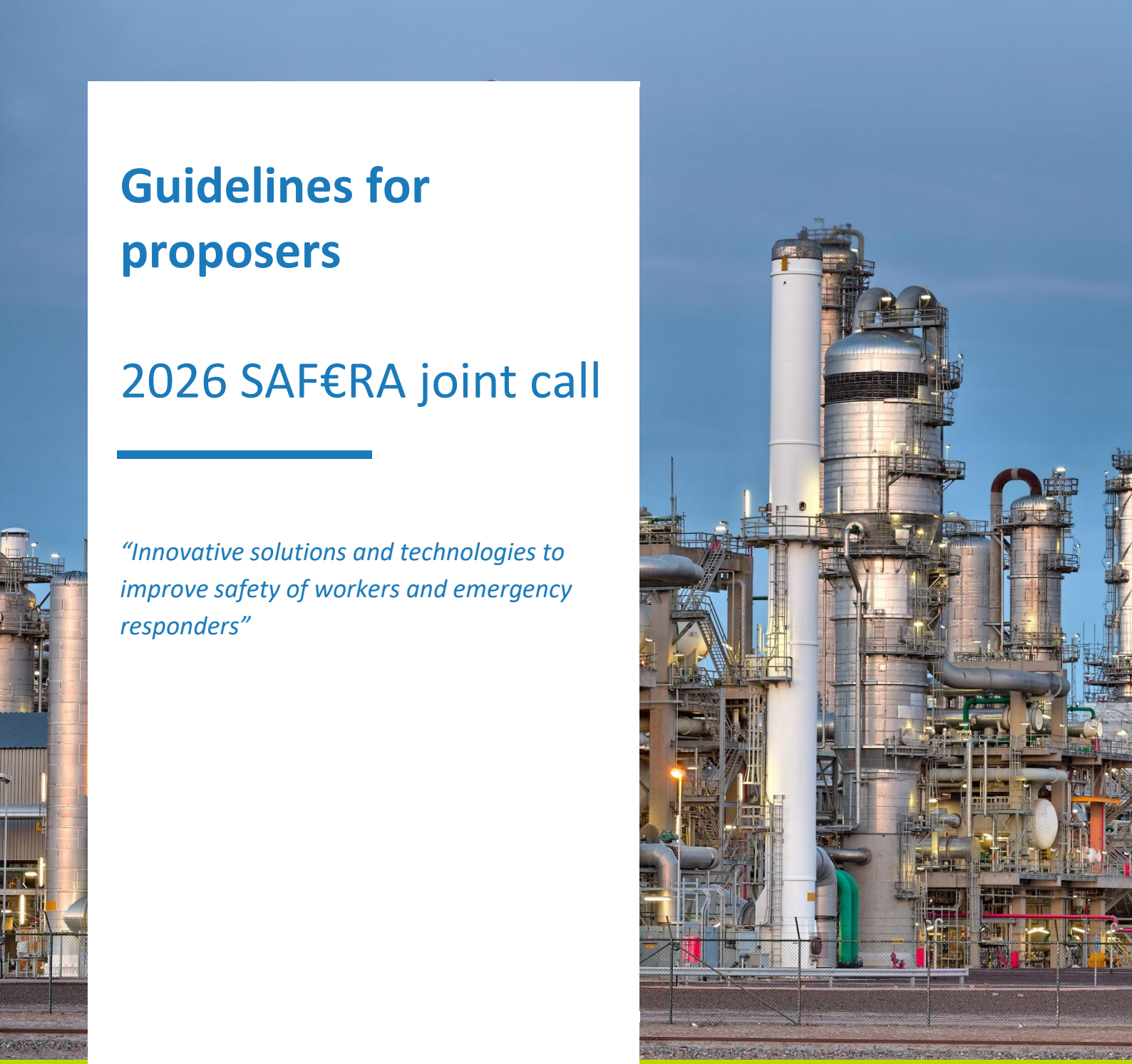

Guidelines for proposers

2026 SAF€RA joint call

"Innovative solutions and technologies to improve safety of workers and emergency responders"

February 4th, 2026

SAF€RA is a partnership between research funding organizations working in the field of industrial safety in Europe. SAF€RA publishes joint calls for proposals on various topics related to industrial safety and organizes dissemination activities to ensure that research results lead to improvements in safety management.

