



## **CONCERT-Japan Research and Innovation Joint Call**

- **Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution**
- **Resilience against Disasters**

### **GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS and FAQs**

**Proposal Submission Period:**

Monday, 3 September to Thursday, 15 November 2012  
(deadline: 1 pm GMT and 10 pm Japanese time)

**Websites:**

<http://www.concertjapan.eu> (for Call Text and National/ Regional regulations, Guidelines for Applicants and project description template)

[https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert\\_energy](https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert_energy) (for online proposal submission, for the thematic area “Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution”)

[https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert\\_disaster](https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert_disaster) (for online proposal submission, for the thematic area “Resilience against Disasters”)

**Contact:**

CONCERT-Japan Joint Call Secretariat  
Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS)

Ms. Anna Boitard

E-mail: [anna.boitard@cnrs-dir.fr](mailto:anna.boitard@cnrs-dir.fr)

Phone: + 33 (0)1 44 96 47 14

Fax: + 33 (0)1 44 96 48 56

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. How to submit a proposal using the PT-Outline tool.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. FAQs.....</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1. What is an ERA-NET scheme? .....	8
2.2. What is CONCERT-Japan and what does it stand for? .....	8
2.3. What are CONCERT-Japan's aim and main activities? .....	8
2.4. What is the aim of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call? .....	8
2.5. What is the scope of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call?.....	9
2.6. Which are the funding parties of the Joint Call? .....	9
2.7. What is the funding principle of the Joint Call?.....	9
2.8. What is the role of the Joint Call Secretariat?.....	10
2.9. What is the role of the National and Regional Contact Persons? .....	10
2.10. Is a Joint Call proposal similar to an FP7 application? .....	10
2.11. Who can apply? .....	10
2.12. What does a CONCERT-Japan project consortium look like? .....	11
2.13. Can researchers from other than the funding countries join a project as partner?.....	11
2.14. What is the role of the project leaders and from which country should they come from? .....	11
2.15. What happens if one of the partners is ineligible? .....	11
2.16. How can I find Japanese and/or European project partners?.....	11
2.17. Is a Consortium Agreement required? .....	12
2.18. What can be applied for? .....	12
2.19. How much is the maximum funding amount available per project?.....	12
2.20. How long is the period of funding? .....	12
2.21. How can I apply? .....	13
2.22. In addition to the online submission procedure, should I submit a paper copy of the proposal? .....	13
2.23. I have technical problems with the PT-Outline webtool, what can I do?.....	13
2.24. How do I have to fill in the proposal budget? .....	13
2.25. In addition to the joint proposal submission to the Joint Call Secretariat, should I submit a parallel proposal to the funding organisation in my country? .....	14
2.26. When can I apply? .....	14
2.27. What is the evaluation procedure for the project proposals?.....	14
2.28. What happens if the two evaluators do not agree? .....	16
2.29. What is the indicative timetable for the eligibility check and the evaluation?.....	16
2.30. What are the requirements of reporting for funded projects? .....	16
2.31. Are there any other compulsory requirements for the funded projects? .....	17

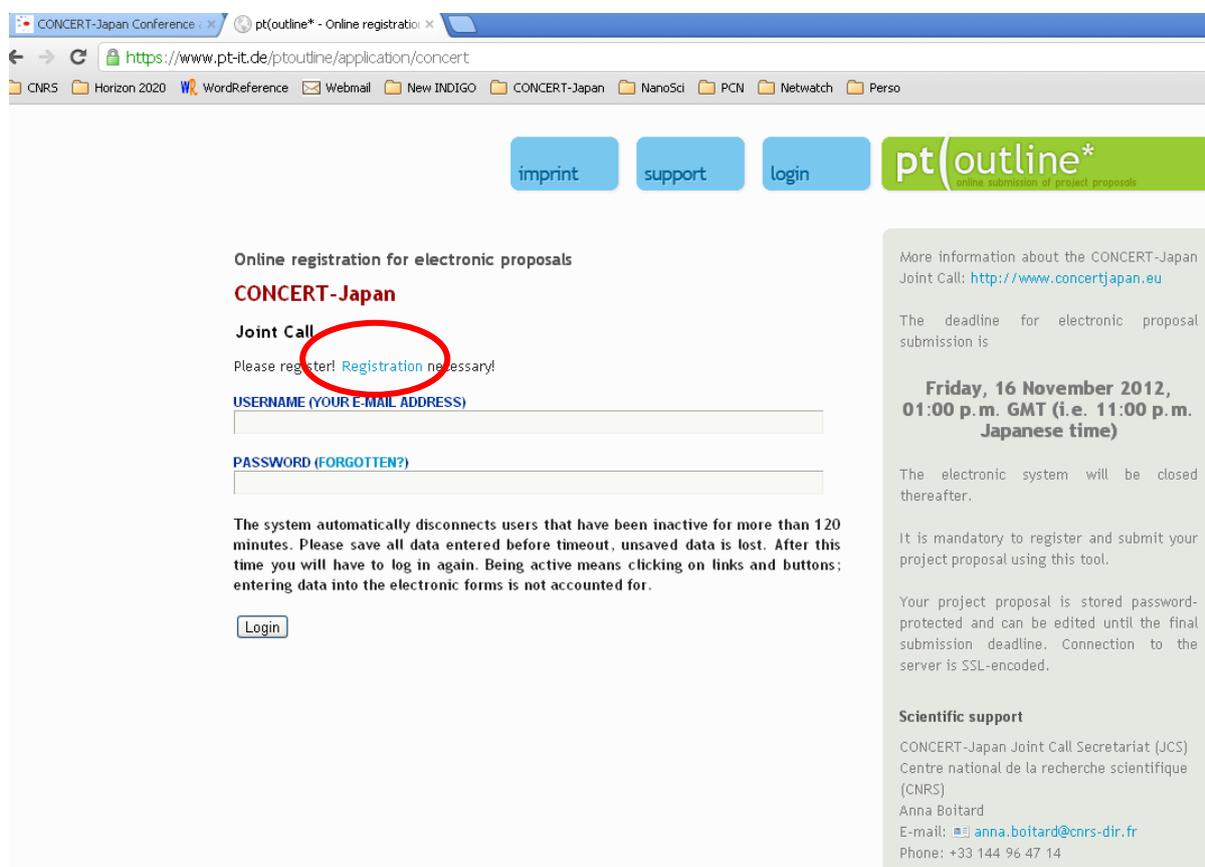
## 1. How to submit a proposal using the PT-Outline tool

