SCIENCE-DRIVEN E-INFRASTRUCTURES INNOVATION (SEI)

FOR THE

ENHANCEMENT OF TRANSNATIONAL, INTERDISCIPLINARY, AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY DATA USE IN ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE RESEARCH

Call for Proposals

16 April 2018, version 3.2

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1 THE BELMONT FORUM

The Belmont Forum is a partnership of funding organisations, international science councils, and regional consortia committed to the advancement of global environmental science. It aims to accelerate the delivery of the data-driven environmental research to remove critical barriers to sustainability by aligning and mobilizing international resources.

The Belmont Forum activities are driven by the Belmont Research Challenges adding value to existing national investments and supporting international partnerships in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary endeavours that aims to provide science-based knowledge for understanding, mitigating and adapting to global environmental change.

2 CALL DESCRIPTION

2.1 BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The impact of environmental change research and data it produces can be dramatically increased through a transnational approach to critical technological and procedural barriers within the scientific community. In order to accelerate scientific discoveries and socioeconomic innovation, exponential increases in diversity, volume and throughput of cross-border, multidisciplinary data in environmental sciences demand delivery mechanisms that allow these data to be more easily findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable for research, and that facilitate their sustainable curation and preservation for the benefit of future generations.

The capability to bring computer science and technology as well as large and complex data sets to bear on interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary science is emerging. It is therefore critically important to establish and enable transnational frameworks so that data-driven scientific knowledge can transcend disciplines and geographical borders, ultimately increasing the scientific underpinnings of policy and action. International collaboration within Belmont Forum priority research fields holds the potential to establish international foundations for federated data integration and analysis systems with shared services, bring together best practices from the public and private sectors, foster open data and open science stewardship among the science communities including related areas such as publishing, and encourage data and cloud providers and others to adopt common standards and practices for the benefit of all.

For these reasons, the **Belmont Forum** is launching a 4-year competitive call for projects as part of its **Collaborative Research Action (CRA)** on **Science-driven e-Infrastructure Innovation (SEI) for the Enhancement of Transnational, Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Data Use in Environmental Change.**

2.2 SCOPE

This SEI call targets initiatives that are well-positioned to bring together environmental, social and economic scientists with data scientists, computational scientists, and e-infrastructure and cyber-infrastructure developers and providers to solve one or more of the methodological, technological and/or procedural [1] challenges currently facing inter-disciplinary and

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[1] Procedural issues may be organizational, legal, security, and/or policy related, with respect to the potential benefits and limitations of open science, from data collection and management through the publication of results. Procedural issues may also influence the capacity of domain scientists to effectively

transdisciplinary environmental change research that involves working with large, diverse and multi-source transnational data. The SEI call will intimately link research thinking and technological innovation toward accelerating the full-path of discovery-driven data use and open science, and enable a broader scientific community to benefit from the identified new and potentially disruptive demonstrators or pilots toward solutions.

The SEI call will be implemented under a "task force" requiring all funded projects to share results, participate in regular steering workshops (nominally once per year), and contribute to a knowledge hub that aims to catalyze efficient research through sharing of best practices, methods, and software implementations. This is intended to maximize the outcomes of SEI and add value across SEI projects. Information in the knowledge hub may also be used to deliver research-driven recommendations to the Belmont Forum for transnational federated data e-infrastructures, data policies, and capacity building needs where existing strategies may be enhanced or expanded.

2.3   SEI CALL KEY FEATURES

The competitive SEI call will support 4-year innovative projects that are encouraged to be:

- **Science-driven.** Projects should aim to develop innovative demonstrators and pilots that enable the use of transnational multi-source data and enhance interdisciplinary and/or transdisciplinary environmental change research. They must specifically identify tangible research questions and objectives that will benefit from the proposed solutions.
- **Transnational and Collaborative.** Projects should clearly demonstrate the added value of the international partnership and outline the role of each partner in the project workplan. Projects should involve mutually dependent collaboration between and among domain scientists and computer and data scientists, as well as possibly e- and cyber-infrastructure developers and providers, linking research thinking and technological innovation to solve well-identified, experience-based methodological and/or technological issues and barriers in transnational data use.
- **Interdisciplinary and/or transdisciplinary**. Great premium will be placed on interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research-driven initiatives with an emphasis on co-design, co-development and sharing within and across disciplines enabling open data and open science all along the full path of data use[2].
- **Problem Solving and Translatable**. Projects are expected to deliver and share innovative demonstrators and pilots and open software that smooth the path from theoretical research through proof of concept to usable and effective solutions that are translatable and relevant to the wider scientific community for a sustained impact on research practices. Projects targeting specific segments along the full path of data use in a well-described science-driven context should demonstrate how this will accelerate the rates at which information is gleaned from data and impact the Belmont Forum research challenges.

