



Fund for Science, Technology and Innovation (FONSTI)

Belmont Forum Member Profile 2024

The Belmont Forum

Established in 2009, the Belmont Forum is a partnership of funding organizations, international science councils, and regional consortia committed to the advancement of transdisciplinary science. Forum operations are guided by the Belmont Challenge, a vision document that encourages:

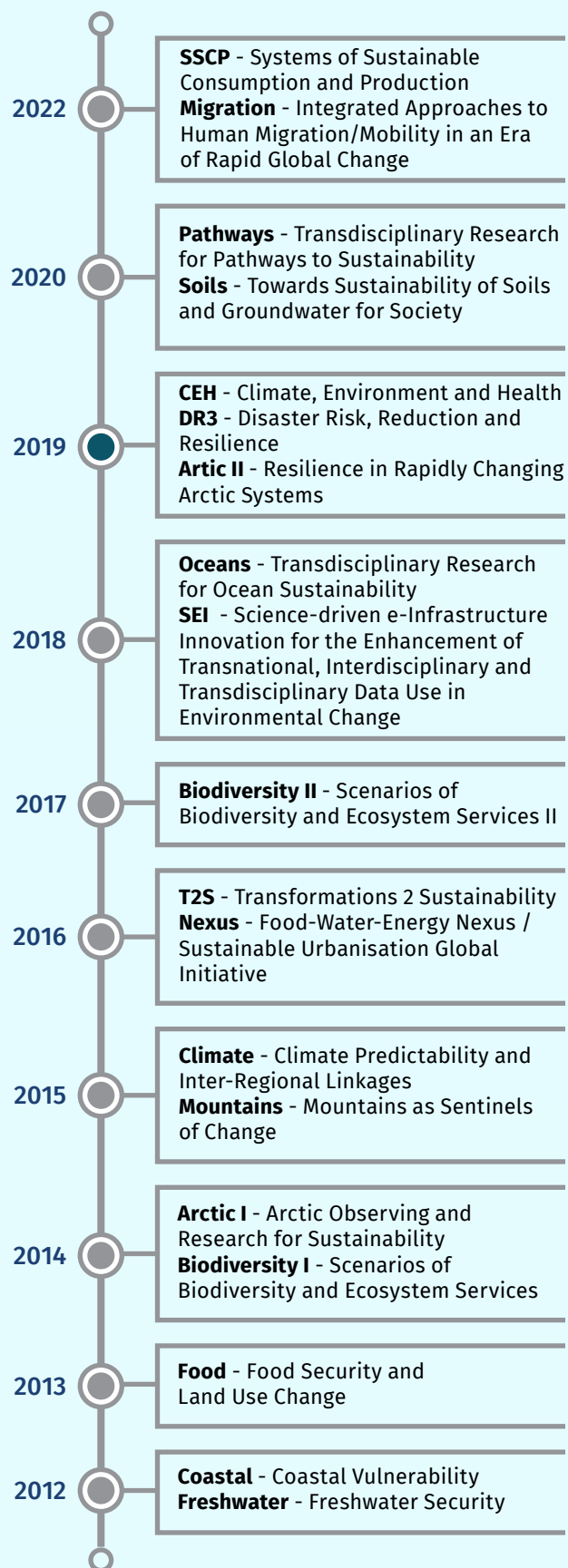
International transdisciplinary research providing knowledge for understanding, mitigating and adapting to global environmental change.

Forum members and partner organizations work collaboratively to meet this Challenge by issuing international calls for proposals, committing to best practices for open data access, and providing transdisciplinary training. To that end, the Belmont Forum is also working to enhance the broader capacity to conduct transnational environmental change research through its e-Infrastructure and Data Management initiative.

Since its establishment, the Belmont Forum has successfully led over 19 calls for proposals, supporting over 165 projects and thousands of scientists and stakeholders, representing over 90 countries (data for this report excludes CRAs from 2023 and 2024 which projects are not yet reporting). Themes addressed by Collaborative Research Actions have included Freshwater Security, Coastal Vulnerability, Food Security and Land Use Change, Climate Predictability and Inter-Regional Linkages, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Arctic Observing and Science for Sustainability, and Mountains as Sentinels of Change.

