



Electronic Platform Submission System (EPSS) General Data Protection Policy

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1. INTRODUCTION

Biodiversa+ is a European network of programmers and funders of research on biodiversity, ecosystem services and Nature-based Solutions that supports international projects through Joint Calls. This EPSS Data Protection Policy shows how Biodiversa+ is committed to protecting and respecting the privacy of Applicants, Evaluators, External Reviewers, Researchers selected for funding and any general users of the EPSS.

This EPSS Data Protection Policy and associated policies are designed to be compliant with the EU's [General Data Protection Regulation \(2016/679\)](#) (GDPR), management of joint calls, including the evaluation of proposals, as well as the design, monitoring and evaluation of calls, and learning process in Joint Calls require the processing of personal data, including those of persons in the non-EU countries.

The EPSS Data Protection Policy is a transparent statement that explains the reason for the collection and processing of your personal data, the way we protect the personal data provided and what rights you may exercise in relation to your data (the right to transparency, information, access, rectification and erasure, portability, object, block etc.).

This EPSS Data Protection Policy concerns the processes associated with:

- partner / project search tool (1),
- application submission (2)
- application evaluation by an independent Evaluation Committee – EvC (namely processes that concern personal data of the members of the EvC) (3),
- application evaluation by external review (4),
- application eligibility check (5)
- monitoring and evaluation of the call process (6),
- general use of the EPSS (7).

The EPSS is supported by an Estonian contractor, [Taavi Tiirik](#). The data input by users from all over the globe are received directly into Estonian Research Council's (ETAg) servers in Estonia, which are maintained by EENet (Estonian Education and Research Network of Information Technology Foundation for Education) using industry best practices for data security. BiodivERsA is hereby making the benefits of these GDPR compliant policies available to all users regardless of geographic location. The EPSS maintains data related to Joint Calls and associated processes detailed in [Annexe 1](#). Changes to this Annexe do not constitute a change to the EPSS Data Protection.

2. WHY DO WE PROCESS YOUR DATA?

2.1 PURPOSE OF THE PROCESSING

The data provided to us and the purpose of our processing of these data are different for (1) partner / project search tool, (2) application submission, (3) application evaluation by an independent Evaluation Committee, (4) application external review, (5) application eligibility check, (6) monitoring and evaluation of the call process, (7) general use of the EPSS. The purpose of processing the data for each of these roles are as follows:

1. **Partner / Project search tool (by users of the tool):** The data you provided as a user of the Partner / Project search tool are used to:
 - Publish your partner / project search request and help you find potential partners for your project or a project you could join as partner
 - Collect your feedbacks on the tool

2. **Application Submission (by Applicants):** The data you provide as an Applicant in your application forms (both pre-proposal and full proposal forms) are collected to allow Biodiversa+, reviewers, member of the evaluation committee and funding organisations and the European Commission to:
 - communicate with you about the call and application process
 - allow the funding organisations to perform an eligibility check of the applicants
 - assess the composition, competencies and complementarities of your proposal and consortia by the EvC members and external reviewers
 - award funding if your application is successful
 - analyse and describe our applicant pool (the name of applicants are anonymised in our analysis)
 - collect your feedbacks and improve our communications with potential future applicants in future Joint Calls

3. **Application Evaluation (by members of the EvC):** The data you provide, as a member of the Evaluation Committee allow us to:
 - communicate with you about the call and review process
 - assign applications for your review
 - collect your evaluation of those applications
 - collect your feedbacks on the review process
 - communicate on and publish the composition of the EvC after the end of the joint call

4. **Application External Review (by Potential Reviewers and Reviewers):** The data you provide or the data that are provided on you, as a potential external reviewer or external reviewer, allow us to:
 - communicate with you about the review processes
 - assign applications for your review
 - collect your evaluation of those applications
 - collect your feedbacks on the review process

5. **Application Eligibility check (by Funding organisations):** The data you provide or the data that are provided on you, as a funding organisation representative, allow us to:
 - communicate with you about the eligibility check process
 - give you access to the proposals submitted for which you have to enter an eligibility decision
 - collect your eligibility check decisions

6. **Monitoring and evaluation of the call process (by the Call Secretariat, Biodiversa+ Operational Team, Chair & Coordinator, Vice-Chair, independent observer and funding organisations):** The data you provided as independent observer, as a Biodiversa+ funding agency representatives are used to:
 - communicate with you about the monitoring and evaluation of the call process
 - help us assign you an appropriate role in the system to allow you to participate in the monitoring and evaluation of the call process
 - give you access to the appropriate data to perform your functions related to the monitoring and evaluation of the call process

7. **General use of the EPSS (by any users of the EPSS):** The data you provided as a user of the EPSS are used to:
 - ensure the security of the EPSS
 - ensure the proper functioning of the EPSS

2.2 **LAWFULNESS OF THE PROCESSING**

Biodiversa+ has a legitimate interest in processing these data to meet obligations laid down by law in funding countries, including non-European Union Member countries, meeting obligations to which Biodiversa+ (and the Biodiversa+ controllers) is subject, and the necessity for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is a party. (This basis is described in GDPR 2016/679 Art. 6-1-b, GDPR 2016/679 Art. 6-1-C, in GDPR 2016/679 Art. 6-1-f for personal data of application evaluation by external review only). The organisations providing resources and

funding for the Joint Calls are subject to obligations laid down by law for the application, review, and award processes. Biodiversa+ and the EPSS processor are directly linked to these obligations. The EPSS is contracted by the [French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity](#) (FRB). Among the Joint Controllers, FRB is the controller responsible for the EPSS, as mentioned in the Joint Controllers Agreement signed by the Biodiversa+ partners.