The SEI call emphasizes 'going the last mile' with data: not only uncovering evidence that support scholarly observations, but also distilling and collating the evidence into forms that can be used routinely in research across disciplines so that these data are available in a form useful to help inform decision-making in a transdisciplinary context.

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use computing and data infrastructures, as well as to organize the ongoing integrity, accessibility, interoperability, and reuse of data (data stewardship).

[2] *Full-path of data use* extends from data capture, data access and management, data analysis and modelling, through data and model inter-comparison together with data provenance system.

2.4 EXAMPLE TOPICS OF THE SEI CALL

Research topics of interest may include, but are not limited to:

Enable High-end Data assimilation and Broaden Data Model Intercomparison

- Developing innovative multi-source data integration and analysis systems that improve the convergence between high-performance computing and high-end data analytics, building on national investments, to accelerate and broaden interdisciplinary data assimilation, data and model inter-comparison in the context of complex and comprehensive coupled multi-system environmental models, and to enable new research-based knowledge and information that can be distilled in support to decision making and adaptation policies, bridging the gap between government, general public on environmental issues.

Accelerate Data Access and Analysis for Disaster Monitoring and Mitigation

- Improving and accelerating data access and streaming analysis of multi-source data for disaster monitoring and mitigation through innovative disaster-information platforms–while addressing imperfect and incomplete data together with uncertainty quantification–all through distilling and collating transdisciplinary information into forms that can be routinely used in decision making by various group of users.

Enable Science Reproducibility and Trust

- Increasing science reproducibility and trust through improved e-infrastructure capabilities, and services to track and share research outputs from specific projects across disciplines, and to link agreed identifiers for funded research projects and web accessible versions of publications accurately to new digital objects that bundle together data, experimental descriptions, algorithms, models, software, workflows, provenance information and results in a standardized way.

Transdisciplinary Multi-source Data Management

- Implementing shared, flexible and trusted multi-source open data management in transnational and transdisciplinary contexts with agreed data protocols and transfer mechanisms, data and metadata structures, ontology sharing together. Examples of transdisciplinary stakeholders engaged for the design and implementation of scientific research could include policymakers, the non-profit sector and the public, possessing a range of input and output needs for data. Provenance information for new type of data collections should also be provided along with demonstrating integrity, science quality and traceability throughout the data and knowledge lifecycle.

Lower Barriers to Open Science Practices

- Lowering barriers to open science practices, including the context of citizen science approaches, through infrastructures and services facilitating the implementation of better open science practices together with the development of agreed standards, quality estimation of results, ways of feeding results back to users, and sharing methods internationally.

3 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY

Proposals must comply with the requirements and eligibility criteria listed under this section as well as under section 5 "Submission of Proposals and Assessment Procedure" together with the individual partner organization eligibility criteria (see national appendices).

3.1 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposals must be in line with the Call key features and objectives (e.g. see Section2.3), and in particular must be:

Science-driven
- Proposals must be science-driven, and specifically identify tangible research questions and objectives that will benefit from the proposed solutions. Proposed projects should furthermore be based on a strong, mutually-dependent collaboration among domain, data and computing scientists, possibly together with infrastructure providers, aimed at providing methods and solutions that will enable and impact environmental change and sustainable development research, and the reuse of data across disciplines.

Transnational and Collaborative
- Proposals must be transnational with collaborators from at **least 3 different countries** represented in the Call funding partners and who meet their eligibility criteria. Researchers not covered by participating funding agencies are also eligible to join projects using their own or other source(s) of funding. The added value of the transnational consortium for the proposal research objectives should be identified.

Interdisciplinary and/or transdisciplinary
- Interdisciplinary proposals must integrate data, concepts and methods from natural sciences and/or social sciences, data and computer sciences and address common science-driven barriers and issues that are beyond the scope of a single discipline to achieve new knowledge and shared solutions. Data solutions must be shown to scale between more than a single scientific domain.
- Transdisciplinary proposals must also integrate societal groups and other relevant stakeholders, with clear level of involvement, in the co-design, co-development and co-implementation of research process that transcends traditional boundaries to advance interrelated challenges generated in a scientific or extra-scientific context and contribute to their solution.
- All projects must identify and address clear user needs, including data access and use, throughout the multi phases of the research process.