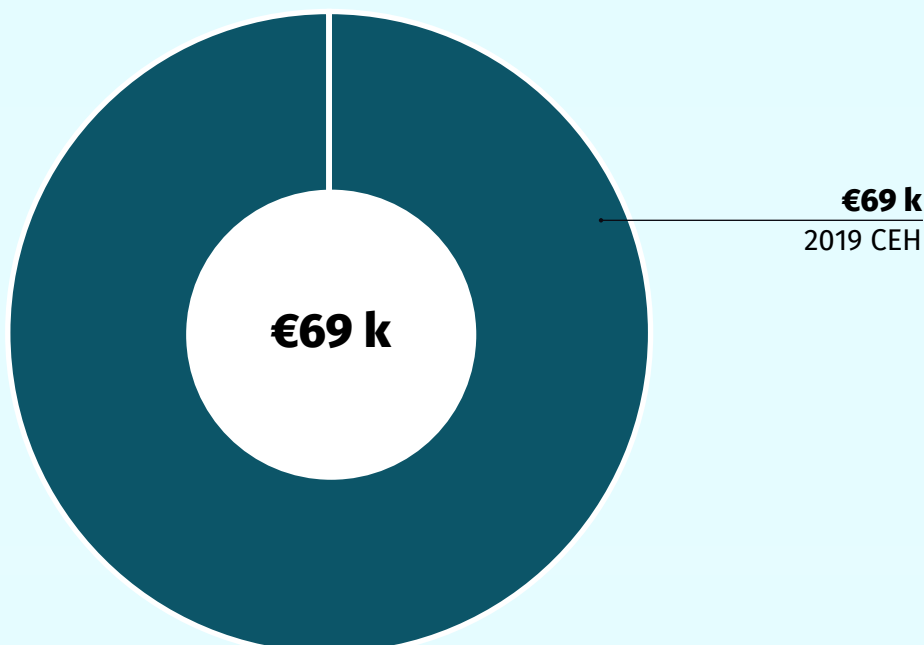
The work of the Belmont Forum is only made possible by the generous contributions of its funding organizations. The following pages report where and how member financial investment is being distributed.

Collaborative Research Actions Timeline

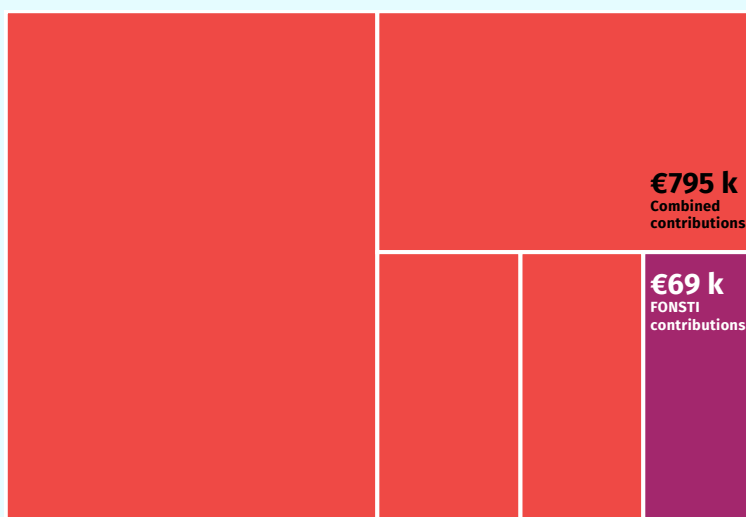


Investing in Science

Fund for Science, Technology and Innovation (FONSTI) Funding Allocation



FONSTI Funding Leverage



FONSTI has invested in 1 of 19 Collaborative Research Actions (CRAs). Within this CRA, FONSTI has co-funded 1 project. Through its support of the Belmont Forum, FONSTI has been able to leverage €69 k contributions against €795 k from partner contributions. Diagrams on this page are produced based on data provided by Strategic Program for Scientific Research (PASRES), FONSTI's previous name.

