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**Call Topics for International Cooperation
in Horizon 2020
EU and China**

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Excellent Science

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Excellent Science
Programme:	European research infrastructures (including e-Infrastructures)
Call Title:	Integrating and opening research infrastructures of European interest
Call Identifier:	H2020-INFRAIA-2018-2020
Topic Title:	Integrating Activities for Advanced Communities
Topic Identifier:	INFRAIA-01-2018-2019
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	20-03-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/infraia-01-2018-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: European researchers need effective and convenient access to the best research infrastructures in order to conduct research for the advancement of knowledge and technology. The aim of this action is to bring together, integrate on European scale, and open up key national and regional research infrastructures to all European researchers, from both academia and industry, ensuring their optimal use and joint development.

Scope: 'Advanced Communities' are scientific communities whose research infrastructures show an advanced degree of coordination and networking at present, attained, in particular, through Integrating Activities awarded under FP7 or previous Horizon 2020 calls.

An Integrating Activity will mobilise a comprehensive consortium of several key research infrastructures in a given field as well as other stakeholders (e.g. public authorities, technological partners, research institutions) from different Member States, Associated Countries and other third countries^[1] when appropriate, in particular when they offer complementary or more advanced services than those available in Europe.

Funding will be provided to support, in particular, the trans-national and virtual access provided to European researchers (and to researchers from Third countries under certain conditions^[2]), the cooperation between research infrastructures, scientific communities, industry and other stakeholders, the improvement of the services the infrastructures provide, the harmonisation, optimisation and improvement of access procedures and interfaces. Proposals should adopt the guidelines and principles of the European Charter for Access to Research Infrastructures.

To this extent, an Integrating Activity shall combine, in a closely co-ordinated manner:

- (i) Networking activities, to foster a culture of co-operation between research infrastructures, scientific communities, industries and other stakeholders as appropriate, and to help develop a more efficient and attractive European Research Area;
- (ii) Trans-national access or virtual access activities, to support scientific communities in their access to the identified key research infrastructures;
- (iii) Joint research activities, to improve, in quality and/or quantity, the integrated services provided at European level by the infrastructures.

All three categories of activities are mandatory as synergistic effects are expected from these different components.

Access should be provided only to key research infrastructures of European interest, i.e., those infrastructures able to attract significant numbers of users from countries other than the country where they are located. Other national and regional infrastructures in Europe can be involved, in particular in the networking activities, for the exchange of best practices, without necessarily being beneficiaries in the proposal.

Proposals from advanced communities will have to clearly demonstrate the added value and the progress beyond current achievements in terms of integration and services, of a new grant. The strongest impact for advanced communities is expected typically to arise from focusing on innovation aspects and widening trans-national and virtual access provision, both in terms of wider and more advanced offer of scientific services, than in terms of number of users and domains served. Furthermore, in particular for communities supported in the past under three or more integrating activities, the creation of strategic roadmaps for future research infrastructure developments as well as the long-term sustainability of the integrated research infrastructure services provided at European level, need to be properly addressed. The latter requires the preparation of a sustainability plan beyond the grant lifecycle as well as, where appropriate, the involvement of funders.

In line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012)497), Integrating Activities should, whenever appropriate, pay due attention to any related international initiative (i.e. outside the EU) and foster the use and deployment of global standards.

Integrating Activities should also organise the efficient curation, preservation and provision of access to the data collected or produced under the project, defining a data management plan, even when they opt out of the extended Pilot on Open Research Data. Data management (including ethics and privacy issues), interoperability, as well as advanced data and computing services should be addressed where relevant. To this extent, proposals should build upon the state of the art in ICT and e-infrastructures for data, computing and networking, and ensure connection to the European Open Science Cloud.

Integrating Activities should in particular contribute to fostering the potential for innovation, including social innovation, of research infrastructures by reinforcing the partnership with industry, through e.g. transfer of knowledge and other dissemination activities, activities to promote the use of research infrastructures by industrial researchers, involvement of industrial associations in consortia or in advisory bodies.

Integrating Activities are expected to duly take into account all relevant ESFRI and other world-class research infrastructures to exploit synergies, to reflect on sustainability and to ensure complementarity and coherence with the existing European Infrastructures landscape.

Proposals should include clear indicators allowing the assessment of the progress towards the general and specific objectives, other than the access provision.

As the scope of an integrating activity is to ensure coordination and integration between all the key European infrastructures in a given field and to avoid duplication of effort, advanced communities are expected to submit one proposal per area.

Further conditions and requirements that applicants should fulfil when drafting a proposal are given in part D of the section “Specific features for Research Infrastructures”. Compliance with these provisions will be taken into account during evaluation.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 10 million would allow this topic to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

On the basis of a multiannual plan drafted taking into account the assessment and the timing of previous grants as well as strategic priorities and needs, in term of research infrastructures services, emerging from other parts of Horizon 2020, this work programme invites proposals addressing the following areas listed under the different domains. A balanced coverage of the various domains, in line with the distribution of areas per domain, is expected as outcome of this topic.

2019 deadline

Biological and Medical Sciences

Virus collections including for high-risk animal/human/plant pathogens. This activity aims at improving the access to high-quality authenticated collections of both human, animal and plant viruses including those requiring high-biosafety level laboratories (BSL 3 and 4), to support upstream virology, microbiology and immunology research as well as translational internationally-driven research aiming at drug and vaccine development, and to support epidemiological studies targeting disease and epidemics control in order to enhance the preparedness of countries to control their own emerging viral outbreaks.

Structural biology research infrastructures for health and food research. This activity should expand the availability of structural biology services (such as X-

ray and neutron scattering, advanced NMR and advanced imaging technologies) to new communities of users, and in particular to scientists with backgrounds other than structural biology, including from SMEs, to benefit translational research in drugs discovery, informed drugs design and other fields like biotechnology and biomaterials for health and food.

Nanomedicine characterisation infrastructures. This activity aims at further integrating and opening key reference facilities for characterisation and engineering of nanoparticles for medical applications. It should offer access to a coherent set of tools, resources and expertise to support academic research teams and industry in their chemical, physical and biological research and innovation on medical applications. Emphasis should be on widening the user base and the services, ensuring long term sustainability to their integration.

Research infrastructures in aquaculture. This activity aims at further integrating highly diverse aquaculture research facilities and providing to research teams easy access to them. Specific attention should be given to dedicated facilities for new species, disease aspects and contribution to sustainable aquaculture. Emphasis should be on widening the user base, enlarging and strengthening the offered services, and fostering the innovation role of such infrastructures.

Energy

European smart grids research infrastructure. High shares of renewable energy and more decentralised energy supply require a grid with sufficient hosting capacity and the ability to manage the power fluctuation of the renewable sources. This activity should further integrate and open laboratory environments that enable the development and testing of different smart grid configurations without influencing end-customers of the electrical power supply. Emphasis should be on widening the user base, enlarging the offered services, fostering the innovation role of such facilities and ensuring long term sustainability to their integration.

Environmental and Earth Sciences^[3]

Research infrastructures for long-term ecosystem and socio-ecological research. This activity should further integrate and open LTER (Long Term Ecological Research) facilities and critical zone observatories, in different terrestrial and aquatic environments. It should include relevant socio-ecological research platforms as well as integrate research field sites, associated data management and numerical simulation tools to address ecosystem and socio-ecological research issues such as biodiversity loss, climate change adaptation and mitigation, land use and management, food security and threats to soil and water.

Coastal and shelf seas observing research infrastructures. This activity aims at integrating and improving access to coastal observatories as well as developing innovative monitoring strategies to address better the complexity of coastal seas (such as the coupling of physics, biogeochemistry and biology). It should also promote harmonisation and seamless interface with open seas observing systems notably the relevant ESFRI infrastructures. It should foster

innovation and societal impact including through effective synergies with European and global initiatives such as COPERNICUS, EMODNET, GEO/GEOSS.

Multidisciplinary Marine Data Centres for ocean and marine data management. This activity aims to further integrate in a cloud environment and open key data centres for in-situ and remote sensing data for marine (including coastal) research. It must present a long-term sustainable perspective on the facilities and related resources integration, and develop appropriate connection to the EOSC. It should enhance and innovate the services offered to an expanded multidisciplinary community and promote the adoption of the developed protocols and standards for interoperability to other key downstream initiatives in the field.

Mesocosms facilities for research on marine and freshwater ecosystems. This activity aims at further integrating and opening leading mesocosm infrastructures in Europe enabling in particular research on impact of climate change, pollution and other disturbance on ecosystems, from Mediterranean to Arctic. Emphasis should be on widening the user base, and on enlarging and strengthening the offered services.

Research infrastructures for terrestrial research in the Arctic. As an international network for terrestrial research and monitoring in the Arctic, this activity should further integrate and open key research stations and large research field sites throughout the circumpolar Arctic and adjacent northern countries, to provide capacity for research, monitoring and education. The project should include work on best practises for managing stations, and (international) logistics and establish links with relevant ESFRI infrastructures.

Research Infrastructures for earthquake hazard. This activity aims at further integrating and opening the key research infrastructures in Europe for natural and anthropogenic earthquake risk assessment and mitigation. More integrated services from seismic and engineering infrastructures would contribute to supporting the reduction of vulnerability of European citizens and constructions to earthquakes. International collaboration activities and the further integration of the research field are encouraged.

Research infrastructures for environmental hydraulic research. This activity aims at further integrating and opening the key hydraulic infrastructures in Europe in order to optimise their use to help solve climate change adaptation problems. Particular attention to harmonising and organising the flux of data is expected. Emphasis should be on widening the user base, and on enlarging and strengthening the offered services including through synergies with relevant (emerging) ESFRI infrastructures.

Mathematics and ICT

Distributed, multidisciplinary European infrastructure on Big Data and social data mining. This activity should further integrate and open large social data repositories, social data mining methods and tools, and supercomputing facilities for conducting large-scale analytical processing. This integrated infrastructure should enable performing complex processes to extract social knowledge. Emphasis should be on enlarging and strengthening the offered

services, widening the user base, fostering the innovation role of such facilities and ensuring long term sustainability to their integration as well as connection to the EOSC.

Material Sciences and Analytical facilities

Research infrastructures for advanced research in nanoelectronics. This activity aims at further integrating and opening key infrastructures in the field to enable a smooth and consistent transition of the European industry to a new era of nanoelectronics. Emphasis should be on enlarging and strengthening the offered services, widening the user base, fostering the innovation role of such facilities and ensuring long term sustainability to their integration.

Advanced laser sources for leading-edge research. This activity aims at further integrating and opening key laser infrastructures enabling a wide range of novel applications with high industrial and social impact, such as nanoscience, bio- and nanophotonics, (bio)material analyses, (bio)medical diagnosis and treatment, advanced imaging, communication and data processing. It should widen the user base, enlarge the offered services, foster the innovation role of such facilities, ensure long term sustainability to their integration, stimulate international cooperation and new scientific activities exploiting new possibilities offered by relevant ESFRI infrastructures.

Physical Sciences

Research Infrastructures for Nuclear Physics. This activity aims at further integrating the key research infrastructures for studying the properties of nuclear matter at extreme conditions, using advances in nuclear physics experimentation to open new scenarios for fundamental research and employ them for new societal and industrial applications. It must present a long-term sustainable perspective on the integration of relevant facilities and related resources. Furthermore, it should also target new users and stimulate new scientific activities to take full advantage of new possibilities offered by relevant ESFRI infrastructures.

Research infrastructures for high-energy astrophysics. This activity aims at further integrating and opening facilities for developing, calibrating and testing technologies and individual instruments developed for supporting ground and space based experiments and missions in an environment representative of space conditions. In order to foster the creation of a European multi-messenger astrophysics platform, emphasis should be on enlarging the offered services, including in particular gravitational wave, electromagnetic wave and other high energy particle (e.g. neutrinos) observatories. Access to the infrastructures and data needs to be optimised in order to develop a wider multi-disciplinary community and foster a better exploitation of the results.

Research Infrastructures for planetary science. This activity aims at furthering the integration and opening of the key research infrastructures in Europe for studying planetary science by drawing in new partners and by providing access to the facilities to a larger number of users, taking into account the multi- and trans-disciplinary nature of the field. Emphasis should be on

enlarging and strengthening the offered services, widening the user base, and ensuring long term sustainability to their integration.

Social Sciences and Humanities

European research infrastructures for cultural heritage restoration and conservation. This activity aims at further integrating and opening facilities, located in research centres, universities and important culture institutions, for advanced diagnostics, restoration and conservation of cultural heritage. Emphasis should be on strengthening and enlarging the offered services to cover restoration and conservation in fields such as palaeontology, widening the user base, and fostering the innovation role of such facilities.