This document describes the 2026 call for proposals, on "Innovative solutions and technologies to improve safety of workers and emergency responders" with the three topics

i. *Topic 1: Robotics and innovative technologies and approaches to increase safety and reduce the exposure of workers and emergency responders*

ii. *Topic 2: Understanding materials to improve safety and reduce the exposure of workers and emergency responders*

iii. *Topic 3: Improving risk assessment and risk management practices using big-data, AI, and numerical modelling*

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1 Call topics

1.1 Topic 1: Robotics and innovative technologies and approaches to increase safety and reduce the exposure of workers and emergency responders

Ensuring the safety of workers and emergency responders demands a combination of advanced technologies and predictive tools, and material science innovations. Technological progress, particularly in robotics, digitalization, and materials engineering, offers unprecedented opportunities to reduce exposure to hazards, improve operational effectiveness, and support decision-making during both industrial operations and emergencies.

On the technological side, robots and UAVs increasingly perform hazardous inspections and surveillance tasks, limiting human presence in dangerous areas. Virtual and augmented reality support realistic, risk-free training and rehearsal of critical operations. As alternative fuels become more common, industrial workers and emergency services require updated procedures and response protocols tailored to hydrogen, batteries, ammonia, and biofuels. Complementary decontamination innovations, including enzymatic, sorbent-based, and photocatalytic techniques, help mitigate chemical, biological, radiological, and particulate contamination. Meanwhile, digital twins integrate real-time data with predictive models to simulate incidents, anticipate failures, and optimize response strategies.

The proposed research projects should integrate advanced technologies with the objective of safeguarding Europe's workforce and emergency responders in an evolving industrial and environmental landscape.

Possible research questions:

1. Robotics, UAVs, and autonomous systems for exposure reduction

- How can ground robots, aerial drones (UAVs), and autonomous systems be optimized to safely perform hazardous inspection, monitoring, and intervention tasks traditionally carried out by workers or emergency responders?
- What levels of autonomy and human-robot interaction are most effective to reduce exposure without compromising situational awareness and operational control?
- How can robotic platforms be adapted to extreme environments (e.g., fires, chemical spills, radiological zones, confined spaces) to maintain reliability and sensor performance?
- What new sensing technologies can be integrated into robots to detect chemical, biological, radiological, or particulate hazards in real time?
- How can multi-robot systems be coordinated to support complex emergency operations while ensuring safety, redundancy, and interoperability with responder workflows?

2. Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR) & training technologies

- How can VR/AR-based training better simulate realistic hazardous scenarios without exposing trainees to physical risks?
- What training outcomes (reaction time, procedural accuracy, hazard recognition) measurably improve through immersive technologies compared with traditional training?
- How can AR interfaces assist responders during real interventions (e.g., overlaying hazard maps, guiding decontamination, or showing evolving plume models)?
- What ergonomic, cognitive load, and usability factors influence the safe adoption of AR/VR tools in high-stress emergency contexts?

3. Safety procedures for emerging and alternative energy systems

- What new operational risks arise for workers and responders from the growing adoption of hydrogen, battery systems, ammonia fuels, and biofuels?
- How should emergency response protocols evolve to manage failures, leaks, thermal runaway, explosions, or toxicity associated with these alternative fuels?
- What detection, monitoring, or containment technologies are needed to enable early identification of incidents involving emerging energy carriers?
- How can robotics and digital twins support safe maintenance, inspection, and emergency response for hydrogen or ammonia infrastructures?

4. Advanced decontamination and material-based exposure reduction

- How effective are enzymatic, sorbent-based, or photocatalytic materials in removing chemical, biological, radiological, or particulate contaminants under real operational conditions?
- What performance metrics and validation methodologies are needed to evaluate next-generation decontamination materials for emergency use?
- How can robotics be combined with novel decontamination materials to automate or semi-automate hazardous cleanup tasks?
- Are there long-term health or environmental risks associated with new decontamination agents, and how can they be minimized?