To submit a proposal for the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call, you will have to use the online webtool PT-Outline at:

- [https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert\\_energy](https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert_energy) (for online proposal submission, for the thematic area “Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution”)
- [https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert\\_disaster](https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert_disaster) (for online proposal submission, for the thematic area “Resilience against Disasters”)

Only one of the project leaders (the principal project leader) should formally submit a proposal on behalf of the whole project consortium. The second project leader and the other project partners do not have to submit a separate proposal to the PT-Outline tool.

To prepare the proposal online, you first have to register by clicking on the blue **Registration** keyword.



CONCERT-Japan Conference - x pt(outline)\* - Online registration x

← → ↻ <https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert>

CNRS Horizon 2020 WordReference Webmail New INDIGO CONCERT-Japan NanoSci PCN Netwatch Perso

imprint support login pt(outline)\*  
online submission of project proposals

Online registration for electronic proposals

**CONCERT-Japan**

**Joint Call**

Please register! **Registration** necessary!

USERNAME (YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS)

PASSWORD (FORGOTTEN?)

The system automatically disconnects users that have been inactive for more than 120 minutes. Please save all data entered before timeout, unsaved data is lost. After this time you will have to log in again. Being active means clicking on links and buttons; entering data into the electronic forms is not accounted for.

Login

More information about the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call: <http://www.concertjapan.eu>

The deadline for electronic proposal submission is

**Friday, 16 November 2012, 01:00 p.m. GMT (i.e. 11:00 p.m. Japanese time)**

The electronic system will be closed thereafter.

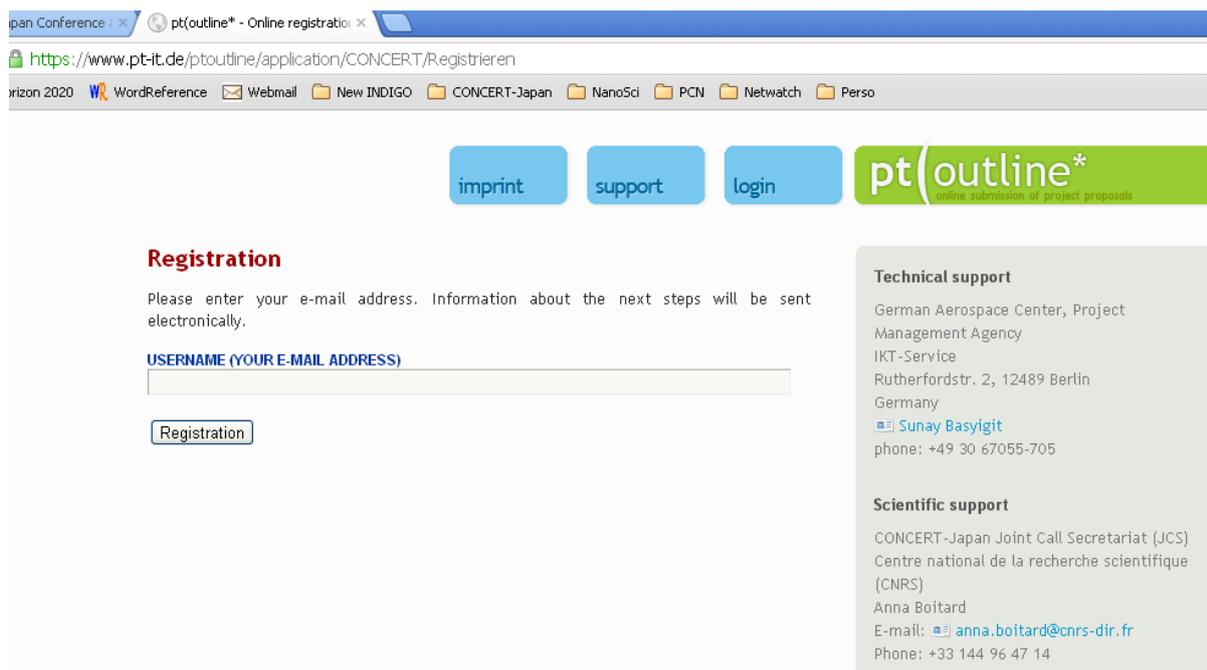
It is mandatory to register and submit your project proposal using this tool.

Your project proposal is stored password-protected and can be edited until the final submission deadline. Connection to the server is SSL-encoded.

**Scientific support**

CONCERT-Japan Joint Call Secretariat (JCS)  
Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS)  
Anna Boitard  
E-mail: [anna.boitard@cnrs-dir.fr](mailto:anna.boitard@cnrs-dir.fr)  
Phone: +33 144 96 47 14

You will then be guided to the **Registration page** where your email address has to be entered. A link to an individual password will then be sent to your email address. The **individual password will be displayed only once**; please make sure that you remember it during the whole proposal submission phase. The password is case-sensitive and cannot be changed.



