

Interdisciplinary Challenges for Complexity Science: A Call for Proposals

Deadline for Full Proposals 1st December 2009

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Introduction and aims of the call

The funding and organisation of national research programmes in complexity science has to date been somewhat fragmented. To facilitate European collaborations in this field the European Commission has implemented the European Research Area Network (ERA-NET) Complexity-NET (Contract number: 036195). Complexity-NET is a joint initiative of research funding and/or management agencies from eleven different partner countries with significant activities in the field of complexity science.

The overarching objective of the project is to step up the cooperation between and coordination of research activities carried out at national or regional level in the ERA-NET member countries and associated states. The Complexity-NET partners have agreed that this objective is best achieved in the first instance by funding a pilot round of transnational research projects.

Specifically the aims of this call are:

- To fund high-quality, exploratory complexity science research projects;
- To facilitate new transnational collaborations in complexity science.

The themes of the call

Complexity science refers to study of the emergence of collective properties in systems with many interdependent components. These components might be atoms or macromolecules in a physical or biological context, and people, machines or organisations in a socio-economic context.

Under the auspices of Complexity-NET the participating funding agencies (see next section) seek proposals for collaborative interdisciplinary research projects on approaches with the potential to bring new insight to important problems in real-world complex systems. Challenge domains include but are not restricted to: biomedical systems; ecosystems and environmental hazards; financial and economic systems; infrastructure; learning, cognition and innovation; policy and regulation; social networks and exclusion.

Proposed projects should be grounded in the mathematical and physical sciences, and designed around meaningful collaboration with other scientific disciplines. Proposals should have a clear emphasis on the development of methodologies, tools and techniques of complexity science for addressing real-world challenges.

The principal themes of the call are:

- Emergence and self-organisation, individual to collective behaviour, micro to macro;
- Dynamics and (un)predictability, risk and extreme events;
- Resilience, sustainability, management and control of complex systems.

Participating countries/funding organisations and mode of funding

The following research funding organisations have allocated funding to participate in this call:

- *Fonds National de la Recherche scientifique (FNRS), Belgium [€150,000]*
- *Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (Belspo), Belgium [€150,000]*
- *Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (FWO), Belgium [€200,000]*
- *Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia (EAS), Estonia [€125,000]*
- *General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), Greece [€500,000]*
- *Nemzeti Kutatási és Technológiai Hivatal (NKTH), Hungary [€500,000]*
- *Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology (IRCSET), Ireland [€500,000]*
- *Istituto dei Sistemi Complessi – Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (ISC-CNR), Italy [€700,000]*
- *Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO), The Netherlands [€500,000]*
- *Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT), Portugal [€400,000]*
- *Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación (MICINN), Spain [€300,000]*
- *Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), United Kingdom [€1,000,000]*

This group of organisations is hereafter referred to as the Call Consortium.

The maximum amount of funding available through this call is €5,025,000; this sum will be administered through a virtual common pot. Each funding organisation in the Call Consortium will only fund researchers from its own country according to its own eligibility, funding and remit restrictions as set out in the Annexes. For example, in the case of a successful Complexity-NET proposal from researchers in the Netherlands, Ireland and Greece, the Dutch researcher(s) would be funded by NWO, the Irish researcher(s) by IRCSET, and the Greek researcher(s) by GSRT.

The adoption of this funding model, in which national funding is allocated in a transnationally coordinated way, has a range of implications, for example:

- funding within each country is based on the relevant funding agency's existing funding rules as described in the relevant Annex;
- the maximum funding available differs between countries;
- eligibility of costs varies between countries;
- proposals must be scaled to remain within the available budget from each participating country;
- the science remit of each funding agency must be observed.

For more details on national funding restrictions and regulations, please see the national Annexes at the end of this call for proposals.

Scope of the research projects

Proposals for collaborative research projects are invited from consortia which include investigators from **at least three different countries participating in this call**. Proposals should be submitted for research projects with duration of up to **24 months** and a total budget of up to **€500,000** across all investigators.

Eligibility criteria

Proposals may be submitted by individuals or groups working at higher education and research institutions which are legal Research, Technological Development and Innovation (RTDI) organisations according to the national regulations of the participating countries. Applicants must provide evidence that their institution supports their application according to the appropriate funding agency's regulations, and must comply with the eligibility restrictions of the appropriate national funding agency. Further details are available in the Annexes.