Problem-solving and translatable
- Proposals must be in line with the call objectives and topics, and demonstrate how solving the identified issues or barriers actually accelerate the full path of data use and enable further scientific discovery. They must provide clear and demonstrable deliverables that could be adopted beyond the proposal by broader science communities in a cost-effective manner and with sustained impact.

Compliant with Belmont Forum Open Data Policy
- Proposals must comply with and implement the Belmont Forum open data policies, provide a data management plan, and demonstrate how it supports and contributes to the open science.

3.1.1 Topics

Proposals must address research topics falling within the scope of the call, as defined in section 2. Proposals must address one or more of the topics examples provided in section 2.4. However it is expected that applicants will develop and add to these areas. In addition, applicants are encouraged to consider linkages across those themes and crosscutting issues and methodological innovation.

3.1.2 Consortia

This SEI Call for proposals aims to address the need for mutually-dependent collaboration between and among domain scientists (e.g. natural sciences, social sciences and humanities) and computer and data scientists, as well as possibly e- and cyber-infrastructure developers and providers. Such collaborations (here, consortia) serve to link research thinking and technological innovation to solve well-identified, science-based inter-related issues and barriers for transnational data use in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research.

Consortia may consist of academic and non-academic partners, possibly together with relevant societal groups, policy makers and stakeholders, clearly involved in the co-design, co-development and co-dissemination of the proposal's research. Various types of actors are encouraged to participate in accordance to the national funding agency policies: public research organizations, private data-related companies, foundations, non-government organizations, infrastructure providers, publishers, public-private partnerships, etc.

The inclusion of stakeholder or community-based partners is considered to be critical in transdisciplinary research and applicants are expected to demonstrate how they engage with appropriate stakeholders during the lifespan of the project. Public-private sector partnerships in the co-design and co-development of a proposal research are encouraged. In the case of partnerships with the private sector, all results and products directly resulting from the funded projects will remain in the public/research domain.

The added value of the transnational consortium for the proposal research objectives should be clearly identified in the proposal. Each consortium must also identify the:
- Leading Principal Investigator (LPI). The LPI is the contact point on behalf of all the applicants for the proposal. The LPI is officially responsible for all communications with the SEI Theme Program Office[3] (TPO) including the submission, the administrative and financial management of the overall proposal, in accordance with the LPI's funding agency requirements.
- Co-applicants. The Co-applicants are responsible for the administrative and financial management for their national part in the project, in accordance with their national funding agency requirements. Each Co-Applicant is responsible for leading the project activities at her/his own institution. Each Co-Applicant should be based at an institutions eligible for the funding of a participating SEI agency. There may be more than one Co-Applicant from one country, but in this case one of them needs to be identified as National Contact Point.

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[3] The Theme Program Office (TPO) is entrusted by the SEI CRA partner organizations to prepare, publish and manage the SEI call for proposals and the CRA implementation in cooperation and consultation with the Group Program Coordinators (GPC), which is the committee composed of one representative from each of the SEI partner organizations with oversight responsibility for this SEI call.

- <u>Other project team members</u>. All other eligible project team members participating in the proposals can be listed as other project team members. PhD students or Postdocs whose names are net yet known can be included as "NN". Some funding agencies are able to cover the personnel costs of researchers from outside their countries. If these personnel costs are eligible these researchers should also be listed as other project team members.

- <u>Cooperation partners</u>. The Cooperation partners (researchers and non-academic partners) are additional personnel from countries not involved in the call or ineligible for support from SEI finding agencies. Unless specified otherwise in the country-specific eligibility requirements, however, they will be required to bring and demonstrate their own or other source(s) of funding. Contributions by external partners can be either in cash or in-kind. SEI accepts personnel input and material contributions as in-kind co-funding on the condition they are capitalized and form an integral part of the project.

LPIs, Co-applicants and team members must be eligible for funding from the SEI funders, irrespective of their individual nationality.

Each project team should strive to include researchers at an early stage of their careers, including post-doctoral researchers and PhD students unless indicated otherwise in the country-specific guidance (see national appendices). SEI strives to promote gender equality, and encourages female researchers to apply.

