

## FP7 Cooperation

### Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology



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#### What funds will be available?

- Budget 2007 – 2013 of approximately 1,935 million Euros
- Main calls are expected on an annual basis as shown in this table
- First call: Beginning 2007

| 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| n    | n    | n    | n    | n    | n    | n    |

n Planned calls

Detailed information on calls: [www.euresearch.ch/calls](http://www.euresearch.ch/calls)

#### What are the objectives and background of Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology?

##### Objectives

Building a European Knowledge Based Bio-Economy by bringing together science, industry and other stakeholders, to exploit new and emerging research opportunities that address social, environmental and economic challenges:

The growing demand for safer, healthier and higher quality food and for sustainable use and production of renewable bio-resources;

The increasing risk of epizootic and zoonotic diseases and food related disorders;

Threats to the sustainability and security of agricultural, aquaculture and fisheries production including those resulting in particular from climate change;

The increasing demand for high quality food, taking into account animal welfare and rural and coastal contexts and the ways of meeting specific consumer needs.

##### Background

Innovations and advancement of knowledge in the sustainable management, production and use of biological resources (micro-organism, plants, animals), will provide the basis for new, sustainable, safer, eco-efficient and competitive products for agriculture, fisheries, feed, food, health, forest based and related industries.

In line with the European strategy on life sciences and biotechnology, this will help increase the competitiveness of European agriculture and biotechnology, seed and food companies, in particular high tech SMEs, while improving social welfare and well-being.

Research into the safety of food and feed chains, diet related diseases, food choices and the impact of food and nutrition on health will help to fight food related disorders (e.g. obesity, allergies) and infectious diseases (e.g. transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, avian-flu), while making important contributions to the implementation of existing and

the formulation of future policies and regulations in the area of public, animal and plant health and consumer protection. The diversity and mainly small size of the European industries in these areas, while being one of its strengths and an opportunity, leads to fragmented approaches to similar problems. These are better addressed by increased collaboration and sharing of expertise, for example, on new methodologies, technologies, processes and standards that result from changing EU Community legislation.

Several European Technology Platforms contribute in setting common research priorities, in fields such as plant genomics and biotechnology, forestry and forest based industries, global animal health, farm animal breeding, food and industrial biotechnology.

The research will also provide the knowledge base needed to support: the Common Agricultural Policy ; agriculture and trade issues; food safety regulations; European Forest Strategy; Community animal health, disease control and welfare standards; and the Common Fisheries Policy reform aiming to provide sustainable development of fishing and aquaculture and the safety of seafood products.

A flexible response to new policy needs is also foreseen, in particular with respect to new social or economic trends.

[www.euresearch.ch/fab-O&B](http://www.euresearch.ch/fab-O&B)



## What areas will be funded during FP7 under Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology?

### Sustainable production and management of biological resources from land, forest and aquatic environments

- Enabling research, including 'omics' technologies such as genomics, proteomics, metabolomics, systems biology, bioinformatics and converging technologies for micro-organisms, plants and animals, including exploitation and sustainable use of their biodiversity.
- For land based biological resources research will focus on: soil fertility, improved crops and production systems in all their diversity, including organic farming, quality production schemes and monitoring and assessment of GMO impacts on environment and humans.
- Plant health sustainable, competitive and multifunctional agriculture, and forestry, integrated rural development.
- Animal health and welfare, breeding and production including research into vaccines and diagnostics.
- Infectious diseases in animals including epidemiological studies, zoonoses and their pathogenic mechanisms, and diseases linked to animal feedstuffs.
- Other threats to the sustainability and security of food production, including climate change.
- Safe disposal of animal waste.
- For biological resources from aquatic environments, research will support sustainability and competitiveness of fisheries, provide the scientific and technical basis of fisheries management and support the sustainable development of aquaculture, including breeding and welfare.
- Development of tools needed by policy makers and other actors in areas such as agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture and rural development (landscape, land management practices etc.)
- Socio-economic and ethical contexts of production.

### Farm to fork: Food, health and well being

- Consumer, societal, cultural, industrial and health aspects of food and feed, including behavioural and cognitive sciences
- Nutrition, diet related diseases and disorders, including obesity and allergies
- Health benefits of certain food and diets
- Innovative food and feed processing technologies, including packaging
- Improved quality and safety, both chemical and biological, of food, beverage and feed
- Integrity (and control) of the food chain
- Environmental impacts on and of food/feed chains
- Impact on and resistance of food chain to global changes
- Total food chain concept (including seafood)
- Traceability



### Life sciences and biotechnology for sustainable non-food products and processes. International cooperation

- Improved crops and forest resources, feed-stocks, marine products and biomass (including marine resources) for energy, environment, and high added value products such as materials and chemicals, including novel farming systems, bio-processes and bio-refinery concepts.
- Bio-catalysis, new and improved micro-organisms and enzymes
- Forestry and forest based products and processes
- Environmental bio-remediation and cleaner bio-processing, the utilisation of agro industrial wastes and by-products.

[www.euresearch.ch/fab-R&D](http://www.euresearch.ch/fab-R&D)

### What other areas of FP7 might I apply for?

- Health: [www.euresearch.ch/Health](http://www.euresearch.ch/Health)
- Bottom-up Research projects for collaboration SMEs-R&D institutions: [www.euresearch.ch/SME](http://www.euresearch.ch/SME)
- Funding of fellowships: [www.euresearch.ch/people](http://www.euresearch.ch/people)
- Funding of infrastructures: [www.euresearch.ch/infrastructures](http://www.euresearch.ch/infrastructures)

[www.euresearch.ch/fab-more](http://www.euresearch.ch/fab-more)



## What key stakeholders should I be aware of?

- European Technology Platforms (Have a look at: “Plants for the future”, “Farm Animal Breeding”, “Global Animal Health”, “Food for Life”, “Sustainable Chemistry”, “Forest Based Sector” )
- European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
- Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR)

[www.euresearch.ch/fab-key](http://www.euresearch.ch/fab-key)

## How do I find partners, for example, to join a consortium?

### Find partners by:

- Contacting researchers/private industries you know personally
- Attending conferences and events
- Searching the project databases of former successful EU projects
- Reading about the experiences of others who have obtained EU

[www.euresearch.ch/partnersearch](http://www.euresearch.ch/partnersearch)

## What other information could be helpful?

### Key documents

- White paper on Food safety
- Biotechnology 2020
- Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP)

### Key websites

- [www.cordis.europa.eu/food](http://www.cordis.europa.eu/food)
- Research Biosociety :  
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/biosociety>

[www.euresearch.ch/fab-key](http://www.euresearch.ch/fab-key)

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- More information about services via our other R&D Guides, Management Guides and Participation Guides

[www.euresearch.ch/services](http://www.euresearch.ch/services)

### Who is the Swiss National Contact Point for Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology?

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