Partners from industry or private enterprises may participate in the project proposals, but must provide their own funding and provide a letter of commitment to the project. Consortia may also include investigators from countries not belonging to the Call Consortium, but those investigators cannot be funded through this call and must assure their own funding. A letter of commitment from an appropriate budget holder at their institution must be provided with the proposal submission to guarantee that funds are available for those investigators to carry out their part of the proposed project.

Members of the Complexity-NET Steering Committee, which consists of representatives of each partner national funding agency, and the joint call peer-review body, the Scientific Council (see following section), may not be involved in any proposal in any capacity. Scientific advisors to the Complexity-NET steering Committee, who are not delegated representatives of any funding agency, are eligible to apply to this call. Funding decisions will be made solely by official representatives of the participating funding agencies.

Peer-review process

This call will operate according to a two-stage peer-review process. Applicants are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EoI) in the first instance. EoIs will be assessed by a peer-review panel, which will include one member nominated by each participating funding organisation; this body is known hereafter as the Scientific Council. The Scientific Council will select a number of EoIs to invite to the full-proposal stage based on the assessment criteria given in this call for proposals.

In stage two of the process, the Full Proposals will be assessed by independent anonymous reviewers selected from a database of experts provided by the Call Consortium. The PI of each Full Proposal may suggest, on behalf of all project partners, up to three independent reviewers. The Call Secretariat (see next section) will consider the suggested reviewers, but cannot guarantee that any suggested individual will be approached. **Only reviewers from territories outside the Call Consortium will be used.**

The PI of each proposal will also have an opportunity to provide, on behalf of all project partners, a written response to the reviewers' comments. Based on the anonymous reviews and the applicants' responses to those reviews the Scientific Council will draw up a rank-ordered list of proposals according to the assessment criteria given in this call for proposals.

The Call Consortium will decide which proposals will be funded based only on the rank-ordered list provided by the Scientific Council and availability of funding, as necessary. No further evaluation at the national level will be entered into.

Details of post-award requirements, such as project reporting, will be provided in due course. Limited feedback comments will be provided to unsuccessful applicants upon request.

Guidance for applicants

All proposals and associated information must be submitted to this call in English.

This call will be administered by the Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO; also referred to as the Call Secretariat); contact details Tel. +31 (0) 70 344 09 21; email complexitynet@nwo.nl.

Both EoIs and invited Full Proposals must be submitted to the NWO via the web portal dedicated to this call: <https://www.iris.complexitynet.eu>.

All information relating to the call can be found at the Complexity-NET website: www.complexitynet.eu.

Only one joint proposal per applicant consortium should be submitted by the Principal Investigator (PI) of the consortium at each stage.

All queries should be directed to the named contact for the relevant country given in the appropriate Annex.

Stage one: Expressions of Interest

The following information should be submitted online at the Expression of Interest stage:

- Title of project proposal
- Project acronym
- Proposed start and end dates of project
- Summary of proposal [limited to 250 words]
- Applicants' details [PI and all other named investigators]
- Requested budget total from **each research institution** involved in the project, giving the overall total proposed budget
- The Expression of Interest in PDF format

The EoI PDF should include the following information:

- Title
- Applicants' names and affiliations
- Up to five keywords to describe the theme of the proposal
- Project description, to include sections on:
 - Objectives, novelty and outline of methodology
 - Scientific track record of applicants
 - Relevance to themes of the call
 - Added value of transnational collaboration
 - Added value of interdisciplinary cooperation
- Requested budget total from **each research institution** involved in the project, giving the overall total proposed budget
- List of selected references

No further financial details are required at this stage.

The EoI PDF is limited to a maximum of **three sides** of A4, and should be in the following format:

- 11-point font (Arial)
- single line spacing
- margins of at least 2 cm on all sides

Proposals exceeding this page limit will not be considered.

The deadline for the submission of Expressions of Interest is Thursday 30th July 2009.

Stage two: Full Proposals

Selected applicants will be invited to submit a Full Proposal following the assessment of the EoIs by the Scientific Council. The Full Proposal is bound by the information given in the Expression of Interest.

Any fundamental changes between the Expression of Interest and the Full Proposal, e.g., composition of the project consortium, objectives of the project and so on, must be communicated to the Call Secretariat with detailed justification and will only be allowed by the Call Consortium under exceptional circumstances.

