JPI HDHL Preliminary Announcement

"New food resources and technologies to improve public health and food security (FOODRETEC)"

JPI HDHL is pleased to pre-announce the launch of the new joint funding activity "New Food Resources and technologies to improve public health and food security (FOODRETEC)" expected on February 21st, 2023.

Global food production is a major contributor to climate change and depletion of the earth's natural resources (Global Nutrition Report, 2021[1]). In turn, climate change, pollution and scarcity of water affect food and nutrition security. The situation is further aggravated by the increasing demand for food by the growing world population, changing dietary patterns and a significant upscale in the volume of food loss throughout the whole chain (farm and sea to fork). Food portfolios need to be adapted to facilitate a major shift towards more sustainable use of raw materials in food products and introduce new and unexplored nutritional resources. To meet these societal challenges and secure nutrition and sustainability, future food will look different than today.

Aim of the call

The main aim of this call is to build knowledge to prepare for and succeed with a dietary shift towards a healthier and more sustainable diet. This demands a system approach. Improved use of resources and designing new foods will be a driving force. The new knowledge will contribute to preparedness for a future with a higher global food demand on scarce resources. This call deals with several interrelated topics, such as food security, food safety, nutrition, and consumer acceptance. **It will focus on new food ingredients, new food or technologies and their contribution to healthy, sustainable diets. Important aspects to be addressed in this regard are safety, nutritional quality, digestibility, bioeconomic aspects, and consumer acceptance of new ingredients and food.**

Project focus can include research on:

- Ensuring consumer acceptance of new products and more sustainable technologies, i.e., addressing knowledge barriers, enhancing sensory properties of food from new sustainable (protein) sources or functional ingredients (e.g. foods containing bio-actives).
- Investigating new components (e.g. plant-based, marine ingredients, insects, side stream valorisation, biomass, cell cultures etc.) as a source of nutrients and functional food ingredients (e.g. protein, fibre, bio-active compounds etc.).
- Ensuring food safety in the entire food chain focussing on residues, degradation products and (process) contaminants including aspects of sustainable food processing and side-stream valorisation.
- Improving nutritional quality aspects of using new ingredients or new food processing technologies as well as their impact on health.

Proposals should focus on one or more of the following approaches and methodologies:

(1) Exploratory research where consumer insight is included (social labs, living labs, etc.)

[1] https://globalnutritionreport.org/reports/2021-global-nutrition-report/

(2) Systemic reviews to map and organize current research on the area
(3) Building more research and knowledge on the food science aspects

Beyond the research topics the following points should be taken into account:

- Proposals should show a strong collaboration between partners from different disciplines e.g. food technologists, nutrition scientists, social scientists;
- Proposals should clearly demonstrate the benefit of working together and the unique contribution of each partner.
- Proposals should be consumer oriented, e.g.: by handling consumer perception, acceptance…
- Proposals are encouraged to engage end-users (e.g. consumers, industry) in the research process from conception of the study to dissemination and implementation. The engagement with end-users increases the impact of research and facilitate its later use in public health practice, contributing to the sustainability of the funded initiative.
- Collaboration with industry as a partner (eligible for funding), as collaborator (participating with own budget) or as part of an advisory board is strongly encouraged.
- Proposals should consider potential moderators of effects such as age, sex, gender, ethnic or other demographic factors/variables in the respective research approaches.
- Proposals should be complementary to the Knowledge-Hub SYSTEMIC[2] co-funded under JPI HDHL, FACCE JPI and JPI OCEANS.

General conditions for application

In general, joint research proposals may be submitted by applicants working in universities (or other higher education institutions), in non-university research institutes, in foundations, and as well as in the private sector such as in commercial enterprises, in particular small and medium-size ones (non-exhaustive list). The eligibility of the afore-mentioned entities are subject to the administrative and regulatory requirements of individual funding organisations and may therefore vary.

Only transnational consortia will be funded. The following conditions apply to the composition of consortia:

- Minimum of 3 partners from 3 different participating countries. These 3 partners must be eligible for funding by one of the participating organisations listed in table 1.
- No more than 2 eligible partners can originate from the same country.
- Maximum of 6 eligible partners per consortium.
- Total size of consortium cannot exceed 8 applicants (including researchers that participate as collaborators; see below the condition for collaborators).

Researchers or international organisations who will not apply for funding can participate in projects as *collaborators*. The following conditions apply to collaborators:

- Clear added scientific value for the research project. This should be demonstrated in the application.
- Secure own funding for participation with clear evidence in the proposal that this is already in place.
- Maximum of 2 collaborators per consortium.
- The majority of the consortia members and the project coordinator must be eligible for funding by the participating funders.

[2] https://systemic-hub.eu/coordination/

Participating countries

The following organisations intend to participate in this call:

Country	Funding organisation	Acronym
Austria	Austrian Research Promotion Agency on behalf of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research	FFG/BMBWF
France	French National Research Agency	ANR
Ireland	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	DAFM
Norway	Research Council of Norway	RCN
Poland	National Centre for Science	NCN
Romania	Executive Unit for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding	UEFISCDI *Pending decision*

Table 1: participating funding organisations

Tentative time schedule

When	What
21 February 2023	Launch of the call
21 April 2023	**Submission deadline proposals**
26 June 2023	Reviews sent to the applicant for rebuttal
6 July 2023	**Deadline submission rebuttal letter**
September 2023	**SEC & CSC meeting to discuss proposals**
October 2023	Final funding decision
December 2023 – May 2024	Start projects

Table 2: tentative time schedule

More information will soon be available: www.healthydietforhealthylife.eu

Please note: *The content of the call described in this pre-announcement may be subject to changes and is not legally binding to the funding organisations. Interested researchers are encouraged to initiate scientific contacts with potential project consortium partners for applications.*