3. WHICH DATA DO WE COLLECT AND PROCESS?

The data we collect and process are different for (1) partner / project search tool, (2) application submission, (3) application evaluation by an independent Evaluation Committee, (4) application external review, (5) application eligibility check, (6) monitoring and evaluation of the call process, (7) general use of the EPSS. The purpose of processing the data for each of these roles through the EPSS system are as follows:

1. **Partner / Project search tool** (by users of the tool): The data subject are:
 - The users of the partner / project search tool. Collected personal data: Title, first and last name, country, organisation and department, e-mail address, phone number, personal webpage, link to research gate webpage (or equivalent), expertise, skills and disciplines.
2. **Application Submission (provided by the coordinators and principal investigators of the proposals)**. The data subjects are:
 - Coordinators of each proposal and other Principal Investigators (PIs). Collected personal data: First name, last name, gender, nationality, professional email address, professional phone number, organisation name, organisation website, organisation type, organisation division, organisation address, title, function, expertise /area(s) of research / academic discipline(s), funding agency, curriculum vitae
 - Other Team Members. Collected personal data: First name, last name, title, funding organisation, organisation**, department, academic level, year of highest academic degree, gender, and curriculum vitae
 - Collaborators. Collected personal data: email address, first name, last name, title, funding source, organisation**, department, gender, and curriculum vitae
 - Stakeholder Representatives, collaborators, when relevant: email address, first name, last name, title, organisation**, department, gender.

3. **Application Evaluation (provided by the members of the Evaluation Committee, the Call Steering Committee, the Call Secretariat and the Biodiversa+ Operational Team).** The data subject are:
 - Potential members of the Evaluation Committee. Collected personal data: First Name, Last Name, Name of their Organisation and department, E-mail address, keywords to describe their expertise and disciplines, organisation or personal website. These data are provided by the members of the Call Steering Committees and the Call Secretariat.
 - Actual Members of the Evaluation Committee. Collected personal data: First Name, Last Name, Organisation Name, Nationality, Country of their Organisation, expertise / areas of research / academic disciplines, pre-assessments and reviews made, scoring data, final feedbacks for applicants.

4. **Application External Review (provided by members of the EvC, and potentially the Call Secretariat, Call Steering Committee, Potential Reviewers, and Reviewers).** The data subjects are:
 - Potential External Reviewers. Collected personal data: Email, First Name, Family Name, Gender, Name of their Organisation and department, keywords to describe their expertise and disciplines, organisation or personal website. These data are provided by the members of the Evaluation Committee, members of the Call Steering Committee, potential reviewer contact, list of potential reviewers from previous BiodivERSA Calls.
 - Actual External Reviewers. Collected personal data: Email, First Name, Family Name, Gender, Name of their Organisation and department, keywords to describe their expertise and disciplines, organisation or personal website, reviews made and scores allocated to proposals.

5. **Application eligibility check (provided by Funding Organisations).** The data subjects are:
 - Representatives from the participating Funding Organisations. Data collected: First and Last name, e-mail address, organisation name, eligibility decision.

6. **Monitoring and Evaluation of the call process (by the Call Secretariat, Biodiversa+ Operational Team, Chair & Coordinator, Vice-Chair, independent observer and funding organisations).** The data subjects are:
 - Monitors of the Evaluation process such as representatives of funding organisations, members of the Call Secretariat, members of the Biodiversa+ Operational Team, Chair and Coordinator and Vice-Chair and appointed

independent observer. Collected personal data: Email address, first name, last name, organisation.

7. **General use of the EPSS (provided by any user of the EPSS)**. The data subjects are:
- all the users of the EPSS who uses the following pages of the EPSS: submitting a new partner / project search entry, new user registration, login page, lost your password page. Collected personal data: evidences that the user of the EPSS is not a robot.

**In all cases above, "organisation" information includes the organisation's name, website, email, phone, fax, Twitter handle, street address, city/town, state, country, and postal code.

The EPSS **will not** collect or process sensible personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health, data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation, ideological views or activities, information on social security measures, or administrative or criminal proceedings and sanctions, which are treated outside pending proceedings. (These are "special categories" of data under GDPR Article 9 and are not collected or processed by the EPSS and Biodiversa+).

4. HOW LONG DO WE KEEP YOUR DATA?

1. **Partner / Project search tool** (by users of the tool): The data subject are:
 - The users of the partner / project search tool: personal data are kept for one year after the closure of the application.
2. **Application Submission (provided by the coordinators of the proposals)**. The data subjects are:
 - Coordinators of each proposal and other Principal Investigators (PIs), Other Team Members, Collaborators, Stakeholder Representatives: collaborators, when relevant, not selected for funding: for up to 5 years¹ after the closure of the call for which the data have been collected or updated, or, concerning calls with multiple cut-offs. This applies also to data contained in previous outdated versions

¹ In some funding organisations, depending on national requirements, this retention period may be shorter. For more information, you can contact your funding organisation.

of applications and in withdrawn proposals in case the proposal was not selected for funding.