The following information should be submitted online **by the Principal Investigator** at the Full Proposal stage:

- Title of project proposal
- Project acronym
- Proposed start and end dates of project
- Summary of proposal [limited to 250 words]
- Applicants' details [PI and all other named investigators]
- Requested resources (in Euros) from **each research institution** involved in the project under the following headings:
 1. Travel expenses and equipment/consumables
 2. Staff costs, including investigators' time if permitted by national funding regulations (see Annexes)
 3. The Full Proposal in PDF format

The Full Proposal PDF should include the following information:

- Title
- Applicants' names and affiliations
- Keywords: up to five
- Project description to include sections on:
 - Objectives, novelty and proposed methodology
 - Scientific track record of applicants, including project management experience of PI
 - Relevance to call themes
 - Added value of trans-national collaboration
 - Added value of interdisciplinary cooperation
 - Management plan of project
 - Breakdown and justification of resources requested
 - Potential impact of the project, including
 - dissemination of the outcomes of research
 - expected exploitability of results
 - sustainability of the collaboration (forward look)
 - list of selected references

The Full Proposal PDF is limited to a maximum of **ten sides** of A4, and should be in the following format:

- 11-point font (Arial);
- single line spacing;
- margins of at least 2 cm on all sides.

Proposals exceeding this page limit will not be considered.

The deadline for the submission of Full Proposals is Tuesday 1st December 2009.

Intellectual Property Rights

Funded projects must conform to the regulations on intellectual property rights and exploitation of each relevant funding agency, as given in the national Annexes.

Evaluation criteria

Stage one: Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest will be assessed by the Scientific Council according to the following criteria:

- Scientific excellence of the proposal
- Scientific track record of applicants
- Relevance to the aims of the call
- Added value of transnational collaboration:
 - meaningful input from each national applicant or applicant team
 - a significant proportion of the proposed research should be carried out in each of the participating countries
- Added value of interdisciplinary cooperation – level of integration and collaboration

Stage two: Full Proposals

Full Proposals will be assessed by anonymous reviewers and the Scientific Council according to the following criteria:

- Scientific excellence of the proposal
- Scientific track record of applicants
- Relevance to the themes of the call
- Added value of transnational collaboration:
 - meaningful input from each national applicant or applicant team
 - a significant proportion of the proposed research should be carried out in each of the participating countries
- Added value of interdisciplinary cooperation – level of integration and collaboration
- Quality of project management arrangements – appropriateness of timescales
- Appropriateness of costs/resources requested
- Potential impact, including
 - dissemination of the outcomes of research
 - expected exploitability of results
 - Sustainability of the collaboration (forward look)

Call timetable

8 th May 2009	Call launch
30 th July 2009	Deadline for the submission of Expressions of Interest
October 2009	Scientific Council meets to evaluate Eols; Full Proposals invited
1 st December 2009	Deadline for the submission of Full Proposals
February 2010	Reviewers' comments to go to PIs, 5 working days for written response
March 2010	Scientific Council meets to evaluate Full Proposals; rank-ordered list agreed
April 2010	Call consortium meets to decide which projects will be funded; contracting of projects at the national level begins

National annexes – national eligibility, funding and remit restrictions

1. Belgium

Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS)

Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO)

Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (FWO)

Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique(FNRS)

Funding

There are no specific restrictions on the resources that can be requested through this call. The maximum requested budget must not exceed €150,000 for two years.

Science remit

There are no specific restrictions on science remit.

Intellectual property (IP) rights

Researchers are subject to the Intellectual Property rules applied by the university in which they work.

Project contracting process following the peer-review decision

Selected projects will be submitted to an internal ad hoc commission who will meet no more than three months after selection by the expert panel.

Eligibility

The call is open to all post-doctoral researchers from a university of the Belgian French-speaking community.

FNRS contact

Xavier Foret

Tel. 02/504 93 08 – foret@frs-fnrs.be

Belgian Federal Science Policy Office(BELSPO)

Belgian Federal Science Policy Office
Rue de la Science 8 Wetenschapsstraat
B-1000 Brussels

Telephone : +32 (0)2 238 34 11

Telefax : +32 (0)2 230 59 12

Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek(FWO)

The FWO will support in principle one individual project of the top-ranked collaborative research projects.

Flemish individual projects have to follow all rules and criteria of regular *FWO-onderzoeksprojecten*.