After having logged in with the username (email address) and password, you will be guided to the **Overview** page which gives information on how to proceed.



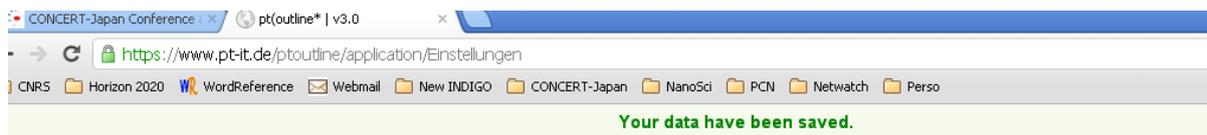
The following four pages need to be filled in online with information: General information, principal project leader, second project leader and other project partners, project description (see grey box on right hand side).

To start filling in the General information page, please click on the blue keyword in the grey box. This page requests information on the thematic area of the proposal including keywords, project title and acronym, duration and a short abstract. All fields marked with a **yellow star** are mandatory fields and need to be filled in.

To save the information, click on the grey **Save** button at the end of the page.

**Please note:** to save information, all mandatory fields on this respective page have to be filled in.

Your data has been saved when the green bar below is shown at the top of the page.

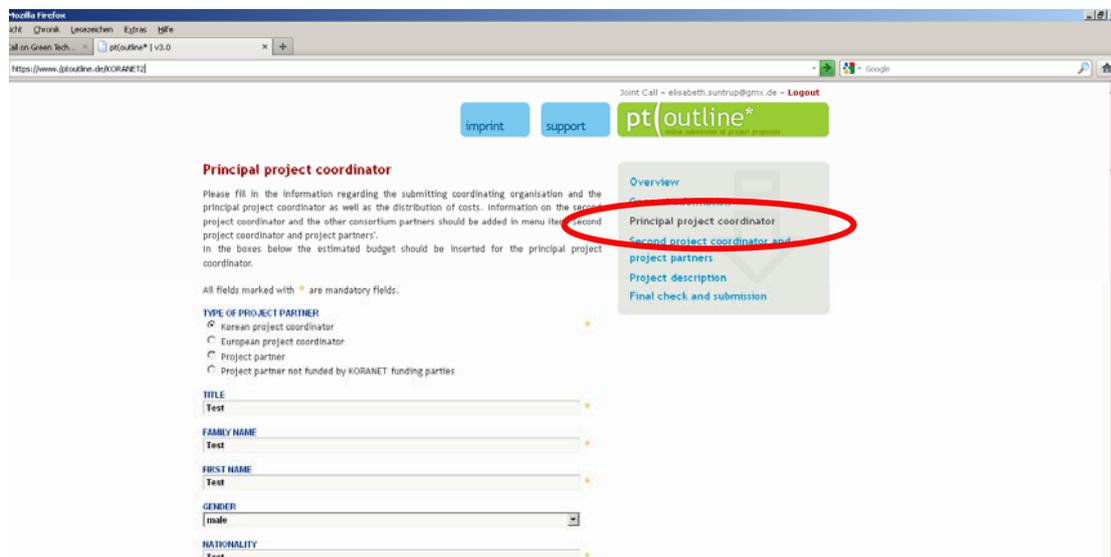


Your data could not be saved when red bars are shown at the top of the page. The fields that still need to be filled in before saving will then be highlighted in red.

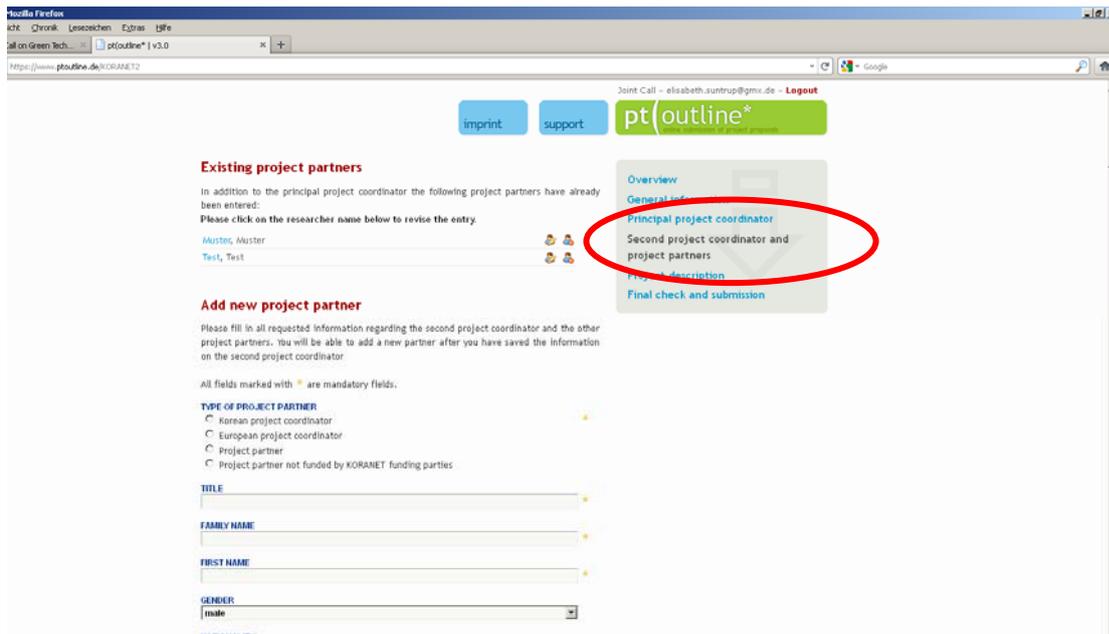


After having saved the data, please proceed to the next page **principal project leader**. Here, you will first have to fill in background information on the principal project leader only. Secondly, give the information on the principal project leader's requested budget according to the five sub-categories (travel costs, living expenses, expenses for the organisation of small scientific events, costs for research material and small-scale research equipment and personnel costs) for 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively.