5. Digital twins, predictive modelling & decision support

- How can digital twins integrate sensor data, physical models, and real-time environmental information to predict industrial failures or incident escalation?
- What data architectures are needed to support real-time synchronization between physical operations, robotics, and digital twin simulations?
- How can predictive tools assist decision-making during emergencies, particularly in dynamic multi-hazard scenarios (chemical + fire + structural collapse)?
- What validation frameworks are needed to ensure digital twin predictions are trustworthy for safety-critical applications?

6. Integrated systems for industrial and emergency safety

- How can robotics, digital twins, and advanced materials be combined into a unified operational framework that reduces exposure across the full incident cycle (prevention, preparedness, response, recovery)?
- What interoperability standards are necessary so that different technologies (robots, sensors, decontamination tools) can communicate during emergency operations?
- How can human factors engineering ensure that technologies genuinely support responders rather than increasing cognitive or operational burden?
- What metrics can reliably quantify risk reduction, exposure minimization, and improved situational awareness provided by integrated advanced technologies?

7. Ethical, Regulatory & Deployment Considerations

- What regulatory gaps exist in the safe deployment of autonomous systems, UAVs, or AI-based decision-support tools in emergency and industrial contexts?
- How can data collected by digital twins, robots, and sensors be handled ethically while ensuring privacy and operational confidentiality?
- What training, certification, and competency frameworks are needed for safe technology adoption by workers and responders?

1.2 Topic 2: Understanding materials to improve safety and reduce the exposure of workers and emergency responders

Improved material understanding is essential to ensure safety of workers and emergency responders. Industrial accidents (in particular fires) involving advanced materials or legacy contaminants release complex pollutants, necessitating better prediction tools and real-time monitoring capabilities. Substituting chemicals of concern with advanced or bio-based materials helps reduce risks at source. Wearables enhance protection, situational awareness, and physical performance for responders. Finally, the growing deployment of electrochemical energy systems underscores the need for safer design, supported by numerical modelling to predict failure modes and guide the development of more reliable materials.

Research projects should focus on materials sciences and in particular on multi-physics and multiscale modelling, numerical simulation, and data-driven or hybrid approaches that enable new insights into the performance of advanced materials in critical industrial components. Proposed work may combine simulation, experimental validation, uncertainty quantification, or design methodologies. Ultimately, the goal is to foster innovative concepts and predictive tools that support the development of safer, more resilient, and sustainable technologies in diverse application fields that improve the occupational health and safety of European industrial workers and emergency responders, in the context of the energy transition and climate change adaptation.

Possible research questions:

1. Advanced materials and worker/responder safety

- How can multiscale and multi-physics models improve the prediction of pollutant emissions during industrial accidents (fire, release, spillages…) or normal process, involving advanced materials or legacy contaminants?
- What material parameters most strongly influence the toxicity and dispersion of combustion products during emergencies, and how can they be quantified?

2. Substitution of hazardous chemicals

- To what extent can advanced or bio-based materials effectively replace chemicals of concern while maintaining performance and reducing risks at the source?
- Which modelling and simulation approaches best predict the long-term safety, degradation, and environmental behaviour of these substitution materials?

3. Wearables for responder protection

- How can material-integrated wearables (sensors, smart textiles, exoskeleton components) improve situational awareness and reduce exposure of emergency responders in dynamic incident environments?
- What novel material properties (thermal resistance, flexibility, durability) are required for next-generation protective wearables when exposed to extreme conditions such as fires or chemical releases?

4. Electrochemical energy systems (EES) safety

- Which failure mechanisms in electrochemical energy storage materials can be predicted through numerical modelling to improve system safety?
- How can data-driven or hybrid modelling approaches support safer design choices for electrochemical devices deployed in industrial or emergency-prone environments?

5. Multi-physics/multiscale modelling & simulation

- What combination of numerical simulation, data-driven modelling, and experimental validation yields the most accurate predictions of material performance?

