

Introduction to the Programme CZ09 Research Support Fund

Programme CZ09 – Research Support Fund



Programme area: Bilateral research cooperation

Donor Programme Partner: Research Council of Norway (RCN) – preparation Program proposal, advisory and supervising body, contact and information point

Programme operator : MEYS – announcement of calls, receiving of projects proposals, formal decision maker, programme management, contact and information point

Programme committee (3+2) – strategy (wording of calls), selection process, monitoring

Experts – evaluation of projects proposals (EU database)

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Overall objectives

- to enhance the science and research cooperation between Czech and Norwegian entities
- to fund the creation of new scientific knowledge and quality outputs through bilateral science and research projects in selected areas of research in the frame of basic and applied research and experimental development

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Important objectives

support young researchers (involvement of Ph.D. students and postdocs in a project), gender equality

involvement of researchers who have returned after maternity leave

promotion of mobility of young researchers closely linked to the project

Promotion of creation of long term sustainable partnership between Czech and Norwegian institutions

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The Programme will be implemented through joint research projects; enabling research teams bring together complementary skills, knowledge, and resources in order to jointly address research problems

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Some examples of what is expected to be achieved by the cooperation projects

- Internationally refereed (*joint scientific*) publications published on the basis of the results of the project
- Active involvement of female researchers
- Active involvement of PhD students and postdocs in the project
- Close cooperation between the partners involved in the project from the Czech Republic and Norway with the aim of building sustainable cooperation for future activities
- Involvement of researchers who have returned after maternity leave
- Knowledge transfer, sharing of experience and best practices

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Selected areas of research

Social sciences and the Humanities

Environment

Health

Interdisciplinary projects are welcome.

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Allocation for projects from CZ09

overall allocation for the call: € 13 088 235

the minimum amount of project grants : € 100 000

the maximum amount: € 1 000000

at least 20% of this amount shall be allocated to projects of „Social science and the Humanities“

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Budget heading	EEA FM	National cofinancing	Total eligible expenditure		Non-eligible expenditure	Total expenditure
	(a)	(b)	(c) = (a)+(b)		(d)	(e) = (c) + (d)
	€	€	€	% of total	€	€
Programme management	1,062,500	187,500	1,250,000	8.5%	-	1,250,000
Increased research cooperation between Norway and the Beneficiary States	11,125,000	1,963,235	13,088,235	89.0%	-	13,088,235
Funds for bilateral relations	187,500	33,088	220,588	1.5%	-	220,588
Complementary action	125,000	22,059	147,059	1.0%	-	147,059
Preparation of Programme proposal	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Reserve for exchange rate losses	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
TOTAL	12,500,000	2,205,882	14,705,882	100%	-	14,705,882

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Eligible applicants

Project Promoters: Research Organisations as defined by Article 2.2(d) of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2006/C 323/01) from the CR

Pending approval by FMC: Small and Medium-sized Enterprises as defined in Article 2.2 (a) of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2006/C 323/01) from the CR provided they co-operate with a research organisation

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Eligible Project partners

Project Partners from CR and Norway have to be Research Organisations as defined in the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2006/C 232/01) or Small or Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) as defined in the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2006/C 232/01)

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Eligibility criterion

Cooperation between at least one research team in the Czech republic and at least one research team of Norway (Donor Project Partner) is a mandatory criterion for the projects

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Eligible duration of projects

The end of the period of eligibility of expenditures in the projects is 30 April 2016/pending FMC approval of request by MEYS, MF supported by RCN to prolong the period to 30 April 2017

(decision expected April 2013)

The maximal eligible duration of projects: up to 40 months (provided the approval is granted)

Types of research projects

basic and/or applied research, experimental development

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Type of Organisation	Maximum percentage of the Programme subsidy to the beneficiaries		
	Medium Enterprises	Small Enterprises	Public Research Institutes and Universities
Fundamental/Basic Research	Up to 100%	Up to 100%	Up to 100%
Industrial/Applied Research	Up to 50%	Up to 50%	Up to 100%
Experimental Development	Up to 25%	Up to 25%	Up to 100%

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ELIGIBLE COSTS

consist of eligible direct costs and indirect costs in projects (overheads)

In compliance with Article 7.3 of Regulation on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009 – 2014 eligible costs are differentiated in these categories:

Direct costs

- i. **Personnel costs**
- ii. **Travel costs**
- iii. **Cost of new or second hand equipment**
- iv. **Cost of consumables and supplies, provided that they are identifiable and assigned to the project**
- v. **Cost entitled by other contracts**

Indirect costs

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Personal cost

The cost of staff assigned to the project (including personnel costs for postdoctoral fellows) comprising actual salaries plus social security charges and other statutory costs included in the remuneration, provided that this corresponds to the Project Promoter's and project partner's usual policy on remuneration.