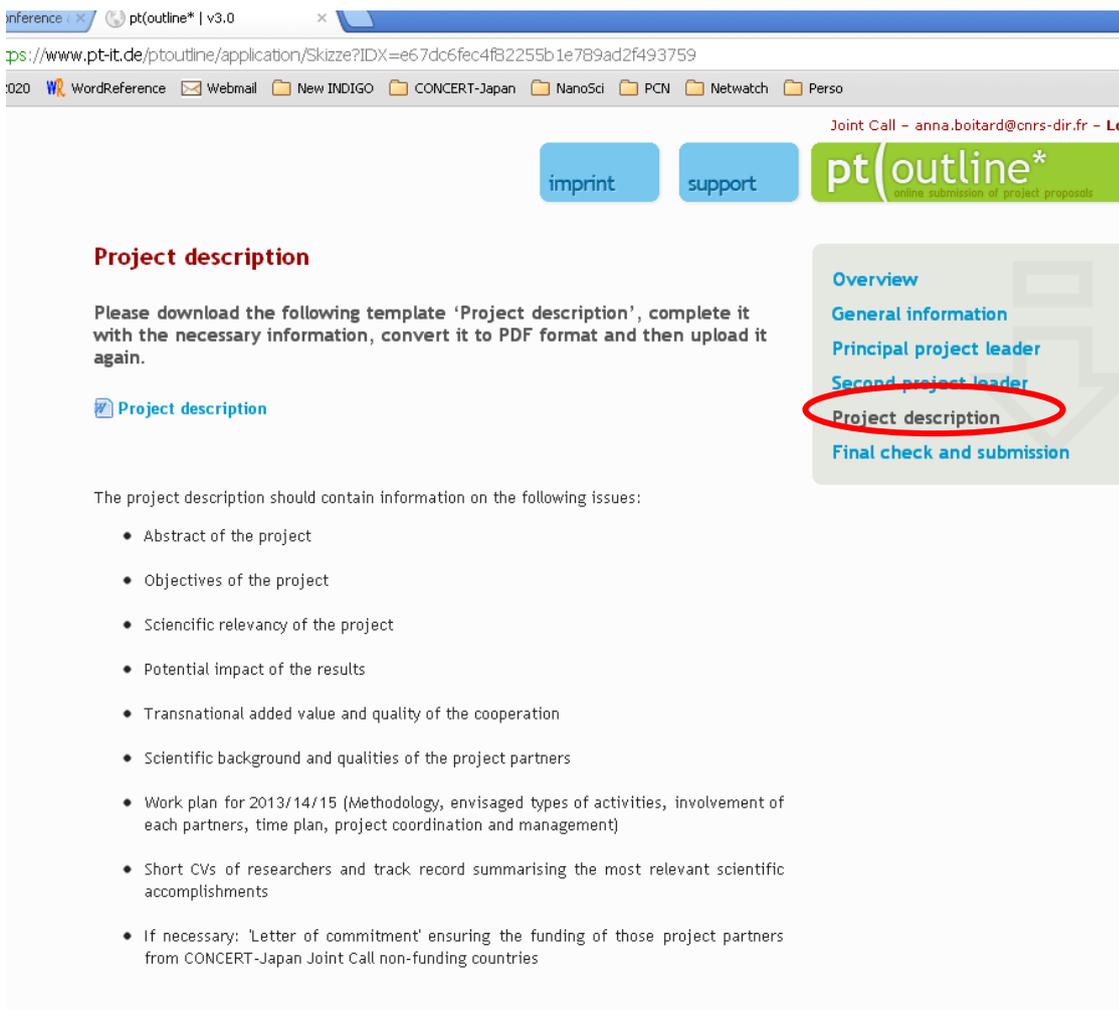
It is highly recommended to consult the national/regional regulations for the cost categories of each project partner! These can be found in the **Call Text**, available at <http://www.concertjapan.eu>, and in case of doubts, please contact your National or Regional Contact Persons (contacts in Part 3 of the **Call Text**).



After having saved the information, proceed to the next page **second project leader and other project partners**. In this webpage, the background and budget information on the second project leader and all other project partners should be given separately. Begin with providing information on the second project leader. After having saved the information on the second project leader, you will have the option to add information on the other project partners, and so on.



After having saved the information of the last partner, proceed to the next page, **Project description**.



From this page, you will have to download the **Project description template** (word format), fill it in and then upload it again with the required information. Please do not

forget to add short CVs of the main participating researchers involved in the proposal, including a list of the five most relevant publications of the last ten years of the participating researchers (max. 1 page per researcher). In case a project partner comes from a country other than the participating funding countries (Japan, the Flanders region of Belgium, France, Germany and the German Region of North Rhine Westphalia, Hungary, the Italian Region of Lombardy, the Italian Province of Trento, Norway, Slovakia, Spain, Romania, Switzerland, Turkey), a confirmation letter ensuring the funding of this project partners from other sources has to be added as well.

**Please note that only a PDF file can be uploaded. Other file formats will not be accepted by the system.** The name of the file you upload should not contain any spaces or special letters. The file name will automatically be changed during the upload process. **If you have already uploaded a file before, it will be overwritten by any subsequent file uploaded.**

To finally check all the information provided by you, go to the page **Final check and submission**. Here, you can download a data sheet preview and get an overview of the overall budget requested for your project.