- Coordinators of each proposal and other Principal Investigators (PIs), Other Team Members, Collaborators, Stakeholder Representatives: collaborators, when relevant: selected for funding: Information on researchers selected for funding through a Joint Call, personal data (in electronic and/or any other format) are retained for 15 years² after the closing of the Joint Call.
 - You have the possibility to ask us to get the information changed or removed (in case your proposal was not submitted).
3. **Application Evaluation (provided by the members of the Evaluation Committee, the Call Steering Committee, the Call Secretariat and the Biodiversa+ Operational Team).** The data subject are:
- Potential members of the Evaluation Committee, Actual Members of the Evaluation Committee: personal data are kept for up to 5 years after the closure of the call.
4. **Application External Review (provided by members of the EvC, and potentially the Call Secretariat, Call Steering Committee, Potential Reviewers, and Reviewers).** The data subjects are:
- Potential External Reviewers, Actual External Reviewers: personal data are kept for up to 10 years after the closure of the call.
5. **Application eligibility check (provided by Funding Organisations).** The data subjects are:
- Representatives from the participating Funding Organisations: personal data are kept for up to 5 years after the closure of the call.
6. **Monitoring and Evaluation of the call process (by the Call Secretariat, Biodiversa+ Operational Team, Chair & Coordinator, Vice-Chairs, independent observer and funding organisations).** The data subjects are:
- all monitors of the Evaluation process such as representatives of funding organisations, members of the Call Secretariat, members of the Biodiversa+ Operational Team, Chair and Coordinator and Vice-Chairs and appointed independent observer: personal data are kept for up to 5 years after the closure of the call.

² In some funding organisations, depending on national requirements, this retention period may be shorter. For more information, you can contact your funding organisation.

7. **General use of the EPSS (provided by any user of the EPSS).** The data subjects are:
- all the users of the EPSS who uses the following pages of the EPSS: submitting a new partner / project search entry, new user registration, login page, lost your password page: personal data are kept for up to 5 years after the closure of the call except for applicants selected for funding (15 years).

Anonymised data can be retained for a longer period and further processed for historical, statistical, or scientific purposes.

5. HOW DO WE PROTECT YOUR DATA?

All data in the EPSS are stored on the Estonian Research Council's (ETAg) servers in Tartu, Estonia, which are maintained by EENet (Estonian Education and Research Network of Information Technology Foundation for Education). The operations of these services comply with industry best practices and the EU's [General Data Protection Regulation \(2016/679\)](#) (GDPR) appropriate measures. Any development computers / environments that are involved in building and testing the EPSS outside the server room, are using strongly encrypted storage media, to further reduce the risk of unauthorised access to the data.

6. WHO HAS ACCESS TO YOUR DATA AND TO WHOM IS IT DISCLOSED?

6.1. SHARING OF YOUR INFORMATION

Your data will be accessible to the Call Secretariat, Biodiversa+ Secretariat, Chair and Vice-Chairs, funding organisations participating in the call and their contractors, independent observer nominated for joint calls co-funded by the European Commission and the contractor supporting the EPSS system. (EPSS is supported by Taavi Tiirik, OÜ Sensus). Additionally, data in applications will be accessible by application reviewers (both Evaluation Committee members and external reviewers) solely for the purpose of reviewing the submitted proposals and providing their review.

The EPSS General Data Policy maintains a list of members and partners for each Joint Call in [Annexe 2](#). Changes to this Annexe do not constitute a change to the EPSS General Data Policy.

6.2. FUTURE SHARING OF YOUR INFORMATION

We do not currently share your personal information with companies, organisations, or individuals outside the ones mentioned in section 6.1. If the need arises, we may share your information in the following cases:

Future Sharing with your consent

We'll share personal information outside of Biodiversa+ when we have your consent. We'll ask for your explicit consent to share any sensitive personal information.

Future Sharing for external processing

We would provide personal information to our affiliates and other trusted businesses or persons to process it for us, based on our instructions and in compliance with our Privacy Policy and any other appropriate confidentiality and security measures.

Future Sharing for legal reasons

We will share personal information outside of Biodiversa+ if we have a good-faith belief that access, use, preservation, or disclosure of the information is reasonably necessary to:

- Meet any applicable law, regulation, legal process, or enforceable governmental request.
- Enforce applicable Terms of Service, including investigation of potential violations.
- Detect, prevent, or otherwise address fraud, security, or technical issues.
- Protect against harm to the rights, property or safety of Biodiversa+, our users, or the public as required or permitted by law.

6.3. EXPORT OF DATA TO NON-EU COUNTRIES

The data we collect and process are different for (1) partner / project search tool, (2) application submission, (3) application evaluation, (4) application external review, (5) application eligibility check, (6) monitoring and evaluation of the call process, (7) general use of the EPSS. Please note, that some of the personal data you provide us will be exported to non-EU countries participating to the call (see Annexe 3 for the list of non-Eu countries participating in each Joint Calls):

1. **Partner / Project search tool** (data provided by users of the tool): these data **will not be exported** to non-EU countries (third countries) and will remain on the servers of the EPSS (check section 5 for more information).

