Sustainable Urbanisation Global Initiative (SUGI)

FOOD-WATER-ENERGY NEXUS

In the Sustainable Urbanisation Global Initiative (SUGI) Food-Water-Energy Nexus Call international partners are invited to develop solutions targeting the Food-Water-Energy Nexus challenge.

The interactions between food, water and energy are of paramount interest to policy, science and the society at large, today and even more so in the upcoming decades. Challenges connected with population increase and food shortages, scarce water and insufficient energy resources demand solutions.

The Sustainable Urbanisation Global Initiative (SUGI)/Food-Water-Energy Nexus is a joint call established in order to bring together actors to find innovative new solutions to the Food-Water-Energy Nexus challenge. The ultimate goal is to increase the access and the quality of life.

The overall challenge today is to move to action through dialogue: from a sector oriented technocratic approach to one that recognises more diverse viewpoints and rationalities.

Belmont Forum and JPI Urban Europe have partnered to ensure participants across physical, natural, social sciences and arts and humanities as well as policy and decision makers and stakeholders around the world.

The call topics will enable the participants to develop projects that aim to find solutions to the Food-Water-Energy nexus for a sustainable urbanisation. The goal is to rapidly evolve the knowledge base, advance indicators and assessment tools that are needed for a comprehensive understanding of the FWE nexus.

Call to open December 9, 2016   **www.sugi-nexus.org**

The aim

The call aims to develop more resilient, applied urban solutions that bring inter- and transdisciplinary research and innovation together from across the globe, to benefit a much wider range of stakeholders: i.e. researchers, cities, civil society and business. The rapid urbanization of the world's population underscores the importance of this focus in order to create attractive, sustainable and economically viable urban areas.

Join our network

The call not only gives funding to create the necessary solutions but also offers access to a global network of researchers, practitioners, stakeholders and experts in urban development. The activities include knowledge sharing, networking, programme seminars, dissemination of results and a website acting as an information and networking hub.

Participation

Each project proposal must be submitted by a project consortium consisting of at least three eligible applicants from at least three participating countries.

> The following categories involved in development of urban areas can join consortia:
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> – Municipalities   – NGOs
> – Citizens' representatives   – Regions
> – Research organisations   – Cities
> – Companies   – Consumers

The added value resulting from transnational cooperation must be addressed in the proposal. Cooperation partners may come from countries not participating in the call and are not eligible for program funding. There is no limit to the total number of partners who may involved in each project.

Each of the applicants must have the interest and competence to undertake research, development or innovation within the specified topics. The different national rules of funding apply. The main applicant must be affiliated with an organization situated in one of the participating countries.

Application and evaluation

Projects must address all three sectors food, water and energy by an integrative approach.

For this call a two-stage procedure will be adopted and applications are submitted in the online system eCall. Eligible proposals, both pre-proposals and full proposals, will be evaluated in an open competition in which an independent international expert panel will rank proposals according to the call's evaluation criteria. The panel will consist of recognised experts in relevant fields, who can assess the potential of the submitted proposals. The panel will be appointed by the participating funding organisations.

Funding

The total amount of funding is available on the website. The call is funded by the participating funding agencies and the European Commission.*

CALL TOPICS:
WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Robust Knowledge, Indicators and Assessments

The process of developing a relevant, accessible and global urban sustainability knowledge base is in focus in this topic. It includes efforts to gather, structure and synthesize existing knowledge, innovations practices, and potential systemic and app-lied solutions across the FWE nexus.

The aim of the topic is to develop know-ledge platforms, connecting researchers and stakeholders and link knowledge to decision-making and implementation. The platforms should also serve as hubs for re-search results from projects in other topics in the call.

Multi-level Governance and Management

This topic focuses on strategic and social innovations and practical solutions in the realm of governance and management of the FWE nexus. Urban systems are effected by significant stresses that are indirect: e.g. global markets, supply chains and wider infrastructure networks.

The aim of the topic is therefore set to develop diverse management strategies and institutional processes as well as capacity and support functions and identify effective models for transfer and scaling of interven-tions between regions in a comprehensive spatial perspective.

Managing Strategies and Solutions

This topic focuses on identifying and developing integrative solutions that assess and manage risks and uncertainties at the intersection of the sustainable urbanisa-tion and the FWE nexus, while balancing tradeoffs and minimizing social and cultural inequities.

The aim is to identify drivers of social and economic inequalities arising from urba-nization and tools for better management and stakeholder involvement including use of new technologies, simulation systems or customizable capacity building interfaces.

Time schedule

Call opening
9 December 2016

Pre-proposal deadline
15 March 2017

Invitations to submit full proposal
May 2017

Full proposal deadline
20 September 2017

Funding decisions announced
December 2017

Start of projects
December 2017-March 2018

Projects end
January 2021

Updated information and all relevant documents (official and legal documents) will be published on **www.sugi-nexus.org**

Secretariat contacts

If you have questions on the general call process and proposal submission.

Belmont Forum

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Participating funding agencies

Argentina	MINCyT
Australia*	CSIRO
Austria	FFG
Belgium	FWO, Innoviris
Brazil	FAPESP
Chinese Taipei	MOST
Cyprus	RPF
France	ANR
Germany	BMBF
Japan	JST
Latvia	VIAA
The Netherlands	NWO
Norway	RCN
Poland	NCN
Qatar	QNRF
Romania	UEFISCDI
Slovenia	ARRS
South Africa*	NRF
Sweden	FORMAS, SWEA
Turkey	TUBITAK
United Kingdom	AHRC, ESRC, Innovate UK
USA	NSF

* Pending

Belmont Forum

The Belmont Forum is a group of the world's major and emerging funders of global environmental change research. It aims to accelerate delivery of the environmental research needed to remove critical barriers to sustainability by aligning and mobilizing international resources. The Belmont Forum pursues the goals set in the Belmont Challenge by adding value to existing national investments and supporting international partnerships in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary scientific endeavors.

www.belmontforum.org

JPI Urban Europe

Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe was created in 2010 with the ambition to develop a European research and innovation hub on urban matters and create European solutions by means of coordinated research. The aim is to create attractive, sustainable and economically viable urban areas, in which European citizens, communities and their surroundings can thrive.

A JPI Urban Europe partnership with the European Commission Horizon 2020

www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu