

EDF-2022-FPA-MCBRN-MCM: European defence medical countermeasures alliance

Budget

No contribution is envisaged in 2022 for this topic under the call EDF-2022-FPA. However, the Commission envisages to dedicate a total budget envelope of up to EUR 100 000 000 for the four years of the execution of this FPA. The budget, specific obligations and conditions will be set out in each SGA and depend on the specific type of action.

Objectives, expected results and targeted types of activities

Unlike other fields of defence research and development, medical threats are changing rapidly and require continuously new methods of diagnoses, assessment and treatment. Defence medical countermeasures (MCMs) must be kept up-to-date, available and able to respond to the continuously changing and novel health threats posed by CBRN. To master the evolving threats, the Commission intends to establish a stable and structured partnership with legal entities grouped in a consortium which commit themselves to:

- Create a long-term open, supportive and sustainable cooperation mechanism in Europe amplifying, connecting and strengthening EU (defence) medical research and development capabilities on selected medical threats; and,
- Contribute to the accessibility and availability of medical countermeasures and strengthen their disposability.

This partnership will enable the implementation of a multi-annual planning (roadmap) of research and development activities. The FPA will set out the framework conditions governing the award of grants to beneficiaries on the basis of the roadmap, specify the objectives, the nature of the actions planned, and the procedure for awarding specific grants.

The Commission envisages to dedicate up to EUR 100 000 000 during the four years of execution of this FPA. The budget and rules on funding will be set out in each SGA and depend on the specific type of proposed actions. Beneficiaries will be identified after the evaluation of the applications submitted in response to the FPA call. In a subsequent step, these selected beneficiaries may be invited to submit their proposals for the award of SGAs. Framework partnership agreements do not give the partners (i.e., FPA beneficiaries) any right to be awarded specific grants.

Targeted types of activities

Activities eligible for research or development actions to respond medical countermeasures. These activities entail a large scope covering, among others, innovation, research, design, testing and analysis.

The activities subject of the FPA are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Establish a technology innovation roadmap (multiannual action plan) for linking early-

stage capabilities to industry developments.

- Focus on research, innovation and development of defence medical countermeasures against CBRN threats as well as their integration into MS military forces, EU and MS health sector and civil protection mechanisms.
- Establish a well-connected network at European level in order to facilitate interoperability in detecting and validating CBRN threats and enlarge capabilities by a consequent cooperation and subsequent division of labour and capacities.
- Stimulate cooperation between European military and civilian research institutes and industry to initiate a core of European research base on military health issues.

The call aims at setting up a 4-year Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) with legal entities active in the area of CBRN for the period 2023-2026 and executed through specific grants covering the activities referred to in article 10(3) of the EDF Regulation.