



JPI HDHL

Call for Transnational Research Proposals:

“Nutrition-responsiveness of the immune system:
interplay between infectious diseases and diet-related
metabolic diseases and the potential for food-based
solutions (NUTRIMMUNE)”

Submission deadline Proposal:
21 April 2022 at 16:00 CEST

Link to: [Electronic Submission System](#)

For further information, please visit us on the website:
<http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/>

Or contact the Joint Call Secretariat (JCS):

ZonMw

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1. Introduction

The Joint Programming Initiative “[A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life](#)” (JPI HDHL) has been established to coordinate research in the areas of food and health in order to tackle major societal challenges that no single country is capable of tackling on its own. The main aim of the JPI HDHL is to better understand the diet-health relationship and subsequently translate this knowledge into programmes, products, tools, and services that enable consumers in Europe and beyond to live a healthy life. The JPI HDHL also aims to establish new research networks, to harmonise protocols, to share data, guidelines, research facilities and capacities and promote transnational and transdisciplinary collaboration that will allow the development of ambitious research projects that meet the needs identified by the JPI HDHL.

Poor diets and nutrition are major drivers of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Globally, there are over 2 billion adults with obesity and related NCDs such as type 2 diabetes. The COVID-19 pandemic clearly showed the critical interplay between diet-related metabolic diseases and infectious diseases: metabolic diseases such as obesity and type 2 diabetes increased the severity of COVID-19 infection. In addition to this, the current pandemic highlighted the impact of health inequalities. This emphasised the importance of needing to better understand the role of nutrition in immune function, resilience and dysfunction, and its interplay between diet-related- metabolic and infectious diseases. This JPI HDHL call aims to address the relationship between nutrition, immunity (including the inflammatory component) and human health by funding top-class transnational and transdisciplinary research consortia.

2. Background

The primary function of the immune system is to protect the individual against pathogenic organisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites. This defence is mediated, in part, by acute inflammation which enhances the recruitment of immune cells to the site of infection. Here the white blood cells attack the invading microorganisms and release substances such as vasoactive amines, eicosanoids and proinflammatory cytokines that sustain the inflammation. Recently more attention has been paid to the role of the immune system in the regulation of systemic metabolic homeostasis. This interplay between the immune system and the metabolic system may be important in promoting “metabolic health” throughout the life course. Furthermore, obesity and ageing are associated with low level systemic, and sustained, inflammation and impaired immune response.

Immune function and response are influenced by many factors including genetics, nutrition, physical fitness, stress and body composition. In particular, strong evidence exist that nutrition is an important modifiable factor that impacts the immune system. For example, malnutrition and low nutritional status result in impaired immunity and reduced host resistance to infection. Deficiency in both macronutrients and micronutrients cause immune function impairment. This can lead to a vicious cycle in which poor nutritional status causes greater risk of infection, which in turn can exacerbate malnutrition through, for example, impaired appetite, nutrition absorption and increased nutrient losses from the body. Considerable knowledge exists about the roles of individual nutrients (e.g. vitamin D, fatty acids, zinc and other micronutrients) in function of the immune system. However, much less is known about the roles of combinations of nutrients, foods or dietary patterns. Furthermore, although extensive research on the impact of malnutrition on risk of infectious diseases in low and middle income countries has been conducted, less is known about the relationship between nutrition and infectious disease risk in higher income settings.

The interplay of infectious diseases and diet-related metabolic diseases (i.e. non-communicable and communicable diseases) is of emerging importance globally. With new infectious diseases such as COVID-19, which are more severe and more fatal in individuals with obesity or diabetes, the role of co-morbidities in the susceptibility to and severity of infectious disease has become more visible to the public and policy makers. Other infectious diseases such as respiratory infections, HIV, tuberculosis, hepatitis, and zoonoses that contribute to the considerable global health burden are also likely and in some cases known to be influenced by both nutrition and metabolic diseases. A better understanding of the complex interplay between nutrition, immune function and resilience (including the inflammation component) and human health will enable society to be better prepared for future pandemics and will improve the burden of metabolic diseases.

3. Aim call

The aim of this call is to support transnational, collaborative research projects **that gain a better understanding of the interactions between nutrition and immunity within the context of its interplay between infectious diseases and diet-related metabolic diseases.** Relevant research questions may include (but are not limited to) the generation of scientific evidence for differences in individual susceptibility to and the severity of infectious diseases in people with diet-related metabolic diseases such as obesity or type 2 diabetes. Research should focus on the underlying mechanisms by which nutrition, food composition and/or dietary patterns affect immune function (e.g. both innate and adaptive immune function, and microbiome). The roles of host genotype, body weight and composition, and life style factors such as physical fitness, and stress can also be considered.

Proposals should focus on one or both of the following topics:

- **Establishing the cause-and-effect relationship between nutrition, immune function and infectious diseases in the context of diet-related metabolic disorders.** Building on existing knowledge to further identify mechanisms of action (including common molecular pathways), projects will:
 - Advance understanding of how nutrition, foods and dietary patterns modulate immune system homeostasis, response (e.g. inflammation), dysregulation and susceptibility to infectious disease across the life course in people with diet-related metabolic diseases.
 - Explore how nutrition may contribute to infectious disease risk in people with diet-related metabolic diseases at various stages including prevention of, severity of, recovery from, and rehabilitation after the infectious disease.
- **Development of innovative food solutions.** Proof of principle studies are desired in order to support the development of effective diet-related health-improvement strategies and/or food products to promote a healthy immune system in people with diet-related metabolic diseases and their application at any stage of the infectious disease process.

Research proposals are expected to be transdisciplinary. In order to achieve ambitious and innovative scientific goals, consortia should include academic partners with different, but complementary, scientific expertise and may include clinical researchers and allied professions, care workers, industry (e.g. food and social and health care industry) and other relevant organisations/stakeholders. Disciplines may include (but are not limited to) nutrition, immunology, microbiology, physiology, nutrigenetics, and health care. Implementation science, social and behavioural sciences, food technology and product development expertise could be beneficial for proposals focussing on the development of innovative food solutions. Proposals should clearly demonstrate the benefit of working together and the unique contribution that each partner will contribute to addressing the consortium's goals.

In addition:

- Proposals should focus on the interplay between nutrition, infectious diseases and diet-related metabolic diseases.
- Proposals may include one of the following approaches, such as:
 - Mechanistic / experimental research focusing on how specific dietary factors influence immune and inflammatory responses to infection and how these responses impact on health outcomes in people with diet-related metabolic diseases;
 - Translational research that will establish proof of concept, in order to support the development of effective health-improvement strategies and/or food solutions to promote a healthy immune system.
- Proposals can include physical activity and/or other lifestyle determinants, however nutrition should be the focus of the proposals.
- Proposals are encouraged to focus on combinations of nutrients, foods or dietary patterns (proposals that focus on a single nutrient are excluded).
- Proposals should focus on one or more crucial phase(s) and/or age groups throughout the lifespan.
- Proposals should **focus on human studies**; however, where fully justified, they may include a minor amount of animal and/or in vitro models. This should be only for investigations that are impractical or unethical in humans.
- Participation of early career scientist is encouraged.

- Where appropriate, proposals should consider the possible impact of gender, ethnicity and socioeconomic inequalities, and nutritional vulnerable groups (e.g. low nutritional status, malnourished).
- Excluded from this call are:
 - Proposals that solely focus on infectious disease.
 - Proposals that solely focus on diet-related metabolic disease.
 - Proposals that solely focus on microbiota.
 - Proposals that focus on the development of food intake biomarkers and/or the development of new immune response/ inflammation biomarkers.
 - Proposals that focus on single nutrients alone.
 - Proposals that focus on (the development of) dietary supplements and the usage of nutrients in pharmacological doses.

