



UNIONE EUROPEA

«Fondo Europeo Agricolo per lo sviluppo rurale:
l'Europa investe nelle zone rurali»



MINISTERO DELLE POLITICHE AGRICOLE
ALIMENTARI E FORESTALI



REGIONE CALABRIA



CALABRIA REGION

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

2014 – 2020

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

For the presentation of innovation ideas and proposals representative of the agricultural sector of Calabria to initiate a preliminary animation phase for the preparation of the tender for the establishment of Operational Groups (GO) of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on productivity and sustainability in relation to intervention 16.01 "Support for the establishment and operation of operational groups of the IEP" and partnerships in relation to intervention 16.02 "Support for pilot projects and the development of new products, practices, processes and technologies"



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HAVING REGARD TO

- Reg. (EU) No. 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006;
- Reg. (EU) No. 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulation (EC) No. No 1698/2005 (European Innovation Partnership - Articles 35, 55, 56, 57, 17 December 2013);
- Reg. (EU) No. 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No. 352/78, (EC) No. 165/94, (EC) No. 2799/98, (EC) No. 814/2000, (EC) No. 1290/2005 and (EC) No. 485/2008;
- Reg. (EU) No 1310/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down certain transitional provisions (second set of rules) on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), amending Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards resources and their distribution in relation to the year 2014 and amending Regulation (EC) No. 73/2009 and Regulations (EU) No. 1307/2013, (EU) No. 1306/2013 and (EU) No. 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards their application in the year 2014;
- Regulation (EU) No. 288/2014 Commission implementing the 25 February 2014 laying down detailed rules for implementing Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013 with regard to the model for operational programmes under the Investment for growth and jobs goal;
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 215/2014 of 7 March 2014 laying down rules for implementing Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the determination of milestones and targets in the performance framework and the nomenclature of categories of intervention for the European Structural and Investment Funds;
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 240/2014 of 7 January 2014, in the OJEU 74 of 14.3.2014, on the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds;
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 480/2014 of 3 March 2014 supplementing Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013;
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 807/2014 of 11 March 2014 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and introducing transitional provisions;



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- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 808/2014 of 17 July 2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD);
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 809/2014 of 17 July 2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No. 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the integrated administration and control system, rural development measures and cross-compliance;
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 907/2014 of 11 March 2014 supplementing Regulation (EU) No. 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to paying agencies and other bodies, financial management, clearance of accounts, securities and use of euro;
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 908/2014 of 6 August 2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No. 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to paying agencies and other bodies, financial management, clearance of accounts, rules on checks, securities and transparency;
- Commission Decision C (2015) 8314 final of 20 November 2015, which approved the Rural Development Programme (RDP) for the purpose of granting assistance from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, for the programming period 2014-2020;
- Regional Committee Resolution No. 4 of 18 January 2016 adopting the 2014-2020 RDP of the Calabria Region;
- Resolution of the Regional Council of Calabria No. 99 of 23 February 2016 to approve the 2014-2020 RDP of the Calabria Region;
- Selection criteria of the operations of the 2014-2020 RDP of the Calabria Region, approved by the Monitoring Committee of 12/02/2016;
- Commission Communication C (2014) 3282/2 " Framework for state aid for research and development and innovation";
- Commission Regulation (EU) No. 702/2014 of 25 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1857/2006;
- Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of European Union to *de minimis* aid;
- Law no. 24 of the Region Calabria of 17 August 2009 "Promotion of scientific research and technological innovation."

All the above considered, an expression of interest preliminary to the activation of the interventions provided for innovation under sub-measures 16.1 and 16.2 is initiated

1) ADMINISTRATION

Calabria Region

Managing Authority of the Calabria Region 2014-2020 RDP

Dipartimento Agricoltura e Risorse Agroalimentari - Department of Agriculture and Agri-food Resources

Cittadella Regionale – Germaneto – Viale Europa

88100 Catanzaro

www.calabriapsr.it

2) INTRODUCTION

The Department of Agriculture and Agri-food Resources, in the context of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and in line with the provisions contained in the same Programme and in the individual Measure Fiches, intends to launch an expression of interest in preparation for publication of Notices under measures 16.1 "support for the establishment and operation of operational groups of the IEP" and 16.2 "Support for pilot projects and the development of new products, practices, processes and technologies".

