

2nd Call for Joint Experiments

IRPWIND Project

Rules and Conditions

December 2016

This document contains the rules, conditions and eligibility governing the process to select and perform joint experiments under IRPWIND project, funded under the EC FP7 programme. Rules shall stimulate cooperation and alignment of nationally financed activities and be of benefit for at least three institutional participants and the EERA JP WIND members.

This report mainly offers information about how to be eligible for the Joint Experiments Call and about the rules on how to run the experiment in a Research Infrastructure by a consortium of several partners. The Joint Experiments is a different model of collaborative work program compares to previous experiences as for example MARINET. This characteristic is making more difficult to have a complete set of rules and conditions that will suit all parties. Thus, few reviews and changes are expected before obtaining a final document.

The joint use of European research facilities shall be carried out in a strategically focused and coordinated way, in which selected nationally operated facilities are employed to run specific high value carefully designed and chosen experiments, to ultimately support coordinated joint research among EERA JP WIND members.

To create this document there has been done an analysis of similar existing schemes from other Research Infrastructures networks supported by the European Union [1]. In particular, information was analyzed from MARINET project (Marine Renewables Infrastructure Network for Emerging Energy Technologies) [2], HIDRALAB project [3] and EU-SOLARIS project [4]. This report is mainly based on the document “Summary of Rules & Conditions” from MARINET project funded under the EC FP7 programme.

These rules have been formulated by the IRPWIND project based in being consistent with the EC grant agreement. In case of any conflict, the IRPWIND grant agreement will take precedence.

Ref:

[1] **Energy and Engineering. Networks of Research Infrastructures supported by the European Union**

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/pdf/thematic/KI0414647ENE-energy.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none>

[2] **Transnational Access. Summary of Rules & Conditions. MARINET.**

http://www.fp7-marinet.eu/public/docs/MARINET_TA_Summary_of_Rules_and_Conditions.pdf

[3] **Transnational Access to HYDRALAB major Research Infrastructures.** <http://ciemlab.upc.edu/projects/hydralab-1/rules-1>

[4] **Access Rules for EU_SOLARIS. Internal Deliverable 2.6. May 2015**

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1. Introduction

WP3 - Research Infrastructures as part of the IRPWIND project has the general objective of promoting alignment plus focusing of national research activities through joint experiments carried out in European research facilities and the effective joint use of European research facilities.

The focus and alignment will be gained by means of funding selected strategic joint experiments, including infrastructure use, at chosen national facilities supporting national R&D efforts. The joint experiments will be proposed and performed by a consortium of **at least three partners** from IRPWIND project and EERA JP WIND members.

The promotion will be enhanced through the creation of awareness about existing facilities and their specific characteristics, the application of common and transparent access procedures to perform experiments, with the selection of adequate facilities and offering the required support, both for the host and the guests. Synergy and effectiveness will be gained by increasing networking about data results from the experiments performed and exchange of best practices among all EERA JP WIND members.

Along the whole IRPWIND project two calls for Joint Experiments Proposals will be made. Best applications will be selected by merits reasons according to the technical criteria proposed and they will be granted for financial support. The first call will aim to select the three best experiments as a pilot action. More experiments will be carried out as budget allows so. Prioritization for selecting the most urgent and relevant experiments in the European context was agreed within the IRPWIND project partners and contrasted with EERA JP WIND members. The second call will open the technical scope for joint experiments, expecting to have a larger diversity of them and enforcing the coordination among different research facilities to create higher value of results.

Creation of the Rules & Conditions for joint experiments shall stimulate cooperation and alignment of nationally financed activities and be of benefit for at least three institutional participants including EERA JP WIND members. Alignment with the EERA JP WIND programme objectives will be given priority.

2. Eligibility

To be eligible and benefit from joint experiment and access to research infrastructures, a User Group (a **team of at least three organizations**, led by an IRPWIND partner as coordinator of the proposal) must satisfy the following conditions:

- I. The User Group coordinator has to be an IRPWIND project partner and all other users can work either in an institution (i.e. company of any size, research center, educational body etc.) from EERA JP WIND platform or from IRPWIND project.
- II. The User Group must be entitled to disseminate the Foreground (information and results they have generated under the access project along the Joint Experiments - see Dissemination section below in relation to this).

- III. The revised IRPWIND DoW (16-10-2015) is considering the funding of EERA JP WIND members activities in the Joint Experiments. In this second call it will be possible to integrate in the consortium institutions from the EERA JP WIND programme subcontracted by the IRPWIND partners participating in that proposal.

There is a possibility for users who are not EERA JP WIND members or from outside the EU (Member States and Associated States), to apply as part of a User Group as far as they have their own funding.

