrid catalysts are expected to produce valuable chemicals of biological and pharmaceutical importance.
* The activity of the novel solid hybrid catalysts is expected be higher than the counterpart homogenous catalyst, improving process efficiency providing economic and environmental benefits
* Considering the leading-edge character of the proposed field, the impact for the European industry in terms of market entry of new and improved products based on project results is expected to be in the medium to long term (5 – 10 years after project end).

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 02-2016: Advanced Materials for Power Electronics based on wide bandgap semiconductor devices technology

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Power electronic components, modules and systems including wide bandgap devices technology are of high strategic importance in Europe. It is still possible to retain parts of the value chain in Europe; the related application areas are based on the deep knowledge and market position in aerospace and automotive industry, industrial electronics, energy transmission, renewable power generation (wind power, PV), healthcare, smart factories and prominent know-how for reliable materials for electronic assemblies. Contribution to the objectives of the SET-Plan in term of energy saving, efficiency, CO2 reduction are therefore part of this challenge.

The proposals should address the development of advanced, cost-effective, sustainable materials, architectures and processes for power electronics suitable for use in energy technologies.

**SCOPE:**

The activities should focus on advanced materials for innovative power components and module, including packaging, new product development and application which will increase the reliability and operational lifespan of components under realistic conditions.

Considerable improvement of the operation of power-electronics devices based on the improved properties of the materials, device architectures, heat dissipation and/or processes should be addressed at component, module and system level. Realistic solution should be provided in term of operational characteristics like voltage, current level and sensitivity or switching frequencies or other relevant performance factors as well as in long term maintenance-free operation (resilience and reliability) with respect to the particular and stringent demand of the envisaged application.

Improvement in the cost and use effectiveness, including maintenance intensity should be quantified. Proposals may develop manufacturing concepts for the construction of components and modules with fewer production defects;

International cooperation with Japan is encouraged to tackle societal challenges, which are global by nature;

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

Implemented as cross-KET activities.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business plans, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

The implementation of this topic is intended to **start at TRL 4** and **target TRL 6**.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Substantial improvement of the wide bandgap semiconductors materials and device performance;
* Reduced long-term in-service degradation, lowering maintenance needs and costs;
* Time to market of new materials and devices will be optimised (shortened);
* Development of Wide Band Gap semiconductor technologies to bring them closer to the applications for the leadership of European sector of power electronics industries;
* Creation of smart global value chains that enable value capture to Europe;
* Preliminary tailored business plan will be defined in the proposal to support the scientific, technological and/or socio-economic impact and specific action will be addressed in the proposal.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 03-2016: Innovative and sustainable materials solutions for the substitution of critical raw materials in the electric power system

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The ambition of the European Union to achieve a secure, competitive and sustainable energy system by 2050 has become a priority. The electric power system will play a pivotal role in the overall energy mix, with particular challenges to achieve a balance between electricity supply, conversion, transport and use of energy. Critical raw materials[[2]](#footnote-3) (CRM) can become a bottleneck to the supply-chain of the different technologies used in the electric power system with implications for materials demand under different scenarios described in the EU Energy Roadmap 2050.

Even if recycling rates for some of these materials could be optimised to the highest possible extent, the overall increasing demand for CRM urges to roll-out substitution-based solutions within the next decade.

This specific challenge is covered by the Priority Area “Substitution of raw materials” of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Raw Materials.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should deliver innovative, sustainable and cost effective materials solutions for the substitution of (i) heavy rare earth elements used in permanent magnets and/or (ii) CRM used in energy storage applications and/or (iii) CRM used in catalysts for applications to generate electricity and/or (iv) CRM in materials used in photovoltaic cells. Substitution of CRM in electronics including lighting applications is out of scope of this call topic.

In order to ensure the industrial relevance and impact of the research efforts, the cost effectiveness and commercial exploitation potential of the proposed solutions compared to state-of-the-art solutions currently available on the market should be convincingly assessed in the proposal. The sustainability of the materials solutions should be analysed through a life-cycle assessment. Recycling/reuse should be addressed.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

In line with the objectives of the Union's strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012) 497), international cooperation according to the current rules of participation is encouraged, in particular with Japan[[3]](#footnote-4). The quality of the international cooperation will be rewarded in the evaluation of the proposal.

Where relevant, proposals should contribute to the "Study on critical raw materials in specific types of waste for standardisation". Refer to the Work Programme 2016-2017 of Societal Challenge 5 'Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials', topic SC5-21b-2016.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 5.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* A strongly reduced or completely eliminated CRM content in the proposed solution(s) while keeping up or improving the materials performance levels as specified in the relevant parts of the SET-Plan Integrated Roadmap and its Annexes, available at <http://setis.ec.europa.eu/set-plan-implementation/towards-integrated-roadmap-and-action-plan>
* A risk mitigation strategy from future bottlenecks in the material supply-chain of energy technologies used in the electric power system;
* Contribute to achieving the objectives of the EIP on Raw Materials, In particular, a substantial contribution to the demonstration of substitutes in targeted applications of critical raw materials.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 04-2017: Architectured/Advanced material concepts for intelligent bulk material structures

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The development of smart materials has been gathering pace over the past few years to develop novel concepts for intelligent components and structures with integrated functionalities that are able to communicate and interact with their environment, store data about their condition and react accordingly to external stimuli. Research in the areas of biomimetic bio-inspired engineering and nanomaterials can provide several examples of the development of smart materials and has seen a significant expansion. Examples include materials that can alter their physical properties, (e.g. viscosity, shape, colour and more) in response to temperature, stress, electrical or magnetic fields, convert sunlight into electricity, store energy, etc. Smart materials have also been used extensively in sensor developments in aerospace and automotive applications with the aim of producing intelligent structures and components that provide information of their in-service conditions However, there are several concepts that have not yet been implemented in large scale industrial. Such technologies include self-repair or self-healing materials, materials for vibration suppression, lightweight composites that can inform the user of any internal damage without the need of time consuming and expensive Non Destructive Examination (NDE), materials or structures that can undergo shape change either passively or by activation, Functionally Graded composite Materials (FGMs), energy storing components, etc. Predictive modelling of materials functionalities is needed for those materials for which there are currently no accurate commercial or open-source codes available.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals are sought to address specific industrial needs and facilitate the implementation of smart materials for applications in transport, consumer goods and ICT. The potential extension of these applications to other industrial sectors such as e.g. Oil & Gas and Petrochemicals will be an asset. The technical challenges to be addressed relate to the development, processing and integration of smart materials with new functionalities, as e.g. for: advanced sensors (nanosensor technologies), damage detection, self-repair, self-actuation, self-sensing morphing, magnetic functionality (for non-magnetic materials), optical functionality, sound and vibration damping, thermal management in ICT applications. Material concepts based on bio-inspired solutions can also be considered. Modelling of the properties of relevance to manufacturing should be considered. Although the materials most suited to such development are lightweight advanced composites from different material classes, (like multiferroics, polymeric, ceramic, glass or metal matrix composites, organic fibrous materials). It is expected that such smart materials may make use of the unique properties possessed by nanoparticles and therefore the development of nanomaterial based intelligent components will be within the scope of the call. The development of such material structures has to be accompanied by high resolution analytical tools that are able to simulate and characterise the materials on all scales and, moreover, to track and reveal their function –structure relations in situ. The functionalities of smart materials will require the identification of gaps in standards and future pre-normative activities will have to be addressed as part of the scope. For this topic proposals should also be able to demonstrate in addition to the development concept, the feasibility of such technologies in terms of cost, production and processing methodologies and reliability. Proposals should also include an outline of the initial exploitation and business plans. More detailed exploitation plans, outline financial arrangements and any follow-up should be developed during the project.

Industrial and/or additional experimental partners should ensure broad validation and adoption of both the software and the materials.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The implementation of novel smart material technologies is expected to pave the way for innovative environmentally friendly smart products:

* enhancing the market opportunities for European industries,
* improve consumer safety,
* reduce maintenance costs,
* improve resource efficiency.

Enhancing the knowledge base in the EU not only at the R&D level but also at the manufacturing and production level, creating a highly skilled workforce with improved levels of job satisfaction.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 05-2017: advanced materials and innovative design for improved functionality and aesthetics in high added value consumer goods

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Creative industries have been defined as one of the most active, significant and relevant new emerging industrial sectors in the European economy (Report on Emergency Industries, PwC, 2012). The creative industries linked to manufacturing (e.g. architecture, automotive, art, crafts, supports for cultural items, decoration, fashion, furniture, lighting, interior design materials and products, jewels, luxury, media supports, publishing, sport and toys) are generators of competitive advantages that cannot be reproduced elsewhere, promoters of local development and drivers of industrial change (COM(2012)537 ‘Promoting cultural and creative sectors for growth and jobs in the EU’).

Creative SMEs in particular can make use of design as a strategic tool to create innovative products and services addressing new consumers' standards and societal challenges while assuring competitive and sustainable development.

However, the future European exploitation of this rich sector depend on the EU ability to support fast-paced creative SMEs and start-ups in exploiting highly innovative technological advances in materials for commercial, cultural and societal applications.

To promote design-driven innovation, a number of action lines have been endorsed by the Commission, including integrating design into research and development and promoting new collaborative innovation strategies (‘Implementing an Action Plan for Design-Driven Innovation’, SWD(2013)380).

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should address the development of innovative advanced material solutions (e.g. superhydrophobic nanomaterials and nanoscale systems, self-cleaning and self-healing systems, smart textile fabrics and papers, biomimetic, shape change materials, self-assembling systems, energy harvesters) for use in the creative industry sectors defined above to make urban living significantly easier, more sustainable, more comfortable, more secure and more functional. Creativity, cultural and societal values, alongside specialist knowledge, should be driving the material innovation (e.g. increased performance, lightness, safety, sustainability, improved lifetime) to add value to products through the use of new intangible material functionalities (e.g. creative design, artistic expression, trend translation, enhanced sensations, cultural values).

Proof of concept in terms of product and/or process must be delivered within the project, excluding commercially usable prototypes (in compliance with European Commission Communication 2006/C323/01), but convincingly demonstrating scalability towards industrial needs.

In order to ensure the industrial relevance and impact of the research efforts, the key properties improvement and commercial potential of the innovative technologies compared to state-of-the-art solutions currently available on the market should be convincingly assessed in the proposal. Sustainability aspects in the whole life cycle of the final products should be taken into account. The active participation of designers, artists, societal stakeholders, material scientists, materials suppliers, manufacturers and end users of the resulting products represents an added value and this will be reflected in the second stage of the evaluation.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

A significant participation of SMEs with R&D capacities is encouraged. Participation of creative designers, artists or other relevant Social Science and Humanities is expected.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business plans, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6, and optionally cover also Technology Readiness Level 7.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Novel, higher added-value, better performing, sustainable, versatile, appealing designs and creative solutions for consumer goods based on innovative advanced materials.
* Good integrability of innovative advanced materials in final products (e.g. using a modular approach) and quickly reconfigurable to new custom requirements.
* Promoting new collaborative innovation strategies and practices along the value chain to develop commercial, cultural and societal applications with a strong user orientation, creating new business opportunities for the European industry.
* Enhancing innovation capability and competiveness of European SMEs by effectively combining and transferring new and existing knowledge with ‘intangible’ factors (e.g. creative design, artistic expression, trend translation, enhanced sensations, cultural values).
* Increasing awareness of designers about new materials.
* Contribute to achieving the relevant EU policy objectives in COM(2012)537, ‘Promoting cultural and creative sectors for growth and jobs in the EU’.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 06-2017: Improved material durability in buildings and infrastructures, including offshore

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Durability is a key criterion for materials in many applications and environments. Longer performing materials can strongly reduce overall life time costs, such as lower usage costs through reduced maintenance and shorter service interruptions. Costs may also be reduced in the production phase (raw materials, energy, transport, formability), in the installation phase, and the materials may be more appropriate for end of life reuse/recycling. Typical applications requiring excellent long term durability and high reliability are buildings, marine applications and infrastructures including off shore.

In many applications, operational durability needs to be better understood, particularly for innovative products which have no demonstrated long term performance. Durability has to be evaluated both theoretically and in real installation conditions (including within challenging environments when relevant) as these may influence final product performance.

**SCOPE:**

Research proposals should address all of the following aspects: theoretical understanding of the factors which affect durability of materials including reliable, fast and robust environment, corrosion and ageing models; experimental methods to measure and reliably test durability, non-destructive inspection procedures and monitoring tools; development of new and more durable materials (possibly multifunctional); and “fit for purpose” validation of new materials through life testing in the planned application and environment.

The proposed solutions should go well beyond the state of the art and it should be demonstrated that materials with improved durability also fulfil all other properties necessary for the application proposed.

The following factors should also be all considered: principles of sustainability (the sustainability of each developed solution should be evaluated via life cycle assessment studies carried out according to the International Reference Life Cycle Data System - ILCD Handbook); ease of installation; realistic solutions at a reasonable price and appropriateness for the operational environment; resistance to harsh environments if applicable. When relevant, design considerations (optimal combination of new materials) should also be considered. Recycling/reuse of materials should also be addressed. Standardisation aspects should be considered when relevant. Proof of concept in terms of one (or more) component(s) containing the new materials developed should be delivered within the project, excluding commercially usable prototypes (2006/C323/01), but convincingly demonstrating scalability towards industrial needs. Information guides for applications, installation and any appropriate training on the new solutions should be provided before the end of the project.

To ensure the industrial relevance and impact of the research effort, the active participation of industrial partners, including SMEs will provide significant added value to the activities, and will be reflected within the evaluation of the criteria 'Implementation and Impact'.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* At least 30% improvement in durability on the most relevant properties for the application
* At least equivalent level for all other properties;
* At least 30% lower cost;
* Positive LCA balance over the whole life cycle;
* Proposals will have a higher impact if they are relevant to several applications;
* Contribution to strengthening competitiveness of the European industry, including in the field of “green” and/or offshore technologies.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 07-2017: Systems of materials characterisation for model, product and process optimisation

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

As material systems and device structures become nanosized and nanostructured, significant challenges exist with respect to their design and the tailoring of their functions in a controlled way. The use of discrete materials models, as a bridge for linking and coupling nanostructure features to macroscopic device functionality is gaining increasing importance in the fast and reliable development of new materials, devices, and the control of the related production processes. Characterisation techniques and experimental data for process optimisation and model validation are key in such developments.

Europe has a large number of first-class laboratories for characterisation in the field of advanced materials and nanotechnologies. In some cases, regional hubs of laboratories addressing characterisation for specific industrial or application sectors have already been successfully established. Nevertheless, there is an ever increasing need for a strong transnational and trans-sectorial coordination and optimisation of existing characterisation technologies and their utilisation for the benefit of widespread process optimisation and model validation. This includes the need for widely agreed experiment protocols, multi-technique and multi-scale characterisation approaches, metadata descriptions of interpretation tools and accessible, relevant, and reliable data bases for raw and interpreted data.

**SCOPE:**

In the triangle of "manufacturing", "modelling", and "experimentation" the projects should develop an open innovation environment for the optimisation of materials, materials behaviour and/or nano-device manufacturing processes, and for the validation of materials models[[4]](#footnote-5) based on experimental characterisation.

An open innovation environment should be created linking characterisation laboratories with capacities adapted to process optimisation and model validation needs. Also information on characterisation tools and expertise should be included.

Commonly agreed validation and measurement protocols should be developed which address the most relevant issues related to experiments, process optimisation and model validation. Projects should also document their protocols for the interpretation of raw experimental data and document reliable models for data interpretation where needed. The project may seek to agree standards for interpretation protocols. Meta data to describe all protocols should be agreed.

The same metadata should be used for interfacing existing characterisation databases to make search and linking between different, distributed databases effective and easy. The metadata should allow future extension to other sectors. Strategies and test rules pertaining to data integrity and quality mechanisms should be established. A concept to make raw and interpreted data citable should be developed and implemented for this system. The project should ensure wide spread participation.

Projects should bring together a representative number of players from public and industrial nanoscale characterisation laboratories, from manufacturers, and from the academic and industrial materials modelling communities. To ensure a wide coverage, these players should cover several industrial or application sectors. Existing regional/national hubs may also participate, but they need to connect in the project to players in other countries, possibly also other regional/national hubs.

The proposal should present a credible business plan for the maintenance of the open environment after the project duration.

The project is strongly encouraged to consult the stakeholders outside the consortium through existing groups such as the European Materials Modelling Council or the Characterisation cluster. Appropriate resources should be foreseen for clustering activities.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs
* International cooperation with ISO?
* This topic is part of the open data pilot.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project. The outline should also address the socio-economic benefit of the proposed solutions, supported by quantifications. Furthermore, the outline should also include the maintenance aspect of the developed databases beyond the lifetime of the project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

* Increased speed of material and/or nano-device development through development of an open innovation environment;
* Wide acceptance of the proposed solutions beyond the consortium;
* Use of the protocols and systems in other KET relevant areas or sectors beyond the ones covered by the project;
* Use of the protocols in the development of new standards;
* Clear, prospects for quantified, socio-economic gains from the results.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP SME 01-2016/17 Accelerating the uptake of nanotechnologies, advanced materials or advanced manufacturing and processing technologies by SMEs

**Specific challenge:**

Research results should be taken up by industry, harvesting the hitherto untapped potential of nanotechnologies, advanced materials and advanced manufacturing and processing technologies. The goal is to create added value by creatively combining existing research results with other necessary elements,22 to transfer results across sectors where applicable, to accelerate innovation and eventually create profit or other benefits. The research should bring the technology and production to industrial readiness and maturity for commercialisation after the project.

**Scope:**

The SME instrument consists of three separate phases and a coaching and mentoring service for beneficiaries. Participants can apply to phase 1 with a view to applying to phase 2 at a later date, or directly to phase 2.

In phase 1, a feasibility study shall be developed verifying the technological/practical as well as economic viability of an innovation idea/concept with considerable novelty to the industry sector in which it is presented (new products, processes, design, services and technologies or new market applications of existing technologies). The activities could, for example, comprise risk assessment, market study, user involvement, Intellectual Property (IP) management, innovation strategy development, partner search, feasibility of concept and the like to establish a solid high-potential innovation project aligned to the enterprise strategy and with a European dimension. Bottlenecks in the ability to increase profitability of the enterprise through innovation shall be detected and analysed during phase 1 and addressed during phase 2 to increase the return in investment in innovation activities. The proposal should contain an initial business plan based on the proposed idea/concept.

The proposal should give the specifications of the elaborated business plan, which is to be the outcome of the project and the criteria for success.

Funding will be provided in the form of a lump sum of EUR 50 000. Projects should last around 6 months.

In phase 2, innovation projects will be supported that address the specific challenge and that demonstrate high potential in terms of company competitiveness and growth underpinned by a strategic business plan. Activities should focus on innovation activities such as demonstration, testing, prototyping, piloting, scaling-up, miniaturisation, design, market replication and the like aiming to bring an innovation idea (product, process, service etc) to industrial readiness and maturity for market introduction, but may also include some research. For technological innovation a Technology Readiness Levels of 6 or above (or similar for non-technological innovations) are envisaged; please see part G of the General Annexes.

Proposals shall be based on an elaborated business plan either developed through phase 1 or another means. Particular attention must be paid to IP protection and ownership; applicants will have to present convincing measures to ensure the possibility of commercial exploitation ('freedom to operate').

Proposals shall contain a specification for the outcome of the project, including a first commercialisation plan, and criteria for success.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 0.5 and 2.5 million would allow phase 2 to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. Projects should last between 12 and 24 months.

In addition, in phase 3, SMEs can benefit from indirect support measures and services as well as access to the financial facilities supported under Access to Risk Finance of this work programme.

Successful beneficiaries will be offered coaching and mentoring support during phase 1 and phase 2. This service will be accessible via the Enterprise Europe Network and delivered by a dedicated coach through consultation and signposting to the beneficiaries. The coaches will be recruited from a central database managed by the Commission and have all fulfilled stringent criteria with regards to business experience and competencies. Throughout the three phases of the instrument, the Network will complement the coaching support by providing access to its innovation and internationalisation service offering. This could include, for example, depending on the need of the SME, support in identifying growth potential, developing a growth plan and maximising it through internationalisation; strengthening the leadership and management skills of individuals in the senior management team and developing in-house coaching capacity; developing a marketing strategy or raising external finance.

**Expected impact:**

* Enhancing profitability and growth performance of SMEs by combining and transferring new and existing knowledge into innovative, disruptive and competitive solutions seizing European and global business opportunities.
* Market uptake and distribution of innovations tackling the commercial uptake of nanotechnologies, advanced materials and advanced production technologies in a sustainable way.
* Increase of private investment in innovation, notably leverage of private co-investor and/or follow-up investments.
* The expected impact should be clearly described in qualitative and quantitative terms (e.g. on turnover, employment, market seize, IP management, sales, return on investment and profit).

**Type of action:** SME Instrument (70% funding)

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

## Green vehicle topic

### NMBP 08-2016: Affordable weight reduction of high-volume vehicles and components taking into account the entire life-cycle

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

One of the principal levers to improve the energy efficiency, performance and range of vehicles, and reduce their impact on the environment, is to decrease their weight. This is particularly important for conventionally-powered vehicles to reduce CO2 emissions but also for EVs in which the relatively limited range and high costs, linked to the still comparatively low production volumes, remain critical factors that determine their competitiveness.

Previously-conducted EU research projects have already demonstrated the fact that the adoption of advanced grades of steel, metal alloys, aluminium, novel plastics and biomaterials, novel high-strength light-weight ceramics and composites can lead to a drastic reduction in the weight of a wide range of vehicle components. However the outcome of these activities is also that the additional cost for each kilogram saved is still too high to represent a revolutionary approach enabling intensive use of such lightweight materials particularly in vehicles intended for mass-production.

Correspondingly it is necessary to address this issue directly and urgently in order to identify solutions for the significant weight reduction of vehicles, and in particular electrified cars, which are cost-effective and viable with respect to the intended production volumes and from the entire life-cycle perspective, improving performance without compromising crashworthiness and durability. Specifically the principal focus should be on large production volumes exploiting economies of scale, targeting production volumes of at least 50000 units per annum, while investigating also the opportunity for developing common solutions across different types of vehicle.

**SCOPE:**

A holistic, integrated and cost-driven approach should be pursued in order to optimize the use of lightweight materials solutions in all vehicle structures, subsystems and components (with the exception of concepts for stand-alone the powertrains), considering the entire value chain from a life-cycle perspective: materials, tools, process, assembly and end-of-life.

Materials engineering should address the development of new low density/high strength and highly formable materials (e.g. steels, alloys, castings, polymers, biomaterials, ceramics and reinforcements) and their combination (e.g. composites, sandwiches, high strength foams) at affordable prices starting from less expensive sources, also via recycling and/or processes which are less energy-demanding. Furthermore, materials engineering should address corrosion, thermal expansion, joining (e.g. bonding, riveting, friction-stir based technologies, etc.) and recycling issues of multi-material designs, one essential prerequisite being the widespread availability and minimal CO2 footprint of the candidate materials.

Manufacturing engineering should address both the need to use less energy-intensive and more sustainable technologies, and the opportunity to speed-up and improve the efficiency of lightweight part production also through the combination of different manufacture steps, moving towards new approaches specific for new materials, including cost-effective multi-material joining technologies as well as the formability of tailored blanks material hybrid parts, and considering also effective multi-material surface treatments.

Design should pursue approaches based on both “right material for the right application” and “multi-functional optimization” in order to exploit the lightweight materials properties, optimizing their use through functional integration of multi-material solutions, including design for recycling. In view to further reduce the environmental footprint of the vehicles, the use of recycled high added-value materials should be considered.

Virtual engineering should support the multi-functional design for the optimization of performance (including crashworthiness, durability, etc.), developing and applying methods and tools to enable the efficient and effective simulation of multi-functional, multi-material solutions as well as of sustainable manufacturing technologies in order to minimize material use and energy consumption. Importantly Life Cycle Analysis (LCA should support the entire design and development process.

The activities are required to identify solutions for the weight reduction of vehicles, including, but not limited to, electrified cars which, through a comprehensive analysis, should be demonstrated to be both viable, in terms of cost and production, and sustainable from the life-cycle perspective.

The solutions must be validated at the application level, with full verification of the virtual engineering approach, to demonstrate improved performance without any compromise in terms of crashworthiness and durability. An assessment of the applicability of the solutions developed across different vehicle types is also expected.

For this topic, proposals should also include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**The implementation of proposals for this topic is intended to start at TRL4, target TRL 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

Specific targets that should be achieved in short- to medium-term (within a time frame of about 6 years following the completion of the project) include:

* 10 % reduction in energy consumption of vehicle due to weight reduction (with corresponding impact in terms of CO2 emissions depending on the vehicle type)
* Cost-effective weight savings depending on intended production volumes, eg.:
	+ For 50,000 units per annum: at least 6 €/kg-saved
	+ For 100,000+ units per annum: at least 3 €/kg-saved
	+ At least 6% improvement in LCA environmental impact ("from cradle to grave")in terms of GWP (Global Warming Potential)

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

## Key enabling technologies for societal challenges - Advanced materials and nanotechnologies for healthcare

### NMBP **09**-2016: Biomaterials for **diagnosis and** treatment of multiple sclerosis

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The aim of this topic is to develop innovative approaches for biomaterials for health that are easily transferable from industry to the clinic and based on new methodologies directed to the improvement of the treatment and prognosis of multiple sclerosis, where regrowth and regeneration of affected areas of the nervous system is the key to successful therapy. Multiple Sclerosis is often of chronic duration and associated with increasing levels of disability. In the European Union, at least 700 000 people are affected with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and between 1 000 000 and 2 500 000 people world-wide. It is diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 40 when families and careers are developing and is the most common cause of disability affecting young adults, thereby having a strong economic impact for society in terms of healthcare costs.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should focus on the development of new multifunctional biomaterials, as part of eventual Medical Devices[[5]](#footnote-6) or Advanced Therapies[[6]](#footnote-7), so that they can function as effective eventual therapeutic interventions in multiple sclerosis. They can include biocompatible and biodegradable biomaterials as part of minimally invasive treatments and theragnostic materials. Funding for the development of new drug candidates for these conditions or for any form of clinical trial will not be considered.

The development of new integrated experimental and computational approaches aimed to describe interface processes and their determinants should be considered as key step for the design of safe and performing biomaterials. Experimental protocols should be planned taking due account of current good laboratory practice (GLP) and ISO guidelines. Manufacturing processes will need to be addressed, including up scaling, good manufacturing practice (GMP), process analytical technology (PAT), technology transfer and regulatory work in respect of relevant regulations as appropriate1,2. At least one type of tissue engineering construct should be delivered at the end of the research project together with a proof of concept of its therapeutic potential and preclinical validation.

In order to ensure relevance and impacts of the research efforts, the active participation of industrial partners and clinicians represents an added value to the proposals and this will be reflected in the evaluation under the criterion “Impact”. A multidisciplinary approach is preferred; taking into account both surgical, minimally invasive and pharmacological approaches, as well as prevention and rehabilitation strategies, including robotics if necessary. The expected results should improve the quality of life of the affected population and their careers. They should be measurable even for optimising research costs of the enterprises and for reducing time-to-market of new products. The project should include training and dissemination activities.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

*- Suitable for SMEs*

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 5.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Innovative bio/nano-materials for the treatment of multiple sclerosis, improving the quality of life of MS patients due to minimally invasive action and/or longer duration of implants and devices;
* reduced direct and indirect costs linked to the disease and its treatment;
* enhance competitiveness of the biomaterials and biomedical industries in the EU, in particular through technology transfer effects on biotechnology companies, with particular regard to SMEs and new forms of cooperation between academia, research centres and the private sectors. Such effects should be balanced to match sustainability principles and values - supporting the EU 2020 Strategy3 - and to enforce competitiveness in terms of reducing time-to-market and trial costs for European industries;
* Dissemination of results, contributing to increase social awareness about more efficient and less costly therapies – based upon innovative approaches and broader accessibility – with improved patient compliance.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 10-2016 Nanoformulation of biologicals

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Many biomolecules (e.g. proteins, peptides, nucleic acid, enzymes), in opposition to classical small molecules, have demonstrated interesting therapeutic activities in vitro. However, they are too often not druggable because once in pre-clinical in vivo development, they show disappointing loss of efficacy and/or unacceptable toxicity. For example, a high in vitro efficacy of a therapeutic biomolecule can disappointedly become low in vivo, because the biomolecule is processed by the immune system or by enzymes of the host before reaching its targeted tissue. Nanotechnology represents a promising opportunity to overcome these drawbacks. Indeed, the formulation of nanocarriers containing biomolecules ('biologicals') can greatly improve their in vivo efficacy and/or decrease their toxicity and provide the capability to cross biological barriers (e.g. intestinal, blood-brain barrier, nasal, ocular, pulmonary, skin).

