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**National Annex – Germany - Federal Ministry of Education and Research,**  
[www.bmbf.de](http://www.bmbf.de)

**National Contact person**

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**Topics of the call**

BMBF supports Themes 1, 2 and 3 of the call for proposals. Proposal addressing Theme 4: “Concepts to reduce inputs of plastics into the marine environment including through new recycling methods, raising public awareness, promoting behavioural change, socio-economic analyses” will be declared **not** eligible.

**Maximum amount per partner per proposal:**

The maximum budget per German partner per proposal is 300,000 €. If a German partner is coordinator of a proposal, the maximum amount of funding requested can reach 450,000 €.

**Similarity with another proposal**

The German part of the project proposal must not be judged similar to a project that is already funded by BMBF. The proposal must be clear border from the projects of the BMBF call “Plastic in the Environment” or must be tying on this project.

A project proposal will be judged similar to another if its principal objectives are the same, or results from a simple adaptation to the terms of the call for proposals AND the composition of the consortium is largely identical.

**Name of & link to the funding programmes:**

Research of Sustainable Development, [www.fona.de](http://www.fona.de)

**Funding procedure**

The funding procedure will follow the national criteria of the funding of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research

[http://foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy\\_index.php?auswahl=easy\\_formulare](http://foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy_index.php?auswahl=easy_formulare)

**Eligible for funding**

Applications may be submitted by German institutions of higher education and non-university research institutions as well as by commercial companies, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) which are headquartered and exploit their results primarily in Germany. For information regarding the EU's standard definition of SMEs, please visit [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en) .

Research institutions which receive joint basic funding from the Federal Government and the Länder can only be granted project funding supplementary to their basic funding for additional expenditure under certain preconditions.

**Type, scope and rates of funding**

Funding can be awarded in the form of non-repayable project grants for a period of up to three years.

Grants for commercial companies are calculated on the basis of the project-related costs eligible for funding, up to 50% of which can as a rule be covered by government grants, depending on the project's relevance to application. The BMBF's policy generally requires a minimum own contribution of 50% towards the eligible costs incurred.

The basis for calculating the grants for universities, research establishments and similar institutions is the eligible project-related expenditure (in the case of the Helmholtz centres

and the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft (FhG) eligible project-related costs), which can receive up to 100% coverage in individual cases.

The European Commission's Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation must be taken into account when determining the rates of funding. This Community Framework allows various additional payments for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which could in some circumstances lead to a higher rate of funding.

### **Conditions for funding**

The Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen auf Kostenbasis des BMBF an Unternehmen der gewerblichen Wirtschaft für Forschungs- und Entwicklungsvorhaben (Auxiliary Terms and Conditions for Funds Provided by the BMBF to Commercial Companies for Research and Development Projects on a Cost Basis – NABF) will be part of the notification of award for grants on a cost basis.

The Allgemeine Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen zur Projektförderung (ANBest-P) (General Auxiliary Conditions for Grants Provided for Projects on an Expenditure Basis) and the Besondere Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen des BMBF zur Projektförderung auf Ausgabenbasis (BNBest-BMBF 98) (Special Auxiliary Terms and Conditions for Funds Provided by the BMBF for the Promotion of Projects on Expenditure Basis) will form part of the notification of award of grants on an expenditure basis.

The approval and payment of and accounting for funds as well as proof and examination of proper use and, if necessary, revocation of the award and reclaiming of the funds awarded are governed by the administrative regulations pertaining to section 44 of the Federal Budget Code (BHO) and sections 48 to 49a of the Administrative Procedure Act (VwVfG) unless deviation is permitted under the present funding regulations.

### **Link to the national page of the call**

<https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/bekanntmachung-2151.html>

<https://www.ptj.de/projektfoerderung/mare-n>