

III. A

NPS II Programme

(National Programme of Sustainability II)

Tender Documentation of the NPS II Programme for 1st Public Tender in Research, Experimental Development and Innovation

Prague, 20 April 2015

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This Tender Documentation specifies the terms and conditions of granting aid and the requirements of the Granting Authority concerning the subject and prescribed particulars of Project Proposals filed within the Public Tender of the National Programme of Sustainability II aimed at research, experimental development and innovation. At the same time the Project Proposal serves as an application for aid to be used in executing the Project within the NPS II Programme¹.

1. Basic Programme Information

1.1. Legislative Framework

The first Public Tender in Research, Experimental Development and Innovation (hereinafter referred to as the “Public Tender”) of the National Programme of Sustainability II (hereinafter referred to as the “NPS II Programme”) is opened pursuant to Act No. 130/2002 Coll., on Support of Research and Development from Public Funds and on Amendment to Certain Related Acts (Act on the Support of Research and Development), as amended, (hereinafter referred to as “Act No. 130/2002 Coll.”) and to other applicable laws and regulations.

The terms and conditions of granting aid within the NPS II Programme are governed by the above statutory instrument and by the Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the “Regulation”),² or by the Communication from the Commission (EU), Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2014/C 198/01) (hereinafter referred to as the “Framework”) where the aid in question is not public as the Applicant meets the criteria set forth in Chapter 2, Section 2.1, Article 2.1.1 of the Framework.

The Aid Applicant is obliged to ensure the filed Proposal of an NPS II Project is in accordance with the documents mentioned above and with this Tender Documentation.

The NPS II Programme was approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No. 445 of 19 June 2012. The full wording is available at <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj/narodni-program-udrzitelnosti-ii>.

1.2. Programme Aim

The NPS II Programme is a Programme of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation (hereinafter referred to as “RDI”) pursuant to Section 2 (2)h) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., announced by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The NPS II Programme is aimed at supporting Programme Projects in the area of research and development and is an instrument of financial aid and motivation for successful Project Teams within the EU Centres of Excellence, regional Research Centres and other types of research and development centres built in the Czech Republic in 2007-2015 with financial participation of the European Regional Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as “ERDF”). The main activities of these Research Centres are aimed at research and development (hereinafter referred to as the “Research Centres”).

The NPS II Programme financed from the special-purpose funds of the State Budget of the

¹) Section 17 (5) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., on Support of Research and Development from Public Funds and on Amendment to Certain Related Acts (Act on the Support of Research and Development), as amended

²) Due to an increase of the notification obligation limit as of 1 July 2014 the NPS II Projects do not require notification.

Czech Republic creates another opportunity for supporting sustainability and further development of successful Projects of the Research Centres and at the same time it fulfills the government's commitment of financing a substantial part of the sustainability of these Research Centres from the State Budget so that the original purpose of the research facilities is maintained and their operation ensured, including necessary facility restoration (reinvestments) for the needs of research and development.

The NPS II Programme is not divided into sub-Programmes.

Programme identification code: LQ

The Aid Beneficiary can solely be a research organization³ executing the Project independently or in cooperation with other participants of ⁴the NPS II Project. The NPS II Programme duration period, i.e. aid granting is set for 2016-2020.

Project implementation period: Solely multi-annual Projects with the duration of 5 years will be supported. Project implementation can commence on the date the Aid Contract granted to the selected NPS II Project comes into effect, the earliest possible date being 1 January 2016, and within 60 calendar days after the date the Contract comes into effect at the latest⁵. It is required that the target values of the assigned indicators are reached; the Project activities, except the NPS II Project evaluation, and the aid provision shall be finished by 31 December 2020 at the latest.

The NPS II Programme will be used for supporting the development and sustainability of new Research Centre Projects in compliance with the following conditions:

- a) A significant proportion of research infrastructure included⁶;
- b) Built in the Czech Republic in 2007-2015 with financial participation of the ERDF. The main activities of these Research Centres are aimed at research and development and their costs at the time of subsidy being granted from the applicable Operational Programme exceeded EUR 50 mil.