**SCOPE:**

This call addresses nanoformulation of biologicals (like proteins, peptides, nucleic acids and enzymes). With an appropriate formulation the biologicals can be effectively transported through the relevant biological barriers to the targeted organs, tissues and cells.

Formulation of nanomedicines has in general been empirical and often produced in an amorphous or undefined structure, which produces regulatory and manufacturing control issues. The aim of the research is to achieve excellent quality of control of the assembly by using self-assembling systems. The resulting processes should provide a high degree of control over the physico-chemical parameters like shape, size and chemical composition while incorporating non-Lipinski molecules such as nucleics acids, proteins or peptides. Characterisation aspects of the nanoformulations therefore have to be properly addressed. The benefit will be easier manufacturing and process control.

Projects will develop a nanoformulation of biomolecules to provide a solid pre-clinical proof of concept, address scale-up to the quantities needed for late pre-clinical and clinical study and prepare for future clinical testing. Partners will also have to describe how the various barriers for advancing their new therapy to clinical application will be overcome; they will especially take into account the medical regulatory requirements and the scale-up production for clinical study.

The clinical focus should be notably on age related diseases, neglected diseases and rare diseases or inflammatory diseases, but excluding cancer and infectious diseases.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- Topic suitable for participation of SME's

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 /4 to 5 / 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Developments of new solutions for the particularly needed delivery of biologicals;
* Radical improvement of therapy through the development of new nanoformulation solutions for the delivery of biologicals;
* Foster the translation of nanoformulation of biomolecules towards clinical development / application;
* Improvement of the competitiveness of the European healthcare industry through accelerated introduction of new nanotechnology enabled therapies;
* Improved understanding by academics and research organisations of the requirements of the pharmaceutical industry and regulators.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 11-2016: ERA-NET on Nanomedicine

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Strengthening Europe’s position in nanomedicine research requires concentrated action on common European research priorities in view of implementing joint initiatives. The Nanomedicine Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda gives a strategic and perspective frame for increasing uptake of nanomedical research and innovation through joint undertakings notably with large pharma or diagnostics companies, thereby contributing to the emergence of a nanomedicine industrial sector.

**SCOPE:**

The proposed ERA-NET Cofund aims at coordinating the research efforts of the participating Member States, Associated States and Regions in the field of nanomedicine, continuing the activities started by the ERANET EuroNanoMed and fostering the competitiveness of European nanomedicine actors, and to implement a joint transnational call for proposals (resulting in grants to third parties) with EU co-funding to fund multinational innovative research initiatives in this domain.

The action will link with existing PPP or Joint programming initiatives such as IMI to leverage public funding and increase joint projects with Industries and to create a positive environment for the uptake of innovation nanomedicine.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU around EUR 10 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

* Synergies and coherence in key fields of nanomedicine research at national and regional level;
* Implementation of relevant parts of the Nanomedicine Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda;
* Favourable conditions for an increased uptake of nanomedical technologies into industrial medical products.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** ERANET Cofund

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 12-2017: **Development of a reliable methodology for better** risk **management** of engineered Biomaterials **in Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products and/or Medical Devices**

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The development of new biotechnology-based products needs to be complemented with a scientifically valid identification of the potential hazards from these biomaterials to human health and to the environment, together with the monitoring and reduction of the risk that these new technologies pose. Current knowledge is still incomplete and the established methods may be inappropriate for specific materials in view of their eventual deployment. The necessary integration of physical, chemical, biochemical and clinical methods is an open challenge. Hence, future production system engineering requires development of integrated and validated methodologies as basis for an appropriate integrated risk management.

Projects are expected to initiate and support standardisation of the proposed biomaterials and methods, including methods that will reflect their eventual deployment as part of Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products and/or Medical Devices.

**SCOPE:**

The development of new biotechnology-based products needs to be complemented with a scientifically valid identification of the potential hazards from these biomaterials to human health and to the environment, together with the monitoring and reduction of the risk that these new technologies pose. Current knowledge is still incomplete and the established methods may be inappropriate for specific materials. Hence, future production system engineering requires validated methodologies as basis for an appropriate integrated risk management. The expected projects should be related to validating, adapting and/or developing a reliable methodology for risk assessment and thorough overarching hazard identification for engineered biomaterials and should address the following areas:

* Comparison and validation of current (and/or development including validation of new) test methods and test schemes, including in vitro and in silico methods, to detect adverse effects from biomaterials to:
	+ human health including acute and chronic toxicity (oral, inhalation, dermal);
	+ modelling toxicity behaviour of engineered Biomaterials, including development of ready-to-use applications of the predictive models (web services etc);
	+ the environment; eco-toxicity tests, bioaccumulation, persistence, bioavailability and life cycle impacts onto all forms of biota.
* Relevant reference and/or certified reference materials;
* Management of accidental risk including explosion and massive release ;
* Methods for performance assessment of hazard and exposure monitoring systems and on the field detection systems;

Methods for evaluation of risk reduction strategies and systems.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- In order to ensure industrial relevance and impact of the research effort, the active participation of industrial partners as well as third countries represents an added value to the activities and this will be reflected in the evaluation.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Development of comprehensive understanding of the properties, interaction and fate of engineered biomaterials in relation to human health and environment;
* Support to policy and decision making concerning biomaterials research in respect to various stakeholders: public authorities, industry, researchers and citizens;
* Validated test methods and schemes for the identification of potential adverse effects from biomaterials and Contribution to the future definition of appropriate measures, where needed;
* Support to pre and co-normative activities, such as with reference to the implementation of the REACH regulation3;
* Support to good governance in biomaterials research following the safe, integrated and responsible approach as laid down in "Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies: An action plan for Europe".

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 13-2017: Cross-KET for Health

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Research and technology development at the interface of key enabling technologies has the potential to provide novel technological Micro-Nano–Bio integrated Systems (MNBS) platforms to enhance the ability to sense, detect, analyse, monitor and act on phenomena from macro (e.g. body, organ, tissues) to nano scale (e.g. molecules, genes). These developments have a high potential for facilitating personalised and preventive healthcare. However, the translation of laboratory proven concepts to the clinical environment involving pre-clinical and clinical testing, prototyping, and small series manufacturing is currently lagging. Business development and market growth **are** therefore still limited.
The challenge is to bring new promising laboratory proven MNBS concepts for addressing priority healthcare needs from the laboratory to the clinic.

**SCOPE:**

The focus is on further development into a clinical setting of novel MNBS platforms, techniques and systems that have already been proven in a laboratory setting (laboratory Proof-of-Concept). These must pertain to one or more of the following:

1. In vitro/in vivo diagnostics that are deployed at the point of care,
2. Therapy monitoring at the point of care

Projects shall pay attention to facilitate clinical data harvesting, e.g. for medical regulatory purposes and / or to enhance epidemiological monitoring of health and disease patterns.

Proposals should commence at Technology Readiness Level 3-4 and reach 5-6, demonstrate clear compliance with applicable Good Laboratory Practice /Good Clinical Practice /Good Manufacturing Practice and be consistent with ISO and other regulations (both national and European). The translation from the pre-clinical phase to early clinical testing, including design and pilot manufacturing in appropriate volume for clinical testing (small series), pre-clinical and early clinical testing is a necessary part of the work‑up. Attention shall be paid to the requirements for Health Technology Assessment (HTA). Standardisation issues have to be taken into account where appropriate.

Involvement of SMEs is highly encouraged.

**Expected impact:**

Proposals should address one or more of the following impact criteria and provide metrics to measure and monitor success.

* Address priority needs in healthcare diagnostics and / or therapy monitoring, for the benefit of patients.
* Provide Affordable systems with unique features that address specific well identified requirements in healthcare.
* Progress the development of advanced integrated MNBS based diagnostic health platforms, techniques or systems from the laboratory Proof-of-Concept to the clinical setting.
* Establish a world-class European competitive industrial R&D and manufacturing competence in Micro-Nano-Bio Systems integration for healthcare diagnostics applications.
* Strengthening the industrial value chain and progress to marketisation, as shown with an analysis in the outline business plan.
* Early involvement of regulatory bodies and patients in the new developments.

**Type of action:** Research & Innovation Actions

This cross-KET topic will be co-funded by DG CONNECT and DG RTD within the framework of a Cross-KET initiative for Health for a total budget of 15 M€.

An EU contribution of € 5 million per project seems appropriate

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 14-2017: Regulatory Science Framework for assessment of risk‑benefit ratio of Nanomedicines and Biomaterials

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The application of nanotechnology and nanobiomaterials has great potential to advance medicine for the benefit of citizens. However, the use of these new technologies poses considerable challenges for assessing the quality, safety and efficacy of the novel nanomedicines and medical devices.

**SCOPE:**

The project aims to advance the field of medical regulatory science and practice through the development and validation of science based regulatory knowledge and standardisation of innovative technical tools and methods. The intention is to lead to a new and better methodology for pre-clinical and clinical evaluation and help to take appropriate stock of and to apply innovative scientific advances as and when they occur.

Priority will be given to development of new regulatory standards and tools that are based on scientific principles that already have a Proof-of-Concept at the laboratory scale.

Where appropriate projects shall make use of the opportunities for obtaining scientific advice from medical regulatory bodies to support the qualification of innovative development methods.

International cooperation and participation of Member States funding programmes with complementary funding is encouraged to facilitate development of new regulatory science on the global scale.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* INCO encouraged

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3-7**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one project will be funded.**

**Expected impact:**

* To reduce the cost of pre-clinical and clinical development for new medical products and therapies, that are based on the application of nanotechnology and nanobiomaterials.
* To reduce the time for innovations to reach the patients
* To provide a set of tools for more informed risk assessment and decision making
* To improve standardisation of regulatory practice at the European and international level
* To establish a close collaboration among regulators, industry, science and patients with regard to the knowledge required for appropriate risk management, and create the basis for common approaches, mutually acceptable datasets and risk management practices.
* To establish a European Consortium for the Advancement of Regulatory Science in Biomaterials and Nanomedicines, involving industrial, medical, academic, regulatory and patient representative stakeholders,
* To identify within the consortium critical issues for innovative products and establishment of an action plan for further studies,
* To establish links with existing European Infrastructures active in the field, along with relevant European Research Networks
* To elaborate an action plan for a better integration of the European Union with other regions of the world.

**Type of action:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

***Former topic NMP 15-2017 (Upscaling of the production of nanopharmaceuticals ) has been removed***

### NMBP 15-2017: Nanotechnologies for imaging cellular transplants and regenerative processes in vivo

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Detection and monitoring of stem cell transplants in vivo is of utmost importance for development of clinical cell therapy. Suitable nanotechnology-based imaging approaches with high sensitivity should allow for monitoring of cell viability, engraftment and distribution, also through the use of nanomaterials for cells marking. Appropriate imaging techniques have been developed for application in small animals, but are not available yet for use in preclinical large animal models and patients. In particular, such technologies will represent an important safety measure enabling early detection of stem cell based therapy.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should focus on the following:

* Development of highly sensitive imaging approaches enabling discrimination of living cell transplants based e.g. on optical imaging, magnetic resonance imaging and / or nuclear medicine techniques.
* Monitoring should be highly sensitive, in best case allowing for detection of single cells and cell morphologies.
* Possibility of non-invasive whole body monitoring (magnetic, optical) in large animals

Development of clinically applicable imaging approaches, taking into account medical regulatory **aspects**.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3/ 4 to 5 / 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

Availability of novel highly sensitive nanotechnology-based imaging approaches allowing for monitoring of survival, engraftment, proliferation, function and whole body distribution of cellular transplants in preclinical large animal models and patients;

* Facilitating the provision of new regenerative therapies to patients;
* Opening of a new market sector for imaging equipment and supplies, reinforcement of the European healthcare supply chain and improvement of the competitiveness of the European healthcare sector.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 16-2017: Mobilising the European nano-biomedical ecosystem

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Developing innovative Nanomedical products for a more personalized, predictive and efficient medicine requires further integration of nanotechnologies aiming at applications in human health notably with further Key Enabling Technologies. It also needs a functioning ecosystem of actors, in which the research, translation, regulation, standardization and take-up of innovative nanomedicines by the different European Healthcare Systems is stimulated. End-of-life/disposal and recyclability issues should also be addressed as appropriate.

**SCOPE:**

Supporting the development of an ecosystem for Nanomedicine in Europe, including activities such as coordinating national platforms and regional clusters; developing common training material and services; international cooperation related to community building, road-mapping, regulation, manufacturing, reimbursement and pricing, standardization and recyclability; and reaching out to attract the interest of citizens, young talents and young entrepreneurs. Collaborations with relevant Technology Platform or similar initiatives in Europe or worldwide will allow deeper and more effective cross-KETs activities for innovative integrated solution and well as a consolidated international strategy for the sector.

Attention should be paid to achieve a cross-regional, cross-sectoral and cross-technological approach, based on the analysis of relevant roadmaps, Strategic Research Agendas or Smart Specialisation Strategies which have listed nanomedicine or personalized Medicine as one of their priorities. These different approaches might for instance be united into one “meta” roadmap.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 1 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

* Increased take-up of innovative Nanomedicine solutions by industry and SME's, end-users,, regulatory and public authorities, healthcare insurances, doctors and patients, research organisations and academia
* Improvement of cross-KETs activities to provide better integrated healthcare solutions
* Increased international networking with new potential market opportunities
* Improvement of the competitiveness of the European healthcare sector

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

## Key enabling technologies for societal challenges - Advanced materials and nanotechnologies for energy applications

### NMBP 17-2016: Advanced materials solutions and architectures for high efficiency solar energy harvesting

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

High efficiency solar energy harvesting (high-efficiency photo-voltaics (PV) or concentrated solar power (CSP)) is an important building block in installing a secure, competitive and sustainable energy system. Increased efforts have to be made to make these technologies cost competitive under suitable electricity market conditions. Novel functional materials and material combinations throughout the solar system manufacturing chain enhance the efficiency of solar energy harvesting beyond that of the current state-of-the-art technologies. These new materials and processes allow the European materials supply sector to expand its industrial leadership towards the next generation of solar energy harvesting which is expected to reach the markets beyond 2020.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should develop durable materials solutions for novel high efficiency solar (PV or CSP) technologies, to enhance system conversion efficiencies, while preserving lifetime and ensuring materials resource efficiency. Activities related to concentrated PV are out of scope of this topic. Research efforts must focus on delivering advanced materials (including but not limited to particles, thin films, nanostructures, heat transfer fluids, phase change materials and receptors), and/or their combinations into innovative device architectures. The proposed solutions need to demonstrate their added value in terms performance or unique application options and their viability in terms of manufacturability, yield and stability. Finally, the high efficiency concepts should be assessed for technical and economic viability and developed towards readiness for upscaling the materials production.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

This topic calls for proposals with focus on advanced materials solutions and architectures. A complementary sub-topics are published in the “Secure, clean and efficient energy” work programme 2016 – 2017 (LCE7a and b -  2016/2017: Developing the next generation technologies of renewable electricity and heating/cooling) calling for proposals on solutions with a technology-approach.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* The performance levels of the proposed materials solution(s) should be in line with those specified in relevant parts of the SET-Plan Integrated Roadmap and its Annexes, available at <http://setis.ec.europa.eu/set-plan-implementation/towards-integrated-roadmap-and-action-plan>
* A deeper understanding of the material and interface characteristics and their long-term behaviour;
* The demonstration of device designs and fabrication processes for high efficiency technologies of at least 22% efficiency at cell level and above 18 % efficiency at module level; figures being checked
* The demonstration of material manufacturing readiness to accomodate emerging and/or novel high efficiency technologies with a potential levelized cost of electricity of 0.07 – 0.12 €/kWh (PV) for an irradiation range of 2000 – 1450 kWh/(m²a) and 0.10 – 0.15 €/kWh (CSP) for a direct normal irradiance in the range of 2700 – 2100 kWh/(m²a) in 2020. figures being checked

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 18-2016: Advanced materials enabling the integration of storage technologies in the electricity grid

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Reliable access to cost-effective electricity is the backbone of the EU economy, and electrical energy storage is an integral element in this system. Without significant investments in stationary electrical energy storage, the current electric grid infrastructure will increasingly struggle to provide reliable, affordable electricity, thereby jeopardizing the transformational changes envisioned for a modernized grid. Investment in integrating energy storage refurbishing the grid is essential for keeping pace with the increasing demands for electricity arising from continued growth in productivity and the projected increase in distributed and/or intermittent energy sources. The technical aspects that will be posed by an improved grid include inventing new technologies requiring new advanced materials. Some materials will improve the current technology, while some will enable emerging technologies.

**SCOPE:**

By the development of solutions based on advanced functional particles, filaments, layers, coatings and new functionalities, proposals should contribute to the integration of storage devices in the electrical grid. Targeted applications could include, but are not limited to, high capacity cables with optimized strength and conductivity, and superconductors, (extra) high voltage cables and accessories up to 1000 kV, materials for medium voltage (2kV to 35kV) and smart electrical accessories, new materials for extreme conditions and surface treatment of existing materials to protect and improve performances within the context of the electricity grid.

Activities addressing the development of materials specifically for energy storage technologies and for power electronics are outside the scope of this call. A dedicated topic on materials research for power electronics is included in this Work Programme under topic NMBP 02 – 2016 "Advanced Materials for Power Electronics based on wide bandgap semiconductor devices technology".

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

This topic calls for proposals with focus on advanced materials solutions for electricity grid related technologies. A partially complementary topic “Next generation innovative technologies enabling smart grids, storage and energy system integration with increasing share of renewables: distribution network” is published in the “Secure, clean and efficient energy” work programme 2016 – 2017 (LCE1 -  2016: Next generation innovative technologies enabling smart grids, storage and energy system integration with increasing share of renewables: distribution network) calling for proposals on the development of innovative solutions starting from the technology part of the value chain.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 6 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

* The performance levels of the proposed materials solution(s) should be in line with those specified in relevant parts of the SET-Plan Integrated Roadmap and its Annexes, available at <http://setis.ec.europa.eu/set-plan-implementation/towards-integrated-roadmap-and-action-plan>
* Significant enhancement of power supply reliability, managing volatility of the grid considering the connection of renewable energy sources, increased grid efficiency.
* Alleviation of geographical constraints for low carbon energy production with increased efficiencies at a reduced cost;
* Reduction of the barriers to increase the penetration rate of distributed and/or intermittent renewable energy sources;

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 19-2017: Cost-effective materials for “power-to-chemical” technologies

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Energy storage will play a key role in enabling the EU to develop a low-carbon electricity system. Energy storage can supply more flexibility and balancing to the grid, providing a back up to intermittent renewable energy. Chemical energy storage is the transformation of electrical energy into chemical energy carriers. It consequently involves exchange of energy between different vectors of the energy system. Once the energy is transformed to chemicals the concept opens for many ways to use the primary electric energy, e.g., for re-electrification, heating and mobility. For such chemical energy storage, hydrogen or chemicals are considered. In particular the production of hydrocarbons by co-electrolysis is very promising technology in which R&I efforts should result in a substantial increase of the efficiency of the processes.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should deliver advanced materials, materials solutions or new chemistries, to up-scale the chemical storage of energy in hydrogen or chemicals to economically viable levels. The proposals should select one or more of the following subjects:

* The development of low cost advanced materials for solid state storage of hydrogen at low pressure, targeting at the same time improved storage density and cycling durability;
* The development of direct synthesis of hydrocarbons from CO2-H2O co-electrolysis using materials and reactors made of sustainable, non-toxic and non-critical raw materials2;
* The development of efficient low cost photochemical water splitting reactors with optimized flow behaviour, as well as new catalysts with longer lifetimes based on advanced materials and new chemistries;
* The optimization of low-cost electro-chemistries to separate and purify hydrocarbon streams.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

This topic calls for proposals with focus on cost effective materials solutions for “power-to-chemical" technologies. A complementary topic with focus on using solid oxide electrolysis cells (SOEC) to convert renewable electricity into hydrogen and, via hydrogen, into other products is currently being proposed to be included in the 2015 work plan of the FCH JU. Successful projects should participate to the activities organised by the FCH JU.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected Impact:**

* The performance levels of the proposed materials solution(s) should be in line with those specified in relevant parts of the SET-Plan Integrated Roadmap and its Annexes, available at <http://setis.ec.europa.eu/set-plan-implementation/towards-integrated-roadmap-and-action-plan>
* Significant increase of the durability under current and temperature cycling of co-electrolysis technology based on sustainable, non-toxic and non-critical raw materials;
* Alleviation of geographical constraints for low carbon energy production with increased efficiencies at a reduced cost;
* Reduction of the barriers to increase the penetration rate of distributed and/or intermittent renewable energy sources;

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 20-2017: High-performance materials for optimizing CO2 capture

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a key element in the EU low-carbon policy. Presently, the roll-out has been hampered by costs and techno-economic uncertainties of the CCS, where CO2 capture is a major part. While there is a need to demonstrate currently state-of-the-art capture technologies in real market conditions, promising new material solutions have been under development for the next generation CCS technologies that are expected to reach the markets beyond 2020. These solutions could dramatically improve the efficiency of CO2 capture but the materials manufacturing processes should be further developed towards higher yields while conserving functionality at a lower cost.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should capitalise on promising material solutions for the next generation CO2 capture technologies (such as pre-combustion or post-combustion capture, oxygen combustion or other novel technologies or concepts). Recent work on such materials and capture techniques, based on, inter alia, nanostructured hybrid materials, membranes, solid and liquid-based adsorbents has made progress to the extent that their cost and performance competitiveness with respect to the state-of-the-art technologies (at least at demonstration level) should now be tested. The proposed solutions need to prove their added value in terms performance or their ability to address unique applications, and their viability in terms of manufacturability, yield, stability, long working-life and easy regeneration. Finally, the high efficiency concepts should be assessed for technical and economic viability and developed to readiness for pilot manufacturing to integrate the high-performance materials in existing demonstration projects.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

This topic calls for proposals with focus on the manufacturability high performance materials for CO2 capture. A partially complementary topic “New generation high-efficiency capture processes” is published in the “Secure, clean and efficient energy” work programme 2016 – 2017 (LCE24 -  2016: New generation high-efficiency capture processes) calling for proposals on the development of high potential novel technologies or processes for post- and/or precombustion CO2 capture.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 6 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

* The performance levels of the proposed materials solution(s) should be in line with those specified in relevant parts of the SET-Plan Integrated Roadmap and its Annexes, available at <http://setis.ec.europa.eu/set-plan-implementation/towards-integrated-roadmap-and-action-plan>
* Improved security of supply by reducing the need for extra fuel to produce goods and power, increased use of indigenous resources;
* Increased competitiveness of CCS, in particular by reducing the cost of CO2 capture;
* integrate the high-performance materials in existing and next generation demonstrators;
* A strengthened European materials industry in a highly competitive market.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

## Key enabling technologies for societal challenges - Eco-design and new sustainable business models

### NMBP 21- 2016: ERA-NET on manufacturing technologies supporting industry and particularly SMEs in the global competition

**Specific challenge:**

Pooling resources can foster the competitiveness of Europe’s advanced manufacturing industry, by the co-funding of manufacturing research projects performed by transnational consortia involving enterprises and their strategic partners. A strategic and industry relevant approach is needed in order to address key manufacturing priorities, covering the entire value chains and gathering national and regional research and innovation capacities, thereby mobilising all relevant European stakeholders and in particular SMEs.

**Scope:**

The proposed ERA-NET aims to coordinate the research and innovation efforts of the participating Member States, Associated States and Regions in the field of advanced manufacturing, continuing the activities started by MANUNET and followed by MANUNET II, supporting in particular SMEs and with a special focus on the key areas of new production processes, adaptive manufacturing systems and technologies for the factory of the future, and to implement a joint transnational call for proposals (resulting in grants to third parties) with EU co-funding to support multi-national innovative research initiatives in this domain.

Coordination with the relevant players at European level such as those in the Factories of the Future cPPP and relevant European Technology Platforms is expected and the strong involvement in the transnational projects of SMEs with innovation potential is encouraged.

International cooperation on R&I issues on manufacturing at global level should be properly addressed and the potential participation in the proposed ERA-NET of regions from third countries with local funding programs on manufacturing is encouraged.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs
* International cooperation
* Gender relevance

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 10 and 15 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one proposal will be funded.**

Prospective participant organisations should note that the impact of this ERA-NET could be enhanced by using resources coming through the European Structural and Investment Funds (provided that the appropriate policy measures together with the corresponding national contribution for them have been foreseen in the relevant Operational Programme). In such a case, participants should understand that ESI Funds cannot replace partly or wholly the expected national contribution(s) for matching the expected Horizon 2020 grant. However ESI Funds (together with national funds) can be used for enhancing the impact of the ERA-NET mobilising additional national funds for this purpose.

**Expected impact:**

* Synergies and coherence in key fields of advanced manufacturing research at national and regional level;
* Input to strategy and policy in the domain of advanced manufacturing
* Creation of a sustainable cooperation structures at regional, national and transnational level supporting research and innovation in key priority areas of the manufacturing sector in Europe.

**Type of action:** ERA-NET Co-fund

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 22-2017 Business models and industrial strategies supporting novel supply chains for innovative product-services

**Specific challenge:**

Purchasing is a traditional method of obtaining machinery or equipment, but it is not always the most suitable way for innovative product-services. Although other methods are becoming increasingly attractive, for example a lease contract for the use of equipment, a rent or custom hire, they are often not ideal solutions for B2B supply chains for innovative product-services. The business owners for pioneering product-services need to upgrade their equipment faster than in other sectors. Additionally, the lack of stability of the markets in the current economic situation in Europe does not create strong incentives to the industrial sector for long term investments in tangible fixed assets. At the same time, a quick response to market demand is crucial to market success.

It is important to develop value systems that take in to account the new extended supply chain from the early stage of the design process till the end-of-life activities management. In addition, nowadays the real production could take place anywhere in the world and leave Europe with free production capacities or not renewed. The overall process does not necessarily take into account economic, social and environmental aspects for Europe.

**Scope:**

The internet, digital technologies and social media have the potential to support new supply chain models that are focused on business-to-business (B2B) as well as business-to-consumer (B2C) relationships, on improving the capacity utilisation in Europe (around 80% now).

The research activities should focus on all of the following areas:

* New business solutions for extended supply chains and the integrated sustainable European framework that would take into account the needs of design, production, utilisation and end-of-life and would overcome the risk of under-utilised capacity.
* Digital technologies that would enable supply chain members to increase connectivity and inter-operability to rapidly coordinate and to react to market demand as a whole system.
* Solutions for local cooperation and supply, thus reducing the environmental footprint.

Business models supporting the novel supply chains for innovative product-services would need to facilitate the flow of information on free utilisation capacity among service providers, which could be dedicated business set-ups for that kind of product-services, or just existing manufacturers with free production capacity at certain moments in time and business companies seeking short term solutions for their capacity shortages.

Project activities will focus on new concepts and methodologies for knowledge-based, specialized product-service, which can fulfil the requirements of fast changing markets for innovative product-services. The service could be also supplemented by after sale services and extended guarantees provided by any entity from the supply chain base on common agreement.

The new concepts developed would implement the idea that what business wants from suppliers/service providers is not necessarily ownership, but rather the function that the product or the service can provide, if the business organisation for instance does not want to invest money in the product. It is desirable, in this perspective, to create sustainable networks and clusters, by integrating the various actors (from suppliers devoted to the collection, disposal, recycling and reuse of critical materials and components) into a perspective of sustainability and corporate social responsibility.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs
* International cooperation
* Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) elements such as economics and business administration

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.** Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

* Decrease of the production costs in Europe, through a better use of the total manufacturing capacity;
* Increase in the investment in the manufacturing industry in Europe;
* Reduction in the environmental footprint compared to products produced in the traditional value chains, through less transportation by the use of local, regional product-services capacity;
* Development of novel supply networks for sectoral organisations and of sectoral solutions that could be also applied by other industrial sectors;
* Creation of new embedded services supporting the business-to-business supply chain;
* Possibility for further development of the new supply chains for other business scenarios;
* New Extended Supply Chain business models based on a sustainability-driven small series production;
* Creation of novel models of work organisation and sustainability-driven networks/clusters able to integrate the product-service life-cycle stages in the same industry, as well as across industries.