Consortia are expected to be "well-balanced" in terms of both the scientific and financial contributions of the participants, such that appropriate and substantive contributions is being made by each participating member according to their respective role and expertise.

3.2 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Trans-nationality

A project team must involve national research teams based in at least three different countries, and eligible for the funding from three different SEI Call funders (see list below). The eligibility of national teams is subject to national eligibility rules (see national appendices). In case of doubt the relevant funding agency can advise on eligibility. Researchers and non-academic partners not covered by participating funding agencies are also eligible to join projects using their own or other source(s) of funding.

If one of the national research teams in a consortium is not eligible and/or the trans-national three countries minimum requirement is not met, the whole consortium will be considered ineligible and the proposal will not be evaluated.

Participation is strictly limited to a maximum of two proposals per applicant (whether as LPI, co-applicant or team member) and no individual can act as LPI in more than one proposal.

Project duration

The Call is expecting 4-year projects. Project can start in January 2019 at the earliest, and must have started by March 1, 2019 at the latest. All national research teams within a given project will be expected to start their project at the same time.

Completeness

The proposal must be submitted on the submission platform before the closing date. No documents will be admitted after this date. A complete proposal must include:

- ✓ The scientific proposal
- ✓ Administrative and financial information

Propositions must be also eligible according to each of the national agencies eligibility rules of the participating countries (see national appendices).

4 FUNDING

Available funding.

Small and large projects are welcome. The total funding requested from the SEI partners must not exceed € 1,500,000 across all participating partners. Please see Table 1 below for the available budgets per country/funder.

Eligible costs.

Applicants may request funding for personal costs, consumables, travel costs, equipment, subcontracting and other costs in accordance with the relevant national funding rules (see national appendices). In case of doubt, applicants should consult their respective national contact person who can advise on funding rules.

Projects will be expected to adhere and engage to the SEI Task Force[4] activities (see Call text) that will steer the SEI CRA implementation and monitor continuously the funded projects. These activities include regular remote steering meetings and yearly workshops organised alternately in different countries of the SEI Partner Organizations, together with sharing methods, tools and their software implementation across the funded projects. Projects are expected to set aside provisions in their budget to engage and contribute to these activities.

4.1 AVAILABLE BUDGET FROM EACH FUNDING AGENCY

Country	Legal Name	Agency	Total amount of Funding	Max. amount per project
Brazil	São Paulo Research Foundation	FAPESP	€ 500,000	-
Chinese Taipei	Ministry of Science and Technology	MOST	€ 750,000	€ 300,000
France	French National Research Agency	ANR	€ 1,500,000	€ 500,000
Japan	Japan Science and Technology Agency	JST	€ 250,000	€ 250,000
USA	National Science Foundation	NSF	USD 1,500,000	USD 500,000

Table 1: Budgets of the SEI funding national agencies

5 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS AND ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

Proposals to the SEI Call will be processed in a single stage. The complete proposals must be submitted by **July 16, 2018, 17.00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)**. Proposal received

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[4] The Task Force (TF) will consist of the TPO, coordinating the task Force, the funded projects' LPI, representatives of the Belmont Forum, additional relevant experts proposed to and nominated by the SEI Partner Organizations, and relevant NGO representatives.

after the deadline, or failing to comply with the published call requirements will be rejected. Incomplete proposals and proposals not using the proposal template will not be evaluated.

The proposals must be completed in English and follow the proposal structure as set out in the proposal template available on the Belmont Forum website. Any supplemental documents uploaded to BFGO should be in PDF format. Guidance on how to submit the proposal will be available on the BFGO websites.

The TPO will verify the eligibility of the proposals according to the transnational eligibility criteria. The participating funding agencies will verify the suitability for national funding according to their respective eligibility criteria.

Eligible Proposals are will be evaluated by external, independent referees for peer review. The reviews by the referees will be sent anonymously to the LPI and s/he will have only five working days for comments before the evaluation panel assesses the proposals. LPI will not be informed of the identity of the referees.

In the Panel of Experts (PoE), consisting of international experts in the field nominated by the GPC, at least two assessors will be assigned to each Proposal. The assessments received from the external referees, the comments received from the applicant and the pre- assessment from the two PoE assessors will form the starting point for a joint review carried out by the PoE.

The PoE will prepare a consensus evaluation report on each Proposal and qualify the proposals with a score arriving at a list of projects recommended for funding.