To submit your project proposal please click on the yellow **Submit now** button at the bottom of the page. Only after having clicked on this button will your proposal be considered as submitted.

Please note that after the binding submission **NO FURTHER CHANGES** can be made to your proposal. You will receive an automatic email after successful submission of your project. Please save this email as a proof for the submission.

Joint Call - elisabeth.suhrup@gmx.de - Logout

imprint support pt|outline\*

### Final check and submission

Project participants	Public funding volume	Total funding volume	FQ
Test ()	24.000 €	24.000 €	100 %
Master ()	32.200 €	32.200 €	100 %
Test ()	16.400 €	33.200 €	90 %
	72.600 €	89.400 €	

The two files below include the information that will be submitted (a summary of the insured online and the project description). Download the two files to check for necessary revisions or amendments.

[Data sheet preview](#)

[Project description](#) 46.1 KB

Overview

- General information
- Principal project coordinator
- Second project coordinator and project partners
- Project description
- Final check and submission**

### Binding submission

To submit your project proposal please click on the "Submit now" button below. Only after having clicked on this button will your proposal be considered as submitted. Please note that after the binding submission **NO FURTHER CHANGES** can be made to your proposal.

Please submit your proposal and follow the instructions displayed to you afterwards. Deadline for submission: **Friday 06 April 2012 at 03:00 p.m. GMT (12:00 p.m. Korean time)**. The electronic submission system will be closed afterwards.

**Submit now**

Please remember that the deadline for submission is **Thursday, 15 November 2012** (deadline 1 pm GMT and 10 pm Japanese time). The electronic submission system will be closed afterwards.

The exact hours of the deadline on 15 November are:

- 1 pm GMT
- 2 pm in Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Slovakia, Spain and Switzerland
- 3 pm in Romania and Turkey
- 10 pm in Japan

## 2. FAQs

### GENERAL

#### 2.1. What is an ERA-NET scheme?

ERA-NET is an instrument that was introduced under the EU's Sixth Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (FP6). Its main purpose is to support transnational activities between EU Members States and Associated Countries in order to coordinate national research policies and finding approaches. International ERA-NETs such as CONCERT-Japan target a specific Third Country.

#### 2.2. What is CONCERT-Japan and what does it stand for?

CONCERT-Japan is a European Union (EU) funded project in the International Cooperation Activities under the Capacities Programme of the EU 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technology Development (FP7). The CONCERT-Japan project has started on 1 January 2011 and will last for three years until 31 December 2013. The core project consortium consists of 13 partners including organisations from European countries and Japan. The Coordinator of the project is The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK). CONCERT-Japan is designed to coordinate, structure and eventually enhance the science and technology cooperation between European countries and Japan.

#### 2.3. What are CONCERT-Japan's aim and main activities?

The aim of this project is to promote an effective and coordinated science and technology cooperation between European countries and Japan with a view to further expanding and harmonizing already existing cooperation between them.

#### The key objectives of CONCERT-Japan are:

- to enhance the understanding of the European organisations about the Japanese science and technology support system with a particular focus on international cooperation programmes to better communicate and better define targets in their science and technology cooperation with Japan,
- to share, spread and promote the application of good practices; to harness synergies, strengths and opportunities; while reducing duplications, and addressing weaknesses and threats with regard to the bilateral science and technology cooperation of EU MS/AC with Japan,
- to determine common future preferences, priorities and areas of mutual interest in EU MS/AC science and technology cooperation with Japan,
- to develop a sound joint science and technology cooperation strategy at EU level with Japan based on identified common elements,
- to perform a coordinated pilot joint call for joint funding between EU MS/AC and Japan based on the strategy developed,
- to use commonly developed IPR arrangements in the pilot joint call,
- to learn lessons from the implemented pilot joint call and to establish a common fully-fledged programmatic ground for a mid-term cooperation strategy,
- to promote ownership among the programme owners/managers of the joint strategy in order to ensure the durability of the programmatic ground.

#### 2.4. What is the aim of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call?

The goal of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is to bring together Japanese and European researchers to collaborate on a joint topic of mutual interest and, thus, pave the way for

long-lasting cooperation between European research institutions and Japanese partner organisations.

## 2.5. What is the scope of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call?

The CONCERT-Japan JC will focus on the following two thematic areas:

1. Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution
2. Resilience against Disasters

## 2.6. Which are the funding parties of the Joint Call?

The funding parties participating in the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call are:

- **Japan:** Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
- **Belgium/Flanders:** Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)<sup>1</sup>
- **France:** French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MAE)
- **France:** French Ministry of Higher Education and Science (MESR)<sup>2</sup>
- **Germany:** German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)<sup>3</sup>
- **Germany/Region of North Rhine Westphalia:** Ministry of Innovation, Science and Research of the State of North Rhine Westphalia (MIWF)<sup>4</sup>
- **Hungary:** Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (OTKA)<sup>5</sup>
- **Italy/Region of Lombardy**
- **Italy/Province of Trento**
- **Norway:** Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- **Romania:** National Authority for Scientific Research (ANCS)
- **Slovakia:** Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)
- **Spain:** Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO)<sup>6</sup>
- **Switzerland:** ETH Zurich on behalf of State Secretariat for Education and Research
- **Turkey:** Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)

## 2.7. What is the funding principle of the Joint Call?

The CONCERT-Japan Joint Call follows the *juste retour principle* whereby national/regional contributions to a “**Virtual Common Pot**” are assigned to project partners of that respective country only. In this model funding from national/regional sources is applied in a transnationally coordinated way.

This means that:

- funding of each country will be based on national/regional regulations;
- the maximum funding amount per funding institution will therefore differ between countries;
- eligibility of costs varies between countries.