**Type of action:** Research and Innovation Actions

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

## Biotechnology

### BIOTEC 01-2016: ERA-NET Cofund on Biotechnologies

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

During the last two decades major progress was made in terms of industrial applications of biotechnology. Relevant national and FP7 research programmes and projects in the Biotechnology area have significantly contributed to improve European economic and environmental protection. Innovation in biotechnology also provides opportunities to transform the global economy from an extensive dependence on fossil raw material to a sustainable “bio-economy”.

However, economic indicators suggest a need for urgent action to maintain Europe’s global lead in biotechnology. In order to increase the competitiveness of EU industries, broader and deeper collaboration across relevant sectors and Member States is necessary. It will also be necessary to better use research advances in areas such as systems and synthetic biology for applications and demonstration in industrial biotechnology.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should gather a critical number of relevant programme managers and funders in the field and aim at implementing a co-funded call focusing on Technology Readiness Levels in the range of 3 to 6 with the possibility to implement additional activities. They shall build on the previous success of ERA-IB-2, ERASysAPP, ERASynBio under FP7, allowing for the seamless integration of the areas covered, together with the bioinformatics area and be complementary to related health initiatives. The ultimate aim is to speed-up research and innovation in industrial biotechnology, establishing systems biology and synthetic biology as technology drivers while focusing on downstream industrial applications. The significant involvement of industry in the activities developed up to the exploitation of results will be an important element to achieve this goal. Extensive communication activities shall foster the European leadership role in advanced biotechnological research and innovation.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

The proposals will address Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) elements, in particular for outreach activities and in terms of the public perception of biotechnologies for industrial uses.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 10 and 15 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Better align current EU and national biotechnology initiatives with the goals of the KET Biotechnology area under Horizon 2020, in particular by focusing on application-oriented research and demonstration activities and by developing a European Biotechnology hub, acting as a facilitator and multiplier in this regard.
* improved use of synergies and coherence of current research funding activities in particular through the launch of calls for proposals and the use of existing research infrastructures (e.g. bioinformatics).
* Increase the financial commitment of participating countries and additional private sector resources compared to the three previous ERA-NET projects.
* Increase the visibility of the potential benefits of a bio-based economy for the society, in particular through dissemination and exploitation of results.

**TYPE OF ACTION**: ERA-NET Cofund Action

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### BIOTEC 02-2016 Bioconversion of non-agricultural waste into biomolecules for industrial applications

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Following the principle of a circular economy, industrial by-products, municipal solid bio-waste fractions and sludgy bio-waste from other industries, like the food industry, as well as from water treatment facilities, could be considered feed stock for bio-conversion into value-added industrial products.

However, most of these bio-waste fractions are used nowadays for low-value applications only, such as for energy generation in incineration facilities, as fodder in livestock industries and as fertilisers in agriculture. Therefore, responding to the need to improve industrial resource efficiency, the current main challenges are to identify economically viable links between waste generation and waste utilization, and to develop the necessary technologies (including biotechnologies) for bioconversion of waste into higher added-value products.

**SCOPE:**

The objective of this topic is to develop biotechnology approaches for the conversion of bio-waste from the above mentioned sectors into higher added-value bio-based products, such as chemicals and chemical building blocks, biopolymers, materials and bioactive compounds. This includes sustainable downstream steps for product separation and purification. Physico-chemical technologies concomitant to the enzymatic/microbial processes are also needed. Proposals should address the current technical state-of-the-art regarding waste utilisation for bioproducts taking into account the current market and legislative barriers in the EU. The feasibility of integrating the newly developed approach into existing value chains should be assessed and demonstrated.

Proposals should have a strong industry drive and prove the techno-economic viability of the proposed value chain. They need to also take into account the optimisation of the final product's "end of life" through, for example, biodegradation or recycling. A life cycle assessment of the entire value chain should be included.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

Proposals should specifically target collaboration with SMEs and should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 5.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Develop at least 2 new bio-based value chains, utilising either industrial by-products and/or relevant bio-waste fractions for bio-product generation.
* Propose outline business plans which include the assessment of the potential impact of the proposed value chains in terms of EU jobs and growths in the short and medium term. The expected impact of the value chains should be clearly described in qualitative and quantitative terms (e.g. in terms of turnover, employment, market size, IP management, sales, return on investment and profit).
* Demonstrate the environmental feasibility of the proposed value chains and conduct relevant outreach activities.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### BIOTEC 03-2016 Microbial chassis platforms with optimized metabolic pathways for industrial innovations through systems biology

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Systems biology deals with the understanding and controlling the complexity of living beings as opposed to studying their constituent parts. As such, systems biology can be considered as a cross-discipline, i.e. the integration of varied types of biological information and the development of models and networks, which together provide greater understanding of the biological system under study. Systems biology relies on cutting-edge technologies, including those in the fields of "omics" (genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics) and bioinformatics, all offering massive amounts of data, most of which remain stored and underexploited. Therefore, it is a growing area of science that builds information from the translation of biological data and strives to transfer knowledge to society in the form of valuable products and processes.

On the other hand, microbes are attractive candidates to serve as cell factories for the production of many valuable compounds useful for the food, feed, fuel, cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries. The current availability of genome sequences and metabolic models offers the adequate resources for the full exploitation of systems biology in industrial biotechnology, which can boost the design of novel and more efficient microbial platforms for the production of industrial compounds through the sound knowledge of their molecular constituents.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should use systems biology approaches integrating "omics" data analysis, mathematical modelling and knowledge of interactions between cellular components under different environmental conditions, to enable useful applications for a broader set of microorganisms, while also achieving some of the following:

* More efficient metabolic pathways of current microbial platforms, adapting them to high performing manufacturing processes
* Improving existing cell factories or developing new ones with enhanced properties for harsh process conditions in industrial applications
* Development of efficient cell factories for the industrial production of novel high-value products.
* Identification of new microbial strains with beneficial characteristics for industrial applications such as those originating from extremophiles and related activities to develop relevant industrial host organisms.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

Proposals will involve SME collaboration (indicatively around 30% of the budget) and international cooperation.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 5.** Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Development of at least two new high added-value products
* Boosting technological innovation for European industries to keep the leadership in biotechnology in particular in the food, feed, fuel, cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries.
* An offer of substantial opportunities for an increasing number of SME to uptake innovative research.
* Development of widely exploitable microbial hosts for the production of industrial goods.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### BIOTEC 04-2016 KET Biotechnology foresight identifying gaps and high-value opportunities for the EU industry

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Although Europe enjoys a lead position in science and technology, including biotechnology, in comparison with other world regions European technology base is often scattered and very diverse in terms of regional and national capacities. If Europe is to keep its leadership in Biotechnology, its R&D&I funding agencies, in particular the European Commission, need to stay abreast of progress in the areas they fund to ensure utmost relevance of their activities. In the Biotechnology areas stakeholder roadmaps and scientific publications are often outpaced by rapid progress made in research. The cross-cutting nature of biotechnology also requires targeting the limited funds available in the most efficient way. It is thus essential to forecast the future of R&D&I needs closely, in order to identify major opportunities that are not only readily feasible but also of high value, while achieving a positive public perception of biotechnologies and the potential they hold.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should use a multidisciplinary approach, including modelling and simulation, to provide comprehensive and dependable information about the future industrial biotechnology scenario (including pharmaceuticals) in the EU in the short and medium-term. Proposals should consider the potential of industrial biotechnology innovation for enabling the European industry to deliver high-value products satisfying evolving consumer needs, the creation of new commercial opportunities and the possible risks for people's health and the environment. European capacities in terms of human resources, infrastructures, research and development and public and private stakeholders should be taken into account. Proposals should also identify links with policy development, and the preparation of the future programmes beyond Horizon 2020. It should be ensured that the proposed activities are complementary to those under the Health, Energy and Bioeconomy (including the Bio-Based Industries JTI) Societal Challenges.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

To a reasonable extent, the proposal will address Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) elements, for example changing consumers' needs and the public perception of biotechnologies for industrial uses.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 350,000 and 500,000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one proposal will be funded.**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* A reliable priority-setting scenario for funding industrial biotechnology in the EU in the short to medium-term which is relevant to EU based value chains.
* An instrument to enhance collaboration between all Member States, building on the strengths of each of the countries and allowing weaknesses to be overcome
* A general vision of European industrial biotechnology capacity and needs that will serve to target and strengthen Europe-wide R&D&I cooperation in particular boosting the participation of smaller countries.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP SME-02-2016/17 Dedicated support to biotechnology SMEs closing the gap from lab to market

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The large numbers of SMEs characterising the EU industrial biotechnology sector are playing a crucial role in the move to competitive and sustainable biotechnology-based processes. These SMEs are characterised by their research intensity and long lead times between early technological development and market introduction. They therefore need to be supported to overcome the so-called “valley of death”. SMEs working in the field of industrial biotechnology and ideas/concepts involving the use of systems and/or synthetic biology are particularly invited to apply for funding.

**SCOPE:**

The SME instrument consists of three separate phases and a coaching and mentoring service for beneficiaries. Participants can apply to phase 1 with a view to applying to phase 2 at a later date, or directly to phase 2.

In phase 1, a feasibility study shall be developed verifying the technological/practical and economic viability of an innovation idea with considerable novelty in the industrial sector in which it is presented (new products, processes, designs, services and technologies or new market applications of existing technologies). The activities could, for example, comprise risk assessment, market study, user involvement, Intellectual Property (IP) management, innovation strategy development, partner search, feasibility of concept, to establish a solid high-potential innovation project with a European dimension. Bottlenecks to increase profitability of the enterprise through innovation shall be detected and analysed during phase 1 and addressed during phase 2 to increase the return on investment of the innovation activities. The proposal should contain an initial business plan based on the idea/concept.

Funding will be provided in the form of a lump sum of EUR 50 000. Projects should not last longer than 6 months.

In phase 2, innovation projects will be supported addressing the specific challenge and demonstrating high potential in terms of competitiveness and growth, underpinned by a strategic business plan. Activities should focus on innovation activities such as demonstration, testing, prototyping, piloting, scaling-up, miniaturisation, design or market replication. The aim is to bring innovative ideas (product, process, service etc.) to industrial readiness and maturity for market introduction. Proposals could also include some research activities. A Technology Readiness Level of 6 or above (or similar for non-technological innovations) is envisaged -see part G of the General Annexes.

Business plans, either developed through phase 1 or other means, should be the foundation of the proposals. Particular attention must be paid to IP protection and ownership; applicants must present convincing measures to ensure the possibility of commercial exploitation ('freedom to operate').

Proposals shall include a first commercialisation plan and criteria for assessing the success of the proposed activities.

In addition, in phase 3, SMEs can benefit from indirect support measures and services as well as access to the financial facilities supported under 'Access to Risk Finance' of this work programme.

Successful beneficiaries will be offered coaching and mentoring support during phase 1 and phase 2. This service will be accessible via the Enterprise Europe Network and delivered by a dedicated coach through consultation and signposting to the beneficiaries. The coaches will be recruited from a central database managed by the Commission and have all fulfilled stringent criteria with regards to business experience and competencies. Throughout the three phases of the instrument, the Network will complement the coaching support by providing access to its innovation and internationalisation service offering. This could include, for example, depending on the need of the SME, support in identifying growth potential, developing a growth plan and maximising it through internationalisation; strengthening the leadership and management skills of individuals in the senior management team and developing in-house coaching capacity; developing a marketing strategy or raising external finance.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 50 000 for phase 1 and between EUR 0.5 and 2.5 million for phase 2 would address the challenges appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. Projects should last between 12 and 24 months.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Enhancing profitability and growth performance of SMEs by combining and transferring new and existing knowledge into innovative, disruptive and competitive solutions seizing European and global business opportunities.
* Market uptake and distribution of innovations tackling the specific challenge of boosting biotechnology-based industrial processes driving competitiveness and sustainability.
* Increase of private investment in innovation, notably leveraging private co-investor and/or follow-up investments.
* The expected impact should be clearly described in qualitative and quantitative terms (e.g. on turnover, employment, market seize, IP management, sales, return on investment and profit).

**TYPE OF ACTION:** SME Instrument (70% funding)

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### BIOTEC 05-2017 Microbial platforms for CO2-reuse processes in the low-carbon economy

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Nowadays CO2 re-use is one of several technological ways to reduce otherwise harmful CO2 emissions, thus making CO2 a valuable commodity rather than a pollutant. However, the research behind full development of CO2 reuse technologies is in its early stages. Some of these technologies use CO2 as a feedstock for chemicals and plastics, thus increasing the industrial biotechnology potential for enhancing European economic competitiveness. In this way, tackling the CO2 challenge includes interesting possibilities for encouraging innovation and sustainability.

An industrial biotechnology route for CO2 re-use is fermentation, where CO2 is fermented into a desired molecule using hydrogen as a source of energy. However, there are technical issues that need to be resolved, because the biochemical reactions involved are not yet self-supporting in terms of energy for the industrial scale conversion of CO2 into chemicals. Moreover, the final yield of the products is low and the process needs optimisation. In the end, the success of CO2 reuse technologies will depend on developing processes which are less energy and material intensive than the processes they aim to replace. Therefore, substantial research is required to achieve the goal of a CO2 economy.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should address current limitations of CO2 reuse technologies based on microbial platforms, by developing their full potential, and need to cover one or more of the following issues:

* Microbes with an improved ability to convert CO2 as a feedstock into chemicals and plastics.
* Discovery of new, more active and robust enzymes for improved bio-catalysis.
* Design of new synthetic systems to produce useful enzymes.
* Improved microbes with resistance to by-products and target products.
* Exploring the potential application sectors of the products and technologies to be developed.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

As much as possible, proposals will involve SMEs and international cooperation, and they will address elements of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) exploring the public perception and acceptance of the technology of CO2 reuse.

Proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 5.** Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Development and validation of at least 2 microbial cell factories
* Contributing to the reduction in CO2 emissions in the medium to long term.
* Supporting the EU in becoming a global leader in CO2 re-use technologies through the utilisation of microbial platforms.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### BIOTEC 06-2017 Optimisation of biocatalysis and downstream processing for the sustainable production of high added-value platform chemicals

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The bio-based production of chemical building blocks from renewable resources has become an interesting alternative to inherently non-sustainable petrochemical-based processes, which are neither low-carbon nor resource-efficient. However, despite the discovery and development of numerous platform cell factories, bio-based production is not (or not fully) competitive in terms of economics and remains, therefore, a niche market application dedicated to high-value specialty products.

To overcome current limitations, it is necessary to further improve the efficiency of bio-based production processes by creating better performing platform cell factories and relevant downstream processes.

**SCOPE:**

The objective is to optimise already existing or newly developed platform cell factories for the production of platform and fine chemicals and biofuels (excluding pharmaceuticals), following the cascading use of resources. Proposals should include areas such as bioinformatics, systems biology and synthetic biology where appropriate. Furthermore, applicants should take into account integrated approaches from sourcing of renewable biomass to bioconversion and downstream processing, including the final consumers of the bio-based product.

Proposals will have a strong industry drive and include demonstration activities to prove the techno-economic viability of the proposed value chain on the basis of a full Life-Cycle-Assessment, including the preparation of a model business plan. The optimisation of the final product's "end of life" through, for example, biodegradation or recycling should also be considered. Promotional activities, beyond the usual web-based approaches, targeted at all groups of participants should be included.

Proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and centred around TRL 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Reduction of the production costs of the proposed bio-based products by at least 30%.
* Demonstration of the economic feasibility of the proposed value chains.
* Full set of promotional and outreach activities, targeted at specific stakeholder groups, and based on the full Life-Cycle-Assessment and business plan prepared.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### BIOTEC 07-2017 New Plant Breeding Techniques (NPBT) in molecular farming: Multipurpose crops for industrial bioproducts

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Molecular farming involves the production of pharmaceutical and industrial compounds in plants through advanced technologies and it offers a competitive platform for the manufacturing of high-end products. Examples are plant-derived vaccines and the production of other commercially valuable proteins or small molecules. Indeed, plants are highly amenable to the production of a wide range of proteins, some of which are specific. In addition, the scalability allowed by plants exceeds that of other production systems. Molecular farming represents a development opportunity for a set of new high-value crops, for the health, chemical and agricultural industries and their related technology sectors. However, the expansion of molecular farming has been dawdling, due to its reliance on standard genetic modification and the hurdles it poses for commercialisation.

In the past ten years, complementary and more sophisticated new plant breeding techniques (NPBT) have been developed to produce new plants with the desired traits circumventing the main drawbacks of standard genetic modification (i.e. no foreign DNA is contained in the resulting end product). The use of NPBT for molecular farming could provide opportunities for new crops for the production of bioproducts, while maintaining the position of leadership of the European plant breeding sector in research and innovation.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should use the technologies comprised in the NPBT set[[7]](#footnote-8) , in particular those that avoid final genetic modification products, with plants amenable to be used as green factories in order to yield industrial high-value products. Proposals should address at least one of the following areas:

* Minor, underutilized and non-food crops suitable for the extraction of bioactive compounds
* Crops that grow more efficiently and have higher yields of the target bioproduct, while being more tolerant to adverse environmental conditions
* Improved plant-based low-cost platforms for commercial production of bioproducts

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

Proposals will include participation of SMEs.

When appropriate, proposals will be based on international cooperation.

They will include Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) elements contributing to a better understanding of plant breeding and related biotechnologies by the general public.

Proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 5.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* contribution to the EU goals of increased sustainability of agriculture and the bio-based economy by developing new types of usefull crops.
* new data for the assessment of innovative NBPT as tools for future plant breeding and their potential for a speedy uptake in general breeding practice
* Innovation in the way plant breeding technologies is presented to the public for an improved understanding of biotechnology and informed decision making

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### BIOTEC 08-2017 Support for enhancing and demonstrating the impact of KET Biotechnology projects

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Dissemination, exploitation and transfer of project results are crucial activities during project life-time and beyond in order to make sure that projects have the expected impacts. Clustering of project activities, according to objectives and addressed themes, and linking them with corresponding existing technology transfer activities are effective ways to stimulate the uptake of project results and the exploitation of synergies. An adequate monitoring of such activities during the project lifetime and beyond is also needed to ensure an effective implementation at programme level.

**SCOPE:**

The coordination action should aim in particular to actively cluster existing activities under the KET Biotechnology programme of Horizon 2020 and might also include related prior activities launched under FP7.

Activities may include:

* Reviews of recent technological developments, publications, international R&I programmes within the technological area of the cluster;
* Workshops with top-ranked international experts from various disciplines aiming at the elaboration of future KET Biotechnology priorities within this cluster and identifying research gaps;
* Science Intelligence: Gathering information about business trends and market prospects within and outside the EU, including relevant analytical and information/publication activities;
* Promotion of the activities of the cluster, e.g. organizing international conferences, and national or international roadshows highlighting the achievements within the cluster, involving also policy makers and/or the general public.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 700.000 and 1.000.000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Speeding up industrial exploitation and uptake of results of KET Biotechnology projects.
* Stimulating network and alliance formation for further RTD and industrial innovation based on KET Biotechnology achievements, including the development and practical application of a clustering model.
* Added value beyond the original scope of the KET Biotechnology projects by exploiting synergies and sharing best practice. Increased public awareness of the activities in this area by targeted communication activities.
* More effective execution of activities of common interest, such as IPR management, standardisation and policy making.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

## Actions to support developments in, and acceptance of, nanotechnologies, advanced materials and biotechnology - Modelling for the development of nanotechnologies and advanced materials

### NMBP 31-2016: Advancing the integration of Materials Modeling in Business Processes to enhance effective industrial decision making and increase competitiveness

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Sustaining and growing businesses requires continuous product innovation. Making meaningful business strategy decisions is an ever more challenging task in a global context. The combination of materials and business modelling to explore what technical solutions are economically viable is not yet exploited to the extend it could. The sheer volume of data and information combined with its dynamic nature demands an ever better understanding of possible options. There is a need for a Business Decision Support System that supports the selection of the optimal material and process taking into account the implementation costs but also the associated risks, uncertainties and costs related to the modelling and simulation; a priority, especially for SMEs.

**SCOPE:**

The proposals should develop an integrated Business Decision Support System (BDSS) that can support decisions on new materials and new processes by calculating through hypothetical scenarios.

The BDSS should enable the integration of materials modelling and business tools and databases into a single work-flow, allowing for flexibility of application to different industrial sectors.

 Proposals should create a framework that allows the flexible integration of existing or future discrete and continuum materials models with structured and unstructured data from multiple data bases containing materials data, commercial data and information on market trends, pricing, customer needs and demands.

The BDSS should enable a multi-criteria optimisation over all stages of product development by allowing the end-user to mirror the operational framework of their company. The structure of the BDSS should allow back-engineering from the end-goal. BDSS should be designed such as to optimise the integration of humans in new more complex industrial environments. The tool should be available to and usable by decision makers in manufacturing companies in the form of a platform which can be confidentially applied by a company.The tool should be validated against measurements, existing data and real financial arguments. Validation of the developed systems on public case studies and training of translators on the system is required.

Development of innovative methodologies should be included addressing innovative ways to connect existing and future models and how to use them in varying contexts (adaptive systems and networks). If appropriate, model development in terms of accuracy, robustness, uncertainty qualification and speed to allow a large design space to be explored may be included in order to exchange modules and prove flexibility of the framework.The consortium is expected to provide expertise on multiple discrete and continuum materials models[[8]](#footnote-9), business decision support systems, data search technology (incl. optimalisation, genetic algorithms, symbolic regression, machine learning and cognitive learning).

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* This topic is part of the open data pilot.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Reduction of company costs and increased performance and commercial impact based on effective materials models driven business decisions
* Guidance to companies in developing their strategies with an effective, user friendly materials models driven business decision system
* Increased industrial use of existing materials knowledge and effective materials models
* Improved trust of industrial decision makers in materials modelling and their commercial advantage
* Essential company savings in time and money, especially via the elimination of the need for (some) plant trials

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

**Special features**: Successful projects will be clustered to agree on standards to achieve seamless integration of their frameworks and of the modules to be linked into the framework*.*

### NMBP 32-2016: Network to capitalise on strong European position in materials modelling and to allow industry to reap the benefits

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Predictive multi-scale material modelling has the potential to enable economic advantages for all manufacturing industries. There is a need for enhanced and effective interaction between all stakeholders, in particular between those engaged in different types of materials modelling (electronic, atomistic, mesoscopic and continuum materials, process and device modelling) and between translators, who translate industrial problems into materials modelling and manufacturers. In addition a lack has been identified for clear road maps for research on the application and use of materials modelling in industry. Moreover, there is a need to collate different methodologies and support further development of standards for efficient and effective implementation and use of materials modelling tools. Also there is a need to increase the interoperability of software to facilitate integration of various tools in processing and product design.

**SCOPE:**

The proposed coordination and support action should network the stakeholders and a platform is to be established to advance the use of materials models by industry and to agree on open tools with the wide stakeholder community.

Road Maps for materials and related product and process modelling in industry with a focus on how discrete (electronic, atomistic and mesoscopic) models can be further developed and coupled or linked to continuum models are to be elaborated. The proposers should support the elaboration of methodologies and workflows.

A materials modelling data repository of validated sources should be designed with coherent and concerted connections. Existing communication standards between models and databases should be further developed, alleviating the language gap between different vocabularies. An open simulation platform based on these standards should be designed to allow the flexible use of software components of different vendors. Provision of validated data by third parties should be stimulated.

Benchmarking of tools and experimental data should be supported.

A jointly agreed guidance on software development for academics is to be established and promoted so that such software can be used by industry. Technology Readiness Levels for software, which could help in selecting the right model/software for the end user, should be agreed with the wide community.

The translation of industrial problems into material problems that can be solved by computational simulation should be facilitated.

Training and dissemination should be stimulated across Europe to make the different stakeholders aware of the technical and economic benefits of active use of discrete and continuum materials modelling throughout company operations.

Networking activities such as developing interest groups, workshops, training events, market studies and engaging with regulatory and benchmarking authorities if appropriate can be included.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* This topic is part of the open data pilot.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one proposal will be funded**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Improved accessibility of materials modelling and related databases by manufacturing end-users ;
* Increased integration of discrete (electronic, atomistic, mesoscopic) and continuum materials models and databases for industrial use;
* Increased efficiency and industrial effectiveness of materials models in industry and research;
* Establishment of technical and business-related quality attributes (Key Performance Indicators) that inspire trust in materials modelling;
* Industrial best practice (methodologies) for end-users should increase speed of development in industries.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 33-2017: Next generation system integrating tangible and intangible materials model components to support innovation in industry

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Innovation in manufacturing industries can be much faster, if materials modelling is used to focus experimental efforts. Novel modelling solutions need all determining components to be interwoven and available to the entire European community allowing the quick development and market deployment of new materials. Industry wants to know the risks and gains of materials modelling and the resources necessary to use the models efficiently. The industry needs education and/or support by translators analysing the industrial problems and proposing modelling solutions to the companies requesting this, supported by benchmarking. The above services need to be accompanied by tangible components like models, software packages, data, state of the art and connections to key actors. An open simulation platform providing interoperability between discrete and continuum models based on widely agreed communication standards would facilitate the use of materials modelling.

**SCOPE:**

The project should establish a web based marketplace linking various activities and databases on models, information on simulation tools, communities, expertise, course materials, lectures, seminars and tutorials for at least two manufacturing sectors of the European industry.

 Projects should address sectors that in the design of materials and their manufacturing processes have common problems with models describing femto, pico, nano and meso-scale phenomena.

The project should aim at agreement with the wide European scientific and industrial community a standard for organizing modeling data needed to make search and linking between different databases effective and easy. Strategies and test rules pertaining to data integrity and quality, e.g., by user and analytic feedback mechanisms should be established. The proposal should develop practical solutions for the ownership, control and management of distributed databases.The project should ensure wide spread participation.

The project should provide novel tangible avenues for integrating multiple materials models that can address industry relevant challenges.. The project should establish methods for software interoperability that can later on be used for the integration of materials models (discrete and continuum applied at nanoscale) and databases in open simulation platforms. The development of homogenisation models and the elaboration of wrappers should be stimulated.

The proposal should establish a validation system to provide reliability and accuracy of models and for the comparison of results of simulations between materials models and for comparison with experiments.

The project should stimulate the exploitation of existing software via advice on modelling, education of companies and the stimulation of the provision of translation services especially for SMEs.

The proposal should present a credible business plan for the maintenance of the hub after the project duration.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* This topic is part of the open data pilot.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Special features**: Successful projects will be clustered to agree on metadata for the description of software and measurement tools and databases; to agree on software development standards and to achieve seamless integration of their platforms across the different manufacturing-targeted application areas to achieve a true common marketplace,

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Increased innovation in industry based on materials modelling;
* Awareness of industry in general and SMEs in particular of the rapid progress of contemporary computational materials modelling tools, and increased use of materials modelling by the manufacturing companies (end-users);
* Broad, fast, and easy informa­tion management and exchange both between the modelling community and industry and within the modelling communi­ty;
* Ability for manufacturing companies (end-users) to do an effective search of numerical tools and/or providers of numerical simulations who could best suit their needs ;
* Supply of software developers with comprehensive information about the potential clients and industrial tasks where numerical simulations would be highly desirable;
* Effective information exchange within the academic simulation community to enable faster general progress of material modelling methods;
* Speed up the use of materials modelling by standards and requirements of modelling data repositories including possibly data, modelling codes and validation repositories;
* Increased demand for data and materials models;
* Increase the use of materials simulation to comply with regulations;
* Rapid deployment of novel materials modelling solutions in particular manufacturing-targeted domains.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

**Special features**: Successful projects will be clustered to agree on infrastructure standards to achieve seamless integration of their platforms across the different manufacturing-targeted application areas.

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

## Actions to support developments in, and acceptance of, nanotechnologies, advanced materials and biotechnology - Science-based risk assessment and management of nanotechnologies, advanced materials and biotechnologies

The real or perceived uncertainties surrounding the potential risks of Engineered Nano-Materials (ENMs) and their diverse applications, as well a lack of regulatory clarity, have a negative effect on the development, uptake and exploitation of these materials. The challenge posed by such uncertainties requires thorough understanding to measure material properties, adequate knowledge of ENMs interactions with biota and capacities to engineer-out or reduce non-acceptable risk in a convincingly reliable manner. Successful implementation of nanotechnologies depends on the capacity to define and quantify acceptable risk in order to get insured in terms of liabilities. In order to ensure safety and consolidate success communication and outreach are necessary to make sure that perception of risk resulting from chronic or acute exposure is close to science-based risk analysis. Cooperation between stakeholders at global level is necessary to legitimise risk management practices.

