



## CONSOLIDATED VERSION OF THE PUBLIC CALL

---

The Slovak Research and Development Agency (hereinafter referred to as the "Agency" or "SRDA") in accordance with Act No. 172/2005 Coll. on the Organization of State Support for Research and Development and with the amendment of Act No. 575/2001 Coll. on Organization of the Government Activities and the Organization of the Central State Administration (hereinafter referred to as Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended), and in accordance with the Agreement between the Governments of the People's Republic of China and the Slovak Republic on Scientific and Technical Cooperation, signed on 17. 02. 1997 in Beijing and Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China on Joint Funding of Research and Development Projects, signed on 27.11.2017 in Bratislava

### o p e n s

**Public Call for Submitting Applications for Research and Development Projects (hereinafter referred to as Application) denoted as SK-CN-RD 2018**

#### Intentions and Objectives of the Public Call

Public Call SK-CN-RD 2018 sets the following priorities identified with regard to the priorities of the Government-approved Research and Development Strategy titled "Knowledge for Prosperity - Strategy for Research and Innovation for Smart Specialization of the Slovak Republic":

1. Material research, nanotechnology, laser technology
2. ICT

In the submitted Project, the Applicant shall indicate the field of science and technology the Application falls into. Applications may be submitted by Slovak legal entities and Slovak natural persons - entrepreneurs without any limitation of their membership in the research and development sector.

#### Definition of Basic Terms

- **The Research and Development Project** is a set of intentions, objectives and planned time-bound R & D activities in the content-defined field of science and technology. The R & D Project includes data on the personnel, material, instrumental and financial conditions needed for its solution.
- The Research and Development **Project Solution** (hereinafter referred to as Project) is the implementation of planned activities and measures, and thus the implementation of the Project's intentions and objectives.
- **Applicant** is a Slovak legal entity or a Slovak natural person - an entrepreneur who holds valid certificate of competence to carry out research and development under § 26a sect. 11 or 12 of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended, and who is submitting an Application for funds to solve the Project (hereinafter referred to as the Application). The Project for which the Applicant requests funds comprises a part of the Application.

- **Recipient** is a Slovak legal entity or a Slovak natural person - an entrepreneur who holds a valid certificate of competence to carry out research and development under § 26a sect. 11 or 12 of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended, and which has been allocated funds from the state budget for the Project solution. The Recipient is responsible for managing these funds.
- **Partner Organisation** is an eligible scientific and research institution that submits a Research and Development Project on the Chinese side and which will solve the Project in cooperation with the Recipient.
- **Slovak legal entity** is a legal person established under the Slovak legal order with the registered seat in the Slovak Republic.
- **Slovak natural person - entrepreneur** means an entrepreneur authorised to conduct business in the Slovak Republic with a place of business in the Slovak Republic.
- **Provider - SRDA** is an institution that decides on providing state budget to support research and development to the Applicant.
- **Principal Investigator** is a person responsible for the Project solving and for the effective use of the funds granted for its solution.

### Requirements for the Public Call

1. The Projects may be of basic research, applied research or development as defined in § 2 sect. 2, 3, 4 of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended. The character of the Project's solution is clearly defined in the Application by the Applicant. The Project proposal cannot be of a mixed character. Different assessment criteria will be used For Basic Research Projects and Applied Research and Development Projects. Also, the decisions to grant funding for Basic Research Projects and Applied Research and Development Projects will be made separately.
2. The cooperating partners from the research and development organisations on both sides shall jointly develop content-identical projects.
3. Under § 18 sect. 2 point f) of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended, an integral part of the Application shall be the Declaration of Honour by the Applicant stating that has a valid Certificate of Research and Development Competence.
4. Under § 18 sect. 2 point g) of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended, in case of the Projects indicating that direct application of their solution in practice, original or officially certified copy of the Letter of Intent on Application of the Project Findings in Practice between the Applicant and the purchaser of the Project findings comprise an integral part of the Application, referred to in RD-B 03 of the Application, and in English and in the form as prescribed.
5. An original or officially certified copy of the Letter of Intent on Mutual Cooperation between the Applicant and the Partner Organisation in English and in the prescribed form shall be an integral part of the Application.