2. **Application Submission** (data provided by the proposals' applicants): these data will be shared among all the Funding Organisations participating in the call, for the proper implementation of the Joint Call. Please note that some of these Funding Organisations are not established in an EU member States. To ensure a high level of data protection, these funding organisations agreed to ensure a high level of protection to your personal data. In addition, for transparency reasons, when applying to the Joint Call and when collecting your data, we inform you on the need to transfer your personal data to non-EU member States for the proper evaluation and implementation of the Call. If a Funding Organisation is not from the European Union or the European Economic Area and do not provide an adequate level of data protection³, we will ensure that such a transfer is possible and complies with the GDPR (i.e. pursuant to Article 45 of the GDPR – on the basis of an adequacy decision or pursuant to Article 46.2.c) of GDPR – on the basis of standard data protection clauses adopted by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure in Article 93.2 or pursuant to Article 49 of the GDPR).

3. **Application Evaluation** (data provided by the members of the Evaluation Committee, the Call Steering Committee, the Call Secretariat and the Biodiversa+ Operational Team). The data subject are:
 - Potential members of the Evaluation Committee: these personal data are shared with the funding organisations participating in the Joint Call to ensure the proper implementation of the evaluation process. Please note that some of these funding organisations are not established in an EU member States; your personal data will thus be shared with non-EU funding organisations but these organisations are committed to ensure a high level of data protection. If a Funding Organisation is not from the European Union or the European Economic Area and do not provide an adequate level of data protection, we will ensure that such a transfer is possible and complies with the GDPR (i.e. pursuant to Article 45 of the GDPR – on the basis of an adequacy decision or pursuant to Article 46.2.c) of GDPR – on the basis of standard data protection clauses adopted by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure in Article 93.2 or pursuant to Article 49 of the GDPR).
 - Actual Members of the Evaluation Committee: these personal data are shared with the funding organisations participating in the Joint Call to ensure the proper implementation of the evaluation process. As some of the funding organisation are not established an EU member States, please note that your personal data will be shared with non-EU Funding Organisations but these organisations are committed to ensure a high level of data protection and signed a non-disclosure

³ As defined by the European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/international-dimension-data-protection/adequacy-decisions_en

policy. If a Funding Organisation is not from the European Union or the European Economic Area and do not provide an adequate level of data protection, we will ensure that such a transfer is possible and complies with the GDPR (i.e. pursuant to Article 45 of the GDPR – on the basis of an adequacy decision or pursuant to Article 46.2.c) of GDPR – on the basis of standard data protection clauses adopted by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure in Article 93.2 or pursuant to Article 49 of the GDPR).

4. **Application External Review** (data provided by members of the EvC, and potentially the Call Secretariat, Call Steering Committee, Potential External Reviewers, and External Reviewers). The data subjects are:

- Potential External Reviewers: these personal data are shared with the funding organisations participating in the Joint Call to ensure the proper implementation of the evaluation process. Please note that some of these funding organisations are not established in an EU member States; your personal data will thus be shared with non-EU funding organisations but these organisations are committed to ensure a high level of data protection and signed a non-disclosure policy. If a Funding Organisation is not from the European Union or the European Economic Area and do not provide an adequate level of data protection, we will ensure that such a transfer is possible and complies with the GDPR (i.e. pursuant to Article 45 of the GDPR – on the basis of an adequacy decision or pursuant to Article 46.2.c) of GDPR – on the basis of standard data protection clauses adopted by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure in Article 93.2 or pursuant to Article 49 of the GDPR).

- Actual External Reviewers: these personal data are shared with the funding organisations participating in the Joint Call and to the members of the Evaluation Committee (EvC) to ensure the proper implementation of the evaluation process and the consideration of your review. Please note that your personal data will thus be shared with non-EU funding organisations and with non-EU EvC members, but these organisations are committed to ensure a high level of data protection. Besides, both the Funding Organisations and the members of the EvC signed a non-disclosure agreement and will thus treat your data as confidential. If a Funding Organisation is not from the European Union or the European Economic Area and do not provide an adequate level of data protection, we will ensure that such a transfer is possible and complies with the GDPR (i.e. pursuant to Article 45 of the GDPR – on the basis of an adequacy decision or pursuant to Article 46.2.c) of GDPR – on the basis of standard data protection clauses adopted by the

Commission in accordance with the examination procedure in Article 93.2 or pursuant to Article 49 of the GDPR).

