

Joint Research Programming on Industrial Safety will Continue

Members of the previously EU-funded ERA-NET SAF€RA agreed to continue Joint Research Programming on Industrial Safety and prepare its 3rd joint call.

One of the key factors and prerequisites for long-lasting competitiveness of European industry is safety: it is an important and contributing part of a successful and well managed business. In order to allow uninterrupted production of goods and thus profitable industrial production processes, the goal of a business-oriented approach should be to guarantee that the industrial production process is safe. SAF€RA members agree to combine expertise from various scientific disciplines and stakeholders constituting a community, sharing knowledge about industrial safety and joining resources for cooperative research projects.

Upon an initiative of the European Technology Platform on Industrial Safety (ETPIS), the European Commission in the year 2011 launched a call to create an ERA-NET to coordinate research in industrial safety. Members of the EU co-funded ERA-NET SAF€RA identified needs for industrial safety and their common interest in cooperative research as expressed in their funding programmes. They established a Memorandum of Common Understanding and discussed research needs to be addressed in cooperative research and results from SAF€RA funded research.

Within an ambitious timescale, the first joint call for research project proposals was launched in 2013 on theme "*Human and organizational factors including the value of industrial safety*", and the second one in 2014 on theme "*Innovating in safety and safe innovations*". The calls attracted in total nearly 100 applications, with applicants from 20 European countries. 17 collaborative, transnational projects were funded, with total SAF€RA funding of approx. 3.7 M€. The projects are presented in the project database available at the SAF€RA call website, <http://call.safera.eu>.

The aim of ERA-NET SAF€RA was to build a sustainable network, and collaboration has indeed continued beyond the project, which ended in March 2015. The new SAF€RA cooperation is an open partnership with 19 partners from 10 countries, and new members are welcomed to join the network. The cooperation will focus on research programming and launching joint calls in the field of industrial safety. Currently, SAF€RA is preparing its third joint call which is expected to open in January 2016. Details will be published on the SAF€RA homepage.

About SAF€RA:

SAF€RA was originated as an ERA-NET project entitled 'Coordination of European Research on Industrial Safety towards Smart and Sustainable Growth' that was funded for three years by the European Commission in the 7th Framework Programme (Grant agreement no: 291812). Under the ERA-NET scheme it identified areas of joint interest and expected synergies of collaborative research, and stimulated transnational research on industrial safety.

SAF€RA will bring dynamism into European research on industrial safety where it cannot be tackled at the national level. SAF€RA will continue in context of the European Technology Platform on Industrial Safety, ETPIS, which initiated the original SAF€RA project.





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SAF€RA homepage: [http://www.safera.industrialsafety-tp.org/](http://www.safera industrialsafety-tp.org/)

Call Homepage: <http://call.safera.eu/>

ERA-NET scheme: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/coordination/about-era_en.html

European Technology Platform on Industrial Safety (ETPIS): <http://www.industrialsafety-tp.org/>

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