



biodiversa+

European Biodiversity Partnership



NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE
POLAND

Introduction to Biodiversa+ calls 2023 & 2024

Integration of SSH and societal/policy impact



Horizon Europe: Preliminary structure



Biodiversa+ membership





81

Partners



40

Countries

-  Biodiversa+ Partners
-  Collaborations

2023 - 2024 BiodivNBS

The third Biodiversa+ annual joint call for research will be on the topic of **Nature-based Solutions**.

This call will be embedded in our **flagship program “Better knowledge to develop, deploy and assess nature-based solutions”**

2024 - 2025 BiodivTransform

The fourth Biodiversa+ annual joint call for research will be on the topic of **Societal Transformation**.

This call will be embedded in our **flagship program “Supporting societal transformation for the sustainable use and management of biodiversity”**

BiodivTransform: 2024 - 2025 joint call

The fourth Biodiversa+ annual joint call for research will be on the topic of **Societal Transformation**.

This call will be embedded in our **flagship program “Supporting societal transformation for the sustainable use and management of biodiversity”** and will be co-funded by the European Commission.

Indicative timing

- **Spring / Summer 2024:** Official pre-announcement of the call, with further information on its topic and the themes that it will address
- **September 2024:** Launch of the **BiodivTransform** call
- **November 2024:** Deadline for the submission of pre-proposals



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#BiodivNBS

**Upcoming research call on
Nature-based Solutions**

Call launch: 11 September 2023



Co-funded by the
European Union

Get ready for the upcoming Biodiversa+ Call on “Nature-based solutions for biodiversity, human well-being and transformative change”

> **40** Mio€

34

**countries
participating**

Ca. **30**
projects
expected to
be funded

Three non-exclusive research themes

1. **Synergies and trade-offs** of Nature-based solutions in the context of human well-being
2. Nature-based solutions **mitigating anthropogenic drivers of biodiversity loss**
3. The contribution of Nature-Based solutions for **just transformative change**

All environments are eligible

Form a **research consortium with at least 3 countries** joining in the call

- Find out more on the call page:
biodiversa.eu/2023-2024-joint-call
- Register for the information webinar (26 Sept. 23):
bit.ly/BiodivNBS-signup



Nature-Based Solutions are defined as *“actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services and resilience and biodiversity benefits”* (UNEA/EA.5/Res.5)

BUILDING TRANSNATIONAL RESEARCH CONSORTIA

Research consortia will have to include teams from a minimum of 3 countries financially participating in the Call, including at least 2 from EU Member States or EU Associated Countries. Note that not all EU Member States or Associated Countries will financially participate in this call.

The countries which have expressed a preliminary interest in participating in the Call are:

Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada (Québec), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Morocco, Norway, **Poland**, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, The Netherlands, Tunisia, and Turkey.

Looking for a partner or a project to join?
[Use the Biodiversa+ Partner Search Tool](#)

The updated list of potential participating countries will be published on the [Biodiversa+ website](#).

Types of projects Biodiversa+ aims at supporting

Academic excellence:

- ✓ High scientific excellence
- ✓ Quality and efficiency of the implementation

Societal impact

- ✓ Policy and Societal relevance
- ✓ Stakeholders engagement

...and **multi-disciplinarity** where relevant

+ Should demonstrate **transnational added value**

Expectations at the level of the whole project, and not at the level of each research Partner



Specific evaluation procedure to reach these goals:

- **Assessment criteria & weighting**
- **Threshold values:** score *too low* for one criterion → *cannot be funded*

MAIN STEPS OF THE CALL 2023 BiodivNBS

- The call is planned to be officially launched on **11 September 2023**
- A two-step application procedure
- pre-proposals' submission will be **early November 2023**
- the deadline to submit full proposals will be **early April 2024**
- Proposals **(in English only)** will have to be submitted electronically in [EPSS](#)
- Instructions regarding submission, eligibility and evaluation criteria and other relevant information will be published with the official call announcement **early September 2023**

EVALUATION PROCESS

Evaluation process at STEP 1:

National/regional **eligibility check** by the CSC



EVALUATION COMMITTEE (EVC)

Each proposal is assigned to:

- **2 scientific members of the EvC**
- **2 policy/management members of EvC**

EVALUATION PROCESS

Evaluation process at STEP 2:

National/regional **eligibility check** by the CSC

EVALUATION COMMITTEE (EvC)

Each proposal (16 pages) is assigned to:

- **2 scientific members of the EvC**
- **2 policy/management members of EvC**

For the proposals assigned to them, EvC members may act as **principal rapporteur or secondary rapporteurs (i.e. reader).**

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EXTERNAL REVIEWERS

Each proposal will be evaluated by external reviewers:

- **2 scientific external reviewers**
- **1 policy/management external reviewer**

EVALUATION PROCESS

RANKING:

Based on the final score of each proposal, the EvC ranks the projects



FUNDING DECISION:

Strictly following the ranking list from the EvC, the **CSC will decide on the number of projects to be recommended for funding**, taking into account the national/regional budgets and the additional EC co-funding available.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

STEP 1: pre-proposal stage (equal weight)

Scientific aspect of the proposal

- **Fit to the scope of the call (Yes/No)**
- **Novelty of the research (1-5; threshold: 3)**