- The principal investigator should be a member of the *ZAP* of a Flemish university.
- The co-applicants should have a minimum level of *Dr-assistent* or similar.
- Project networking is part of the consumables.
- Host-institution overhead cannot be part of the budget as this overhead is dealt with directly by FWO in agreement with the host institutions.
- The usual fixed figures for personnel costs have to be used:
 - Scientific collaborator: €60,000
 - Technical/administrative collaborator: €50,000

See <http://www.fwo.be> (subsidiewijzer – onderzoeksprojecten) for further information

FWO contact

Benno Hinnekint
Directeur FWO
FWO
Egmontstraat 5
B-1000 Brussel
Tel: +32 2 550 15 31
Email: benno.hinnekin@fwo.be

2. Estonia

Eesti Teaduste Akadeemia (EAS)

This document provides additional requirements to the Guidance for Applicants (GfA) for the Complexity-NET Pilot Call. As a first step, applicants have to check whether they and their project proposal meet the general eligibility criteria stated in the GfA.

Each Complexity-NET country will fund its actual national participation in a successful project, i.e., national financing will only be assigned to research teams of the respective country.

The maximum Estonian contribution will be €125,000, committed through the Estonian Science Foundation (ETF), therefore the ETF rules on budget and eligibility apply as specified at <http://www.etf.ee/index.php?page=107&>). Brief guidelines are as follows.

Science remit

There are no restrictions as to specific field of science other than the projects have to fall into the remit of the call.

What can be funded

In general, eligible research costs plus overhead costs (not exceeding 20% of direct costs) can be funded. Eligible research costs should be directly related to the project and identifiable as such, for example:

- personnel costs (according to national ratio; researchers not funded for full-time work from other national research grants);
- scholarships in the amount equalling the state grant to PhD and Master students;
- expenses of fixed assets - in accordance with the rules of accounting of fixed assets;
- travel, accommodation & meeting costs;
- other research costs (costs for knowledge transfer, joint publications, etc.)

Who can apply

Estonian researchers may participate in a project consortium as Principal Investigators (PI; i.e. overall project leaders), co-PIs (i.e. persons responsible for the work done in Estonia and grant holder in Estonia) or co-investigators (i.e. participating researchers).

A PI (and a co-PI) must meet the following requirements:

- hold a doctoral degree of Estonia or an equivalent academic degree (acquired either in Estonia or in another country);
- have at least three publications within the last five years (2004-2008) which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 3.1 of the classification of publications of the Estonian Research Portal (www.etis.ee).

A co-investigator is either a doctoral student or (s)he must meet the following requirements:

- hold at least a master's degree of Estonia or an equivalent qualification (acquired either in Estonia or in another country);
- have at least one publication within the last three years (2006-2008) which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 3.1 of the classification of publications of the Estonian Research Portal (www.etis.ee).

Intellectual property rights (IPR)

The intellectual property created is subject to the paragraph 32 of the Copyright Act (State Gazette I 2000, 16, 109). After the end of the project the result shall usually become a public domain, unless the Estonian institution applies to the ETF to retain the IPR and the application is approved.

National contact

National eligibility and requirements should be checked before submitting an Expression of Interest (also before the second stage if your consortium is invited to write a Full Proposal). For queries, please contact:

Mrs. Anne Pöitel
Estonian Academy of Sciences
tel. +372 644 8677 (office); +372 56 502095 (mobile)
e-mail: anne.poitel@akadeemia.ee

3. Greece

General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT)

Budget, Eligible Costs

GSRT will allocate a total of €500,000 to this call. This amount of money will fund exclusively Greek research teams that participate in the multinational consortia of the funded projects.

The Greek research teams should belong to higher education and research institutions which are legal RTDI entities eligible according to the national regulations of Greece.

GSRT will promote the projects by providing non-repayable grants. Expenditures have to be actual, economic and necessary. Expenditure for the following types is eligible for grants:

- staff salaries for the implementation of projects' tasks. Cost of new researchers (minimum 80%);
- mobility of researchers;
- physical resources, e.g. consumables, equipment, etc.;
- publications;
- cost of events and meetings, e.g. rental of venue, logistics.

Project contracting process following the peer-review decision

The contracting process and the monitoring of the projects will follow GSRT rules based on the national legislation.

National contact

The following GSRT staff member can be contacted for informal advice on the Complexity-NET call or to answer any queries:

Dr Nikos Sidiropoulos (nsid@gsrt.gr)

Mr. George Adamopoulos (g.adamopoulos@gsrt.gr)

Hellenic Ministry of Development,
General Secretariat for Research & Technology,
International S & T Cooperation Directorate
14 -18 Messogheion av., 115 10 Athens, Greece
tel: +30 210 7458119
fax: +30210 7714153

4. Hungary

Nemzeti Kutatási és Technológiai Hivatal (NKTH)

1. Eligibility criteria

1) Type/nature of participants

Eligible applicants shall include:

- Business enterprises with legal entity and cooperatives registered in Hungary;
- Foreign-registered enterprises with branch office in Hungary;
- Non-profit organisations with legal entity;
- Public bodies or their institutes with legal entity.