Contemporary European history: European Holocaust research infrastructure. This activity aims at further integrating and opening existing research infrastructures for research on Holocaust and expanding their services to include new material and new techniques in order to offer distributed and harmonised access of researchers to scattered material. Emphasis should be on enlarging and strengthening the offered services, widening the user base and ensuring long term sustainability to their integration.

Expected Impact:

- Researchers will have wider, simplified, and more efficient access to the best research infrastructures they require to conduct their research, irrespective of location. They benefit from an increased focus on user needs.
- New or more advanced research infrastructure services, enabling leading-edge or multidisciplinary research, are made available to a wider user community.
- Operators of related infrastructures develop synergies and complementary capabilities, leading to improved and harmonised services. There is less duplication of services, leading to an improved use of resources across Europe. Economies of scale and saving of resources are also realised due to common development and the optimisation of operations.
- Innovation is fostered through a reinforced partnership of research organisations with industry.
- A new generation of researchers is educated that is ready to optimally exploit all the essential tools for their research.
- Closer interactions between larger number of researchers active in and around a number of infrastructures facilitate cross-disciplinary fertilisations and a wider sharing of information, knowledge and technologies across fields and between academia and industry.
- For communities which have received three or more grants in the past, the sustainability of the integrated research infrastructure services they provide at European level is improved.
- The integration of major scientific equipment or sets of instruments and of knowledge-based resources (collections, archives, structured scientific information, data infrastructures, etc.) leads to a better management of the continuous flow of data collected or produced by these facilities and resources.

- When applicable, the integrated and harmonised access to resources at European level can facilitate the use beyond research and contribute to evidence-based policy making.
- When applicable, the socio-economic impact of past investments in research infrastructures from the European Structural and Investment Funds is enhanced.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Open Science, Gender, Clean Energy, Socio-economic science and humanities, International cooperation

^[1] See the Eligibility and admissibility conditions for this call.

^[2] See part D of the section “Specific features for Research Infrastructures”.

^[3] When appropriate, proposals addressing areas under this domain are encouraged to develop synergies with Copernicus data and information as well as with relevant global initiatives such as GEO/GEOSS and ILTER.

Industrial Leadership

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Industrial Leadership
Programme:	Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies - Space
Call Title:	Space 2018-2020
Call Identifier:	H2020-SPACE-2018-2020
Topic Title:	Space Weather
Topic Identifier:	SU-SPACE-22-SEC-2019
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	12-03-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/su-space-22-sec-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Commonly occurring space weather events have the potential to impact the performance of critical space and ground infrastructure disrupting operations and communications in multiple sectors of society. Extreme events could have devastating societal and economic consequences with potential costs for disruptions and damages estimated in tens or even hundreds of billions of Euros.

Space weather must be monitored and forecasted just like terrestrial weather. However, current space weather services are generally not capable of forecasting events over several days. A longer forecasting horizon would require access to data from new observation infrastructure coupled with new and improved modelling capabilities. Preparations are underway for future instruments to be placed in suitable vantage points (Lagrange 1 and 5 as well as on Earth orbiting satellites and on ground). The challenge is to prepare for a full exploitation of such data by a renewed effort on modelling and forecasting using currently available data.

The Space Strategy recognises that growing threats emerge in space from space debris to the impact of space weather. Accordingly, the Commission announced that its intention to address threats and vulnerabilities including the impact of space weather on satellites and on ground infrastructure such as transport, energy grids and telecommunication networks.

Scope: Proposals shall address the development of modelling capabilities and/or the delivery of prototype services able to interpret a broad range of observations of the Sun's corona and magnetic field, of the Sun-Earth interplanetary space and of the Earth magnetosphere/ionosphere coupling relying on existing observation capacities.

The goal is to pave the way for forecasting horizons for space weather events in the order of tens of hours or days and to identify potential indicators (or proxies) of extreme events potentially through the joint analysis of interdisciplinary data.

Proposals shall address application domains which may include space as well as terrestrial infrastructure.

Proposals shall include architectural concepts of possible European space weather services in relation to the application domains addressed and they shall demonstrate complementary to and, if relevant, utilize precursor Space Weather services already available through the Space Situational Awareness programme of ESA^[1] and take into account the global space weather service developments by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

This action is also open to cooperation with international partners with relevant expertise.

Participation of industry, in particular SMEs, is encouraged, as well as the involvement of post-graduate scientists, engineers and researchers, for example through professional work experience or through fellowships/scholarships as applicable. A guidance document will be published together with this work programme.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 2 and 3 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

This topic contributes to the Horizon 2020 focus area "Boosting the effectiveness of the Security Union".

Expected Impact:

- Improved scientific understanding of the origin and evolution of space weather phenomena;
- New models and forecasting techniques capable of extending the time horizon of a future space weather forecasting capability to several days;
- Inventory of potential early indicators of extreme space weather events.

^[1] <http://swe.ssa.esa.int/>

Horizon 2020 Pillar: Industrial Leadership

Programme: Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies - Space

Call Title: Space 2018-2020

Call Identifier: H2020-SPACE-2018-2020

Topic Title: International Cooperation Copernicus – Designing EO downstream applications with international partners

Topic Identifier: DT-SPACE-06-EO-2019

Type of Action: RIA Research and Innovation action

Deadline(s): 12-03-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/dt-space-06-eo-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Copernicus, the Union's Earth observation and monitoring programme produces a wealth of data and information regarding the Earth sub-systems (land, atmosphere, oceans) and cross-cutting processes (climate change, emergency and security). Cooperation with international partners is key to promoting the uptake of Copernicus globally, exploiting possibilities for integrating in-situ, space data and information technologies. Building the Copernicus full, free and open data policy, the Commission seeks to facilitate access to Copernicus data and information for interested international partners. Administrative cooperation arrangements on Copernicus data access and earth observation data exchange have already been signed with the United States and Australia, and discussions towards similar cooperation have been started with other countries and regions (including Africa, Latin American countries and **Asia-Pacific** countries).

Cooperation with partner countries should be fostered with a view to using Copernicus data to jointly develop algorithms, services and/or products which serve local user needs and/or enhance the Copernicus global product quality.

Proposals are encouraged to use the Copernicus Data and Information Access Services (DIAS), or other existing data access solutions instead of setting up their own download and processing infrastructure. They are also encouraged to integrate third-party data (including in-situ data) and envisage data assimilation into models and products made available on the Copernicus platform of the Copernicus services..

For such applications and developments to succeed in the market or with public users, the products need to be shaped according to users' needs and their value to users must be openly demonstrated to the wider user community. This needs

to be achieved in an environment integrated at the level of the user, in order for users to accept the innovative potential which the product promises. This will require also specific attention to be given to the various processes in place in the users' workflows which incorporate the EO information. Furthermore, the transition of R&D product prototypes to viable commercial product lines after the end of the EU funded phase remains a challenge to be addressed early on during product development.

Scope: Proposals shall address a wide variety of applications stemming from the use of Earth observation and their smart integration with other related technologies. Copernicus should be considered as part of the solution which may include other space or non-space inputs. This is likely to lead to greater value, opportunities and especially market uptake. Applications shall be sustained by a production process capable of delivering to the user a product which is validated and accepted as a marketable product in the international partner country. International collaboration has a key role to play in this context, as it enhances access to markets beyond the national borders, notably by enabling space application providers to absorb market-related tacit knowledge and know-how of their partners. Corresponding validations and customisations are to be undertaken, and the business case for the application is to be demonstrated. Service level models are to be developed, with appropriate quality of service definitions for the application. Application products are expected to adopt open standards for data documentation, data models and services including data processing, visualisation and cataloguing on a large scale.

Tasks shall include joint calibration and validation activities or integration of local in-situ systems to enhance the quality of data and service products. It is important to exploit the added value of integration of EO observation technologies (both satellite, airborne and ground based) with positioning ones, and ICT (enhancing new frontiers opened by cloud computing) from international partner countries through the development of applications, and encourage their insertion into the market.

The choice of EO application is left to the proposer.

Applicants are advised to consult further information on the availability of Copernicus Sentinel Data, access to Copernicus Contributing Mission data, as well as issues recommended to be detailed in the proposals via the Commission's Copernicus website^[1].

For proposals under this topic:

- Participation of at least one partner from a country that has signed a Copernicus Cooperation Arrangement^[2] is required;
- Participation of industry, in particular SMEs, is encouraged;
- Involvement of post-graduate scientists, engineers and researchers is encouraged, for example through professional work experience or through fellowships/scholarships as applicable;
- Participation of partners involved in international **GEO Initiatives** is encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

This topic contributes to the Horizon 2020 focus area "Digitising and transforming European industry and services".

Expected Impact:

- Establish sustainable supply chains for innovative EO value added products and services with demonstrated commercial value with international client communities;
- Complete integration, based on international standards, into the customer's existing business processes and processing chains, as well as the economic viability of the application is to be demonstrated;
- Enhance the European industry's potential to take advantage of market opportunities and establish leadership in the field and to boost business activity;
- Lead to new or improved products, processes or services on the market that are capable of generating within 3 years after the end of public funding a significant turnover for the participants, and create new jobs;
- Lead to an improved quality of the Copernicus global product, thereby enhancing the stating of Copernicus data and information in a global environment and **GEOSS**.

Cross-cutting Priorities: International cooperation

[1] <http://www.copernicus.eu/main/data-access>

[2] See Copernicus.eu for list of countries concerned

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Industrial Leadership
Programme:	Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing
Call Title:	Foundations for tomorrow's industry
Call Identifier:	H2020-NMBP-TO-IND-2018-2020
Topic Title:	Safe by design, from science to regulation: metrics and main sectors (RIA)
Topic Identifier:	NMBP-15-2019
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	22-01-2019, 03-09-2019 (two-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/nmbp-15-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Risk management involves quantifying hazard (toxicity) and exposure, and taking the necessary steps to reduce both to acceptable levels, ideally at an early stage of the nanomaterial development process (Safe-by-Design). Various industrial sectors, and in particular structural or functional materials, coatings and cosmetics, as well as pharma and health technology are currently searching for ways to mitigate possible risks from nanomaterials and nano-containing products. The challenge now is to distil existing methods into simple, robust, cost-effective methods for monitoring and modelling of physical-chemical properties and biological effect assessment of nanomaterials in relevant use conditions including in product-relevant matrices.

Scope:

- Degradation of nano-enabled products and ageing of nanomaterials, and mixture toxicity;
- New Safe by Design methods that enable reduction of hazard and exposure through design to an acceptable risk level without affecting the material performance and guide development of safer products at different stages;
- Implementation of control measures and mitigation strategies for nanomaterials specific scenarios in various industrial sectors to reach acceptable regulatory risk level on the effectiveness of such measures, and develop computational approaches to model them;
- For this topic the parallel calls scheme is envisaged with the USA-NNI. Resulting projects should establish close cooperation mechanisms. Legal, policy making and Responsible Research and Innovation aspects should be integrated in the proposal.

In line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012)497), international cooperation is particularly encouraged.

Proposals submitted under this topic should include actions designed to facilitate cooperation with other projects; to enhance user involvement; and to ensure the accessibility and reusability of data produced in the course of the project.

Activities should start at TRL 4 and achieve TRL 6 at the end of the project.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 5 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Safe by design approaches and tools at an early stage of the nanomaterial development process;
- Quality workplaces that ensure maximum technical and economic performance in line with acceptable risk levels;
- Control and mitigate exposure to acceptable risk level in case after release of nanomaterials from products;
- Develop and validate low-cost techniques for delivering an integrated exposure driven risk assessment and the associated design of the required post-use monitoring.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Gender, Socio-economic science and humanities, Open Science, Open Innovation, International cooperation

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Industrial Leadership
Programme:	Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing
Call Title:	TRANSFORMING EUROPEAN INDUSTRY
Call Identifier:	H2020-NMBP-TR-IND-2018-2020
Topic Title:	Microorganism communities for plastics bio-degradation (RIA)
Topic Identifier:	CE-BIOTEC-05-2019
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	05-03-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/ce-biotec-05-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: The global market for plastics continues to grow due to their physical properties and benefits such as light weight, reduction of food waste, durability and cost. After being used, plastics should be separated in order to be subject to the most appropriate waste treatment processes. This is increasingly difficult and inefficient due to, for example, consumers' inaccurate identification of the appropriate types of plastics for recycling. Other plastic types, such as polystyrene, can even not be recycled if they have traces of food.

Despite the worldwide efforts for degradation or recycling, large amounts of mixtures of plastics and other polymers end up in landfills or are used for the generation of energy. These methods lead to environmental contamination through the production of CO₂ or due to plastics reaching water courses and the sea where they persist and become toxic for the whole food chain. Novel biotechnological approaches should be applied for the sustainable biological degradation of mixtures of recalcitrant and degradable plastics.

