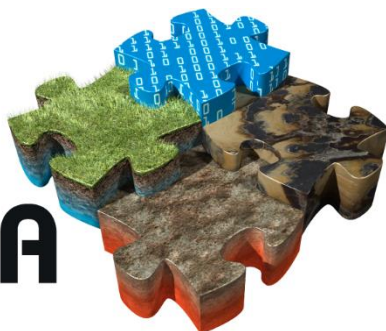


GeoERA



Establishing the European Geological Surveys Research Area to deliver a Geological Service for Europe

JOINT CALL DOCUMENT NO.7

ELIGIBILITY CHECK AND ASSESSMENT

Stage One - Project Ideas

Joint Call on applied geoscience in the fields of:

- Geo-energy
- Groundwater
- Raw materials
- Information platform

Version no: 1.0

Last change 31 March 2017 16:16



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 731166

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1 Introduction

This document details the process of eligibility check and assessment of Project Ideas submitted in Stage One to the GeoERA Call. The admissibility and eligibility criteria (Joint Call Document No. 3) outline the minimum conditions which a Project Idea must fulfil to be a part of the input for the call text for GeoERA Stage Two.

The GeoERA General Assembly has the overall responsibility for the process carried out regarding the eligibility check and assessment of the Project Ideas received. Assessment must be conducted in a fair and transparent way, irrespective of the number of Project Ideas received or their origin. The GeoERA Executive Board and appointed participants' experts act on behalf of the GeoERA General Assembly and not their own organization(s) or country.

Following receipt, Project Ideas will be checked by the GeoERA Secretariat and those that have been withdrawn or superseded by the submitter, or that are inadmissible or ineligible, will be separated and not included in the assessment (but will be made available to the GeoERA General Assembly for completeness).

The GeoERA Executive Board, supported by the GeoERA Theme Coordinators, will assess whether the eligible Project Ideas are within the scope of the call, assess potential overlaps and synergies between Project Ideas, and assess them in terms of feasibility and potential impact. Based on this assessment, the GeoERA Executive Board will draft the Stage Two Call for Project Proposals.

The requirements for submitting a Project Idea in Stage One are described in Joint Call Documents No. 3 "Admissibility and Eligibility" and No. 5: "Submission Guide. Submitting a Project Idea". A submitted Project Idea has to fulfil two requirements:

1. It provides sufficient information to enable GeoERA to assess it, in particular:
 - It has a clearly specified and justified scientific or technological challenge / problem / opportunity been identified and of what scale, and does it need to be addressed by a collaborative European approach rather than a national one?
 - It addresses the likelihood of the European Geological Survey Organization community to effectively address the challenge / problem / opportunity, taking due account of the progress required beyond the current state of the art?
 - It addresses the significance of the impact for stakeholders if the proposed Project Idea were to be successful?
2. Be suitable for incorporation into Stage Two of the Joint Call, i.e.:
 - Sections 2 and 3 of the Submission Template must remain anonymous (i.e. no references to the submitter, submitter's organization, co-authors and affiliations).
 - Text should be clear and concise.



2 Admissibility and Eligibility check

After closure of the Call Stage One the Project Ideas submitted will be checked by the GeoERA Executive Board within 14 days to ensure that they meet the formal criteria described in Joint Call Document No. 3: Admissibility and Eligibility.

Project Ideas that do not meet these criteria, will not be assessed. Proposers will get notice of this result within 14 days.

3 Process description

Proposals for Project Ideas are submitted by using Joint Call Document No. 6 “Submission Template”. The process of collating is as follows:

- The Netherland Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) has arranged a functional mailbox to which the filled Submission Template are sent. NWO collects the proposals from the mailbox.
- The proposals are checked for eligibility.
- The proposals are grouped into categories based on keywords.
- Groups are forwarded to the GeoERA Executive Board that will assign individual Executive Board members to guide the process for each group of Project Ideas and to fill in a sheet for each of those:
 - identifying any potential “showstoppers” (a specific reason why this topic should not go ahead irrespective of other marks e.g. the subject is already funded by the EC);
 - indicating whether (parts of) a given Project Idea is (are) considered out of scope of the call;
 - identifying potential title(s) for Stage Two Specific Research Topics (SRT);
 - capturing which Project Ideas contribute to potential SRT to be taken forward;
 - identifying the most suitable Project Idea to serve as the basis for developing the potential SRT;
 - providing comments on each Project Idea where appropriate;
 - if necessary, identify the main reason why a given Project Idea should not be taken forward.

And, for each Project Idea considered to be pertinent, against both of the requirements set out under section 1 above a mark of either: 0 = poor, 1 = low merit, 2 = medium merit or 3 = high merit, should be assigned.

- A meeting (June 2017) with the participation of pre-appointed representative groups of participants’ experts (selected from the GeoERA partners) for each of the GeoERA Themes (e.g. the GeoERA Theme Coordinators) and the Executive Board will be arranged to establish an overview per theme and set up a pre-topic structure. The GeoERA Executive Board may choose to merge, split or amend Project Ideas in order to create a number of Specific Research Topics.
- Based on the outcome of the meeting, the GeoERA Executive Board will draft the first version of the call text for Stage Two and send this to the participants’ experts for commenting.
- At a new meeting (July 2017) the participant’s experts and the GeoERA Executive Board will discuss the latest call text and the Executive Board will compile the text for the final draft of the Joint Call, including Specific Research Topics, for the Stage Two.



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- This draft will be forwarded to the Independent Observer for information, and to Stakeholder Council and the GeoERA General Assembly for consultation. Comments and suggestions will be assessed and changes implemented accordingly by the GeoERA Executive Board.
 - The final text will be sent to the General Assembly for approval in October 2017.

Stage Two Joint Call for Project Proposals is expected to be launched not later than October 2017.

4 Roles

4.1 GeoERA Executive Board

The GeoERA Executive Board operates under the guidance of the GeoERA General Assembly and must ensure a fair and transparent process. The GeoERA Executive Board are responsible of writing and editing the required texts and documents.

4.2 Pre-appointed representative group of participants' experts

The pre-appointed representative group of participants' experts, selected from the GeoERA partners (could e.g. be the Theme Coordinators) must act as impartial coordinators in a transparent way and not taking own or national interests into account.

4.3 The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)

NWO will collect the submitted proposals and carry out the initial grouping.

4.4 GeoERA General Assembly

The GeoERA General Assembly comments and finally approve the Joint Call at Stage Two.

4.5 The European Commission

The European Commission comments the final draft of the Joint Call at Stage Two.

4.6 The GeoERA Independent Observer

The Independent Observer receives the Joint Call for information.