The *juste retour principle* means that national/regional contributions to the virtual common pot are distributed only to project partners from that particular country. If a country has already spent the whole amount it originally contributed to the virtual common pot, the next ranked project with participants from that country cannot be funded

---

<sup>1</sup> FWO will only fund basic research.

<sup>2</sup> French ministries do not finance SMEs, but they might be able to participate under specific conditions.

<sup>3</sup> In the thematic area “Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution” the BMBF will only fund basic research.

<sup>4</sup> Region NRW will only provide funding for the theme “Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution”.

<sup>5</sup> OTKA will only fund basic research and only in the theme “Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution”.

<sup>6</sup> MINECO will only fund in the theme “Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution”.

from the call budget. In such cases, these projects, even if highly ranked, will not be considered eligible for funding.

The country contributions to the virtual common pot are listed in the Call Text.

## **2.8. What is the role of the Joint Call Secretariat?**

The Joint Call Secretariat is responsible for the implementation and operational management of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call. The Joint Call Secretariat is in charge of the reception and eligibility check of the proposals, the selection of the panel of evaluators, the supervision of the reviewing procedure and the communication with the applicants.

## **2.9. What is the role of the National and Regional Contact Persons?**

National and Regional Contact Persons (NRCPs) are constituted by representatives of the funding parties. The NRCPs are in charge of the implementation of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call and of its communication and dissemination at national/regional level. They will give applicants detailed information about the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call (eligibility, submission rules, PT-Outline, evaluation criteria, etc.) and they can also support them with searching partners for a consortium. The contact data for all NRCPs are available in the Call Text.

## **2.10. Is a Joint Call proposal similar to an FP7 application?**

No. The CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is not part of FP7 and thus follows separate rules and regulations for application, submission and evaluation of research proposals.

# **PROJECT CONSORTIUM**

## **2.11. Who can apply?**

In general, eligible beneficiaries of funding in the CONCERT-Japan JC will be **public and private legal RTD entities, higher education institutions and non-university research establishments as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)<sup>7</sup> and other kinds of organisations** depending on the regulations of each JC funding institution. The JC funding institutions will individually decide on the eligible beneficiaries (and the percentage of funding) in their countries/regions according to their national/regional regulations and restrictions.

In some of the European countries participating the call, **large-sized enterprises/industry** are allowed to participate as a project partner only in case own funding is brought into a project consortium. In such cases, a confirmation letter of the enterprise has to be submitted at the time of the proposal submission. In Japan, large-sized enterprises/industry can be eligible beneficiaries and can apply to JST for funding.

Since eligibility criteria are subject to national/regional regulations, all applicants are strongly advised to take a close look at the details given in the country specific requirements listed in the Call Text and contact the respective National and Regional Contact Persons prior to submitting a proposal.

---

<sup>7</sup> SMEs are enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding 50 million euro, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding 43 million euro (see: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/sme-definition/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/sme-definition/index_en.htm))

## 2.12. What does a CONCERT-Japan project consortium look like?

Each project consortium should consist of **at least 3 partners, one from Japan and two from two different European countries participating in the JC**. A partner should be a research institution or company. The number of partners of a project consortium should be appropriate for the aims of the research project and reasonably balanced in terms of multilateral participation. Each project should clearly demonstrate the added value of working together. A project leader may participate in only one project proposal. Projects with ideas at an early stage with highly challenging goals based on unique concepts are highly encouraged. To ensure the building of sustainable cooperations and the promotion of early-stage researchers, each project should involve early-stage researchers (max. 10 years after graduation from first degree or max. 5 years full-time research experience after PhD).

## 2.13. Can researchers from other than the funding countries join a project as partner?

Researchers/research teams from European countries that do not participate in the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call may participate as **additional partners** in a project consortium if they can prove that they have secured funding from other sources that allows them to fulfil their obligations within the consortium. A confirmation letter of the external sponsoring institution has to be submitted at the time of proposal submission.

## 2.14. What is the role of the project leaders and from which country should they come from?

Each project consortium should **choose two project leaders, one from the Japanese side and one from the European side**. One of the two project leaders (the principal project leader) should fill in the webtool on behalf of the whole consortium and submit the proposal. Thus only one online proposal per project is needed. A submission of a printed version of the proposal is not necessary. The principal project leader has to confirm that the proposal is endorsed by all project partners through ticking a respective box in the PT-Outline webtool.

## 2.15. What happens if one of the partners is ineligible?

After submission of the proposal, the eligibility of the partners is assessed on the basis of general CONCERT-Japan and specific national/regional regulations. This is an administrative step which does not contain a judgement on the merit of the proposal. In case one of the project leaders or a project partner is ineligible, the whole proposal will be rejected and the two project leaders will receive a notification by the Joint Call Secretariat.

## 2.16. How can I find Japanese and/or European project partners?

On the CONCERT-Japan website you can find relevant information on both Japanese and European organisations and researchers. An **Experts' Profiles Brochure** is available on <http://www.concertjapan.eu> with information on the academic background, research work and the contact data of researchers that have expressed their interest in participating in the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call and are open to be contacted by other researchers with the aim of forming a project consortium. You can also contact your National and Regional Contact Person or the Joint Call Secretariat. They might be able to help with further contacts or more information. In addition, researchers are advised to register at the CORDIS Partners Service, a free database for researchers run by the European Commission on <https://cordis.europa.eu/partners/web/guest/home>.

## 2.17. Is a Consortium Agreement required?

It is **strongly recommended** that project partners of each consortium funded under the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call sign a **Consortium Agreement**, listing the rights and responsibilities of each project partner, before the start of their project. The Consortium Agreement should cover specific Intellectual Property Rights issues such as access to background, dissemination, ownership of foreground, etc. and any other issues that might require special clauses.