Each organization might be funded if they proof their involvement in RTD activities of the project. All organisations have to ensure that they can finance their own financial contribution.

2) Legal/administrative/financial conditions:

Any applicant who:

- Is subject to bankruptcy or liquidation proceedings, or dissolution procedure;
- Has been guilty of making false declarations during earlier calls under the Research and Technology Innovation Fund or under the targeted allocations provided by paragraph (2) of section 16. of Act XC. of 2003 on the Research and Technology Innovation Fund, or has been breached its obligations arising from an earlier funding contract;
- Has had expired public dues for more than 60 days;
- Has been expired liabilities to the Fund or to the Fund or to the targeted allocations provided by paragraph (2) of section 16. of Act XC. of 2003 on the Research and Technology Innovation Fund more than 60 days;intends to carry out activities or projects not complying with environmental requirements;
- has not got the necessary permits issued by the competent authority for the proposed activities;
- qualifies as an undertaking in difficulty as described in 2.1 point of Communication from the Commission No 2004/C 244/02 on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty;
- has been ordered by a decision of the European Commission to reimburse any aid; shall be ineligible

shall be ineligible, shall be excluded from the evaluation and shall not receive financial contribution.

Applicants are expected to contribute their own financial resources to the project costs – this amount depends on the project activities and the applicant's organization form. The own financial resources shall determined by prevailing law.

2. National funding rate

Type of Organisation Type of activity	Percentage of costs covered by national funding*			
	Large Enterprises, Groups and Associations of Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Public Research Institutes and Universities
Fundamental/Basic Research	100%	100%	100%	100%
Industrial/Applied Research projects	50%	60% (1)	70% (2)	100%
Experimental development projects	25%	35% (1)	45% (2)	100%

**Please read the additional rules carefully*

Notes:

(1) Might be increased by 10%

(2) Might be increased by 20%

Additional:

Funding intensity may be increased by a further 15% up to a maximum of 80%

a) for industrial research and experimental development if the project is implemented through an actual cooperation of at least two independent enterprises under the following conditions:

aa) none of the participating enterprises covers more than 70% of total eligible project costs, and

ab) the project brings about cooperation with at least one SME or results in cross-border cooperation (i.e. R&D activities are carried out in at least two member countries);

b) for industrial research and experimental development if the project is implemented through an actual cooperation of an enterprise and a research organization under the following conditions:

ba) the research organization covers at least 10% of eligible costs, and

bb) the research organization is entitled to publish the results of the research project if those stem from its own research activity;

c) exclusively for industrial research if project results are disseminated to a wide audience at technical and scientific conferences, or are published in scientific and technology periodicals, or made available in freely accessible databases (databanks, where anyone can have access to the raw research data), or by means of open source-code and free software.

For the purposes of points a) and b), subcontracting shall not qualify as actual cooperation.

For a given activity type, consortium members may receive a 15% increase in funding intensity only once and with observing the maximum funding intensity of 80%

If conditions described under point a) or b) or c) are met under a project,

- in the case of industrial research maximum funding intensity shall be 80% for small sized enterprises, 75% for medium sized enterprises and 65% for large enterprises,
- in the case of experimental development maximum funding intensity shall be 60% for small sized enterprises, 50% for medium sized enterprises and 40% for large enterprises.

If the tasks of a given consortium member under a project include different stages of R&D activities, applicable funding intensity - calculated based on the incurred eligible costs - shall be established by calculating the weighted average of the relevant funding intensity figures. **Priority shall be given to projects which are implemented using significant own financial resources.**

Research organizations are organizations, e.g. universities or research units - regardless of their legal form (whether they are regulated by public law or common law) and form of financing -, whose primary objective is to carry out basic research, industrial research and experimental development and the dissemination of the results thereof by means of education, publications or technology transfer; all their profit is reinvested in such activities, dissemination of their results or education; those enterprises which may have influence upon these organizations, like shareholders or members, do not have preferential access to the research capacities of these institutions or to their research results.

3. Procedure

The Hungarian participants will be funded from the Research and Technology Innovation Fund. Regarding to the Government Decree 133/2004. (IV.29)

Regarding Section 15 (1) of the Government Decree 133/2004 (IV.29) on the Management and Use of the Research and Technology Innovation Fund, the President of the National Office for Research and Technology shall verify the decision funding the Hungarian participants.