Expected outcome and impact of the call:

- Funded projects will provide better insights in the optimal nutrition to promote a healthy immune system (clinical outcomes beyond deficiencies) and an optimise nutritional status to better cope with external immunological challenges such as future pandemics. Furthermore, there is the potential of specific foods or food- component based solutions to protect against infectious disease, reduce the severity of infections, and improve recovery.
- Results are expected to have a societal and translational impact for future nutritional guidelines.
- This call also aims to promote transnational collaboration, which is necessary for establishing multidisciplinary and complementary consortia that will allow the development of ambitious research projects that meet the identified needs of the JPI HDHL. Moreover, the coordination of the transnational research networks will also contribute to important research-related activities such as harmonisation of protocols, establishment and sharing of data and guidelines or/and sharing of research facilities and capacities. This call will contribute to the establishment of such research networks.
- Collectively, the research outcomes from projects funded through this Call are expected to contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 3 "Good Health and Well-being".
Since the foundation of JPI HDHL, the political commitment to battle unhealthy lifestyles and achieve food and nutrition security has grown significantly. In 2016 the United Nations' agenda "Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" was published, containing 17 Sustainable Development Goals (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>). The governments of the 193 countries who adopted the agenda have agreed to work towards comprehensive, integrated and universal transformations.

4. Participating countries and respective funding organisations

The following participating funding organisations have agreed to fund this call for transnational research projects:

Country	Funding Organisation	Short name	Earmarked Budget
France	French National Research Agency	ANR	€1.500.000
Germany	Federal Ministry of Education and Research, represented by the Project Management Agency in the German Aerospace Center	BMBF Represented by DLR	€1.000.000
Ireland	Health Research Board	HRB	€370.000
Ireland	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	DAFM	€500.000
Israel	Ministry of Innovation, Science and Technology	MOST	€200.000
Italy	Istituto Superiore di Sanità (National Institute of Health)	ISS	€250.000
Spain	National Institute of Health Carlos III	ISCIII	€1.200.000

Spain	Research State Agency	AEI	€500.000
The Netherlands	The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development Health ~ Holland	ZonMw (Health ~ Holland represented by ZonMw)	€1.750.000
UK	Medical Research Council Medical Research Council as part of UK Research and Innovation	UKRI-MRC	€1.000.000 ^a

^a Euro exchange rate provided to UK applicants

5. Management of the call

The call will be coordinated by the **Joint Call Secretariat (JCS)**; set up at the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research & Development (ZonMw). The JCS will act as the primary contact point for interested researchers and research groups for information on general issues of the Joint Action and its technical aspects. **For question regarding the national regulations, please contact the national contact person (Annex 1 of the Call text).**

Two boards, the **Call Steering Committee (CSC)** and the **Scientific Evaluation Committee (SEC)**, will manage the evaluation process of the call with the support of the JCS. SEC and CSC members will not submit or participate in proposals to this call. The process includes the evaluation of the proposals, the final selection and award of research projects.

The CSC is composed of one single representative from each national/regional funding organisation participating in this call. The CSC will supervise the progress of the call and the evaluation of proposals. The CSC will make the final funding recommendation to the national/regional funding organisations based on the final ranking list provided by the SEC. The CSC will take all decisions concerning the call procedures.

The SEC will consist of a panel of internationally recognised scientific experts responsible for the evaluation of submitted proposals. SEC members must sign a confidentiality form and a statement to confirm that they do not have any conflicts of interest. In addition to the SEC members, other additional experts (without conflict of interest and chosen for their knowledge in specific fields covered by the proposals) might contribute to the evaluation of the proposals.

6. Application

6.1 Eligibility

In general, joint research proposals may be submitted by applicants working in universities (or other higher education institutions), non-university public research institutes, hospitals and other health care settings. Participation of private parties is encouraged as well as commercial companies, in particular small and medium-size enterprises. However, the eligibility of these organisations and institutions are subject to the national/regional regulations of the individual funding organisations and may therefore vary. Details of the national/regional eligibility criteria from individual funding organisations are provided in Annex 1 of the Call text.

6.2 Consortium size

Only transnational consortia will be funded. The following conditions apply to the composition of consortia:

- Minimum of 3 partners from 3 different participating countries. These 3 partners should be eligible for funding by one of the participating organisations listed in the table in section 4.
- No more than 2 eligible partners can originate from the same country.

- Maximum of 6 eligible partners per consortium.
- Total size of consortium cannot exceed 8 applicants (including researchers that participate as collaborators; see below the condition for collaborators).

Researchers or international organisations who will not apply for funding can participate in projects as *collaborators*. The following conditions apply to collaborators:

- Clear added value for the research project. This should be demonstrated in the application.
- Secure own funding for participation with clear evidence in the proposal that this is already in place. *Letter of Intent* of the collaborator is mandatory and should be uploaded in the electronic submission system.
- Maximum of 2 collaborators per consortium.
- The majority of the consortia members should be eligible for funding by the participating funders.

Each consortium should have the critical mass of different scientific disciplines to achieve ambitious scientific goals and the proposals should clearly demonstrate added value from working together. Each consortium must nominate a coordinator (this cannot be a collaborator). The consortium coordinator will be responsible for the scientific management of the project and will act as the interface between the JCS and the consortium. In addition, the coordinator represents the consortium externally. Each project partner (i.e. participating research group) will be represented by a single principal investigator. Within the consortium, the principal investigator of each project partner will be the contact person for the relevant funding organisation.

Please note: Inclusion of a non-eligible partner (i.e., an applicant applying for funding, although this partner cannot be funded by the funding agency in its country for administrative reasons according to country specific regulations) in a proposal may result in the rejection of the entire proposal without further review. Applicants are therefore strongly advised to contact their national/regional funding organisation and confirm eligibility before participating in an application (see country specific information in Annex 1 of the Guidelines for Applicants).

A partnership tool is available on the [JPI HDHL website](#). To access, please log in and go to “JPI HDHL Partnership forum” to offer your support or look for a partner.

6.3 Submission of the proposal

This call uses a single submission procedure (full proposals), including a rebuttal stage. Proposals must be written in English and must be submitted to the JCS by the coordinator through the JPI HDHL electronic submitting system exclusively. The project coordinator and all principal investigator in the consortium must be registered at the Meta Data Base of the JPI HDHL (www.healthydietforahealthylife.eu) before a proposal can be submitted. In addition, it is mandatory for all applicants to complete their profile information.

Proposals must be submitted by the project coordinator before **the 21 April 2022 at 16.00 CEST**.

6.4 Further information

The call will be coordinated centrally by the Joint Call Secretariat (JCS), ZonMw.

Contact details are:

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Adherence to specific national/regional regulations is mandatory. For applicants from some countries/regions, it might be necessary to submit additional information before the submission deadline directly to the national/regional funding organisation. Therefore, applicants are strongly advised to contact their national/regional contact officer (see Annex 1 of the Call Text for more details or any questions regarding these regulations. Proposals not meeting national/regional regulations, even for one single partner, might be rejected without further review. In case you need any additional information, please contact the JCS.

