

The Malta Council for Science and Technology

**EXTENDED - The Malta Council for Science and Technology is seeking to suggest suitable candidates to participate in the scientific evaluation of transnational research proposals under the MarTERA ERA-NET Co-Fund. Candidates must have expertise in at least one of the following areas (in the context of marine and maritime technologies):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Emissions reduction | Improved models for marine vehicles and structures behaviour |
| Energy efficiency | Monitoring |
| Innovative propulsion systems | Sensor developments |
| Noise and vibration reduction | Human computer interaction and Augmented Reality |
| Biofouling and corrosion prevention | Top quality, globally competitive and environmentally friendly products |
| Novel materials | Optimisation of production: improved and novel production technologies for flexible manufacturing, with focus on organisation and networking along the value chain |
| Structures | Intelligent / innovative interacting components |
| Deep Sea Mining | Early warning and accident management systems |
| Decision support systems | ICT tools for monitoring and optimisation of maritime operations (e.g. routing following best weather conditions) |
| Improve operations such as dynamic positioning systems, docking and mooring systems, automation of processes, optimised routing, handling of goods, subsea intervention | Individual safety concepts harmonised with navigational requirements |

**DEADLINE: Noon on 13th June 2017**

**1.0 General**

This is a Call for the suggestion of suitable candidates to participate as evaluators in the scientific evaluation process of the MarTERA transnational research project proposals in the field of marine and maritime technologies. The Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST) is one of the 18 funding agencies that are taking part in this ERA-NET Co-Fund. Each funding agency has been asked to suggest a minimum of five (5) evaluator-candidates to MarTERA.

The MarTERA Call Office will then be selecting the evaluators from the list of suggested evaluators submitted by the funding agencies. It will then be assigning proposals for scientific evaluation in accordance to the area of expertise of each of the evaluators. Thus the selection of evaluators from the list of candidates is at MarTERA’s sole discretion. Each proposal will be scientifically evaluated by three (3) independent evaluators chosen from the pool of evaluators, according to the relevance of their expertise to the proposal.

This call is open to candidates who are not currently taking part in any of the submitted MarTERA preproposals, having expertise in at least one of the following areas:

* Emissions reduction
* Energy efficiency
* Innovative propulsion systems
* Noise and vibration reduction
* Biofouling and corrosion prevention
* Novel materials
* Structures
* Deep Sea Mining
* Improved models for marine vehicles and structures behaviour
* Monitoring
* Sensor developments
* Human computer interaction and Augmented Reality
* Top quality, globally competitive and environmentally friendly products
* Optimisation of production: improved and novel production technologies for flexible manufacturing, with focus on organization and networking along the value chain
* Intelligent/innovative interacting components
* Early warning and accident management systems
* Decision support systems
* ICT tools for monitoring and optimization of maritime operations (e.g. routing following best weather conditions)
* Improve operations such as dynamic positioning systems, docking and mooring systems, automation of processes, optimized routing, handling of goods, subsea intervention
* Individual safety concepts harmonized with navigational requirements

**2.0** **About the MarTERA ERA-NET Co-Fund**

MarTERA is an [ERA-NET Co-Fund](http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/era-net-in-horizon-2020_en.htm)scheme of Horizon 2020 of the European Commission. The overall goal of the ERA-NET Co-Fund MarTERA is to strengthen the European Research Area (ERA) in maritime and marine technologies as well as Blue Growth. The MarTERA consortium, consisting of 18 funding agencies (from 16 different countries), is organising and co-funding, together with the EU, this ERA-NET Co-fund.

The submitted preproposals had to fall within any one of these priority research areas:

* Priority Area 1: Environmentally friendly maritime technologies
* Priority Area 2: Development of novel materials and structures
* Priority Area 3: Sensors, automation, monitoring and observations
* Priority Area 4: Advanced manufacturing and production
* Priority Area 5: Safety and security

The main objective of MarTERA is to address a number of actual challenges that can be identified as follows:

* National and European research in several marine and maritime sectors is often poorly coordinated. Synergies towards implementing common goals could only be achieved through better coordination and harmonizing the foci of funding programmes; While collaborative projects funded by the EC are often quite large and complex to attract participation especially of SMEs, national funding schemes offer limited opportunities to collaborate with foreign partners, especially if cross-border funding is impossible;
* The participation in trans-national projects offers advantages by using respective national funding, to tackle complex projects which cannot be accomplished by one nation alone;
* Transnational projects provide a better chance for innovation to enter into new markets;
* The cross-cutting perspective in technology development can lead to innovations capable of benefiting more than one sector, hence increasing the impact of the funded trans-national projects.
* Bringing industry and research actors across borders together will strengthen Europe’s economic position underpinning Blue Growth.
* Through trans-national cooperation it is feasible to create critical mass and focus excellence on precompetitive breakthroughs, which can benefit marine and maritime industries in general and make them more competitive in the longer term, thereby maintaining Europe’s competitive edge.
* To create critical mass and address the needs for technologies in marine and maritime operations.

