

Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Action on Towards Sustainability of Soils and Groundwater for Society

COUNTRY: USA
NSF – NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

NSF is participating in Belmont Forum 2020 Collaborative Research Action *Towards Sustainability of Soils and Groundwater for Society*.

Within each selected consortium, funding of the participating researchers is provided by their respective national funding organization in accordance with their standard award terms and conditions. A consortium agreement (including International Property Rights) will need to be developed between the participating researchers should their application be successful and shared with the relevant Partner Organizations. All projects have to include a budget for participation in 3 project meetings that will be held back-to-back with a scientifically relevant international conference or event.

Available funding:

Depending on all conditions of eligibility and peer review being met, the total budget earmarked by NSF for this call will be approximately 1.5M € (according to exchange rates at time of funding and subject to the availability of funds). NSF anticipates that a total of 8-10 research consortia will be supported, pending the availability of funds. **The maximum total budget request for all US investigators in a single consortium must not exceed 200,000 USD including indirect costs (roughly 180,000 Euros).**

If applicants have any questions about their eligibility, they are advised to contact NSF's National Contact Point to enquire about their eligibility for the call before developing the proposal.

Eligibility

All institutions eligible to receive US federal funds through the National Science Foundation can apply.

Each consortium must include partners from at least three participating countries. The project must include collaboration between natural and social sciences and must show clear links to end-users/stakeholders. Researchers from countries not represented by any of the partner-countries can participate in the research project at their own expense but do not count toward the 3-participating country minimum.

Consortium partners should identify a Leading Principal Investigator (LPI) for each proposal for application, management and communication purposes. The LPI is officially responsible for all communications with the Theme Program Office, including the submission Proposal. These communications must be in accordance with the LPI's funding agency requirements.

U.S. investigators may only be **part of one consortium**. Accordingly, U.S. investigators may be listed as either Lead PI, Co-PI (Partner PI) or Senior Personnel on **only one proposal**.

In accordance with NSF policy, proposals cannot list more than 4 Co-PI's (Partner-PI's) from U.S. institutions. Additional U.S. collaborators must be listed as Senior Personnel.

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Funding request to NSF may be up to 180,000 K€ per project or 100,000 € for a project/consortium coordination (LPI being from the United States of America), subject to the availability of funds.

Coordination / Valorisation grant (optional)

An additional grant can be made to a consortium of partners with the goals to connect funded projects in this CRA, to build a true collaborative cohort, and to add value through inter-project exchanges and by developing products beyond those of individual projects. This may also connect the funded projects to regional-to-global frameworks, ensuring that outcomes are connecting directly to strategic and implementation plans, policies, SDG reporting, or other relevant initiatives (for more details please see the document “Doc 01 - Call Text” or contact your National Contact Point).

For these Coordination / Valorization activities, eligible applicants can request up to 100,000 € to NSF for a duration of 5 years.

Submission

For U.S. investigators that are part of a consortium and are NOT the Lead PI, all proposals (pre- and full) will be submitted to the Call Program Office by the consortium’s Lead PI in accordance with the Agency’s or Country’s procedures.

Projects must be written in English and submitted electronically via the Belmont Forum Grant Operations website: <http://bfgo.org>

In accordance with NSF policy, proposals (pre- and full) that have U.S. Lead PI’s must be submitted to the on-line Belmont Forum system with approval of the Lead PI’s office of sponsored research or equivalent. Notice of approval may be in the form of an email to the National Contact Point from a representative of the Lead PI’s office of sponsored research or equivalent acknowledging the PI’s submission to the Belmont Forum system. No proposals submitted directly to the Belmont on-line system by a U.S. Lead PI will be accepted without this approval and NO proposals submitted directly to FASTLANE will be accepted.

In accordance with NSF policy, a proposal cannot list more than 4 Co-PI’s from U.S. institutions. Additional U.S. collaborators must be listed as Senior Personnel.

Once the review process is complete, the U.S. Lead PI will be contacted by the NSF point of contact with further instructions on how to upload the proposal information into FASTLANE. In addition, U.S. investigators that are part of a consortium and are NOT the Lead PI, will be contacted by NSF point of contact to upload proposal information into FASTLANE.

For more information, please contact:

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National Contact Points:

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