

National regulations, Italy - Mipaaf

Ministry of agricultural, food and forestry policies (Mipaaf)

Mipaaf is funding the following topics of the call:

- 2) *Eco-efficient production and use of animal feed at local level;*
- 4) *Organic food processing concepts and technologies for ensuring food quality, sustainability and consumer confidence.*

Mipaaf rules (General Direction Agrofood Quality Promotion – PQAI acting as funding body) for eligibility and allocation of the financial contribution will be published in a Ministerial Decree to be issued by April 2017.

A short summary of these future rules is hereafter reported.

Eligibility of the projects

The projects have to be presented under the thematic research areas 2 or 4

Nature of the applicants.

National public research institutions and no-profit private bodies, with among their institutional and statutory scopes “performing research activities” and not only “promoting or supporting research activities”, can apply for funding.

National public institutions include public bodies supervised by Ministries, regional and provincial centres, university departments and institutes, university consortia, interdepartmental centres.

It is mandatory, for all the no-profit private research bodies defined above, that they state in the official documents (statute and/or articles of incorporation, memorandum of association) that among their missions they also “perform research activities”.

SME or other private bodies can participate with their own funding, giving an added value to the research project.

The no-profit private research bodies participating in the project consortium must send scanned copy of these documents by the pre-proposal submission deadline to Mipaaf at: pqai1@politicheagricole, specifying in the object “Core Organic CoFund” call documents – no-profit private body – deadline 1 March 2017 ”

Financial contribution.

The contribution amount for national participants of the selected projects will be as follows:

- public Institutions and no profit private bodies can be financed up to 99% of the approved eligible project costs;
- SMEs and organisms with other statutory nature are welcome as participants if an added value to the project is proven and if their costs are covered by their own resources or by other external sources.

According to the national regulations the transfer of funds will occur in three steps:

- 1) up to 65% of the approved costs immediately at the issue of the Ministry decree (contract between the Ministry and the beneficiary);
- 2) up to 25% of the approved costs once the mid-term report (both scientific and administrative) has been approved;
- 3) the remaining 10% of the approved costs once the final report has been approved.

Total request amount and eligible costs

The total amount of funds requested by the Italian research units for each project cannot exceed € 180,000 and one research unit cannot claim more than € 120,000.

A) Personnel

1) Salaries – Only for non-permanent scientific staff of public institutions (including foreign visiting scientists, post docs, PhD students, fellowships and grants). Technical administrative staff can be included. For no profit private institutions salaries of permanent and non-permanent staff actually participating in the project activities can be funded.

2) Travel expenses – for permanent and non-permanent staff.

B) Consumables

C) External activity costs – expenditures for activity carried out externally to the research applicant (Consultancy services, agreements, maintenance, repairs, material transportation when needed for the project implementation).

D) Equipments – Only depreciation charges (related to the project duration) for scientific equipment will be reimbursed.

E) Overheads – no more than 10% of the total amount of the above mentioned costs (A+B+C+D)

F) Coordination – **no coordination cost will be eligible at national level – this cost will be covered by the CORE Organic COFUND consortium following the rules indicated in the call announcement document** –

Additional forms.

Once projects will have been approved for funding and the Call Secretariat will have communicated to the project coordinators the evaluation outcome, Mipaaf - PQAI 1 office (national funding body), will formally ask the Italian selected research units to fill in the form annexed to the announced National Decree and submit it by the indicated deadline.

In case of a research unit is acting as coordinator the general project description, and a brief explanation about the coordination activity have to be presented to the funding body.

All the additional forms must be written in Italian

For all further information please refer to the national contact points that will be announced on the Mipaaf web site

<https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/10714>
and www.sinab.it.