- How can uncertainty quantification be integrated into multiscale models to ensure reliable predictions of safety-critical material behaviour?

6. Climate & energy transition context

- How will climate-induced stressors (extreme heat, wildfire conditions, corrosion from humidity changes) affect the performance and safety of advanced materials used in industrial settings?
- What material innovations can simultaneously support energy-transition technologies and reduce occupational exposure risks in evolving industrial environments?

1.3 Topic 3: Improving risk assessment and risk management practices using big-data, AI, and numerical modelling

Risk assessment and risk management are undergoing a fundamental transformation driven by the availability of large-scale datasets, advances in artificial intelligence (AI), and significant progress in numerical and computational modelling. Traditional approaches, often based on limited datasets, expert judgment, and deterministic models, are increasingly being complemented or replaced by data-rich, adaptive, and probabilistic methods. This evolution enables a more accurate, timely, and dynamic understanding of hazards, exposures, and vulnerabilities across multiple domains such as occupational safety, industrial processes, environmental risks, public health, and critical infrastructures.

The objective of the research call is to investigate the benefits of the use of big-data, AI, and numerical modelling to improve the relevance and accuracy of risk assessment and management or even to propose improved approaches using AI, big-datasets, digital twins or numerical modelling for risk assessment, auditing and risk-based decision making.

Research questions:

1. Big-data for enhanced risk assessment

- How can large-scale, heterogeneous datasets (sensor data, operational logs, environmental data, medical data, etc.) be integrated to improve accuracy and granularity in risk assessment?
- What methods can ensure data quality, reliability, and representativeness when using big-data for risk identification and prediction?
- How can real-time or near-real-time data streams be used to create dynamic and adaptive risk assessment models?
- What strategies enable interoperability and data sharing across organizations while respecting privacy, confidentiality, and ethical constraints?

2. Application of AI and machine learning

- Which AI and machine-learning techniques are most effective for detecting emerging risks, anomalies, or weak signals in complex systems?
- How can AI be used to quantify uncertainties, biases, and limits in risk predictions?
- What approaches can combine expert knowledge with machine-learning models to improve transparency and trustworthiness of AI-supported risk assessments?
- How can explainable AI (XAI) be integrated into risk management to support accountable decision-making?

3. Numerical modelling and digital twins

- How can advanced numerical models (e.g., CFD, FEM, agent-based models) be coupled with data-driven models to improve predictive capability of hazard and exposure scenarios?
- What is the potential for digital twins of industrial processes, workplaces, cities, or infrastructures to support continuous risk monitoring and predictive maintenance?
- How can model uncertainty and sensitivity be quantified and communicated within risk-based decision processes?

- What computational architectures and simulation frameworks are needed to scale numerical risk models to large, complex systems?

4. Integrated and hybrid approaches

- How can big-data analytics, AI, and numerical modelling be combined into a unified framework for multi-hazard, multi-domain risk assessment?
- Which hybrid modelling approaches (e.g., physics-informed machine learning) offer the greatest potential for improving reliability of risk predictions?
- How can digital twins be linked with AI to create self-updating, self-learning risk assessment systems?

5. Improving risk management and decision-making

- How can AI-enhanced models support risk-based decision-making, prioritization of mitigation measures, and auditing processes?
- What decision-support tools can help managers evaluate trade-offs between safety, costs, performance, and sustainability under uncertainty?
- How can AI-driven early warning systems reduce response times and improve resilience in critical infrastructures or industrial processes?
- What governance mechanisms are needed to ensure responsible, ethical, and safe use of AI in risk management?

6. Validation, benchmarking, and real-world deployment

- How should AI-based or data-driven risk models be validated against traditional methods and real-world events?
- What benchmarks, metrics, or testbeds are needed to evaluate the performance, robustness, and reliability of digital twins and numerical models?
- How can end-users (e.g., safety engineers, inspectors, regulators) be involved in the design, validation, and adoption of new risk assessment tools?
- What are the barriers—technical, regulatory, organizational—to the adoption of AI-enabled risk assessment practices?

