IMI’s Call procedures
From theme/topic definition to project launch

Nathalie Seigneuret
Senior Scientific Project Manager
IMI Call procedure

- Streamlined Call procedures
- Faster time to grant
- Streamlined peer review process without compromising on quality of evaluation
- Upgraded submission tool
- Simplified application forms (administrative + scientific)
- Improved guidances/templates to help applicants

“Idea generation” to “call launch”
approx. 3 month (including consultation with SC+ SRG)

Submission of EoI + review
approx. 4 months

Submission of FPP + review
approx. 4 months

Negotiation and signature
approx. 4 months
IMI Call procedure: Overview

- Call Launch
- Stage 1 Expression of Interest
  - Submission
  - Evaluation
  - Ranking
- Stage 2 Full Project Proposal
  - Submission
  - Evaluation
  - Selection
- Contract Negotiation
- Project Kick-off
- Project Execution
  - Periodic reports & Interim Reviews
- Completion of the Project
  - Final Report
Call Definition

- Research topics definition initiated by EFPIA companies *based on the Strategic Research Agenda and the Annual Scientific Priorities*
  - Consultative workshop with Experts, Scientific Committee
  - Formal consultation of States Representatives Group, Scientific Committee, European Commission on Call documents (incl budget)
  - Approval by IMI Governing Board

**Call Launched**
Call procedure: Stage 1

1. Launch of the Call
2. Submission of Expressions of Interest by Applicants Consortia
3. 1st peer review: (remote + panel meeting) Evaluation + ranking
4. Ethical screening of 1st ranked consortia by ethical experts
5. Approval of the 1st ranked consortia by IMI Governing Board
6. Invitation to submit Full Project Proposal

Approx 12 weeks

Eligibility check
Stage 1: Objectives

- Competition between Applicants consortia
- **To select** and **rank** the best expressions of interest (EoIs)
- To provide each applicant with **fair and clear** feedback in the Consensus Evaluation Report
Who are Applicants Consortium....

**Finding partners?**

- IMI infoday
- IMI Partner Search Tool [http://www.imi.europa.eu/content/partner-search](http://www.imi.europa.eu/content/partner-search)
- local IMI contact point [www.imi.europa.eu/content/states-representatives-groups](http://www.imi.europa.eu/content/states-representatives-groups)
- FP7 Health National Contact Point (NCP)
Stage 1: Submission of an EoI

- Call documents
  - Rules for submission evaluation and selection of expressions of interest and full project proposals
  - Rules for participation
  - Evaluation form

- Guidance notes for the preparation of Expression of interest + Template

- Submission within deadline in the electronic submission tool: SOFIA
SOFIA: EoI Submission

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) is Europe's largest public-private initiative aiming to speed up the development of better and safer medicines for patients.

Specific Privacy Statement | SOFIA: Submission OF Information Application, Copyright © 2012 IMI.
Stage 1 review: Key aspects

- Minimum of 5 independent experts

- Focus on:
  - science and technological excellence
  - partnership
  - Work plan outline (incl budget, timelines deliverables)
  - Ethical issue

- Hearing up to 4 highest scored EoIs if necessary

- Participation of EFPIA consortium coordinators to the discussion but not to the final scoring and final ranking

Outcome: Consensus Evaluation Report
Evaluation principles

- Excellence (science, management)
- Transparency
- Fairness and Impartiality (Col)
- Confidentiality

Process Monitored by Independent Observers
For the best -ranked EoI

- Ethical screening carried out by ethical experts
- Aim: to identify any ethical issue that would need to be addressed in the full project proposal
- Feedback to the Applicant Consortium: ethical screening form
Call procedure: Stage 2

Submission of Full Project Proposal by Full Consortium

- Preparation of the Project Agreement by Full Consortium
- Administrative & financial negotiations
  Full Consortium + IMI Executive Office
- Signature of Project Agreement by Full Consortium

2nd peer review (remote + panel meeting) incl. ethical evaluation

- Full Project Proposal
  Go / no-go decision
  IMI Gov. Board
  Incl. max IMI financial contribution

Description of Work (Annex I to Grant Agreement) by Full Consortium + IMI Executive Office

Signature of Grant Agreement by Full Consortium and IMI Executive Office
Stage 2: objectives

- Recommendation for funding for each full project proposal:
  - YES
  - YES WITH RECOMMENDATIONS
  - NO

- At the difference of Stage 1, no competition and EFPIA is now part of the Consortium

- Upon agreement Governing Board, Full Consortium invited to enter into final negotiations for a Grant Agreement with IMI JU
Now time for the Full Consortium....

Private Investment in kind

EU Public Funding cash

EFPIA
- Pharma 1
- Pharma 2
- Pharma 3
- Pharma 4
- Pharma 5
- Pharma 6

ACADEMIA

PATIENTS' ORGANISATIONS

SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

HOSPITALS

REGULATORS
Stage 2: Submission of a Full Project Proposal

- Call documents
  - Rules for submission evaluation and selection of expressions of interest and full project proposals
  - Rules for participation
  - Evaluation form (stage 2) + ethical review form

- Guidance notes for the preparation of Full Project Proposal + Template

- Submission within deadline in the electronic submission tool SOFIA
Stage 2 review: Key aspects

- Minimum of 5 independent experts + ethical experts

- Focus on:
  - Science and technological excellence
  - Project implementation plan
  - Consistency with Call topic and Stage 1
  - Potential impact of project results

- Hearing with Full Consortium

- Ethical review in parallel

Outcome: consensus evaluation report + ethics review form