Scope: Proposals will develop environmentally friendly and sustainable solutions for managing the waste of plastics mixtures based on the use of communities of microorganisms with a set of complementary enzymes. The enzymes may be native or engineered using state of the art biotechnologies. The microbial organisms will turn plastic mixtures into chemical constituents facilitating mineralisation, composting of otherwise recalcitrant and toxic polymers and facilitating production of high value products. Polymers such as polystyrene can also be included in the proposals.

Proposals should:

- produce cocktails of enzymes using communities of microorganisms capable of degrading mixtures of biodegradable and currently non-biodegradable plastics into more basic chemical constituents;
- use a multidisciplinary approach based on biotechnology;
- create high value products and valorise mixed plastic waste.

This topic is part of the EU-**China** flagship initiative on Biotechnology for Environment and Human Health, which will promote substantial coordinated and balanced research and Innovation cooperation between the EU and **China**. **China**-based legal entities^[1] have to apply for funding under the **Chinese** co-funding mechanism with the National Natural Science Foundation of **China** (NSFC)^[2].

Activities should start at TRL 3 and achieve TRL 5 at the end of the project.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU up to EUR 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- A combination of microorganisms expressing at least three novel or improved enzymatic activities enabling the degradation of mixtures of plastics;
- Degradation of at least 20 percent of non-biodegradable plastics found in plastic mixtures. The objective is to include relevant indicators that prove this impact;
- Identification of the metabolic pathways leading to at least two high added value products that could be sustainably produced in future from plastic mixtures;
- Description of a sustainable and environmentally friendly pilot system for the degradation of plastic mixtures.

Relevant indicators and metrics, with baseline values, should be clearly stated in the proposal.

Cross-cutting Priorities: International cooperation, Blue Growth

^[1] Article 14a of the Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement

^[2] <http://www.nsf.gov.cn/publish/portal1/>

Societal Challenges

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials
Call Title:	Building a low-carbon, climate resilient future: climate action in support of the Paris Agreement
Call Identifier:	H2020-LC-CLA-2018-2019-2020
Topic Title:	The changing cryosphere: uncertainties, risks and opportunities
Topic Identifier:	LC-CLA-07-2019
Type of Action:	CSA Coordination and support action
Deadline(s):	19-02-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-cla-07-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Globally, glaciers and the large ice sheets of Antarctica and Greenland are particularly vulnerable to climate change, risking a significant future contribution to changes in sea levels. At present, there are significant uncertainties, e.g. relating to their stability, which prevent an accurate assessment of their vulnerability. The 'Arctic amplification' of global warming is putting pressure on the ecosystems and communities of the region and having an impact at global level as well. The Arctic's fragile natural ecosystems and societies are under serious threat, and additional human activities, linked to the new economic opportunities that are made possible by climate change, are putting additional pressure on them.

Scope: Actions should aim at developing innovative approaches to address the following sub-topic:

- d. Arctic standards (Coordination and Support action): The action should propose guidelines and protocols to develop 'Arctic standards', also including the legal framework, based on the translation of research outcomes into cold-climate technologies and services with commercial potential and the assessment of the sustainability of associated processes and technologies. The action should cover a wide range of technologies and services that have the potential to bring broad social and economic benefits within and beyond the Arctic region. The action should also provide requirements on how to design, build, install, and operate equipment and services to safely perform activities in the Arctic and to respond to emergencies.

The participation of standardisation organisations is encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

For all sub-topics, in line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012)497), international cooperation is encouraged^[1], in particular with countries – beyond the EU Member States and countries associated to Horizon 2020 – that took part in the first Arctic Science Ministerial of 28 September 2016^[2].

Expected Impact:

the project results are expected to contribute to:

- enhanced stakeholder capability to operate in cold climate environments;
- better servicing of the economic sectors that operate in the Arctic (e.g. shipping, tourism);
- promoting sustainable Arctic opportunities arising from climate change and supporting the leverage of regional (EU) funds into these opportunities;
- supporting the competitiveness of European industry, particularly SMEs, engaging in sustainable development of the Arctic.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Blue Growth, International cooperation, RRI, Socio-economic science and humanities, Open Innovation

^[1] Proposals should pay attention to the special call conditions for this topic.

^[2] i.e. the United States of America, Canada, the People’s Republic of **China**, Japan, the Russian Federation, South Korea, New Zealand, India, Singapore, and Greenland; see https://www.arctic.gov/publications/other/supporting_arctic_science.html

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials
Call Title:	Building a low-carbon, climate resilient future: climate action in support of the Paris Agreement
Call Identifier:	H2020-LC-CLA-2018-2019-2020
Topic Title:	The changing cryosphere: uncertainties, risks and opportunities
Topic Identifier:	LC-CLA-07-2019
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	19-02-2019, 04-09-2019 (two-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-cla-07-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Globally, glaciers and the large ice sheets of Antarctica and Greenland are particularly vulnerable to climate change, risking a significant future contribution to changes in sea levels. At present, there are significant uncertainties, e.g. relating to their stability, which prevent an accurate assessment of their vulnerability. The 'Arctic amplification' of global warming is putting pressure on the ecosystems and communities of the region and having an impact at global level as well. The Arctic's fragile natural ecosystems and societies are under serious threat, and additional human activities, linked to the new economic opportunities that are made possible by climate change, are putting additional pressure on them.

Scope: Actions should aim at developing innovative approaches to address only one of the following sub-topics:

- a. Sea-level changes (Research and Innovation action): Actions should assess the processes controlling changes to global ice mass balance - including ice dynamics - such as ice shelf-ocean and sea-ice interactions, surface components, effects of crustal de-loading (Glacial Isostatic Adjustments) on relative sea-level changes and/or gravitational effects of ice mass changes on the spatial patterns of sea-level changes. Actions should assess the status of ice sheets and glaciers, report on how their changes are likely to affect future sea-levels, and increase confidence in predicting changes in the cryosphere including through better representation of poorly represented processes. Actions should also analyse low-probability high-impact scenarios including those associated with the collapse of ice sheets (sea-level fingerprints). Actions may be focused on specific issues which substantially contribute to

sea-level changes and to the assessment of the associated major risks to and impacts on coastal communities, coastal ecosystems and critical infrastructure across the globe. Clustering with relevant projects funded by the ESA Earth Observation Programme is encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 8 to EUR 10 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

- b. Changes in Arctic biodiversity (Research and Innovation action): Actions should identify and analyse major drivers and implications of changing biodiversity in the Arctic, such as the role of invasive species, and how vulnerable land and/or marine ecosystems are with respect to combined human and natural influences. Actions should assess the ecosystems' responses to both external and internal factors and how these responses are impacting on indigenous populations and local communities at socio-economic level. Actions should also identify adaptation strategies in relation to the changes in Arctic ecosystems.

The participation of social sciences and humanities disciplines is important for addressing the complex challenges of this topic.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 5 to EUR 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

- c. Sustainable opportunities in a changing Arctic (Research and Innovation action): Actions should assess the viability of new economic activities – such as resource exploitation, shipping and tourism – and their ecological and socio-economic impacts and feedbacks at various scales, and their impact on the provision of ecosystem services. Actions should investigate key processes with high societal and economic impacts and provide appropriate, solution-oriented adaptation and mitigation responses, as well as capacity building for sustainable livelihoods while considering – in a co-design approach – the needs, priorities and perspectives of indigenous populations, local communities and economic actors operating in the region.

The participation of social sciences and humanities disciplines is essential for addressing the complex challenges of this topic.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 5 to EUR 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

For all of the above sub-topics, in line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012)497), international cooperation is encouraged^[1], in particular with countries – beyond the EU Member States and countries associated to Horizon 2020 – that took part in the first Arctic Science Ministerial of 28 September 2016^[2].

Expected Impact: For projects addressing parts a), b) or c), the project results are expected to contribute to:

- the implementation of the new integrated EU policy for the Arctic^[3];
- the IPCC assessments and other major regional and global initiatives;
- enhanced engagement of and the interaction with residents from local communities and indigenous societies.
- support the EU Arctic Research Cluster^[4]

Cross-cutting Priorities: Blue Growth, International cooperation, RRI, Socio-economic science and humanities, Open Innovation

^[1] Proposals should pay attention to the special call conditions for this topic.

^[2] i.e. the United States of America, Canada, the People's Republic of **China**, Japan, the Russian Federation, South Korea, New Zealand, India, Singapore, and Greenland; see https://www.arctic.gov/publications/other/supporting_arctic_science.html

^[3] JOIN(2016) 21 final

^[4] <http://www.eu-polar.net/eu-arctic-cluster/>

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials
Call Title:	Greening the economy in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Call Identifier:	H2020-SC5-2018-2019-2020
Topic Title:	Multi-stakeholder dialogue platform to promote nature-based solutions to societal challenges: follow-up project
Topic Identifier:	SC5-23-2019
Type of Action:	CSA Coordination and support action
Deadline(s):	04-09-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/sc5-23-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Nature-based solutions (NBS) have a high – but largely untapped – potential for delivering multiple ecosystem services (such as carbon sequestration, soil and water retention and purification, pollination, increased human well-being...) to address diverse societal challenges with a systemic and innovative approach. An effective and self-sustainable multi-stakeholder platform that fosters dialogue, interactions, knowledge and information sharing, collaboration and think-and-do-tanks among relevant stakeholders is necessary to support the understanding and promote the use of nature-based solutions and speed up market up-take. Stakeholders include science, policy, administration, business (including SMEs), society (including NGOs, CSOs, and citizens as appropriate), public and private investors.

The establishment of such platform is currently being undertaken by ThinkNature^[1], with support from Oppla^[2] and Biodiversa^[3]. ThinkNature is an ongoing CSA funded under SC5 WP 2016 that is due to terminate end 2019. The Oppla portal is developing as the EU NBS knowledge repository, supporting access, sharing and marketing of nature-based solutions knowledge, including from NBS EU-funded projects.

Scope: The action should aim to build upon the achievements of ThinkNature and further develop and consolidate an effective and self-sustainable EU community of innovators and practitioners and think-and-do-tanks to promote the design, development, replication and upscaling of nature-based solutions at the European and global scale.

The action should, on the basis of continuous and strategically driven stakeholder dialogue, exchanges of practices and experiences and sharing of expertise related to the various social, economic, financial, environmental, educational, institutional, regulatory and cultural NBS-relevant aspects, across multiple scales (local, regional, national and EU):

- further develop and maintain an online open source stakeholders platform that would facilitate the interactions;
- develop a business plan to make such a platform financially self-sustainable;
- identify specific domains and priorities where further research and innovation is needed for marketable nature-based solutions;
- establish NBS hubs and organize communication and outreach campaigns and regular events in all Member States, involving, as appropriate, international networks and environmental communicators and targeting all relevant stakeholders involved, including the scientific community, in the overall NBS value chain;
- facilitate the clustering of current and upcoming EU-funded nature-based solutions relevant research and innovation projects and other EU or national initiatives;
- assist the European Commission in organizing science-policy workshops and drafting briefings and contributions to EU policies related to nature, environment, climate, water, etc. Appropriate links with other relevant policy platforms such as Climate-ADAPT^[4] and BISE^[5] should be ensured;
- develop guidelines for practitioners with state-of-the-art NBS design practices, protocols and standards;
- facilitate the development and mainstreaming of NBS-related professional training and the inclusion of NBS in high-education curricula (as, for example, NBS for architects and urban planners; ecosystem services for engineers, etc.), and Masters;
- promote international cooperation with key strategic international partners^[6];
- proposals shall address all of the above points. The platform must ensure that all evidence, data and information will be accessible through the Oppla portal.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 2 million for a period of up to 4 years would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

Actions are expected to lead to:

- effective and self-sustainable EU community of innovators, practitioners and think-and-do-tanks; identification of knowledge gaps and user needs; assessment of market potential for NBS;
- enhanced awareness among public authorities, the private sector and society at large about the advantages and any risks of NBS and therefore a wider use of these solutions as opposed to or in combination with grey infrastructure;
- improved cooperation and synergies with key strategic international partners and the emergence of a global market for nature-based solutions.

Delegation Exception Footnote: This activity directly aimed at supporting the development and implementation of evidence base for R&I policies and supporting various groups of stakeholders is excluded from the delegation to EASME and will be implemented by the Commission services.