7. Regulatory, ethical and cross-cutting Issues

- How can transparency, explainability, and accountability of AI-driven risk systems be ensured to meet regulatory requirements?
- What strategies enable human-AI collaboration in safety-critical decision-making?
- How can fairness, bias prevention, and inclusivity be guaranteed when using heterogeneous big datasets in risk assessments?

2 Call objectives

Scope of the call. The scope of the call includes research on the management of industrial risk, avoiding major impacts on the environment or society, as well as research on products and systems required to improve safety in industrial settings. Industries involved include, among others, the process industries, energy, dangerous goods transport, construction and operation of major infrastructure and services.

It is recommended that projects funded under this call will on average include:

- to 4 partners,
- duration between 12 and 36 months,
- with budgets between 20 and 200 k€ per project partner.

The call aims to fund mainly applied research and innovation projects carried out in universities and research institutes, though proposals from industry may also be eligible if they contain a significant research component. Interdisciplinary research is encouraged. Cooperation and joint activities between different consortia funded within the call will be encouraged. Research proposals which adopt a comparative approach (analyzing similarities and differences between different European countries, between different industry sectors, between large and small organizations, etc.) are encouraged.

General remarks

- The research teams within a consortium should include investigators of complementary scientific disciplines and research areas necessary to address the proposed research aims.
- Given the applied nature of the topics, the participation of stakeholders within the project (either as subjects of investigation, or partners contributing to the work) is encouraged.
- Proposals should contain novel, ambitious aims and ideas, combined with (in full proposals) well-structured work plans. The scientific methodology should be described (in full proposals) in sufficient detail to allow reviewers to assess its quality.

3 Funding rules

Funding organizations participating in the joint call will provide funding for a maximum of three years for transnational, collaborative projects, according to the conditions described in Annex 1.

The eligibility rules and funding principles will follow the regulations of the national/regional funding organization(s) to which the application for funding is addressed. Final funding decisions will be made by the national or regional funding agencies and research institutes. The scientific evaluation process will be made at a European level by a panel of independent experts.

Funding will be provided through direct contracts between participating SAF€RA funding organizations and the selected research teams. This means that each organization receiving funding is subject to the rules and regulations of their respective national/regional funding organization. Note that eligible costs and funding rates vary according to the national/regional funding organization (see Annex 1 for details).

4 Eligibility criteria

Eligible consortium structure.

In order to foster transnational collaboration, projects funded within this joint call will involve the collaboration of at least two research teams in two eligible countries. Please see Annex 1 for details of the funding available for organizations in each participating country.

Researchers requesting support for their project may submit either:

- A **transnational consortium pre-proposal**, comprising at least two partner organizations from two eligible countries;
- A **single-nation pre-proposal**, comprising one or more organizations from a single eligible country. In this case, the organization(s) accept the principle of collaboration with one or more other organizations from one or more other eligible countries. After evaluation of the pre-proposals, the Call Steering Committee will suggest grouping two or more single-nation pre-proposals into a transnational consortium, based on their thematic and methodological complementarity. Please note that there is no guarantee that appropriate matching can be found by the Call Steering Committee.

In the second stage of the call, full proposals are to be submitted by a transnational consortium, which must comprise at least two consortium partners from two eligible countries.

Furthermore, additional consortium partners, not eligible for SAF€RA funding, may participate in the projects on the basis of self-financing. Such partners should state the source of funding for their contribution to the proposal and the conditions under which their funding will be available.

Eligible organizations.

The funding scheme targets institutional collaboration: private individuals may not apply independently. Proposals are primarily expected from research teams from universities or public research/expertise organizations. However, some funding organizations participating in the present call can also fund researchers from industry (SMEs or large firms) or from NGOs[1] (see Annex 1 for details).

