



EOS
THE EXCELLENCE
OF SCIENCE

GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

CALL 2017

1. AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The EOS programme promotes joint research between researchers in the Flemish and French-speaking community by funding joint fundamental research projects in any scientific discipline.

Major characteristics of the EOS programme:

- EOS call for fundamental research projects in all domains every 4 years;
- Project duration of 4 years;
- Budget can be requested for staff, consumables, and small research equipment;

2. TIMING

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| Deadline for applications | 04 April 2017 – 2PM |
| External peer-review | April until September 2017 |
| Rebuttal phase | Late September 2017 |
| Evaluation panel | October/November 2017 |
| Ratification by FWO/FNRS boards | November/December 2017 |
| Start of the projects | 01 January 2018 |

3. CONSORTIUM

Underneath table will help you to form an eligible EOS consortium. It provides you with an overview of all the eligible institutions together with their particular conditions and eligible budget that these institutions can request. Each research group needs to have a principal investigator and each consortium should have one spokesperson-coordinator. For the detailed eligibility criteria, one must consult the [EOS regulations](#).

| | Which institutions? | Who is eligible? | How to include in consortium? | What can be applied for? |
|-----------|---|---|--|---|
| TYPE I-FL | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universities in the Flemish community; Evangelical Theological Faculty in Leuven, Faculty of Protestant Theology in Brussels; Antwerp Maritime Academy Vlerick Management School and the Antwerp Management School; Institute of Tropical Medicine. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal investigators and spokesperson-coordinator: permanent remunerated appointments of minimum 10% to one of the listed TYPE I-FL institutions and minimal total appointment of 80% at a research institution in the Flemish Community. Co-supervisors: postdoctoral level, with a remunerated appointment at a TYPE I-FL host institution. One PhD student should be recruited by each community. | <p>Each EOS consortium must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include min 3 and max 6 research groups from TYPE I institutions. Include min 1 research group from a TYPE I-FL institution and 1 from a TYPE I-FR institution. Each research group can participate in only one EOS application. Have a balanced composition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In case the consortium consists of a total of 4 or less research groups from TYPE I institutions, the difference between the number of Flemish research groups (amount of TYPE I-FL) and the number of French-speaking research groups (amount of TYPE I-FR) can be only 1. If the consortium consists of more than 4 research groups from TYPE I institutions, the difference can be up to 2. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget for staff, consumables and equipment are eligible Each EOS consortium can apply for a yearly total consortium budget of min €450.000 to max €1.000.000. Each research group from a TYPE I institution must apply for a minimum yearly budget of €120.000 Each TYPE I institution may apply for a maximum yearly budget of €700.000. The difference between the total requested budget of groups of TYPE I-FL and TYPE II-FL institutions and the total requested budget of research groups of TYPE I-FR and TYPE II-FR institutions cannot exceed 20% <u>relative to the total consortium budget</u>. A research group can request budget for equipment up to €150.000 during the entire EOS project, respecting the budget limits. The total cost for equipment cannot exceed than €300.000 per EOS consortium. Overhead may not be included in the budget application and will be paid directly to the host institution. |
| TYPE I-FR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The six French-speaking universities from the French-speaking community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal investigators and spokesperson-coordinator: chercheur qualifié or maître de recherches or directeur de recherches of F.R.S.-FNRS, or hold tenure track position within one of the research institutions from the French-speaking community One PhD student should be recruited by each community. | | |

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|------------|--|--|---|---|
| TYPE II-FL | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research (ILVO); ▪ Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO); ▪ Interuniversity Microelectronics Center (IMEC); ▪ Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp (KMSKA); ▪ Royal Conservatory of Antwerp; ▪ Royal Conservatory of Brussels; ▪ Royal Zoological Society – Antwerp (KMDA); ▪ Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp (MuHKA); ▪ Botanic Garden Meise; ▪ Flemish Institute for Biotechnology (VIB); ▪ Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO); ▪ Flemish School of Arts; ▪ Flanders Make; ▪ Flanders Marine Institute. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Principal investigators: obtained a PhD and have a permanent remunerated appointment of at least 10% to one of the above listed TYPE II-FL institutions. ▪ Co-supervisors: postdoctoral level, with a remunerated appointment at one of the listed TYPE II-FL institutions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In addition to the number of research groups from TYPE I institutions, each consortium may also contain up to 2 research groups belonging to TYPE II, III, and IV institutions. ▪ Each research group may participate in only one EOS application. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget for staff, consumables and equipment are eligible. ▪ Each EOS consortium may apply for a yearly total consortium budget of min €450.000 to max €1.000.000. ▪ Up to 10% of the total budget of an EOS project to all included TYPE II, TYPE III and TYPE IV host institutions, ▪ The difference between the total requested budget of groups of TYPE I-FL and TYPE II-FL institutions and the total requested budget of research groups of TYPE I-FR and TYPE II-FR institutions cannot exceed 20% <u>relative to the total consortium budget</u>, ▪ A research group can request budget for equipment up to €150.000 during the entire EOS project, respecting the other budget limits. The total cost for equipment cannot exceed €300.000 per EOS consortium. ▪ Overhead may not be included in the budget application and will be paid directly to the host institution. |
| TYPE II-FR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Centre Wallon de Recherches Agronomiques (CRA-W); ▪ Institut de Recherches Microbiologiques Jean-Marie Wiame (I.R.M.W.); ▪ Musée Royal de Mariemont. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Principal investigators: obtained a PhD and have a permanent remunerated appointment to one of the listed TYPE II-FR institutions. | | |

