

Early warning of a call for transnational research for ARD

This is to inform that a call is expected to be launched around the middle of March 2012.

Some of the members of the ERA ARD II Consortium have decided to provide funds for the first ERA-ARD II Transnational Research Call. The funders would like to fund some 3-6 projects and each project may run for 3 years. The call will be launched after receiving the final commitment of the funders and is expected to be in mid-March. Initiation of projects would then be in the last months of 2012 or early 2013.

It is likely that the following countries will commit funds: Austria, Belgium France, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland and Turkey. A list of the participating funders will be published on the Call Website indicating the amount available and the distribution in each year.

Research consortia, which are interested in applying for funds, will be able to apply up to the limits set aside by the respective national funding organisation. The maximum amount available for funding research institutions from a research consortium will depend on the national contribution from that country. The budget for each project will, therefore, depend on the composition of the research consortium.

This first ERA-ARD II Transnational Research Call provides new opportunities for researchers and other stakeholders (farmers, farmer organizations, NGOs, policy makers, etc.) to take part in multilateral research cooperation in the field of sustainable and climate change resilient intensification of agricultural production.

The *main objective* of the ERA-ARD II Transnational Research Call is to contribute to improved livelihoods of smallholders and rural communities in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) through sustainable and climate-smart intensification of agricultural systems.

The call also aims to support and fund projects that will strengthen collaboration and networking with on-going projects and existing thematic networks.

Each research consortium must be transnational and consist of a minimum of 3 independent legal entities in partnerships from 3 different countries of which at least 1 is from the ERA-ARD II Consortium Member countries and 2 from countries on the "DAC List of ODA Recipients" (see <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/9/50/48858205.pdf>). The research consortium must be led by an institution in an ERA-ARD Consortium member country. Consortia are also encouraged to include more than one European partner.

For further information please contact the Call Secretariat:

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