



16 December 2013

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF A CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The following project currently active in the *Seventh Framework programme of the European Atomic Energy Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European research area and to innovation (2007-2011, 2012-2013)*, calls for proposals to carry out work within the project. Please note that the Seventh Framework Programme offers part-funding not full-funding of research activities.

**Project grant agreement number:** 604984

**Project acronym:** OPERRA

**Project full name:** Open Project for the European Radiation Research Area

**Instrument type:** Combination of Collaborative Project and Coordination and Support Action (Coordination)

This call for proposals is organized on behalf of the Open Project for the European Radiation Research Area (OPERRA) supported by the Euratom 7th framework programme for research and training.

The key aspect addressed by this call for proposals is the understanding of the human health risks arising from exposures to low dose of ionizing radiation. The following research topics are considered to be of priority for reducing uncertainties in current understanding of basic biological processes. These are three alternative approaches, which are expected to be addressed in separate proposals. Proposals will be evaluated on their individual merits irrespective of which priority topic they address.

1. Analysis of mechanisms involved in low dose radiation through the use and development of suitable cellular models (for example 2D, 3D, including somatic cells, stem cells, and organo-typic tissue models) as well as animal models.
2. Determination of the role of genetic background, immunological status, age, gender and lifestyle on radiation-induced effects, as well as identification of other factors influencing individual radiation sensitivity.
3. Identification, development and validation of biomarkers for radiation-induced health effects (cancer and non-cancer) through sound molecular epidemiological studies in children and/or adults in conjunction with the most suitable and promising retrospective and prospective cohorts with access to biological samples and sound dosimetry.

Research should be organised in collaborative efforts over a broad spectrum of techniques and knowledge in the field, including expertise and disciplines outside of traditional radiation biology. Work should focus on both basic biological processes and on practical relevance and application to radiation protection. The work should progress from the current state of the art in the relevant fields and the proposal should document the competence of the applicants. (see attached guide)

Deadline for application: 14 March 2014 17:00 Brussels time. This call is also open to legal entities from third countries. Instructions for application are given in the guide for applicants.

The overall budget for this call is 1,5 M€. The indicative budget range per project is 0,5-1 M€. The bulk of the budget should be dedicated to partners external to OPERRA with the expectation of at least three external partners per project.

The duration of the work to be undertaken should comply with the time constraints of the OPERRA project in its remaining period of about 36 months from the expected time of addition of new partners.

## OPERRA-2013 Call announcement

The selected proposal(s) will be integrated into work package 5, to be established under ongoing project.

**Supporting documentation:**

- The OPERRA-2013 Guide for Applicants
- MELODI Strategic Research Agenda SRA

**Expected duration of participation in project:** From about June 2014 to 31 May 2017.

**Minimum conditions:** There should be at least two legal entities participating in a proposal (single-partner proposals are not eligible). There are no conditions for participation regarding the country of origin.

**Total Commission funding available:** A maximum of EUR 1,5 million is available for the entire call.

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**Call identifier:** OPERRA-2013

**Language in which proposal should be submitted:** English

**Date and time of close of call:** Friday 14 March 2014; 17h00 Brussels time

**Internet address for further information (call webpage):**

<http://www.melodi-online.eu/operra.html>

**Mail address for further information:** Operra@Lallemand-Legros.be