5. **Application eligibility check** (data provided by Funding Organisations). The data subjects are:
 - Representatives from the participating Funding Organisations: these personal data are shared with all the Funding Organisation participating in the Joint Call, including non-EU ones, to ensure the proper implementation of the evaluation process. Please note that your personal data will thus be shared with non-EU funding organisations but these organisations are committed to ensure a high level of data protection and signed a non-disclosure policy. If a Funding Organisation is not from the European Union or the European Economic Area and do not provide an adequate level of data protection, we will ensure that such a transfer is possible and complies with the GDPR (i.e. pursuant to Article 45 of the GDPR – on the basis of an adequacy decision or pursuant to Article 46.2.c) of GDPR – on the basis of standard data protection clauses adopted by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure in Article 93.2 or pursuant to Article 49 of the GDPR).
6. **Monitoring and Evaluation of the call process** (by the Call Secretariat, Biodiversa+ Operational Team, Chair & Coordinator, Vice-Chairs, independent observer and funding organisations).
 - These personal data are shared with all the participating funding organisation in the Joint Call, including non-EU ones, to ensure the proper implementation of the evaluation process. Please note that your personal data will thus be shared with non-EU funding organisations but these organisations are committed to ensure a high level of data protection and signed a non-disclosure policy. If a Funding Organisation is not from the European Union or the European Economic Area and do not provide an adequate level of data protection, we will ensure that such a transfer is possible and complies with the GDPR (i.e. pursuant to Article 45 of the GDPR – on the basis of an adequacy decision or pursuant to Article 46.2.c) of GDPR – on the basis of standard data protection clauses adopted by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure in Article 93.2 or pursuant to Article 49 of the GDPR).
7. **General use of the EPSS (provided by any user of the EPSS)**. The data **will not be shared with non-EU countries** (third countries).

Please note that no special categories of personal data, as defined by article 9 of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 will be transferred to non-EU countries (third countries). Your personal data transferred to non-EU countries will not be used for commercial reasons.

7. WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS AND HOW CAN YOU EXERCISE THEM?

The rights granted by the EU's [General Data Protection Regulation \(2016/679\)](#) can be exercised on the EPSS. Namely, you are entitled to access your personal data and rectify/block or erase them in case the data are inaccurate or incomplete. You can exercise your rights by emailing biodiversa@fondationbiodiversite.fr or the Data Protection Officer (DPO) of your funding organisation.

Each will reply to requests within one month of receipt of the request.

8. NOTICES FOR EPSS USERS

8.1 PROVIDING OTHERS' PERSONAL DATA

Do not provide personal data about others unless you are authorised or required to do so by contract or applicable law.

8.2 USER RESPONSIBILITIES

EPSS system users must comply with this statement and may not take any actions to subvert the processes associated with this statement. Those with access to these data are reminded of their obligation to process the personal data provided to them only for the purposes for which they were transmitted.

8.3 CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have comments or questions, any concerns or complaints regarding the collection and use of your personal data, please feel free to contact Biodiversa+ at [biodiversa\(at\)fondationbiodiversite.fr](mailto:biodiversa(at)fondationbiodiversite.fr) or the Data Protection Officer of your funding organisation.

Persons in European Union Member countries may also contact their supervisory authority established in a relevant Member State or other national office responsible for GDPR compliance.

ANNEXE 1: DATA MAINTAINED PER JOINT CALLS AND PROCESS

Joint Calls' Short Name*	Application Receipt	Application Evaluation	Application External Review
2008 Joint Call			
2010-2011 Joint Call			
2012-2013 Joint Call			
2013-2014 Joint Call			
2015-2016 Joint Call	X	X	
2017-2018 Joint Call	X	X	
2018-2019 Joint Call	X	X	X
2019-2020 Joint Call	X	X	X
2020-2021 Joint Call	X	X	X
2021-2022 Joint Call	X	X	X
2022-2023 Joint Call	X	X	X

*Full call names and descriptions are available at www.biodiversa.org/1675

ANNEXE 2: LIST OF PARTNERS PER JOINT CALLS

Joint Calls' Short Names*	Member and Partners
2008 Joint Call	Austria Science Fund (FWF), The French National Research Agency (ANR), French Ministry of Ecology, Development and Sustainable Planning (MEDAD), German Aerospace Center (PT-DLR), Dutch Research Council (NWO), Research Council of Norway (RCN), Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (MICINN), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
2010-2011 Joint Call	Austria Science Fund (FWF), Estonian Science Foundation (ETF), The French National Research Agency (ANR), The French Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and the Sea (MEEDDM), The German Aerospace Center and German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (PT-DLR/BMBF), The German Research Foundation (DFG), The Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), Dutch Research Council (NWO), Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (MICINN), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)
2011-2012 Joint Call	Austria Science Fund (FWF), Belgian Science Policy Office (BeISPO), Bulgaria National Science Fund (BNSF), The French National Research Agency (ANR) and The French Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and Energy (MEDDE), The German Aerospace Center (PT-DLR), The Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), The Research Council of Norway (RCN), The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (Formas), The Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL).
2012-2013 Joint Call	Austria Science Fund (FWF), Belgian Science Policy Office (BeISPO), Bulgaria National Science Fund (BNSF), The French National Research Agency (ANR) and the French National Office for Water and Aquatic Environments (ONEMA), German Research Foundation (DFG), The

	Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), The Research Council of Norway (RCN), The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), The Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL).
2013-2014 Joint Call	Austria Science Fund (FWF), Bulgaria National Science Fund (BNSF), Research Promotion Foundation (RPF), The French National Research Agency (ANR), German Aerospace Center / German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (PT-DLR/BMBF), Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), Dutch Research Council (NWO), Research Council of Norway (RCN), The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL).
2015-2016 Joint Call	Belgian Science Policy Office (BelSPO), Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO), National Science Fund of Bulgaria (BNSF), Estonian Research Council (ETAG), The French National Research Agency (ANR), New Caledonian Economic Development Agency (ADECAL), Guadeloupe-Region (GUA-REG), Guyane Region (GUY-REG), Reunion Region (REU-REG), German Research Foundation (DFG), German Aerospace Center (DLR), Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture (VM), Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), Research Council of Norway (RCN), Polish National Science Centre (NCN), The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portuguese Regional Fund for Science and Technology (FRCT), The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO), Regional Government of the Canary Islands (GOBCAN), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL)
2017-2018 Joint Call	Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (MINCyT), Austria Science Fund (FWF), Belgian Science Policy Office (BelSPO), National Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS), São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP), Bulgaria National Science Fund (BNSF), Natural

	<p>Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Quebec Research Fund (FRQ), Estonian Research Council (ETAG), Academy of Finland (AKA), The French National Research Agency (ANR), German Research Foundation (DFG), VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH (VDI/VDE-IT), The Irish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Scientific Research Strategic Support Program (PASRES), Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), Research Council of Norway (RCN), Polish National Science Centre (NCN), The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness – Spanish State Agency of Research (MINECO-AEI), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Dutch Research Council (NWO), The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), National Science Foundation (NSF).</p>
2018-2019 Joint Call	<p>Austria Science Fund (FWF), Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO), Belgian Science Policy Office (BelSPO), The Fund for Scientific Research Wallonia-Brussels Federation (F.R.S.-FNRS), Bulgaria National Science Fund (BNSF), Estonian Research Council (ETAG), The French National Research Agency (ANR), Guadeloupe-Region (GUA-REG), German Research Foundation (DFG), VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH (VDI/VDE-IT), The Irish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), Polish National Science Centre (NCN), The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).</p>
2019-2020 Joint Call	<p>Austria Science Fund (FWF), Belgian Science Policy Office (BelSPO), The Fund for Scientific Research Wallonia-Brussels Federation (F.R.S.-FNRS), Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO), São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP), Brazilian National Council for the State Funding Agencies (CONFAP), Bulgaria National Science Fund (BNSF), Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR), Danish Innovation Fund (IFD), Estonian Research Council (ETAG), Academy of Finland (AKA), The French National Research Agency (ANR), Guadeloupe-Region (GUA-REG), Reunion Region (REU-REG), German Research Foundation (DFG), VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH (VDI/VDE-IT), General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), The Irish Environmental</p>

	<p>Protection Agency (EPA), Israel Ministry of Environmental Protection (MOEP), Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia (VIAA), Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), Research Council of Norway (RCN), Polish National Science Centre (NCN), The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portuguese Regional Fund for Science and Technology (FRCT), The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), Department of Science and Technology of South Africa (DST), The Spanish State Research Agency (AEI), Regional Government of the Canary Islands (GOBCAN), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR), The Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Technology (TAGEM).</p>
2020-2021 Joint Call	<p>Fonds zur förderung der wissenschaftlichen forschung (FWF), Belgian Science Policy Office (BelSPO), The Fund for Scientific Research Wallonia-Brussels Federation (F.R.S.-FNRS), Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO), Brazilian National Council for the State Funding Agencies (CONFAP), Bulgaria National Science Fund (BNSF), Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR), Danish Innovation Fund (IFD), Estonian Research Council (ETAG), Academy of Finland (AKA), The French National Research Agency (ANR), German Research Foundation (DFG), VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH (VDI/VDE-IT), The Irish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia (VIAA), Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), Agentia Nationala Pentru Cercetare Si Dezvoltare (NARD), Ministry Of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education And Scientific Research (MENFPESRS), Ministerie Van Landbouw, Natuur En Voedselkwaliteit (LNV), Research Council of Norway (RCN), Polish National Science Centre (NCN), The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portuguese Regional Fund for Science and Technology (FRCT), The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), Water Research Commission (WRC), The Spanish State Research Agency (AEI), Naturvardsverket (SEPA), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Ministry Of Science and Technology (MOST), Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR).</p>

