

Announcement

2nd German-Russian Call for Proposals in the frame of Bioeconomy 2016

1. Scope:

The joint German-Russian Call is dedicated to R&D that will enable progress in building foundations of the **Bioeconomy** in both participating countries. Bioeconomy based on the use of renewable resources is considered as a sustainable model of industrial and primary production growth preserving valuable non-renewable resources for future generations and devoid of detrimental effects on environment and climate.

The goal of the call is to strengthen the knowledge base and develop advanced technologies related to the various areas of Bioeconomy. The call focuses on industrial biotechnology for chemicals such as the biotechnological production of intermediates with high potential downstream application in industrial sectors like the chemical, agro, food and feed, and other relevant industries (organic acids and other platform chemicals, building blocks for biodegradable and biobased polymers, amino acids, vitamins, enzymes, probiotics, etc.). The call addresses biotechnological value chains from the conversion of biogenic raw material to high added value products. A special focus is laid on industrial applications, on processing of waste and novel feed-stocks like lignocellulosic waste from agriculture and forestry, waste from food industry and syngas/CO₂.

The call **will cover** the following subject areas and topics directly related to them:

- Development of new and improved biocatalysts (enzymes, cells) and microbial strains for innovative and more efficient bioprocesses by e.g. metabolic engineering, synthetic and systems biology approaches, directed evolution technologies and/or exploiting natural biodiversity
- Innovative fermentation and integrated biocatalytic processes including bioprocess engineering for platform chemicals, biomonomers, biopolymers, bioproducts for agro and food and feed industry and second generation and advanced biofuels
- Biotechnological processing (including strain development, separation and conversion) of different carbon sources like biomass, syngas and various side streams into value added products
- Sustainable and integrated utilization of biomass in bio-refinery concepts
- Development of novel, unique-performance biobased products
- Waste (agricultural, industrial, municipal) valorization via biotechnology means

The following areas will be **excluded** from the scope of the Call:

- First generation biofuels utilizing food crops
- Biopharma, biomedicine and other related “red” biotechnologies
- Agricultural biotechnologies if not directly relevant to the scope of the call
- Marine biotechnologies if not directly relevant to the scope of the call
- Bioinformatics, omic technologies, etc. if not directly relevant to the scope of the call
- Environmental issues like e.g. water and air purification, soil remediation etc.

2. Proposal evaluation procedure:

The evaluation of the project outlines received will be simultaneously performed in Russia and Germany and may involve external experts.

The evaluation is based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the national program
- Added value of international cooperation (respective for Russia)
- Relevance, quality, degree of innovation and originality of the research approach
- Chances of success and utilization of the project results
- Excellence and expertise of the applicants including previous experiences in this field
- Appropriateness of size and structure of the project, quality and rigor of time schedule, work-/ budget-plan and work sharing of partners

3. Timeline

- August, 10th, 2016: Launch of the joint call
- October, 14th, 2014: Deadline for submission of proposals
- October 2016 – February 2017: National and joint evaluation

4. Contacts for further requirement and details of the Call

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