7. Evaluation

7.1 Formal & eligibility check

The JCS will check the proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal conditions (date of submission; composition of the consortium, inclusion of all necessary information in English; adherence to the proposal template). In parallel, the JCS will forward the proposals to the national/regional funding organisations for checking the compliance with their respective regulations. Proposals not meeting the formal conditions will be rejected without further review. Eligible proposals will be forwarded to the peer review process.

7.2 Evaluation proposals

7.2.1 Written review reports, evaluation criteria & scoring system

Each proposal will be allocated to at least three independent experts for written review. These evaluations include comments and scoring of the proposals based on the following evaluation criteria:

1) Excellence

- a. Scientific quality of the proposal:
 - Clarity of objectives
 - Credibility of the proposed approach and methodology
 - Expected progress beyond the state-of-the-art.
 - Competence and experience of participating research partners in the field(s) of the proposal
- b. Relevance of the project regarding the topic and objectives of the call.
- c. Novelty of proposed research.
- d. Ethical and governance considerations adequately identified and addressed

2) Impact

- a. Potential of the expected results for future public health, relevant health applications and/or (food)industry (i.e. product development)
- b. Added value of transnational collaboration on both scientific and transnational level: Sharing of resources (biological material, databases, etc.), harmonization of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, etc.
- c. Participation/engagement with relevant healthcare professionals (e.g. clinicians, dieticians), end-users/ consumers, industry (when appropriate/applicable).
- d. Effectiveness of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR), to communicate the project results in a tailored manner to the different audiences (e.g. policy makers, industry, patients), and to manage research data where relevant.

3) Quality and efficiency of the implementation

- a. Feasibility of proposal, experience of applicants and likelihood of successful completion of proposed research within the anticipated timeline.
- b. Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan (including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, resources and time frame).
- c. Complementarity of the participants in the consortium.
- d. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the project (appropriate distribution of resources in relation to project activities, partners' responsibilities and time frame).

- e. Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management.
- f. Sustainability of the research capacities initiated by the project (e.g. data management)

Scoring system

5 = Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all aspects of the criterion in question.

4 = Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but small improvements are possible.

3 = Good. The proposal addresses the criterion in question well but certain improvements are necessary

2 = Fair. The proposal generally addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses that need corrections.

1 = Poor. The proposal shows serious weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.

0 = Failure. The proposal fails to address the criterion in question, or cannot be judged because of missing or incomplete information.

Evaluation scores will be awarded for the three main criteria, and not singularly for the different aspects listed below the criteria. Each criterion will be scored out of five. The threshold for individual criteria will be three. The maximum score that can be reached from all three criteria together is 15 points.

Proposals not relevant to the call topic and objectives will not be funded, regardless of their scientific quality.

7.2.2 Rebuttal stage

Prior to the assessment of the SEC, each project coordinator will have the opportunity to see and respond to the comments of the reviewers. Issues that are not related with reviewers' comments cannot be addressed and the work plan cannot be modified at this stage. (Please note that the reviewers will remain anonymous).

Reviewers' comments will be sent to applicants on 14th of June 2022 and applicants will have up to 10 days for this **optional** response to the reviewers' comments, for which the submission deadline is the 24th of June 2022.

7.2.3 SEC meeting

The JCS will send the proposals, written reviews and rebuttals to the SEC members. During the SEC meeting a funding recommendation will be made (based of the evaluation criteria, written reviews, and rebuttals) and proposals recommended for funding will be ranked. The final summary review report prepared by the SEC members will be send to the project coordinators.

7.3 Decision

Based on the ranking list established by the SEC and on the available funding, the CSC will recommend to the national/regional funding organisations the projects to be funded. The final funding decision will be made by the national/regional funding organisations and will be subject to budgetary considerations with the goal of optimal usage of the available budget.

The JCS will communicate to all project coordinators the final decisions together with the review from the SEC. The project coordinators are responsible to communicate this information to their project partners. After a positive funding recommendation, project partners must directly contact their respective national/regional funder in order to start contract negotiations and accomplish the remaining steps until the research project can start

8. Funding procedure

8.1 Funding model

The funding parties listed in paragraph 4 have agreed to launch a joint call using the virtual common pot mode. This means that, within a project consortium, participating funding organisations will fund partners eligible to their funding exclusively, according to their respective regulations.

8.2 Financial modalities

Projects will be initially funded for a period of up to three years. Each country/region funding organisation funds only its national/regional component of the transnational research project. The eligibility of costs (e.g., personnel, material, consumables, equipment, and travel expenses) is subject to the national/regional regulations of the individual funding organisations and may therefore vary. Each partner is responsible for providing financial reports to its national funding organisation. **Prior to submitting a proposal, applicants must verify their eligibility and financial support and are advised to contact their national/regional contact person (see Annex 1 of the Call Text for national/regional contact details).**

In order to minimise the variability in the project starting dates between partners of one consortium, the project coordinator will be requested to seek a common starting date for all the partners of the consortium. Each project partner will then be in charge of communicating the common starting date to its respective funding organisation. The goal should be to start the consortia of one call as closely as possible. Once an award has begun, every effort should be made to ensure the work is delivered to the original timetable. An extension to an award (even if no additional funding is sought) cannot be relied upon and will be depend on the decision of each national funding organisation and its normal grant rules.

8.3 Legal modalities

Intellectual property rights

Ownership and transfer of newly developed intellectual property, as well as access to existing intellectual property are a core part of project success and contribution to society and therefore, should be properly managed from the beginning of the project. Any particular protection and exploitation strategy should be agreed upon before the research activities start, and arrangements need to comply with the relevant national and/or European legislation (please refer to Annex 1 of the Call text for national requirements).

Consortium Agreement (CA)

Successful consortia should start to negotiate a consortium agreement before the commencement of the project. The consortia agreement should be signed within the first 6 months of the project. The CA specifies at least the following issues: the governance structure, the decision making processes, the collective responsibilities and the management arrangements including specific arrangements on intellectual property rights (IPR), scientific reporting and monitoring, open access and sharing data/knowledge and resources as well as actions to be taken in the event of unsatisfactory performance by one or more partners. Guidance and model consortium agreements can be found at the [European IPR Helpdesk](#) and [DESCA](#) websites which may support drafting the CA. However, please note that the respective documents were developed for activities funded by the European Commission which differ from funding measures within JPI HDHL. Within JPI HDHL national rules have to be taken into account. There is a shared responsibility between all partners for the progress of the project.

Upon request, the CA must be made available to the concerned funding organisations. In some countries, the consortium agreement might be required for release of the funds. Applicants have to comply with national/regional regulations regarding this aspect.

9. Responsibilities and reporting requirements

9.1 Progress report

The project coordinator is required to submit a mid-term scientific progress report on behalf of the project consortium to the JCS detailing how the project is progressing in relation to planned objectives. Furthermore, a final scientific report should be sent to the JCS within a period of three months after the project ends. National/regional funding organisations may also request annual progress reports and a final report on the project from the different project partners from their respective country.

In addition, project coordinators may be asked by JPI HDHL to present two progress updates during an intermediate and final status symposium. Travel costs associated with the symposium may be requested within the application, based on the specific funding regulations of the various participating funding organisations

9.2 Communication

The project coordinator will represent the consortium externally and will be responsible for all communication with the JPI HDHL. For the effective contribution of the project to the objectives of the JPI HDHL, the project coordinator should be available to participate in meetings/workshops with the aim of:

- Exchanging project results within the network of funded projects by the NUTRIMMUNE and with other funded networks by the JPI HDHL.
- Developing a joint strategy to coordinate and facilitate integration of the planned activities of the JPI HDHL.
- Communicating results across the JPI HDHL.

