

European Forest Institute

Grant process G-05-2023
Pilots of long-term climate impact forest monitoring sites

Questions and answers

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#	Question	Answer
1.	Regarding the announced call G05-2023, the FORWARDS supersite pilot framework specifies that a supersite should meet certain minimal requirements, including long-term measurements of growth, soil water availability, and nutrient availability. We have recently established a new ICP-Forest Level II plot in northern Spain, with data collection (including tree growth, soil water availability, and nutrient availability) scheduled to commence from 2024 onwards. We would like to know if this plot might be considered a potential candidate for a supersite.	To qualify as a supersite candidate (or depending on the installations also as a supersite) it is a requirement that the long-term measurements for the site are available.
2.	On one hand, with the Grant submission guidelines it is pointed out that it is recommended to establish at least two forest monitoring sites that have the status of a supersite. It is also underlined that a candidate supersite would be a ICP Forest level II plot. On the other hand, within the general information of the project and the instructions within the Part B: Technical description it is noted that only one region may be selected for a project proposal. As we can understand, "one region" refers to both European (South-East, South-West Europe etc.) and biogeographic regions (e.g. continental, alpine etc.), is that correct? If so, would the project be disregarded as not eligible if it proposes the establishment of supersites (aiming "at least two") on two or more biogeographic regions (within the budget frame for one project proposal)? For reference, the reason for this question comes from the fact that within Bulgaria (where our project would take place) there are only three long-term forest monitoring sites,	"One region" refers only to the European regions (e.g. South East Europe). Different biogeographical regions (continental, alpine etc) may be included. If the sites cover more than one of the European regions (lots), one "core site" must be determined.

	as ICP Forest level II plots, each in different biogeographic regions and a fourth one, newly established. Thus, with the aim of establishing significant and meaningful forest monitoring supersites to contribute to the FORWARDS' aim, the limitation to one biogeographic region would not be optimal.	
3.	With regards to the answers #4 and #5 on the Published 24 November 2023 Q&A document, could you, please, provide information on the contracted airborne data provider? Relevant information in order to include their pricing within the budget and the field planning and coordination activities for our project proposal, such as name of the company, pricing, area of coverage per time frame etc.	AVT Airborne Sensing GmbH: https://avt-as.eu/en/
4.	We are planning on applying to grant G-05-2023 within our capacity as a group of scientists from a university, and somewhat confused over technical terms and who should be identified as what. We are acting as a single university, so we assume the coordinator is the organization (in our case, university) and there are no other participants. The power of attorney in this case is the rector, however, he is not in any way involved in the project, except as a signatory. Where do we detail the structure of our working scientists' group? Do we need to have a project coordinator? Or do you not need this detailed information?	The team composition (including the role) must be described under Section B.5.- Project Management (sub-section-Resources and capacity) of the Application Form (Part B).
5	There will be one post-doc who is not employed by the university, a natural person, how can we work her role into the project? Shall we include her role and stipend under personnel costs?	The team composition (including the role) must be described under Section B.5.-Project Management (sub-section-Resources and capacity) of the Application Form (Part B). Personnel costs must be included in the section B.6.- Budget of the Application Form (Part B). The budget and the costs therein must correspond to the implementation of the project and its activities.
6.	Can you please tell me how shall we calculate overheads at this call.	Indirect/overhead costs must not be included. Please refer to the instructions in section B.6- Budget of the Application Form (Part B).

7.	<p>As for the annex 4 A it's requested to declare if the: "Participant is a Public body, Public research organisation, Public higher education establishment, Private research organisation, or Private higher education establishment"</p> <p>We are a for profit organization. Please confirm we do not apply, according to your regulatory, to the any of the previous mentioned type of organizations (Public body, Public research organisation, Public higher education establishment, Private research organisation, or Private higher education establishment), and so we do not need to present as in the second form of the Annex 4A a gender balance plan.</p>	<p>Annex 4 A Gender Equality Declaration must be filled out separately by all the participants (including the coordinator) as listed in section A.2. of Annex 1 (Application form part A).</p> <p>In case the Participant is not a Public body, Public research organisation, Public higher education establishment, Private research organisation, or Private higher education establishment, they must mark "No" and then sign the declaration.</p>
8.	<p>Can we as a Ukrainian state scientific institution participate in this call?</p>	<p>Pre-assessment of a potential applicant in respect of meeting the eligibility criteria is not possible. All the eligibility information for this call is available at: https://efi.int/grantstraining/grants/G-05-2023. The eligibility criteria can be found in section IV of the call for grants and section 3 of the grant submission guidelines.</p>
9.	<p>Is it possible to take part if we will aim only on Focus 1?</p>	<p>Following combinations of focus topics are possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1, 2 and 3 together • 1 alone • 2 and 3 together <p>More information on this can be found in the grant submission guidelines.</p>
10	<p>We're interested in participating on focus-topic 1. Should we find a pilot case in the same country as us and then make a plan for its monitoring system respecting the guidelines?</p>	<p>The requirements in this respect are stated in the grant submission guidelines.</p>
11.	<p>We're interested in participating on focus-topic 1. The budget should be spread across the 3-years plan that we're supposed to make?</p>	<p>The budget and the costs therein must correspond to the implementation of the project and its activities.</p>
12.	<p>Is there a list of the recommended forests that are candidates for supersites?</p>	<p>The requirements for candidates for supersites are stated in the grant submission guidelines.</p>