4. National Contact Point

David Pap

NKTH

e-mail: david.pap@nkth.gov.hu

Tel: +36-1-484-2574

Fax: +36-1-318 4064

5. Ireland

Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology (IRCSET)

General

Successful Irish applicants will have their part of the joint research programme funded by IRCSET to a maximum of €200k over a 2-year period, to include an overhead of up to 30%. Eligible budget items will include salary or stipend for a researcher or postgraduate student(s), travel costs, consumables and a one-off contribution for purchase of a small item of equipment (maximum value €8k). It is intended that this programme will fund a position for a researcher or postgraduate student or students, in-line with IRCSET's remit to provide opportunities for promising individuals to embark on a research career.

Science remit

It is intended that this programme will fund a position for a researcher or postgraduate student or students, in line with IRCSET's remit to provide opportunities for promising individuals to embark on a research career in the following disciplines covered by IRCSET programmes:

Computer Science, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, Macro/ Microbiology, Molecular Biology and Earth Sciences.

Intellectual property rights (IPR)

IRCSET does not have any IP restrictions on the Irish portion of the projects funded against this call. IPR might be handled according to special agreements to be negotiated between Partners and the funded applicants, if this is the usual modus for the Partner. If any successful applicant is funded by industry, a special agreement is mandatory.

Budget template:

*Overall amount requested:*¹

Cost breakdown:

Cost Items	Apr2010- Mar2011 (€)	Apr2011- Mar2012 (€)
Research Staff ²		
P.I. Salary ³		
Travel		
Equipment ⁴		
Consumables		
Overhead ⁵		
Total		

Notes:

1) Maximum permitted amount for a 2-year project is €200,000, to include a maximum overhead of 30%.

2) Research staff can be a postdoctoral researcher or a postgraduate student(s).

Salary requested for a postdoctoral researcher should include a Base Salary plus 10.75% (of base salary) Employer's PRSI Contribution. Please use the IUA Salary scales at <http://www.iua.ie/iua-activities/documents/2008ResearcherSalaryScales.pdf> as a guideline for an appropriate researcher salary.

Example: Base salary	= €38,623
Employers PRSI (10.75%)	= €4,152
Total	=€42,775

Please allow €24,000 per annum for a postgraduate student. From this amount, the student should receive a stipend of €16,000 per annum. The remaining €8,000 covers other expenses, including fees.

3) Contract research staff may claim up to 20% of the overall *Open Initiative* award towards funding their own salary as the Principal Investigator (PI) of the project. Permanent employees of the university cannot claim a portion of the award in this manner.

4) Equipment can include minor items of capital (e.g. computer or small instrument or parts for same) to an aggregate value of around €8,000 (over 2 years). This amount can be earmarked for spending over the 2 years or as a once-off amount spent in year 1 of the award.

5) Please see the guidelines below for assistance in the calculation of overhead.

Guidelines for IRCSET eligible direct costs and overhead rates

General notes:

- Maximum funding to any one Principal Investigator is limited to €200,000 per project. This total is **inclusive** of overhead.
- These guidelines are based on those prepared by the HEA for the recent PRTL aware scheme.

Recurrent eligible direct costs:

- Postgraduate stipends and fees. Note: two-year funding will be provided as standard. For a third year of funding to be awarded a structured Ph.D. programme must be in place for students and specific justification provided. IRCSET's postgraduate stipend is €16,000 p.a.
- Post-doctoral salaries, to include:
 - Base Salary
 - Plus 10.75% Employer's PRSI Contribution
- Research equipment costing less than €8,000 (total over 2 years)
- Research supplies (Consumables)
- Conferences and workshops
- Travel
- Books and journals

Overhead will be set at maximum **30%** of overall *eligible direct costs* (see above) *less equipment*. Overhead will offset institutional indirect costs including for example costs such as heating and air conditioning. These are incurred for common or joint objectives, and cannot be identified readily and specifically with a particular sponsored programme or project. Other examples include:

- General technical support
- Accounting services
- General administration services
- Telecommunications
- Library & information Services
- Central computing Services
- Office support and secretarial services
- Office and laboratory space
- Student services

Overhead expenditure will be subject to appropriate auditing and monitoring.