Other comments:

- Most funding organizations are only able to fund research undertaken within their country or region. Check Annex 1 for details.
- Consortia may not request all their funding from the same SAF€RA funding organization.
- The **duration of funding** requested should be compatible with that supported by the funding organization(s) requested during application. All projects will concern durations between 12 and 36 months. The funding durations requested from each funding organization may be different (but should be clearly specified in the response form).
- The **expected funding per project partner** is typically in a range between 20 k€ and 200 k€ (check Annex 1 for available budgets and acceptable project size for each funding organization).
- Some funding organizations are able to provide funding only if applicants are able to provide **co-funding** from industry or from another research funding organization. Check Annex 1 for details.
- The roles of each partner within the consortium should clearly add value to the objectives of the proposed project.
- The list of funding organizations participating in the call is provided in Annex 1.

[1] NGO: Non-governmental organization.

5 Application procedure

The joint call will use a **two-stage application process** with a pre-proposal mechanism for the first stage, according to the schedule outlined below.

Action	Date
Joint call is launched	4th February 2026
SAF€RA brokerage event (on-line with pre-registration)	12th March 2026 (10:00 – 12:30 CET)
Deadline for submission of pre-proposals	31st March 2026 at 16:00 CEST
Information sent to applicants on results of the first stage on validity and relevance. Requests for full proposals are sent to selected applicants, and collaborations proposed to single-nation applicants.	17th April 2026
Deadline for submission of full proposals	30th June 2026 at 16:00 CEST
National funding decisions transmitted to applicants	Early October 2026
Projects start	Beginning 2027

Pre-proposals (maximum of 5 pages) will be checked for validity and relevance by the SAF€RA Call Steering Committee. The Call Steering Committee will also propose possible cooperation between single-nation applications at this stage. A subset of the first stage applications, selected by the Call Steering Committee based on their eligibility and their relevance, will be requested to prepare a full proposal, as a transnational consortium, to be submitted in the second stage. Second stage proposals will then be assessed by the Evaluation Panel.

Organizations submitting a project are invited to use the pre-proposal form (maximum of 5 pages, in English) available on the call website. Applications in the first stage (pre-proposals) must be made by email to applications@safera.eu, before the submission deadline specified on SAF€RA's website. Applicants will receive a confirmation email within one working day. Applications should not be sent directly to the participating national/regional funding organizations.

Project coordinator. Researchers submitting a pre-proposal must designate a project coordinator, who will lead the consortium through the application procedure and is fully responsible for the overall project coordination. All communication with the Call Secretariat will be through the project coordinator, who should disseminate information to all parties to the proposal.

Confidentiality. Proposals and any information relating to them shall be handled in confidence and only be made accessible to the organizations involved in the funding and the experts involved in the evaluation process. Proposals shall not be used for any purpose other than the evaluation of the applications, making funding decisions and monitoring the project.

Projects selected for funding shall have a summary of their project published on the SAF€RA website, and all relevant project deliverables will be disseminated by SAF€RA, as a complement to dissemination activities undertaken by the projects.

6 Call management

Two boards, the Call Steering Committee and the Evaluation Panel, will manage the evaluation process of the joint call with the support of the Call Secretariat. The process includes the eligibility and relevance check of the proposals, the evaluation of the proposals and the final selection and award of research funding.

The **Evaluation Panel** is a panel of internationally recognized scientific experts within the disciplines identified as being relevant for the call topic, responsible for the evaluation of submitted proposals. Evaluation Panel members will not submit or participate in proposals within the call, and will accept a confidentiality agreement. The work of the Evaluation Panel will be organized so as to avoid conflicts of interest.

The **Call Steering Committee** is composed of a representative from each SAF€RA funding organization participating in the joint call. All decisions concerning the call procedures will be made by the Call Steering Committee. It will supervise the progress of the call and the evaluation of proposals. The Call Steering Committee will make funding recommendations to the national/regional funding organizations regarding the proposals to be funded, based on the final ranking list provided by the Evaluation Panel. It will accompany the entire lifespan of the Call, evaluates the performance of the projects and resolves potential disagreements which may arise during the lifetime of the projects.

7 Evaluation process

A centralized evaluation of the full proposals will be performed by the Evaluation Panel and the Call Steering Committee. Based on the result of the evaluation, projects will be recommended (or not) for funding by the organizations concerned. Note that the national/regional organizations will make the final funding decisions.