2021-2022 Joint Call	<p>Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF), Service Public Fédéral de Programmation Politique Scientifique (BELSPO), Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (F.R.S.-FNRS), Fonds Voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen (FWO), Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies (CONFAP), Brazilian National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF), Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR), Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD), Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur (ETAg), Estonian Ministry of the Environment (MoE_EE), Estonian Ministry of Rural Affairs (MEM), Suomen Akatemia (AKA), Ministry of the Environment (MoE_FI), Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V. (DFG), Innovation + Technik GmbH (VDI/VDE-IT, VDI/VDE) participating on behalf of BMBF, General Secretariat for Research (GSRI), Nemzeti Kutatási, Fejlesztési és Innovációs Hivatal (NKFIH), Icelandic Centre for Research (Rannis), Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland (EPA), Ministry of Environmental Protection (MoEP), Ministry of Universities and Research (MUR), Autonomous Province of Bolzano/Bozen, South Tyrol (PROV.BZ), The Latvian Council of Science (LCS), State Education Development Agency (VIAA), Lietuvos mokslotyba (LMT), National Agency for Research and Development (NARD), Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research (MENFPESRS), Dutch Research Council (NWO), Research Council of Norway (RCN), Narodowe Centrum Nauki (NCN), Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. (FCT), Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FRCT), The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MIZS), Department of Science and Innovation (DSI), Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI), FUNDACIÓN BIODIVERSIDAD (FB), The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (TAGEM), Türkiye Bilimsel Ve Teknolojik Arastirma Kurumu (Tubitak).</p>
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2022-2023 Joint Call	<p>Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF), Service Public Fédéral de Programmation Politique Scientifique (BELSPO), Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (F.R.S.-FNRS), Fonds Voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen (FWO), Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies (CONFAP), Brazilian National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF), Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR), Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD), Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur (ETAg), Estonian Ministry of the Environment (MoE_EE), Estonian Ministry of Rural Affairs (MEM), Suomen Akatemia (AKA), Ministry of the Environment (MoE_FI), Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), Office Français de la Biodiversité (OFB), Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V. (DFG), Innovation + Technik GmbH (VDI/VDE-IT, VDI/VDE) participating on behalf of BMBF, General Secretariat for Research (GSRI), Nemzeti Kutatási, Fejlesztési és Innovációs Hivatal (NKFIH), Ministry of Environmental Protection (MoEP), Ministry of Universities and Research (MUR), Autonomous Province of Bolzano/Bozen, South Tyrol (PROV.BZ), Fonds pour la Science, la Technologie et l'Innovation (FONTSI), The Latvian Council of Science (LCS), Lietuvos mokslo taryba (LMT), National Agency for Research and Development (NARD), Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research (MENFPESRS), Research Council of Norway (RCN), Narodowe Centrum Nauki (NCN), Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. (FCT), Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FRCT), The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MIZS), Department of Science and Innovation (DSI), Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI), The Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology (CDTI), FUNDACIÓN BIODIVERSIDAD (FB), Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Swedish National Space Agency (SNSA), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), Dutch Research Council (NWO), Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (TAGEM), Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Arastirma Kurumu (Tubitak).</p>
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*Full call names and descriptions are available at www.biodiversa.org/1675 .

ANNEXE 3: LIST OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IN EACH JOINT CALLS

Joint Calls' Short Names*	Member and Partners
2008 Joint Call	Austria (FWF), France (ANR), (MEDAD), Germany (PT-DLR), Norway (RCN), Spain (MICINN), Sweden (FORMAS), (SEPA), The Netherlands (NWO), United Kingdom (NERC), (DEFRA)
2010-2011 Joint Call	Austria (FWF), Estonian (ETF), France (ANR), (MEEDDM), Germany (PT-DLR/BMBF), (DFG), Lithuania (RCL), Spain (MICINN), Sweden (FORMAS), (SEPA), The Netherlands (NWO)
2011-2012 Joint Call	Austria (FWF), Belgium (BelSPO), Bulgaria (BNSF), France (ANR), (MEDDE), Germany (PT-DLR), Lithuania (RCL), Norway (RCN), Portugal (FCT), Sweden (Formas), Turkey (MFAL)*
2012-2013 Joint Call	Austria (FWF), Belgium (BelSPO), Bulgaria (BNSF), France (ANR), (ONEMA), Germany (DFG), Lithuania (RCL), Norway (RCN),

	Portugal (FCT), Sweden (FORMAS), Turkey (MFAL)*
2013-2014 Joint Call	Austria (FWF), Bulgaria (BNSF), Cyprus (RPF), France (ANR), Germany (PT-DLR/BMBF), Lithuania (RCL), Norway (RCN), Portugal (FCT), Romania (UEFISCDI), Sweden (FORMAS), Switzerland (SNSF),* The Netherlands (NWO), Turkey (MFAL)*
2015-2016 Joint Call	Belgium (BelSPO), (FWO), Bulgaria (BNSF), Estonia (ETAG), France (ANR), France – New Caledonia (ADECAL), France- Guadeloupe (GUA-REG), France- Guyane (GUY-REG), France - Reunion (REU-REG), Germany (DFG), (DLR), Hungary (VM), Lithuania (RCL), Norway (RCN), Poland (NCN), Portugal (FCT), Portugal – Azores (FRCT), Romania (UEFISCDI), Spain (MINECO), Spain – Canary Islands (GOBCAN), Sweden (FORMAS), (SEPA), Switzerland (SNSF),* Turkey (MFAL)*
2017-2018 Joint Call	Argentina (MINCyT),* Austria (FWF), Belgium (BelSPO), (FNRS), Brazil (FAPESP),* Bulgaria (BNSF), Canada (NSERC), Canada - Quebec (FRQ),*

	<p>Estonian (ETAG), Finland (AKA), France (ANR), Germany (DFG), (DLR-PT), Ireland (EPA), Ivory Coast (PASRES),* Lithuania (RCL), Norway (RCN), Poland (NCN), Romania (UEFISCDI), Slovakia (SAS), Spain (MINECO-AEI), Sweden (FORMAS), Switzerland (SNSF),* The Netherlands (NWO), Turkey (TÜBİTAK), United States of America (NSF)*</p>
2018-2019 Joint Call	<p>Austria (FWF), Belgium (FWO), (BeISPO), (F.R.S.-FNRS), Bulgaria (BNSF), Estonia (ETAG), France (ANR), France - Guadeloupe (GUA-REG), Germany (DFG), (PT-DLR), Ireland (EPA), Lithuania (RCL), Poland (NCN), Romania (UEFISCDI), Slovakia (SAS), Switzerland (SNSF)*</p>
2019-2020 Joint Call	<p>Austria (FWF), Belgium (BeISPO), (F.R.S.-FNRS), (FWO), Brazil (FAPESP), (CONFAP),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Bulgaria (BNSF), Czech Republic (TA CR), Denmark (IFD), Estonia (ETAG), Finland (AKA),</p>