### Specific Conditions for a Public Call

1. The total amount of funding allocated for the whole project period supported in this Call shall amount to **EUR 720 000** in maximum.
2. The Project funding is subject to the approval of the required amount of the state budget funds for the Agency within the state budget of the SR by the National Council of the Slovak Republic, and subsequently to their subdivision from the chapter of the Ministry of Education and Research of SR for the Agency.

3. The total amount of funds provided by the Agency to solve one Project is limited to a maximum of **EUR 240,000** for the whole Project duration. The funds will be provided exclusively to the Applicant with respect to the financial burden of achieving the Project objectives.
4. The Principal Investigator on the Slovak side is only the person who is the Applicant's employee.
5. One natural person may be the Principal Investigator in the given call only in one submitted application. In case of submitting multiple applications with the same Principal Investigator, the Agency shall cancel all such applications as illegible from further assessment.
6. The research capacity of any researcher must not exceed 2,000 hours in total per year for projects solution at the same time, regardless of the source of support granted, and/or the project funds provider.
7. In this Call, the Agency does not provide any capital funds for procurement of tangible and intangible assets.
8. Indirect costs associated with a project solution financed by the Agency's funds shall not exceed 20% of the total costs of the project solution provided by the Agency in each financial year.
9. For non-business entities, the Agency may provide funding for basic, applied research and development up to 100% of the costs.
10. For business entities, the Agency's funding is governed by the Research and Development Support Framework by the Agency for the Support of Research and Development (the State Aid Scheme) as given by Appendix 1 (the State Aid Scheme SA.49175).
11. The Applicant - a non-business entity - may not provide any indirect state aid. No action is considered to be an indirect state aid - if the Recipient fulfils at least one of the following conditions (according to para. 28 of the Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation - 2014 / C 198/01):
  - a) the participating enterprise shall bear the total costs of the given project, or
  - b) the results of cooperation which do not give any rise to creation of intellectual property rights may be widely disseminated, and any intellectual property rights resulting from the activities of the Recipient's research organisation shall be fully allocated to the Recipient; or
  - c) any intellectual property rights resulting from a project as well as the relevant access rights are allocated to the participating enterprise in a manner that adequately reflects its work packages, contributions and relevant interests; or
  - d) the research organisation/Recipient receives, for the intellectual property rights resulting from its activities and have been transferred to the participating enterprise or to which the participating enterprise has obtained the access rights, a compensation corresponding to the market price. Absolute amount of any financial or non-financial contribution of the participating enterprise to the costs associated with the activities of the research organisation/Recipient resulting in the respective intellectual property rights, may be deducted from this compensation.
12. The Principal Investigator of any project funded by the Agency, which received a "Insufficient Level of Project Solving" after completing project solution of the public call, cannot be the Principal Investigator in any application submitted within the Agency's public calls for the given year and for further 3 calendar years from the year in which the Final Project Assessment Report was delivered by the Agency to the Recipient and to the Principal Investigator.
13. If the Funding Agreement was terminated by the SRDA by withdrawal, termination, or the Decision on Suspending the Public Call Project Funding because of the Recipient's breach of obligations set under the Agreement, the Principal Investigator of such project cannot be the Principal Investigator in any applications submitted within the Agency's public calls for a given year and for further period of 3 calendar years from the date of such termination, withdrawal or Decision on Suspending the Project Funding.

## Submission of Applications

**Term for submitting the applications is from 29 January 2018 to 03 April 2018.**

Applications shall be submitted electronically only through the electronic application system available on the Agency's website [www.apvv.sk](http://www.apvv.sk). Only the requested pages generated by the system and signed by the Applicant/partner's statutory representatives are submitted in paper form to the Agency address (Slovak Research and Development Agency, Mýtna 23, P.O.BOX 839 04, 839 04 Bratislava 32).

The electronic application system will be closed on 03 April 2018 at 12.00 a.m.

**The Applicant is obliged to send the "RD-E" part of the Application in writing and signed by Statutory Representatives, i.e. Declaration of Honour by Statutory Representative of the Applicant Organisation, and the RD-A5 form signed by Statutory Representatives, i.e. Information on Partner Organisation, to the Agency no later than April 03, 2018.** Scanned signatures of foreign partner will be accepted.

The deadline for submitting the Applications is retained if the Application is submitted on the last day of the deadline to the authority responsible for its delivering.