At regulatory research level the ongoing activities for the quantification of hazards and exposure, and the safe-by-design technologies are deemed adequate at European level for the period. It is expected that they will be complemented by national and private efforts before passing to the next stage.

At market support level risk management is administered at national level by especially dedicated nano-risk centres or platforms. At European level networking networking is the main vehicle for addressing issues of common interest.

Overall research efforts must be implemented in a holistic manner, on the basis of roadmaps, with adequate international cooperation and networking at global level.

This scientific domain is expected to gain from and open access to research results publications (compulsory level) and open access to research data (pilot level). Stakeholders and projects are expected to actively contribute to the nano-safety cluster and international organisation (OECD, ISO, CEN, UN,…) and standardization efforts.

Proposals are invited against the following topics:

### NMBP 34-2016: Analytical techniques and tools in support of nanomaterial risk assessment

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Nanomaterials are very diverse groups of materials with greatly varying properties. Thorough physico-chemical characterisation of nanomaterials, in their pristine forms but also in the tested environment, is nowadays being recognised as essential for sound assessment of their biological and environmental properties. In order to enable prediction of impacts, itself nowadays a pre-requirement for insuring industrial activity, a classification based on key parameters or biological interactions should be established and scientific foundations established on very well defined and characterised systems. Yet, suitable analytical techniques, instrumentation and equipment for the testing of nanomaterials properties, skilful operators, and inter-laboratory studies that would establish confidence are still lacking, even in the “simple”, and most addressed, case of particle size distribution measurements which many laboratories struggle to tackle adequately when confronted with poly-dispersed materials. At the lower limits of the nano-scale these same problems aggravate further. An additional factor is the high cost of the available techniques something that hinders smaller laboratories, innovation oriented SMEs, and forbids start-ups.

**SCOPE:**The objective is to develop new, or further improve, relevant analytical methods and corresponding equipment, relevant to hazard and exposure testing strategies, that enable characterisation of ensembles of nanomaterials particle sizes, complex shapes, surface area and surface chemistry, coating stability or multiple composition (multicomposites engineered nanomaterials), including the necessary building up of confidence through thorough application and benchmarking. The analytics could also enable studying the longer term fate of particles following their interactions with in complex matrices, i.e. in living systems, or longer term environmental fate, e.g. after wear and tear or weathering.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* This topic is part of the open data pilot.
* International cooperation
* Suitable for SMEs

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 7.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Enable the identification of key descriptors that can be used to reveal correlations associated with health and environmental impacts and meaningful basis for grouping, read-across and QSARs purposes.
* Increased confidence in nanosafety studies and findings through sound physico-chemical characterisation methods and standard operating procedures.
* Reduced costs related to the physic-chemical characterisation of nanomaterials in relevant environments.
* On top of safety related objectives, proposals should seek synergies with applications of the methods in other areas such as quality control, product traceability, labelling and counterfeiting.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 35-2016: Promoting safe innovation through global consolidation and networking of nanosafety centres and strengthening the European industry through cooperation in nanosafety

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The rapid expansion of nanotechnology has brought the question of the safety of the emerging applications and the risk management measures. Considerable effort has been put by FP6 and FP7 projects for answering basis scientific and technical questions and will continue under H2020. There is a need to support regulatory aspects by providing the technology, skills and conventions necessary for implementation of existing rules and consistent development of new ones. This supposes developing the capacity to routinely assess and reduce risks in regulatory terms, both for toxicity and exposure, and the capacity to develop and implement safe-by-design processes and products with the aim of keeping risk level below pre-defined values.

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**SCOPE:**

The objective of this topic is to support safe innovation related aspects by providing the technology, skills, and processes, necessary for science-based best NanoSafety practices in industrial and commercial activities.

This objective is being addressed by excellence centres currently being established in several EU member states and globally. A wide variety of national and (EU) regional platforms and centres can be observed which are dedicated to research, market follow-up, dissemination of nanosafety. There is the need to consolidate and further develop these first initiatives so as to make available to industry and other stakeholders concerned an European-wide, up-to-date, science-based, organisational structure capable of managing risks and support safe innovation. It should also ensure providing scientific support to more general questions on product quality, technical approvals, counterfeiting, training and certification system for nanosafety at work and providing reliable information for the public.

The proposed CSA should aim at networking these platforms, including the nanosafety cluster, at European level and cooperate with third countries. The foundation and basis for the development of the European nano-network will be based on the interaction and adequate communication to generate a step-change in the risk management process. It may include work and resources specific to the participants or other public and private sources. The CSA can be used to pool resources and organise calls for market oriented activities which are of common interest for the platforms.

To ensure fast transfer of knowledge from basic research to market implementation, the proposed CSA should strengthen and support the Nanosafety Cluster activities, in particular those aiming at communication and outreach.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

This topic is part of the open data pilot

In line with the objectives of the Union's strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012) 497), international cooperation according to the current rules of participation is encouraged, in particular with Brazil, South Korea and the United States of America. The quality of the international cooperation will be rewarded in the evaluation of the proposal.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 1 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one project will be funded.**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* An independent science based EU nanosafety reference platform for all stakeholders in nanotechnology that collates information into a comprehensive and accessible European network portal and providing a solution to the problem of data accessibility and transferability, by removing barriers which currently limit knowledge distribution.
* The CSA should mark progress for Guidance to market actors (industry, safety service providers, and public authorities), best practice, standards, technical approvals, environment protection, and operational certification systems.
* The platforms network should prepare a European Hub to provide services and support for stakeholders (e.g. industry, governments, researchers etc.) to create in a sustainable way marketable, societal approved products and goods.
* Involvement of highly renowned actors in the research field and from leading stakeholders from regulatory bodies, standardization bodies, into a seedless dialogue.
* Significant research outputs efficiently disseminated to national and international communities

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 36-2017: Framework and strategies for nanomaterial characterisation, classification, grouping and read-across for risk analysis

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The number of available nanomaterials is growing rapidly and testing each material thoroughly is virtually impossible. For convincingly managing eventual risk, precise quantification of hazards and exposure would be necessary for all cases and engineering-out or reducing risk must follow in cases of non-acceptable risks. All engineered nanomaterials (ENMs) would need characterising along all value chains and all used media and physiological chemistries. It is therefore essential to set the basis for an appropriate and sustainable framework and define strategies towards ENMs classification, grouping (categorisation for further purposes) and read-across for risk analysis in a regulatory perspective.

**SCOPE:**

The existing and rapidly progressing knowledge in this domain, in terms of characterisation of material properties and of possible adverse effects from their applications, is expected to allow for classification of ENMs based on morphology, composition, complexity/functionality, and by bio or eco-interfaces. The classification approaches should aim to support grouping of ENMs for further risk analysis, to help in developing intelligent testing strategies and identifying "ENMs or properties of concern" that need to be tested more thoroughly. Methods for grouping and for read-across within or between groups, should be defined to reduce unnecessary efforts in testing. Grouping can take into account quantification of possible adverse effects depending on the use on ENMs in specific applications. Results from these studies should be collected and combined in a consistent and progressive system enabling both the integration of newer data and the use of the aggregated data for regulatory purposes. Particular attention should be paid to supporting safer -by -design practices, so that novel products containing ENMs provide the benefits originally claimed by maintaining fullest possible intended functionality and at the same time pose the least possibly risks to humans, the environment and ecosystem services.

 The proposed projects should include appropriate data curation expertise, modelling and input into the possible development of Q(n)SP/AR approaches in order to develop user friendly interfaces to enable data driven predictions from other ENMs with similar properties or behaviour, and predictive risk assessment tools.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* This topic is part of the open data pilot.
* International cooperation

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 7**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one proposal will be funded**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* The research approach should be innovative and represent a significant advance beyond the current state-of-the-art in the whole area of nanomaterials hazard and exposure assessment. sustainable solutions to the long-term challenge of nanosafety at a level that will allow both consistent integration of newer data and regulatory application of proven concepts.
* Cutting-edge progress towards a framework and methods for groupings and read-across useable in a regulatory environment.
* Demonstration of consistent, applicable and scientifically sound grouping and read-across strategies in specific value chains, ready for use by industry and regulators, enabling predictive modelling for risk analysis, and including the input towards safer -by -design guidance.

Outputs should be tailored to address the needs of each of the stakeholder communities, including the modelling community. Delivered predictive models and tools should be disseminated through publically available, ready-to-use applications.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 37-2017: Advanced and realistic models and assays for nanomaterial hazard assessment

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Hazard assessment is based on the toxicological profile of the material in question. The reason is that the costs related to hazard control are usually not in balance with the costs for risk exposure monitoring let alone risk containment or risk mitigation. However with the very big number of new material likely to enter production and use, the usually short period between development and marketing and the increase in societal risk aversion, the classical toxicological testing paradigm so far focusing on in vivo testing is gradually but steadily shifting towards in vitro testing approaches. This is particularly true in the field of nanosafety where, in front of potentially thousands of different nanomaterials, economic constraints make it essential to develop and establish robust, fast and yet reliable and realistic methods that should be applied in figuring out "nanomaterials of concern".

Significant progresses have been made in assessing nanomaterial hazard. Yet, knowledge gaps remain on long-term effects (low doses, chronic exposure), both for human health and the environment. Questions also arise on the adequacy of the existing in-vitro models and on the relevance of the exposure conditions (e.g. linked to the current understanding of the nanomaterial-biomolecule-cell interface) to correctly assess and predict real-life hazards. It is also necessary to prepare the ground for the next challenge, defining hazard profiles based on in-silico testing.

**SCOPE:**

With a view to intelligent testing strategies (ITS) for nanomaterials, it is of high priority to develop and adopt realistic and advanced in vitro model which have the potential to substantially improve the relevance of in-vitro approaches. Current in-vitro experiments mostly rely on established immortalized single cell lines, which often do not reflect the in-vivo situation. Therefore, new or advanced models, such as co-culture models, 3D cultures or primary cell models should be developed for relevant endpoints lacking, or having inadequate, in-vitro models. Transport through biological barriers could also be addressed, for instance with the objective of assessing the true internal dose of the materials to which living organisms are being exposed, as well as disease models or models with impaired barriers.

 low-level chronic exposure is a likely scenario, many ENMs will probably exist at very low concentrations in the environment and potentially be persistent*.* Thus, assays and models with low chronic exposure, elucidating toxicokinetics, different mechanisms of action and adverse outcome pathways, should be developed and assessed against appropriate animal studies and could include for instance effects on kinetics, growth, reproduction, metabolism, and behaviour. Research could also focus on long-term, ecologically relevant, effects in realistic environmental concentrations of ENMs.

the effect of transport and transformation in real matrices (biological or environmental) although those have been demonstrated as having potentially significant effect on the ENM tests results. Therefore, realistic exposure levels and conditions should be an integral part of the developments, taking into consideration their biological or environmental relevance, the dynamic and complex nature of environmentally induced transformations and capturing realistic external and internal forms and levels of exposure.

When possible, for validation purposes the testing should be performed on sets of nanomaterials for which in-vivo data are already existing (to minimize animal testing), and on well-defined libraries of nanomaterials to ensure that the experimental results can form a solid and meaningful basis for grouping, read-across and modelling purposes.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* This topic is part of the open data pilot.
* International cooperation

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 10 and 13 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one proposal will be funded**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* The research approach should be innovative and represent a significant advance beyond the current state-of-the-art. Research should focus on provision of solutions to the long-term challenge of nanosafety and nanoregulation.
* Demonstrated predictive power of in-vivo approaches for in vivo systems to support acceptance in a regulatory framework.
* New models and assay improving prediction of chronic effects in a broad array of representative organisms and changes in ecosystem function.
* Developed test guidelines for further standardisation, and ring testing (including guidance on design of the ring testing).

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

## Innovative and responsible governance of new and converging enabling technologies

### NMBP 38-2016: Improving nanotechnology skills by involving multiple stakeholders

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Recent analysis shows that aspects like health, safety, regulation, environment and recycling are strongly demanded job skills in the European nanotechnology industry. In contrast, nanotechnology studies at universities focus on classical disciplines and technologies, so educational contents and job skills required in industry are not well aligned. In addition, with the fast pace of development in KETs, the acquired knowledge and skills quickly become outdated. The project should improve nanotechnology education and skills by promoting integrated efforts between industries, research institutes and universities.

**SCOPE:**

The proposed action should follow-up on previous EU projects and cooperate with current EU projects in the field of education and skills (FP7, Erasmus+). The action should also be aligned with the EC KETs Skills Initiative and take into account its results and recommendations. Good practice examples for constructive and sustainable cooperation between universities, research institutes and industries should be identified. Areas where improvements are required should be highlighted and instruments to address these problems should be developed, including information platforms, on-line and hands-on teaching modules, assessment tools for current and novel education activities, regular personnel exchange between industry and academia, and other structures needed for the eventual integration of nanotechnology into existing teaching programmes.

University curricula should be addressed with a view of giving stronger emphasis to the skills needed in the workplace, including non-industrial (social) employers. It is suggested that non-technological skills for example in communication, management, safety and life-cycle analysis of nano-enabled products should be given more weight in bachelor, master and PhD studies, contributing to a responsible research & innovation in nanotechnology. Model curricula should be established with input from university teachers and administrators, active students, and representatives of major employment sectors and should take into account convergence of nanotechnology with other technologies such as bio-info-cognitive technologies. The engagement of industry and non-industrial employers in university level teaching could be enhanced e.g. through guest lectures and part-time positions in academia.

For all activities it has to be established that the educational activities identified and developed within the project can be adapted and implemented based on existing resources. This includes the identification of factors that enhance the integration of the topic, the potential problems preventing their application, as well as means to solve them. The implementation of the activities should be done in several EU and associated countries to gather feedback from a wide geographical spread, enhancing transferability and reliability of conclusions and recommendations to be formulated on the integration of nanotechnology into existing teaching programmes at university level. The project should include the appropriate disciplines of Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities. Gender balance should be taken into account.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- SSH dedicated topic

- Gender aspects

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 1 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one action will be funded.**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The project will contribute to setting up recommendations and structures for enhanced interaction between industries, research institutes and universities that will maintain high-level research-driven teaching at universities, giving "additional" or "soft" skills a central place in nanotechnology education. Productive interactions of industries and research institutes with universities will enhance the integration of nanotechnology into existing university teaching programmes in several EU and associated countries. In the long term, the action will meet Europe's targets regarding research & innovation intensity and competiveness. It will increase the number of researchers and innovators, including women, who will be able to better address societal challenges and increase responsible research & innovation in nanotechnology that reflects societal needs.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 39-2016/17: Presidency events

**Specific challenge:**

An integral part of the LEIT-NMP part of Horizon 2020 is to organise events of a major strategic nature. Examples are events organised together with successive EU presidencies; and also EuroNanoForum, Manufuture, NMP Conferences and World Manufacturing Forum. The proposed Support Action(s) should contribute to creating better synergy between initiatives launched by the Commission and by the Member States, to the benefit of the coherence of the overall actions within the field of research and innovation within the Industrial Leadership part. Member States which will hold a forthcoming Presidency of the European Union are Malta and United Kindgom in 2017, and Estonia and Bulgaria in 2018, and they may be particularly interested in this topic.

In order to ensure high political and strategic relevance, the active involvement of the competent National Authority(ies) will be evaluated.

Proposals should address topics of major relevance at the time of the events. An appropriate equilibrium should be present in the proposed action(s), with balanced presentations of various research and industrial elements and points of view. The conferences organisers should use modern technologies in all phases of the event life cycle, and should include interactive sessions. Outreach activities may be included, such as a press programme or events dedicated to the wider public or schools.

The Member States holding a Presidency of the European Union in the same year are invited to liaise in order to avoid overlaps, and to ensure that each event has clearly identified objectives, messages and target groups.

Participation of non-EU actors is possible.

**Scope:**

The commitment of the national authorities to support the event(s) (from a political point of view, but also with resources) should be a pre-requisite to submit a proposal. The application should be supported by the competent Minister, in a letter added to the application.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 300 000 and 600 000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. No more than one action will be funded for each Presidency (possibly covering more than one event).

**Expected impact:**

* Review of research, industrial and/or societal developments linked to the Industrial Leadership part areas, as appropriate;
* Sharing of information and comparison of points of views; and
* Networking various stakeholders and supporting their activities, e.g. natural scientists, social scientists, researchers, industrialists, SMEs investors, environmentalists, museums and schools, non-governmental organisations, …

**Type of action:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 40-2016: Support for National Contact Points

**Specific challenge:**

Facilitate trans-national co-operation between National Contact Points (NCPs) within the Industrial leadership Part with a view to identifying and sharing good practices and raising the general standard of support to programme applicants.

**Scope:**

Support will be given to a consortium of formally nominated NCPs in the area of Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies. The activities will be tailored according to the nature of the theme, and the priorities of the NCPs concerned. Various mechanisms may be included, such as benchmarking, joint workshops, enhanced cross-border brokerage events, training, and twinning schemes. Special attention will be given to helping less experienced NCPs rapidly acquire the know-how accumulated in other countries.

The focus throughout should be on issues specific to the Industrial Leadership part, with the possible inclusion of interdisciplinary approaches, e.g. by involving Social Sciences and Humanities. It should not duplicate actions foreseen in the NCP network for quality standards and horizontal issues under ‘Science with and for Society’.

The proposal consortium can include only NCPs from EU Member States and Associated Countries, who have been officially appointed by the relevant national authorities. The consortium should have a good representation of experienced and less experienced NCPs.

Submission of a single proposal is encouraged. NCPs from EU Member States or Associated Countries choosing not to participate as a member of the consortium should be identified and the reason explained in the proposal. These NCPs are nevertheless invited and encouraged to participate in the project activities (e.g. workshops).

NCPs from third countries who have been officially appointed by the relevant authorities are also welcome to participate in the project activities.

The costs incurred by the consortium for participation of officially appointed NCPs from EU Member States and Associated countries not participating in the consortium, and from officially appointed NCPs from third countries on the official list in part A of the General Annexes of the General Work Programme, e.g. travel costs paid by the consortium, may be included in the estimated budget and be eligible for funding by the Commission.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 250 000 and 500 000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting another amount. **No more than one proposal will be funded.**

**Expected impact:**

* An improved and professionalised NCP service across Europe, thereby helping simplify access to Horizon 2020 calls, lowering the entry barriers for newcomers, and raising the average quality of proposals submitted.
* A more consistent level of NCP support services across Europe.

**Type of action:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 41-2016: Networking and sharing best experiences in using regional clusters strategies with a focus on supporting innovation in the NMBP thematic area.

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The development of the smart specialisation strategies has put in place a more structured framework for programme and project implementation regarding regional/ sector specialisations. This can help improve the knowledge that can be provided regarding NMBP related actions. Many Member States already identified the need to improve the articulation between NMBP and ESIF.

Regions find it still difficult to mobilise their internal resources in combining technology and regional development. Regional public private partnerships or regional clusters play a key role in this approach to connect EU-wide entrepreneurship and innovation (in particular in SMEs) to the European agenda.

The partners of the CSA should show the EU innovation and industrial policy for new growth in NMBP needs to build on regional resources and potentials. Interlinking the regional eco-systems and clusters into new innovation driven cross-EU value chains could be the key to articulate competitive positions, meet global challenges and achieve a balanced and sustainable growth.

The CSA should bring together and integrate representatives from: higher education institutions; research centres; large companies; SME's, relevant European organisations and associations; as well as national, regional and local authorities from Europe that are involved in preparing regional cluster strategies in the NMBP area.

**SCOPE:**

The aim is to jointly identify good initiative and novel approaches, key success factors in driving actions forward and to shape strategic priorities for future regional cluster policies at European level in NMBP. Regional clusters or regional innovation hubs are a fertile filed where synergies can be achieved.

Regional clusters have been active in the Smart Specialisation Strategy (RIS3) and KETs prioritisation process and can continue to play an important part in these processes, for example by acting as a resources channel towards SMEs and help structure KET based industrial value chains. Regional clusters or regional innovation hubs can be key delivery instruments for national and regional smart specialisation strategies, re-industrialisation and SME policy.

The CSA should take into consideration and build on existing or ended coordination actions in the NMBP area that tackled the issue of programming synergetic actions between EU and MS in the NMP Programme and generated results and recommendations for specific co-investment opportunities, linked to global market needs.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 250 000 and 500 000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting another amount. **No more than one proposal will be funded.**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Boosting regional structural change through modern regional cluster policies;
* Identify and develop regional cluster, regional innovation hubs and business networks collaboration across borders and sectoral boundaries in the field of NMBP.
* Identification of best regional cluster strategies in the NMBP area;
* Identifying priorities for future regional cluster actions in NMPB; New trends, new models, challenges and visions for cluster policy;
* Defining the role of clusters for regional smart specialization (e.g. cluster mapping, strategic roadmaps, public procurement instruments)

**Type of action:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 42-2017: Governing innovation of nanotechnology through enhanced societal engagement

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

In order to foster responsible research and innovation (RRI) in nanotechnologies, innovative processes are needed to improve the responsiveness of research & innovation processes to public values and concerns, and to ensure that research & innovation truly respond to societal challenges and take into account the social and environmental consequences from the outset.

**SCOPE:**

The proposed action should build on previous EU and national projects in the field of public engagement by addressing the governance and implementation of Responsible nanotechnology research & innovation. It will launch a participatory multi-actor engagement process (i.e.: deliberations, workshops and/or working groups) focussing on early-stage product development in order to explore ways in which nanotechnologies can help address societal challenges while considering the needs and concerns of society. This engagement process should include researchers, producers, professional users and consumers. The proposed project should also include an ex-post evaluation of the mutual learning process between stakeholders in previous relevant nanotechnology projects as well as societal debates on emerging technologies. Furthermore it will contribute to the concrete realisation of RRI conditions in nanotechnologies, and produce policy recommendations on how to govern research & innovation in nanotechnologies (and other emerging technologies) in a responsible way. The project must ensure a strong degree of policy alignment and be designed to deliver useful outcomes to relevant policy initiatives and innovation partnerships, such as European Technology Platforms.

Supporting activities to be undertaken in the project could include empowering of stakeholders to co-create nanotechnology research and innovation by enabling them to formulate and communicate their needs, interests and concerns, and designing ways to give them a voice in R&I processes. Additional activities could also include the development of: teaching material and the training of researchers and engineers in ways to include societal considerations in their work; training of researchers/scientists in science communication; establishing a 'journalist in the lab' exchange scheme; the development of balanced, reliable and easily accessible information on how nanotechnology is contributing to solving specific societal challenges and is used in daily life, e.g. published by the mass media with supplements and media micro sites or using existing multimedia and other relevant technology; guidance on how to bring about institutional changes that may contribute to a better engagement of civil society in nanotechnology-relevant R&I organisations; and policy recommendations on how best to integrate societal considerations in nanotechnology research & innovation.

This action is to be based on the concept of Mobilisation & Mutual Learning (MML) platforms. The project should include the appropriate disciplines of Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities. Gender balance should be taken into account.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- SSH dedicated topic

- Gender aspects

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 1.5 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. No more than one action will be funded.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The Early and continuous engagement of all stakeholders will be essential for sustainable, desirable and acceptable innovation in nanotechnologies, where R&I is aligned to the values, needs and expectations of society.

The outcomes of the project are to be fed back into policy making and innovation partnerships such as European Technology Platforms, aiming to achieve a responsive R&I system, co-production of knowledge and better acceptability of nanotechnologies outcomes.

The project will lead to enhanced public understanding of nanotechnology, will build trust and foster mutual understanding between citizens, and public and private institutions, leading to co-creation of new R&I and increased confidence of companies to invest in new technologies.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

*Former topic NMBP 52-2017 (Enhancing public awareness on nanotechnology) has been removed*

### NMBP 43-2017: innovative solutions for the conservation of 20th century cultural heritage

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Europe’s highly diverse and rich cultural heritage (CH) is seen as a powerful common background that provides a sense of belonging amongst and between European citizens. Next to this societal impact, CH has also significant economic impact through activities such as tourism, restoration, maintenance, and cultural industry. However, tangible CH is endangered by significant deterioration of voluntary or involuntary anthropogenic origin and by other threats.

20th century cultural heritage is often confronted with different deterioration mechanisms than more ancient cultural heritage for reasons such as the use of modern materials. This requires additional research efforts regarding material composition, ageing processes, and the development of appropriate conservation technologies.

**SCOPE:**

Two main elements should be addressed:

* Projects should develop one or more innovative solutions (functional materials or techniques) for the conservation of tangible 20th century cultural heritage. To maximise the impact, the most relevant issues and objects should be identified and addressed. For this purpose, convergent contributions from relevant Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines should be considered.
* While modelling and simulation based approaches in the development of advanced materials and devices play nowadays an important role, such approaches have been, so far, less developed in the area of CH conservation. Therefore, the developments should be based on multi-scale modelling (in the sense of linking different types of models such as electron, atomistic, continuum etc.) approaches. Key issues such as compatibility, durability, ageing, and reversibility of interventions should be addressed by the modelling approaches.

The proposed materials/techniques are expected to ensure long term protection and security of cultural heritage, taking into account environmental and human risk factors. An environmental impact assessment of the proposed solutions is to be included to ensure the development of sustainable and compatible materials and methods. Focus on innovative and long-lasting solutions in the conservation of cultural assets is expected.

Projects are encouraged to base their modelling software development on on-going efforts in the development of open simulation platforms and to use to a large extent existing models. Projects should have an element of model validation based on experimental data. The majority of resources is expected to be invested in the actual material/technology development and testing, rather than the development of new models.

Standardisation and/or the production of (certified) reference materials may also be covered.

The projects should present clearly measurable objectives for the proposed developments. The core activities regarding the materials/techniques are expected to reach TRL 6 by the end of the project.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

A significant participation of SMEs with R&D capacities is encouraged. A participation of relevant SSH disciplines is expected. SSH research should contribute criteria for targeting specific cultural heritage and analyse the expected long-term societal spill-over effects of the project.

Projects are expected to contribute actively to on-going activities in the EMMC (European Materials Modelling Council) and clustering activities of other funded projects.

The project proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business plan, backed by credible quantifications, to be further developed in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 6 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Practical and affordable materials/technique solutions in terms of cost and/or complexity of operation by those who will use them.
* Increased efficiency of materials/technique development for CH conservation, also beyond the specific cases selected by the proposers.
* Increased use of multi-scale modelling in the development of solutions for CH conservation.
* Improved modelling-based decision making regarding conservation interventions.
* Clear prospect for (quantified) socio-economic gains from the proposed solutions.
* Effective market uptake of the developed solutions within five years after the end of the project.
* Contribution to open repository of simulation and/or experimental data.
* Contribution to increased citizens' awareness of 20th century tangible CH.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

# Contributions of NMBP part to Focus area on Industry 2020 in the Circular Economy

## Knowledge-based nanotechnologies and advanced materials for industrial value chains

### NMBP xx-2016: Policy support for Industry 2020 in the circular economy

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Text to be developed.

**SCOPE:**

Text to be developed.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR x and y million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

Text to be developed.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 44-2016 Pilot lines for manufacturing of materials with customized thermal/electrical conductivity properties

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Advanced functional materials with customized thermal/electrical conductivity properties provide new opportunities in manufacturing.

The improved properties of sustainable advanced functional material with customized thermal/electrical conductivity properties will benefit end user industries in many sectors, Applications areas are wide ranging, and may include new manufacturing processes such as additive and 2D/3D printing processes and roll-to-roll or other large scale manufacturing processes.

The need for such materials, affordable, industrially robust and environmental friendly, calls for the upscaling of these widely researched materials and their manufacturing processes. This should ensure the further integration of the nano-enabled multifunctional materials into practical large-scale applications, and drastically exceed the current use in niche-markets.

**SCOPE:**

The proposed pilot lines should address the development, upscaling and demonstration in relevant industrial environments.

They should use existing pilot lines as basis; incorporating new materials and methods and/or instrumentation with real time characterization for measurement, analysis and monitoring at the nanoscale to characterise relevant materials, process properties and product features;

This should lead to Increasing the level of robustness and repeatability of such industrial processes; optimizing and evaluating the increased performances of the production lines in terms of productivity and cost-effectiveness; and finally

Assess the sustainability, functionality and performance of the produced new material.