The **evaluation criteria** are:

- Compatibility with the call topics
- Scientific or technological excellence
- Expected outcomes (scientific & operational)
- Project implementation

These criteria and the associated weightings are described in more detail in the *Guidelines for evaluators* document, which applicants are free to consult.

Each proposal will be allocated to at least two external reviewers and one Evaluation Panel member who fit the profile of the application. Based on the proposals' ranking established by the Evaluation Panel and on available funding, the Call Steering Committee will recommend the projects to be funded to the national/regional funding organizations.

Only proposals judged to be of high quality will be funded. If the number of proposals considered to be of high quality, as judged by the Evaluation Panel, corresponds to a total requested funding which is smaller than the available budget, only part of the funds will be used. Projects not evaluated as being of high quality by the Evaluation Panel will not be funded in the context of this SAF€RA joint call.

For each proposal, the Call Steering Committee will communicate the final decisions and the evaluation report to the project coordinator.

8 Common SAF€RA activities

Reporting. The coordinators of all funded projects must submit an interim and a final (within three months of the end of the project) scientific progress project report to the Call Secretariat. All reports must be in English and use a common report form that will be provided. The research partners are jointly responsible for the delivery of the reports, and the Call Secretariat will only accept reports delivered on behalf of the consortium, via the project coordinator.

In addition, each project partner will be responsible for the necessary reporting to their funding organization according to national/regional rules in order to obtain and maintain funding during the lifetime of their portion of the project.

Project review. As a complement to the national/regional project review process, the transnational cooperation aspects will be monitored at a SAF€RA level. The project coordinator is responsible for providing concise reporting according to the requirements (publishable summary at project start, interim concise reporting and final reporting, participation in questionnaires). Any substantial change in an ongoing project must be reported promptly to the funding organizations involved. The project partners should be aware that changes might have effects on funding.

Progress seminars. Funded research projects will be required to participate once a year in a seminar organized by SAF€RA partners. The seminars will be organized so as to facilitate interaction between researchers from different projects and to disseminate research results to interested parties. Funding for travel of a project representative to the seminars (which will be organized in a location in Europe and last a full working day) should be included in proposal budgets.

Dissemination. Researchers funded within the context of this call will be required to acknowledge the support of SAF€RA and the specific funding organization in their publications, exhibitions, lectures and press information concerning results of SAF€RA-funded projects. In addition, electronic copies of all relevant publications and deliverables must be sent to the Call Secretariat.

A public database of projects funded within SAF€RA and the results of the research is maintained by the SAF€RA funding organizations. All research projects funded within this call must submit all relevant data created during the lifetime of the project to this database.

9 Support

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) are listed on the SAF€RA joint call website. In addition, all funding organizations participating in the call will provide assistance to project proposers in case of questions. General inquiries concerning the call should be addressed to the Call Secretariat, at call-secretariat@safera.eu.

Annex 1: Specific requirements of the participating funding organizations

The following tables provide information on the available budgets, funding durations and other requirements of each participating funding organization.

Applicants must contact the national/regional funding organization for further information on eligibility.

Concerning funding duration and available funding per applicant: applicants may request funding for a task included within a larger project, whose duration is less than the total project duration. In such cases, please identify clearly the scope of the larger project in which your requested funding is included and specify precisely the scope of the task for which funding is requested.

Austria

Organization	**Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)**
Contact persons	Maximilian Morgenbesser <Maximilian.Morgenbesser@ffg.at>
Eligible applicants	All legal entities in Austria are eligible for funding.
Budget	500 k€
Call topics	Topic 2
Funding duration	Between 12 and 24 months.
Other requirements	Consortia must include at least one company based in Austria. (For clarity, this means that a consortium consisting of one research organization outside Austria, funded by another SAF€RA member, and one Austrian company, funded by FFG, is possible.) Individual enterprises must account for a maximum of 70% of the eligible project costs (shares of affiliated companies count as one enterprise). Cooperation between a company and one or more research institutes: research institutes must account for at least 10% of the eligible costs. Obligation to submit in parallel to the FFG eCall system: https://ecall.ffg.at There is an additional annex requested on the national Level in the first stage, which must be written in English or German. Furthermore, applicants selected to proceed to the second stage of the call will submit a specific annex on the national level, which must be written in English or German. Projects must focus on advanced materials. The single-nation-proposal is not supported.

