



CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS

Legal frame

Based on the PROGRAMME for Funding Multilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation Projects in the Danube Region signed on July 14, 2016 by Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic, the Slovak Research and Development Agency (the Agency) in cooperation with the Division of Science and Technology, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic

opens

the Call for submitting proposals for joint research and development support projects supporting the collaboration among organizations in the Slovak Republic and Austria, Czech Republic and Republic of Serbia

The legal framework for submitting of research and development support projects in 2016 issues from the Act. No.172/2005 Coll. on the Organization of State Support of Research and Development and on Amendment of Act. No. 575/2001 Coll. on the Structure of Activities of the Government and Central State Administration as amended by later regulations and in Act No. 233/2008 Coll. (hereinafter referred to as the Act 172/2005 Coll. as amended by later regulations).

Call objectives

- To contribute to scientific advancement in the abovementioned countries by funding researchers' mobility in the frame of joint research projects
- To contribute to research capacity development in the region
- To support the advancement of cross-border research cooperation and
- To provide an opportunity for young/female researchers in the abovementioned countries to cooperate in an international setting and to develop their scientific careers

Eligible proposers

Joint project proposals can be submitted by any legal or natural person in science and technology in the Slovak Republic within all research and development sectors that have valid License on Qualification to perform R&D in compliance with § 26a (11 or 12) of the Act 172/2005 Coll. as amended by later regulations.

Call rules

1. The Call is opened on **July 15, 2016**, the deadline being **September 30, 2016**.
2. This Call does not define any priority research areas. On the basis of joint R&D activities the proposals from any R&D field can be submitted with duration of maximum 24 months.
3. The joint projects submitted in the frame of this Call can start at the earliest on **January 1, 2017**, and must be completed at latest on **December 31, 2018**.
4. Allocated budget for this call is **EUR 200,000**.
5. Finances for joint project duration will be provided in accordance with the approved budget of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic, by the Slovak Research and Development Agency. The expenses for the Slovak researchers will

be covered according to approved budget for multilateral research and development cooperation for years 2017 and 2018.

6. The financial support offered within this call is strictly limited to participants' mobility up to the maximum of **EUR 10,000** for full period of the joint project realization when number of participating countries is 3 and the maximum of **EUR 12,500** for full period of the joint project realization when number of participating countries is 4.
7. Cooperating partners from R&D organization on all sides have to submit joint proposals.

Specific call rules

1. The Slovak Principal Investigator must be employed in applicant organization.
2. In this call one person is eligible to appear in role of the principal investigator (PI) just in one submitted proposal. In opposite case the Agency will reject all submitted proposals.
3. PI who in past accomplished the project financed by the Agency with final evaluation "the project was solved on unsatisfactory level" is not eligible to appear in a role of PI in any submitted proposals during the year and also during next 3 calendar years counting from the date of delivery of the Project final evaluation to the applicant.
4. In case where Agreement about financial support was terminated by the Agency because of breach/non-fulfilment of contract by the applicant, the PI of such project is not eligible to appear in a role of PI in any submitted proposals during the year and also during next 3 calendar years counting from the date of delivery of the information about project termination to the applicant organization.

Submission of proposal

The Call is opened on **July 15, 2016**, the deadline being **September 30, 2016**.

Application must be submitted in electronic form using on-line system in Slovak and English language within the deadline on **September 30, 2016** until 12:00. One original signed form should be delivered to the Agency at the latest by 16:00 on **September 30, 2016**, or sent by mail to the Agency address (Slovak Research and Development Agency, Mytna 23, P. O. BOX 839 04, 839 04 Bratislava 32) with postmark latest on **September 30, 2016**.

After this deadline it is not possible to submit proposals and any such submissions will be formally rejected.

The Agency does not guarantee the successful submission of the electronic forms using the on-line system because of the network overloading in the time close to the deadline. In this case the applicant is fully responsible for the unsuccessful submission.