Proposals should address the complete research-development-innovation cycle and obstacles remaining for industrial application, and involve a number of relevant materials producers and users, also considering the needs of SMEs.

Technology transfer should be considered and prepared through technology services at affordable costs, facilitating the collaborating with EU SME and large industries, and the rapid deployment and commercialisation of the new technology.

Examples of possible applications include multifunctional composites, including sensoring and integrated electronics, for applications such as skins of aircrafts for lighting protection, thermal layers, thermoelectric materials for thermoelectric generators, high-voltage insulators with high thermal conductivity, interior vehicle panels with noise/thermal/anti-scratch properties or bumpers with self-healing/sensing functions, pre-fabricated construction panels embedding functionalized layers for thermal insulation/anti-pollution/structural health assessment, etc.

Also non-technological aspects key for the marketing of such products (e.g. standardization, regulatory issues, user acceptance, HSE aspects, LCA) need considering.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

**-** Implemented as cross-KET activities.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business plans, including plans for operating the individual and/or networked pilot line facilities following the project completion.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6, and optionally cover also Technology Readiness Level 7.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts

**Expected impact:**

The improved properties of advanced functional material with customized thermal/electrical conductivity properties can benefit end user industries such as automotive, aerospace, consumer durables, electrical and electronics, safety, healthcare, and energy.

Impact should be presented in 3 levels:

Impact on the consortium materials producers and users, and other involved industries, demonstrated in the form of reduced costs and full consideration of environmental and safety legislation .

1. Other existing or new materials manufacturers, describing the expected impact from further integration of the nano-enabled multifunctional materials into practical large-scale applications with producers outside the consortium,
2. Global impact in form of direct or derived benefits from competitive advantage of the new materials in products.

 (see also the "Impact template" document included with the call topic documents)

Contribution to training and knowledge dissemination for building an educated workforce as well as the definition of guidelines and reference cases for the development of business plans may improve the impact by helping entrepreneurs and encouraging private sector investments for future business growth.

Overall the action is expected to help driving the demand in Europe as well as support the penetration of new markets worldwide. This should include clear benefits to manufacturers, including SMEs, and new entrants into the market should be expected.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

 *Former topic NMBP 26-2016 (Pilot lines for reactive/In Situ /In process generation of nano-features ) has been removed*

### NMBP 45-2016: Pilot Line Manufacturing of Nanostructured Antimicrobial Surfaces using Advanced Nanosurface Functionalization Technologies

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Infections by pathogenic microorganisms adhering on various surfaces kill worldwide more people than any other single cause.

These diseases are of particular significance in hospitals (surfaces/furniture, medical devices/implants, surgery equipment, health care products and hygienic applications) as well as in water purification systems, textiles, food packaging and storage, domestic appliances, etc.

Alternatives to antibiotics to control infectious biofilms are required, due to the increasing prevalence of antibiotic resistant bacterial strains. The increasing demand for superior quality medical devices and improved sanitation calls for the development of nano-enabled surfaces with antimicrobial functionality.

Nanotechnologies for water treatment units in industrial environments is another example where innovation is required in addressing environmental factors, decisive for industrial competitiveness.

Also food safety issues are of increasing public health concerns. Protection and preservation of food by using active and intelligent packaging materials is a promision route to prevent foodborne illness outbreaks and reduce food waste caused due to early spoilage.

Addressing these challenges calls for the industrial upscaling of manufacturing processed for generation of nanostructured antimicrobial surfaces and biomaterials having anti-biofilm activity, and eventually including smart sensing functionalities. Technologies that are affordable and industrially robust are required. This should ensure the further integration of the nano-enabled multifunctional materials into practical large-scale applications, and drastically exceed the current use.

**SCOPE:**

The proposed pilot lines should address the development, upscaling and demonstration in relevant industrial environments of reliable materials and manufacturing processes to obtain nanostructured surfaces with antimicrobial, biocompatible, anti-adhesive properties. They should use existing pilot lines as basis; incorporating new materials and methods and/or instrumentation with real time characterization for measurement, analysis and monitoring at the nanoscale to characterise relevant materials, process properties and product features;

This should lead to increasing the level of antimicrobial effectiveness, robustness and repeatability of such industrial processes; optimizing and evaluating the increased performances of the production lines in terms of productivity and cost-effectiveness; and finally assess the functionality and performance of the produced new products.

Proposals should address the complete research-development-innovation cycle and obstacles remaining for industrial application, and involve a number of relevant materials producers and users, also considering the needs of SMEs.

Specific aims of the proposed actions could be

* The fabrication of new antimicrobial surfaces, or the improvement of existing ones via the application of surface coatings, or the modification of the surface architecture, in order to eliminate or substantially reduce the extent of bacterial attachment on these surfaces are foreseen. A multi-functional approach should be followed for the development/modification of the nanostructured surfaces ((i.e. prevention of adhesion combined with killing of microorganisms and evt. combined with smart sensing functionalities)
* Technology transfer should be prepared through technology services at affordable costs, facilitating the collaborating with EU SME and large industries, and the rapid deployment and commercialisation of the new technology, including for example industries or municipalities located in deserted zones or islands etc.
* also non-technological aspects key for the marketing of such products (e.g. standardization, regulatory issues, user acceptance, HSE aspects, LCA) need considering.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* + Implemented as cross-KET activities.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business plans, including plans for operating the individual and/or networked pilot line facilities following the project completion

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6, and optionally cover also Technology Readiness Level 7.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected Impact**

Societal challenges in the healthcare, water and food processing fields are addressed. Medical and healthcare are obvious markets, but it is also expected to see contributions to solving other social challenges such as sustainable solutions for availability of clean water or improving on food safety.

Improved hygiene in hospital environments and prevention of cross-infections will show economic and social benefits of scale, resulting from such reduced needs for treatment of infectious diseases acquired during hospitalization.

Adding anti-microbial, anti-adhesion functionalities to water treatment equipment or food packaging is another potential area where benefits can be derived from reduced operational costs and increased water or food quality.

The aim is to facilitate the manufacturing and use of these surfaces and their production, and establish process control and characterization approaches for an industrial production. Direct benefit to the involved industries should be demonstrated in the form of reduced costs and full consideration of environmental and safety legislation.

The impact should be presented in 3 levels:

1. Impact on the consortium materials producers and users, and other involved industries, demonstrated in the form of reduced costs and full consideration of environmental and safety legislation.
2. Other existing or new materials manufacturers, describing the expected impact from further integration of the nano-enabled multifunctional materials into practical large-scale applications with producers outside the consortium,

Global impact in form of direct or derived benefits from competitive advantage of the new materials in products.

 (see also the "Impact template" document included with the call topic documents)

Contribution to training and knowledge dissemination for building an educated workforce as well as the definition of guidelines and reference cases for the development of business plans may improve the impact by helping entrepreneurs and encouraging private sector investments for future business growth.

Overall the action is expected to help driving the demand in Europe as well as support the penetration of new markets worldwide. This should include clear benefits to manufacturers, including SMEs, and new entrants into the market should be expected.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 46-2017: Pilot Lines for Manufacturing of Nanotextured surfaces with enhanced mechanical properties

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Nanostructured coatings or nanotextured surfaces provide improved scratch and abrasion resistance, super hardness and mechanical resistance that rivals diamond in performance, improved wear resistance and corrosion inhibition, bio-compatibility, control of reflectivity, sensing ability, self-cleaning surfaces improving many products such as technical textiles and papers, structural elements for machinery, construction elements, transportation, etc.

Nano-enhanced functional surfaces have huge potential in different sectors, including packaging, marine, water treatment, electronics, building and construction, automotive, transport, energy and other applications including textile, leather and industrial engineering.

The involved technologies to manufacture these surfaces or coatings are currently at a lower TRL level, and call for up-scaling, demonstration and validation in large scale pilot installations in operational environments, before industrial manufacturing can take place.

**SCOPE:**

The proposed pilot lines should address the development, upscaling and demonstration in relevant industrial environments of reliable manufacturing processes to obtain nanostructured surfaces with enhanced mechanical properties.

They should use existing pilot lines as basis; incorporating new materials and methods and/or instrumentation with real time characterization for measurement, analysis and monitoring at the nanoscale to characterise relevant materials process properties;

This should lead to Increasing the level of robustness and repeatability of such industrial processes; optimizing and evaluating the increased performances of the production lines in terms of productivity and cost-effectiveness; and finally

Assess the functionality and performance of the produced new material.

Proposals should address the complete research-development-innovation cycle and obstacles remaining for industrial application, and involve a number of relevant materials producers and users, also considering the needs of SMEs.

Technology transfer should be prepared through technology services at affordable costs, facilitating the collaborating with EU SME and large industries, and the rapid deployment and commercialisation of the new technology.

Examples of possible developments include:

* Upgrade existing production methods, extending current production capabilities of mass production injection moulding, or additive technologies such as Roll-2-Roll- and sheet-2-sheet printing, into the sub-100 nm regime.
* Enhancing key properties of promising lab scale nano-enabled surfaces and upscale their production up to pilot level. Different technologies for nano-enabled surface production may be considered.
* Applying such surfaces in sectors (more than one is preferred) where they may have strong social and economic impact.
* also non-technological aspects key for the marketing of such products (e.g. standardization, regulatory issues, user acceptance, HSE aspects, LCA) need considering.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Implemented as cross-KET activities.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business plans, including plans for operating the individual and/or networked pilot line facilities following the project completion.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6, and optionally cover also Technology Readiness Level 7.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts

**Expected Impact:**

The action is expected to lead to A direct economic impact on the economy of the manufacturing industry as well as society, resulting from issues such as increased performance and durability of wear-intensive industrial components, reduction of infrastructure maintenance costs, and reduction of operational costs due to energy savings.

Functional nanotextured surfaces and nano structured coatings have a huge potential for many sectors, and embedded nanostructured functionalities in coatings and surfaces can alleviate problems from ice, pollutant, UV, fire, heat, marine life, wear, friction and corrosion. These factors cost global industry billions in maintenance, loss and downtime each year. For example, direct corrosion costs account for 3-4% of a country’s GDP worldwide. The same for wear costs. Energy losses due to friction in mechanical contacts reaches more than 10% of the GDP of a developed country. More sustainable production as well as products can also be expected, including an environmental impact, from using eco-friendly nanocoatings instead of traditional lubricants for example.

Integration of state-of-the-art nanotechnology in the traditional production of coatings or surfaces will give a market advantage and enhance the competitiveness of European industry.

The new functionalities achieved will have important impact on many sectors, including packaging, marine, water treatment, electronics, building and construction, automotive, energy, textile, leather and industrial engineering. .

The impact should be presented in 3 levels:

1. Impact on the consortium materials producers and users, and other involved industries, demonstrated in the form of reduced costs and full consideration of environmental and safety legislation.
2. Other existing or new materials manufacturers, describing the expected impact from further integration of the nano-enabled multifunctional materials into practical large-scale applications with producers outside the consortium,
3. Global impact in form of direct or derived benefits from competitive advantage of the new materials and products.

 (see also the "Impact template" document included with the call topic documents)

Contribution to training and knowledge dissemination for building an educated workforce as well as the definition of guidelines and reference cases for the development of business plans may improve the impact by helping entrepreneurs and encouraging private sector investments for future business growth Overall the action is expected to help driving the demand in Europe as well as support the penetration of new markets worldwide. This should include clear benefits to manufacturers, including SMEs, and new entrants into the market may be expected.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 47-2017: Pilot Lines for 3D printed and/or injection moulded polymeric or ceramic microfluidic MEMS

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Microfluidics devices were initially based on non-polymeric materials like silicon or glass, manufactured in facilities developed for the semiconductor industry. New fabrication techniques that are completely based on polymer /plastic materials can lead to reducing fabrication costs and optimise time, including rapid prototyping methods for a new range of products.

A new generation of 3D micro and nano imprinted and/or injection moulded polymeric or ceramic microfluidic MEMS products are targeted. Applications may include MEMS for nozzles or filters, sensor applications, lab-on-chip systems, printed biochemical materials, soft substrates etc., and open for new applications, including disposables where production cost need to be kept to a minimum. The adoption of environment friendly material solutions may also be explored (e.g., biodegradable materials, materials from renewable resources, reusable/recyclable materials).

While typical features for the mentioned applications may be larger than leading edge semiconductor processes, the required feature sizes are nonetheless significantly smaller than what is available with current standard printing and injection moulding techniques i.e. micro- and nano-fabrication capabilities are required.

**SCOPE:**

The proposed pilot lines should address the development, upscaling and demonstration in relevant industrial environments.

They should use existing pilot lines as basis; incorporating new materials and methods and/or instrumentation with real time characterization for measurement, analysis and monitoring at the nanoscale to characterise relevant materials, process properties and product features;

This should lead to increasing the level of robustness and repeatability of such industrial processes; optimizing and evaluating the increased performances of the production lines in terms of productivity and cost-effectiveness; and finally Assess the functionality and performance of the produced new material.

Proposals should address the complete research-development-innovation cycle and obstacles remaining for industrial application, and involve a number of relevant materials producers and users, also considering the needs of SMEs.

Also non-technological aspects key for the marketing of such products (e.g. standardization, regulatory issues, user acceptance, HSE aspects, LCA) need considering

Applications may fall within areas such as:

* Micro- & nano-printed biological applications (including instrument on a chip, bio-medical/bio-physical sensors, Lab-on-chip, organ-on-a-chip, bio-compatible or toxic scaffolds, active influence of cell growth & differentiation).
* Micro- & nano-printed Polymeric or ceramic microfluidic MEMS for nozzles or filters, sensor applications, and multi-use chip (including also injection molded nanostructures in polymers).
* In-line process control technologies as well as characterization methods needs to be included in order to meet recognised quality, environmental and safety standards and legislations.

The increased performances of the production lines in terms of productivity and cost-effectiveness should be demonstrated together with the relative improved functionality and performance of the resulting products.

SME needs should be catered for, e.g. through a coordinated network of pilot line, test and validation services, in order to prepare for management decisions to progress to the next step of new technology deployment, i.e. installation of industrial pilot lines and enter the commercialization stage.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Implemented as cross-KET activities.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business plans, including Plans for operating the individual and/or networked pilot line facilities following the project completion.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6, and optionally cover also Technology Readiness Level 7.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected Impact**

The action should allow for a new generation of MEMS products.

The scaled up production lines for 3D micro and nano imprinting and/or injection moulding in combination with the use of polymers and new micro- and nano-fabrication capabilities is expected to increase cost-effectiveness and robustness of the process and resulting products.

Direct benefit to the involved industries should be demonstrated in the form of reduced costs and full consideration of environmental and safety legislation.

Impact should be presented in 3 levels:

1. Impact on the consortium materials producers and users, and other involved industries, demonstrated in the form of reduced costs and full consideration of environmental and safety legislation.
2. Other existing or new materials manufacturers, describing the expected impact from further integration of the nano-enabled multifunctional materials into practical large-scale applications with producers outside the consortium,
3. Global impact in form of direct or derived benefits from competitive advantage of the new materials in products.

 (see also the "Impact template" document included with the call topic documents)

Contribution to training and knowledge dissemination for building an educated workforce as well as the definition of guidelines and reference cases for the development of business plans may improve the impact by helping entrepreneurs and encouraging private sector investments for future business growth.

Overall the action is expected to help driving the demand in Europe as well as support the penetration of new markets worldwide, also considering the contributions to an improved quality of life from the resulting products (e.g. lab-on-chip, filters and sensors for medical or other applications), ultimately contributing to a significant growth of quality jobs.

This should include clear benefits to manufacturers, including SMEs, and new entrants into the market should be expected.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### NMBP 48-2017: Paper-based electronics

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

On one hand the lifetime of electronics is becoming shorter, now approaching an average in the range of months; this evolution generates technological challenges and poses a growing ecological problem. On the other hand, paper is ubiquitous in everyday life and it is one of the cheapest materials in our society. It is renewable, portable, flexible and in addition cellulose, its main component, is the Earth’s major biopolymer and has an essential economic importance in Europe, which is responsible for 30% of the world’s total production. Paper Electronics represents a new concept which combines the use of paper as a functional part of electronic components or devices. Typical applications include packaging, graphics, novel diagnostic systems and hygiene products for indicating product safety or freshness, support logistics, health-care and safety for example.

Paper-based electronics shows promising technical, economic, and environmental advantages which will allow new recyclable electronics devices like paper displays, smart labels, smart packaging, bio-and medical applications, PoC devices, RFID tags, disposable electrochemical sensors among others. Paper-based electronics represents a promising source of innovation and growth for sectors such as packaging industry which develops smart solutions able to interact with the end users or classic paper publishing industry which are facing challenges from electronic books and journals, healthcare industry which intensify the development of quantitative biosensing, microfluidic and lab-on-chip devices.

**SCOPE:**

The proposal should address the physical, chemical and engineering challenges linked with the use of paper as substrate as well as active components of the electronic devices: it includes the development on new technologies for paper manufacturing (fiber enhancement, porosity, fillers, etc) and converting, new paper coatings (organic, inorganic or hybrid), paper surface characteristics and functionalization (nanocellulose functionalization, plasma or gas treatments, bio and chemical modifications for instance) but also heterogeneous integration of high-added value electronic components on paper and introduction of new materials (conductors, semiconductor insulators, electrochromic, batteries electrodes). The proposal should develop high-precision, cost efficient, and high output printing or other manufacturing technologies on large area (inkjet, screen printing amongst others, and sheet-to-sheet or roll-to-roll processes). The proposal should also address recyclability and eco-design aspects.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Implemented as cross-KET activities

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 5.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**Expected impact:**

* To develop a new disruptive and sustainable paper-based platforms for electronics that not only integrate discrete devices but also use the cellulose as an electronic material for insulators, electrolytes, conductors, and semiconductors;
* To use the same paper substrate that supports the electronics to also drive a bioplatform or a display, process source video data, or provide the power source through an embedded chemical battery.
* Reduce the environmental impact of electronics
* Consolidate paper making industries and wood-harvesting industries
* In long term, the developed technologies should pave the way for active, full color, video-rate reflective displays that perform well in high-light conditions, achieving performance equivalent to classical electronics (i.e. for display devices, a contrast ratio from 10:1, reflectivity of over 80%, full color, …)
* Creation of new markets and new business opportunities for the European industry fulfilling or anticipating consumer needs in this area.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

Conditions for the Call for Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology and Production call

Opening date(s), deadline(s), indicative budget(s):[[9]](#footnote-10)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topics (Type of Action) | Budgets (EUR million) | Deadlines |
| 2016 | 2017 |
| Opening: 01 Oct 2015 |
| NMBP 24-2016 (RIA)NMBP 25-2016 (RIA) | 32.00 |  | 08 Dec 2015 First stage24 May 2016 Second stage |
| NMBP 44-2016 (IA)NMBP 45-2016 (RIA) | 32.00 |  | 08 Dec 2015 First stage24 May 2016 Second stage |
| NMBP 01-2016 (RIA)NMBP 02-2016 (RIA)NMBP 03-2016 (RIA)NMBP 09-2016 (RIA)NMBP 10-2016 (RIA)NMBP 17-2016 (IA)NMBP 18-2016 (IA)NMBP 31-2016 (RIA)NMBP 34-2016 (RIA) | 144.00 |  | 08 Dec 2015 First stage24 May 2016 Second stage |
| NMBP 26-2016 (CSA)NMBP 32-2016 (CSA)NMBP 35-2016 (CSA)NMBP 38-2016 (CSA)NMBP 39-2016/2017 (CSA)NMBP 40-2016 (CSA)NMBP 41-2016 (CSA) | 12.70 |  | 21 Jan 2016  |
| NMBP 11-2016 (ERA-NET-Cofund)NMBP 21-2016 (ERA-NET-Cofund)NMBP 23-2016 (ERA-NET-Cofund) | 30.00 |  | 21 Jan 2016  |
| NMBP 08-2016 (RIA) | 16.00 |  | 21 Jan 2016  |
| NMBP 04-2017 (RIA)NMBP 05-2017 (IA)NMBP 06-2017 (RIA)NMBP 07-2017 (RIA)NMBP 12-2017 (RIA)NMBP 13-2017 (RIA)NMBP 14-2017 (IA)NMBP 15-2017 (RIA)NMBP 19-2017 (IA)NMBP 20-2017 (IA)NMBP 22-2017 (RIA)NMBP 33-2017 (IA)NMBP 36-2017 (RIA)NMBP 37-2017 (RIA)NMBP 43-2017 (RIA) |  | 214.00 | 10 Nov 2016 First stage25 Apr 2017 Second stage |
| NMBP 27-2017 (RIA)NMBP 28-2017 (IA)NMBP 29-2017 (RIA) |  | 48.00 | 10 Nov 2016 First stage25 Apr 2017 Second stage |
| NMBP 46-2017 (IA)NMBP 47-2017 (RIA)NMBP 48-2017 (RIA) | 48.00 |  | 10 Nov 2016 First stage25 Apr 2017 Second stage |
| NMBP 16-2017 (CSA)NMBP 30-2017 (CSA)NMBP 39-2016/2017 (CSA)NMBP 42-2017 (CSA) |  | 7.70 | 19 Jan 2017  |
| Overall indicative budget | 314.70 | 269.70 |  |

Indicative timetable for evaluation and grant agreement signature:

For single stage procedure:

1. Information on the outcome of the evaluation: Maximum 5 months from the final date for submission; and
2. Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 8 months from the date of informing applicants.

For two stage procedure:

1. Information on the outcome of the evaluation: Maximum 3 months from the final date for submission for the first stage and maximum 5 months from the final date for submission for the second stage; and
2. Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 8 months from the final date for submission of the second stage.

Eligibility Admin Condition: The conditions are described in parts B and C of the General Annexes to the work programme

Evaluation Criteria: The criteria, scoring and threshold are described in part H of the General Annexes to the work programme

Evaluation Procedure: The procedure for setting a priority order for proposals with the same score is given in part H of the General Annexes.

The full evaluation procedure is described in the relevant [guide](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/pse/h2020-guide-pse_en.pdf) published on the Participant Portal.

Consortium agreement:

# Call for Factories of the Future (FoF)

**H2020-FoF-2016/2017**

The FoF cPPP will help EU manufacturing enterprises, including SMEs, to adapt to global competitive pressures by developing and deploying the necessary key enabling technologies to support EU manufacturing across a broad range of sectors. It will help European industry to meet the increasing global consumer demand for greener, more customised and higher quality products through the necessary transition to a demand-driven industry with less waste and a better use of resources.

### FoF 01-2016: Novel hybrid approaches for additive and subtractive manufacturing machines

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Manufacturing has been using for the production of goods and wares many different processes that can be classified as subtractive or additive processes. Traditional machines have been normally focused on only a single type of these processes but there is a new generation of machines that combines the features of individual manufacturing processes into a single platform.

These hybrid manufacturing processes can enable a high-value and sustainable manufacturing by keeping the advantages of the single processes in a single machine whilst reducing their disadvantages. Nevertheless, the enhanced features of the hybrid machines bring as well an increasing process complexity and higher costs of production that impact the final price in the market of the produced items. High added value products with complex structures can balance out those production costs.

New hybrid machines, equipped with both subtractive and additive manufacturing technologies, can be a game changer to create new opportunities and applications for Additive Manufacturing (AM). The great potential of AM is in most of the cases limited by the subtractive post-processing steps needed to ensure optimal tolerances and surface finish. These hybrid combinations can also enable the production of larger items than in AM single machines and have a large potential for repair applications.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should address the development of advanced All-in-one machines that enable the production of a part/product directly from a CAD model in a short time and without the need of post-processing steps. A variety of Additive Manufacturing technologies and different materials can address this challenge by means of new and/or innovative processes. The role of SMEs and their potential as manufacturers and end-users for the developed machines needs to be considered in order to ensure the access to existing and new markets.

* Develop new machine concepts and designs into a single set-up processing and process control.
* Full integration and automation of the subtractive and additive processes in the machine
* Increased build rate of the machine in comparison to the separate processes
* Production of parts/products that are functional and with the final desired accuracy, surface-finish and tolerances and material efficiency
* Properties of the new components after the manufacturing process

The proposal must include at least one demonstrator in real industrial settings in order to show the industrial viability of the solution.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further during the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed novel hybrid approaches should lead to a remarkable impact in the following terms:

* 20% reduction in time and cost, with respect to the current additive and subtractive processes.
* 15% increase in productivity for high-volume AM production, with respect to the current additive and subtractive processes.
* More flexibility and robustness of the machines to adapt with customisation and changing market needs
* Reduction of inventory because of the making of products on-demand
* Reduction of work floor space
* Create localised manufacturing environments and reduce supply chains length
* Strengthen the global position of European AM industrial base and related sectors
* Contributions to standardisation and certification for new hybrid procedures.

This topic complements other call topics in this area funded under CNECT FoF 3

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FoF 02-2016: Machinery and robot systems in dynamic shop floor environments using novel embedded cognitive functions

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Current production, logistic shop floors are organised in a fixed combination of sequential automated and manual tasks. Each station, in which one or more tasks are performed, is designed for optimal productivity, and the whole linear sequence of operations is as well optimised for productivity. This paradigm is efficient when production is set to the maximum capacity and the same tasks are repeated in the same way in each cycle. However, this does not scale well to other situations. The complexity and cost of this organisation increases dramatically when it comes to flexible production or logistics, as for example when mixing different models, and the cost for introducing a new product reference is also very high. Moreover, this model lacks the capacity to react to unexpected technical problems that may arise.

Future shop floors have to endorse flexibility and define networks in which a tight collaboration between humans, machines and robots is beneficial. Therefore the shop floors must be supported by enhanced perception capabilities including the ability to reason over the perceived environment. By using novel embedded cognitive functions, machinery and robots shall be able to collaborate as network agents in a realistic semi-structured environment, being able to adapt their behaviour in order to give a response to unforeseen changes or situations. Furthermore, the cognitive capabilities will allow the machinery and robots to evolve from being programmed for a dedicated task to the handling of a multitude of different tasks.

**SCOPE:**

Research activities should address at least three of the following areas:

* Perception as an integrated cognitive capability, considering collaborative perception (counting not only with on-board sensors, but also with the sensing capabilities available in the whole shop floor), scene understanding, reasoning and acting (active perception).
* Perception as a way to create intelligent, dexterous "universal" devices for handling or manipulation of products or tools (e.g. handling of soft or shape changing objects, non-task dedicated devices)
* Mobility as a key factor for flexibility: machinery and robot systems should not only be able to autonomously navigate in realistic changing scenarios, but also develop the competences to switch from environment level navigation to the accurate positioning required to complete the operations.
* Methods and technologies to eliminate physical barriers such as safety guarding or enclosures have already been developed, but lack in inherent safety of the overall system. Cognitive capabilities in order to guarantee safety at all times, including when the system is down (e.g. maintenance, failure) should be researched so that it is possible to open the way to certification.
* Adaptation through context awareness and reasoning, aiming at making machinery and robots aware of their surroundings, so that they can perceive and obtain information on the non-programmed and non-expected situations, and adapt their behaviour in order to better handle them.
* Life-long learning and knowledge sharing tools, reducing to the minimum the initial programming efforts, and reusing the acquired abilities and competences over the existing machines.

Robots and machines should not be considered as individual agents, but will have to be part of an overall interactive network which should be defined and possibly standardised.

Proof of concept in terms of at least one demonstrator should be delivered before the end of the project, excluding commercially usable prototypes, but convincingly demonstrating scalability towards industrial needs, involving as appropriate disciplines of Social Sciences and Humanities, taking into account age and gender aspects, and making a clear case for the safety of the worker under all circumstances.

In order to ensure a high impact, both standardisation and certification activities have to be addressed in the proposal.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Gender relevance

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL6**. Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed machinery and robot systems should lead to a significant impact in the following areas:

* Automation of previously manual production in order to bring European production plants in cheap labour countries back to Europe
* Strengthen global position of European manufacturing industry through the introduction of the new technologies related to machinery and robots with enhanced capabilities
* Strengthen the innovation potential of European manufacturing industry through the creation of new products made possible with the new developed technologies
* Reduction of 20% of set-up and new product adaptation costs, increasing efficiency
* Significant improvement in the adaptability of manufacturing systems.