9.3 Utilisation of knowledge

The JPI HDHL supports an open access policy. Therefore, funded researchers should consider open access publication of their results. Due consideration should be given to consistency with similar policies that are already in place at national level. Further details are laid down in the “Quick guide for dissemination of the JPI HDHL research project results”. Researchers funded under the umbrella of JPI HDHL are requested to adhere to these JPI HDHL guidelines.

In order to enhance visibility of the JPI HDHL, the consortium should adhere to the following JPI HDHL dissemination guidelines:

- Appropriate measures should be taken to engage with the public and the media about the project.
- The JPI HDHL should be referred to appropriately in reports, articles or any other documents as part of the JPI HDHL supported project as well the respective national/regional funding partner organisations. When referencing the JPI HDHL for the first time, please use “European Joint Programming Initiative “A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life” (JPI HDHL)” and not JPI HDHL only. Please also include a link to the JPI HDHL website: <http://www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu/>;
- The JPI HDHL should be acknowledged appropriately in reports, articles or any other documents as part of the JPI HDHL supported project. The acknowledgement should address the support provided to the project by JPI HDHL and the appropriate national funding organisations.
- The JPI HDHL should be referred to and acknowledged appropriately in any promotional material including event programmes, invitations, press releases, reports, presentations and external websites.
- Whenever possible and useful, the JPI HDHL logo should be used.

10. Ethical issues

Research supported by the JPI HDHL must respect fundamental ethical principles. Applicants must ensure that the proposed research respects all national rules and procedures for legal compliance. It is the responsibility of the applicant to identify if their proposed research requires ethical approval. Where ethical approval is required, applicants must inform their national funding organisation and applicants may be requested to provide further detail. Ethical approval must be obtained from the relevant national or local ethics committee prior to the start of the project.

11. Data management plan

JPI HDHL adopted the FAIR data Principles and agreed that all new funded research by the JPI HDHL should apply these principles. Thus, researchers applying to this call must complete a short data management strategy in their application (mandatory for all applicants).

Information on FAIR data and data management

JPI HDHL drafted a FAIR Data Guideline to support researchers, which includes a template for a full data management plan. Funded research projects will be asked to submit a full data management plan

using this template. In addition, an updated version of the data management plan has to be submitted to the JCS together with the progress report.

More information about FAIR data Principles:

- [EOSC declaration](#) (European Open Science Cloud declaration)
- [FORCE11](#)
- [Fair data principles](#)

12. Confidentiality

The JCS takes all reasonable steps to ensure that information provided in the application is treated as confidential.

The proposals will be handled confidentially by the JCS, by the national/regional Funding Organisations and the experts responsible for the evaluation of the proposals. In selecting the international experts for the SEC, the JCS shall also endeavour to avoid any possible conflicts of interest.

Each expert will have to sign a declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest. The online evaluation tool will include a feature which will prevent access to the proposal in case a conflict of interest is declared by the expert.

13. General Data Protection Regulation

The following Data Privacy Notice applies:

By submitting an application, the applicants consent to the use, processing and retention of their personal data¹, in accordance with article 6.1 (e) and (c) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2016/679) and for the purposes of:

- processing and evaluating the application where processing shall be lawful only if and to the extent that processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller;
- administering any subsequent funding award;
- managing the Funding Organisations relationship with them;
- analysing and evaluating the call;
- providing aggregate data to national and European surveys and analyses on the funded projects;
- and complying with audits that may be initiated by the Funding Organisations and the European Commission (or its agencies).

The members of the NUTRIMMUNE CSC may share applicant's data with third parties (some of which may be based outside the European Economic Area) in relation to the above activities including evaluators.

The members of the NUTRIMMUNE CSC may link the data that applicants provide in the application with national, bibliographic or external research funding data which is available through public subscription based databases (e.g. Scopus, Web of Science, etc.) or other national / open datasets.

¹ Last name, first name of the researchers, date of birth, professional contact information, degree(s), position (current and previous), fields of activity, place of work, organisation, address(es), curriculum vitae, ORCID number, name and reference of projects, full project proposals (scientific document, administrative and financial appendix).

14. Time schedule

When	What
15 February 2022	Publication of the call
21 April 2022	Submission deadline proposals
14 June 2022	Send reviewers comment to applicants
24 June 2022	Deadline submission rebuttal letter
6 th & 7 th September 2022	SEC & CSC meeting to discuss proposals
End September 2022	Final funding decision
November 2022- April 2023*	Start projects

*Deadline for the start of the project may vary depending on the funding organisations involved. Please contact your national/regional funding organisations for more information.

ANNEX 1: Regulations and contact information for the national/regional funding organisations participating in the NUTRIMMUNE Call.

Country	France
Funding organisation	French National Research Agency (ANR)
National contact person	Dr. Martine Batoux Phone number : +33 1 73 54 81 40 E-mail: JPI-HDHLCalls@agencerecherche.fr Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) 50 avenue Daumesnil, 75012 Paris France
Funding commitment	1,5 M€
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	5-6
Maximum/ Minimum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Minimum amount per partner: 15 k€. Maximum funding per partner: 260 k€ Maximum funding if a French project partner is taking the responsibility to coordinate the project: 310K€
Eligibility of project duration	Initial duration of 36 months
Eligibility of partners	ANR may finance fundamental research, industrial research and experimental developments. Funded Partners must have their primary establishment in France and/or in the EU with a secondary establishment in France. Within this framework, research institutions such as EPST, EPIC, Universities, Hospitals as well as most Foundations, Associations and Enterprises can apply. <u>This list is not comprehensive and funding rates vary.</u> Please fill the form related to economical activities to identify your funding rate and <u>consult the “règlement financier”</u> http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/RF for more details. Please note that companies with economic difficulties are excluded from ANR subventions.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	Standard ANR funding rules apply for eligible costs. These rules are specified in ANR’s “Règlement financier” mentioned above and in an explanatory note available at: https://anr.fr/fileadmin/documents/2017/ANR-RF-Fiche-COUTS.pdf Eligible costs (e.g.: personnel costs, costs of instruments and equipment, additional overheads and other operating expenses incurred directly as a result of the research project such as, for instance: travel costs) and funding rates vary based on the type of research and research partner. Please note that expenses related to permanent staff stipends are not eligible for the Beneficiaries “à coût marginal”.
Submission of the proposal at the national level	No additional documents should be submitted to ANR during the submission phase
Submission of other information at the national level	When a project is selected for funding, administrative and financial data of the partners funded by ANR must be entered by the applicant on the ANR platform.
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Scientific reports, Consortium Agreement, Data management plans asked to the project coordinator by JPI HDHL must be communicated to ANR by the Funded French partners. Financial reports must be communicated to ANR according to the provisions of the règlement financier de l'ANR . If applicable, Declarations of Due Diligence for the financed projects (Nagoya Protocol) must also be transmitted to ANR in due time.
Further guidance	ANR will avoid double funding and will not finance projects or part of projects that have been funded through other calls.