Financial data accurate as of February 2024.

FONSTI is one of four other funders that have contributed to FONSTI-supported projects. By combining with other funders, FONSTI contributions were leveraged by 11x.

Impact Story

How Transdisciplinary Science Is Helping Mothers and Babies Survive in Extreme Heat



CRA: Climate, Environment, and Health (CEH 1)

This CRA supported research on how climate and environmental changes affect human health. It aimed to generate scientific evidence to inform public policy and strengthen community resilience. Nine projects were selected. The funders supporting this call include FAPESP (Brazil), NSTC (previously MoST), FONSTI (previously PASRES), AKA (Finland), RCN (Norway), Forte (Sweden), TÜBİTAK (Türkiye), Met (United Kingdom), UKRI (United Kingdom), NIH (USA), NOAA (USA), NSF (USA), and USDA NIFA (USA).

CHAMNHA – Climate, Heat, and Maternal and Neonatal Health in Africa

CHAMNHA studied the impact of extreme heat on pregnancies and newborns in Kenya and Burkina Faso. Using both data analysis and community engagement, the project co-designed locally relevant solutions to reduce health risks. This project was funded by Forte (Sweden), NSF (USA), RCN (Norway), and UKRI (UK).



Project Findings

- Heat is linked to higher rates of preterm birth, low birth weight, and stillbirth.
- Women report fatigue anxiety—but limited access to care—during heatwaves.
- Cultural and economic barriers worsened risk in the countries studied.
- Awareness campaigns improved maternal hydration and breastfeeding knowledge.



How Findings Are Being Applied

- ✓ A workshop in Burkina Faso led the Ministry of Health and community health volunteers to integrate heat-related messages into routine outreach.
- ✓ Women and their support networks reported improved understanding of heat effects and mitigating practices.
- ✓ Findings cited in UNICEF's Beat the Heat report (2024).
- ✓ Health workers increased understanding of heat risk management and interventions to improve working conditions.



Participants

Consortium Lead: Matthew Chersich, Wits (South Africa) and R. Sari Kovats, LSHTM (UK).

Partners: See project description for the full list of participants.

<https://belmontforum.org/archives/projects/climate-heat-and-maternal-and-neonatal-health-in-africa>

Belmont Forum Impact

**+€302
Million**

Belmont Forum members have committed more than €302 million in Collaborative Research Actions across 90 countries.

€1 Million

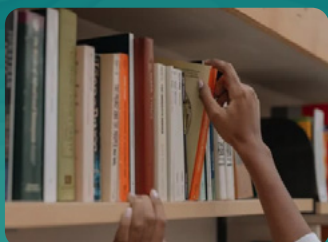
The average amount of funds per project, is €1 million, with a minimum of €215K and a maximum of €1,7 million (over 21 funded Collaborative Research Actions).

€14 Million

The average amount of funds committed per multilateral funding call, with a minimum of €2,9 million and a maximum of €52,3 million (over 21 funded Collaborative Research Actions).

+2,500

Over 2,500 publications by Belmont Forum supported projects have been cited in policy documents by national and international organizations and/or published by prestigious scientific journals.



192

The Belmont Forum has supported over 192 transdisciplinary research projects since its first Collaborative Research Action launched in 2012. New selected projects will be announced in 2025.



23

Collaborative Research Actions launched between 2012 and 2024, with new calls planned for 2025.



+60

Since its inception, Belmont Forum CRAs have been supported by at least 60 members and partners who have contributed economically and in-kind to 23 Collaborative Research Actions.

90

Belmont Forum supported projects have conducted research in 90 countries and 5 continents.

1,000

More than 1,000 academic and non-academic actors have joined our Collaborative Research Actions on environmental change between 2012 and 2023.