The 2017 Call is being implemented as a two-step procedure (a pre-proposal step and a full-proposal step). The submitted pre-proposals are currently being assessed for eligibility and the selected ones will be passing to Stage 2, where the scientific evaluation will be taking place.

**3.0 Service Requirements**

The MarTERA Call Office will require selected evaluators to operate during the scientific evaluation stage of the proposals that will pass through to Stage 2.

Since each proposal will be evaluated by three (3) independent evaluators, one evaluator for each proposal will also be required to act as a Rapporteur on the International Evaluation Panel. Evaluators chosen to act as Rapporteurs would thus be required to travel to Lisbon later on in the year to participate in the International Evaluation Panel. Travel and subsistence for the Rapporteurs will be provided by MarTERA. The choice of evaluators acting as Rapporteurs is at MarTERA’s sole discretion.

**4.0 Budget and Finances**

Financial remuneration will be provided to the evaluators by the MarTERA call office and not by the Malta Council for Science and Technology. Each evaluator will be paid €150 for each full proposal assessment together with an extra €100 for those that will be acting as rapporteurs.

**5.0 Evaluator Requirements**

Candidates must, at minimum, hold a first degree and a post graduate qualification in the area of expertise.

Candidates must show proof of at least five years of professional experience (or at least 2 years if in possession of a PhD) in the area of expertise.

Preference will be given to candidates holding prior evaluation experience at an international level.

**6.0 Conflicts of Interest (COI)**

A COI exists if a candidate:

* was involved in the preparation of any of the MarTERA project preproposals or proposals;
* stands to benefit directly / indirectly if the proposal is positively evaluated;
* has a family / personal relationship with any person that is part of a consortium that has submitted a research project preproposal under the 2017 MarTERA ERA-NET Co-Fund Call.
1. **Exclusion Criteria**

Candidates shall be excluded from applying and participating if they are currently part of a consortium that has submitted a research project preproposal under the 2017 MarTERA ERA-NET Co-Fund Call.

**8.0 Instruction and Application**

Interested candidates are to submit the following documentation:

1. A covering letter;
2. A detailed Europass Curriculum Vitae;
3. A copy of certificates;
4. A professional Profile (include proof of experience);
5. Filled in Annex I and II (both attached with this document)

The requested documentation can be sent by electronic mail to the following email address: corinne.muscat-terribile@gov.mt.

Alternatively, candidates may opt to hand deliver their applications in a sealed envelope addressed to:

c/o Ms Corinne Muscat Terribile

R&I Programmes Unit

The Malta Council for Science and Technology

Villa Bighi, Kalkara KKR 1320

Applicants are to ensure that confirmation of receipt is provided in writing.

Interested parties may also contact Corinne Muscat Terribile on 23602152 for additional information.

**Interested candidates are requested to submit their response and all relevant documents by not later than noon on 13th June 2017.** All documents should be initialised on each page.

*Data Protection Clause: The information collected through this Call shall be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2001. The contents remain confidential and intended solely for the use of this purpose, and will not be disclosed or copied without your consent to anyone outside the Ministry for Employment and Education unless the law permits us to.*

**Annex I – Submission Checklist**

This checklist is intended to facilitate submission. Candidates are requested to submit a copy of the checklist together with all relevant documents in sequence.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **Submission Task**  | **Submission** **Check Box** |
| 1 | A cover letter  |  |
| 2 | A detailed Europass Curriculum Vitae |  |
| 3 | A copy of certificates |  |
| 4 | A professional Profile (include proof of experience) |  |
| 5 | Annex I |  |
| 6 | Annex II |  |

Note: An inability to provide any of the above will lead to categorical exclusion.

**Annex 02 – Areas of Expertise**

**Kindly tick your area/s of expertise:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Emissions reduction |  |
| Energy efficiency |  |
| Innovative propulsion systems |  |
| Noise and vibration reduction |  |
| Biofouling and corrosion prevention |  |
| Novel materials |  |
| Structures |  |
| Deep Sea Mining |  |
| Improved models for marine vehicles and structures behaviour |  |
| Monitoring |  |
| Sensor developments |  |
| Human computer interaction and Augmented Reality |  |
| Top quality, globally competitive and environmentally friendly products  |  |
| Optimisation of production: improved and novel production technologies for flexible manufacturing, with focus on organization and networking along the value chain |  |
| Intelligent/innovative interacting components |  |
| Early warning and accident management systems |  |
| Decision support systems |  |
| ICT tools for monitoring and optimization of maritime operations (e.g. routing following best weather conditions) |  |
| Improve operations such as dynamic positioning systems, docking and mooring systems, automation of processes, optimized routing, handling of goods, subsea intervention |  |
| Individual safety concepts harmonized with navigational requirements |  |