See French Annex for additional French rules at <https://anr.fr/fileadmin/aap-jpindhI-NUTRIMMUNE-2022-annexe-fr.pdf>

Country	Germany
Funding organisation	Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) represented by the Programme Management Agency in the German Aerospace Centre (DLR-PT)
National contact person	Name : Dr. Svenja Finck Dr. Bärbel Edelmann-Stephan Phone: +49 228 3821 1877 +49 228 3821 1639 E-mail: nutrition-HDHL@dlr.de Address: DLR PT, on behalf of the BMBF Heinrich-Konen-Str. 1 53227 Bonn Germany
Funding commitment	Up to 1.0 M€
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	3
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Up to 350.000€ per consortium* * Only one German partner per consortium is allowed. The applicants are not allowed to participate in more than one research proposal.
Eligibility of project duration	36 month
Eligibility of a partners	Eligible applicants are researchers or research groups from German universities, German university hospitals, German non-university research institutes and industry/SMEs registered in Germany (subject to certain conditions). For specific conditions see also link to German version of the call below.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	The following costs are eligible for funding (details see German version of the call): - Research costs (e.g. personnel, consumables) - Travel & networking costs - Communication & dissemination costs - Overhead costs ("Projektpauschale") Overheads are eligible according to standard BMBF regulations. Funding rates for universities, university hospitals and non-university research institutes can be up to 100% of their costs. Industry can be funded with a maximum of 80% of their cost.
Submission of the proposal at the national level	On request in case of a positive funding recommendation
Submission of other information at the national level	On request in case of a positive funding recommendation
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	On request in case of a positive funding recommendation
Further guidance	See also German version of the call: https://www.gesundheitsforschung-bmbf.de/de/14472.php

Country	Ireland
Funding organisation	Health Research Board, HRB, www.hrb.ie
National contact person	Dr. Amanda Daly, email: eujointprogrammes@hrb.ie
Funding commitment	€370,000
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	1-2
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Up to €370,000 in total
Eligibility of project duration	36 months
Eligibility of a partners	Lead applicants (Principal Investigators) from Ireland working in a recognized HRB Host Institution (Policy on Approval of HRB Host Institutions) are eligible for HRB funding in this call. Please see HRB Funding Schemes for HRB Guidance and FAQ for eligibility details.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	<p>Funding available is inclusive of overheads and pension contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salary related costs • Small equipment costs (€10,000) • Travel • Direct running costs • FAIR data management costs • Dissemination and knowledge exchange costs • Overheads <p>(in accordance with the HRB Policy on Overhead Usage, the HRB will contribute to the indirect costs of the research through an overhead payment of 30% of Total Direct Modified Costs (TDMC excludes student fees, equipment and capital building costs) for laboratory or clinically-based research and 25% of Total Direct Modified Costs if desk-based research.</p>
Submission of the proposal at the national level	Irish partners are asked to provide a copy of the submitted proposal to the HRB National contact person following submission to the European Portal.
Submission of other information at the national level	In addition, Irish partners will be requested to provide a list of deliverables and supplementary budget information requested to the HRB National contact person. This will expedite contract negotiations with HRB in the case of successful consortia with applicants from Ireland. Relevant templates will be provided by the HRB
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Submission of financial and scientific reports for HRB Research Awards are required from the HRB Host Institution to the HRB.
Further guidance	<p>Applicants from Ireland must consult the HRB Guidance and FAQs for this call, for important eligibility information: HRB Funding Schemes</p> <p>Irish Partner(s) are not eligible for HRB funding for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals focusing on the topic: Development of innovative food solutions • Proposals involving basic biomedical research • Proposals seeking to evaluate a pilot or feasibility study • Proposals seeking to evaluate a definitive intervention <p>Proposals from Irish partners that include Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research will be deemed ineligible</p>

Country	Ireland
Funding organisation	<i>Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.</i>
National contact person	Helen Murphy, Research & Codex Division, DAFM, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 0035316072351 Helen.murphy@agriculture.gov.ie
Funding commitment	500,000 Euros
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	(1-2 proposals)
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	250,000
Eligibility of project duration	Up to 3 years
Eligibility of a partners	Eligible Research Performing Organisations must be registered with DAFM at the time of the opening of the Call. A project partner should be either a permanent member of staff or an experienced researcher with a PhD qualification contracted to work with the Research Performing Organisations over the full course of the project.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	DAFM funding rules to apply. Costs typically covered allow for the cost of temporary staff specifically hired to carry out work on the project including postgraduate students, postdoctoral researchers/contract researchers, research assistants and research technicians. Salary costs should start at the minimum point of the scale and allow for annual salary point increases as well as employers PRSI contribution and an employer's pension contribution charge if applicable. Other costs allowed include direct running costs such as consumables required for the carrying-out of the project, small equipment costs, travel & subsistence for personnel engaged in undertaking the project. The travel and subsistence must be directly related to the project. Some other costs may be allowed e.g. software licences, warranties, specialised training course fees, external assistance etc.), the justification for those costs and their necessity to the project should be supplied. Overheads up to a maximum of 30% of direct costs may also apply. (Overheads of up to 25% apply on desk based studies).
Submission of the proposal at the national level	No documents should be submitted to DAFM during the submission phase.
Submission of other information at the national level	If a project is selected for funding, Irish partner(s) will have to provide relevant background details and information on the scientific details of tasks, milestones and deliverables as well as administrative and financial data related to the Irish funded component of the study. This information will need to be submitted via DAFM's Online Research Portal.
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	An interim project progress report will be required detailing progress made with recruitment, tasks and indicative expenditure by the Irish Institution(s) within the first six months of the start date. Annual financial and scientific project progress reports will need to be submitted by the Irish project partner(s) for each year of the project. Their purpose is to assist the Department in determining whether or not the Irish component of the project is on schedule, is being carried out in accordance with the approved proposal and that the budget is being spent appropriately.

	<p>A final report is to provide a summary relating to all aspects of the research project funded by DAFM. A percentage of the grant award will be withheld until it is submitted and deemed satisfactory.</p> <p>All reporting with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine should be through DAFM's Online Research Portal.</p>
Further guidance	<p>DAFM will only fund projects/project tasks that have a clear focus on the development of innovative food solutions and related proof of principle studies.</p>

Country	ISRAEL
Funding organisation	Ministry of Innovation, Science and Technology (MOST)
National contact person	Dr. Sharon Yagur-Kroll, Scientific Director of Biomedical Research Email: SharonYK@most.gov.il ; Tel: +972-2-5411862
Funding commitment	Up to €200,000 (760,000 NIS), subjected to availability of funds in the relevant line of the State Budget
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	2
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Up to €100,000 (380,000 NIS) per project (regardless the number of Israeli partners)
Eligibility of project duration	Up to 3 years
Eligibility of a partners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Principal Investigator (PI) must be affiliated with an academic institution, meaning – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. An accredited institution of higher learning in Israel, according to the Council for Higher Education Law, 1958. ii. A Research Institute which is a nonprofit organization. iii. A Research Institute which is a government company or a government unit. <p>For the purposes of this Call a "Research Institute" means a research institute which a significant portion of its activity is the advancement of cutting-edge scientific knowledge, which possesses appropriate infrastructure and equipment, and which employs researchers who, inter alia, publish articles related to their research in leading scientific journals and who present their research at international symposia.</p> 2. Israeli applicants will use the forms appended to this call and attach the required supplementary documentation as detailed in the Application Form. 3. Israeli Principal Investigators and their affiliated academic institution are responsible to Israeli MOST for the execution of the project. 4. Proposals for which funding is approved, which include experiments with animals, must submit the approval of the relevant Committee for Experimentation on Animals before the project can commence. 5. Proposals for which funding is approved, which involve human beings, must submit the approval of the relevant Helsinki Committee before the project can commence.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Stipend and/or salary for graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, technicians and/or laboratory workers retained specifically for the purpose of the project for a temporary period of up to 3 years; (2) Consumables; In case they exceed 3,000 NIS, a detailed explanation regarding their necessity and quantities is required; (3) Small scale equipment needed only for the specific research project. MOST will enable purchase of computers or laptops only in special cases in which they are part of the research project or are of unique capacities needed for the specific research; (4) Travel and visiting costs; (5) Joint seminars and workshops; (6) Overhead expenses up to 15% of the total amount of the research project inclusive of the funds provided on the basis of this Call.
Submission of the proposal at the national level	On request in case of a positive funding recommendation

Submission of other information at the national level	On request in case of a positive funding recommendation
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	In accordance with MOST Standard Contract for Scientific Projects and the Procedures Regarding Scientific Projects and Scholarships Funded by MOST.
Further guidance	All procedures and activities under this Call or the projects approved hereunder, including the eligibility of institutions via which applications must be filed, are subject to the standard MOST Procedures Regarding Scientific Projects and Scholarships Funded by MOST, and to the MOST Standard Contract for Scientific Projects.