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| TYPE III | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State Archives of Belgium ▪ Royal Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy ▪ Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences ▪ Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage ▪ Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium ▪ Royal Museum of the Armed Forces and Military History ▪ Royal Museum for Central Africa ▪ Royal Library of Belgium ▪ Royal Museums of Art and History ▪ Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium ▪ Royal Observatory of Belgium ▪ Center for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Society ▪ Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Center ▪ National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology ▪ Scientific Institute of Public Health ▪ Royal Military School ▪ Belgian Nuclear Research Center ▪ Von Karman Institute | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Principal investigators: obtained a PhD and have a permanent remunerated appointment of minimum 10% to one of the listed federal institutions. ▪ Co-supervisors: postdoctoral level, with a remunerated appointment at one of the listed federal institutions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In addition to the number of research groups from TYPE I institutions, each consortium may also contain up to two research groups belonging to TYPE II, III, and IV institutions. ▪ Each research group may participate in only one EOS application. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget for staff, consumables and equipment are eligible. ▪ Each EOS consortium may apply for a yearly total consortium budget of minimally €450.000 to maximally €1.000.000. ▪ Up to 10% of the total budget of an EOS project to all included TYPE II, TYPE III and TYPE IV host institutions, ▪ A research group can request budget for equipment up to €150.000 during the entire EOS project, respecting the other budget limits. The total cost for equipment can amount up to €300.000 per EOS consortium. ▪ Overhead may not be included in the budget application and will be paid directly to the host institution. |

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| TYPE IV | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign research institutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TYPE IV principal investigators: obtained a PhD and have a permanent remunerated appointment of minimum 10%. TYPE IV co-supervisors: postdoctoral level, with a remunerated appointment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to the number of research groups from TYPE I institutions, each consortium may also contain up to two research groups belonging to TYPE II, III, and IV institutions. Each research group may participate in only one EOS application. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget for staff and consumables are eligible. Each EOS consortium may apply for a yearly total consortium budget of minimally €450.000 to maximally €1.000.000. up to 10% of the total budget of an EOS project to all included TYPE II, TYPE III and TYPE IV host institutions, No budget for infrastructure can be requested Overhead may not be included in the budget application and will be paid directly to the host institution. |
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4. SUBMISSION

A. Links and technical details

For the call 2017, all proposals must be submitted through the EOS-SEMAPHORE platform (link see website) before the **deadline; the 4 of April, 2pm**.

B. Who is responsible for the online submission?

All proposals must be submitted by the spokesperson-coordinator, who is affiliated to a TYPE-I institution and must meet the requirements for a principal investigator as defined in the ELIGIBILITY section of [the regulations](#).

C. Language

All proposals must be submitted in English.

D. Conflict of interest (international peer-review)

The whole consortium can submit a list maximum 4 unwished international experts.

5. CONTENT & STRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSALS

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|---------------|---|
| Part 1 | <p>Consortium administration:</p> <p>Containing all administrative details of the included research groups, institutions, together with the personal details of the spokesperson-coordinator and of all included principal investigators (PI) and co-promoters (co-PI)</p> |
| Part 2 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Title, Running title and Acronym 2. Keywords 3. Bibliometric indicators (for each included PI and co-PI) 4. Curriculum vitae (STRICTLY up to 4 pages in Calibri Font 11pt) and publications list for the spokesperson and for each included PI and co-PI. The publication list is a free format and there is no page limitation, however one should use Calibri Font 11pt. Upload cv and bibliography in PDF-format. 5. Ethical aspects 6. Legal statement by the spokesperson |
| Part 3 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Motivation of consortium 2. Management of the consortium (Interactions, distribution and coordination of the tasks) <p>(Both motivation and management of the consortium should be addressed in a template STRICTLY up to 12 pages, Calibri Font 11pt and uploaded in PDF.</p> |

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| Part 4 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requested budget and motivation: Personnel 2. Requested budget and motivation: Operating costs & consumables 3. Requested budget and motivation: Equipment 4. Legal statement on the budget by the spokesperson |
| Scientific Section | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short summary in Layman's terms of the project (1500 characters including spaces) 2. Description of the project (template STRICTLY up to 15 pages, Calibri Font 11pt, upload in PFD-format) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of the art • Objectives & research hypothesis • Methodology • Work plan and timetable • Contingency plan • Bibliographical references • Science Communication and reach out activities 3. Five most relevant publications to the project for every (co)-PI |

If the page limitations, set out in the instructions are not respected, the application can be declared ineligible.

