CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

1. Legal frame

Based on the Agreement between the Government of the Slovak Republic and the Government of Romania on Scientific and Technological Cooperation, signed on March 31, 2009 in Bratislava, 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 common research and development projects supporting the collaboration between organizations in the Slovak Republic and Romania.


2. Objectives

Project objectives are focused on the creation of new or intensifying already existing international scientific technological cooperation using mainly these tools:

- preparation of joint international projects;
- preparation of joint publications and other outputs;
- common active participation at conferences, organizing joint scientific activities;
- mutual use of special laboratory equipment and apparatus;
- research materials collection;
- promoting of PhD students and/or young researchers (up to 35 years).

3. Eligible proposers

Project proposals can be submitted by any legal or physical body in science and technology in the Slovak Republic within all research and development sectors.

4. Call duration

The Call is opened on March 1, 2012, the deadline being April 30, 2012.

5. Submission of proposal

Applications must be submitted in electronic form using on-line system in Slovak and English language within the deadline on 30. 04. 2012 until 12:00. One original signed form (in Slovak and also in English version) should be delivered to the Agency at the latest by 16:00 on 30. 04. 2012, or sent by mail to the Agency address (Slovak Research and Development Agency, P.O.BOX 839 04, 839 04 Bratislava 32) with postmark latest on 30. 04. 2012. After this deadline it is not possible to submit proposals and any such submissions will be formally rejected. The proposal must be signed by all participating organizations (signatures of Principal Investigators and all those with authority to sign on behalf of the relevant organizations). Signatures of Romanian partners sent by fax or scanned will be accepted.
6. Project start and termination
The projects submitted in the frame of this Call can start at the earliest on 01. 01. 2013, and must be completed at latest on 31. 12. 2014.

7. Financing
Allocated budget for this call is 80 000 € for full period of the project realization.

8. Assessment procedure and the decision discloser
The project assessment and selection procedure is performed at the national level and followed by the International Joint Committee and finally by the approval of the Agency International Board.

At the national level the proposals will be evaluated by using the following criteria:
1. Topical and scientific value of the aims and originality of the research objective (0-20 points).
2. Schedule of the research objective and relevance of the activities to the call (0-10 points).
3. Importance and legitimacy of the international cooperation for research objective (0-25 points).
4. The anticipated contribution of the international cooperation and project objective (0-25 points).
5. Expertise of the Slovak Principal Investigator and Slovak research team and regarding the participation of PhD students and/or young researchers (up to 35 years) (0-20 points).

Maximum points: 100 points.
Threshold value for considering the project support: 71 points.

Conditions for the evaluation in Joint Committee:
- single party proposals will be rejected because of failure to accomplish the technical and formal conditions,
- mutual high ranking project proposals will have priority as compared to controversial ones,
- discrepancies in project evaluations will be discussed considering the respective interests.

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

Once the Agency International Board has taken a final decision on the Joint 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.

9. Project eligible costs
The financial support offered within this call is strictly limited to participants' mobility up to the maximum of 2 600 € for calendar year/project and 5 200 € for 24 months/project.

The Slovak party provides:
- travel expenses up to the level of economy class air ticket for Slovak researchers to travel to Romania
- health insurance of Slovak researchers during their stay in Romania
- daily allowances for Romanian researchers in Slovakia according to the Slovak Law on Reimbursement of Travel Expenses (Art. 283/2002)
- accommodation for Romanian researchers in Slovakia up to maximum 100 €/night
• possible relevant travel expenses, daily allowances and accommodation for Slovak researchers who accompany Romanian researchers in Slovakia
• other relevant expenses connected to transportation services (visa fees...)

Similarly, the Romanian party will cover travel costs for Romanian researchers coming to Slovakia and daily allowances and accommodation for Slovak researchers during their stay in Romania according the national lawful rules and Romanian call conditions.

Finances 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 for project duration. The expenses in the Slovak Republic will be covered according to approved budget for bilateral research and development cooperation for years 2013 – 2014.

10. Specific rules of the call
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. Cooperating partners from R&D organizations on both sides are invited to submit joint proposals.

The proposal must be submitted parallel by Slovak Principal Investigator (PI) in Slovakia and by Romanian PI in Romania. The responsible person – PI submits forms filled in Slovak and English or Romanian and English, respectively.

Slovak participant selected for financial contribution shall provide to the Agency the License on Qualification to perform R&D in compliance with the Slovak Act No. 172/2005 Coll. as amended by later regulations before signing the Agreement.

11. Appendixes
Inseparables of the call:
Appendix 1a: Form of the Project Proposal – Slovak version
Appendix 1b: Form of the Project Proposal – English version
Appendix 2a: Instruction for Reimbursement on Project Cost Calculation – Slovak version
Appendix 2b: Instruction for Reimbursement on Project Cost Calculation – English version
Appendix 3a: Technical and Formal Conditions of the Application – Slovak version
Appendix 3b: Technical and Formal Conditions of the Application – English version
Appendix 4: Evaluation Procedure and Evaluation Criteria – Slovak version
Appendix 5: Form of the Peer Review – English version
Appendix 6: Manual for Electronic System for Project Proposing – Slovak version
Contacts

Slovak Republic

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