



Europole Mer Call for projects International cooperation with Brazil and WHOI

Call open 18 December 2012

Submission deadline: 20 February 2013

Context

Since 2007 Europole Mer consortium gathers the majority of the research capacity in Marine Sciences and Technologies in Brittany at large. The consortium has since encouraged international collaboration through different schemes with the financial support of the Université Européenne de Bretagne (UEB) and of the Brittany Région.

This call for projects aims at developing active collaborations between Europole Mer members and:

- **Brazilian partners**, in the framework of the emerging Brazil – France scientific cooperation.
- **The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI)**, in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Europole Mer and the WHOI in October 2011;

This call aims at supporting **all type of actions that will contribute to active research between the partners, with a view of establishing new collaborations** or enabling existing but not yet implemented projects. Projects that are already funded will not be eligible.

This call is complementary to the schemes handled by the Lab of Excellence “Labex Mer” where applicants may also find other tools to support their initiatives.

General scheme

Selected projects will integrate a physical movement of one of the partners to the country of the other partner for at least 3 months (in either direction between Europole Mer members and the proposed international partner). There is no restriction neither on the type of project proposed nor on the type of expenditures attached to it (except that no large equipment purchase will be eligible).

Examples of eligible activities:

- *Sabbatical stays for minimum 3 months (any level from post-doc fellow to senior researcher. PhD student not eligible for this scheme);*
- *Joint field campaign;*
- *Purchase of small research equipment for joint survey.*

The expected outcomes for the Europole Mer scientific community of the selected projects are:

- To build bridges with the identified partners in the medium term;
- To increase Europole Mer visibility and attractivity at the international level;
- To check on mutual interest and capacity between partners for larger joint projects in the medium and longer term (e.g. by integrating the collaboration into an ANR or UE submission).

Who may apply

Staff from all members of Europole Mer may apply to this call. For a list of Europole Mer members see <http://www.europolemer.eu/members.php>

Budget

Total budget of this call is 45 000 €. Financial support from Europole Mer is up to 15 000 € per project. The Europole Mer grant may represent all or part of the total budget.

Timeframe

- Start of proposed project may be anytime after selection completion (March 2013).
- End of proposed project must be no later than 31st December 2013 (purchase order must be placed by 30/11/13 latest, invoices must be received on 31/12/13 latest).

Selection criteria

Required

- Scientific excellence in an area relevant to some part of the Europole Mer community (see list at <http://www.europolemer.eu/research-axes.php>);
- International collaboration with one or more of the identified partners (Brazil, WHOI). No specific Brazilian institution is identified, but partners must be based in Brazil (and not only of Brazilian nationality);
- Effective international mobility between partners;
- Foreseeable strength of collaboration in the medium and longer term.

Desirable

- Association between 2 Europole Mer members.

Application and selection process

- Submit proposal to severine.thomas@univ-brest.fr by the application deadline.
- Selection criteria as detailed above.
- Selection results will be announced by the end of March 2013 latest.
- Application format: application must be written in English. Length is maximum 2 pages (+ optional appendices as deemed relevant by project leader) containing:
 - Title of project
 - Europole Mer project leader : contact, host institution, position
 - Project description (1 page max): including expected project outcomes and role of partners
 - Project timeframe: start and finish dates, indicative dates for actions planned
 - Project partner(s): including name, institution, description of international partners' role in the project and how the proposed project will strengthen international collaboration.
 - Budget. Indicate cost of actions planned by type of expenses.
 - Appendices: letter of commitment of international partner (required), others (optional)

Implementation

Implementation of selected project will be handled partly by the UEB administrative team and partly by the Europole Mer team. Details will be provided to successful project leaders.