
Call Details

Reference No.	CfP-FSD-AWP26-ENR-04	PMU contact	Denis Kalupin
Due Date	26/09/2025	Department	Fusion Science Department
		Status	Draft

Call for Enabling Research Proposals in the area of Materials (EnR-MAT) for the period of 2026-2027

Description:

Enabling Research (EnR) is a key ingredient of the EUROfusion Consortium activities as it provides a special path to bring new ideas and techniques into the programme in ways not easily achieved within the strongly goal-oriented main Work Packages (WPs). This Enabling Research call is open for any proposal relevant to the EUROfusion programme and distinct from the Work Package activities.

Topic area Materials (MAT)

This call addresses the proposals in the field of the **Materials**.

The research centres on exhaust and plasma-wall interactions, structural and high-heat flux materials, and advanced manufacturing techniques, with the broader goal of enhancing material resilience and manufacturability for next-generation fusion reactors. Expected projects should explore materials for plasma-facing components (PFCs), including tungsten-based alloys, and novel coatings, to improve erosion resistance and fuel retention properties. Additionally, there should be a focus on structural materials and high-heat flux materials, such as advanced alloys and tungsten composites, to improve thermal performance and resistance to neutron damage. Research into advanced manufacturing techniques should aim at producing radiation-tolerant ceramics and metal alloys, ensuring improved mechanical and thermal properties for these materials.

Project proposals submitted in reply to this call should focus on following topics.

- **Exhaust and plasma-wall interaction (materials-related aspects)**
- **Functional, structural and high-heat flux materials, including joints**
- **Material coatings (fuel retention / permeation, corrosion, ageing and manufacturability aspects)**

Nature of projects and eligibility criteria

Proposals must meet the following eligibility criteria in addition to general expectations of **scientific excellence, relevance, innovation**, and use of **state-of-the-art methodologies**:

- **Alignment with EUROfusion goals:** Projects must be broadly consistent with the objectives of the EUROfusion programme, specifically focusing on the development and improvement of **fusion relevant materials** as described above.
- **Novelty and distinction:** Proposals must Introduce new scientific or technological ideas relevant to EnR-

MAT, and focus on development of novel methods not previously used in fusion research.

- **Added value:** Applicants must articulate how their project complements or enhances the existing programme—e.g., via improved modelling capabilities, novel computational approaches, innovative diagnostics or materials studies.

Additional selection guidelines:

- Projects should be **curiosity-driven** but still firmly connected to EUROfusion priorities.
- Focused, well-scoped projects will be prioritised over broad, programme-like efforts.
- Proposals aiming merely to supplement WP resources will not be considered.
- Follow-up projects or direct continuations of previous ENR projects are discouraged unless strongly justified.

Scientific Monitoring and Reporting

A final report on the outcome of the project, outlining the main results, must be submitted at the end of the project. There will be a simple annual progress monitoring. All reports will be available to the SB, so if necessary, the corrections to the project schedule or scientific objectives might be requested to the PI.

Please submit your proposal through the Information Management System (<https://ims.euro-fusion.org>) by 26.09.2025 at latest.

Contact

For questions or clarifications, please contact:

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Proposals are expected against following active call positions

CFP-FSD-AWP26-ENR-04- 03

Projects 2026-2027

Description

Eligibility and Funding

- **Who Can Apply:** Teams of researchers from EUROfusion beneficiaries and Affiliated Entities.
- **Funding Available:** the successful projects will be funded according to applicable internal financial rules (see below). **The ceiling for the Consortium Contribution for each project is 250 k€per year. The financial support is subject to the extension of the EUROfusion Grant Agreement to 31st December 2027 and to availability of funds.**
- **Project Duration:** up to 24 months, starting earliest by 1st January 2026 and closing by 31st December 2027 at latest.
- **Evaluation Criteria:** Scientific merit, alignment with programme objectives, project team, and feasibility to deliver.

Submission Guidelines

Proponents are required to submit their proposals in accordance with the attached instructions and templates. Proposals must include:

- **Executive summary** (max. 1 page) - *provided through online application form (Abstract)*
- **Scientific proposal**, including project description and work plan aligned with EnR-MAT objectives including annual deliverables, and risk mitigation plan - *to be attached to the online application form ([following provided template](#))*
- **CV(s)** of main contributors - *to be attached to the online application form ([following provided template](#))*
- Accompanying Document (if needed) - *to be attached to the online application form ([following attached template](#))*
- **Project team** (annual commitments) - *provided through online application form*
- For proposals involving several beneficiaries - **Confirmations of commitments** - *to be attached to the online application form ([following attached template](#))*

Project rules on staff commitment levels

The minimum commitment for the **PI and collaborators is 6 person months (PM) per year and 2 PM per year**, respectively.

Since projects are selected partly based on the quality of the named participants, it will be important that participants are available for all projects in which they participate (all the projects may be selected).

Projects may include **open positions** and unidentified staff, but they **should not exceed 10% of the total project effort** and there must be a recruitment plan (in the Accompanying Document). Proposals exceeding this limit should provide a firm justification. All open positions **must be filled before 1st of July 2026**. The average salary cost system shall be used to determine the personnel cost in the proposal.

Requested **Equipment/Consumables/Services** and **Mission** budgets should be clearly detailed and justified. Mission costs will be assessed by the PMU before being granted.

Internal financial rules applicable for this position are:

PM 50% standard

Personnel standard

Eq./OGS 40% standard

Equipment/Other Goods&Services standard

Eq./OGS 40% Op. facilities standard

Equipment/Other Goods&Services Operation Facilities standard

PM 0% AR

Personnel Accompanying Research

Eq./OGS 0% AR

Equipment/Other Goods&Services Accompanying Research

Mission 70%

Travel costs and national subsistence allowance

Attachments:

The Call includes following attachments available for download at the EUROfusion Information Management System:

TEMPLATE_Scientific_Proposal.docx

TEMPLATE Scientific Proposal.docx

TEMPLATE_CV_(surname)_(name).docx

TEMPLATE CV_(surname)_(name).docx

TEMPLATE_Accompanying_Document_.docx

TEMPLATE Accompanying Document .docx

TEMPLATE_Confirmation_from_(beneficiary).docx

TEMPLATE Confirmation_from_(beneficiary).docx

Selection_Process.pdf

Selection Process.pdf

Personal_Data_Protection_Policy.pdf

Personal Data Protection Policy.pdf

Call_Document_(CfP-FSD-AWP26-ENR-04).pdf

Call Document (CfP-FSD-AWP26-ENR-04).pdf