



UNIVERSITÉ DE
MONTPELLIER

CALL FOR PROPOSALS BIOPOLIS 2023 –
TEAMING EUROPEAN PROJETS

EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND OUTREACH

PROGRAM H2020

This call for proposals is part of a European project funded under the H2020 Teaming program ("Biopolis"). The Biopolis project aims at supporting the development in Portugal of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in research, development and innovation in the fields of biodiversity, agrobiodiversity and ecosystem services.

This centre will be based on an existing laboratory, the CIBIO. The University of Montpellier, UM (and its associated institutions) is a partner in this capacity building project and will contribute to all aspects of the development of the CoE.

OBJECTIVES

This call-for-proposals aims at providing financial support for transfer of competence activities, from UM to CIBIO, that contribute to the education and training of CIBIO personnel (WP5), the development of the strategic scientific program of the Biopolis Centre of Excellence (WP4), and to the communication, dissemination and exploitation of the activities of the Biopolis Center of Excellence (WP6).

Proposals may include:

- Training activities for young researchers (PhD students and postdocs), technical or administrative staff and non-academic professionals, who wish to acquire skills related to biodiversity, under any possible format including summer schools, advanced courses, individual in-lab training, and so on;
- Scientific events of all kinds and at all possible scales (from single to multi-partner and/or international projects), that will contribute to education and training, or to the development of the BIOPOLIS research program.
- Events or actions contributing to the communication, dissemination and exploitation of the activities of the Biopolis CoE.

Eligible expenses include mobility costs between Montpellier and Porto (in either direction), organisation of events, human resources costs for staff involved in the organisation and implementation of the actions, and in some instances laboratory expenses generated by the proposed action.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Two types of proposals are eligible:

- Proposals that are co-constructed by CIBIO and UM Research Units must obtain visas from the directions of both parties, and be submitted by the leading/hosting research unit. All 10 UM Research Units involved in the Biopolis project (AGAP, AMAP, CEFE, CEEM, CBGP, DIADE, IHPE, IPSIM, ISEM and MIVEGEC) are eligible for the call. The scientific project must match at least one of Biopolis' main research pillars (biodiversity, agrobiodiversity, and ecosystem services). All scientific disciplines are welcome.

- Proposals developed by UM members only are also welcome but will be assessed in two phases. First, a declaration of intention will be submitted for evaluation. In case the declaration of intention is deemed to present sufficient interest for the Biopolis project, applicants will then be invited to submit a complete proposal based on the recommendations of this first evaluation.

Actions and events may take place in either Montpellier or Porto. The selection committee may recommend one location over the other, depending on funding opportunities and expected impact for Biopolis.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Proposals must be submitted by the leading/hosting research unit.

The application must be completed using the provided template, in PDF format, and sent by email to biopolis-aap@umontpellier.fr

BUDGET AND ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Eligible expenses under Teaming funds include:

- Mobility costs between Montpellier and Porto, in either direction for event organizers, instructors, attendees and trainees employed by CIBIO or by UM Research Units participating in Biopolis.
- Salary costs of UM human resources dedicated to the organisation of events and transfer of knowledge (on the basis of time sheets submitted monthly by research and technical staff involved). In order to encourage UM staff participation, the corresponding funds* can be transferred to the UM laboratories upon request (provided a compatible agreement of their employer allows the transfer). In all cases, submission of monthly time sheets will be required for every UM (and associated institutions) personnel involved in carrying out the project.

*NB: Projects implying co-supervision of PhDs or young researchers within the framework of Biopolis fundings are excluded from this scheme.

- Expenses related to the organisation of events such as space renting, technical assistance, catering, invitation of external members, and so on.
- Participation to research expenses of UM laboratories, dedicated to the activity (in particular for in-lab training). The allowance for PhDs or post-doctoral researchers employed by CIBIO and co-supervised by UM and CIBIO researchers, in the frame of a collaborative project, may reach 10k€ per year per project.

Note that a given application may combine several of the above-mentioned categories of expenses. Depending on the nature of the project, expenses may be spread over multiple periods, potentially covering several years (until the end of the Biopolis project in September 2027).

Expenses will be covered with UM or CIBIO H2020 Teaming funds, depending on eligibility. The requested budget should mention any co-funding by other sources and/or potential associated constraint. If applicable, the budget should be adjusted accordingly.

CALL TIMELINE

This call will start on 7 July 2023 and will close on 6 August 2024. Its potential prolongation will depend on the remaining budget.

Upon submission of the project and subject to selection, the project will have an implementation period of one and a half years.

SELECTION PROCESS

Proposals will be assessed upon submission by a selection panel comprising representatives of UM research governance, the Biopolis coordination team in Montpellier and the CIBIO/Biopolis executive committee. Results for a given project will be communicated within two months after submission of the application.

Proposal selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Added-value of the activity for either education and training, development of the strategic research program of CIBIO, or communication, dissemination and exploitation of the activities of CIBIO.
- Quality of the organisation and content of the action
- Adequacy between the cost and potential impact of the action



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