The proposal has to be signed by all Principal Investigators and the legal representatives of Slovak applicant and all partner organizations. Signatures of partners sent by fax or scanned will be accepted.

The proposals which will be classified to pass to the evaluation procedure must fulfill these 4 criteria:

- a) Proposals must be submitted in specified form exclusively using on-line system within the call deadline.
- b) Proposal must be delivered in the paper form within the call deadline.
- c) Proposals must be submitted parallel by Slovak Principal Investigator (PI) in Slovakia and by all partner PIs in partner countries and afterwards evaluated by all sides.
- d) Proposal fulfills all the Specific call rules.

The proposals which will not satisfy all 4 above mentioned criteria will not be taken into account.

Project eligible costs

The financial support offered within this call is mainly devoted to participants' mobility up to:

- a) in case when there are in project involved 2 partner organizations
 - maximum **EUR 10,000** for full period of the project realization
 - maximum **EUR 5,000** for **calendar year**
- b) in case when there are in project involved 3 partner organizations
 - maximum **EUR 12,500** for full period of the project realization
 - maximum **EUR 6,250** for **calendar year**

The eligible project cost for Slovak researchers are specified in Addition 2 (a, b) to this call.

The partner countries will cover travel costs, daily allowances and accommodation and health insurance costs for their researchers coming to participating countries according the national lawful rules and call conditions.

Assessment procedure

The project assessment and selection procedure is performed at the national level and followed by the International Committee and finally by the approval of the Agency International Board and is in details specified in Addition 4 to this call.

At the national level the proposals will be evaluated by using the following criteria:

- Scientific value of the intended research project (Points 0 – 25)
- Feasibility of the joint research plan and adequacy of the scientific method (Points 0 – 15)
- Competence and expertise of the scientists/research teams involved (Points 0 – 20)
- Added value expected from the multilateral research collaboration (Points 0 – 15)
- Potential for further or future international cooperation (Points 0 – 15)
- Participation of young (Points 0 – 5) and female research talent (Points 0 – 5)

Maximum points: 100 points.

Threshold value on national level for considering the project support: 50 points.

Conditions for the evaluation in International Committee:

- single party proposals will be rejected because of failure to accomplish the technical and formal conditions,
- project proposals with national evaluations of 50 points and more will be put on a joint project list,
- project proposals reaching the threshold of 70 points as an average of all national evaluation results will be considered for funding.

Decision disclosure

The evaluation procedure and the decision disclosure will be in full compliance with the § 18 and § 19 of the Act 172/2005 Coll. as amended by later regulations. Technical and formal conditions are published in Addition 3 (a, b) to this call.

Once the Agency International Board has taken a final decision on the International committee's recommendations, applicants will be notified of the results of the selection procedure. These results will be also published on web site covering the: application number, project title, applicant, financial support decision.

In case of entrepreneur subjects that are selected for financial support in the frame of the state support only the proposal of the decision will be published on the Agency web site. These subjects will be invited to fill in the form in order to validate the eligibility of the state

support through „ad hoc minimal aid“ according to the Commission regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (later on “the regulation”).

In case of the fulfilling of the conditions of the regulation Agreement about financial support and Notification on the minimal aid contribution will be signed.

Granting

The Agency provides the financial support of the joint project on the base of the signed Agreement about financial support 2 months after the agreement was signed at the latest.

Additions

Inseparables of the call:

Addition 1: Form of the Project Proposals

Addition 2a: Instruction for Reimbursement on Project Cost Calculation – Slovak version

Addition 2b: Instruction for Reimbursement on Project Cost Calculation – English version

Addition 3a: Technical and Formal Conditions of the Application – Slovak version

Addition 3b: Technical and Formal Conditions of the Application – English version

Addition 4: Evaluation Procedure and Evaluation Criteria – Slovak version

Addition 5: Manual for Electronic System for Project Proposing – Slovak version

Contacts

Slovak Republic

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