Based on the PoE ranking, and taking into account the available (agency) budgets, a common funding recommendation will be finally decided at a Post-Review Meeting (PRM) between the GPC and the Chair of the PoE.

The final funding decision is subject to the approval by the SEI Partner organizations, depending on the national rules and will be made and communicated to the LPI of each Proposal by November 2018. LPIs of awarded proposals will be asked to draw up a cooperation agreement detailing the administrative arrangements in the project. The applicants will receive the consensus report of the evaluation panel as feedback after the final funding decisions. The recommendations and requirements of the consensus have to be implemented in the project.

5.1 EVALUATION CRITERIA

All eligible proposals are assessed against four sets of criteria: (1) quality and intellectual merit; (2) fit to the Call objectives; (3) quality of the consortium; (4) resources and management. All four sets of criteria will be taken into consideration and will be given equal weight. Each criterion will be scored on a scale from A to C, with a minimum threshold of B on each criterion being necessary for the proposal to be considered for funding.

I. QUALITY/INTELLECTUAL MERIT

- *Scientific excellence and progress beyond the state-of-the art*
  - To what extent it explores original concepts, methods and data-aware technologies?
  - To what extent it might accelerate data-driven research within one field and across different fields?
  - To what extent the project's outcomes might benefit to the broader scientific community?

- *Clarity of the objectives and of the research hypotheses*
  - How well identified are the science-driven methodological and technological barriers, or procedural issues?
  - Is the proposal providing a critical review of existing relevant research practices, technologies and standards?

- *Quality and effectiveness of the scientific/technological strategy, the data collection and the associated work plan*
  - Is the strategy well detailed and to what extent it builds on and might leverage or adapt existing technologies and standards to lower existing barriers in multi-source data use?
  - Are the multi-source data well described and pertinent for addressing the science-driven objectives of the project?
  - Are the feasibility of the project well discussed and the management of the scientific and technical risks well analysed and detailed?

- *Added value to be expected from the international research collaboration*
  - To what extent it might increase inter- and transdisciplinary scientific knowledge, shared expertise and research practices, standardisation of methods?
  - To what extend it might leverage existing investments of the partners' organizations?

II. FIT TO CALL OBJECTIVES

- *Adequacy of the project with the call strategy and topics set forth in the Call text*
  - To what extent it might accelerate the full path of transnational data use across existing data and computing infrastructures in relation to Belmont Forum challenges?
  - To what extent the research and technological objectives need to be addressed through the proposed transnational collaboration?
  - Where appropriate (transdisciplinary projects), are decision-making and policy applications clearly stated? Are the end-users of the project's results and ways to engage them clearly identified?

- *Relevance of the deliverables to the broader scientific community*
  - Will software and tools be implemented in a way to encourage shared use, e.g. open source with a proper licensing policy?
  - Are dissemination strategy and management of the property rights well described?
  - To what extent the project's solutions might be translatable and of value to the broader scientific community in a cost-effective way?

- *Open Data policy and strategy toward open science*
  - How the project might enable and foster adoption of the Belmont Forum Open Data Policy?
  - To what extent the project might make multi-source data more findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable?

III. QUALITY OF THE CONSORTIUM

- *Competence, and expertise of the Leading Principal Investigator (LPI)*
  - Expertise and relevant experience of the LPI in leading and managing the project?
  - Is the involvement of the LPI well described and at the right level?

- *Quality of the consortium as a whole (including the level of complementarity)*
  - How complementary is the expertise of the consortium between domain scientists, data and computer scientists and where appropriate infrastructure developers and providers?
  - Is the contribution of each partner well described?

- *Quality of the inter- and/or transdisciplinary research and implementation strategy*

- How well suited is the diversity of interdisciplinary teams to represent scaled use cases and bridge domain approaches?
- To what level do transdisciplinary projects engage end users and the stakeholders?
- Is the co-design, co-development and co-implementation strategy well described?

IV. RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT

- *Appropriate allocation and justification of the resources (budget, staff, equipment)*
  - How well designed and organized are the proposed activities?
  - Is there sufficient access to data, resources, and services?
  - Is the requested funding well justified and relevant?

- *Quality and efficiency of the project management structure and procedures*
  - Is the work plan well described with well-defined milestones and deliverables?
  - Is the project feasibility well discussed with detailed risk management plan?
  - Is the management and coordination strategy adequate?

- *Quality of the Data Management Plan and Data stewardship strategy*
  - Is the Data Management Plan in line with the Belmont Forum policy with appropriate resources?
  - Is the data stewardship during and beyond the project live time well described?

