



## **CALL TEXT AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **Call: Section 1 – Agro-food Value Chain 2019**

IA – Topic 1.3.1: Implementation of analytical tools and digital technology to achieve traceability, authenticity control of traditional Mediterranean foods

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## **IA – Topic 1.3.1: Implementation of analytical tools and digital technology to achieve traceability, authenticity control of traditional Mediterranean foods**

### **Challenge**

The Mediterranean traditional food products are generally recognized for their high nutritional and sensorial value, based also on local specificities and natural biodiversity of their sources, and on traditional know how and experience in food processing, preparation and nutrition requirements. Mediterranean biodiversity is outstanding comprising 15.000 – 25.000 botanical species, 60% of which are unique to the region. However, it is estimated that only 10% of the crop varieties cultivated in the past are still being farmed, mainly because of their low productivity. The valorisation of Mediterranean animal breeds and plant varieties, as sources of foods and natural bioactive compounds, requires their unequivocal traceability and characterization, based on state-of-the-art methods and technologies which univocally define their Mediterranean origin in a global context, as well as their quality and safety. Although several initiatives aiming at collecting molecular information about farming plants and livestock, and the derived foods, are currently going on, a comprehensive shared repository of digital information about the Mediterranean foods is still lacking. The creation of reference databases would foster the necessary harmonisation of the analytical methods and data validation among different laboratories, two stringent requirements for the creation of a trans-national authenticity and traceability system that specifically address the identification of animal breeds, plant varieties, geographical origin and production protocols characterizing the traditional Mediterranean foods.

### **Scope**

Proposals should focus on developing and implementing innovative solutions, technological tools and/or digital solutions and protocols to achieve traceability and confirm authenticity of Mediterranean food products (excluded Olive oil) aiming to detect fraud in traditional Mediterranean food products.

Proposals should focus on products with high added value, most exposed to fraud and valorise productions that have been discontinued but hold nutritional value and are important for biodiversity conservation. Proposal should also aim at creating trans-national networks of laboratories, validating and harmonizing protocols, sharing open-data on food products of the Mediterranean tradition, providing a robust support for certification and control bodies, and building capacity in key enabling technologies related to authenticity and traceability.

The proposals are encouraged to optimise the use of pre-existing databases and research infrastructures (with particular reference to those identified on the roadmap of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures - ESFRI) and the opportunities granted by big data management tools, thus ensuring interoperability, standard methods and enhanced networking.

Proposals should build on the outcomes of H2020 projects to develop an openly available harmonised set of terms and definitions for use in food authenticity and undertake stocktaking and analysis of existing data.

## Expected impact

Proposals should contribute to implement priorities set in the PRIMA SRIA and show the clear link of how expected impacts from the projects are going to implement the expected outputs indicated in PRIMA SRIA

The project results must contribute to PRIMA Operational Objective 8/ NEW AGRO-FOOD BUSINESS MODELS<sup>1 2</sup>

The project results are expected to contribute to:

- Development of efficient methods for assessing food traceability and safety.
- Increased added-value for Mediterranean food products linked to their proven biological and geographic origin, production protocols, processing technologies and low environmental footprint;
- Improve confidence of consumers and markets in authenticity of Mediterranean food products by implementing dedicated services;
- Foster joint integrative activities with existing data base networks and infrastructures in the health & food domain;
- Improve harmonization and data interoperability.

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<sup>1</sup> PRIMA SRIA Expected Outcomes Thematic Area Food Value Chain, Operational Objective 8 page 29.

<sup>2</sup> Annex 1 of the Annual Work Plan 2019 pages 114-117: Table linking AWP 2019 call topics expected impact to SRIA expected outcomes.

## Supporting information for the Section 1 Call for Proposals, Topic 1.3.1

<i>Type of action</i>	<b>Innovation Action (IA)</b>
<i>Total indicative amount allocated to this Call</i>	€ 6,4 million
<i>Funding level</i>	According to Horizon 2020 Rules 70% (except for non-profit legal entities, where a rate of 100% applies)
<i>Technology readiness levels</i>	5 to 8
<i>Expected number of grants</i>	Up to 4 (projects up to € 1,6 million each, – indicative amount)
<i>Expected duration of the projects</i>	36-48 months
<i>Eligibility conditions for participation</i>	Please refer to section <u>5.1.1</u> of Annual Work Plan 2019  The standard admissibility (section <u>5.1.2</u> ) and eligibility conditions (section <u>5.1.3</u> ) apply.
<i>Submission and evaluation procedure</i>	Two-stage application procedure. For the first stage, a short proposal (maximum 10 pages) must be submitted by the first deadline. Successful applicants in the first stage will be invited for the second stage to submit a full proposal (maximum 50 pages). A timeline for the submission and evaluation of applications can be found in table 9 of Annual Work Plan 2019.
<i>Evaluation rules</i>	The award criteria, scoring, thresholds and weightings for IAs listed in part <u>5.1.6</u> of Annual Work Plan 2019 will be used.
<i>Grant agreement</i>	PRIMA grant agreement (multi-beneficiary), based on Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement.
<i>Consortium agreement</i>	Participants in projects resulting from this Call for Proposals will be required to conclude a consortium agreement prior to the conclusion of the PRIMA grant agreement.