

CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS FOR COMMON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROJECTS ON COOPERATION BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC AND RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN YEARS 2008 AND 2009

1. LEGAL FRAME

Based on the Agreement between the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic and Ministry of Science and technology policy of the Russian Federation Government on the Scientific and Technological Co-operation, signed on February 13, 1995 in Bratislava, the Slovak Research and Development Agency (SRDA) in co-operation with Division of Science and Technology of the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic opens a Call for submitting proposals for common scientific and technological projects between collaborating organizations in the Slovak Republic and Russian Federation.

2. THEMATIC FIELDS

This Call does not define any priority research areas. On the basis of common RTD activities the proposals from any RTD field can be submitted with duration of two 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 (universities, enterprises, governmental, non-profit) that is involved in an agreed research program by means of existing supported projects. At least one partner within the proposal must be from the Russian Federation.

4. CALL DURATION AND SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

The Call was opened on **November 15, 2007**, the deadline being **January 15, 2008**. Applications must be submitted in electronic form using on-line system in Slovak and English language. An original copy of signed form should be delivered to the Agency at the latest by 18.00 on **January 15, 2008**, or sent by mail to the address APVV, Mýtina 23, P.O.BOX 346, 814 99 Bratislava with post stamp date latest January 15, 2008.

After this deadline it is impossible to submit proposals. **The proposal must be signed by all participating organizations** (signatures of responsible project leaders, statutory body and stamps). Signatures and stamps of Russian partners sent by fax will be accepted.

5. START AND TERMINATION OF THE PROJECT

The projects submitted in the frame of this Call can start at the earliest on April 15, 2008, and must be completed on December 31, 2009.

6. FINANCING

The financial support offered within this call is strictly limited to mobility (travelling costs and daily subsistence allowances). The involved organizations must be able to demonstrate that they have the other necessary resources to carry out the project (a grant, institutional resources, commercial funding, etc.). The numbers of grants and the way of financing should be declared in box „Actual ensured financial resources“. It is possible to plan short-time stays maximum 2x7 days/year.

The Slovak party provides:

- travel expenses up to the level of two return plane ticket price - economy class – to the Russian Federation for Slovak employees/experts of research and development
- health insurance of Slovak experts during their stay in the Russian Federation
- daily allowances for Slovakian experts in the Russian Federation in accord with the Slovak law on reimbursement of travel expenses (Art. 283/2002)
- accommodation for Slovakian experts in Russian Federation maximum 2x7 nights/year (max. 90,-USD/night) or 1x14 nights/year (max. 90,-USD/night)
- travel expenses, daily allowances and accommodation for Slovak employees/experts of research and development which accompanied Russian experts in Slovakia
- conference expenses for Slovak employees/experts of research and development (travel, daily allowances, accommodation, no conference fee) in Slovakia in case the conference is clearly connected with project's subject
- visa.

Similarly, the Russian party will cover all expenses (travel expenses, daily allowances, accommodation, visa and health insurance) for Russian experts coming to Slovakia.

Finances will be provided in accordance with the approved budget of the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic by the Agency (APVV) for project duration. The expenses in the Slovak Republic will be provided in accord with approved budget for bilateral scientific and technological cooperation for years 2008 an 2009.

7. EVALUATION

The selection of projects has two stages. In the first stage the proposals will be treated separately by national committees, the second round will be done by a Joint Committee.

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

- I. Scientific and application targets (60 points)
 - Added value in given RD sector (10 points)
 - Originality at national and international level (10 points)
 - Quality of presentation and targets (10 points)
 - Reasons for cooperation (10 points)
 - Appropriateness and emergency of proposed methods (10 points)
 - Potential socio-economic and scientific contribution (10 points)
- II. Expertise of proposer and organization (20 points)
 - Professional expertness (15 points)
 - Infrastructure (5 points)

Maximum points: 80

The evaluation in Joint Committee will be done under these conditions:

- Single party proposal will be not evaluated
- Proposal with high ranking from both parties will have priority as compared to controversial ones
- Discrepancies will be discussed having in mind mutual interest

Evaluation results and final list of financed projects will be announced after Joint Committee meeting.

8. RULES FOR PROPOSERS

Each project must have one responsible person from each Slovak and each Russian participating organisation. The proposal must be submitted parallel by the leading Slovak partner in Slovakia and the leading Russian partner in the Russian Federation. The responsible persons submit forms filled in Slovak and English. Cooperation agreement protocol (in Slovak language) must be included to the project application form (Príloha 1 which is part of the application form). The proposals must involve the title, list of all participants, duration and specific goals. Further, the timetable and financial requirements distributed in chapters and years, brief CV`s of Slovak participants, list of Russian participants and clear arguments for international cooperation should be present. If the projects are linked to already existing cooperation, the responsible proposer should mention the anticipated results and their added value for Slovakia.

9. OBLIGATIONS OF THE PROPOSER

The statutory of the Slovak organization will sign a contract for financial support with the Agency (APVV). At the end of each year the responsible person reports to the Agency. The report must include a statement of progress with the project and cost statements relating to the claimed travel and subsistence expenses for the period in question. After the project is terminated the responsible person must provide a final report to the Agency. A condition for the financing the project from the Russian party is signing of the Agreement on the Scientific and Technological Co-operation, between the participating research institutions in Slovakia and the Russian Federation, specifying the conditions of the cooperation.

Contact:

Slovak Republic

RNDr. Soňa Ftáčniková, CSc.

Head of bilateral and multilateral cooperation

Slovak Research and Development Agency

Mýtna 23, P.O.BOX 346

814 99 Bratislava

tel: 02/57204502

fax: 02/57204599

e-mail: ftacnik@apvv.sk

<http://www.apvv.sk>

The Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic
Stromová 1
813 30 Bratislava
Division of Science and Technology
Unit of Bilateral Cooperation and International Organizations
Ing. Jaroslava Kováčová
Work address:
Hanulova 5/b
Tel.: +421 (02) 69252234
Fax: +421 (02) 69252213
e-mail: jaroslava.kovacova@minedu.sk
<http://www.minedu.sk>

Russian Federation

Alexandr I. Nikolskij
Head of Division
Ministry of education and Science of the Russian Federation
Department of International Cooperation and Information in Education and Science
11, Brusov per.,
Moscow, 103009
Tel.: +7095 62292150