Country	ITALY
Funding organisation	Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) National Institute of Health
National contact person	Roberta Masella Phone +390649902544 roberta.masella@iss.it Address: Istituto Superiore di Sanità Viale Regina Elena 299, 00161 Rome, IT
Funding commitment	250.000 euros
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	1 (funding additional project/units will be considered if necessary)
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	250.000
Eligibility of project duration	36 months
Eligibility of a partners	<p>Research groups belonging to National Institute of Health / Istituto Superiore di Sanità, ISS) with an excellent expertise in thematic areas relevant for the call are eligible to participate *.</p> <p>Applicants that belong to national public and private research institutions, that among their institutional and statutory scopes are “performing research activities” and not only are “promoting or supporting research activities”, can participate as project partner if they can provide their own financial resources to carry out the work. It is mandatory for all the private research bodies defined above that they state in the official documents (statute and/or articles of incorporation, memorandum of association) their non-profit’s purpose.</p> <p>SMEs, industries and organisms with other statutory nature are welcome as participants if an added value to the network is proven and if they are willing to share data and results within the OBESITY PREVENTION initiative. They must be able to provide their own financial resources to carry out the work. A short description of the Enterprise involved in a proposal, its role and the added value brought to the project with its participation must be included together with a declaration on own-funding.</p> <p>* ISS contribution will be available for supporting ISS researchers only.</p>
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	<p>Personnel– Only non-permanent scientific staff (including foreign visiting scientists, post docs, PhD students, grants, fellowships when training course are planned.</p> <p>Travel expenses-for permanent and non-permanent staff.</p> <p>Consumables</p> <p>External activity costs – expenditures for activity carried out externally to the research applicant (Consultancy services if necessary for the project progress, agreements, material transportation when needed for the project implementation).</p> <p>Overheads – no more than 10% of the total amount of the above mentioned costs.</p> <p>Coordination – if ISS is playing a role of coordinator, non-permanent administrative staff can be included in the coordination cost.</p> <p>Subcontractors are not allowed</p> <p>ISS in cash contribution will be available for supporting ISS researchers only by up to 100% of the approved eligible project costs.</p>
Submission of the proposal at the national level	<p>Once the Project has been approved for funding and during the negotiation, each research unit will have to fill in the forms provided by the ISS and present it to the funding bodies to apply for contribution.</p> <p>In case of a research unit acting as coordinator, the description of the general plan of activities must also be presented to the funding bodies, including the activity of all partners and the financial sheet of the Italian research participants.</p>

Submission of other information at the national level	On request in case of a positive funding recommendation
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	On request in case of a positive funding recommendation
Further guidance	The criteria and provisions herewith are intended for informative purpose and refer to this specific call.

Country	Spain
Funding organisation	National Institute of Health Carlos III, (ISCIII), www.isciii.es
Funding Program	Acción Estratégica en Salud (AES), 2022
National contact person	Candida Sánchez Barco Email : cbarco@isciii.es Tel : +34 91822 2063
Funding commitment	1.200.000 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	6-9 projects tentatively envisaged to be funded
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 175,000 € per partner (overheads included) Up to 250,000 € per coordinator (overheads included)
Eligibility of project duration	36 months
Eligibility of beneficiary institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited Health Research Institutes (Institutos de Investigación Sanitaria Acreditados, IIS). Accredited according to the RD 339/2004, of February 27th or RD 279/2016. (These institutions may manage research via a foundation regulated according to the Spanish Act 50/ 2002, of December 26th). See the list of IIS in this link. Hospitals, primary health care or public health administration of the Spanish National Health System (SNS). These institutions may manage research via a foundation regulated in accordance to the Spanish Act 50/2002, of December 26th (a copy of the foundation's statutes may be submitted). CIBER, Team members applying to the call must be from at least two groups belonging to CIBER in two different home institutions and one of these two must be a Hospital, primary health care or public health administration of the Spanish National Health System (SNS) or IIS. Please contact Cristina Rodríguez (cristina.rodriguez@ciberisciii.es) for more information related to CIBER's eligibility. Academia or Other Research Centers (public or private non-for profit). These entities can only participate if they apply together with Hospitals, primary health care or public health settings of the SNS or IIS in the same proposal. It is not allowed to apply independently, thus there must be two beneficiary Spanish institutions requesting funding to ISCIII in the same proposal. <p>Please Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants from ISCIII are eligible. Eligibility criteria from AES 2022 apply Same institution cannot participate with more than one partner in the same project proposal. Only one PI per beneficiary institution may be funded within the same proposal A given PI can apply only once to this call. PIs with ongoing projects in 2023 funded in a JPI HDHL call are not eligible for funding by ISCIII in the current call unless the ongoing project or the new application is as coordinator. There is no other incompatibility with AES 2022. Incompatibility for application to any other call are subject to the provisions in the relevant call. SMEs and other private companies are encouraged to participate at their own cost, as subcontractors
Eligibility of PIs and team members	<p>Eligibility of PI and team members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Investigators (PIs) can only participate in one project proposal per call. Principal Investigators (PIs) belonging to any IIS could apply only from the IIS or from any of the institutions belonging to the IIS. The Principal Investigator (PI) and all members of the research group must belong to the eligible institution or be affiliated to CIBER or an IIS

