



**Start planning for the next BiodivERsA / Water JPI Call on
Conservation and restoration of degraded ecosystems and their biodiversity,
including a focus on aquatic systems
[NB: the call includes a focus on aquatic systems but all environments are eligible]**

[BiodivERsA](#) and the [Water JPI](#) are pleased to announce that they will soon launch a joint call on the following topic: **Conservation and restoration of degraded ecosystems and their biodiversity, including a focus on aquatic systems.**

This call will cover the following three non-exclusive themes:

- Studying the biological and biophysical processes at stake for conservation/restoration, and their interactions
- Assessing trade-offs and synergies between targets, benefits and policies for conservation and restoration
- Knowledge for improving the effectiveness and upscaling of conservation and restoration actions

This joint call includes a focus on freshwater aquatic systems but **ALL ENVIRONMENTS (I.E. TERRESTRIAL, FRESHWATER AND MARINE) ARE ELIGIBLE.**

A two-step application procedure will be used in this call. Proposals (in English only!) must be submitted electronically. Instructions regarding submission, eligibility, and evaluation criteria and other relevant information will be made available in the official call announcement.

The call launch is **planned for the 5th of October 2020**, with a **closing date for pre-proposals on 7 December 2020**. The nature of the evaluation at the first step (pre-proposals stage) will depend on the number of pre-proposals received. If a very large number of pre-proposals is received, a first scientific evaluation of pre-proposals will be organized and the deadline to submit full proposals will be the 3rd of May 2021. Otherwise, only an eligibility check of pre-proposals will be performed and the deadline to submit full proposals will be the 14th of March 2021. The actual deadline to submit full proposals will be communicated by the end of December 2020. [Indicative schedule].

[Please note that the launch of this call is pending on the signature of the Grant Agreement of the BiodivRestore ERA-NET Cofund with the European Commission]

To be eligible, research consortia will have to include participating organisations from a minimum three different countries participating in the call, including at least 2 from [EU Member States or EU Associated Countries](#).

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The research proposals will be evaluated across the following criteria:

- Step 1 (in the event of that a large number of pre-proposals is received and an evaluation of pre-proposals is performed): (i) **fit to the scope** of the call, (ii) **scientific excellence** (with a focus on novelty of the research proposed), and (iii) **societal and policy impact**;
- Step 2: (i) **excellence**; (ii) **quality and efficiency of the implementation** and (iii) **impact** (including societal / policy relevance and approaches to stakeholder engagement).

For both steps, it is also expected that the **international added value of the projects** is clearly presented. The detailed list of evaluation criteria to be used for this call will be published at the launch of the call.

Get prepared by consulting the [BiodivERsA Stakeholder Engagement Handbook](#) (for more information on stakeholder engagement in funded projects); and the [BiodivERsA Policy Guide](#) (for more information on policy relevance of research proposals, and for engagement of policy-stakeholders).

At this stage, the following countries have expressed a preliminary interest to participate in the call with a **total amount of over 18 Million euros***:

Austria, Belgium, Brazil*, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tunisia and Turkey

** The list of Brazilian States participating in the call will be communicated later*

The updated list of participating countries will be published on the [BiodivERsA](#) and [Water JPI](#) websites. Please consult these websites on which information on the call will be regularly updated.

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