



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 Slovak Republic and the Republic of Poland on Scientific and Technical Cooperation, signed 18th on November 2004 in Warsaw

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public call for submitting applications for joint projects supporting cooperation between organisations in the Slovak Republic and the Republic of Poland pursuant to § 12 sect. 2c of Act no. 172/2005 Coll. as amended.

Intentions and Objectives of the Public Call

Within the public call SK-PL 2018, project proposals from all research and development areas can be submitted. The aim of bilateral cooperation projects is to establish new or intensify the existing scientific and technological cooperation, using mainly the following instruments:

- preparation of joint international projects,
- preparation of joint publications and other outputs,
- active participation in conferences, organizing the joint scientific events,
- mutual use of instrumentation and laboratory techniques,
- gathering the research materials,
- involvement of Ph.D. students and/or young R & D staff (aged under 35).

In the submitted project proposal, 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

- **Project** is a set of intentions, objectives and planned time-bound activities in the content-defined field of science and technology.
- **Project Solution** 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 project on its side and which will solve the project in cooperation with the Slovak 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 the state budget funding to the applicants.
- **Principal Investigator** is a person responsible for the project solving and for the effective use of the funds granted for its solution. The principal investigator on the Slovak side is only the person who is the applicant's employee.

Requirements for the Public Call

1. The cooperating partners from the research and development organisations on both sides shall jointly develop content-identical projects.
2. 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 Slovak applicant (within E application form) stating that they have a valid Certificate of research and development competence.

Specific Conditions for a Public Call

1. The total amount of funding allocated for the whole projects period supported in this call shall amount to **EUR 66 400** 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 Slovak Republic by the National Council of the Slovak Republic, and subsequently to their subdivision from the chapter of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic for the Agency.
3. The total amount of funds provided by the Agency to solve one project is limited to a maximum of **EUR 4 000** for the whole project duration and a maximum of **EUR 2 000** per a calendar year of the project.
4. 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.
5. For non-business entities, the Agency may provide funding for project up to 100% of the costs.
6. For business entities, the Agency's funding is governed by Act No. 358/2015 on regulation of certain relations in state aid and de minimis aid and on the amendment of certain laws (the State Aid Act).
7. 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.
8. 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 2 May 2018 to 2 July 2018.

Applications shall be submitted electronically only through the electronic application system available on the Agency's website 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, Mýtina 23, P.O.BOX 839 04, 839 04 Bratislava 32).

The electronic application system will be closed on 2 July 2018 at 12.00 a.m.

The applicant is obliged to send the "E" part (the original signature is required) of the Application in writing and signed by statutory representatives, i.e. Declaration of honour by statutory representative of the applicant organisation, and the A5 form (scanned signatures of foreign partner will be accepted) signed by statutory representatives, i.e. Information on partner organisation, to the Agency no later than July 2, 2018.

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) E application form and 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 call in a partner country.
- 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 1 January 2019. Duration of the project cannot exceed 24 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

Decisions on non-fulfilment of technical and formal conditions under § 19 sect. 1 of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended, shall notify SRDA to the applicants in written.

Under §19 sect. 8 of Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended, the Agency shall disclose the decisions without any unreasonable delay via the Agency's website www.apvv.sk. Information concerning all Applications will be published on the Agency's website as follows: Application number, project title, applicant, Decision on funding.

Under Act No. 358/2015 Coll. on regulation of certain relations in state aid and de minimis aid and on the amendment of certain laws (the State Aid Act), all the recipients to be provided the aid need to be made aware that before granting Ad hoc de minimis aid, the provider is required to ask the aid coordinator for an opinion as to whether the measure in question fulfils the conditions for providing de minimis aid under the special de minimis aid rules. The opinion on such proposals shall be sent by the aid coordinator to the aid provider within 30 days of receipt of the proposal. **The aid provider shall be bound by such opinion of the aid coordinator.** In this context, business entities will be invited to submit the applicant's Declaration of Ad hoc de minimis aid, and the Agency will set the deadline for its delivery.

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: Form template

Annex 5: Project electronic application system manual

Contact

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