

Final

4th PPP Call for proposals on pre-breeding projects:

Open for stakeholders from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden

General information

The Nordic Council of Ministers (NMR) has established the Nordic Public Private Partnership (PPP) for Pre-breeding in 2011. The purpose of the PPP is to support the development of Nordic plant breeding satisfying the long-term needs of the agricultural and horticultural industries, specifically regarding adaptation to the changing Climate, targets for environmental policies, and demands from consumers and markets, among others.

Eleven Nordic plant breeding companies and entities are currently partners in PPP and are thus entitled to participate as partners in the projects of the PPP. (Appendix 1). More information on the establishment and actual status can be read in the NMR report Promoting Nordic Plant breeding for the Future.

Terms for the PPP projects have been established in the agreement regulating the continuation of PPP. (See “Agreement between the Nordic Council of Ministers and Nordic plant breeding companies/ Nordic public plant breeding entities concerning continuation of the Nordic Public-Private Partnership for Pre-Breeding in Plants during 2018-2020”).

In addition, the Steering Committee (SC) of the PPP has decided that its funding of projects shall be restricted to crops in which a participating company or entity (listed in Appendix 1) is actively pursuing plant breeding with the ambition to register and make available new cultivars for the Nordic consumers and other end-users.

Time frame and available funds

The PPP-collaboration continues with a third phase, 2018-2020, and a funding period of up to the 31st of December 2020. However, funded projects can have a longer foreseen extension. Detailed milestones should be described for the applied period, as well as major future work packages.

The funding is expected to provide a frame of 8+8 mill DKK/year; 8 mill DKK of public funding/year and minimum 8 mill DKK/year of corresponding funding in cash or in kind contribution from project partners, pending the funding from the Nordic countries.

Contributions in kind can be calculated at cost with max 600 DKK per hour, cost level properly verified.

Indirect costs (also known as overheads) for all participants may be calculated by 2 models:

1) According to the accounting principles of the respective participants as accepted by national funding agencies, properly justified and verified, and with a max level of 25% of the direct costs for participating companies

2) as agreed by the project partners, properly justified and verified. Indirect cost calculation model chosen for a project proposal is decided by the project participants.

The chosen accounting principles must be clearly described in the proposal.

Who can apply and formal requirements

The Call is open for project proposals from:

1) Nordic plant breeding entities that have joined the PPP, or are eligible to join, provided that the funding from the Nordic countries will be in line with given indications.

2) Nordic research organizations.

Associated partners can participate as partners in project proposals under the condition that these partners can provide their share of public-private funding. The SC can decide case-by-case to match the participation from associated partners, if such participation will promote Nordic plant breeding in line with the purpose of the PPP. However, such funding may not be forwarded to associated non-Nordic partner.

Application evaluation and priorities

Proposals must provide clear and structured budgets for the applied project period.

Proposals will be evaluated by two independent scientific experts and the SC of the PPP.

- 1) Projects should preferably be conducted with a considerable involvement of universities or public research institutions.
- 2) The pre-competitive nature of the proposals is a prerequisite for funding of the evaluation. A majority of the Nordic breeders in a specific crop must participate as partners.
- 3) The level of cash contribution from participating plant breeding entities will be a parameter of decision.
- 4) For new PPP projects priority will be given to other crops than addressed in ongoing projects and to the introduction of new breeding methods or technologies.
- 5) Continuation of established PPP projects will be evaluated taking into account obtained project results and the long-term nature of the project in question.
- 6) Nordic priorities concerning competitiveness of Nordic crop production and contributions to the development of a Nordic bio-economy, as well as goals related to environmental issues and adaptation to climate change.
- 7) The use of genetic resources held at NordGen in the projects is encouraged.

It is important that the application explains how the outcome of the project will contribute to the above mentioned Nordic priorities and agendas; how the project and the project outcome can add value to the participating Nordic entities, Nordic agriculture and food production as well as to the Nordic societies. Quantification of this added value of the project results should be estimated.

Dead-lines and recipient information

Proposals shall be sent by e-mail to the PPP Secretariat at NordGen latest 30 of September 2017 to: annette.hagnefelt@nordgen.org.

Approved applications

As soon as possible after a funding decision is taken by the SC and information has been passed on to the project coordinators, ***consortia agreements*** between project participants should be made up and forwarded to the PPP Secretariat. Consortia agreements should clearly show how all Intellectual property rights associated to the project and its outcome will be handled.

Alnarp, August 15, 2017.

PPP Secretariat on behalf of the PPP Steering Committee