	<p>Excluded personnel as Principal Investigator (PI):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those undergoing a postgraduate training in Health Specialization (MIR, EIR, FIR, QIR, BIR, PIR, RFIR). • Those undergoing research training (e.g. PhD students, or “Río Hortega” contracts). • Researchers contracted by a RETIC/RICOR. • Those undergoing postdoctoral training (e.g. “Sara Borrell” or “Juan de la Cierva” contracts).
<p>Eligibility of costs, types and their caps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel costs for temporary employment contracts (scholarships are not eligible) with a maximum of 36 PM in total for the personnel contracts altogether. • Current costs, small scientific equipment, consumables, disposable materials, traveling expenses and other costs as included in AES 2022 that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities. • Overheads: up 21% of the direct (according to AES 2022) • Double funding of the same concept is not allowed.
<p>Submission of the proposal at the national level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National applications will be required by ISCIII. Spanish Applicants should periodically check in the web page of ISCIII if they are qualified. ISCIII may not send invitations to the mandatory national phase. https://www.isciii.es/QueHacemos/Financiacion/Paginas/Accion-Estrategica-en-Salud.aspx • Due to administrative and legal regulations, the Institute of Health Carlos III establishes the national deadline for the decision on fundable project consortia which includes Spanish partners to be funded by ISCIII according to the National application period stated in AES 2022. Any concerned applicant in a proposal for which no final decision has been made by the deadline, could be declared not fundable by ISCIII
<p>Further guidance</p>	<p>Additional requirements on data and repositories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researchers funded by ISCIII must make public the human genomic data, as well as relevant data (phenotype and exposition data) generated inside the funded project and will use open access repositories. Researchers must also make public all the necessary information for the interpretation of these genomic data, including lab protocols, data instruments survey tools. Regarding genomic data it is understood: association of complete genomes (GWAS), matrixes of de polymorphism of a single nucleotide (SNP) and sequence of genome, and transcriptomic, metagenomic, epigenomic and gene expression data. The researchers whose projects are funded by ISCIII are recommended to store their scientific data at the "ELIXIR Core Data Resources", or if non-European repositories or data bases are to be used they must be certified by ELIXIR or the US National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). • ISCIII may not fund any project that may require a repository and/or a data base without a plan ensuring sustainability and decommissioning after the end of funding. <p>Acknowledgements</p> <p>Any publication, data base, product or event protected with IPR or not, resulting from the granted project must acknowledge “Award no. XX by Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII) through AES 2022 and within the JPI HDHL framework” even after the end of the project. For more information please see ISCIII’s ROR here.</p>

Country	Spain
Funding organisation	Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)
Funding Program	Spanish call “Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional” (PCI) (not yet published). <u>As a reference, the applicants are strongly advised to read the call text of the PCI 2021-2 and especially the PCI Requirements document on the national call website.</u>
National contact person	Esther Chacón Campollo Email: hdhl@aei.gob.es Tel : +34 916037105
Funding commitment	500.000 €
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	2-3 projects tentatively envisaged to be funded
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	<p>The following funding limits (including direct + indirect costs) are considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the Consortium is NOT LED by a Spanish Coordinator and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is only one Spanish Partner in the proposal: € 200.000. • there are two Spanish Partners in the proposal, the amount for both Partners is: € 250.000 • If the Consortium IS LED by a Spanish Coordinator and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is only one Spanish Partner in the proposal acting as Coordinator: € 300.000 • there are two Spanish Partners in the proposal and one is acting as Coordinator, the amount for both Partners is: € 350.000 <p>IMPORTANT: A maximum of two Spanish Partners requesting funding to the AEI in the same proposal are allowed.</p> <p>Centers formed by different Spanish legal entities will be considered as a unique entity, and thus the maximum funding should not exceed the limits per proposal established above (for example, mixed centers).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final funding will take into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration, and the financial resources available.
Eligibility of project duration	36 months
Eligibility of beneficiary institutions	<p>Eligible entities for the AEI funding are: Non-profit research organizations (such as universities, public research institutions, technological centres and other private non-profit institutions performing RDI activities in Spain), which must comply with the requirements established by this transnational call and with the rules on eligibility defined in the corresponding Spanish national funding instrument “Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional” (PCI) and the PCI Requirements document.</p> <p>The entities must have been previously beneficiaries of any of the AEI calls. They have to ensure contractual relationship with the Principal Investigator (PI) during all the implementation of the project.</p>

	<p>Although private enterprises are not funded by the AEI, the Spanish industrial sector is welcome to participate in the transnational consortia using their own funds.</p>
<p>Eligibility of PIs and team members</p>	<p>Spanish Principal Investigators (PIs) must:</p> <p>Be eligible to the corresponding PCI call and the PCI Requirements document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate experience as investigators in projects funded by the different Plan Estatal I+D+i: 2013-2016, 2017-2020, 2021-2023, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant national or international programmes. <p>Incompatibilities: These must be taken into account when participating in different ERA-Nets or other international initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIs are not allowed to apply for funding in (i) more than one proposal of this transnational call, (ii) in more than one proposal in the same PCI call and (iii) in PCI calls in consecutive years. No changes of PIs will be allowed after pre-proposal submission. • PIs must remain unchanged between the proposal to this transnational call and the corresponding PCI call should the proposal be recommended for funding. <p>Important: It is highly recommended that the applicants include the PI's full name and identification number as they appear in their DNI in the application form, as well as the full name of their institution in the original language, including the CIF. The DNI and the CIF may be included in the same text box as their Family name and Legal full name of the research organisation respectively.</p>
<p>Eligibility of costs, types and their caps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and innovation activities are eligible. Mere dissemination, communication or other similar activities will not be eligible. • Personnel costs for new temporary employment contracts are eligible. The costs of permanent staff linked to the beneficiary entity or members of the research team will not be considered eligible costs. • Direct costs such as current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination costs and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities. • Overheads (maximum 15% of all direct costs, including the subcontracting costs). <p>The AEI will avoid double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding) and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded.</p>
<p>Submission of the proposal at the national level</p>	<p>Funding Programme:</p> <p>The framework for this funding action is the Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Técnica e Innovación 2021-2023. On a national level, the Call will be managed by the Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia (STRAN) of the AEI.</p> <p>Instrument for funding the Spanish groups:</p> <p>The instrument for funding the Spanish groups is the corresponding Spanish call "Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional" (PCI) (not yet published). As a reference, the applicants are strongly advised to read the call text of the PCI 2021-2 and especially the PCI Requirements document on the national call website.</p>
<p>Further guidance</p>	<p>Data Protection:</p> <p>By submitting a grant application to the AEI, the applicants consent to communication of the data contained in the application to other public</p>

administrations, with the aim of further processing of the data for historical, statistical or scientific purposes, within the framework of the Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on Personal Data Protection and Guarantee of Digital Rights.

Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle:

The projects granted under this call must comply with the DNSH criteria (see Article 6.4 of the [PCI 2021-2](#)).

Acknowledgements

Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge the AEI funding: "Project (reference nº XX) funded by Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) through the PCI (year) call".

Country	The Netherlands
Funding organisation	ZonMw & Health ~Holland <i>ZonMw & Health ~Holland participate jointly in this call. ZonMw will act as the executive organisation and will represent Health ~Holland, Topsector Life, Sciences & Health.</i>
National contact person	Name : Wilke van Ansem & Larissa van der Bent Phone: 0031-70-3495164 / 0031-70 3495391 E-mail: jpihdhlprojects@zonmw.nl Please note: Dutch applicants should contact ZonMw to discuss the Dutch rules and regulation for this call before submitting an application.
Funding commitment	€1.750.000,- Funding will be a combination of PPP Allowance made available by Health~Holland, Topsector Life Sciences & Health as well as funding made available by ZonMw.
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	Aim to fund 4 projects.
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	Dutch applicants can apply for maximum €400.000 per application (this is excl. in kind cost for the Dutch component per proposal). An additional budget of €50.000,- can be requested for coordination cost (Dutch researcher acts as coordinator of the international consortium).
Eligibility of project duration	Up to three years.
Eligibility of a partners	Dutch research organisations such as universities, academic hospitals and other organisation that satisfy the definition of a research organisation as referred to in EU state aid legislation may use the research grant (<i>Framework for state aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01), Article 15(ee)</i>). Public-private Partnership The Dutch consortium consists of at least one research organisation and one for-profit enterprise. Co-funding by a for-profit enterprise is a condition for Dutch applicants to be eligible. Please carefully read the eligibility of cost section for the explanation regarding the required co-funding.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	The percentage of co-funding depends on the type of research. Type of research: The project entails fundamental, industrial research or a combination thereof: <i>Fundamental research</i> means experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct commercial application or use in view. <i>Industrial research</i> means the planned research or critical investigation aimed at the acquisition of new knowledge and skills for developing new products, processes or services or for bringing about a significant improvement in existing products, processes or services. It comprises the creation of components parts of complex systems, and may include the construction of prototypes in a laboratory environment or in an environment with simulated interfaces to existing systems as well as of pilot lines, when necessary for the industrial research and notably for generic technology validation. - In case of fundamental research, the subsidy covers a maximum of 75% of the total eligible project costs. At least 15% of the total eligible costs must be co-funded by a for-profit enterprise. At