6. EVALUATION PROCEDURE & CRITERIA

A. The EOS evaluation procedure:

- **Step 1:** Each submitted proposal will be sent to specialized international reviewers. They will be asked to provide detailed comments and a grade on each evaluation criteria. In addition, the experts will also be requested to provide a global grade for the whole proposal.
- **Step 2:** Applicants will be allowed to respond to the international review reports (Rebuttal phase). Each spokesperson-coordinator will be notified in late September and given five work days to respond. The rebuttal letter will be submitted through the SEMAPHORE platform.
- **Step 3:** Each submitted proposal will be attributed to high-level international experts from the panel who will study and summarize the proposal, international reviews and the rebuttal. Each expert will then be asked to provide detailed comments and a grade on each evaluation criteria as well as a global grade for the whole proposal. One of the experts will be designated as the rapporteur and will be responsible for the validation of the panel's final report included in the feedback to the spokesperson-coordinator.
- **Step 4:** The scientific panel establishes a consensus ranking of the projects based on excellence, which is binding.
- **Step 5:** Ratification of the list of selected projects by the FWO/FNRS boards.
- **Step 6:** Each spokesperson-coordinator will receive a complete feedback including all external reviews and the final report from the evaluation panel.

B. Evaluation Criteria

The main evaluation standard is excellence in the following criteria:

- **Quality of the researchers (40%):**
 - CV and publications
 - International recognition
 - Main research achievements
- **Quality of the project (40%):**
 - Feasibility and focus
 - Methodology
 - Originality
- **Quality of the consortium (20%):**
 - Scientific justification for the involvement of each research group
 - Collaboration, coordination, and communication between the research groups
 - Work management and balance in terms of work contribution
 - Complementarity/synergy of the research groups and their expertise
- **Additional & non formal evaluation criteria.** In the event of ex-aequo ranking, the following criteria could be taken into account:
 - Interdisciplinarity of the research project;
 - The gender balance among investigators;
 - The involvement of junior research groups (researchers with no more than 10 years postdoc seniority).

C. Grade system

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| A+ | outstanding |
| A | excellent |
| A- | very good |
| B+ | good |
| B | average |
| B- | weak |
| C | insufficient |
| D | unacceptable |

7. DISSEMINATION & IPR

A. FNRS

- **Open access policy:** The Board of Trustees of the F.R.S.-FNRS has decided to endorse the principle of Open access to publicly funded research. This support has led to the implementation of an institutional mandate providing Open access to publications from F.R.S.-FNRS funded research projects and researchers under the "Open Access Green Road"

business model. This mandate specifies the conditions under which the F.R.S.-FNRS grant recipients shall store, when possible, all the funded research results of which they are authors or co-authors in their institution's repository.

- **Acknowledgment:** regular or open access publications that have been funded or partially funded within the frame of the EOS programme must use the following acknowledgement: This work was supported by the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS under Grant(s) n° (EOS-convention #). The complete rules are available at http://www.frs-fnrs.be/docs/Reglement_OPEN_ACCESS_FR.pdf
- **Intellectual property:** The investigators from the French-speaking research institutions have to conclude a consortium agreement including all host institutions involved in the consortium within 6 months after the start of the project.

B. FWO

- **Open access policy:** Following the Berlin Declaration of 2003 for the promotion of free access to scientific knowledge and cultural heritage, beneficiaries of FWO mandates, credits and projects must deposit the publications that result from the FWO subsidies in a public "Open Access" database, within one year from the date of publication, in order to effect greater impact and valorization of their work. Researchers are also advised to publish their other publications in such an "Open Access" database, the so-called "Open Archives", together with the research data that resulted in these publications.
- **Acknowledgement:** regular or open access publications that have been funded or partially funded within the frame of the EOS programme must use the following acknowledgement: This work was supported by the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) under Grant(s) n° (EOS-convention #).
- **Intellectual property:** Property rights to inventions arising from FWO-funded research belong to the university/host institution by virtue of article IV 48 of the Flemish Codex on Higher Education of 11 October 2013. The investigators from the Flemish community research institutions have to conclude a consortium agreement including all host institutions involved in the consortium within 6 months after the start of the project.

8. CONTACT & HELPDESK

- **EOS-SEMAPHORE PLATFORM**
semaphore@frs-fnrs.be
- **General inquiries on the programme**
 - FNRS: Arnaud Goolaerts (arnaud.goolaerts@frs-fnrs.be) & Joël Groeneveld (joel.groeneveld@frs-fnrs.be)
 - FWO: Isabelle Verbaeys (isabelle.verbaeys@fwo.be) & Gregory Absillis (gregory.absillis@fwo.be)