Czech Republic

Organization	Vysoká škola báňská – Technická univerzita Ostrava (VSB-TUO) – Czech Republic
Contact persons	Lucie Kocůrková <lucie.kocurkova@vsb.cz>
Budget	Person-months as in-kind funding for VSB-TUO researchers.
Call topics	Topics 1, 2 and 3.
Funding duration	24 months.

Finland

Organization	Finnish Work Environment Fund (FWEF) - Finland
Contact persons	Kenneth Johansson <kenneth.johansson@tsr.fi>
Eligible applicants	Research organizations and companies whose research may improve Finnish working life.
Budget	Between 20k€ and 150 k€ per project. Total amount of funding depends on how many applications FWEF receives and how they are rated in the evaluation (between 100 and 300k€).
Call topics	Topics 1 and 3.
Funding duration	Between 12 and 24 months.
Other requirements	Co-funding is required. Projects must include elements dealing with occupational safety, occupational health, productivity. The recommendation for funding from the Call Steering Committee does not preclude the final decision for funding that is take ultimately by the Board of the Finnish Work Environment Fund.

France

Organization	Institut National de l'environnement industriel et des risques (INERIS) - France
Contact persons	Bruno Debray <bruno.debray@ineris.fr>
Budget	Person-months as in-kind funding for INERIS researchers.
Call topics	Topics 1, 2 and 3.
Funding duration	24 months.

Germany

Organization	**Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und prüfung (BAM) – Germany**
Contact persons	Claudia Eggert <claudia.eggert@bam.de>
Budget	Person-month funding for a PhD candidate or Postdoc based in BAM (24 person-months)
Call topics	Topics 1, 2 and 3.
Funding duration	24 months.

Italy

Organization	**Italian Workers' Compensation Authority (INAIL) – Italy**
Contact persons	Patrizia Agnello <p.agnello@inail.it>
Eligible applicants	Italian universities or recognized Italian Research Institutes.
Budget	200 k€
Call topics	Topic 3.
Funding duration	24 months.
Other requirements	Co-funding covering 40% of the total cost is required.

Republic of Serbia

Organization	**Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation (MSTDI) – Republic of Serbia**
Contact persons	Vesna Spasojević Brkić <vspasojevic@mas.bg.ac.rs> Marijana Nikolić <marijana.nikolic@nitra.gov.rs>
Eligible applicants	Serbian accredited scientific research organization. List of accredited scientific research organisation: https://enauka.gov.rs/?locale=en
Budget	40 k€ (maximum of 20 k€ per year) for projects addressing either topic 2 or topic 3.
Call topics	Topics 2 and 3.
Funding duration	12-24 months.
Other requirements	Co-funding from companies is required. Proposals selected for funding will be required to submit their application in Serbian language. Serbian researchers within the projects team should be persons in teaching, scientific and research positions who are employed in institutions of higher education or scientific research organisations in accordance with the Law on Science and Research ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 49/19) and participate in the implementation of the Institutional Financing Program or other programs of general interest in accordance with the Law.

Spain – Basque country

Organization	Instituto Vasco de Seguridad y Salud Laborales (OSALAN) – Basque country
Contact persons	Mª Nieves de la Peña <mn-pena@euskadi.eus>
Eligible applicants	All legal or physical entities in the Basque Country are eligible for funding, as long as they have not been found guilty in legal cases related to occupational health and safety within the last five years, and have no debts due to the public treasury or the social security system. The organization must comply with occupational risk regulation.
Budget	200 k€ Funding per project per year between 10 and 50k€.
Call topics	Topics 1, 2 and 3.
Funding duration	12-24 months
Other requirements	In addition to compatibility with the call topic, projects must have some relation to occupational health and safety. Projects which are accepted for funding will need to prepare a summary of their proposal in Basque language or Spanish, including the title of the project, the objectives, the workplan, methodology and a detailed budget.