The Agency will only include those Applications in the evaluation process which simultaneously meet all four of the following criteria:

- a) Application is submitted through an electronic submission system for project applications,
- b) RD-E application form and RD-A5 application form are delivered to the Agency in paper form within the given deadline,
- c) Application must be submitted and subsequently assessed simultaneously on both the Slovak and the partner's side. On the Slovak side, the Slovak Applicant applies to the Agency, and a partner organisation submits the Application according to the instructions of the organisation that opens the calls in China.
- d) Application meets all the Specific Conditions of the Public Call.

Applications that do not meet all four of the above criteria at the same time, are not considered by the Agency.

## Project Duration

The expected launch of the Project solution is 15 June 2018. Duration of the Project cannot exceed 36 months.

## Assessment of Applications

When assessing the Applications, the Agency shall proceed in accordance with § 19 of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended. Technical and formal terms of the Application are set out in Annex 1. The assessment procedure and the assessment criteria are set out in Annex 2.

## Disclosure of Decisions on Applications

The Agency shall disclose decisions at least 4 months from the latest date for submission of Applications, by notifying the Applicant in written form, as under § 19 sect. 1 of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended.

Under §19 sect. 8 of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended, the Agency shall disclose the decisions at least 6 months from the latest date of submission of the application, via the Agency's website [www.apvv.sk](http://www.apvv.sk), and subsequently by notifying the Applicant in written.

Information on all Applications will be published on the Agency's website as follows: Application number, Project title, Applicant, Decision on Funding.

For business entities to be supported under the State Aid Scheme, only a draft decision on Applications will be published via the Agency's website [www.apvv.sk](http://www.apvv.sk). These entities will be invited to submit an Application for a non-repayable financial contribution, including the mandatory annexes under the terms of State Aid Scheme SA. 49175, and the Agency will set a deadline for their delivery.

After evaluating the Application for a non-repayable financial contribution, the Agency shall decide on/against granting the state aid to solve the projects of the Applicants - business entities. The Agency shall notify the Applicants of the decision take on their Applications in writing.

### **Granting the Funds**

The Project funding is provided to the Recipient by the Agency on the basis of a written Project Funding Agreement.

The Agency shall provide the Applicant with funds to solve the Project to the account specified in the Project Funding Agreement, not more than 2 months from the date of signing the Agreement.

Signing of the Project Funding Agreement is conditioned by submitting an updated Application under the funding conditions specified in the Application Assessment Report.

### **Annexes**

The following annexes comprise an integral part to the Public Call:

Annex 1: Technical and Formal Conditions

Annex 2: Assessment Procedure and Assessment Criteria

Annex 3: Budgeting Principles

Annex 4: Basic Research Application Form Template  
(Application form and Material Intent)

Annex 5: Applied Research Application Form Template  
(Application form and Material Intent)

Annex 6: Template of Application for Development  
(Application form and Material Intent)

Annex 7: Template of the Letter of Intent on Mutual Cooperation

Annex 8: Template of the Letter of Intent on Applying the Project Findings in Practice

Annex 9: Project Electronic Application System Manual

## Contact

### Slovak republic

**JUDr. Ing. Anna Ďurfina, PhD. et PhD.**  
Slovak Research and Development Agency  
Mýtna 23, P.O.BOX 839 04  
839 04 Bratislava 32  
Tel.: +421 2 5720 4502  
Fax: +421 2 5720 4599  
E-mail: [anna.durfina@apvv.sk](mailto:anna.durfina@apvv.sk)  
<http://www.apvv.sk>

### **Mgr. Andrea Danková**

Ministry of education, science, research and sport of the Slovak Republic  
Division of Science and Technology  
Department of International Cooperation in Science and Technology  
Stromová 1  
813 30 Bratislava  
Tel.: +421 2 59374 715  
Fax: +421 2 59374 721  
E-mail: [andrea.dankova@minedu.sk](mailto:andrea.dankova@minedu.sk)  
<http://www.minedu.sk>

### People´s Republic of China

#### **Ms. SUN Xueping**

Division of Euro-Asia  
Department of International Cooperation  
Ministry of Science and Technology  
People´s Republic of China  
15B, Fuxing Road  
Beijing, P.R.China 100862  
Tel.: +86 10 5888 1370  
Fax: +86 10 5888 1374  
E-mail: [sunxp@most.gov.cn](mailto:sunxp@most.gov.cn)  
[www.cistc.gov.cn](http://www.cistc.gov.cn)