Additionally, in this Second Call a special opportunity it is offered for developing projects on “**Open Data Set**” (ODS). These should be projects in which **one or several organizations** will create a Data Set to be used openly by all EERA JP WIND members. In contrast with the Joint Experiments, these projects are focusing on creating an ODS with already existing data. No experiments will be performed. The data can come from different sources meaning real sites, machines, equipment and/or infrastructures in real operation, but also it can come from scaled set ups or prototype projects performed as experiments in laboratories and/or test facilities. The proposals have to explain the convenience of creating such ODS, describing the way in which the users will have access to the data and the manner to effectively use the data provided. Special relevance will have the expected impact of such data for ongoing research activities in the industry and research community.

3. Applications

Users’ applications for joint experiments will include at least the following current, adequate and detailed information:

- A detailed description of the Joint Experiment proposed indicating the Research Infrastructures required for the project.
- A detailed description of the Research Infrastructures needed, as well as all other equipments necessary for such experiment.
- Description of all the participants (researchers, scientist and/or students) who will be involved in the experiment, including their nationalities, positions, organisations, employers, experience and any other relevant characteristics.
- An estimate of the required time to perform the experiment proposed.
- The assistance and services related to the experiment proposed that will be required to the Access Provider in terms of local staff and/or devices.
- Full description of any necessary material including samples, specifying whether they shall be provided by the User or by the Access provider.
- The proof of compliance with all applicable legal obligations, for example related to HSE, VISA etc., including any local rules
- Proof of **any required** insurance. This requirement will apply when the facilities where the experiments will be performed, or the equipment to be used, requires specific type of insurance.

- The confirmation to abide the rules and regulations of IRPWIND project agreement, for example related to confidentiality, intellectual property rules, Access rights, dissemination of results etc.
- Any potential risk(s) related to the Access and the type of experiment proposed.

Applications would be submitted when IRPWIND project issues a Call for Joint Experiment proposals. Applications have to be submitted by the proposal coordinator to the WP3 Research Infrastructures (CENER) contact person in the IRPWIND project.

Applicants shall provide additional information during the evaluation process of the application if they are requested to do it.

Template for Application Forms will be provided by the WP3 Research Infrastructures coordinator.

4. Selection Priorities

The process to evaluate and select the joint experiments will consider the following points:

- Scientific merit
- Quality of the project
- Innovation of the project
- Detailed definition of Test Plan
- Competence of the applicants
- Cooperation between several research groups from European states
- Compatibility with EERA WIND SRA
- Support SET-Plan priorities
- Sharing of different national Research Infrastructures
- Stimulation of cooperation and alignment of nationally financed activities
- Creating open access dataset of value for the European wind energy research and industrial sector

One of the main priorities is that the proposed experiment should foster cooperation between several research groups from several European states, and contribute to the alignment and support of nationally financed projects. **Priority will be given to the joint experiments that will have direct impact in national research activities.**

Table 1 Technical Evaluation criteria

EXCELLENCE	IMPACT	IMPLEMENTATION
Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the experiment.	Enhancing national programmes aligned with European targets.	Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources.
Higher number of institutions participating and combining several research facilities in the same experiment.	Creating larger collaborative net for common objectives. Powering synergies among Research Infrastructures (RI).	Increasing the technical capacity of research groups plus novel validation methodologies by using combined RI.
Clarity and quality of knowledge sharing among the participants in light of the experiments proposed.	To improve complementarity among national research programmes and European programmes	Suitability of the management structure and procedures, including quality management and risk management.
Quality of test procedures, data collection and results format.	Effectiveness of the proposed measures for open access of the results.	Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organizations and institutional commitment.
Weight: 50%, 1 st priority at ex equo	Weight: 30%, 2 st priority at ex equo	Weight: 20%, 3 st priority at ex equo
Grade 0-3 Threshold: 2	Grade 0-3 Threshold: 2	Grade 0-3 Threshold: 2

Table 2 Grading score for each proposal

GRADES	VALUE
0	Out of Scope
1	Sufficient
2	Good
3	Excellent

5. Technical Committee (TC)

The TC was created during the IRPWIND project kick-off meeting at Barcelona. It was agreed that the TC is composed of all EERA JP WIND Management Board members, consisting of all the sub-programme coordinators.

The Technical Committee will approve the funding of the selected proposals in the frame of the IRPWIND project, and in accordance and compliance with all the requisites and rules stated for the calls.

The TC will revise and approve the process and criteria to select the proposals for joint experiments based on scientific merit, i.e. evidence of a rigorous test plan, quality of the project and competence of the applicants.

The TC will evaluate the results after each experiment and the whole procedure at the end of the program.

6. Legal framework

If Access to the proposed Research Infrastructure requires special conditions, then it will be regulated by a legal framework. To this extent, signature of an *Access Agreement* containing all the legal terms related to the Access is recommended. The *Access Agreement* will define the rights and obligations of all the Parties involved in the joint experiment. The rights and obligations shall not collide with the IRPWIND project and EERA JP WIND regulations, especially to those that regulate the background and foreground information for joint experiments.