## FINANCIAL MODALITIES

### 2.18. What can be applied for?

Funding can be applied for the following project costs within the thematic scope of the JC:

1. **Research material and small-scale research equipment:** Consumables, small equipment and subcontracting (for example for the fabrication of samples at a specialised facility) are eligible if its need is listed in detail and duly justified.
2. **Personnel costs**
3. **Travel costs:** Only travels to the countries participating in the JC and Brussels/Belgium are eligible. In case of additional partners (researchers who are from a European country other than those participating in the JC and who secure their own funding), travels to this country are also eligible.
4. **Living expenses:** Only expenses incurred in the countries participating in the JC, Belgium and other European countries (in case of additional partners) are eligible.
5. **Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events:** Room rent, catering, printing of conference brochures, travel and accommodation of invited external experts (that do not form part of the project consortium but are considered necessary for the success of the event) are eligible.

The **eligibility of all costs depends on the national/regional regulations** applied by each JC funding institution and should be calculated accordingly. Therefore, it is quite likely that not all JC funding institutions will be able to fund all of the aforementioned five cost categories.

**All project partners are advised to contact their CONCERT-Japan National and Regional Contact Person** for further information on eligible costs and national/regional specifications. **All of the above-mentioned costs are funded according to national/regional regulations.**

### 2.19. How much is the maximum funding amount available per project?

It is planned to fund about eight projects through the JC. However, it is intended to fund minimum two and maximum six projects in each topic.

In general, there is **no maximum budget to be claimed per project consortium/per project partner**. However, funding institutions may decide to set an upper limit that can be requested per project partner coming from the respective country. The national and regional regulations should therefore be consulted before submitting a proposal. Information on this upper limit will be included in the National/Regional Regulations that form part of the Call Text.

### 2.20. How long is the period of funding?

Projects will be funded for a maximum period of **two years** starting in April 2013.

## PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

### 2.21. How can I apply?

Application is done using the PT-Outline webtool at:

- [https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert\\_energy](https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert_energy), for online proposal submission, for the thematic area “Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution”
- [https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert\\_disaster](https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/concert_disaster), for online proposal submission, for the thematic area “Resilience against Disasters”

All requested information must be submitted **in English**.

### 2.22. In addition to the online submission procedure, should I submit a paper copy of the proposal?

There is no need to submit paper copies of the project proposal.

### 2.23. I have technical problems with the PT-Outline webtool, what can I do?

Go through the technical FAQs in the PT-Outline webtool, in the support section.

If the answer is not online, contact Mr. Sunay Basyigit, [sunay.basyigit@dlr.de](mailto:sunay.basyigit@dlr.de) or Ms. Anna Boitard, [anna.boitard@cnrs-dir.fr](mailto:anna.boitard@cnrs-dir.fr).

### 2.24. How do I have to fill in the proposal budget?

Each proposal will have to include a detailed budget per partner per year and per cost category.

The table below will help you to fill in the budget part of the online webforms. The budget has to be given in Euro. A link to official exchange rates for calculation is available on the PT-Outline webtool. If a cost category cannot be funded according to the national/regional regulations of a partner, “0” (zero) should be inserted.

2013 (1 April to 31 December)					
	Research material	Personnel costs	Travel costs	Living expenses	Organisation of events
First project leader					
Second project leader					
Other partner					
Other partner					
...					
2014 (1 January to 31 December)					
	Research material	Personnel costs	Travel costs	Living expenses	Organisation of events
First project leader					
Second project leader					
Other partner					
Other partner					
...					
2015 (1 January to 31 March)					
	Research material	Personnel costs	Travel costs	Living expenses	Organisation of events
First project					

leader					
Second project leader					
Other partner					
Other partner					
...					

For more information on each cost category, the national and regional regulations for each partner participating in a proposal should be consulted.

## **2.25. In addition to the joint proposal submission to the Joint Call Secretariat, should I submit a parallel proposal to the funding organisation in my country?**

Some funding organisations may ask the applicant to submit a parallel proposal to the funding organisation in line with the national/regional requirements. This can be done at the stage of submission of joint proposals to the JCS or after the evaluation of the joint proposals. These additional proposals submitted to the national/regional funding organisations may be evaluated or may not be evaluated by the funding organisation, according to the rules and regulations of the funding organisation. For further detail about each funding organisation's requirement with regard to proposal submission, please see Part 2 of the Call Text.

## **2.26. When can I apply?**

Proposals should be submitted from **Monday, 3 September to Thursday, 15 November 2012** (deadline of 1 pm GMT and 10 pm Japanese time).

The exact hours of the deadline on 15 November are:

- 1 pm GMT
- 2 pm in Belgium (FWO), France (MAE, MESR), Germany (BMBF, MIWF), Hungary (OTKA), Italy (Regione of Lombardia, Province of Trento), Norway (RCN), Slovakia (SAS), Spain (MINECO), Switzerland (ETH Zürich)
- 3 pm in Romania (ANCS), Turkey (TUBITAK)
- 10 pm in Japan (JST)

# **PROPOSAL EVALUATION**

## **2.27. What is the evaluation procedure for the project proposals?**

A four-step evaluation process will be implemented for the proposals submitted within the CONCERT-Japan JC.

### **Step 1: Eligibility check**

The Joint Call Secretariat and the National and Regional Contact Persons will check the eligibility of all submitted proposals taking into consideration the general Joint Call criteria and the individual national/regional criteria respectively.