This topic complements other innovation actions supported under CNECT FoF2.a.ii

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FoF 03-2016: Zero-defect strategies at system level for multi-stage manufacturing in production lines

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The current trend in multi-stage manufacturing is towards more complex, distributed and faster evolving manufacturing facilities. To develop a zero-defect strategy to cope with increasing competition and sustainability related issues, plants should be designed and managed using best practices from emerging key enabling technologies. Manufacturing processes have to be environmental friendly and safe and deliver high quality products adapted to customer requirements, whilst minimising costs.

Within a context of market globalisation, the quality of products has become a key factor for success in manufacturing industry. The growing unpredictability of demand necessitates continuous adjustments in production targets. The increasing interest in sustainable production places a premium on reducing material waste, re-works, rejects and stocks and has led to a demand for the development of zero-defect strategies at system level.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should develop tools and methods for multi-stage manufacturing production with the aim of preventing defect generation and propagation as part of a system-level zero-defect strategy. In this context, integrated production and quality control strategies able to achieve the desired production rate for high quality products need to be developed. They should include both tools to prevent the generation of defects at single stage level and tools to prevent the propagation of defects to downstream stages.

Quality control tools should be supported by distributed on-line data gathering systems, on-line inspection tools, on-line defect management policies (i.e. on-line re-work or workpiece repair), inter-stage information and part flow control strategies and selective inspection policies to achieve higher control of the most critical stages in the system. The final aim is to achieve production system configurations that profitably exploit the quality/productivity trade-off at system level whilst reducing complexity.

Research activities should cover several of the following fields in a multidisciplinary approach:

* Methodologies and strategies for integrating production and quality systems into the multi-stage manufacturing process.
* Knowledge management tools to facilitate problem resolution, alarm triggering, transferring knowledge from one process or product variant to another and early detection based on lessons learnt, previous alarm activations, trends, etc.
* On-line inspection Tools for understanding, monitoring, analysis and real-time fault diagnosis of industrial process operation and product quality.
* Development of system-level zero-defect strategies to prevent the generation of defects at single stage level and propagation of defects to downstream stages.
* Distributed on-line data gathering systems and on-line defect management policies.
* Inter-stage information and part flow control strategies and selective inspection policies.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL6.** Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed zero-defect strategies at system level should lead to a significant impact in the following terms:

* Achievement of zero defects in a multi-stage production line
* Reduction of production costs by 15%
* Increased production flexibility. Higher production rates by 15%
* Reduction of waste and scrap by 10%
* Wide adoption of the new strategies in the existing manufacturing systems.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FOF 04-2016: Continuous adaptation of work environments with changing levels of automation in evolving production systems

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Despite high automation levels in factories today, humans remain central to manufacturing operations.

In the past, and due to human flexibility, workers were expected to adapt to machine requirements. However, today's machines increasingly allow these roles to be reversed with automation systems becoming ever more adaptable to the capabilities of workers, and work organisation becomes more flexible in terms of time and place. Furthermore, higher levels of product customisation and variable requirements, call for new adaptive human-centred automation approaches, complementing the cognitive capabilities of humans by advanced sensing and the higher precision of machines.

Modern manufacturing system design builds on an optimal and continuous distribution of tasks between humans and machines for higher performance, agility and quality.

**SCOPE:**

Research activities should address all of the following areas:

* Determination of adequate levels of automation for optimal flexibility, agility and competitiveness of highly customised production. Adaptive automation systems should accommodate to the worker's skills and flexibility needs, be it by compensating limitations (e.g. due to age or inexperience) or by taking full advantage of the worker's experience;
* Methods and tools for a continuous adaptation of workplaces to the physical, sensorial and cognitive capabilities of workers (especially of older and disabled people in those workplaces) and their socio-economic needs, by taking into consideration "safety and health at work" requirements. An adequate methodology to measure "worker satisfaction" should be developed and tested. The underlying theoretical framework should in particular involve knowledge from a socio-organisational perspective, including the engagement of workers in the design and adaptation of their workplace to ensure attractiveness;
* Exploit technologies such as virtual (and/or augmented) reality to support process and workplace simulations and industrial social networking with rich user experience for knowledge capture and decision support with a strong focus on usability, user acceptance and training.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) elements.

This topic requires a collaborative effort between the SSH and engineering to (a) come to an adequate understanding of "worker satisfaction" and the relevant quantitative indicators, and to (b) introduce the concept of "usability" of machines by the worker on the shop floor (particularly concerning elderly, disabled or other target groups with special needs) thus contributing to improving worker safety and health.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.** Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed new technologies should lead to a remarkable impact in the following terms:

* 20% increase in customisation capability;
* 10% quality increase in system output;
* Increased worker satisfaction and strengthened global position of industry in Europe through higher social acceptance levels.
* Wide adoption of the new developments in advanced manufacturing systems.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FoF 05-2016: Support for the further development of Additive Manufacturing technologies in Europe

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Additive Manufacturing (AM), including 3D-Printing, is one of the potential game changers that, for some applications, has already reached a tipping point of maturity. European companies are still strong in some areas but this position requires high levels of continuous innovation, especially where competitors are fast approaching. There are also other areas that are comparatively less developed and where the technology transfer and adoption is not functional, leading to a slow uptake of the results.

Despite the EC support, in the global picture the competitiveness of the European companies is threatened by the recent developments and the important investments at international level. Moreover, some of the more fundamental aspects in order to take advantage of this promising technology still need to be addressed.

It is necessary to identify current bottlenecks and barriers to further development of AM technologies in Europe. Furthermore the stakeholders also need to be mobilised in order to exploit the business opportunities that AM provides, facilitating the take-up of this technology in Europe, with a focussed promotion and support strategy for Additive Manufacturing technologies.

**SCOPE:**

The proposals should address most of the following aspects:

* Review of recent technological developments, key publications, and international research and innovation programmes on AM.
* Identification of gaps and opportunities for further research and innovation, as well as non-technological gaps in order to develop policy framework recommendations (e.g. regulation, standardisation, public procurement).
* Community building activities (think-and-do-tank) and actions to foster dialogue and collaboration across levels (stakeholders and governance) and with key strategic partners, the Member States and the European Commission. This broad multi-stakeholder community (science, policy, business, society) at local, regional, national and EU level will enable the launching of innovation partnerships for developing and testing of AM.
* Assessment of the current regulatory and IPR frameworks, micro- and macro-economic assessment of opportunities and risks and its impact on social aspects and labour market benefits.
* Productivity and resource efficiency gains through AM and its impact on European competitiveness through localised manufacturing, where more goods will be manufactured on demand, individually designed and close to their point of consumption.
* Identification of current bottlenecks for the transferability of new technologies across sectors.
* Development of best practices to help stakeholders to achieve large scale deployment.
* Identification of bottlenecks that prevent the stimulation of investments in new AM technologies and promote successful innovative AM solutions.
* Support information exchange and collaboration between EU funded projects which address the same AM areas to exploit synergies, particularly through SMEs.
* Development of new integrated design and manufacturing paradigms, where the time to replan, reprogramme and evolve in the shop floor production is reduced.
* Building skills capacity for innovation and competitiveness, engaging with academia for the development of learning resources adaptable to different learning approaches and curricula at undergraduate, master, and life-long learning levels.
* Assesment of the current regulatory and IPR frameworks; anti-counterfeiting features, particularly where high value and/or safety critical components are being manufactured; micro- and macro-economic assessment of opportunities and risks; and its impact on social aspects and labour market benefits.

Proposals should include the organisation of workshops with top-ranked international experts and EC services from the various disciplines aiming at the elaboration of a future AM roadmap, as well as an International Conference on AM at the end of the project.

In order to ensure the industrial relevance and impact of the research effort, the active participation of industrial partners represents an added value to the activities and this will be reflected in the evaluation, under the criteria Implementation and Impact.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 750,000 and 1,000,000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. No more than one proposal will be funded.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* The proposals are expected to have an impact on the European AM community in the following ways:
* Create a network of research and industry partners for further RTD and industrial innovation and contribute to the sharing of European best practices.
* Create links and foster collaboration with relevant European initiatives and activities.
* Speeding up industrial exploitation and take up of results of AM and facilitate cross-sectorial technology transfer.
* Early awareness of key innovation developments and anticipation of business trends and market prospects.
* Training and educational skills capacity in the AM community, both at academic and professional level.
* Enabling regulatory authorities to address better the relevant issues based on a thorough assessment of the current legal framework, IPR management and standardisation needs.
* Rationalising the process to deliver standardisation mandates to the European Standards Organisations.
* Favour investment of financial players in additive technologies application.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FoF 06-2017: New product functionalities through advanced surface manufacturing processes for mass production

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

As a response to increasing competition in global markets, many industrial sectors (e.g. automotive, aerospace, tooling or packaging) aim at improving their product performances through surface functionalization. As the products are increasingly complex in terms of scale (from nano to macro) and shape, processes need to deliver efficiently, ensuring an uncompromised quality together with high versatility and controlled costs. One way to reach this goal is to differentiate between a product body and its surface, where specific properties can be tailored. Furthermore, the required functionalities may be achieved with little or no addition of new raw material. For example, modifications in the surface geometry or even microstructure induced by texturing processes enable to improve the performance of those products by providing them with dedicated functionalities such as tailored friction, antibacterial properties, aesthetic issues or self-cleaning capabilities, among others.

In this context, substantial research is needed for exploring innovative approaches aimed at producing high added-value functional surfaces by a superficial modification of the substrate. Special attention should be paid to the cost efficiency of the novel surface manufacturing processes and to the development of technologies that are adaptable and up-scalable to real scale conditions and to their implementation into mass production conditions. Finally, environmental aspects of the processes should also be addressed.

**SCOPE:**

The proposal should address surface-modifying methods which do not alter the chemical composition of the surface or add an extra layer of a different material, for example: micro-machining, texturing, photon-based technologies, laser, mechanical treatments, etc. These methods should be used to create new manufacturing processes that can be applied on mass production lines. Due to the need for cost-effective technologies, these processes should be easy to integrate within the existing manufacturing plants and cost-effectiveness should be demonstrated. The research activities should be multi-disciplinary and address all of the following issues:

* Development of cost-efficient, up-scalable and adaptable surface processing techniques that introduce micro- or nano-scale modifications at the surface level of the part providing it with specific properties or capabilities.
* Design and implementation of specific methods and systems that enable highly efficient up-scaling of the developed processing techniques from laboratory scale to real scale, with a specific objective to apply the processes for mass production.
* Implementation of modelling tools to support selection of the processing parameters that lead to the targeted surface modifications.
* Solutions which are economically viable, environmentally friendly and easy to transfer to other fields than the demonstrated fields of application.
* In-process inspection and monitoring possibilities to ensure that the final results remain within the quality requirements.

In order to ensure the industrial relevance and impact of the research effort, the active participation of industrial partners represents an added value to the activities and this will be reflected in the evaluation, under the criteria Implementation and Impact. The projects are expected to cover applied research but also demonstration activities, such as a testing a prototype in a simulated operational environment. The ability of the demonstration activities to validate a technology’s high level of readiness will be reflected in the evaluation.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* - Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed innovative product functionalities should lead to a remarkable impact for both producers and users, in the following terms:

* Cost increase pertaining to those functionalities integrated into products should be below 10% with respect to the cost of conventional products
* The improvement in the product performance should be above 20% in the targeted functionalities such as: surface friction (increase or decrease), wear resistance, surface energy, corrosion and thermal resistance, hardness, self-cleaning properties, conductivity, anti-fouling, catalytic properties, etc. Besides, the improvement can also consist in obtaining tailored optical properties including for aesthetic or functional purposes.
* Strengthened global position of European manufacturing industry through the intensive implementation of innovative and unconventional technologies along the European manufacturing value chain

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FOF 07-2017: Integration of unconventional technologies for multi-material processing into manufacturing systems

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The competitiveness of European manufacturing depends on producing differentiated and high added value products in an efficient and sustainable manner, with reduced production costs, increased product quality and minimised time to market. Multi-material products have the advantage of putting the right material in the right place to satisfy all the expected requirements, which is particularly relevant when high cost or critical materials are involved. The aim of this topic is to integrate unconventional manufacturing technologies within a specific set (laser, water jet, ultrasonic, electron beam welding and/or electro discharge machining) into a manufacturing system to make multi-material products composed of high cost or critical materials with a prolonged surface life. These innovative manufacturing concepts and technologies can help European industry to face the challenge of improving resource efficiency and sustainability.

The integration of the above-mentioned unconventional manufacturing technologies into the process chain may be complemented with processes such as thermal treatment, in-process inspection and control, stress-relieving, micro-structural improvements, machining and joining. Successful integration will help to achieve a breakthrough in innovative manufacturing approaches for multi-material products. The major challenge lies in reinforcing the integration of these unconventional processes into manufacturing systems for multi-material products and subsequently implementing them throughout the European manufacturing sector, as well as ensuring that the disassembly of the materials is possible to enable re-use and recycling.

**SCOPE:**

The proposal should use one or more of the following unconventional manufacturing technologies (laser, water jet, ultrasonic, electron beam welding and/or electro discharge machining) to create new manufacturing systems for multi-material products. To tackle this major challenge successfully, research will need to cover all of the following areas:

* innovative process chains for high cost or critical multi-material products based on unconventional technologies, integrated if appropriate with more conventional manufacturing techniques such as machining and joining;
* manufacturing processes capable of generating the features and geometries required for multi-material products as well as integrating additional improvements such as thermal treatment, stress relieving, surface hardening, corrosion resistance or micro-structural improvements;
* new flexible machinery concepts and components to allow the integration of unconventional technologies and processes into industrial manufacturing systems able to handle a range of material combinations and products;
* in-process inspection and monitoring to ensure quality requirements within the innovative process chains.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.** Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed new technologies should lead to a remarkable impact in the following terms:

* Reduction of at least 10% in the production time through the integration of operations and the reduction of idling time between manufacturing steps.
* Reduction of at least 15% in the production cost through process integration and improved manufacturing quality.
* Resource efficiency improved by reducing the use of raw materials and energy consumption by at least 10%.
* Strengthened global position of European manufacturing industry through the intensive implementation of innovative and unconventional technologies along the European manufacturing value chain.
* Low capital investment solutions available for SME uptake.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FOF 08-2017: In-line measurement and control for micro-/nano-enabled high-volume manufacturing for enhanced reliability

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Rapid developments in micro-/nano-technologies require complex business models that respond to volatile markets in demand for faster product delivery with an unprecedented yield and quality. High-volume manufacturing is not spared from these requirements, and will in fact need to demonstrate a productivity improvement compared to lab-scale process development and low-volume manufacturing in order to remain commercially competitive.

The process scaling needs to include system-level architectures for metrology and control. This includes data acquisition and control at the levels of the process, the physical handling and the component validation. The in-line metrology and inspection for micro-/nano-production play an important role, together with a common reference system and approach across process chain. The evolution of the control system on the factory floor will also need to show various levels of distributed control in order to cover both batch-to-batch and run-to-run variations with real-time parameter prediction and feedback.

Practical industry solutions for reference metrology at these small dimensions are not readily available. However, whilst efforts are made towards producing reference materials, reliable and fast measurements that allow for control both at the process level and at the higher level of product vehicle or line, are needed. This will enable predictive management of batches, improved quality and speed control, and machine learning enabling fully autonomous control at the level of the process tool.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should include a systems-level strategy for integrating measurement and control throughout the production line for micro-/(nano-)enabled high volume manufacturing. To address this challenge the proposal will need to cover all of the following areas:

* Measurement techniques that target highly integrated and functional products at the micro- (and nano-)scale.
* Measurement and data acquisition which are non-destructive, i.e. no waste material at the measurement steps, and allow for high throughput scenarios in their respective industrial settings.
* Traceability in the measurements back to reference samples (e.g. calibrated standard artefacts and products). Direct contributions to related standards may be a part of the proposal.
* Approaches to control at the different levels of factory integration, including process variation, product/component reliability, waste optimisation, yield/output improvements and predictive/preventive corrections to the entire line.

Proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

A**ctivities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL6**. Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed new technologies should lead to a significant impact in the following terms:

* Improvement in existing manufacturing processes through implementation of system-wide control systems, demonstrating better resource efficiency, yield and productivity of a wide variety of components and final products.
* Improvement in technical knowledge on the in-line metrology for micro-/(nano-)sized components in a high-volume manufacturing setting.
* Accelerated uptake by industry of in-line measurements and related control systems that allow for traceability in terms of physical dimensions, functionality and reliability of micro-/nano-sized components.
* Contribution to standardisation in the field of reference materials targeting micro-/(nano-) technology and factory integration.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FoF 09-2017: Novel design and predictive maintenance technologies for increased operating life of production systems

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The elevated complexity and costs of production assets combined with the requirements for high-quality manufactured products necessitate novel design and reliability-based maintenance approaches that are able to provide the required levels of availability, maintainability, quality, safety while considering the system as a whole and throughout the production lifecycle.

Analysis of operational parameters and in-service behaviour, self-learning features and condition prediction mechanisms could contribute to improve smart predictive maintenance systems capable to integrate information from many different sources and of various types, in order to more accurately estimate the process performances and the remaining useful life. That will lead to a more efficient management, reconfiguration and re-use of assets and resources, avoiding false alarms and unforeseen failures which lower operators' confidence in such systems.

**SCOPE:**

The aim would be to design optimal maintainability solutions into production systems to improve operating life at maximised performance and reduce costs by carrying out maintenance activities at the most optimised time before failure occurs, thus minimising the degree of intervention required and maximising the system availability.

More trustworthy predictive maintenance and cause-and-effect analysis techniques should be developed to aggregate and interpret data captured from production systems and effectively share the massive amount of information between users. Measurements of a range of parameters at the level of components, machines and production systems should be carried out to provide data for building trend reference models for prediction of equipment condition, to improve physically-based models and to synchronise maintenance with production planning and logistics options. The dependability of the techniques would be demonstrated for a range of components and machines.

While the focus will be on demonstrating the design approaches and maintenance technologies, R&D activities supporting the integration and scale-up are expected as well.

Demonstration activities should address all of the following areas:

* Methodologies and tools for improved maintainability and increased operating life of production systems.
* Methodologies and tools to schedule maintenance activities together with production activities.
* Predictive maintenance solutions, combined with integrated quality-maintenance methods and tools, as well as failure modes, effects, and criticality analysis (FMECA) techniques, that effectively share information among different data sources in a secure way. Exploitation of networks of Smart Objects Technologies is an option.
* Versatility, in order to make solutions transferable to different industrial sectors.
* The project must include two complex demonstrators in real industrial settings to represent a clear added value.

In order to ensure the industrial relevance and impact of the demonstration effort, the active participation of industrial partners, including SMEs, represents an added value to the activities.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs
* International cooperation

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7** and to be **centred around TRL6**. Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed new technologies should lead to a significant impact in the following terms:

* 10% increased in-service efficiency through reduced failure rates, downtime due to repair, unplanned plant/production system outages and extension of component life.
* More widespread adoption of predictive maintenance as a result of the demonstration of more accurate, secure and trustworthy techniques at component, machine and system level
* Increased accident mitigation capability

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FoF 10-2017: New technologies and life cycle management for reconfigurable and reusable customised products

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

New customised products will be increasingly incorporating, in a seamless fashion, intelligence and smart functionalities through advanced materials and embedded components. The integration of highly differentiated materials and components is a key requisite for flexible manufacturing of individualised consumer/customised products. On the other hand, enhanced integration of sophisticated ICT-based components and of advanced materials implies a rapid product obsolescence rate, and can thus introduce further pollution risks if reuse of products and/or components is not improved. Therefore, reconfiguration and reuse of products, and related services, need to be developed.

**SCOPE:**

To face sustainability and flexibility challenges customised products need to be conceived, designed and manufactured in a modular way, and their single components have to be developed so as to be interoperable with one another during the product/service lifetime, so as to be exchangeable and updateable whenever necessary. This influences both the hard and soft requirements and calls for new production technologies that enable the fast manufacturing, assembly and configuration of complex products, as well as the products updatability and disassembly for re-use and end of life management.

In particular, consumer goods manufacturers should be able easily and effectively to integrate products and components which can be independently designed, produced and used in order to make diverse final personalised products in different production systems.

All involved actors in the product life cycle, from manufacturers of basic products components to retailers and vendors up to the final customers, should be provided with the needed hard and soft tools to reassemble and/or reconfigure the product or its components.

Research activities should address all of the following areas:

* Methodologies, engineering and tools for the fast reconfiguration and re-use of personalised products and their components
* New production techniques allowing for a fast manufacturing, assembly and configuration of complex personalised products
* Innovative methods and technologies for personalised products updatability, disassembly for reuse and end of life management of the products as well as their different components
* Methodologies and tools for the development of assembly, configuration, disassembly and reconfiguration services along the whole consumer/customised products value chain and along its overall life cycle also including the aftersale stage.

The proposals are expected to include use-case demonstrations aiming at the rapid deployment of the new modularity, reconfiguration and re-use of personalised consumer/customised products and life cycle management. All relevant value-chain stakeholders are expected to participate.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs
* International cooperation

This topic is particularly suitable for collaboration at international level, especially regarding the involvement of multiple actors in complex value chains on a global scale for consumer/customised goods.

* Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) elements

The resulting personalised products are expected to satisfy the final consumer needs at an individual level and consequently to facilitate daily life (particularly concerning elderly, disabled or other target groups with special needs) or improve workers and sportsmen safety and health.

Proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL6**. Implemented as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The developed new technologies should lead to a significant impact in terms of:

* Reduction of time to market of new personalised products/services by 30% through a modular product/service design and manufacturing approach
* Cost reduction of the manufacturing of personalised products by 25% by decreasing lead times in product-services development and configuration
* Reduction of environmental impact by more than 50% due to modular reusable components and final products
* Savings of overall products/services life cycle costs by 30% as a consequence of the reusability and re-adaptability of the components of the personalised products
* Wide adoption of the technologies developed leading to increasingly flexible manufacturing of customised products

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

ICT for the Factories of the Future

Manufacturing is still the driving force of the European economy. Manufacturing activity in Europe provides about 20% of all jobs (more than 30 million persons) in 25 different industrial sectors and over 2 million companies, largely dominated by SMEs. The digital transformation of manufacturing processes and products including the related change of business models and the shift from products to product-related services is expected to provide a major contribution to the EU goal of increasing the value of industry from 15% to 20 % of GDP.

With a highly educated workforce, excellent research centres and a strong ICT industry in professional and vertical markets, Europe has many assets that enable it to benefit from advances in digital technologies in all sectors. However, businesses and mainly SMEs face a critical dilemma today. On one side, global competition is growing and reducing margins and the capacity to invest. On the other side, digital technologies are moving fast and their impact on the whole value chain from products and manufacturing processes to business models is drastic. For many companies and notably SMEs and mid-caps, it is extremely difficult to keep up with technology and assess at any time which investment to be done and by when. Likewise, knowledge and support are missing on how to migrate existing setups to novel ICT-based manufacturing environments considering human, automation and organisational factors.

To improve Europe's ability to compete on the global markets, the three topics under this theme support the integration of digital technologies in all stages of the manufacturing process from cradle to grave, enabling Europe to stay at the forefront of delivering highly innovative, high quality products and services at competitive prices.

Through research and innovation actions (RIA), topics FoF1 supports the adoption of emerging digital technologies from cyber-physical systems, autonomous systems, the Internet of Things, big data analytics, in the manufacturing processes covering as appropriate the complete chain including logistics and circular economy aspects. Focus is on digital automation along two dimensions: (1) collaborative manufacturing across all processes including logistics, and (2) discrete factory automation. RIAs should target highly innovative applications that exploit advanced innovative ICT in the continuous and discrete process industry at TRLs 3-5. Through innovation actions (IA), topic FoF2 addresses the next phase of I4MS (ICT Innovation for Manufacturing SMEs) with special emphasis on supporting the organic growth of the I4MS ecosystem through linking I4MS competence and innovation hubs with industrial clusters and the smart specialisation strategies of Europe's regions including the pooling of resources from Horizon 2020 and ESIF (European Structural and Investment Funds). Through RIA and IA actions, topic FoF3 focuses on Photonics laser-based production. In order to multiply impact on the European industry and economy, platform building is emphasised across topics FoF1 and FoF2.

This area is part of the Public Private Partnership Factories of the Future, which is co-managed by LEIT-ICT and LEIT-NMP. It builds on the suggestions made by EFFRA through their Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA). The area addresses as well some aspects recommended by the SPIRE industrial associations (Sustainable Process Industry Resource and Energy Efficiency) in their SRIA. Manufacturing in the context of this area is therefore to be understood in the broad sense of manufacturing of discrete and continuous goods.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

### FOF-11-2016: Digital automation

Specific Challenge: Manufacturing value chains are distributed and dependent on complex information and material flow requiring new approaches inside and outside the factory both on process and product lifecycle level, from design and engineering over production to maintenance and recycling. Global competition and individualized products make it difficult for manufacturing companies to share information, to produce in collaborative networks across value chains.

Advances are needed in value- and supply-chain centric communication and collaboration schemes that merge machine, human and organizational aspects and enable manufacturing companies, especially SMEs, to respond to ever stricter requirements for being integrated into production process chains. Production architectures need to be more responsive to dynamic market demands which require radical change of production topologies to achieve dynamic production re-configurability, scaling and resource optimization. The challenge is to fully exploit the digital models of processes and products and to synchronise the digital and physical world. This shall allow manufacturers to move from centralised production and logistics to de-centralised planning and control or hybrid combinations thereof.

Scope: **a. Research and Innovation Actions**

Proposals are expected to cover at least one of the two themes identified below thereby exploiting advanced ICT like Cyber Physical Systems (CPS), Internet of Things (IoT), Cloud-models, robotics, 3D printing, machine-to-machine (M2M) communication, advanced human-machine-interaction, modelling & simulation, artificial intelligence methodologies and data analytics. RIAs shall develop reference implementations, and include user-driven proof-of-concept demonstrations and validation.

1. **Collaborative manufacturing and logistics.** Target is to integrate better manufacturing and logistics processes through platforms that enable communication among enterprises, machines, objects, and optimise collaboration among them. Research issues to be addressed include: real-time architectures for interoperability of intra plant and extra logistical processes and supply networks. Also included is management of the data deluge from the myriad of monitoring and tracking objects throughout the plant and the fusion of this with other information sources within the factory and supply chain. Novel platform-oriented concepts are to be explored and validated through pilots on business and system level to establish new economic collaboration models supported by more agile and sustainable production and logistics throughout supply, production and distribution networks; special emphasis will be on ICT security, knowledge protection, and trust in collaborative infrastructures.
2. **Novel architectures for factory automation based on Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)**. Research should explore novel de-centralised, modular, scalable and responsive automation architectures of primarily discrete factory automation systems that support new trends in manufacturing like re-shoring and mass-customisation. Research should encompass the virtualisation of the traditional automation pyramid from sensor-control to enterprise-level and/or methods and models for the synchronization of the digital and real world, as well as integration of novel architectures into existing production systems. Special emphasis is on innovative concepts for shared situational awareness; on self-adjustment of digital models triggered by smart objects, on co-simulation methods in real-time; and on handling of large amounts of sensor and process data.

– The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU up to 8 million would allow area i) to be addressed appropriately. For area ii) the Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU up to 4 million would allow this area to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. Minimum one proposal per

**b. Coordination and Support actions**

CSAs shall support industrial consensus building both with suppliers and users across Europe, addressing future factory automation systems built on CPS and the IoT; pan-European platform building, and collaboration on manufacturing issues across all relevant PPPs.

**Expected Impact:**

1. Proposals should address one or more of the following impact criteria, providing metrics to measure success when appropriate
2. Novel CPS-based automation is expected to lead to strong productivity increase
3. Quantified drastic reductions in the effort for integration or reconfiguration of today's hierarchical automation systems through advanced de-centralised or hybrid architectures
4. Better and faster reaction to market changes by being able to use holistic global and local optimization algorithms in a collaborative sustainable value chain.
5. Significant reduction in the time to design a factory from the initial concept to assembly hall layout compared to conventional methods.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action, Coordination & support action

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### FOF-12-2017: ICT Innovation for Manufacturing SMEs (I4MS)

Specific Challenge: For Europe's competitiveness in manufacturing, it is crucial that advances in ICT are taken up in engineering and manufacturing "at large" as soon as they have the appropriate maturity level. The topic will support fast adoption, and wide spread technology transfer of advanced ICT-based solutions for manufacturing across the business process chains – from "cradle to grave".