The present call for expressions of interest has merely declaratory value and does not generate, at present, subjective rights for individuals who participate nor a contractual obligation for the Regional authority

3) OBJECT OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

With the present expression of interest the Calabria Region intends to undertake careful analysis and identification of the real innovation needs of the regional territory by creating favourable conditions to encourage and facilitate the process of innovation and use of the available tools. This survey, being preliminary to the publication of notices for sub-measures 16.1 and 16.2, aims on the one hand to gather innovation ideas and proposals that are appropriate for Calabria agriculture through collection of the needs for innovation expressed by agricultural and forestry holdings and, by agri-food businesses (Annex B) and, on the other hand, make a survey of the innovation offer already available in the world of research and innovation to structure an "Offer Catalogue of innovation in agriculture, agri-food and forestry" (Annex C) as a tool to be used to address the innovation needs that will be indicated by the agriculture, rural development and forestry sectors.

The final objective of this expression of interest is:

- to collect proposals for innovation in the field of agri-food research, including on inter-regional scale, in order to promote, in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in the food chain, the application/introduction of innovations resulting from research and experimentation undertaken in the past and give concrete answers to agri-food and forestry businesses encouraging their competitiveness and sustainability, as well through adaptation and introduction of new products, practices, processes and technologies existing and established, but not yet used;
- to create value added and favour a closer relationship between research and agricultural practice by encouraging a more widespread application of available innovation tools;

- to stimulate the introduction of new research and experimentation consistent and in synergy with the 5 Technological paths for the Agri-food sector emerged within the "2014-2020 Regional Strategy for Innovation and Intelligent Specialisation" (S3 Calabria).

The received participation applications will give rise to a phase of assessment and analysis of project ideas both in terms of demand for innovation and offer of innovation to be used as the basis to operate the most appropriate strategic choices for the publication of Notices for sub-measures 16.1 and 16.2.

4) RECIPIENTS

Recipients of this notice are research entities/experts and of the agricultural, agri-food and forestry sectors, in particular:

- Agricultural, agri-food and forestry enterprises, individually or collectively;
- Producer organisations;
- Inter-professional organisations;
- Research organisations and/or experimentation centres, including universities;
- Public and/or private woodland owners and managers and their associations.

Those involved in other sectors whose role is functional to the realisation of innovative ideas may also submit proposals.

5) AREAS OF INTEREST

The areas of interest of project proposals should primarily focus on:

- a. the development of new agricultural and forestry products able to improve product positioning on the market and carry superior healthiness and/or quality, including product conservation and packaging;
- b. the development of new agricultural practices (eco-friendly farming practices, soil management) or forestry practices to improve the use of production factors and the sustainable management of holdings;
- c. the development of new agri-food processes and technologies that improve the use of raw materials, the sustainable management of businesses, product positioning the market and/or higher quality of food products, including product preservation and packaging.

The objective of the present expression of interest is to initiate a fact-finding phase of existing demand for and supply of innovation in order to define the most appropriate strategic options. Therefore, it is possible to cover other topics on condition that such topics are compatible with the priorities set in the RDP and the objectives of the EIP established by article 55 of Reg. (EU) 1305/2013.

6) SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

To participate in this expression of interest, the interested parties must submit an application to in accordance with the template in Annex A, signed by the legal representative of the company and/or institution wishing to participate and the legal representatives of all subjects in the case of joint application.

Together with **Annex A**, the interested parties must submit:



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- 1- **In the case of agricultural, agri-food and forestry enterprises and/or institutions expressing a need for innovation:** a "Project Idea" drawn up according to **Annex B**.
- 2- **In the case of qualified research subjects:** the description of the innovation or research prepared according to the format in **Annex C** in order to analyse the issues and to structure the "Offer Catalogue of innovation in agriculture, agri-food and forestry" as a tool to be used for the respond to innovation needs that will arise in agriculture, rural development and forestry.

Documentation must be submitted to the Managing Authority of the 2014-2020 RDP of Calabria Region no later than **15.2.2017** from the date of publication of this expression of interest on the website www.calabria.it. *Questo non mi pare abbia senso se si dà la scadenza fissa del 15 febbraio 2017*

The submission of the document will be made by the interested parties exclusively by certified mail to the following address: **adg.psrcalabria@pec.regione.calabria.it** under the following subject: **“Expression of interest preliminary to the activation of Measure 16 - Sub-measures 16.1 and 16.2 – 2014-2020 RDP”**.