This *Access Agreement* will cover, at least, intellectual property rights (and industrial property rights whenever applicable), data protection, confidentiality, liability and eventual fees to be paid by IRPWIND and/or the User. In general, the property rights policy adopted by IRPWIND will be applied.

This *Access Agreement* will also delimitate the actions to be undertaken, the resources that will need to be allocated, the length of planned User stays (if any), the period of use and a brief description of the scope of the Access.

In the other hand, if the Research Infrastructure facility chosen for the joint experiment does not require specific rules or obligations to Access, then Users will work under the local rules.

7. Access Agreement

If the Research Infrastructure facility requires an Access Agreement, then it is suggested to include in it at least clauses related to:

- Any Access arrangements, conditions and requirements;
- Duration of the Access to perform the proposed joint experiment, including all the necessary time to prepare and to postprocess the results.
- Description of the activities to be undertaken by each partner (i.e., the User and the Access Provider)
- Liability
- Insurance (if required)
- Confidentiality and non-disclosure
- Intellectual property rights
- Use of equipment and samples
- Dispute resolution
- Force majeure, and
- Access denial.

The following rules related to Access denial in principle apply:

At any time, also after the acceptance of the Application and the signature of the Access Agreement, the Access Provider may decline Access (also to a part of the respective Research Infrastructure and/or certain materials, equipment etc.) on the basis of legitimate, justified and valid reasons, for example:

- ✓ in order to protect legitimate interests (e.g. of competitors);
- ✓ in case of HSE concerns; or
- ✓ unforeseen circumstances (e.g. force majeure or unexpected maintenance).

IRPWIND project could provide standard model Access Agreements for Access to Research Infrastructures if necessary.

The Access Agreement must be co-signed by the appropriate legal representatives who are authorized to sign agreements and bind the company or institution to which the Applicant and the Access provider are related as an employee or entity.

8. Performance Obligations

The *Users*:

1. Shall comply with all (local) applicable laws, regulations, guidelines, procedures and requirements;

2. Shall obtain the required site entrance authorizations, including for example related to badges, HSE trainings, formalities concerning materials and equipment, customs clearance procedures and VISA requirements;
3. Are responsible for fulfilling local HSE requirements related to the Research during the experiment;
4. Are responsible for any material, including samples or equipment brought by such Users;
5. Shall have adequate health and accident insurance or similar during the experiment;
6. Shall comply with reasonable guidelines and instructions of the Access Provider.

Access Provider and the Research infrastructure:

1. Shall inform and facilitate to all Users about the specific requirements, legal or technical, to use the facilities (i.e. confidentiality, specific insurance, technical guidelines and procedures...)
2. Is responsible to allocate the required Unit time to perform the joint experiment and post process the results without any interference from third parties or other activities happening in the facility.
3. Shall guaranty the physical conditions of the facilities and equipment required for the joint experiment

9. Access Rights to Information

The Foreground is the property of the User Group carrying out the work (Joint Experiment) generating that Foreground.

The *Access Provider* shall ensure that the *Users* can access to the necessary Background of the access provider and to the foreground, if needed to carry out their joint experiment activities under the project. The access to the Background should be regulated among the partners of the Joint Experiment prior to start the technical activities. The *Access Provider* shall inform, as soon as possible, the users of any restriction which might substantially affect the granting of access rights.

The *Access Provider* shall ensure that the users have the same rights and obligations in regard to confidentiality as access provider.

10. Dissemination

Dissemination is a must for all the joint experiments selected in the IRPWIND project. The experiments will be shown in relevant congresses of the sector and the results obtained will be open and accessible for all EERA JP WIND members. However, these activities shall be compatible with the protection of intellectual property rights and confidentiality obligations.

Users should suitably publicize (in their publications, websites, reports etc.) the support given by the EC for the access provided to them, referring to IRPWIND, showing the EC logo (if possible) and

including a statement along the following lines: “The work described here has received support from IRPWIND, a project that has received funding from the European Union’s Seventh Programme for Research, Technological development and Demonstration”.

User should disseminate widely, including on a dedicated Web page on the Internet, e.g. the IRPWIND or the EERA JP WIND Web pages.

The Research Infrastructure shall take any appropriate measure to ensure that, in their publications, Users make suitable information about the support given by IRPWIND for the Access provided to them.

IRPWIND will be authorized to publish, in whatever form and on or by whatever medium, including the Internet, the list of Joint Experiments awarded, the participants in the experiments and the results opened to all EERA community.

The EC shall be authorized to publish, in whatever form and on or by whatever medium, including the Internet, the list of the users.

The IRPWIND consortium is very cognizant of background information and proprietary data issues. However, the reason for which the EC requires dissemination of the project and open access to the results as a condition of eligibility is that its objective in funding these initiatives is to progress the state-of-the-art of the sector, and this requires dissemination of generated knowledge. Confidentiality will be fully protected and specifics around the requirement for dissemination can be agreed beforehand to the satisfaction of both parties.