



EuroMarine 2018 call for proposals

1 Background: EuroMarine and its objectives

EuroMarine is a European, marine science network launched in 2014 and designed as a bottom-up organisation to raise the voice of the European marine scientific community. It is intended as a durable organisation and a legal entity will be established in 2018 as a support structure under the control of the consortium. In 2018 EuroMarine counts 59 member organisations (MOs), 52 of which are 'full voting' members contributing to the budget.

Two primary goals of EuroMarine are: (a) to support the identification and initial development of important emerging scientific topics and methodologies in marine sciences; and (b) to foster new services relevant to the marine scientific community.

EuroMarine achieves these goals through internal competitive calls for proposals, within the available budget. It is expected that support for these activities and their outcomes will help to leverage larger projects under European, national or joint research funding programmes.

EuroMarine also advocates for marine science and contributes to improving the science-governance interface, providing expertise and transferring knowledge.

2 EuroMarine 2018 calls

In 2018, EuroMarine organises two distinct, parallel calls (both were [pre-announced on 5 March](#)):

- A [call for proposals of activities](#) (the present call; targeting foresight workshops and working groups; managed by the EuroMarine Secretariat)
- A [call for applications for individual fellowships](#) (targeting EuroMarine PhD students and scholars in their first post-doctoral position, to let them attend an advanced course of their choice; managed by the [EuroMarine Young Scientists Working Group](#))

3 Overview of EuroMarine 2018 call for proposals – Selection procedure

To maximize the number of Member Organizations (MOs) that will receive funds under the 2018 call, EuroMarine limits its financial contribution to successful activities to the below-specified maximum amounts. Applicants are asked to find co-funding when necessary.

Proposals will be reviewed by volunteers from EuroMarine MOs. The two sets of proposals corresponding to the two activity categories (described under the next section) will be reviewed separately using specific criteria and specific pools of referees. EuroMarine will solicit external reviewers when necessary (i.e., in case the relevant expertise is lacking within EuroMarine). Two scores will be requested and used to rank proposals: (1) intrinsic value (mainly scientific, or other, depending on the activity category); (2) value to

EuroMarine (i.e., to which degree a proposal addresses EuroMarine priorities and favours the integration of the EuroMarine community; the number of MOs involved will notably be considered). An additional score, budget solidity and appropriateness, will not contribute to the ranking but will be requested to inform funding decisions.

The SC will be in charge of the final selection and moderation to ensure a balance of disciplines and topics within the available budget.

4 Eligible categories of activities

For the 2018 call, the eligible categories of activities are limited to:

- **Foresight Workshops** (*'horizon scanning', FWS*) – *maximum funding: 7,500 €*
FWS should focus on emerging and important topics, which fall within scientific themes or priorities identified by EuroMarine and which require European-wide coordination. They generally aim at establishing a scientific vision or a roadmap at the scale of a decade and may notably (but not exclusively) be used for future EuroMarine larger projects and/or proposals. FWS can also focus on review exercises of relevance to EuroMarine (e.g., science-governance interface and scenario construction).
- **EuroMarine Working Groups** (*WG*) addressing strategic services or issues – *maximum funding: 5,000 €*
WG should aim at building services for the marine community or at otherwise advancing and consolidating the functioning of the EuroMarine network.

All activities should have well-defined outcomes (e.g. synthesis paper, position paper, strategy document). **All FWS are expected to yield publications** (at a minimum, a position paper, to be submitted within 12 months of the completion of the FWS).

5 Eligible topics

In line with EuroMarine's bottom-up ethos, and in order to favour the emergence of new ideas and approaches, the calls are widely open in terms of topics but only activities that single organisations could not tackle alone are supported. Moreover, activities should avoid any duplication with existing initiatives.

Any *topics* addressing one of the following three EuroMarine Challenges are eligible:

1. Understanding marine ecosystems for healthy oceans under global / climate change [basic science]
2. Building scenarios for marine socio-ecological systems under changing oceans [governance]
3. Marine science as a provider of new concepts for innovation and technology [novel ideas and innovation]

Such challenges are to be broadly interpreted and proposals with a multidisciplinary or discipline-specific nature are both welcome.

Applicants can consult the separate summary document on EuroMarine's scientific strategy and priorities for details (see links at end of document). This document provides a non-limitative list of already identified emerging fields and 'hot topics'.