- *Strength of cooperation between the partners of project*
  - Are the proposed scientific contributions as well as the financial contributions appropriately balanced among the consortium partners to ensure appropriate and substantive contributions from all participants?
  - Are the roles and the contribution of any private companies and external organizations appropriate and well-described in the co-design, co-development and co-implementation strategy?
  - When the consortium builds on already existing partnerships what does this new funding will allow them to do that they could not do otherwise?

5.2 Timeline

1. Selection	
1.1 Pre-announcement of the SEI call	(Optional)
1.2 Publication of "Call for Proposals"	16 April 2018
1.3 Deadline for Proposal submission	16 July 2018
1.4 Chair and Vice Chair of PoEs appointed	30 July 2018
1.5 Appoint PoEs and External Reviewers	14 September 2018
1.6 Peer-review by external reviewers (deadline)	15 October2018
1.6 PoE meeting	8 November 2018
1.7 PRM meeting	20 November
1.7 Official funding decisions taken	7 December 2018
1.8 Start of projects	January-March 2019
2. Steering and Monitoring activities	
2.0 Kick-off meeting	1 April 2019
2.1 First steering workshop	December 2019
2.2 Second steering workshop	December 2020

2.3 Third steering workshop	December 2021
2.4 Final workshop	December 2022

Table 2: Timeline of the SEI Call

5.3 HOW TO APPLY

All call documents and the submission portal can be found at the Belmont Forum Grant Operations website: https://bfgo.org/.

For more information and any questions directly related to the Call, please contact the SEI TPO (sei-tpo@agencerecherche.fr)

6 OTHER INFORMATION

6.1 SEI CRA COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Theme Program Office (TPO) is hosted by the French National Research Agency (ANR). The TPO has the responsibility for the overall coordination, management and technical organization of the Call and the SEI CRA implementation.

The **Group of Program Coordinators** (GPC) is the committee composed of one management level representative from each Partner Organization with oversight responsibility for the Call and over the period of the project activities.

The **Task Force** (TF) is a steering group, led by the TPO officer and assisted by the TPO, composed by the funded projects' LPIs, international experts and relevant NGO representatives proposed to and nominated by the SEI Partner Organizations, representatives of the Belmont Forum e-Infrastructure and Data Management informative action

6.2 RESEARCH INTEGRITY

When preparing the proposal and carrying out the research, the GPC expects applicants to adhere to good practices for research integrity. The principles of integrity include, among others, fairness in providing references, given credit, honesty in communication and impartiality and independence.

6.3 DATA MANAGEMENT AND BELMONT FORUM OPEN DATA PRINCIPLES

All proposed projects will require a data management plan. If needed, data management plan templates are available from the Belmont Forum website. The plan should include information about the types of data, information, models, software, workflows and code, or other digital products being generated by the project. It should outline the accessible archives or other open repository where these products and accompanying metadata will be housed.

Belmont Forum Open Data Principles are intended to improve and promote the dissemination of knowledge, the access to the data and their reuse thereby improving the efficiency of scientific discovery and maximizing the return on public research funding. The SEI funded projects are expected to make their best efforts to ensure open access to data as soon as possible.

6.4 CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

Each project recommended for funding is strongly encouraged to have signed consortium agreement between all partners prior the start of the project, at least addressing the following topics:

- Internal organization and management of the consortium
- Intellectual property arrangements
- Settlement of internal disputes

6.5 FURTHER INFORMATION

For additional information, please contact the SEI TPO (sei-tpo@agencerecherche.fr) or the SEI contact person of your national funding agency. The following contact persons from the participating national research councils and agencies are available for questions regarding the Call and the procedure (see national appendices).

Country	Funding Organisation	Contact Person	E-Mail
Brazil	FAPESP	Alexandre Roccatto	chamada-bf-sei@fapesp.br
France	ANR	Jean-Pierre Vilotte Eugenio Echagüe	jean-pierre.vilotte@agencerecherche.fr eugenio.echague@agencerecherche.fr
Japan	JST	Clement Ng Soichi Kubota	belmont@jst.go.jp
Chinese Taipei	Ministry of Science and Technology	Dr Yu-Pin Lin	yplin@ntu.edu.tw
USA	NSF	Maria Uhle	muhle@nsf.gov

Table 3: SEI contact person for the national funding agencies