	<p>least 10% of the total project costs has to be contributed by a research organisation and is allowed to be fully in kind.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In case of industrial research, the subsidy covers a maximum of 50% of the total eligible project costs. At least 35% of the total eligible costs must be co-funded by a for-profit enterprise. At least 15% of the total project costs has to be contributed by a research organisation and is allowed to be fully in kind. - Depending on the size of the for-profit enterprise, this contribution can be in cash or in kind. The contribution of SMEs is allowed to be fully in kind; a cash contribution is however encouraged. At least 2/3 of the required minimum contribution of a large enterprise must consist of a cash contribution. - Besides a possible cash contribution, all consortium partners should make an in-kind contribution. This means that at least all consortium partners incur payroll costs. <p>Eligible cost - ZonMw</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cost related to coordination of the international consortium are only eligible for ZonMw. - For personnel costs we refer to the VSNU/NFU salary tables on ZonMw's website. <p>Eligible cost - Health Holland</p> <p>The project costs that can be incurred (eligible costs) must be <u>directly</u> related to the research and development activities.</p> <p>Commercial rates may not be entered. For a more detailed explanation of (the calculation of) eligible costs, please refer to the Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014, article 25 and the Framework Decision National Grants of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Chapter 4, articles 10-14. The subsidy (PPP Allowance) can only be used to cover part of the eligible costs.</p>
<p>Submission of the proposal at the national level</p>	<p>Only successful Dutch project partners will have to submit a formal application through ZonMw ProjectNet/ AIMS.</p> <p>We expect successful projects with two Dutch partners to nominate one project leader to manage the award on behalf of the successful Dutch applicants.</p>
<p>Submission of other information at the national level</p>	<p>The following information should be sent to ZonMw before the submission deadline of the proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A signed letter of commitment of consortium partners from the Netherlands - budgetary template NUTRIMMUNE_NL - template research activities of Dutch component <p>Please contact ZonMw to receive the necessary templates: jpihdhlprojects@zonmw.nl</p>
<p>Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level</p>	<p>Successful Dutch project partners will have to submit an annual progression report and a financial statement to ZonMw.</p>
<p>Further guidance</p>	<p>ZonMw https://www.zonmw.nl/nl/subsidies/voorwaarden-en-financien/</p> <p>Health ~Holland</p> <p>More information regarding the PPP allowance and related issues can be found here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Definitions research and development from the EU Support Framework - Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation

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- [Regulation National Grants of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy and Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality](#)
 - [Framework Decision National Grants of the Ministry of Economic Affairs](#)
 - [TKI Allowance Regulation Government Gazette 2012](#)
 - [TKI Allowance Regulation Government Gazette 2016](#)
 - [Commission Regulation \(EU\) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014](#)
 - [The revised User Guide to the SME definition](#)

Country	United Kingdom
Funding organisation	UK Research & Innovation (UKRI): Medical Research Council (MRC)
National contact persons	Dr Charly Oakley (MRC), Email: Charly.Oakley@mrc.ukri.org Dr Karen Finney (MRC), Email: Karen.Finney@mrc.ukri.org
Funding commitment	Up to €1.00 million
Anticipated number of fundable proposals	We aim to support around 3-4 proposals in this call.
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	We expect UK researchers to ask for no more than between €250k - €300k (as the total cost, at 80% fEC, for the UK component <u>per proposal</u>).
Eligibility of project duration	Up to 3 years
Eligibility of partners	<p>Standard MRC eligibility criteria will be applied to the UK components of applications. Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Research Council Institutes (RCIs) and Independent Research Organisations (IROs) that are normally eligible to receive MRC funding can apply. Full details of eligibility conditions can be found in the MRC Guidance for Applicants (https://mrc.ukri.org/documents/pdf/guidance-for-applicants/).</p> <p>Focus of UK research – All UK work funded via this call must fall within the standard remit of the MRC. The UK work packages should primarily focus on the mechanisms related to the cause-and-effect relationship between nutrition, immune function and infectious diseases in the context of diet-related metabolic disorders. UK work packages may also explore how diet/food ingredients, delivered as interventions, impact any mechanisms or immune function. UK work packages on product development, food chemistry and/or food production are <u>not eligible</u> for MRC support.</p> <p>Potential applicants are strongly advised to contact the MRC (using contact details above) in advance of making an application to resolve any eligibility and remit queries.</p>
Eligibility of costs	<p>The UK component of a successful application will be awarded by the MRC as a standard UKRI award.</p> <p>The UK component of applications should be costed in GBP on the basis of full economic costs (fEC). If the grant is awarded, funding will be provided on the basis of 80% of fEC as per standard MRC terms and conditions. The submitting organisations must agree to fund the balance of fEC for the project from other resources. The 20% contribution from submitting organisations should be recorded as an “in cash contribution”.</p> <p>UK costs should be entered on the transnational JPI HDHL Call application form in Euros at an exchange rate of £1 = €1.14. The requested funding must be equivalent to the 80% that will be requested from Research Council funding. Applicants should include a statement (in the application form) to confirm the exchange rate used, and that the requested costs are entered at the 80% fEC level on the application form. This statement should also confirm the amount requested in GBP.</p> <p><u>MRC will make available additional information on how to complete the financial tables in the Application Form. Please request this guidance from either Charly Oakley or Karen Finney and read it</u></p>

	<p><u>carefully before completing and submitting the application. Failure to adhere to this guidance might mean that your application is rejected.</u></p> <p>Please note: PhD students, or items of equipment over £10k, cannot be funded by MRC as part of this call.</p>
Submission of the proposal at the national level	<p>Only those UK project partners on successful applications will have to submit a formal application through Je-S.</p> <p>Successful UK project partners will have one month from the date they are notified of a positive funding decision to submit a formal application through Je-S. MRC will provide further details of how to do this once the outcomes of the call are known. This is to allow an award of the UK component to be made using via Je-S; no further national assessments or peer review will be required.</p>
Submission of other information at the national level	<p>Standard terms and conditions for industrial collaboration apply. Applicants who intend to collaborate with industrial or other non-academic partners should note that any costs incurred, direct or otherwise, by these partners cannot be met by MRC. These costs must be met by the non-academic partners as in-cash or in-kind contributions. Costs incurred by the UK academic partner as a direct result of working with other consortium partners (such as visits to labs or exchange of materials) can be requested.</p>
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	<p>Reporting: In addition to reporting requirements set out in the HDHL call document, standard UKRI reporting terms and conditions will apply. UK partners are expected to report on outputs and outcomes on a regular basis (and for at least five years post-completion) through Researchfish.</p>
Further guidance	<p>Awards will be subject to standard UKRI Grants Terms and Conditions. UK grant holders are required to comply with UKRI Data Sharing and Open Access policies (both available on the UKRI website).</p> <p>Acknowledgements: Any publications (including academic papers and press releases) or other dissemination activities resulting from research funded through this call must acknowledge funding from MRC.</p>