[1] <https://www.think-nature.eu/>

[2] <https://oppla.eu/> Developed by FP7-funded projects OPERAs and OpenNESS for knowledge on ecosystem services, natural capital and nature-based solutions;

[3] <http://www.biodiversa.org/> Funded under the Horizon 2020 ERA-NET COFUND scheme

[4] <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/>

[5] <https://biodiversity.europa.eu/>

[6] Such as CELAC countries, **China**, **Belmont Forum**, South East **Asia**

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy
Call Title:	Sustainable Food Security
Call Identifier:	H2020-SFS-2018-2020
Topic Title:	High-quality organic fertilisers from biogas digestate
Topic Identifier:	CE-SFS-39-2019
Type of Action:	IA Innovation action
Deadline(s):	23-01-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/ce-sfs-39-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Public policies in **China** and in several EU Member States have promoted the use of anaerobic digestion to treat organic wastes and to generate renewable energy. This has resulted in the production of considerable volumes of digestate as by-product, which could raise an environmental concern, prove costly and represent an inefficient use of biomass. The most straight-forward option for placing a value on digestate is to use it as an organic fertiliser and soil amender. However digestate is not highly appreciated by farmers as a soil treatment due to its significant shortcomings. These may include, amongst other things and depending on the feedstock source, potential risks of water pollution through leaching, soil contamination, or a threat to human health by food contamination. Furthermore, digestate is difficult to manage due to its fertilising properties, format and high water content.

Scope: Projects shall develop treatment technologies to convert digestate into a suitable fertiliser or soil amender. They could focus on a specific digestate type or develop a flexible process covering a variety of digestates. These treatments shall (i) reduce risks linked to biological and chemical hazards (including AMR) to acceptable levels, (ii) improve fertilising properties and (iii) address issues related to format, formulation and handling. Proper solutions must be sought for the liquid phase to avoid pollution.

The fertiliser developed must be suitable for direct use, or for mixed formulation with other fertilisers. Field tests must be implemented over an appropriate period of time to assess its agronomic properties, as well as its effect on the environment (including greenhouse gas emissions), and on food safety. Projects shall focus on technologies that could be deployed in a decentralised manner, at a relatively small scale. Such technologies shall achieve a technology readiness

level (TRL) 6-7 by the end of your project. A comprehensive impact assessment (economic, environmental and social) of the business model shall be carried out, and policy recommendations shall be provided to boost its deployment.

Proposals shall ensure solid collaboration between agro-food actors, technology providers, research centres, end-users (farmers and farmers associations), and public administration. Projects shall perform a thorough analysis of the state of the art, and demonstrate that your proposed activities go beyond this state and do not overlap with past or ongoing research.

Proposals shall include a task to cluster with other projects financed under topic RUR CE-08-2018/2019/2020 and — if possible — with other relevant projects in the field funded by Horizon 2020, including under the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI JU). Proposals shall promote balanced research and innovation cooperation between the EU and **China**. **China**-based entities that will participate in joint projects with European partners under Horizon 2020 have also the possibility to apply for funding under the **Chinese** co-funding mechanism.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude the submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. Contributions for **Chinese** participants will come in addition and will be made available by **China**.

Expected Impact: Projects are expected to provide the technologies needed to develop commercial fertilisers based on biogas digestate. This will help to:

- replace conventional, non-renewable mineral fertilisers, hence reducing external dependence and risks related to depletion;
- reduce the environmental impacts linked to the inadequate management of biogas digestate, and to the production of fossil-based fertilisers;
- develop new business models in rural areas, that are synergised with existing ones, creating value from digestate.

In the long term, this shall contribute to a more circular, resource-efficient and sustainable agro-food sector, and create wealth and quality jobs in rural areas.

Projects shall also contribute to increasing the innovation capacities of participating organisations, and to strengthening scientific and industrial collaboration between the EU and **China**.

Cross-cutting Priorities: International cooperation

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy
Call Title:	Sustainable Food Security
Call Identifier:	H2020-SFS-2018-2020
Topic Title:	European Joint Programme on agricultural soil management
Topic Identifier:	LC-SFS-20-2019
Type of Action:	COFUND-EJP COFUND (European Joint Programme)
Deadline(s):	23-01-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-sfs-20-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Good agriculture soil management^[1] contributes to food security, climate change mitigation/adaptation and ecosystem services. Preserving and increasing fertility of soils, not least through their organic content and water retaining capacity, increases agricultural production. Soils and their carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus content are also important for climate change mitigation. A number of good soil management practices have been developed to deal with some of the challenges; however serious knowledge gaps exist, e.g. on the characteristics of soils in various regions of Europe, the factors influencing their fertility functions including their capacity to store carbon, depending on different climate and environment conditions. The European Union is committed to addressing climate change with ambitious targets. An integrated framework for soil research in Europe is required to overcome current fragmentation and unleash the potential of agricultural soils to contribute to climate change mitigation/adaptation, while preserving or increasing agricultural functions.

Scope: The European Joint Programme will boost soil research with main emphasis on agricultural soil management and its contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The aim is to construct a sustainable framework for an integrated community of research groups working on related aspects of agricultural soil management^[2]. The activities should look at how management of agricultural soils can reduce degradation of land and soils (in particular soil erosion and loss of organic matter), preserve and increase fertility of soils and how the processes related to organic content and water retaining capacity can support mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The EJP will evaluate and foster implementation of novel technologies for soil management and carbon sequestration. The aim of the EJP is also to look for synergies between different

approaches used in Europe for farm level accounting of emissions and removals from agricultural activities and particularly of carbon storage. In doing so, activities will contribute to improving inventories, measurements, reporting and accounting activities at different scales. Sustainable agricultural productivity and environmental aspects will also be targeted in connection with climate change mitigation and adaptation, so that optimisation of land management is ensured.

The European Joint Programme will include joint programming and execution of research and other joint integrative activities such as education and training (e.g. short-term missions, workshops), knowledge management, access to experimental facilities and databases, including also harmonisation, standardisation. Farmers, landowners and other stakeholders should be included in research activities as appropriate in the spirit with the multi-actor approach^[3].

State-of-art technologies for mapping and soil sampling and analysis (physical, chemical and biological parameters) should be explored for wider and simple use at various levels. In return, by e.g. developing new ICT tools, this could help farmers to protect and manage soils in line with current scientific understanding of processes. The EJP should also facilitate sampling and further development of LUCAS^[4] –European Soil Database as well support EU contribution to global soil mapping activities.

Participating legal entities must have research funding and/or management responsibilities in the field of agriculture soil management.

The proposal should include a five-year roadmap describing the key priorities and governance processes as well as the first annual work plan.

The acquired knowledge should support policy making in the domain of agricultural soil management and related areas, such as agriculture, climate and environment, and when feasible and appropriate knowledge exchange between science and practice for better agricultural soil management by farmers should be envisaged.

The activities will need to be coordinated as appropriate with other international soil related activities under the United Nations umbrella among them the **Global Soil Partnership** and more particularly with European Soil Partnership node; with **The Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases**; Horizon 2020 project CIRCASA^[5]; 4% Initiative: soils for food security and climate; Joint Programming Initiatives (FACCE, CLIMATE); the **Belmont Forum** and soil activities coordinated by the European Commission Joint Research Centre ^[6] when relevant and appropriate. The work of the EJP will also support a number of policies: the Common Agricultural Policy, Climate Change related policy and relevant environmental policies, in particular the implementation of the EU Soil Thematic Strategy^[7].

Financial support provided by the participants to third parties is one of the aims of this action and, in order to achieve the objectives of the action, the 60 000 EUR threshold provided for in Article 137(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation N°966/2012 and Article 210(a) of the Rules of Application Regulation N°1268/2012 can be exceeded.

Considering the budget available, the scope covered and the potential entities for the EJP, the Commission considers that an EU contribution to a maximum 50% of the total eligible costs of the action or up to 40 million EUR would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately.

Expected Impact: The project will lead to significant long term alignment and implementation of soil-related research strategies and activities at national and EU level by:

- fostering understanding of soil management and its influence on climate mitigation and adaptation, sustainable agricultural production and environment;
- understanding how soil carbon sequestration can contribute to climate change mitigation at regional level including accounting for carbon;
- strengthening scientific capacities and cooperation across Europe including training of young soil scientists;
- Supporting harmonised European soil information, including for international reporting;
- fostering the uptake of soil management practices which are conducive to climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- developing region-specific fertilisation practices considering the local soil, water and pedo-climatic conditions;

In the long term, the programme will strengthen the role of the farming sector as a steward of land and soil resources. It will increase its capacity to adapt to climate change and contribute to mitigation and carbon sequestration.

^[1] Soil management includes: soil conservation, soil fertility and soil biodiversity.

^[2] Agro-forestry is included in the topic.

^[3] See definition of the 'multi-actor approach' in the introduction of this Work Programme part.

^[4] Land use/cover area frame statistical survey, abbreviated as LUCAS, is a European field survey program funded and executed by Eurostat http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Glossary:Land_use/cover_area_frame_survey_%28LUCAS%29

^[5] Project selected under SFS-50-2017 topic

^[6] European Soil Data Centre; EIONET - European Environment Information and Observation Network – soil network

^[7] COM(2006)231

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy
Call Title:	Sustainable Food Security
Call Identifier:	H2020-SFS-2018-2020
Topic Title:	Integrated approaches to food safety controls across the food chain
Topic Identifier:	SFS-37-2019
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	23-01-2019, 04-09-2019 (two-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/sfs-37-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Food safety in the food chain is a basis for effective functioning of national and international markets with trust and transparency. Food safety risks occur along the food chain from a number of biological and chemical contaminants. In addition, malpractices or fraudulent practices could also lead to increased food safety risks. Improving risk assessment and monitoring, including the use of big data, is of major importance. Developing integrated approaches along the entire food chain for detecting, assessing, and mitigating relevant pathogens and contaminant hazards is essential. It implies efficient food safety control systems, supported by reliable authentication and traceability approaches, being implemented across the entire food chain, focusing on the combination of hazard monitoring and control options in the specific stages of the food chain where the impact would be greater, or combinations of these at multiple stages. This is in particular challenging for SMEs which is a predominant entrepreneurial model across the agri-food sector, both in the EU and **China**.

Scope: Proposals should look at the development of an integrated approach for detecting, assessing and mitigating food safety risks from biological and chemical hazards (whether emerging or not) through the entire food chain/s (from primary production to consumers) and include common risks such as environmental contamination, process contamination, contamination through packaging and misuse or adulteration. They should tackle specific sector/s while taking into account the diversity of the supply chains within sector(s). The research activities should gather relevant data to assess risks and deliver practical solutions (technology and management related) in order to control those hazards and their combinations at specific stages of the food chain where

interventions can deliver the most efficient and greatest possible impact on public health. Activities will develop detection and monitoring tools that will allow for the data collection, integration, validation and analysis. Proposals will establish and validate non-targeted and targeted rapid detection methods for the screening and identification of biological and chemical hazards. Special attention will be given to developing and/or improving systems ensuring process efficacy and validation for hazard control. Proposed activities will encompass work within the food safety risk analysis framework while at the same time developing simple and practical decision support tools tailored towards the needs of agri-food sector (SMEs in particular) and scientific stakeholders. Proposals will fall under the concept of the 'multi-actor approach'^[1] and allow for the adequate involvement of SMEs and food safety control authorities. Proposals should include a task to cluster with other project/s financed under this topic and ensure complementarity with activities of EU-**China**-Safe project funded in response to the topic "SFS-45-2016: Increase overall transparency of processed agri-food products". Proposals shall promote balanced research and innovation cooperation between the EU and **China**. **China**-based entities that will participate in joint projects with European partners under Horizon 2020 have also the possibility to apply for funding under the **Chinese** co-funding mechanism.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed properly. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. Contributions for **Chinese** participants will come in addition and will be made available by **China**.

Expected Impact: Overall, activities will improve food safety control systems (implementation, inspection and controls) along the food chain.

In the short to medium term work will:

- Ensure and enhance the transparency and reliability of food safety along the entire food chain (including the e-commerce mean) with regard to international trade and internal EU and **Chinese** markets;
- Enhance the capacity of food SMEs and operators along the chain to detect, assess and mitigate food safety risks stemming from relevant pathogens, contaminant hazards and counterfeit food;
- Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the controls performed by the food safety authorities along the food chain;
- Contribute to standard setting and regulatory cooperation in the EU and **China**.

In the longer term funded activities will increase food safety along the food chains in the EU and **China**.

Cross-cutting Priorities: RRI, Blue Growth, International cooperation

^[1] See definition of the 'multi-actor approach' in the introduction to this Work Programme part.