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Travel cost

Travel and subsistence allowances for staff and students taking part in the project, provided that they are in line with the Project Promoter's and project partner's usual practices on travel costs and do not exceed the relevant national scales.

Travel costs should be limited to the necessity of the project. As a general rule, the travel cost should be calculated on the basis of economy class travel on public transport excluded taxi.

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Cost of new or second hand equipment

Eligible cost (UN) of the total cost of equipment are as follows:

$$\underline{N = (A/B) \times C \times D}$$

where

A = duration of project (in years)

B = depreciation period (in years)

C = cost of the equipment

D = share of the usage of the equipment for the project (max=1, the equipment is solely used for the project, full time)

Example: New equipment costs 100 000 €, Depreciation period is 5 years, Project duration is 2 years, equipment is full time used for the sole proposes of the project e.g. $UN = (2/5) \times 100000 \times 1 = 40000€$

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Cost of consumables and supplies, provided that they are identifiable and assigned to the project

Cost entitled by other contracts

Generally only additional or complementary tasks (for example translation, costs of analyses, etc.) could be subcontracted to third parties. Core project research tasks should not be subcontracted.

The need for a subcontract must be detailed and justified in the financial background. Subcontracting cannot exceed 10% of the budget. The subcontractor is neither a project participant nor a signatory to the project contract or the consortium agreement.

Legislation on public procurement must be strictly observed.

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Indirect costs

If the subject has participated in 7FP project, it must use the same method of calculating indirect costs. Otherwise the subject may opt for flat rate of 20% or 60% of their total direct eligible costs. Each partner in the projects has its own method for calculating the indirect costs.

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SELECTION CRITERIA

- i. Scientific and/or technical excellence
- ii. Relevance in relation to the objectives and prioritised areas of the research programme
- iii. Quality and efficiency of the implementation and management, including quality and implementation capacity of the applicants and contribution to capacity and competence building
- iv. The potential impact through the development, dissemination and use of project results

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SELECTION CRITERIA

Based on the evaluations of independent experts, ranking list is prepared. The ranking list shall be submitted to the Programme Committee for a recommendation as to which proposals should be selected for funding and the final awarding of grants.

The Programme Operator in cooperation with the Programme Committee will make its decision to finance/refuse an application on the basis of the ranking list and recommendations received from the Programme Committee.

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CONTRACTING

With regard to each grant, a project contract between the Programme operator and the Project Promoter will be concluded for the term of the grant.

The project contract will establish mutual rights, obligations and liabilities of the parties.

The Project Promoter shall also sign a partnership agreement with the project partner(s) before the contract between Programme Operator and project Promoter is signed.

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Payment Model

Project funds will be transferred into the bank account of the Project Promoter (legal body) specified in the project contract. Payments to Project Promoters will be made in the form of advance payments and subsequent advance payment based on the interim financial report. The Project Promoters will have an opportunity to apply for an advance payment of up to 60% in the application submitted. Subsequent advance and/or interim payments shall be requested through interim financial reports but only after 70% of the previously provided advance payment has been incurred. Programme operator may retain up to 10% of the project grant until the final report is approved.

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TENTATIVE TIMETABLE AND SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR THIS CALL

Matchmaking event for Project Promoters and project partners: 30.-31.5. 2013

Opening of the call: June 2013

Closure of the call: 2 months after the opening of the call

Planned start of the projects: November/December 2013

Planned end of the projects: 30.4.2016 /30.4.2017

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Fund for bilateral relations

Financing of costs related to searching for partners and preparation of project proposals shall be eligible.

Projects promoters will apply for reimbursement of costs incurred by projects promoters and project partners from Norway while applying for a project under the call for proposals. Up to € 5 000 will be reimbursed in case of recommendation of project funding.

In order to enable these costs to be made available by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the project has to start in 2013.

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How to apply

Applications are submitted both in electronic and printed version. The Project Promoter has the main responsibility for initiating, preparing and submitting the application, taking care of the administrative and management tasks of the project, and ensuring the active involvement of the Project partner(s) in the preparation of the application and implementation of the project.

Application form and all documents related to call can be obtained at: <http://www.msmt.cz/mezinarodni-vztahy/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-1/norske-fondy>; or at the premises of Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

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