Scope: As Phase 3 of I4MS (www.i4ms.eu) this topic addresses the adoption of the next generation of ICT advances in the manufacturing domain. Focus is on emerging innovative technologies and processes, which need to be customised, integrated, tested and validated before being released on the market. Special emphasis is on strengthening European SMEs and mid-caps along the value chain by adopting new concepts linked to innovative business and/or service models.

**a. Innovation actions** must address all of the following three aspects.

1. Establishing across Europe networks of multidisciplinary competence centres offering “marketplaces” for companies that want to experiment with digital technologies in manufacturing of discrete or continuous goods. Centres should have the capacity to offer access to technology platforms and skills for developing and testing innovative technologies and applications, including access to design and manufacturing, rapid prototyping and equipment assessment initiatives. They should also act as brokers between suppliers and users of the technology products. It will be considered an asset if competence centres are linked to existing/emerging regional (smart specialisation) or national innovation hubs and if Horizon 2020 funding is complemented by ESIF or other regional or national funds: Horizon 2020 funding shall be used for carrying out highly innovative experiments that will multiply the impact of local initiatives to a European scale, and will build partnerships between businesses in Europe.

Carrying out a critical mass of cross-border experiments bringing together different key actors along the full value chain to customise the technologies according to the requirements of the users. Driven by the requirements of first-time users, **Application Experiments** bring together the actors of the value chain and the experts necessary to enable new users to develop novel products or services and assist them in customising and applying these in their respective environments. Experiment descriptions in proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation plan and business scenario, which will be developed further in the proposed experiment. To remain flexible on which experiments will be carried out, the action may involve financial support to third parties, in line with the conditions set out in part K of the General Annexes. The consortium will define the selection process of additional users and suppliers running the experiments for which financial support will be granted (typically in the order of EUR 50 000 – 100 000[[[10]](#footnote-11) per party). Maximum 50% of the EU funding can be allocated to this purpose.

1. **Activities** to achieve long-term sustainability of the competence centres and the eco-system. This includes the development of a business plan for the competence centres and the marketplace, of which an outline business scenario should be described in the proposal. In addition, investors should be attracted to support business development of SMEs and mid-cap actors in successful experiments. Such activities would include also dissemination and support to exploitation.

Proposers should cover at least one of the following four areas of technologies for adoption in manufacturing. Selected projects are expected to collaborate on reinforcing the European I4MS ecosystem, and to establish links to related activities, e.g. in the IoT Focus Area, the Joint Undertaking ECSEL, and the SPARC or big data PPPs.

1. **CPS and IoT:** Adoption and piloting of CPS/IoT in smart production environments, with special focus on platform-oriented concepts that enable scalable, modular and re-configurable automation systems across the process chain especially for SMEs.
2. **Robotics**[[11]](#footnote-12)**:** New robot systems that are cost effective at lower lot sizes, with the benefit of long-term improvements in productivity, the ability to work safely in close physical collaboration with human operators; and that are intuitive to use and adaptive to changes in task configuration. Key for fast adoption is the availability of flexible and easy to apply material feeding solutions. Step changes to at least two of the following abilities are therefore considered necessary: configurability, interaction capability, decisional autonomy in terms of context-awareness, and dependability.
3. **Modelling, simulation and analytics**: HPC Cloud-based modelling, simulation and analytics services with special emphasis on sustained service models; on providing real-time support; and on addressing comprehensively security and privacy issues at all levels.
4. **Digital design for additive Manufacturing**: Supporting the broad uptake of innovative additive manufacturing equipment and processes particularly focusing on the link between design tools and production, changes in business models, process chains and stakeholder relations.

– The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU up to 8 million would allow the areas to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. It is expected that a minimum of one innovation action is supported for each area of technologies.

**b. Coordination and Support actions**

To advance the European I4MS innovation ecosystem the network of Innovation multipliers leveraging investment in research and innovation is to be reinforced. The aim is to achieve broad coverage in technological, application, innovation, and geographic terms. Its tasks and services shall include maintaining a single innovation portal for newcomers; sharing of best practices and experiences; dissemination; identifying new innovative ICT technologies that can benefit from this scheme, brokering between users and suppliers; leveraging further investment by mapping and matching competences in and between regions, and by linking up with regional/national initiatives and by stimulating organic growth. For these support actions, close cooperation with the European Factories of the Future Association (EFFRA[[12]](#footnote-13)) is required.

Expected Impact: Proposals should address the following impact criteria, providing metrics to measure success when appropriate:

1. Exploration of new application areas for advanced ICT in manufacturing at large: Attract a significant number of new users of advanced ICT in the manufacturing sector, in particular SMEs and the mid-caps.
2. More innovative and competitive technology suppliers, in particular SMEs, both on the level of ICT and on the level of manufacturing equipment, able to supply manufacturers with new equipment, components, and tools for improved manufacturing and engineering operations.
3. More competitive European service providers through provisioning of new types of services; through strengthening the presence on local markets.
4. Creation of a self-sustainable ecosystem of competence centers, users and suppliers supported by services available through a marketplace, covering a large number of regions and their smart specialisation.
5. A critical mass of pan European experiments that demonstrate innovative, sustainable business models covering the whole value chain.

Type of Action: Innovation action, Coordination & support action

***The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.***

### FOF-13-2017: Photonics Laser-based production

Specific Challenge: Laser-based manufacturing has become very competitive and is one of the back-bones of modern production technologies. Highly accurate mass production is available for a wide range of products in a wide range of industries. Whilst laser processing is highly flexible, the change from one production lot to the next usually requires operator intervention, reconfigurations and costly down times to adjust current processing tools to the new task. The trend to individualisation requires a high degree of digitization as well as tools and systems which are highly autonomous and automated to reduce production time and costs.

Additive manufacturing (AM) offers a number of advantages over conventional manufacturing including the unprecedented freedom of design for example in terms of geometry, material composition and intrinsic properties of the work piece. Whilst laser-based AM is used for prototyping and has begun to penetrate some smaller markets, it is not yet competitive on a larger scale especially with respect to production speed and costs. In order to increase the productivity of laser-based AM and to bring it a significant step further towards industrial manufacturing a better mastering of all stages of the process chain and their interaction is necessary.

Scope: **a. Research & Innovation Actions**

**From "design to piece" – Excellence in laser-based additive industrial manufacturing**[[13]](#footnote-14)**:** From Design to the final work piece, the topic addresses laser-based additive industrial manufacturing of metallic materials. All process chain steps may be addressed, for example CAD, modelling of the additive process, the additive process itself including the use of several materials in a single work piece, process control and quality assurance, the combination of additive and subtractive processes, surface finish and precision, etc. Materials for AM and their quality control are considered as a step. Proposals must cover at least two important steps in the process chain and the relevant links between them. The goal is to significantly improve the overall performance in terms of speed and costs whilst producing high quality work pieces. Standardisation aspects should also be addressed as appropriate. Proposals should be driven by concrete business cases and include the relevant partners of the value chain.

– The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 2 and 4 million would allow this area to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**b. Innovation Actions**

**Rapid individualised laser-based production:** Develop and set-up efficient, highly flexible high throughput pilot facilities on the basis of existing processes for laser-based production and to validate them in real settings. This will require advances in a number of aspects, including intelligent networking and machine cooperation, data handling, modelling, work piece handling, beam delivery, integration of different processes; monitoring, process control etc. Actions must be industry driven and include the key stakeholders running the pilot facility.

– The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 2 and 4 million would allow this area to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: Proposals should describe how the proposed work will contribute to the following impact criteria and provide metrics, the baseline and targets to measure impact.

**a. Research & Innovation Actions**

1. Reinforced industrial leadership in laser-based Additive Manufacturing.
2. Substantially improved production speed, improved productivity and substantially reduced costs of Additive Manufacturing.

**b. Innovation Actions**

1. More efficient, more flexible and higher throughput of individualised laser-based production.
2. Improved competiveness and strengthened Europe's market position of laser-based manufacturing industry (equipment and suppliers) and the end-user industry.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action, Innovation action

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

Conditions for the Call for Factories of the Future call

Opening date(s), deadline(s), indicative budget(s):[[14]](#footnote-15)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topics (Type of Action) | Budgets (EUR million) | Deadlines |
| 2016 | 2017 |
| Opening: 01 Oct 2015 |
| FOF-01-2016 (RIA)FOF-02-2016 (IA)FOF-03-2016 (IA)FOF-04-2016 (RIA)FOF-05-2016 (CSA) | 65.00 [[15]](#footnote-16) |  | 21 Jan 2016  |
| FOF-11-2016 (RIA) | 51.00 [[16]](#footnote-17) |  |
| FOF-11-2016 (CSA) | 2.00 [[17]](#footnote-18) |  |
| FOF-06-2017 (RIA)FOF-07-2017 (RIA)FOF-08-2017 (IA)FOF-09-2017 (IA)FOF-10-2017 (IA) |  | 80.00 [[18]](#footnote-19) | 19 Jan 2017  |
| FOF-12-2017 (IA) |  | 32.00 [[19]](#footnote-20) |
| FOF-12-2017 (CSA) |  | 1.00 [[20]](#footnote-21) |
| FOF-13-2017 (RIA) |  | 15.00 [[21]](#footnote-22) |
| FOF-13-2017 (IA) |  | 15.00 [[22]](#footnote-23) |
| Overall indicative budget | 118.00 | 143.00 |  |

Indicative timetable for evaluation and grant agreement signature:

For single stage procedure:

1. Information on the outcome of the evaluation: Maximum 5 months from the final date for submission; and
2. Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 8 months from the date of informing applicants.

Eligibility Admin Condition: The conditions are described in parts B and C of the General Annexes to the work programme

Evaluation Criteria:

Evaluation Procedure:

Consortium agreement:

# Call for Sustainable Process Industries (SPIRE)

**H2020-SPIRE-2016/2017**

The SPIRE cPPP will address the challenges raised by the rejuvenation of the European industrial processes: more efficient use of resources (raw materials, water, etc.) and energy (including renewables), high-tech and eco-efficient production facilities and materials, and minimising and re-using waste.

In case materials modelling is proposed, the modelling Work Packages should be described similarly to the Review of Material Modelling <http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/pdf/modelling-brochure_en.pdf> ; If new software is developed, software engineering quality measures should be part of the proposals.

Proposers should consider participation in open data pilot (mandatory for modelling topics) and the European modelling market place initiatives (reference to the 2017 topic).

### SPIRE 01-2016: Systematic approaches for resource-efficient water management systems in process industries

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Nowadays, 12% of water utilisation in the EU is devoted to industrial use. Since water is a scarce resource, it is crucial for the European industry to change the current paradigm and develop more sustainable and efficient water technologies, which is also an important element for increasing its competitiveness, because a significant amount of energy is consumed for industrial water treatment. In the sustainable development context, efficient water use is closely linked to the efficient use and re-use of other resources, such as energy, chemicals, raw materials and soils. As such, these aspects need to be considered holistically in order to develop sustainable solutions.

**SCOPE:**

The main objective is the optimisation of the use of water in industry. Research activities should focus on several of the following areas:

* Combining existing technologies (e.g. advanced processing, nano-technology and materials) in order to achieve enhanced sustainability in water treatment processes by reducing water use, energy and raw materials consumption and at the same time minimizing waste and/or recovering valuable substances.
* Selective separation processes in order to be able to treat specific industrial fluxes, also leading to the recovery of valuable substances.
* Adaptation of current processes or equipment to use alternative water sources. e.g. rainwater, salt or brackish water, cooling water, or Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) effluent.
* Alternative cooling/heating methods. Reducing the energy levels that are needed for water and steam related production processes; dry cooling technologies; water and energy recovery processes from water vapour.
* Use of renewable energy, in order to achieve low energy water treatment processes (e.g. photo-degradation of pollutants).
* Development of closed loop recycling and reuse, involving cascading of processes and industrial water symbiosis.
* Development of a sustainable strategy for selecting materials and infrastructure for water transport and use, including water storage and treatment.

The proposals should also include a Life cycle analysis, since it offers the framework to deliver meaningful information on the "water footprint" of manufactured goods, delivered services, business operations and consumer behaviour. The total footprint of the process regarding water, energy and resources should be considered.

In order to properly monitor the Resource Efficiency Impact, Key Performance Indicators should be implemented.

The proposals are expected to allocate at least 30% of the budget to demonstration activities. The active participation of industrial partners from the relevant sectors in multidisciplinary consortia will represent an added value to the activities.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL 6.** Implementation as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

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**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Reduction of at least 20% in water use compared to the current practice in the sector.
* Reduction of at least 30% in wastewater production compared to the current practice in the sector.
* Reduction of at least 15% in energy use compared to the current practice in the sector.
* Minimising the Water Footprint, employing less water intensive or waterless technologies and increasing recycling.
* new technology developments in water treatment and wide adoption of these technologies to enhance sustainability in the process industries.
* Decouple the industrial production from the utilisation of fresh water reserves

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 02-2016: Plant-wide monitoring and control of data-intensive processes

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

All current plants in process industries have control systems managing their production processes. Distributed Control Systems (DCS) and Programmable Logic Controls (PLC) are present all across production sites with continuous semi-continuous or batch processes. However, there is still a lack of integration of local control systems dedicated to unit processes into an overarching real-time optimisation and scheduling system controlling and monitoring the operations of the whole plant. This plant or even site-wide integration is especially challenging for production processes where monitoring involves the collection and evaluation of large amounts of data.

Future plant monitoring and control systems will have to integrate lower scale model based control frameworks into plant scale scheduling, or even geographic and logistic optimisation tools. The generalisation of model based predictive control techniques to plant-wide and possibly site-wide monitoring and control should be developed using overall plant models, and optimised solutions should be demonstrated.

**SCOPE:**

Research activities should address the following areas:

* Extension of the model based control techniques to the level of plant or site-wide control and scheduling by the use of dynamic overall plant models, ensuring a robust real-time optimisation of the plant's operations.
* Integration of local control systems into an overarching real-time plant and/or site optimisation and scheduling system, taking into account geographic and logistic constraints and potential malfunctions.
* Cross-sectorial transfer of the technologies developed.
* Model Based Predictive Control frameworks taking into account the Operators Training Systems in their design.
* Plant level LC management tools (integrated or possibly as a plug-in to the control system) and robustness of the real-time optimisation tools

Solutions should consider the “data-intensive” nature of the process chains (data reliability, handling of huge amounts of data in real-time, extraction of decisions from large data-sets. Proof of concept in terms of at least one demonstrator should be delivered before the end of the project, excluding commercially usable prototypes, but convincingly demonstrating scalability towards industrial needs and making a clear case for the safety of the worker under all circumstances.

The project can make use of pre-existing commercially available plant optimisation and scheduling solutions, making all the required adaptations. In order to ensure the impact of the project, standardisation is to be addressed.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

- Suitable for SMEs

- Gender relevance

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6**.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

Compared to the current practice in the sector:

* Decrease of on-site material handling time by 10%
* Decrease of resource consumption by 10%
* Decrease the global use of energy on-site by 10%.
* Decrease of the Green House Gases emissions by 10%.
* Strengthen the global position of European process industry through the adoption of the new technologies related to plant-wide and/or, if possible, site-wide process control.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 03-2016: Industrial technologies for the valorisation of European bio-resources into high added value process streams

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Bio-based resources constitute a valuable source of sustainable raw materials for Europe, but currently they are not utilised in an optimal way. For example, residues from agriculture and forestry (e.g. lignocellulose), as well as waste streams from aquaculture, farms, and food and feed industry (including skins, feathers, fats, shells, materials from slaughter-houses, fish mills, etc.) and biodegradable industrial waste are often not fully exploited. Considering that such bio-resources contain valuable substances for the production of high added value chemicals and bio-materials (e.g. sugars, fatty acids, amino acids, alcohols, resins, fibres, aromatic substances, proteins), which could provide sustainable alternatives to analogues currently manufactured from fossil feedstock, their efficient utilisation is needed in order to support the establishment of a more sustainable and efficient industry in Europe. Furthermore, these bio-based streams could provide access to new building blocks and products with added functionalities, which are currently not commercially available, thus opening new market opportunities for industry.

For a wider utilisation of such bio-resources, the development of technologies for the efficient processing, isolation, fractionation and purification of these waste and side streams, will be essential to efficiently recover valuable bio-components, while maintaining key chemical functionalities present in bio-based molecules. The industrial deployment of such technologies will allow improving the competiveness of the European chemical and process industry and will ensure a better utilisation of available European bio-resources. These technologies will also support a decrease in waste generation and contribute to making Europe self-sufficient in terms of raw materials, leading to increased long term sustainability for the European process industry.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should address the efficient utilisation of biomass waste streams of organic nature from industrial processes (e.g. food and feed industry, aquaculture)and/or side streams from harvesting activities (e.g. agricultural and forestry harvesting residues) ensuring non-competition with higher value chains (e.g. food production). The proposals should aim to provide novel concepts to fully valorise these bio-resources, providing high added-value products, chemical building blocks and bio-based streams (bio-chemicals, monomers, fibres, polymers, proteins etc.) for further utilisation in industry. The concepts taken into account should yield novel products and process streams with a quality that is equal or better than the one of the available fossil analogues already on the market and where possible, provide opportunities to open new markets (e.g. development of novel products).

Proposals should target technologies (e.g. chemo-, thermo- and bio-catalytic, fermentative), which can include recovery, and primary (e.g. sugars, lignin, tannins, resins, proteins) and/or secondary (e.g. furans, sugar acids, carboxylic acids, fatty acids and aromatics) processing of bio-resources, leading to bio- products and streams with high added value. The concepts are expected to provide significant added value creation in the process. Proposals are expected to address R&I activities covering the following areas:

* Chemo-/thermo-bio-catalytic/fermentative route development for conversion processes as well as purification processes where needed, including mastering of the technology in order to yield (new) bio-based building blocks, polymers and chemicals and derived product portfolios in a relevant industrial environment.
* Market analysis and techno-economical evaluation of the concepts proposed to assess the economic viability of the approaches and a business plan for the deployment of the technology.

The concepts should demonstrate improved resource efficiency based on Life Cycle Assessment, including a significant reduction of fossil resources and energy utilisation, as well as water and other utilities. The concepts should also bring a reduction in CO2 emissions compared to the commercially utilised process (or similar for new processes that do not have commercial analogues).

Proposals should envisage the demonstration of the concepts in an industrially relevant environment and show the potential for their integration into the relevant industrial sectors. An integrated waste management strategy, considering also industrial waste, will add value to the proposal. Demonstration of the integration in existing industrial scenarios would be a major added-value. The demonstration activities are expected to address the scalability and replicability of the proposed concepts.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

A significant participation of SMEs with R&D capacities is encouraged.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* The concepts proposed should provide a decreased utilisation of fossil resources in the process industry of at least 30 % compared to similar commercially available processes.
* The concepts proposed should provide an improvement in energy utilisation in the process industry of at least 30 % compared to similar commercially available processes.
* The concepts proposed should provide a decrease in CO2 emissions of at least 30% compared to similar commercially available processes.
* The economic viability of the concepts should be demonstrated, as well as the contribution to the long term sustainability of the industrial sectors targeted.
* The proposal should provide a clear business case for the deployment of the solutions in industry.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 04-2016: Industrial furnace design addressing energy efficiency in new and existing furnaces

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Industrial furnaces with higher performances, optimised resource and energy efficiencies and less pollutant emissions are a major goal for combustion researchers, furnace producers and the process industries. Relatively few new furnaces are installed in Europe these days due to the capital intensive nature of the industrial furnaces, which makes this challenge more urgent to overcome.

In addition, most of the industrial furnaces in Europe are currently fed with natural gas. Another challenge in the coming years will be the use of alternative energy sources or hybrid heating systems for such applications. Novel designs based on new technical concepts, materials and different combustion routes and processes are key for new advanced furnaces and the retrofitting of existing ones.

The development of a clear understanding of the process function, the reliability of the process information and how the furnace interacts with the rest of the manufacturing process will be paramount for the new generation of technologies for new and retrofitted industrial furnaces. To develop and to scale up new systems and equipment based on new high temperature materials and advance protective coatings is a real challenge and could contribute to great savings in energy.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals need to consider all aspects for the construction of new furnaces or the retrofitting of existing furnaces with more efficient and effective technologies. They need to also consider the effects on upstream and downstream processes linked to those heating systems.

The design methods and criteria need to take into account technical aspects, constraints found in legislation, compliance with codes and standards and all the related economic aspects, including how the cost of design changes can escalate.

Research activities for new industrial furnace design should address all of the following areas:

* Use of at least two different energy sources, e.g. electricity, gas, oil, biogas, biomass, coal. Hybrid heating systems can also be considered. Design has to take into consideration the type of feed and an optimised fuel consumption.
* Prediction tools and computer simulation development applied to the design process and performance prediction.
* Interaction of the furnace with the rest of the manufacturing process, including the effect on upstream and downstream processes. Heat transfer and recovery need to be also considered.
* Improved equipment efficiency by using new and improved high temperature/corrosion/wear resistance materials e.g. new steels, super alloys, high resistance composite metallic alloys, innovative refractories, high temperature insulation materials systems, hybrid metallic/ceramic solutions for high temperature applications.
* Monitoring and control systems for the SOx, NOx and CO emission of industrial furnaces

The proposals must include at least one demonstrator in an industry-relevant environment, for either new or existing furnaces.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.** Implementation as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED INMPACT:**

Compared to the current practice in the sector:

* Reduce the energy consumption by at least 15%.
* Reduce the operating costs by at least 15%.
* Reduce NOx, SOx and CO emission by at least 25%.
* Reduce Capex and Opex costs of the furnaces by at least 15%.
* Clear business cases for the deployment of the solutions in industry.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 05-2016: Potential use of CO2/CO and non-conventional fossil natural resources in Europe as feedstock for the process industry

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Europe is facing a large emission of CO2-containing gases and at the same time a need for additional carbon-based resources. Whereas today the carbon flow of the process industries is organised in a linear way from feedstock input to output of product plus emission (among other residues), the objective is to facilitate a cyclic flow in which CO2-containing gases from one industry becomes the feedstock of another.

Due to greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), the process industry is increasingly looking into the potential use of non-conventional fossil natural resources (e.g. shale gas, gas hydrates, tar sands, coal bed methane, gas to liquid and coal to liquid technologies) as alternative feedstock. Moreover, some organic solid wastes (both from domestic and from industrial applications) can be used to obtain carbon based gas (e.g. biogas, syngas).

The challenge is to understand how to turn these different carbon sources into chemicals that can be used as sustainable building blocks or fuels, while at the same time the process is economically feasible depending on the different energy price scenarios. The aim is to perform a forecast study for the use of CO2 containing process gases as feedstock for process industries, by means of the conversion of CO2 and CO to carbon-derived products. Converting these gases into chemicals and products could lead to a major reduction of emissions and dependency on fossil fuels.

Presently the prices for the emission of CO2 are dropping significantly compared to the initial prediction (e.g. in the ETS scheme) and at the same time both fossil based and renewable feedstock are highly volatile on the world market. Therefore, there is an urgent need to forecast different possible scenarios for a sustainable use of carbon resources and how this can be organised in a cyclic flow in the process industry.

**SCOPE:**

There is a strong need to evaluate the novel technologies and solutions for the use of CO2/CO containing process gas as well as non-conventional fossil natural resources at production site level together with the economic feasibility. Furthermore, it is required to compile information on and create awareness on the relative maturity and adaptability of technologies to the local situations, with the aim to accelerate market adoption and replication of these solutions.

Some of the targeted chemicals offer dual use as an intermediate in chemical production as well as an energy carrier such as chemical energy storage. Therefore, the proposed technology not only links CO2-producing and intensive carbon sectors but addresses various high-volume applications and significant markets.

The focus of the forecast study should be on the use of CO2/CO containing process gases to produce high value added products (e.g. fine chemicals and polymers).

The study should address an integrated approach including the following aspects:

* To lay the foundation of the design of future facilities to demonstrate conversion of CO2-containg gas into chemicals on site.
* The design of scenarios for the proper and most valuable uses of different gas resources.
* To analyse the need for pre and post-conversion separation and conditioning processes
* To evaluate the potential impacts of the use of non-conventional fossil natural resources on the CO2/CO use and identify best solutions
* The scenarios should be linked to Life Cycle Assessment to provide a proof of sustainability, leading to acceptance and recognition of new “clean” products, business models, and skill sets.

All above mentioned should take into consideration the following issues: i) the most carbon efficient process, ii) the technical challenges that hamper the deployment of technical solutions at demonstration scale iii) the challenge of building a new model for integrating different industrial sectors.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 250.000 and 500.000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one project will be funded.**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* New scenarios for increased use of CO2/CO containing process gases and non-conventional fossil natural resources as new feedstock depending on future fossil fuel and energy prices.
* Strategies to facilitate the use of primary fossil feedstock displacement (downstream consuming industry).
* Future scenarios that enable new business models improving competitiveness of participating industries based on the use of CO2/CO containing process gases and non-conventional natural resources as feedstock for the process industry.
* Synergies by linking production sites of emitting and downstream consuming industries.
* New areas for SME development and growth

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 06-2016: Business models for flexible and delocalised approaches for intensified processing

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

The competitiveness of European manufacturing depends on producing differentiated and high added value products in an efficient and sustainable manner, with reduced production costs, increased product quality and minimised time to market. To create a long-lasting competitive advantage for the European process industry it is also needed to properly inter-relate the production with modern and innovative ways of doing business.

Therefore, technological innovation in sustainable manufacturing in the process industry needs to be matched with new business models, which may support industry and cross-sector clusters as well as industrial parks, while also allowing more flexible and delocalised operations. These new business models should be designed to address the barriers which have so far prevented regionally or locally adapted solutions, with an emphasis on technical but also non-technological barriers, such as legal, regulatory or cultural ones.

On the other hand, these new business models should allow the positive interactions between the different actors (firms, neighbouring municipalities, infrastructure administrations), which can allow positive outcomes in terms of accrued economic value associated with perceived level of attractiveness to inward investors, leading to jobs creation, and sustainable development promotion by local authorities, industries and policy makers. In addition, these business models should consider the influence of industrial consumer trends on future energy and resource systems to achieve ambitious sustainability paths, which will be very relevant for the whole market.

**SCOPE:**

New business solutions should enable higher throughput operations and allowing industry to produce in a distributed and small scale manner; these new business models are expected to be more flexible and demand-driven. Site re-optimization studies will help identifying barriers towards good practice solutions and integrating several industries or processes.

Activities should focus on all of the following areas:

* To determine the spatial flexibility parameters which allow to optimise activities interdependence and to define the resource flexibility parameters which allow optimising yearly fluxes between companies
* Integrated business model solutions for customer-driven supply chain management based on intensified processing.
* To deliver design constraints for new decentralised locations, which would position them, if applied, in the industrial symbiosis category,
* To pinpoint the routes which allow the reduction of carbon footprint at affordable interdependence investments
* Scenarios for novel distributed and intensified processing, sourcing and design solutions linking individual "home-based" designers and manufacturers to the supply-chain, promoting social inclusion and deploying skills locally available.
* Scenarios for local sourcing and supply, thus reducing the environmental footprint, taking into account both raw material and energy sources

The proposals are expected to include an evaluation of best use and practical cases for intensified processing, while also providing an understanding on the research needs to achieve rapid deployment of the novel business solutions in particular consumer-targeted domains and a roadmap for their implementation. All relevant supply-chain stakeholders should be considered and it is expected that SMEs will play an important role in the deployment and application of future business models.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* The needs of SMEs as part of the supply-chain should be addressed

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 250.000 and 500.000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one proposal will be funded**.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

A study on the research needs to develop new business model solutions that can support the return of delocalised manufacturing to Europe, in the order of at least 5% of the total manufacturing capacity, in the process industry sectors, within 5 years after the end of the study.

The overall aim is to obtain an understanding of how to achieve in the medium term new business model solutions which should provide:

* Reduction in the environmental footprint compared to products produced in the traditional value chains by 10% through less stock, less waste, and less transportation;
* Reduction of raw material by 15% through the creation of strong networks with related sources of raw material coming from different sources (primary and secondary) locally
* Development of scenarios in order to identify the proper locations and opportunities associated to delocalised facilitates taking into account legal and social hampering factors
* Increased business opportunities on a local scale.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 07-2017: Integrated approach to process optimisation for raw material resources efficiency, excluding recovery technologies of waste streams

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Process industries are currently facing the challenge of an increase in the energy and raw materials cost, a few of them facing a relative scarcity. Raw materials resources are blended, mixed and transformed into finished products by means of different manufacturing processes. Material losses and variable yields in the different processes can mean a considerable increase in the total cost breakdown.

