



16 December 2013

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF A CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The following project currently active in the *Seventh Framework programme of the European Atomic Energy Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European research area and to innovation (2007-2011, 2012-2013)*, calls for proposals to carry out work within the project. Please note that the Seventh Framework Programme offers part-funding not full-funding of research activities.

**Project grant agreement number:** 604974

**Project acronym:** COMET

**Project full name:** COordination and iMplementation of a pan-European instrument for radioecology

**Instrument type:** Combination of Collaborative Project and Coordination and Support Action (Coordination)

This call for proposals is organized on behalf of the project "Coordination and implementation of a pan European instrument for radioecology" (COMET) supported by the Euratom 7th framework programme for research and training.

The following research topics are considered to be of priority for reducing uncertainties in current understanding of basic processes. They are in three different areas, which are expected to be addressed by separate proposals. Proposals will be evaluated on their individual merits irrespective of which priority topic they address.

1. Marine modelling – improving predictions of concentrations in, and exposures of, marine biota and humans through state of the art modelling, e.g. trophic transfer modelling and by combining transfer modelling with sediment modelling, with the aim of improving the estimates of concentrations in biota, the external and internal exposure assessment of biota, and the internal dose assessment to humans due to consumption of seafood.
2. Human food chain modelling - improving human food chain modelling through regional customization of parameter values, including Bayesian methods and studying the long-term dynamics of soil-to-plant transfers for specific soil types and for long-lived radionuclides, with the aim of reducing the uncertainties in predicted contamination levels and doses from food ingestion.
3. Particle behaviour - improving the ability to quantify the processes of particle transformation in the environment and radionuclide leaching in various media, with the aim of accurately predicting exposure to humans and wildlife by incorporating a more profound understanding of environmental processes.

Research should be organised in collaborative efforts over a broad spectrum of techniques and knowledge in the field, including expertise and disciplines outside of traditional radioecology. Work should focus on both basic physical and biological processes and on practical relevance and application to radiation protection. The work should progress from the current state of the art in the relevant fields. The proposal should document the competence of the applicants.

Deadline for application: 14 March 2014, 17:00 Brussels time. The call is also open to legal entities from third countries. Instructions for application are given in the guide for applicants. (see attached guide)

The overall budget for this call is 0,6 M€. The indicative budget range per project is 0,2-0,4 M€. Eighty percent of the budget should be dedicated to partners external to COMET with the expectation of at least two external partners per project.

The duration of the work to be undertaken should comply with the time constraints of the COMET project in its remaining period of about 36 months from the expected time of addition of new partners.

**Supporting documentation:**

- The OPERRA-COMET 2013 Guide for Applicants
- Part of the COMET DoW (workpackage tables)
- COMET Deliverable D-N°3.1 (. COMET WP3 Initial Research Activities – Transfer and Exposure related) –restricted – supplied after specific request)
- COMET Deliverable D-N°4.1 (COMET WP4 Initial Research Activity -State-of-the art on epigenetics and general approach)
- Strategic Research Agenda for Radioecology

**Expected duration of participation in project:** From May 2014 to end of May 2017, depending on the complexity of the work.

**Minimum conditions:** There should be at least two legal entities participating in a proposal (single-partner proposals are not eligible). There are no conditions for participation regarding the country of origin. Beneficiaries of COMET and new beneficiaries can apply together, with the condition that new beneficiaries apply for at least 80% of the EC funding of the project. New beneficiaries are also suggested to reserve a small proportion of the Call budget (suggested 1 to a maximum of 2 man months per new beneficiary) for integration purposes with COMET.

**Total Commission funding available:** A maximum of EUR 0.6 million is available for the entire COMET call.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Call identifiers: COMET-2013**

**Language in which proposal should be submitted:** English

**Date and time of close of call:** Friday 14 March 2014; 17h00 Brussels time

**Internet address for further information (call webpage):**

<http://www.melodi-online.eu/operra.html>

**Mail address for further information:** Operra@Lallemand-Legros.be