Policy/Management aspect of the proposal

- **Societal and policy impact (1-5; threshold: 3)**

Proposals that do not fit the topic and thematic priorities of the call and/or that do not meet the thresholds won't be ranked nor considered for funding

STEP 2: full-proposal stage

Scientific aspect of the proposal

- **Excellence (1-5; threshold: 3.5) / weight 7**
- **Quality and efficiency of the implementation (1-5; threshold: 3) / weight 3**

Policy/Management aspect of the proposal

- **Impact (1-5; threshold: 3) / weight 6**

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

CRITERIA AND SUB-CRITERIA FOR STEP 1:

Fit to the scope of the call (Yes/No)

- the relevance of the proposed research against the thematic priorities and objectives set forth in the text of the Call. Any project that does not fit within the thematic priorities described or does not address the objectives identified in the call text will not be recommended for funding, regardless of its scientific quality.

Novelty of the research (1-5; threshold: 3)

- the novelty and originality of the research objectives
- practicality of the proposed work and clarity of the theoretical framework, research questions, and hypothesis to be tested

Societal and policy impact (1-5; threshold: 3)

- expected contribution of the proposed research to society, including policy (sub-score 1-5)
- transnational added value (sub-score 1-5)

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

CRITERIA and SUB-CRITERIA FOR STEP 2:

1. Excellence (threshold 3.5) - weight 7

A - Fit to thematic priorities (threshold 3.5)

B - Scientific excellence aspects (threshold 3.5), including **5 sub-criteria**

2. Quality and efficiency of the implementation (threshold 3): including **6 sub-criteria** - weight 3

3. Impact (threshold 3) weight 6

- a) Societal relevance, including policy relevance, and importance of the research for solving pressing issues, including **3 sub-criteria**
- b) Approach to stakeholder engagement, including **6 sub-criteria**

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

CRITERIA and SUB-CRITERIA FOR STEP 2:

1. Excellence:

A - Fit to thematic priorities (threshold: 3.5)

B - Scientific excellence aspects (threshold: 3.5), including 6 sub-criteria:

- a) Scientific quality of the proposed research goals and objectives
- b) Novelty / Originality and innovation of the research goals and objectives
- c) Clarity of the hypothesis, theories and/or research questions
- d) Transnational added value to be expected from the collaboration from a scientific perspective
- e) Level of mobilization and integration of different scientific disciplines and competencies in the proposed research (level of inter and multi disciplinarity).
- f) Relation to other relevant programmes (does the project plan to link up with other relevant existing programmes?)

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

CRITERIA and SUB-CRITERIA FOR STEP 2:

2. Quality and efficiency of the implementation (threshold : 3), including 6 sub-criteria:

- a) Quality and efficiency of the management structure and procedures, its organisation and coordination
- b) Composition, complementarity, competence and expertise of the consortium (including balance in terms of gender and career stage)
- c) Level of integration and collaboration between partners involved in the proposal
- d) Appropriateness of resources and funding requested
- e) Project feasibility and risk management (including demonstration of data availability/access where relevant)
- f) Data management plan overview and data sharing

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

CRITERIA and SUB-CRITERIA FOR STEP 2:

3. Impact (threshold: 3)

A - Societal and/or policy relevance, including 3 sub-criteria:

- a) Clear statement of the application for society, including policy
- b) Clearly identified end-users
- c) Transnational added value

B - Approach to stakeholder engagement, including 6 sub-criteria:

- a) Rationale for the stakeholder engagement planned in the project
- b) Identification of appropriate stakeholders to be engaged in the project
- c) Description of precise interests and support/investment from identified stakeholders on the specific aims of the project
- d) Methods/activities proposed for engagement of relevant stakeholders
- e) Evidence that the necessary skills to engage stakeholders are available in the project team or will be obtained
- f) Methods and plans for knowledge and/or technology transfer

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

What is meant by transnational added value?

Transnational added value is the value resulting from the transnational research project, which is additional to the value that would have resulted from research projects funded at national level. The added value may vary, depending on the type of project, and there can be various answers to this question.

There should be clear evidence of added value either **directly within the countries involved** in the research, **or indirect value** accrued as a result of, e.g. learning from models applied to countries outside of the countries involved.

Transnational added value may include:

- relevance to **international policy statements** or processes, legislative frameworks or management plans;
- clear added value to national research projects across the world by **linking expertise and efforts across national teams and across studied areas and research models**;
- bringing about **comparisons** at the local level between researchers and stakeholders who are not used to work together;
- **standardisation** of methods;
- general increase of common knowledge in biodiversity relative to the themes of the call;
- etc.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

What is meant by transdisciplinarity?

Though several definitions of transdisciplinarity coexist, the definition used here is the involvement of stakeholders at the different stages of the project where relevant, for instance to define research objectives and strategies, facilitate inputs from non-academic stakeholders, better incorporate the diffusion of learning produced by the research and facilitate a systemic way of addressing a challenge.

- This will thus be evaluated by policy/management experts, part of the criteria “Impact”



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Find out more about the BiodivNBS call:

<https://www.biodiversa.eu/2023/06/05/2023-2024-joint-call/>

SAVE THE DATE:

an information webinar for potential applicants
will be organised on **26 September 2023**,
from 13:00 to 15:00 CEST.

Registration [link](#)





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Thank you!

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