The **general eligibility criteria** that will be applied are:

- Appropriate length and layout of the proposal (maximum allowed number of pages and use of template for the Project Description)
- Inclusion of all necessary information in English
- Eligibility of all project partners
- Participation of at least three partners from a minimum of two different eligible European countries and Japan
- Eligible thematic focus

- Eligibility of requested funding
- Inclusion of the confirmation letter of the external sponsoring institution (in case of additional partners that need to secure their own funding)

The **national/regional eligibility criteria** of the participating Joint Call funding institutions will be given in the National/Regional Regulations that form part of the Call Text (Part 2).

### **Step 2: Online evaluation of proposals**

The selection of the proposals for funding is based on an **international, independent evaluation by scientific peers**. Each proposal is assessed by two evaluators, one chosen by the European, the other by the Japanese partners.

The following **four evaluation criteria** are used:

#### ***1. Scientific excellence of the project and the project partners (scoring from 0 to 5 points)***

- Sound concept and quality of objectives
- Originality, innovative character, uniqueness of the research idea
- Scientific track–record of the partners/publications in scientific journals
- Scientific standing of the organisation the applicants belong to

#### ***2. Methodology and work plan (scoring 0 to 5 points)***

- Quality and effectiveness of the methodology
- Feasibility of the work plan (in relation to governance, adequate budget, resources, time schedule)

#### ***3. Expected impact of project results (scoring 0 to 5 points)***

- Impact of the project on the scientific field/community
- Expected exploitation of the results

#### ***4. Added value of multilateral cooperation (scoring 0 to 5 points)***

- Level of the collaborative interaction between project partners
- Added value of the international project consortium
- Sustainability of the expected collaboration
- Interdisciplinarity
- Involvement of early-stage researchers and gender balance

The **scoring system** is as follows:

- 5: EXCELLENT** – The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.
- 4: VERY GOOD** – The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are possible.
- 3: GOOD** – The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but improvements are necessary.
- 2: FAIR** – There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.
- 1: POOR** – The criterion is addressed in an inadequate and unsatisfactory manner.
- 0: FAILS OR MISSING/INCOMPLETE INFORMATION** – The proposal fails to address the criterion in question or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information

### **Step 3: Meetings of the Scientific Committees**

The two Scientific Committees (one per call theme) chaired each by an independent chairperson will **rank the proposals based on the online evaluations and internal discussions and recommend to the Funding Organisations Forum a list of proposals to be funded**.

#### **Step 4: Meeting of the Funding Organisations Forum**

The Funding Organisations Forum will take **the final decision on the proposals to be funded on a consensus basis**, based on the recommendations of the Scientific Committees. It will discuss and approve the recommended projects according to the ranking list and the available budget.

#### **2.28. What happens if the two evaluators do not agree?**

If the evaluation reports of the two evaluators are very different, the respective Scientific Committee will take a final decision by examining the project proposal and the two evaluation reports.

#### **2.29. What is the indicative timetable for the eligibility check and the evaluation?**

The indicative period for the eligibility check and the evaluations is from mid-November 2012 to January 2013. The funding decision should be taken in February 2013. The indicative project start is April 2013.

Publication of the Call for Proposals	Monday, 3 September 2012
Deadline for proposal submission	Thursday, 15 November 2012 (deadline of 1 pm GMT and 10 pm Japanese time)
Eligibility check	19 – 30 November 2012
Online evaluations	5 December 2012 - 8 January 2013
Scientific Committees' meetings	14-15 February 2013
Funding Organisations Forum meeting	Mid/end of February 2013
Information of applicants about the results of the evaluation	End of February/beginning of March 2013
Preparation of national funding contracts/funding decisions	March 2013
Start of projects	April 2013
Interim project reports	April 2014
Joint workshops	February/March 2015
Final project reports	April 2015

### **FUNDED PROJECTS**

#### **2.30. What are the requirements of reporting for funded projects?**

The principal project leaders of the funded projects will be requested to send an **interim report (after one year of funding) as well as a final report (after two years of funding)** to the Joint Call Secretariat ([anna.boitard@cns-dir.fr](mailto:anna.boitard@cns-dir.fr)) and the CONCERT-Japan coordinator ([concertjapan@tubitak.gov.tr](mailto:concertjapan@tubitak.gov.tr) and [filiz.hayirli@tubitak.gov.tr](mailto:filiz.hayirli@tubitak.gov.tr)). The reports should highlight the main (interim) results and outputs of the projects and any problems that have arisen and how they have been solved. A template for both reports will be prepared to ensure the comparability of information.

**Additional individual reporting to the national funding institutions might be necessary depending on national/regional regulations.**

### **2.31. Are there any other compulsory requirements for the funded projects?**

All partners of the funded projects are expected to set a certain amount of funding aside for the preparation and organisation of a Joint Workshop (one for each thematic area) at the end of the funding period (i.e. first three months of 2015) for the purpose of dissemination of project results.

The leaders of the funded projects are expected to organise the Joint Workshops jointly, and to inform the Joint Call Secretariat and TÜBITAK, as CONCERT-Japan coordinator, about the planning. They will also have to deliver an event report at the latest one month after the events have taken place.

The following regulations will also apply for all research projects that are funded through the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call:

- A copy of any academic publication or other form of output resulting from the research for which funding was awarded should be sent to the CONCERT-Japan Coordinator and the Joint Call Secretariat.
- In any publication of results of the research for which CONCERT-Japan Joint Call funding was awarded, mention must be made of the support received in the frame of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call (*“This work was supported by funding received from the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call on Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution/Resilience against Disasters.”*). The CONCERT-Japan logo and the internet address <http://www.concertjapan.eu> should also be shown on the publication.
- All funded projects should collaborate with the External Monitoring Expert during the monitoring and evaluation of the CONCERT-Japan Joint Call when such a need arises and such a request is made.