National contact

The following representative from IRCSET can be contacted for informal advice on the Complexity-NET call or to answer any queries:

Dr. John Denari Tel. 087 675 3947 jdenari@ircset.ie

Institution endorsement form

An institution endorsement form must be filled out and sent to IRCSET address below by the closing date of the call:

IRCSET
Attn: Dr. John Denari
Brooklawn House
Shelbourne Rd
Dublin 4

This form can be downloaded from the Complexity-NET website:
<http://www.complexitynet.eu>

6. Italy

Istituto dei Sistemi Complessi – Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (ISC-CNR)

Eligibility

The Italian National Research Council (CNR), assuming that the ERA-NET programme promotes cooperation actions among the participating institutions, will consider as eligible those applicants belonging to CNR research institutes.

Participation could be extended to scientists, from Italian Universities and Public Research Bodies, associated to a CNR Institute, legally recognised according to framework agreements existing between these Institutions.

As to partners from industry or private enterprises, the general rules of the call will be applied.

Funding

The Italian partners participating in this call will be referring to the Full Cost (FC) model. There are no specific restrictions on the resources that can be requested through this call, as long as they respect the CNR standard rules applied under the FC model (personnel costs, travelling expenses, other costs; indirect costs will be recognised up to the 20% of personnel costs). However, the general call requirements are that the total project value must not exceed €500,000. The CNR contribution will cover the Italian partners in the project.

Science remit

There are no specific requirements for Italian participation.

Intellectual property (IP) rights

There are no specific IP restrictions on the Italian portion of projects funded against this call.

Project contracting process following the peer-review decision

If your proposal is successful you will be required to notify the national Italian contact your contribution to the project. This proposal will not undergo peer review a second time, but will automatically be funded according to the approved budget.

National contact

The following ISC-CNR staff members can be contacted for informal advice on the Complexity-NET call or to answer any queries:

Giulia Loguercio	Tel. 0039 06 49913120 (giulia.loguercio@roma1.infn.it)
Luca Pitolli	Tel. 0039 06 49934025 (luca.pitolli@isc.cnr.it)

7. The Netherlands

Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO)

Introduction

NWO - Physical Sciences supports the Complexity-NET First Call for Proposals and encourages its complexity research community to apply for funding for collaborative research in Europe. NWO has the ambition to stimulate synergy, focus and international collaboration, on the basis of excellent research, in the area of complexity research. Moreover NWO-Physical Sciences subscribes to the ambition of the European Commission to realise a European Research Area. This National Annex is an annex to the Complexity-NET First Call for Proposals and applies to (co-)applicants who perform their research activities in the Netherlands.

Eligibility of applicants

NWO - Physical Sciences supports researchers from the disciplines mathematics, computer science and astronomy. Only the Dutch part of any successful transnational collaboration can be funded, within the reach of the available budget. All tenure (track) mathematics, computer science or astronomy researchers of Dutch universities and selected Dutch institutes under the standard NWO rules, are eligible to apply, as described in “Regeling subsidieverlening NWO” (available at www.nwo.nl, under ‘Subsidiewijzer / Subsidy Guide – Subsidiereregeling / General Terms’).

Type and amount of funding possible

The total available funding in this call for all researchers based in the Netherlands is €500,000. Funding can be awarded to cover all reasonable costs (such as costs for personnel, travel, equipment and consumables) for the duration of the project with a maximum of 2 years. The total costs of the Dutch part of an awarded grant will not exceed € 250,000.

Personnel costs

The VSNU standard tariffs for personnel costs apply. Details of these tariffs are available at www.nwo.nl (under ‘Subsidiewijzer – Subsidiereregeling – contract VSNU 1 juli 2005 – 1 juli 2009). As an indication, in 2009 the tariffs are:

- Post-doc: ~ €127k (2 years)
- Technician (HBO): ~ €56k (1 year), ~ €114k (2 years)

Furthermore, for Postdoctoral Researchers an additional bench fee will be added. The bench fee amounts to:

- Post-docs (2 years): € 5,000

Equipment and consumables

Expenses for project related equipment and consumables are to be covered by the bench fee.

Other costs

Funding for other costs, such as travel expenses of the researchers active in the project, may be requested. Costs of supervision, housing, depreciation of existing equipment, etc., are considered to be the financial contribution of the university or institute to the research project. These costs will not be remunerated. Furthermore, NWO will not fund private industrial partners or personnel costs of permanent staff.

