



EAA Seed Fund Initiative

CALL

Application Deadline 15/05/2026

Objectives of the initiative

The EAA Seed Fund is envisioned to:

- provide financial support to **innovative, co-creative and collaborative ideas** in scientific research across countries that are EAA members.
- enable EAA members to develop collaborative **follow-up activities** aimed at securing substantial funding from major external sources (e.g., Horizon Europe, Erasmus+ or other EU and national sources), thus leveraging the seed funding.
- to produce a significant impact and evident support on the **careers of Early-Stage Researchers in acoustics** (e.g. through the role of Principal Investigator)
- promote new interactions with industry, associations, start-ups, etc,
- promote dissemination of acoustic topics.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Seed Fund, the applications should:

- be collaborative initiatives among researchers from at **least 2 countries*** on multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary/transdisciplinary research
- be presented by **a coordinator** that is post-doc researcher with no tenure track position (max 10 years after earning a doctoral degree**) at the date of application deadline
- **all participants** must be post-doc researchers with no tenure track position (max 10 years after earning a doctoral degree**) at the date of application deadline
- be mentored by a selected reference person that will be contacted by the EAA
- lead to tangible outcomes such as pilot studies, proof of concepts, **software, devices, applications, theory** etc., collaborative activities, such as the **dissemination of research results to broader audiences**, the organization of workshops, in-field/lab research (quantitative and/or qualitative).
- present **Supporting Letters from the National Societies** involved, declaring the affiliation of the applicants, and the scientific interest of the proposal.
- **commitment letter** stating the participants' commitment to completing the project

*Countries refer to the researchers' countries of affiliation and must correspond to countries with Acoustical National Societies that are members of the EAA (see <https://euracoustics.org/about-aaa/>)

**Calculated according to the ERC rules <https://erc.europa.eu/parental-leave>



EAA Seed Fund Initiative

Optional

In addition to the eligibility criteria above, applications may also include the following elements:

- Webpage link for personal information and publications' list.
- **Co-funding** or **in-kind** contributions from external partners (e.g. industry, associations), such as sample preparation, access to laboratories and instruments, or others.

Award and Budgetary guidance

Maximum EAA budget for the programme is **up to €10,000**

Eligible costs that can be funded:

- Travel expenses (sustainable modes of travel preferred).
- Other costs that can be funded include material resources, research consumables, on-site/blended workshops, costs related to preparatory and coordination activities, supported by invoices.

Budgetary constraints and exclusions:

- In general, overhead costs cannot be included in the budget plan.
- Only a max. of 50% of the funding can be allocated to one partner in the project.
- **The Seed Fund does not cover PhD or Post-doc stipends/grants for individuals.**

Evaluation and selection

1) The **overall quality** of the application, including:

- Relevance to the **promotion of Acoustics in the frame of EAA**
- Realistic work plan and clear results
- Adequacy of the requested funding

2) The **sustainability and long-term perspective** of the proposal, including:

- Credible commitment to sustained collaborative activities within EAA member societies
- Clear potential to make a **permanent joint planning** or a **scale up** of the proposal

3) The potential **impact** of the proposal, including:

- Expected added value for and impact on **scientific research and industrial innovation**



EAA Seed Fund Initiative

- Expected added value and **impact on direct and indirect beneficiaries**
- Expectation value (likelihood and potential benefit) of successful follow-up funding proposals and **other joint activities (high-risk/high-gain proposals are possible)**
- Potential for **outreach and external dissemination**

Application Procedure

Proposals submission:

- By email to the EAA General Secretary and EAA Permanent Secretary

Timings

- Call opening: **01/03/2026**
- Call deadline: **15/05/2026**
- Results Publication: **15/07/2026**
- Starting date: from t_0 up to a max of 15 months (t_0 to be defined with EAA).

Deliverables

- Report (Final Report)
- Final presentation of the outcome (video, open-access article, ...) in an EAA conference

Contacts

Please send the application (Application Form and Budget Excel spreadsheet) to the following contacts: aaa.generalsecretary@euracoustics.org and aaa@euracoustics.org