

CALL No. 21 (2021): FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR POSTGRADUATE THESIS PROJECTS IN MARINE SCIENCES AND RELATED AREAS

At CEMarin we are pleased to share this call to finance master's and doctoral thesis projects in marine sciences and related areas.

Published: 18th January 2021

Deadline for applications: All year round. The call will run as long as funds remain available.

Objectives of the call

- Promote scientific research and the constructive capacity of marine sciences at a national and international level.
- Support master's and doctoral students from our member universities in the development of their postgraduate thesis projects within our research lines.

Aimed at: CEMarin early stage researchers from our member universities developing their thesis projects within our research themes and lines.

Modalities

- Modality 1: Specific activities – mobility/transportation and publications (projects in their final stages)
- Modality 2: Financial support for master's and doctoral thesis projects (execution of project)

Total available budget

For this call, up to 95,952,838 Colombian Pesos (COP) are available. The maximum amount to be financed per person is 10,987,639 Colombian Pesos, according to the financial conditions of CEMarin. The amount of the financed project must be matched by funds from the student's university of at least 30% of the project value.

- Total funds available: \$95,952,838 COP
- Modality 1: \$30,000,000 COP in total / Up to \$5,000,000 COP per proposal (maximum 6 proposals)
- Modality 2: \$65,925,838 COP in total / Up to \$10,987,639 per proposal (maximum 6 proposals)

Duration of execution of projects

- Modality 1: Six (6) months
- Modality 2: Eight (8) months for master's students and twelve (12) months for doctoral students

Application process and requirements

- Scanned copy of identity card or passport
- Letter of motivation, including a declaration that the topic of the postgraduate research thesis matches the thematic framework and specific CEMarin research lines (maximum 1 page)
- Letter from the thesis director, who must be a CEMarin researcher, approving the participation of the student in this call, confirming that the thesis project has been approved, the current stage of development of the project, and in which semester the student is currently enrolled
- Draft of the thesis project, containing the following information:
 - I. **Project title.** Must be concise. The title should provide the reader with enough information on the research topic.
 - II. **CEMarin research theme.** The student must justify how their proposal relates to the objectives of this call and the selected CEMarin research line.
 - III. **Duration of the project.** Ideally no longer than 24 months.
 - IV. **Partner institution(s).** CEMarin member university(ies) and any other organizations involved in the project.
 - V. **Names of thesis director and co-director of the thesis project.**
 - VI. **The proposal must include the following information:**
 - A. **Summary.** A summary of the project, including goals, methods and expected outcomes (maximum 250 words).
 - B. **Keywords.** Five (5) keywords.
 - C. **Project description.** Maximum 600 words. This must contain:
 - Background. This should describe the scientific or technological environment of the timeframe to which the proposal relates, not only describing or citing an author or institution, but also showing the general analysis of the topic from which the hypothesis or research question is deduced. Please include: a brief literature review and the identification of the research problem. This formulation must be accurate, clear and direct. Thus, each of the terms and categories used in the question will be developed further in the objectives, the theoretical framework and the respective methodology.
 - Objectives. The aims and purposes of the master's or doctoral thesis must be concise, realistic, measurable and achievable. Include both general and specific objectives.
 - Methodology. Describe the experimental design of the project, for example, the number of replicates, sample size, sampling techniques or experimental units, among others. Also, the procedures or techniques that will be applied, and how the data analysis will be conducted. Please be concise and specific, and indicate which methods are associated

with each specific objective of the project. Describe the data-management plan that explains how data will be handled both during and after the project (e.g. <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-03071-1>).

- ***Expected results.*** Research results must be of high quality and publishable as one or more scientific papers in indexed journals (WoS/Scopus) or as technological products, for example, patents, publications or prototypes.
- ***Schedule.*** The relevant activities of the project, ordered chronologically.
- ***Bibliography.*** List the references cited in the text as follows: Author(s). Year. Title of the publication. Name of the Journal. Volume(Issue Number), first page-last page. EXAMPLE: G.M. Cragg, D. J. Newman, 2013. Natural products: A continuing source of novel drug leads. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 1830(6), 3670-3695.
- ***Budget.*** The general budget should be presented, including the following items as relevant: field trips, materials and reagents, equipment, bibliography, publication costs, mobility/transportation costs to participate in forums, symposia, seminars and national or international events with the aim of socializing the products of the funded project.

Example:

Modality	Item
Modality 1	<u>Specific activities – mobility/transportation and publications (projects in their final stages)</u> Mobility/transportation costs related to professional activities; conferences, congresses and workshops; translation and publication costs.
Modality 2	<u>Financial support for master's and doctoral thesis projects (execution of project)</u> Field trip expenses; services and software; equipment and materials; bibliography.

Note: Non-fundable items include personnel, subsistence and administration costs.

Documents must be submitted in PDF format to convocatorias@cemarin.org with the subject: *Call No. 21 of 2020, Modality 1 or Modality 2.*

Evaluation Criteria

- Quality of the letter of motivation (20%)
- Scientific quality of the proposal (60%)
- Broader impact of the proposal (10%)
- Relevance of the budget (10%)

Projects will be submitted by CEMarin to scientific peers for evaluation, taking into account any possible conflicts of interest.

Commitments upon receiving support

- Publish a scientific paper in a journal ranked in quartile one (Q1 from Scimago Journal Rank or JCR Clarivate Analytics).
- Acknowledge CEMarin as a sponsor, include the affiliation as a CEMarin early stage researcher in any publication (e.g., research papers, book chapters, preprints, working papers) or presentation in national or international scientific events (e.g., congresses, workshops, meetings, posters) derived from the postgraduate thesis or the resulting technological products. A certificate must be forwarded.
- Participate as a speaker in an activity designed by CEMarin.
- Provide five (5) high-quality photographs of the research site and subject, including at least one in which the early stage researcher appears.
- Use the budget and provide supporting documents within one (1) year.
- Goods acquired with the resources assigned to the project that have a total value of \$3,000,000 Colombian pesos or more will be owned by CEMarin or the research group to which the student was assigned, led by a CEMarin researcher.

Intellectual property

Intellectual property rights relating to the results of the project will be governed by the internal intellectual property regulations of the CEMarin member university.

Note: This call may be declared void if applications do not meet the stated requirements. The results of the call will be published periodically on the CEMarin website.

For more information, please email your questions to: convocatorias@cemarin.org