Application process

Applicants who are working in the Netherlands should submit their application electronically via the call website as described in the main call text. No additional forms should be sent to the NWO Office. The Executive Board of the NWO Physical Sciences Division will make the final decision on the granting of the proposals concerning researchers who are affiliated to organisations in the Netherlands, based on the advice of the Complexity-NET Call Consortium.

Other provisions or requirements

On grants funded by NWO the rules and regulations of “Regeling subsidieverlening NWO” will apply. Where applicable, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) should be handled according to special agreements to be negotiated between the funding agencies and the awarded applicants. If any successful applicant is funded by industry, a special agreement is mandatory. The IPR regulations must be in line with the description in “Regeling subsidieverlening NWO”.

National help-desk and contacts

Marieke van Duin, MSc Tel: +31 (0)70 344 09 21 Email: complexitynet@nwo.nl	NWO- Physical Sciences office Anna van Saksenlaan 51 P.O. Box 93460 2509 AL The Hague The Netherlands Fax: +31 (0)70 344 08 61
Dr. Lex Zandee Tel: +31 (0)70 344 06 60 Email: complexitynet@nwo.nl	

Sponsors

The Dutch contribution of €500,000 to the Complexity-Net first call for proposals is financed by the Physical Sciences Division of NWO.

8. Portugal

Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT)

For information on national rules and funding regulations, please contact Maria João Corte Real or visit the following website:

<http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt/apoios/cooptrans/eranets/complexity/index.phtml.en>

National contact

Maria João Corte Real
FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
Av. D. Carlos I, 126 – 7º
1249-074 Lisboa
PORTUGAL
Tel.: (+351) 21 392 4381
Fax: (+351) 21 395 7284
E-mail: mj.cortereal@fct.mctes.pt

9. Spain

Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación (MICINN)

Please contact the Spanish national representative for further information:

Professor Miguel Rubi, mrubi@ub.edu

10. United Kingdom

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)

Eligibility

Standard eligibility rules for targeted funding apply to applicants and organisations, as specified in the EPSRC Funding Guide.

The EPSRC Funding Guide is available at:

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/ResearchFunding/HowToApply/FundingGuide.htm>.

Proposal submission

An official letter from the research office of each UK research organisation (RO) involved in the project must be sent to Gavin Salisbury (contact details below) at the Expression of Interest stage to demonstrate that each RO endorses your application. Letters may be sent in hard copy or electronically in PDF format, but must be received by the closing date of the EoI stage of the call.

Funding

The UK portion of proposals submitted against this call must be costed using the Full Economic Costing (FEC) model. There are no specific restrictions on the resources that can be requested through this call. However, the general call requirements are that the total project value must not exceed €500,000, and that a significant proportion of the proposed research must be carried out in each investigator's country of origin. The UK component should be costed in the online submission process at the FEC 80% value, not the 100% value, i.e., you should specify the resources actually requested from EPSRC. The EPSRC Funding Guide should be consulted when preparing all proposals.

Investigator time

The online submission form administered by NWO does not specifically include investigator time. Please cost investigator time as normal and include the 80% total calculated figure under the 'Staff costs' heading of the online form.

Investigator time should be justified in the usual way in the justification of resources at the Full Proposal stage.

Science remit

At least 50% of the research proposed by a UK investigator or investigator team (i.e. that investigator or team's contribution to the overall project) must be within EPSRC remit – namely novel advances in the tools and techniques of complexity science from mathematics, physics, ICT, etc. Participation of UK collaborators active in other fields, such as the social sciences, is encouraged, but the core of the UK contribution to any proposal submitted must be within EPSRC remit.

Intellectual property (IP) rights

There are no specific IP restrictions on the UK portion of projects funded against this call. If uncertain you are advised to consult our website for more details on EPSRC IP policy before submitting your proposal.

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/Business/Guidance/IP.htm>

Project contracting process following the peer-review decision

If your proposal is successful you will be required to submit your contribution to the project again as a proposal to EPSRC via Je-S in the usual way. This proposal will not undergo peer review a second time, but will automatically be funded as long as the requested budget (80% FEC figure and associated breakdown of costs) matches that requested through the Complexity-NET peer-review process.

National contact

The following EPSRC staff member can be contacted for informal advice on the Complexity-NET call or to answer any queries:

Dr Gavin Salisbury
Coordinator, Complexity-NET ERA-NET

Senior Cross-disciplinary Interfaces Programme Manager
EPSRC
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon SN2 1ET

Tel: (01793) 444032
Fax: (01793) 444187
Web: www.epsrc.ac.uk

Gavin.Salisbury@epsrc.ac.uk