Proposals not directly focusing on science but contributing to build EuroMarine, or developing new services for the EuroMarine community will also be considered; these proposals fall under two categories:

- Proposals aiming at the preparation of future EuroMarine services in the realm of: communication and/or provision of expertise; education and training; open access to research outputs; and registries and directories.
- Proposals addressing key technical developments or methodological issues (e.g. in the realm of observation and remote sensing or data workflows).

Lastly, as an analysis of past calls and activities carried out to date revealed that some areas identified in the EuroMarine scientific strategy report have not been correctly covered yet, and following discussions held at the 2018 GA meeting, EuroMarine would particularly welcome proposals originating from the following disciplines or addressing the following areas:

- Physical oceanography, biogeochemistry, chemistry (e.g., pollution), geology (e.g., sediments, deep sea), system approaches extending beyond biology and ecology
- Biotechnology, bioresources
- Links with marine infrastructures, observatories, data repositories

During past meetings, the GA also identified some potential topics of interest:

- Application of 'omics' technics to quantify biological processes at elemental levels and decipher the links between biodiversity and function
- Ocean modelling and coastal areas
- Cross-border cooperation with non-European countries for the Mediterranean Sea
- 'Impact of science' (beyond publications and their impact) – contribution to its definition by the marine scientific community
- Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Nagoya Protocol – 'EuroMarine' best practices to implement the EU regulation that is applicable since Oct. 2015 (and implemented at national level).

Note however that while EuroMarine would welcome topics falling under the above categories, proposals ranking will solely depend on the above-mentioned 'intrinsic' and 'EuroMarine' value scores set by the reviewers.

6 Other eligibility criteria and networking effect of proposals and activities

Proposals should involve *at least three 2018 Full (paying) Member Organisations of EuroMarine, from at least two different countries* (please refer to the latest 2018 membership and General Assembly representatives lists provided on the call webpage and do not hesitate to contact secretariat@euromarinenetwork.eu for any contact information). Beyond this minimal, mandatory networking requirement, EuroMarine would particularly welcome proposals involving organisations that have not or seldom co-submitted proposals in the past (which can be checked at the bottom of each organisation's webpage in the EuroMarine directory). Proponents are also encouraged to use the Secretariat to advertise their topic and/or seek new potential co-proposers among the EuroMarine membership.

Applicants are welcome to involve any relevant Invited Member Organisations from developing countries (as preferential partners of EuroMarine activities). Proposals can involve organisations outside EuroMarine. However, if the proposal is selected for funding, scientists from EuroMarine Full MOs should be informed of the activity in a timely manner and allowed to participate in it, within budgetary and logistic limits. Activities with closed list of participants and participation upon invitation only are not eligible.

Activities should preferably be carried out in 2019 and any exemption should be requested and justified in the proposal.

7 Guidance on costing - Use of EuroMarine funds

Please refer to the separate document on 'Terms and conditions of EuroMarine funding'.

8 Constraints linked to funding by EuroMarine

Please refer to the separate document on 'Terms and conditions of EuroMarine funding'.

9 Submission of proposals

To apply, please fill in the proposal template provided on the [call webpage](#) and return it to secretariat@euromarinenetwork.eu by the submission deadline (the reception of proposals will be acknowledged).

Applicants are requested to keep proposals brief (under the limits specified in the template).

10 Timeline

5 March: Call preannouncement	1 June-1 Sept.: Review process
4 April: Publication of the call	9 Nov.: Notification of the results
31 May: Deadline for proposal submission	

Note: The date of notification of the results depends on the (ongoing) rescheduling of a SC meeting. It will be Nov. 9th (at the latest) or earlier. Please refer to the [call webpage](#) to check the final notification date.

11 Contact

Please do not hesitate to contact the EuroMarine secretariat for information or assistance in the production of a proposal (e.g. to identify potential co-organisers or participants within EuroMarine).

E-mail: secretariat@euromarinenetwork.eu
Tel: +33 (0)4 99 57 32 44

12 Further information and references

Please refer to the [EuroMarine 2018 call webpage](#) (http://www.euromarinenetwork.eu/call2018_FWS_WG), which includes links to

- the following call documents:
 - the present call text;
 - instructions and a template to apply (Word or Open Office);
 - 2018 terms and conditions of EuroMarine funding
- supporting, additional documents:
 - lists of [2018 EuroMarine Members Organisations](#) and corresponding [General Assembly Representatives](#)
 - [brief document on EuroMarine scientific strategy](#)
 - [EuroMarine 2012 Research Strategy report](#)