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy
Call Title:	Blue Growth
Call Identifier:	H2020-BG-2018-2020
Topic Title:	The Future of Seas and Oceans Flagship Initiative
Topic Identifier:	BG-07-2019-2020
Type of Action:	IA Innovation action
Deadline(s):	23-01-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/bg-07-2019-2020.html>

Specific Challenges: Our future is intimately linked to the future of the seas, oceans and coasts. The seas, oceans and coasts provide multiple ecosystem services and a wealth of resources, influence climate and provide many economic opportunities. To fully profit from the seas and oceans also in the future, we have to preserve those valuable resources and ensure that their exploitation is sustainable. Furthermore, without appropriate ocean observations for forecasting and for the protection of property and human activities, the global economy would lose hundreds of billions of euros annually. For this, we need to have the technologies for observations, integrated ocean observing systems, data management systems, and appropriate models and services. This action will contribute to make ocean observations and data management in European seas and the Atlantic Ocean fit for the future, in line with the G7 Future of the Oceans Initiative (Tsukuba Communiqué of the G7 Science Ministers^[1]). It will also support the Collaborative Research Action on Oceans of the **Belmont Forum**^[2] and the International Ocean Governance Communication^[3]. Similarly, ocean observation data must be available to effectively address local, national and global challenges such as the forecasting of ocean conditions and climate change, to take stock of biomass and biodiversity, to mitigate the impact of climate change and ocean acidification, to ensure food security and food safety (also in fresh water), and to contribute to the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, notably UN SDGs 2, 13, 14 and 15, and monitoring their targets for 2020 and 2025.

Scope: Proposals shall address one of the following sub-topics: blue cloud services, or ocean observations and forecasting^[4], or technologies for observations (in 2020). Actions shall demonstrate integration, capacity and (scientific, economic etc)

potential. They shall complement and build on existing observation tools and systems such as EuroGOOS/EOOS, IOOS, **GEO/GEOS**, COPERNICUS Marine Service or EMODnet, European research infrastructures such as Euro-Argo ERIC and EMSO ERIC as well as funded H2020 projects such as SeaDataCloud^[5]. The interdisciplinary and cross-sectorial nature of the proposal should also apply to training activities improving the professional skills and competencies of workers and supporting the creation of new jobs in the blue economy.

[A] 2019 - Blue Cloud services

Activities shall develop cloud services for applications that are specific for oceans, seas and fresh water bodies and are necessary for marine ecosystems research, conservation, forecasting and innovation in the Blue Economy, building and implementing also Blue Cloud demonstrators as needed. Blue Cloud demonstrators should integrate the Essential Ocean Variables^[6], notably the biological variables, including plankton biomass and diversity. They shall build on ongoing efforts (data, tools, EOSC, including its Pilot Blue Cloud, Data and Information Access Services (DIAS) of COPERNICUS, etc) and take account of the parallel EOSC thematic initiatives being developed – such as the Food Cloud Demonstrator.^[7] The action shall contribute to unlocking the innovation potential of the Blue Cloud, and demonstrate its potential in promoting the blue economy shortening the time span between research and innovation in frontier fields, such as micro-organisms and genomics-enabled innovations^[8]. Activities shall build on existing research infrastructures, take advantage of existing data sharing activities (for example EMODnet), and build on relevant results of past and on-going global, national and EU projects such as SeaDataCloud^[9], BlueBridge, the EOSC Pilot and other relevant projects funded under Horizon 2020, including those under Information and Communication Technologies^[10]. Proposals should include a task to cluster with other projects financed under this topic and – if possible – with other relevant projects in the field funded by Horizon 2020.

[B] 2019 - Observations and forecasting

The action shall contribute to the development and demonstration of the feasibility of the European component of a future Global Ocean Observing System in line with the G7 Tsukuba Communiqué^[11]. It will support activities in the different EU sea basins and the Atlantic Ocean, including the deep sea (below 2000 m), also supporting the needs of food security and safety as outlined in Food 2030^[12]. It will also support the future Collaborative Research Action on Oceans of the **Belmont Forum**^[13]. It will underpin forecasting of the state of the ocean, climate change impact and weather. Activities shall include the demonstration of methods and technologies and their integration in existing systems to collect information on the state and variability of European seas and the Atlantic Ocean, including the impact of stressors and marine litter, and underpin sustainable management of the marine environment and its resources (e.g. the effect of networks of protected areas and other spatial protection measures). They shall take account of the needs deriving from the G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Initiative^[14], from actions such as the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance and its related South Atlantic

Flagship, the BLUEMED Initiative, and notably common priorities with the WestMED Initiative^[15] and the EUSAIR^[16], and actions addressing other European regional seas. The inclusion of forecasting tools (for example to protect aquaculture installations or to inform fisheries decision making) shall be an advantage. Similarly, the sustainability of the approach selected, the integration of innovative observations solutions and existing systems, the smooth storage of data in open access data centres and the improvement of the predictive capability shall be demonstrated. Observations and data handling may also include pilots for Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs)^[6] under consideration (for example, nutrients, carbonate, sound and microbes/omics) and variables that are of importance in European regional seas as well as the integration of “augmented” observatories (i.e. genomic-enabled multidisciplinary observatories)^[17]. Flow of information across variables and disciplines shall be included. Data collected shall be in line with agreed standards, be openly available via portals (including EMODnet) and feed into the Pilot Blue Cloud (part of the European Open Science Cloud). International cooperation with Third Country partners is encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 6 million for sub-topic [A] and EUR 12 million for sub-topic [B] would allow this specific challenge to be adequately addressed. Nonetheless, this does not preclude the submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Proposals shall include a task to cluster with other projects financed under this topic and – if possible – with other relevant projects in the field funded by Horizon 2020. Possible links with related research and innovation activities supported by the **Belmont Forum**^[18] on Ocean sustainability shall also be considered.

[C] 2020 - Technologies for observations

Expected Impact: Contributing to the ongoing implementation of EU Policies such as the Bioeconomy Strategy, the Circular Economy Strategy, the European Open Science Cloud Initiative, the Blue Growth Strategy, the Common Fisheries Policy, the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the International Ocean Governance Communication and the UN SDGs, activities shall:

In the short term:

- Support the implementation of the Future of the Oceans Initiative of the G7 Science Ministers.
- Deliver cloud services with work starting at technology readiness level (TRL) between 4 and 5 and achieving TRL between 6 and 7 or higher (sub-topic A).
- Achieve at least TRL 6 for ocean observations' systems and tools (sub-topic B).
- Contribute to regularly measure 50% of biological and biogeochemical EOVs, including in the sea below 2000 m, and predict negative impacts of ocean acidification and other selected stressors to take timely prevention, notably to protect aquaculture resources by 2020 (sub-topic B).

- Lay the foundations for and contribute to the sustainable management and protection of marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts (UN SDG 14) (sub-topic).

In the medium term:

- Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health (UN SDG 14).
- Improve forecasting of climate change, weather and ocean conditions to protect human activities in support of UN SDG 14 and other relevant goals, and of the objectives of related Conventions (for example, on biodiversity).
- Shorten the time span between research and innovation and foster economic value in the blue economy.
- Improve the professional skills and competences of those working and being trained to work within the blue economy and in the context of open data sharing.
- Contribute to policymaking in research, innovation and technology.
- Increase data sharing and increase integration of data.

Delegation Exception Footnote: This topic is expected to continue in 2020.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Socio-economic science and humanities, International cooperation, Blue Growth

^[1] <http://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/english/others/20160517communique.pdf>

^[2] **Belmont Forum** <https://www.belmontforum.org/>

^[3] (JOIN(2016) 49)

^[4] All proposals under B) must include an observation part.

^[5] This will also include mutual feedback processes with the Copernicus Programme and other relevant actions such as those undertaken by IOC/IODE or the Marine Environment Monitoring Service.

^[6] http://goosoocean.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14&Itemid=114

^[7] See topic DT-SFS-27-2019 under this Work Programme's SC2 Sustainable Food Security Call.

^[8] Following up on the Communication "European Cloud Initiative – Building a competitive data and knowledge economy in Europe", the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) will soon become an important tool for scientists, citizens and policy makers <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/communication-european-cloud-initiative-building-competitive-data-and-knowledge-economy-europe>

^[9] This will also include mutual feedback process with the Copernicus Programme and other relevant actions such as those undertaken by IOC/IODE or the Marine Environment Monitoring Service.

^[10] <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/information-communication-technologies-horizon-2020>

^[11] <http://www.japan.go.jp/g7/userdata/common/data/20160517communique.pdf>

^[12] European Research and Innovation for Food and Nutrition Security, SWD(2016)319. <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10102/2016/EN/SWD-2016-319-F1-EN-MAIN.PDF>

^[13] <https://www.belmontforum.org/collaborative-research-actions>

^[14] Recommendations 1, 3 and 4 on ocean observations and data sharing

[15] Initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the Western Mediterranean

[16] <http://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/>

[17] The development of such laboratories is not part of this call.

[18] <https://www.belmontforum.org/>

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Health, demographic change and wellbeing
Call Title:	Better Health and care, economic growth and sustainable health systems
Call Identifier:	H2020-SC1-BHC-2018-2020
Topic Title:	Actions in support of the International Consortium for Personalised Medicine
Topic Identifier:	SC1-HCO-01-2018-2019-2020
Type of Action:	CSA Coordination and support action
Deadline(s):	16-04-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/sc1-hco-01-2018-2019-2020.html>

Specific Challenges: Personalised Medicine is a very broad and multifaceted area where success relies on a well-functioning collaboration between several disciplines and different actors. While great advances have been made in some fields of medicine, in particular in stratification of cancer patients and in addressing rare diseases, most of today's healthcare protocols do not include personalised approaches apart from occasional division into broad age groups (children/adults/elderly), sex or ethnicity. Furthermore the prevention aspect of personalised medicine, i.e. identifying individuals prone to develop certain diseases, is largely isolated from treatment options. As is the case for a relatively nascent field there is a need for standardisation of approaches, including for sampling, data storage, interpretation and data exchange and also for clinical trials design and reimbursement models. European countries with their social model of healthcare along with (in several cases) centralised cost reimbursement, are ideally placed to lead the way for an integrated health management system. Many needs for coordination and support activities have been identified by ICPeMed^[1], which includes representatives from most EU countries along with several other European countries and Canada. Also the wider internationalisation of ICPeMed can be underpinned by coordinating networking activities with third countries.

Scope:

Each action should focus on one of the following fields:

1. International aspect: The action should focus on building links with third countries by analysing the potential and advantages of collaboration in personalised medicine (PM) with those countries, studying areas of interest

for Europe in PM collaboration and promoting international standards in the field. In particular the uptake of personalised approaches in health systems and healthcare should be addressed, taking into account social and cultural aspects, health economy issues and equitable healthcare. For the 2019 call, the project should focus on **China**. Due to the specific challenge of this topic, in addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, proposals shall include at least one participant from **China**.

2. Standardisation for clinical study design. Establishment of innovative clinical trial design methodology for PM, including guidelines for research and reflection papers. The action should take into account sex/gender differences as well as the work done by relevant stakeholders and authorities such as EMA^[2] and the HMA network^[3], as well as the European legal framework^[4]. SME participation is encouraged. The results of the studies and workshops should be actively disseminated to a wider audience, including, industry, researchers and other professionals. (2019 call).

For grants awarded under this topic for Coordination and Support Actions it is expected that results could contribute to European or international standards. Therefore, the respective option of Article 28.2 of the Model Grant Agreement will be applied.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1.5 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: Contributing to the implementation and reach of the ICPeMed initiative; furthermore:

1. International aspect: Integrating the country/group of countries into ICPeMed activities. Support wider adoption of standards developed in Europe. Contribute towards the UN Sustainable Development Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
2. Standardisation for clinical study design: Contribute to standardisation of PM clinical trial design. Demonstrate feasibility and importance of PM approaches. Underpin accelerated market uptake. Improved knowledge and understanding among healthcare professionals, regulatory authorities and industry how best to adapt clinical trials designs to stratified patient populations.

Delegation Exception Footnote: This topic will continue in 2020

Cross-cutting Priorities: International cooperation, Socio-economic science and humanities, Gender

^[1] International Consortium for Personalised Medicine; <http://icpermed.eu>

^[2] European Medicines Agency; <http://www.ema.europa.eu>

^[3] Heads of Medicines Agencies; <http://www.hma.eu/>

^[4] Especially the clinical trials regulation (EU) No 536/2014 and the data protection regulation (EU) 2016/679

Horizon 2020 Pillar: Societal Challenges

Programme: Secure, clean and efficient energy

Call Title: BUILDING A LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE RESILIENT FUTURE:
SECURE, CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY

Call Identifier: H2020-LC-SC3-2018-2019-2020

Topic Title: Research on advanced tools and technological development

Topic Identifier: LC-SC3-ES-6-2019

Type of Action: RIA Research and Innovation action

Deadline(s): 05-02-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-sc3-es-6-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: A number of tools and future technologies need to be developed, matured and tested to cover gaps and/or to prepare the energy system of 2030 and beyond.