	<p>France (ANR), France - Guadeloupe (GUA-REG), France - Reunion (REU-REG), Germany (DFG), (DLR-PT), Greece (GSRT), Ireland (EPA), Israel (MOEP),* <i>Appropriate level of data protection</i> Latvia (VIAA), Lithuania (RCL), Norway (RCN), Poland (NCN), Portugal (FCT), Portugal - Azores (FRCT), Romania (UEFISCDI), Slovakia (SAS), South Africa (DST),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Spain (AEI), Spain - Canary Islands (GOBCAN), Sweden (FORMAS), Switzerland (SNSF),* <i>Appropriate level of data protection</i> Tunisia (MHESR),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Turkey (TAGEM)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i></p>
2020-2021 Joint Call	<p>Austria (FWF), Belgium (BelSPO), (F.R.S.-FNRS), (FWO), Brazil (CONFAP),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Bulgaria (BNSF), Czech Republic (TA CR), Denmark (IFD), Estonia (ETAG), Finland (AKA), France (ANR), Germany (DFG), (DLR-PT), Ireland (EPA), Latvia (VIAA), Lithuania (RCL), Moldova (NARD),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Morocco (MENFPESRS),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> The Netherlands (LNV), Norway (RCN), Poland (NCN), Portugal (FCT), Portugal - Azores (FRCT),</p>

	<p>Romania (UEFISCDI), Slovakia (SAS), South Africa (WRC),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Spain (AEI) Sweden (SEPA), Switzerland (SNSF),* <i>Appropriate level of data protection</i> Taiwan (MOST),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Tunisia (MHESR),* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i></p>
2021-2022 Joint Call	<p>Austria (FWF) Belgium (BELSPO) Belgium (F.R.S.-FNRS) Belgium (FWO) Brazil (CONFAP), * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Brazil (CNPq), * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Bulgaria (BNSF) Czech Republic (TA CR) Denmark (IFD) Estonia (ETAg) Estonia (MoE_EE) Estonia (MEM) Finland (AKA) Finland (MoE_FI) France (ANR) * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Germany (DFG) Germany (VDI/VDE-IT participating on behalf of BMBF) Greece (GSRI) Hungary (NKFIH) Iceland (Rannis) Ireland (EPA) Israel (MoEP), * <i>Appropriate level of data protection</i> Italy (MUR) Italy (PROV.BZ) Latvia (LCS) Latvia (VIAA) Lithuania (LMT) Moldova (NARD)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Morocco (MENFPESRS) * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Netherlands (NWO) Norway (RCN) Poland (NCN) * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Portugal (FCT) Portugal, Azores (FRCT) Romania (UEFISCDI)</p>

	<p>Slovakia (SAS) Slovenia (MIZS) South Africa (DSI)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Spain (AEI) Spain (FB) Sweden (FORMAS) Switzerland (SNSF)* <i>Appropriate level of data protection</i> Taiwan (MOST)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Tunisia (MHESR)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Turkey (TAGEM)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i> Turkey (TUBITAK)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses signed</i></p>
2022-2023 Joint Call	<p>Austria (FWF) Belgium (BELSPO) Belgium (F.R.S.-FNRS) Belgium (FWO) Brazil (CONFAP), * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i> Brazil (CNPq), * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i> Bulgaria (BNSF) Czech Republic (TA CR) Denmark (IFD) Estonia (ETAg) Estonia (MoE_EE) Estonia (MEM) Finland (AKA) Finland (MoE_FI) France (ANR) * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i> France (OFB) Germany (DFG) Germany (VDI/VDE-IT participating on behalf of BMBF) Greece (GSRI) Hungary (NKFIH) Israel (MoEP), * <i>Appropriate level of data protection</i> Italy (MUR) Italy (PROV.BZ) Ivory Coast (FONTSI) * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i> Latvia (LCS) Lithuania (LMT) Moldova (NARD)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i> Morocco (MENFPESRS) * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i> Norway (RCN) Poland (NCN) * <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i> Portugal (FCT) Portugal, Azores (FRCT) Romania (UEFISCDI)</p>

Slovakia (SAS)
Slovenia (MIZS)
South Africa (DSI)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i>
Spain (AEI)
Spain (CDTI)
Spain (FB)
Sweden (SEPA)
Sweden (SNSA)
Switzerland (SNSF)* <i>Appropriate level of data protection</i>
Taiwan (MOST)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i>
The Netherlands (NWO)
Tunisia (MHESR)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i>
Turkey (TAGEM)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i>
Turkey (TUBITAK)* <i>Standard Contractual Clauses will be signed</i>

*Countries that are not in the EU or in the EEA.

“*Appropriate level of data protection*” is defined according to the European Commission.