

ALLIANCE Call for Radioecology-Related Activities Funding

Invitation to submit applications for the funding of radioecology-related activities

1. General description

The European Radioecology Alliance (ALLIANCE) allocates up to 15,000 € per year to its members, to perform activities related with any of the following examples:

- a) Mobility of ALLIANCE members (scientific visits to ALLIANCE members' facilities or observatory sites) in the context of the roadmaps.
- b) Participation of PhD students or young scientists in meetings, workshops, conferences, training activities, fieldwork etc.
- c) Organisation/participation in roadmap meetings (either topical roadmaps or global roadmap meetings).
- d) Development of databases, structured information collection for the advancement of knowledge in radioecology, knowledge preservation and dissemination activities.

There will be two application deadlines (two calls) per year:

- 31 March;
- 30 September.

Exceptionally, and provided a 2/3rd majority vote in the Board of Directors, a proposal can be submitted and evaluated at an intermittent date.

2. Rules for applicants

Eligibility

An eligible person must be affiliated to a current member of the European Radioecology Alliance (ALLIANCE).

ALLIANCE members may exceptionally subcontract third parties or use bought-in services to carry out activities listed in 1d). Such should be duly justified and provided a 2/3rd majority vote in the Board of Directors. The total budget for such activity will be agreed by a 2/3rd majority vote in the Board of Directors depending on the overall ALLIANCE financial condition.

Application deadline and budget allocated

Applications may be submitted at any time. However, there are two application deadlines per year: 31 March and 30 September (though with the possibility of exceptional requests, as described above).

After each deadline, a maximum sum of 7,500€ will be paid to the top applicants. The maximum level of support per applicant is 2,000 €.

In case of applications between deadlines, the sum allocated for approved applications, will be deducted from the next call allocation (though if ALLIANCE finances are good then awards in excess of €15k per annum may be awarded if agreed by a 2/3rd majority; the suggestion to do this will be at the discretion of the treasurer).

In the exceptional event that a subcontract is established for carrying out certain activities, the maximum annual allocation for subcontracting work is 3,000 €.

Rules

In principle, only one submission per person per call is allowed (and a given person will not be funded twice in any 12 months' period).

Support will only be given for an activity that starts within 6 months after the application deadline.

Concepts to be funded

Financial support from ALLIANCE will be available for travel, accommodation, subsistence, meeting organisation, substantial contributions to the website and knowledge building, bought-in services, and for event fees in case of students or young scientists applying for participation in a conference/workshop/scientific event.

Proof of expenses has to be submitted to the Secretary (almudena.real@ciemat.es) and the Treasurer (rodolphe.gilbin@irsn.fr) of the ALLIANCE.

An application must contain

- An explanation of the benefits to the ALLIANCE (roadmaps) and the individual applicant.
- A letter of support from the applicant's organisation and host ALLIANCE organisation (if applicable).
- The proposal template in Annex I. If a common proposal with several beneficiaries is prepared, a separate budget for each beneficiary is required.
- An abstract of the work to be presented if the applicant is applying for support to attend a conference/meeting/workshop. Support will not be given for "passive" attendance to an event.

3. Submission and evaluation procedure

The complete application should be sent by e-mail to Almudena Real, Secretary of the ALLIANCE (almudena.real@ciemat.es), with copy to Rodolphe Gilbin, Treasurer of the ALLIANCE (rodolphe.gilbin@irsn.fr).

All applicants will receive a receipt as acknowledgment of their application.

The decision about support will be made within 3 weeks after the nearest application deadline.

The applications will be evaluated by at least three members of the ALLIANCE Board of Directors if there is no conflict of interest. A recommendation for funding will be based on simple majority.

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Relevance and value of the proposed activity to the aims of ALLIANCE: 1 (least) – 10 (most).
- Quality of the proposal: 1 (least) – 10 (most).
- Justification of the budget to carry out the proposed activity: 1 (not adequate) – 10 (completely adequate).

A threshold of 70% will apply separately for each criterion.

If the number of proposals exceeds the number that can be funded, an objective points system (giving equal weight to the above categories) will be used to prioritise the applications or it can be decided to award less than requested.

The final decision on which activities will be funded, and by how much, is made by the ALLIANCE Board of Directors, taking into account the recommendations from the topical roadmap WG leaders, if appropriate. In case of lack of consensus, a 2/3rd majority vote is required.