Scope: Proposals must address only one of the 4 following sub-topics whereby not necessarily all points listed in a sub-topic need to be addressed:

1. Advanced modelling tools for:
 - the modelling of the future electricity market to study and analyse the impact and the design of electricity pricing structure from the wholesale markets, to real time markets (balancing and congestion management) and retail markets;
 - modelling and forecasting energy production from variable renewables, associated frequency and voltage controls issues in the electricity grid and benefits associated with the use of storage.
2. Advanced tools for
 - the design and planning and operation of electricity grid infrastructure including distribution and transmission level, taking into account environmental concerns, such as air quality, and footprints and the new constraints from variable renewable generation, the place and role of storage and flexibility; the optimisation of the use of existing electricity assets and network capacity;
 - the development of grid predictive management strategies with uncertainty (forecasting plus stochastic grid management tools), improving the maintenance of electricity assets (distribution and transmission) as well as the associated data management;

- Enhanced TSO / DSO collaboration and coordination tools, secure data exchange across networks along whole the value chain, ICT tools for cross-border trading for nearly real-time balancing; definition of minimum set of specifications to allow automated digital cross-border electricity market.
 - Enabling technologies for reliable and resilient interconnected European electricity grids, making use of the specific features and the strategic role of the European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Galileo and EGNOS.
3. Technological developments:
- Develop a new generation of reliable, robust and cost-effective energy storage technologies, storage management systems, in particular batteries, able to provide high specific energy rates, large number of life cycles, fast response to the electrical network demands and low maintenance;
 - Power electronics for batteries and software to manage combined or hybridised decentralised energy systems, also combining several energy vectors: a key focus is on significant cost reduction of these key components for homes, districts and larger systems which have the potential to accelerate significantly the energy transition of the electricity network.
4. International Cooperation with non-EU/Associated country member of **Mission Innovation**^[1] on **Mission Innovation** Challenge 7 on Affordable Heating and Cooling for Buildings:
- Develop compact thermal energy storage for electricity load shifting that will take up electricity from the grid at the peak times, to be used for heating, cooling or hot tap water at later times. Typical required charging power is 3 kW, for periods of up to three hours. Integration into the building heating system and in the smart electricity grid is a key development element together to the storage materials and technologies.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 2 to 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Proposal must clearly indicate which sub-topic 1, 2, 3 or 4 they are targeting.

Proposals should comply with the requirements stated in the section 'Common requirements' of the introduction to the part on the Smart citizen-centred energy system.

Expected Impact:

1. Advanced modelling tools are expected to: increase the knowledge on how to design of price structure and magnitude in order to be able to finance e.g. infrastructure and research and innovation; enhance the accuracy of the prediction of electricity production from variable renewables and better qualify and quantity associated issues and remedies
2. Advanced tools are expected to develop new approaches to electricity grid planning, monitoring and maintenance that are better suited to today's future characteristics of the grid and enable savings on infrastructure costs.

3. The technological developments are expected to reduce costs of key technology components to allow European Industry to keep and extend its leadership in power electronics for stationary battery systems of all sizes (from home to utility scale) and the integration of battery systems with high shares of renewable electricity and eventually also heating and cooling.
4. Contribute to the objectives of **Mission Innovation** and provide efficient innovative small scale power to heat/cool flexibility measures that can be deployed in a large number of buildings so as to enable the grid to operate with large share of variable renewable energy

Proposals are invited to include ad-hoc indicators to measure the progress against specific objectives of their choice that could be used to assess the progress during the project life.

Cross-cutting Priorities: International cooperation, Clean Energy

^[1] Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, People's Republic of **China**, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, United States

Horizon 2020 Pillar: Societal Challenges

Programme: Secure, clean and efficient energy

Call Title: BUILDING A LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE RESILIENT FUTURE: SECURE, CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY

Call Identifier: H2020-LC-SC3-2018-2019-2020

Topic Title: Low carbon industrial production using CCUS

Topic Identifier: LC-SC3-NZE-5-2019-2020

Type of Action: IA Innovation action

Deadline(s): 27-08-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-sc3-nze-5-2019-2020.html>

Specific Challenges: CCUS in industrial applications faces significant challenges due to its high cost and the fierce international competition in the sectors concerned. However, these sectors currently account for 20% of global CO₂ emissions, and in the 2 degree scenario, should represent half of the stored CO₂ by 2050. Relevant sectors with high CO₂ emissions are for example steel, iron and cement making, oil refining, gas processing, hydrogen production, biofuel production and waste incineration plants.

Scope: Projects will focus on integrating CO₂ capture in industrial installations, whilst addressing the full CCUS chain. Projects will elaborate a detailed plan on how to use the results, i.e. the subsequent transport, utilisation and/or underground storage of the captured CO₂. Important aspects to address are of technical (e.g. the optimised integration of capture plant with industrial processes; scalability; CO₂ purity), safety (e.g. during transportation and storage), financial (e.g. cost of capture; cost of integration) and strategic nature (e.g. business models; operation and logistics of industrial clusters and networks).

Projects are expected to bring technologies to TRL 6-7 (please see part G of the General Annexes). Technology development has to be balanced by an assessment of the societal readiness towards the proposed innovations. Relevant end users and societal stakeholders will be identified in the proposal, and their concerns and needs will be analysed during the project using appropriate techniques and methods from the social sciences and humanities, in order to create awareness, gain feedback on societal impact and advancing society's readiness for the proposed solutions. Projects should also explore the socio-economic and political barriers to acceptance and awareness with a view to regulatory or policy initiatives.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 10 to 12 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

In line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012)497), international cooperation is encouraged, in particular with relevant **Mission Innovation**^[1] countries such as **China**^[2].

Expected Impact: Successful, safe and economic demonstration of integrated-chain CCUS from relevant industrial sources such as mentioned in the specific challenge will accelerate the learning, drive down the cost and thus help break the link between economic growth and the demand for industrial output on one hand, and increasing CO2 emissions on the other hand. The impact of projects under this call will to a large extent be determined by the extent to which the results will be exploited, i.e. the plan on how the captured CO2 will be actually utilised and/or stored, either in the project or planned as a future phase. This will be evaluated based on the maturity and quality of the proposed post-capture solutions. Projects under this call that are carried out in areas where there is both a high concentration of CO2 emitting industries and a nearby capacity for geological storage are considered prime sites for hub and cluster developments, and will generate the highest impact on full-scale deployment in the medium to longer term.

Delegation Exception Footnote: It is expected that this topic will continue in 2020.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Socio-economic science and humanities, RRI, International cooperation, Open Innovation

^[1] <http://mission-innovation.net/our-work/innovation-challenges/>

^[2] A Co-funding mechanism is in place in **China**; see <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/news/eu-China-research-and-innovation-co-funding-mechanism-first-call-launched-China>

Horizon 2020 Pillar: Societal Challenges

Programme: Secure, clean and efficient energy

Call Title: BUILDING A LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE RESILIENT FUTURE: SECURE, CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY

Call Identifier: H2020-LC-SC3-2018-2019-2020

Topic Title: Converting Sunlight to storable chemical energy

Topic Identifier: LC-SC3-RES-29-2019

Type of Action: RIA Research and Innovation action

Deadline(s): 27-08-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-sc3-res-29-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: To replace fossil energy with sustainable alternatives that provide the same flexibility and convenience of use, we need to store sustainable energy on a large scale and for a long time in new kind of energy storage compounds. This can be done by direct conversion of sunlight into storable chemicals that can be stored for a virtually unlimited time. At present, these processes can be performed at the level of small prototype devices at high cost. Therefore, research and innovation are needed to bring these approaches from infancy to maturity. The production of clean forms of storable chemical energy from direct sunlight is the next step.

Performance breakthroughs, including day and night continuous processes, and cost reductions are a must in order to unlock the potential of technologies converting sunlight to storable chemical energy.

This challenge is fully aligned to the "Converting Sunlight Innovation Challenge"^[1] identified as a priority in **Mission Innovation**.

Scope: Proposals are expected to address renewable energy technologies that will answer the challenge described in the "Converting Sunlight Innovation Challenge" of **Mission Innovation**, bringing them up to TRL 4 or 5. Beside the technological development, the proposal will have to clearly address the following related aspects: the potential lower environmental impact than the current technologies, possibly through a LCA analysis, the better resource efficiency, issues related to social acceptance or resistance to new energy technologies, related socioeconomic and livelihood issues, and prospective market analysis. The proposal needs to consider all three dimensions of sustainability, resource efficiency and scalability, i.e. not using materials which

are uncommon, dangerous or scarce that could disable its future concept to be used at large scale.

At least one of the following technology-specific challenges has to be addressed:

- Improved light-harvesting and efficient charge separation in photocatalytic systems;
- Photoelectrochemical cells – PECs and catalyst development;
- Thermochemical pathways to energy rich chemicals (using concentrated solar light); and
- Design and engineering of devices, systems or prototypes integrating together the different processes, with day and night control and applicability for the production of chemical energy rich carriers.

The area of electrolyzers efficiently utilizing a renewable electricity input, such as provided by photovoltaics, wind turbines or other sustainable means, is not covered by this challenge.

The proposal must have a plausible pathway to scale the technology to the terawatt scale by 2050, a plausible potential for an EROI > 10 (EROI: Energy returned on energy invested) and the full recyclability of the conversion devices in the context of a circular economy must be ensured.

As part of **Mission Innovation** actions, the project will be required to contribute towards the activities of the "Converting Sunlight Innovation Challenge". Beside solving the technical challenge, the consortium is expected to budget the participation in the development of the Challenge work plan through activities such as dissemination, exchange of researcher and networking as well as through contributing in official meetings.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 2 to 3 million would allow this challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: Projects will not only contribute to mitigating climate change through the production of storable chemical energy from the sun, but also enhance energy security and provide opportunities for economic development across the globe.

Projects should show its contribution towards establishing a solid European innovation base and building a sustainable renewable energy system.

Contributing to **Mission Innovation** aims, projects will deepen the international collaboration in clean energy research and development.

Delegation Exception Footnote: It is expected that this topic will continue in 2020.

Cross-cutting Priorities: International cooperation, Clean Energy, Socio-economic science and humanities

^[1] <http://mission-innovation.net/our-work/innovation-challenges/converting-sunlight-challenge/>

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Secure, clean and efficient energy
Call Title:	BUILDING A LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE RESILIENT FUTURE: SECURE, CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY
Call Identifier:	H2020-LC-SC3-2018-2019-2020
Topic Title:	Developing the next generation of renewable energy technologies
Topic Identifier:	LC-SC3-RES-1-2019-2020
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	16-10-2018, 25-04-2019 (two-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-sc3-res-1-2019-2020.html>

Specific Challenges: The renewable energy technologies that will form the backbone of the energy system by 2030 and 2050 are still at an early stage of development today. Bringing these new energy conversion solutions, new renewable energy concepts and innovative renewable energy uses faster to commercialisation, taking into account social acceptance and secure and affordable energy supply, is challenging. These new technologies must not only have a commercial potential but they should also have a lower environmental impact and lower greenhouse gases emissions than the current renewable energy technologies.

Due to the pre-competitive nature of the research activities of this type, particular emphasis is put on including international cooperation opportunities, whenever relevant to the proposal and the domain, in particular in the context of the **Mission Innovation** Challenges^[1].

Scope: Proposals are expected to bring to TRL 3 or TRL 4 (please see part G of the General Annexes) renewable energy technologies that will answer the challenge described. Beside the development of the technology, the proposal will have to clearly address the following related aspects: the potential lower environmental and climate impact on a life cycle basis, the better resource efficiency, issues related to social acceptance or resistance to new energy technologies, related socioeconomic and livelihood issues.

Support will be given to activities which focus on converting renewable energy sources into an energy vector, or the direct application of renewable energy sources.

One of the following technology-specific sub-topics has to be addressed:

- Developing the new energy technologies that will form the backbone of the energy system by 2030 and 2050. The challenge is to develop energy technologies currently in the early phases of research. It is crucial that these new, more efficient, and cost-competitive energy generation and conversion technologies, demonstrate their potential value in the future European energy system. Developments in sectors other than energy may provide ideas, experiences, technology contributions, knowledge, new approaches, innovative materials and skills that are of relevance to the energy sector. Cross-fertilisation could offer mutually beneficial effects;
- Innovative materials for geothermal heat exchangers to maximize energy transfer and improve the overall conversion efficiency of a geothermal system;
- Innovative testing methods and design tools for acceleration of wind energy technology development and increased life time extension;
- Sustainable fuels other than hydrogen for energy and transport application through ground-breaking conversion technologies, addressing for example development of novel microorganisms, enzymes, catalysts, photosensitizers and separation techniques, improvement of biomass and microalgae yields, and development of novel technologies of combined indirect and direct artificial photosynthesis with chemical/ biochemical/biological systems;
- Innovative very high efficiency thin-film photovoltaics concepts considering advanced, sustainable and low-cost materials and processes.

Novel technology solutions for grid integration, storage, fuel cells and hydrogen – (other than integral to the technology solution developed), energy efficiency and smart cities will not be supported under this topic but in the relevant parts of this work programme part and other H2020 work programme parts.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 2 to 5 million would allow this challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: On its completion, the project is expected to advance the knowledge and prove the technological feasibility of the concept including the environmental, social and economic benefits. The proposal should show its contribution towards establishing a solid European innovation base and building a sustainable renewable energy system contributing to the decarbonisation of our economies. The proposed solutions are expected to contribute to strengthening the EU leadership on renewables.

Delegation Exception Footnote: It is expected that this topic will continue in 2020.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Blue Growth, Clean Energy, International cooperation, Socio-economic science and humanities

^[1] <http://mission-innovation.net/our-work/innovation-challenges/>

Horizon 2020 Pillar: Societal Challenges

Programme: Secure, clean and efficient energy

Call Title: BUILDING A LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE RESILIENT FUTURE: SECURE, CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY

Call Identifier: H2020-LC-SC3-2018-2019-2020

Topic Title: Market Uptake support

Topic Identifier: LC-SC3-RES-28-2018-2019-2020

Type of Action: CSA Coordination and support action

Deadline(s): 11-12-2018 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-sc3-res-28-2018-2019-2020.html>

Specific Challenges: Since the adoption of RES Directive in 2009, most Member States have experienced significant growth in renewable energy production and consumption, and both the EU and a large majority of Member States are on track towards the 2020 RES targets. The "Clean Energy for all Europeans" package adopted at the end of 2016 introduces further targets towards 2030 and introduces modifications in the energy market design that will empower individuals or communities to participate actively to the energy system transformation. Renewable energy technologies have the opportunity to play a crucial role in this transition, leading to an increased share of renewable energy consumed in the EU and to a more active role for the consumers. However, introducing and deploying at large scale new and improved technologies entails a number of challenges, notably as regards their initial high cost, the consumer acceptance and the legal and financial barriers arising from bringing novel solutions to a technical environment with already reliable solutions in place.

Scope: The proposal will develop solutions which can be easily implemented for overcoming barriers to the broad deployment of renewable energy solutions. In particular, the proposal will address one or more of the following issues:

- Recommendation for harmonisation of regulations, life cycle assessment approaches, environmental impact methodologies of renewable energy solutions;
- Development of additional features for RES to be compliant with the electricity market requirements, making them "market fit", such as developing the possibility to provide additional services to the grid such as peak power and having an active role in electricity balancing/reserve market;

- Support sharing of best practice between public funding bodies for the cross-border participation in RES electricity support schemes, increasing the use of the "RES co-operation mechanisms" foreseen in the legislation;
- Development of insurance schemes to be available to developers in Europe and worldwide to mitigate risks, such as in geothermal drilling and offshore installation;
- Development of innovative financing mechanisms, schemes and sharing of best practices for cost-effective support for uptake of renewable sources, such as through the use of Public Procurement of Innovative Solutions instrument or smartly designed tenders;
- Development of support tools to facilitate export markets, especially for technologies where export market potential is much higher than internal market e.g. for hydropower. The focus will be on capacity building for market activities in developing and **Emerging Countries**, including identifying research needs, within the objectives of developing country- specific technologies and solutions, and/or adapting existing ones, taking into account local aspects of social, economic and environmental sustainability. Participation of developing and **Emerging Countries** is encouraged, in particular if these countries have identified energy as a priority area for their development and whenever common interest and mutual benefits are clearly identified.
- Development of tools (methods and models) for environmental impact assessments of renewable energy projects;
- Development of tools or services using global earth observation data, (such as those available through COPERNICUS), to support development and deployment of renewable energy sources;
- Determining conditions and defining options for retrofitting existing energy and industrial installations (first generation biofuels, pulp and paper, fossil refineries, fossil firing power and Combined Heat and Power (CHP) plants) for the complete or partial integration of bioenergy, with concrete proposals for such retrofitting for the different cases of bioethanol, biodiesel, bio-kerosene, intermediate bioenergy carriers and other advanced biofuels and renewable fuels and biomass based heat and power generation, on the basis of the assessment of the capital expenditure (CAPEX) reduction and market benefit;
- Development of optimisation strategies regarding cost, energy-performance and LCA for bioenergy and sustainable renewable fuels in upgraded energy and industrial installations;
- Development of cost-effective logistics, feedstock mobilisation strategies and trade-centres for intermediate bioenergy carriers.

For all actions, the consortia have to involve and/or engage relevant stakeholders and market actors who are committed to adopting/implementing the results. The complexity of these challenges and of the related market uptake barriers calls for multi-disciplinary research designs, which should include contributions also from the social sciences and humanities. Where relevant, regional specificities, socio-economic, spatial and environmental aspects from a life-cycle perspective will be considered. Where relevant, proposals are expected to also critically evaluate the legal, institutional and political frameworks at local,

national and European level and how, why and under what conditions these (could) act as a barrier or an enabling element.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1 to 3 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

It is expected that the solution proposed will contribute to:

- Facilitate the introduction of these technologies and increase the share of renewable energy in the final energy consumption;
- Lead to substantial and measurable reductions for project developments, whilst still fully addressing the needs for environmental impact assessments and public engagement;
- Develop more informed policy, market support and financial frameworks, notably at national, regional and local level, leading to more cost effective support schemes and lower financing costs for RES facilities.

Delegation Exception Footnote: It is expected that this topic will continue in 2020.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Clean Energy, Open Innovation, International cooperation, RRI, Socio-economic science and humanities

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Smart, green and integrated transport
Call Title:	2018-2020 Mobility for Growth
Call Identifier:	H2020-MG-2018-2019-2020
Topic Title:	InCo Flagship on Integrated multimodal, low-emission freight transport systems and logistics
Topic Identifier:	MG-2-9-2019
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	16-01-2019, 12-09-2019 (two-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/mg-2-9-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Global as well as regional and local freight transport is massively changing due to accelerating technological changes, the establishment of new players in global trade, the rise of protectionism, and the slowing down of economic growth of important partners such as **China**. New logistics concepts (such as the Physical Internet) and new disruptive technologies, such as Blockchain, Industry 4.0, vehicle automation and truck platooning or new business models, like 'crowdshipping' and the circular economy models will have an impact on global freight transport, its optimisation and its environmental footprint that needs to be better understood and assessed. Furthermore new trade routes from and to Europe will probably change the traditional pattern of freight movement and will need new connections with European corridors and hubs at a time of budget limitation on investment for transport infrastructure.

Sustainable integrated multimodal freight transport is particularly important for the development of countries in special situations – least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island states and outermost regions - which face common problems resulting from the under-resourcing of transport infrastructure and services, traffic-related air pollution and high accident levels, but also diverse geopolitical and trade situations. These countries/regions also have an enormous potential for sustainable development. International cooperation can support their economies both domestically and globally for a global benefit and ensuring better integration of these regions into the world economic landscape.

Scope:

Proposals should address one or more of the following aspects:

- Understanding how new concepts in logistics, in combination with new national strategies to organize freight flows in ports and airports have an impact on global freight transport, and on related greenhouse gas emissions. Multimodal transfer zones from ports and airports from long-haul to last mile logistics need to be better analysed in order to find appropriate measures and for ensuring seamless door-to-door transport, exploiting the full potential of modularization and other innovative logistics concepts. International cooperation with major trade partner countries is essential to ensure the smooth transfer at all levels of the transport chain. Proposals should also address solutions that enable peripheral regions and landlocked developing countries to have proper accessibility to international trade.
- Speed up the process and transition towards the Physical Internet paradigm, demonstrating how different technologies, business cases and standards come together in real-world applications, and are able to deliver added value to the users and have positive impacts in terms of emissions and energy consumption. Priority partners should be USA, Canada, **China**, Japan. Demonstrations of satellite-based applications using EGNOS and Galileo are also suggested.
- Research the range of new issues and questions emerging with the new trade routes to and from Europe, such as the Northern Sea Route (across an ice-free Arctic in summer months) or the new Silk Road routes and the **Chinese** One Belt One Road strategy; the effect of the development of these new routes on trans-continental freight modal split; the additional interfaces needed between the new overland routes and the EU internal transport networks / corridors. Priority partners are those along the routes. The geopolitical and trade aspects of these developments, in particular on countries affected by these developments, should be considered.
- Understand new disruptive trends emerging as on-demand logistics solutions such as crowd-sourcing of deliveries (or 'crowdshipping') which have the potential to be a logistics 'game-changer', evidencing different impacts in both emerging and industrialized countries, including the possible integration of passengers and freight flows. Research on the crowd-sourcing of logistics would benefit from international collaboration, partly to compare the development of the phenomenon in different markets, but also to explore whether it can be extended to long-haul / cross border freight delivery, taking in consideration economic, regulatory and security constraints.
- Assess the impact of emerging technologies in other sectors than freight transport (e.g. Blockchain, Industry 4.0, 5G, 3D printing, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV's)) on the logistics operational system, and identify the potential development paths that lead to the optimal exploitation of their positive effect.
- Collect best case models and develop decision support systems aimed at helping public authorities and private companies to determine the most likely scenarios and to promote a higher level of collaboration between the different stakeholders, including new emerging ones.

- Consideration of aspects of governance, privacy and cybersecurity of and with regard to cargo.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 3 and 7 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

In line with the Union's strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation^[1], international cooperation is encouraged. In particular proposals should consider cooperation with projects or partners from the US, Japan, Canada, **China**, Latin America.

In particular, proposals should foresee twinning with entities participating in projects funded by US DOT to exchange knowledge and experience and exploit synergies.

Expected Impact: Main impact from the R&I activities should be the improved integration of the European transport network (both hard – TEN-T – and soft – logistics and IT) with the global network, through the sustainable development of the transport nodes likely to benefit from the emergence of new trade routes and harmonised platforms and new and revised 'nodes', also in support of the sustainable development of new logistics routes and their link with national/regional markets. Better understanding of the impact of emerging technologies on freight flow and subsequent guidelines to optimize vehicle, infrastructure and operation accordingly. Facilitate the development of disadvantaged regions and their inclusion into the international trading system. Better understanding of links between technological development, trade and geopolitics. Research should be validated in a selected number of case studies through pilot demonstration, trials and testing involving service providers and end-users.

Cross-cutting Priorities: International cooperation

^[1] (COM(2012)497)

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Smart, green and integrated transport
Call Title:	Building a low-carbon, climate resilient future: Green Vehicles
Call Identifier:	H2020-LC-GV-2018-2019-2020
Topic Title:	InCo flagship on “Urban mobility and sustainable electrification in large urban areas in developing and emerging economies”
Topic Identifier:	LC-GV-05-2019
Type of Action:	IA Innovation action
Deadline(s):	25-04-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-gv-05-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: Climate change, energy security and local air pollution are some of the key questions for the 21st century. Urban areas in developing and **Emerging Countries** are major driving factors in growing global energy demand and Greenhouse Gas emissions.

Although cities cover only 2% of the earth's surface, 50% of the world's population lives in cities, but they are responsible for three-quarters of the global energy consumption as well as approximately 80% of the global greenhouse gas emissions. While the trend towards urbanisation and the associated increase of personal and freight transport creates massive challenges, in particular in developing and emerging economies, it also offers the unique opportunity to shape energy use especially in the transport and urban form towards a low carbon pathway. Moving towards sustainable mobility will also help addressing urban congestion, access to jobs and public services, and local air pollution.

This is why urbanisation requires integrated mobility solutions that bring together technology opportunities with local and national policy, including land use and mobility planning. Efficient transport and mobility, based on a balanced mix of public and private transport and dependent on the characteristics of each city, is and will continue to be the backbone of cities' growth and competitiveness.

Whereas environmental issues are very high on urban mobility agendas, the importance of transport in urban social and economic structures is often neglected in discussions. All three aspects of urban sustainability must be treated with equal importance and have to be examined in parallel.

Scope: Actions should bring together European, **Asian** (e.g. **China**), CELAC (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) and African research partners, government agencies and urban authorities, private sector and civil society with relevant expertise and competence within the corresponding cooperation framework and foster participatory engagement in urban electrification in order to reduce air pollution and CO2 emissions. All types of vehicle are considered under this topic (powered 2 wheelers, cars, buses, trucks and LDV).