Input from end-of-life recycling is an important goal covered in previous Horizon 2020 Calls including the SPIRE-7-2015 topic. However, yield losses in the different production steps in process industries are still important and this leaves room for improvement (e.g. real losses in pipelines, the storage containers extraction operations, raw materials residues left in ovens, mixing bowls and mixer blades, altogether with inefficient or ineffective chemical reactions).

Improving the utilisation of raw materials resources (fluids, solids or gases) is essential to increase yields throughout the supply chain. The reduction in losses will also ensure a decrease of the environmental footprint and therefore contribute to a more sustainable industry.

The challenge of a more efficient use of raw materials resources in order to deliver high performance and sustainable production must be accompanied by optimising material efficiency all along the process route and throughout the value chain.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should address the technological improvements for both continuous and batch processes to improve material and energy efficiency in the entire production route . They should also identify key bottlenecks and resource efficiency improvement opportunities that will increase yields while optimising the energy consumption of the original processes. The process review and the implementation of improvements should also significantly increase the current production rates.

Research and Innovation activities should address all of the following areas:

* Reduction of material losses during the upstream beneficiation, the intermediate processing, the final process stages. Improvement of both the yield and the energy efficiency of the production process routes.
* Quality and process control that ensures process stability and robustness while allowing some flexibility at the inlet conditions and the development of tools to assess the optimal combination of material input and yield control.
* Identification and use of KPIs based on energy, water and raw material resources consumption, carbon dioxide emissions that can ensure the sustainability of the processes.
* Mapping of the material and energy flows across the entire production system to allow for a cross-sectorial integration and optimisation.
* Evaluation and quantification of the emissions reduction by improving yield.

The proposals must include at least one demonstrator per process in a real industrial setting.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs

Proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL 6.**

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 6 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* At least 25% reduction in yield losses when compared to the current practice in the sector, by optimising/minimising production losses and an increased material consumption on interconnected cycles
* At least 10% improvement in energy efficiency when compared to the current practice in the sector.
* Identify bottlenecks and resource efficiency improvement opportunities
* Identify knowledge gaps in the supply chain
* Adoption of the new technological improvements for enhanced resource efficiency in industrial processes.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 08-2017: CO2 Utilisation to produce added value chemicals

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

CO2 represents an alternative, abundant and valuable source of carbon which could be a suitable raw material, and its utilization has the potential to contribute significantly to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and thereby unwanted climate change effects. In addition, the utilisation of CO2 (and CO) as a feedstock by the European process industry to produce materials, chemicals and fuels could be a key solution to reduce the dependence on imports of fossil resources while providing a secure of supply of carbon feedstock.

The chemical industry is still largely based on the use of fossil fuels and feedstock as source of carbon, but a decrease is necessary in order to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. The utilisation of CO2 (and CO) to produce added value chemicals may represent a viable opportunity. While there are still significant scientific technological challenges to be solved in order to exploit the CO2 (and CO) as a carbon source in a more systematic manner, there have already been concepts demonstrated at lab scale, which could provide possible solutions if properly scaled up. Therefore, it is necessary to demonstrate the feasibility of such CO2 (and CO) utilisation technologies to produce added value products at larger scale, in an operational environment, to be able to assess the industrial potential of such technologies.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should address innovative chemical (e.g. catalytic) processes to produce added value chemicals from CO2 (and CO) and demonstrate the technical and economic feasibility in an industrially relevant environment through demonstration of a system prototype. Technologies targeting conversion of CO2 (and CO) to short chain alcohols, dimethyl ether and fuels are considered outside the scope of this topic.

The topic focuses on the conversion of CO2 (and CO) to chemicals, possibly including chemicals with other components beyond C, H and O (such as N), in an integrated approach and therefore, the proposals need to consider the following elements:

* CO2 (and CO) should come preferably from industrial flue and process gases from the process industries e.g., cement, steel and other energy intensive industries
* CO2 (and CO) purification and conditioning methods to bring the gas to a sufficient quality for efficient conversion into chemicals.
* The testing of a system prototype should be integrated with process modelling and life cycle assessment in order to quantify the processes in terms of resource intensity reduction as well as reduction of emissions.
* The quality of the products obtained should relate to the specifications requested by the market.
* The project should contain an analysis of the economic feasibility and impact, and the evaluation of the market potential, and benefit on the European competiveness deriving from the introduction of the new process.
* An analysis of the environmental and social benefits.

Proposals should involve industries in a clear leadership role. The impact on greenhouse emissions will be an important element of the evaluation.

Proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6.** Implementation as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 6 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Demonstrate technical and economic feasibility in the relevant environment of novel processes for CO2 and CO conversion to added-value chemicals.
* Reduction of at least 20%, on Life-Cycle-Assessment basis, of the emissions of greenhouse gases and energy/resource intensity with respect to commercial manufacturing of the same product.
* Significant increase of the industrial competiveness deriving from the adoption of the novel processes of conversion of CO2 and CO to added-value chemicals.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 09-2017: Pilot lines based on more flexible and down-scaled high performance processing

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Although the European process industry holds a globally strong position, it is losing competitiveness in the face of world regions which are richer in raw materials and/or have lower energy, labour and environmental costs. Consequently, in order to maintain its competitiveness on the global stage, it will be important to substantially improve its performance, as well as the energy and resource efficiency of its operations. In addition, the existing industrial processes often do not provide sufficient flexibility (e.g. ability to easily change production rates) making them unable to meet the demand for fluctuating production volumes and seasonal production campaigns requiring in situ processing (e.g. bio-mass, limited batches), which would benefit from flexible and/or mobile production systems that do not require extensive infrastructure (e.g. containerised approach).

During the last decade, several concepts have been developed and reported to enable more flexible, compact and cost effective processes proposing a variety of process intensification methodologies, which have the potential to achieve the very significant improvements in performances, energy usage and material efficiency sought by the industry. However, these concepts have mostly been demonstrated/validated at laboratory/small scale and further work is needed to fully assess their industrial potential in terms of performances, techno-economic feasibility and scalability, in order to contribute to a circular economy in the European market.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals are expected to identify and demonstrate innovative, compact, high performance production lines for existing and novel products with significantly lower operational and investment costs (compared to their existing analogues). This may be achieved by adaptation, redesign of existing process units or by completely new concepts, possibly using process optimised materials, provided that a significant improvement in cost, flexibility and performance can be achieved, compared to the commercially available processes. The approach proposed should allow short time-to-market and integration in currently existing plants, while ensuring a high flexibility (e.g. production lines with a broad turn-down ratio or by using parallel modular units for adapting capacity).

Proposals should address all of the following activities:

* The proposed solutions should encompass the elimination, combination or replacement of one or more process steps/units aiming to achieve significant efficiency improvement and higher productivity and flexibility, while ensuring lower capital and operation costs.
* Significant demonstration activities in a relevant industrial environment are expected, which will allow validating the productivity and flexibility improvements and provide clear indications on the scalability, replicability and potential for its integration in existing industrial plants.
* Techno-economic analysis (including LCA) providing a proof of economic and industrial feasibility for the innovative, high performance, flexile/scalable production lines that will be demonstrated, as well as a business plan for the deployment of the technology.

Demonstration of the integration in existing industrial scenarios would be a major added-value.

The proposal should include clear steps for the deployment of the concepts in industry (e.g. including clear business scenarios and a work package on business plans)

The proposal should provide evidence on the concept potential for job creation.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

A significant participation of SMEs with R&D capacities is encouraged.

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 5 to 7 and to be centred around TRL 6.** Implementation as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 6 and 8 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* The equipment size/production-capacity ratio, energy and resource consumption, or waste production will be significantly improved by more than 30% compared to existing approaches. The targets should be quantified in the proposal and validated during the execution of the demonstration.
* Project outcomes should demonstrate a positive environmental impact, by reducing by-products and/or waste generation, as well as reducing CO2 emissions and energy consumption compared to the state of the art and in the scale relevant for the different applications
* The novel processes/production lines should contribute to lowering the investment and/or operating costs by at least 20% compared to existing approaches. The targets should be quantified in the proposal and validated during the execution of the demonstration.
* Wide adoption of the technologies developed for increasingly compact and flexible production lines.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 10-2017: New electrochemical solutions for industrial processing, which contribute to a reduction of CO2 emissions

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Electrochemical processes have the potential to be highly efficient and thereby create less by-product waste compared to conventional chemical processes. Important reasons for the industrial interest include the use of less expensive starting materials, less aggressive process conditions (e.g. lower temperatures with less degradation of feed and/or product), fewer processing steps (for example electrochemical synthesis and product separation may be combined in one reactor), precise control of oxidation or reduction level by control of electrode potential and discovery of unique processing routes to establish new markets for products. In addition, electrochemical processes have the potential to replace polluting chemical reactions with more environmentally friendly electrochemical reactions.

Despite the large number of chemicals available in the market, electrochemical synthesis of chemicals has until now been limited to a narrow spectrum. However, advances in electrochemical synthesis and methods are now possible and facilitated by recent developments in materials science, nanotechnology, and by the development of new in-situ analytical techniques or the progress in multi-scale modelling. This provides opportunities for new approaches for the electrochemical manufacturing of products.

Intensive research into organic and inorganic electrochemical processing promises major developments in different applications, specifically with the prospect of greatly reduced electricity consumption and the use of electrical power generated from environmentally friendly production processes like wind and solar energy, thereby contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

**SCOPE:**

Proposals should develop new electrochemical methodologies for industrial processing and provide a proof of the economic and industrial feasibility of the new technologies. The proposed solutions should also have the potential for integration into existing industrial operations. A prospect for a wider impact of the proposed solutions on the process industry is also needed.

Important aspects that should be taken into account are:

* Easy integration with renewable energy (electricity from renewable production sources).
* Electrochemical synthesis and/or electrolysis which allows the direct creation of products (e.g. fuels, chemicals, metals, nanomaterials and new functional surface layers).
* Ease of operation at low temperature and pressure conditions.
* Integration of product produced into existing storage and supply infrastructures.
* Significant improvements in energy and resource efficiency compared to the commercially available analogue (or similar process) with reduction of direct and/or indirect greenhouse gas emissions.
* Improvement in safety and the work environment.
* Life Cycle Assessment to provide a basis for environmental sustainability.

Projects will carry out demonstration activities in industrial environments aimed at confirming the industrial relevance and feasibility of the proposed technologies, showing the potential for integration in existing operations.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* Suitable for SMEs

For this topic, proposals should include an outline of the initial exploitation and business scenarios, which will be developed further in the proposed project.

**Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels 4 to 6**. Implementation as cross-KET activities.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 6 million € would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Decrease by 25% of energy use compared to related non-electrochemical processes
* Decrease by 30% of Green House Gases emissions compared to related non-electrochemical processes
* Strengthen the global position of European process industry through the wide adoption of new technologies related to electrochemical processing of materials in the different application actions.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 11–2017: Support for the enhancement of the impact of SPIRE PPP projects

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

Dissemination, exploitation and transfer of projects results are important activities during project life-time and beyond in order to make sure that projects fully achieve the expected impacts. Clustering of project activities, according to specific objectives and addressed themes, and their inter-linking with existing technology transfer activities, are effective ways to stimulate the take-up of project results and to exploit synergies. Further, there is a need to focus on knowledge transfer and training issues regarding present and future industrial workers in the whole value chain, for which a strong link between industry and academia is needed.

An adequate exploitation of such activities together with a joint analysis of the results obtained and the training needs during the project lifetime and beyond is also needed, to ensure an effective implementation at the PPP level.

**SCOPE:**

The coordination actions shall aim in particular to actively cluster existing activities under the SPIRE PPP that go beyond the exploitation and dissemination activities of each project. The initiative, which is expected to last 2 years, will require close collaboration with relevant industrial associations, technology and knowledge transfer programmes as well as the training community.

The project should aim at looking for new ways of engaging with the broader process community, and encouraging engagement with other networks in the process industry (e.g. regional networks).

Activities may include:

* Moving beyond traditional dissemination activities and favour the development of tailored innovative dissemination actions and initiatives inspired by project outcomes and targeted at specific stakeholders (incl. SMEs, learning community).
* Sharing insights on innovative business model concepts for implementing resource and energy efficient solutions, including cradle to cradle and industrial symbiosis approaches.
* Identification of gaps and opportunities for further research and innovation, as well as non-technological gaps in order to develop policy framework recommendations (e.g. regulation, standardization, public procurement).
* Workshops with top-ranked international experts from the various disciplines aiming at the elaboration of future SPIRE priorities and training needs within the technological area of the cluster.
* Building skills capacity for innovation and competitiveness in the process industry (e.g. engaging with the academia for the development of learning resources adaptable to different learning approaches and curricula at undergraduate, master, and life-long learning levels, based in particular on the innovation outcome of projects).
* Reviews of recent technological developments, publications, international RTD and innovation programmes within the technological area of the cluster.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 250.000 and 500.000 would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

The impact on the areas of application of the projects is expected to be:

* Speeding up industrial exploitation and take up of results of SPIRE PPP projects and facilitate cross-sectorial technology transfer.
* Stimulation of networks and alliances for further RTD and industrial innovation in the addressed technology and application areas.
* Added value beyond the original scope of the SPIRE PPP projects by exploiting synergies and sharing best practice, including on innovative business models. Increased public presence and awareness of SPIRE PPP activities.
* More effective execution of activities of common interest, such as training & education, IPR management and standardisation.
* Anticipation of business trends and market prospects.
* Early awareness of key innovation developments.
* Dissemination of project results beyond traditional dissemination models and timeframe of the projects.
* Development of training and innovation skills capacity in the process industry.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

### SPIRE 12 -2017: Assessment of standardisation needs and ways to overcome regulatory bottlenecks in the process industry

**SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

It is essential to take advantage of the potential important benefits from new technologies and materials while ensuring that there are mechanisms in place to prevent, identify and manage any potential risks that come about associated with certain use of such technologies. The European regulatory process should also instil consumer confidence in the approved marketed products and encourage the reduction of production costs and the increase of efficiency, improving of the quality of products and services, ensuring worker health and safety, and protecting the environment in order to keep jobs and a competitive economy.

The EU Regulation 1025/2012 defines the procedures to be applied when harmonised standards are used to provide a presumption of conformity with legal requirements.

**SCOPE:**

Regulation should be simple and stable but, above all, should be reliable. Before any changes are considered, a very careful and well-thought analysis should be undertaken in order to minimise the risk of potential negative impact on innovation and on the uptake of technology. Furthermore, standards should be non-restrictive, reflecting a balance between a need for harmonisation and innovation.

A clear, consistent and predictable regulatory framework which avoids unnecessary administrative and financial burden is needed. Proposed support actions should cover the needs of the different industrial sectors representing big and small companies within the process industry. Their objective should be to identify and to propose solutions along the value chain, required to reach long term sustainability for Europe in terms of global competitiveness, ecology and employment.

Evaluation of standardisation and/or regulation needs could include recommendations within the following issues:

* Re-use of different grades of wastewater for industrial purposes.
* Re-use of different types of waste (e.g. through re-classification) as feed for industrial production and/or energy sources.
* Recovery of valuable materials, metals and minerals from waste.
* Lifecycle Assessment methodologies to allow a harmonised comparison between industries and sectors.
* Production of advanced renewable fuels from the use of CO2 as feedstock.
* General harmonisation of the European Waste, Water and Energy policies.
* Eliminating bottlenecks for the transferability of new technologies across European borders.
* Eliminating bottlenecks that prevent the stimulation of investments in new technologies, e.g. within clean and low carbon technologies.
* New standardisation methodologies that facilitate continuous production.

While in some cases it is necessary to recommend harmonisation on a European scale through regulation and European Standards, in other cases it may only be necessary to enable transferability of technology across sectorial boundaries.

Examples for this could be (but are not restricted to) the following:

* IT control systems and plant monitoring systems facilitating industrial symbiosis.
* Equipment for Process Intensification.
* Equipment for small scale localised production.

**Possible horizontal aspects addressed by topic:**

* International cooperation

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 500.000 and 1 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. **No more than one proposal will be funded.**

**EXPECTED IMPACT:**

* Enabling regulatory authorities to better address the different relevant issues based on a better assessment and taking into consideration the different stakeholders in SPIRE.
* Rationalising the process to deliver standardisation mandates to the European Standards Organisations.
* Successful implementation of different policies, regulations and standards within the SPIRE sectors.
* Enabling of industrial symbiosis and better use of industrial resources.
* Reducing cost of operation for the process industry.

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Coordination and Support Actions

*The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.*

Conditions for the Call for Sustainable Process Industries call

Opening date(s), deadline(s), indicative budget(s):[[23]](#footnote-24)

[[24]](#footnote-25)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topics (Type of Action) | Budgets (EUR million) | Deadlines |
| 2016 | 2017 |
| Opening: 01 Oct 2015 |
| SPIRE-01-2016 (IA)SPIRE-02-2016 (RIA)SPIRE-03-2016 (IA)SPIRE-04-2016 (RIA)SPIRE-05-2016 (CSA)SPIRE-06-2016 (CSA) | 65.00 [[25]](#footnote-26) |  | 21 Jan 2016  |
| SPIRE-07-2017 (IA)SPIRE-08-2017 (RIA)SPIRE-09-2017 (IA)SPIRE-10-2017 (RIA)SPIRE-11-2017 (CSA)SPIRE-12-2017 (CSA) |  | 67.00 [[26]](#footnote-27) | 19 Jan 2017  |
| Overall indicative budget | 65.00 | 67.00 |  |

Indicative timetable for evaluation and grant agreement signature:

For single stage procedure:

1. Information on the outcome of the evaluation: Maximum 5 months from the final date for submission; and
2. Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 8 months from the date of informing applicants.

Eligibility Admin Condition: The conditions are described in parts B and C of the General Annexes to the work programme

Evaluation Criteria:

Evaluation Procedure:

Consortium agreement:

# Other actions[[27]](#footnote-28)

### 1. Evaluation of proposals and monitoring of projects

This action will support:

The use of appointed independent experts for the evaluation of project proposals and, where appropriate, for the monitoring of running projects, as well as for the evaluation of applications submitted to prize contests.

Type of Action: Expert Contracts

Indicative budget: EUR 2.50 million from the 2016 budget and EUR 2.50 million from the 2017 budget

### 2. Interim Evaluation of the Horizon 2020 NMBP programme

This action will support:

The use of independent experts to advice on or support the design and implementation of EU research policy.

According to Article 32 of the Horizon 2020 regulation, an interim evaluation is due by end of 2017. It will be organised centrally but the evidence base will be prepared through horizontal and thematic evaluations and the project database. For the NMBP programme, the interim evaluation will be undertaken with the support of a group of individual experts who analyse the programme rationales, implementation and outcomes in the first three years of the programme, including the cPPPs that are managed by the NMBP programme. Final results of the NMBP specific interim evaluation are expected by end of 2016.

This action shall be provided by up to 5 individual experts covered by specific expert contracts with duration of up to 5 months for all experts together in total.

Type of Action: Expert Contracts

Indicative timetable: 1st to 3rd quarter of 2016

Indicative budget: EUR 0.10 million from the 2016 budget

### 3. Providing information and expertise for monitoring the Horizon 2020 NMBP Programme

This action will support:

The use of independent experts to advice on or support the design and implementation of EU research policy.

External expertise and assistance for measuring and assessing the outcomes of the NMBP related activities-. This shall be provided by up to 10 individual experts, who are selected on the basis of their knowledge and experience in programme evaluation and monitoring related tasks.

This will include the analysis of technological and economic output and impact related data and of information from the proposals and projects. It will also look into the context of the wider European technological and industrial landscape that is relevant for the NMBP related objectives. This will also include the legally defined Horizon 2020 LEIT Key Performing Indicators. The aim is to further develop the monitoring and assessment tools and to set up a regular monitoring system of the NMBP programme. This action will be organised independently from the activities related to the overall Horizon 2020 interim evaluations and the specific interim evaluation of the NMBP programme (see above), but will contribute with its results on a regular basis to the aims of these activities.

In order to be flexible and to build on the results from other activities, it is anticipated to call in the experts on an individual and ad hoc basis, with the possibility to gather them in meetings and workshops to present, discuss and further develop the findings.

This action shall be provided by up to 10 individual experts covered by specific expert contracts with duration of up to 10 months for all experts together in total.

Type of Action: Expert Contracts

Indicative timetable: 2016 and 2017

Indicative budget: EUR 0.10 million from the 2016 budget and EUR 0.10 million from the 2017 budget

### 4. Exploitation Strategy and Innovation Consultants (ESIC)

External assistance to identify and address possible or actual obstacles to the future or imminent exploitation of the intended or already achieved results of projects (this includes Exploitation Strategy Seminars, support to standardisation, support to business plan development, and support to patenting).

1st quarter 2016: current Framework Contract nr NMP1-SC-2011-ES2000 Exploitation Strategy and Innovation Consultants (ESIC2)

From 2nd quarter 2016: one framework service contract with a duration of up to 4 years, and a maximum global amount of EUR 2 000 000, with up to 12 specific contracts with durations up to 6 months.

Type of Action: Public Procurement - framework service contract

Indicative budget: EUR 0.50 million from the 2016 budget and EUR 1.00 million from the 2017 budget

### 5. Ex post impact assessment of the FP7 NMP Theme

The study shall focus on the output and impacts of projects financed by the FP7 NMP Theme. The ex post evaluation of the NMP Theme has been carried out in 2014, directly after FP7 finished. At that time, only about half of the projects have finished or been mature enough in order to analyse results and output. Output of projects that started only in the second half of FP7 or mid to long term impact could not be assessed. This dedicated ex post impact assessment study shall overcome the constraints of the ex post evaluation study by carrying out the analyses three years later, when most of the FP7 NMP projects have finished. The task includes the development of a methodology to track information on project related output and impact after the end of a project, which means that other sources of information than the project reporting need to be explored. Final results are expected by end of 2017, also as input for the ex ante impact assessment of the NMBP part in the next Framework Programme.

Type of Action: Public Procurement - Study contract using an existing framework contract

Indicative budget: EUR 0.15 million from the 2017 budget

### 6. Intelligent Manufacturing Systems interregional Secretariat

The IMS interregional secretariat will be supported with an amount of EUR 150 000 in 2016.

Type of Action: Subscription

Indicative timetable: 2016

Indicative budget: EUR 0.15 million from the 2016 budget

***It is proposed to contribute EUR 2M from the NMBP budget to the following topic for an ERA-NET in marine technologies in the Focus Area 'Blue Growth' of Societal Challenge 2.***

*BG-5-[2017]: ERANET COFUND on marine technologies*

*Specific Challenge: Innovation in seas and oceans can play a key role to tackle global challenges such as the scarcity and vulnerability of strategic resources and to unlock the potential of the blue economy, while factoring in the climate change risks. EU intervention is needed to create the conditions for mobilising investments while avoiding costly duplication of efforts.*

*Scope: Proposals should pool the necessary financial resources from the participating national (or regional) research programmes with a view to implementing a joint call for proposals with EU co-funding resulting in grants to third parties. Proposals may involve, in addition, publicly-funded research performing organisations that will contribute with their own resources (in-kind contributions). In this case the joint call should include a separate topic for the participating research performing organisations. They will carry out the transnational projects resulting from this topic themselves. Their participation in the ERA-NET Cofund action must be mandated by the national/regional authorities in charge (normally the responsible Ministry). Proposals should address various applications including environmentally friendly, secure and safe waterborne transport, offshore and sub-sea activities, aquaculture, bio-refineries, desalination plants, etc. The proposals should focus on overarching challenges such as reducing underwater noise and emissions, minimising carbon footprint, developing novel recycling-oriented production technologies and processes, ~~new materials~~, or sensors for navigation, observation and monitoring, including for deep-sea environment through novel materials solutions and advanced manufacturing technologies. The proposals should also aim at implementing other joint activities including additional joint calls without EU co-funding with open maritime and marine topics consistently with the Joint Programming Initiative "Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans" (JPI Oceans) Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and its Implementation Plan.*

*The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of EUR 8 million would allow this area to be addressed appropriately.*

*Expected Impact: To contribute to the implementation of the European Blue Growth Agenda, proposals will:*

*Bring to the market new knowledge-intensive products and services for marine and maritime activities.*

*Increase resource efficiency, security, safety and environmental compliance of maritime activities.*

*Reinforce trans-national, pan-European research networks and synergies among national/regional and EU research programmes.*

*Enable economy of scale and research investment efficiency by an increased alignment of national/regional research programmes, in particular within the Joint Programming Initiative "Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans".*

*•   Proposals are also expected to contribute to implementation of the European strategy on KETs, in particular in the domains of advanced materials and manufacturing.*

*Type of action: ERA-NET COFUND*

# Budget



1. The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.

All deadlines are at 17.00.00 Brussels local time.

The Director-General responsible may delay the deadline(s) by up to two months.

The deadline(s) in 2017 are indicative and subject to a separate financing decision for 2017.

The budget amounts for the 2016 budget are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2016 after the adoption of the budget 2016 by the budgetary authority or, if the budget is not adopted, as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

The budget amounts for the 2017 budget are indicative and will be subject to a separate financing decision to cover the amounts to be allocated for 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The 2014 revision of the list of critical raw materials for the EU can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/raw-materials/specific-interest/critical/index\_en.htm [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Co-funding opportunities from the Japan Science and Technology Agency exist for Japanese partners. For more information: [insert link] . [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/modelling-materials_en.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. As defined by Council Directive of 20 June 1990 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to Active Implantable Medical Devices (90/385/EEC) (OJ L 189, 20.7.1990, p. 17) (as amended), Council Directive 93/42/EEC of 14 June 1993 concerning Medical Devices (OJ L 169, 12.7.1993, p. 1) (as amended) and Directive 98/79/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 October 1998 on In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices (OJ L 331, 7.12.1998, p. 1) (as amended) and with the relevant Implementing Measures and all succeeding measures. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. As defined by Regulation (EC) No 1394/2007 on advanced therapy medicinal products (gene therapy, stem cell therapy and tissue engineering) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. SANCO, <http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/gmo/new_breeding_techniques/index_en.htm>
and JRC <http://ftp.jrc.es/EURdoc/JRC63971.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/modelling-materials_en.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.

All deadlines are at 17.00.00 Brussels local time.

The Director-General responsible may delay the deadline(s) by up to two months.

The deadline(s) in 2017 are indicative and subject to a separate financing decision for 2017.

The budget amounts for the 2016 budget are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2016 after the adoption of the budget 2016 by the budgetary authority or, if the budget is not adopted, as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

The budget amounts for the 2017 budget are indicative and will be subject to a separate financing decision to cover the amounts to be allocated for 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. 2] In line with Article 23 (7) of the Rules for Participation the amounts referred to in Article 137 of the Financial Regulation may be exceeded where it is necessary to achieve the objectives of the action. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. **The area of Robotics within the I4MS scheme is complementary to RTD-FoF2-2016 and SPARC PPP/CNECT-ICT5.** [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Web link[www.effra.eu](http://www.effra.eu) [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. **Theme a. is complementary to topic RTD-FOF1-2016** [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.

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The budget amounts for the 2017 budget are indicative and will be subject to a separate financing decision to cover the amounts to be allocated for 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. of which EUR 65.00 million from 'Nanotechnologies, Advanced materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing'. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. of which EUR 51.00 million from 'Information and Communication Technologies '. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. of which EUR 2.00 million from 'Information and Communication Technologies '. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. of which EUR 80.00 million from 'Nanotechnologies, Advanced materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing'. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. of which EUR 32.00 million from 'Information and Communication Technologies '. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. of which EUR 1.00 million from 'Information and Communication Technologies '. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. of which EUR 15.00 million from 'Information and Communication Technologies '. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. of which EUR 15.00 million from 'Information and Communication Technologies '. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.

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The budget amounts for the 2017 budget are indicative and will be subject to a separate financing decision to cover the amounts to be allocated for 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.

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The budget amounts for the 2017 budget are indicative and will be subject to a separate financing decision to cover the amounts to be allocated for 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. of which EUR 65.00 million from 'Nanotechnologies, Advanced materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing'. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. of which EUR 67.00 million from 'Nanotechnologies, Advanced materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing'. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. The budget amounts for the 2016 budget are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2016 after the adoption of the budget 2016 by the budgetary authority or, if the budget is not adopted, as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

The budget amounts for the 2017 budget are indicative and will be subject to a separate financing decision to cover the amounts to be allocated for 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)