Proposals should address all of the following activities:

- Development of a toolbox for advanced management strategies towards a more efficient private and public electric mobility: E-mobility management strategies, focusing on smart deployment and operation of vehicles, in particular electrified vehicle, to increase mobility and energy efficiency, emission reduction and user acceptance of electrified vehicles
 - A smart and cooperative management of the vehicle in urban operation, (intermodal route planning, ecorouting eco-driving charging and parking infrastructure availability...).
 - Deployment and operation of infrastructure use charging infrastructure (conventional and wireless) and network, availability of parking places. Adaptation and integration of existing/ adapted vehicles of different types if necessary.
 - Efficient integration of the operations of different electrified road public transport, from e-bike to bus rapid transit (e- BRT) including mini-buses, taxi and mobility services on demand through smart navigation and routing, coordinated traffic management, demand-responsive service and dispatching
- Comparative demonstrations activities and pilots in cities will include at least one demonstrator in the following regions: Europe, **Asia**, Africa and CELAC (leading to a minimum of 4 city demonstrators). Demonstrations will involve local partners. Innovative concepts for electrified road public transport (passenger and freight), jointly designed through International Partnerships as a contribution to a wider sustainable mobility concept, from the perspective of a seamless mobility, taking in account the acceptance of users (travellers or freight operator).
- Implementation concepts to scale up the demonstration activities. Evaluation of the relative outputs and accordingly the development of implementation concepts to scale up the demonstration activities and exploration of the sustainable mobility planning in the city transformation process :
 - Sustainable planning of city and transportation infrastructure: link city planning with policy discussion and implementation solutions and city goals and with any Air Quality Plans
 - Dedicated plans for financing solutions, including public and private operations.
 - Regional and international replication conditions to reach out to a larger number of cities and countries

Cooperation and synergies with ongoing activities undertaken with international initiatives such as Decarbonising Transport (International Transport Forum) and

the Urban Electric Mobility Initiative (UN-Habitat) and other joint initiatives of European Member States international cooperation initiatives and the European Commission (e.g. Mobilise Your City) should be sought where appropriate.

In line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation^[1], international cooperation is encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 15 and 18 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

Proposals are expected to contribute to:

- Capability to quantify the potential reduction of greenhouse gas and pollutant emissions as well as traffic congestion, by demonstrating improvements that can be achieved with new urban mobility systems and electrification, for each stakeholder in the value chain (in line with the objectives set by the COP21 and the New Urban Agenda)
- UN's Sustainable Development Goals 11 "Sustainable cities and communities" and 13 "Climate Action"
- Reference models of the mobility system to provide a basis in order to assess the ability to replicate sustainable concepts by demonstrating the short- and long-term benefit for the stakeholders involved, and especially considering the relevant boundary conditions (i.e infrastructure, vehicle, usage needs and patterns, governance, financing schemes, urban organisation, etc) and how the result contributes to key EU policy goals (including climate goals and competitiveness of European industry)
- A basis for strengthening the collaboration of the European Union with **Asia** (e.g. **China**, India, etc), Latin America (CELAC) and Africa, which also offers both a common starting point for common future legislative efforts, as well a favourable setting for new business opportunities for innovative local and European entrepreneurs.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Open Innovation, Clean Energy, Contractual Public-Private Partnerships (cPPPs), EGVI, RRI, Socio-economic science and humanities, International cooperation

^[1] (COM (2012) 497)

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Smart, green and integrated transport
Call Title:	2018-2020 Mobility for Growth
Call Identifier:	H2020-MG-2018-2019-2020
Topic Title:	Aviation operations impact on climate change (InCo flagship)
Topic Identifier:	LC-MG-1-6-2019
Type of Action:	RIA Research and Innovation action
Deadline(s):	25-04-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/lc-mg-1-6-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: This action is part of the Aviation International Cooperation Flagship called "Safer and Greener Aviation in a Smaller World" mentioned in the introduction to this work programme 2018-2020.

Aviation alters the composition of the atmosphere globally, thus can potentially contribute to anthropogenic climate change and ozone depletion. The last major international assessment of these impacts was made by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1999. In addition to CO₂, the climate impact of aviation is strongly influenced by non-CO₂ emissions, such as nitrogen oxides, influencing ozone and methane, and water vapour, which can lead to the formation of persistent contrails in ice-supersaturated regions.

Beyond the perennial challenge in developing new technologies that can minimize the impact in the medium and longer term, the main objective of this action is expected to address mitigation strategies that will minimise those negative effects by aviation on climate in the short-medium term and are relevant for greener flight trajectories and operations.

Scope:

The proposals may aim at one or more of the following areas:

- A. Advance further the international state-of-the-art, through better scientific understanding of aviation emissions with high degree of uncertainty and high estimated impact to climate change, in order to enable greener flight operations.
- B. Propose and evaluate mitigation strategies towards operational improvements.

- C. Propose and evaluate mitigation strategies towards greener flight trajectories (ensuring complementarities with SESAR JU activities).
- D. Propose and evaluate mitigation strategies based on the use of alternative jet fuel pathways that have been approved under or intended to apply for the ASTM D7566 approval standard. A detailed Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) approach needs to be included taking into account the following key elements: proper co-product allocation methodology, system boundaries, attributional vs consequential LCA and uncertainties from the time horizon, the potential of Green House Gases (GHGs) reduction and economic implications. Regarding the feedstocks, the impact of indirect land-use change (ILUC) on GHGs emissions must also be taken into account and addressed.

Proposals are expected to address the need to design and implement international measurement campaigns, in order to contribute to better climate metric assessments and more reliable physical and climate models.

This action does not address new aircraft technologies on structures, systems, engines nor their integration, towards minimising the impact in the medium and longer term. The projects are expected to formulate specific recommendations for stakeholders on flight planning and on the use of alternative fuels.

In line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012)497), international cooperation is encouraged. In particular bilateral international cooperation with **China** is encouraged for areas C and D with the aim at promoting substantial coordinated and balanced research and innovation cooperation between the EU and **China**. Proposals under those research areas C and D are encouraged to have an appropriate balance in terms of effort and/or number of partners between the EU and **China**. **China**-based participants have the possibility to apply for funding under the **Chinese** co-funding mechanism and other **Chinese** sources.

Although the association of TRL to better understanding aviation emissions is not uniquely defined, the implementation of the proposed topic may cover TRL spectrum from 2 to 4.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 2 and 3 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: The topic aims to deliver scientifically founded and globally harmonised policy, regulations and operational improvements to support climate-friendly flight operations. Expected impacts are:

- Better understanding the impact of aircraft emissions on climate towards better policy.
- International measurement campaigns and international validation of physical and climate models.
- Operational improvements in support to achieve the collective medium term global aspirational goal of keeping the global net CO2 emissions from

international aviation from 2020 at the same level (so-called "carbon neutral growth from 2020").

- Enhanced role of the Union in International Organisations and multilateral fora as well as strengthened implementation, governance, monitoring and evaluation.
- Collaboration and sharing expertise on operational improvements and global market-based measures with EU and National aviation and environment research programmes.
- Contribution to UN's Sustainable Development Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Cross-cutting Priorities: International cooperation

Horizon 2020 Pillar:	Societal Challenges
Programme:	Smart, green and integrated transport
Call Title:	2018-2020 Mobility for Growth
Call Identifier:	H2020-MG-2018-2019-2020
Topic Title:	Supporting Joint Actions on sustainable urban accessibility and connectivity
Topic Identifier:	MG-4-6-2019
Type of Action:	ERA-NET-Cofund ERA-NET Cofund
Deadline(s):	25-04-2019 (single-stage)

Participant Portal Weblink:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/mg-4-6-2019.html>

Specific Challenges: The proposed ERA-NET Cofund action addresses specific challenges of sustainable urban accessibility and connectivity. Sustainable urban accessibility and connectivity is defined as the ease with which activities and opportunities may be reached in an urban transport system, with lower negative environmental impacts. Network connectivity reflects the directness of routes, using different modes to travel between points. It applies both for passenger and freight transport.

Providing accessibility and connectivity can boost economic and societal development, which is supported by much of the EU, national, regional and local transport policy (infrastructure investments, providing public transport).

Despite the high transport network densities in urban areas, there are still accessibility and connectivity challenges, sometimes specifically for various socio-economic groups. Some forms of mobility (especially road-based) raise issues with respect to local environment and space utilisation, encouraging policies aiming to reduce car-use but possibly affecting mobility for specific user groups. The interaction is complex and not always well understood.

Scope: The projects funded by the ERA-NET Cofund action especially address the potential impact and possibilities for deployment of new mobility services and initiatives by analysing behavioural responses and estimating effects on the various aspects of sustainability (i.e. the environment, economic development and people's well-being), for both passenger and freight transport.

Proposals should pool the necessary financial resources from the participating national (or regional) research programs with a view to implementing a joint call for proposals resulting in grants to third parties with EU co-funding in this area.

Participation of legal entities from third countries, and/or regions, including those not automatically eligible for funding in accordance with General Annex A is encouraged in the joint call as well as in other joint activities including additional joint calls without EU co-funding. Participants from countries not listed in General Annex A are eligible for EU funding under this topic and may request a Union contribution (on the basis of the ERA-NET unit cost) only for the coordination costs of additional activities.

The aim of this ERA-NET Cofund is to launch a joint research and innovation call for proposals. The funded proposals should specifically address the interaction between socio-economic development and accessibility and connectivity with regards to any of the following topics and combinations of these topics:

- Main reasons and drivers behind mobility behaviour (i.e. responses to new technologies and policies), taking into account various types of actors, and the intricate behavioural interactions;
- Potential solutions (technological, social, economic, etc.) to increase accessibility and connectivity in low density areas and for disadvantaged groups in urban areas;
- Potential variables supporting a shift towards more sustainable mobility behaviour to more sustainable modes (particularly 'soft'/'slow'/'active' modes) and alternatives for personal mobility. Possible behavioural rebound and compensational effects should be taken into account;
- Possible contribution of improving accessibility and connectivity to socio-economic development in urban areas that are typically defined by their spatial concentration and proximity.
- Assessment of the most effective strategies for improving connectivity, intermodality and systems integration in urban areas.
- Assessment of how innovative mobility concepts and services developments could benefit or affect specific groups in urban areas, and possible consequences for them.

The proposal should demonstrate that these co-funded other activities exclude any overlaps with related on-going actions co-funded by the EU under Horizon 2020. Also, synergies should be achieved with other actions funded by Horizon2020, activities by the CIVITAS initiatives, the European Innovation Partnership in Smart Cities and communities and the EU Urban Agenda.

The project deliverables (e.g. surveys, user/ IT platforms, modelling tools, Apps and other project deliverables) generated by the Co-funded Action projects and the projects from the non-Co-funded Action need to be collected and curated at the programme level so that these can be readily used in future R&D projects. Therefore, the proposal should provide how (by clear tasks and deliverables) this will be carried out by the consortium.

In addition, the proposal should demonstrate and implement at programme level how the results from the Co-funded Action projects and the projects from the non-Co-funded Action will be collected and transferred to existing European urban mobility actions, notably the ELTIS database (e.g. all city case studies) and dissemination actions of the CIVITAS and European Innovation Partnership in Smart cities and communities.

A strong involvement of local, regional or national transport organisations (that are for example operators, managers or transport planners) is highly encouraged for all Co-funded Action projects and the projects from the non-Co-funded Action. This involvement will maximise the impacts of the project results on European, national, regional and local urban mobility policies, as well as to ensure dissemination of results and alignment of policies.

The proposal should provide a clear strategy about how existing initiatives, notably expert groups linked to CIVITAS (support action), will be involved in prioritising funding topics and in providing dissemination of project results.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU between EUR 4 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: The ERA-NET Co-fund action will bring about effective trans-national, pan-European research networking and synergies among national/regional and EU research programmes in sustainable urban accessibility and connectivity and in increasing the evidence base for urban mobility policies at local, regional, national and European level, as well as global level through the involvement of **Chinese** organisations.

The ERA-NET Co-fund action should lead to a considerable number of funded projects in the above fields. The results of the funded projects are expected to make a clear contribution to the attainment of EU Transport Policy objectives (including TEN-T) and to strengthen the competitiveness of the EU transport sector.

This shall be achieved by delivering a set instruments, approaches and tools (notably SUMP^[1] and SULP^[2]) that can help cities, citizens, communities, businesses and institutions (including in less-developed parts of the EU) to use new developments to their full potential and to limit their possible adverse effects in urban mobility. Relevant impacts can be extended to peri-urban and rural-urban mobility flows.

In addition, this ERA-NET is expected to influence national strategies, build critical mass and lead to greater alignment of national policies in participating states, in particularly urban mobility, research and innovation in urban mobility.

Cross-cutting Priorities: Socio-economic science and humanities, International cooperation, ERA-NET, RRI

^[1] Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan

^[2] Sustainable Urban Logistics Plan