It is to be expected that the conditions specified above will be met e. g. by big Projects of Research Centres built within the priority axis 1 and 2 of the Research and Development for Innovations Operational Programme (hereinafter referred to as the "RDIOP OP") and some Projects of the Research Centres built within the priority axis 3 of the same Operational Programme. Within the opened Public Tender to which this Project Document is related the conditions will be subject to revision by the Granting Authority, applying to all filed Proposals without distinction.

Building the new infrastructure itself with the participation of the ERDF **does not give any entitlement** to aid granted from the State Budget within this Programme. The aid is solely

³) A research organization for the purpose of this Tender Documentation is an independent legal entity with a registered office in the Czech Republic, in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 2 (2)d) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and Chapter 1, Section 1.3 (15)ee) of the Communication from the Commission (EU), Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01).

⁴) Another Project participant means an entity in accordance with the definition of the provision of Section 2(2)j) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.

⁵) The effective date of the contract on aid will be conditioned by successful completion of the Operational Programme Project in question by which the construction of the Research Centre was supported with the assistance of the ERDF or by the completion of its technological unit.

⁶) Research infrastructure for the purpose of this Tender Documentation means unique research facilities or special support activities and services within RDI pursuant to Section 2 (2)e) or f) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. registered in the ESFRI Roadmap or specialized structures supported and recognized in other countries (e.g. the ERAC Road Map) or in the Roadmap for Large Research, Development and Innovation Infrastructures in the Czech Republic.

aimed at Research Centres that prove the high-quality of the existing research and development as well as management concept, high-quality strategy and the concept of its future development in the next five years, cooperation with businesses and the ability to produce its own RDI results.

Each Research Centre can always ensure its sustainability by solely **one Project** of the NPS II Programme at most.

The aid from NPS II cannot be granted

- a) For such activities of the Research Centre for which aid within one of the complementary synergy grant measures, mostly the “activity of special-purpose support of research infrastructure Projects for RDI⁷⁾” has already been granted and is being provided;
- b) For Research Centre sustainability that has already been granted aid within the National Programme of Sustainability I – NPS I, identification code LO, according to the Information System of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation (hereinafter referred to as the “IS RDI”);
- c) For executing the second unfinished (parallel) phase of multi-phased Projects under the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education (OP RDE).

The Granting Authority reserves the right to **disqualify** a NPS II Project Proposal of an Applicant for the Public Tender of the Programme or **not to grant aid** to an already selected Applicant which has simultaneously applied for sustainability support of the same Research Centre within a synergy measure, or the Granting Authority has the right to terminate an initiated Project for this reason. In exceptional and specifically reasoned circumstances the Granting Authority can permit transferability between the synergy measures mentioned above, i. e. to terminate the sustainability support of the same Research Centre in a controlled manner within one measure and after evaluating its results and due and successful evaluation of the new Proposal for the sustainability of this Research Centre within any one of the opened Public Tenders it can start drawing subsidies within another synergy measure. The Granting Authority further reserves the right not to provide subsidies for activities of the NPS II Programme with a high risk of double financing from public resources.

1.3. NPS II Programme Objectives

The principal objective of the NPS II Programme is:

- a) To ensure long-term sustainability of funding Research Centres equipped with modern, often unique infrastructure producing outstanding results on the international scale in research, including practically applicable results, forming strong strategic Partnerships with prestigious research facilities (both private and public) in the Czech Republic and abroad, which support deeper integration of the Czech RD teams into leading international research organizations and European research infrastructures and which will contribute to human resources development in research by means of postgraduate

⁷⁾ Aid granted pursuant to Section 3 (2)d) and Section 7 (5) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., e. g. based on the implementation of the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 22 February 2011 No. 143 or the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 15 March 2010 No. 208 or the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 29 June 2011 No. 502 or the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 14 December 2011 No. 922 et seq. approved and effective at the time of the NPS II Programme duration.

study Programmes and attracting qualified researchers from the Czech Republic as well as from other countries;

- b) Supporting the development of Research Centres, so that they meet the requirements defined in relation to research infrastructure and integrate into the group of national research infrastructures.

A milestone of the NPS II Programme is the support of Research Organization cooperation, international cooperation within RDI, research worker mobility (mostly international mobility), student education and development of highly qualified staff;

1.4. Expected results of the NPS II Programme Projects:

Each Project of the NPS II Programme will ensure stability and further development of research infrastructure of the Research Centre of strategic national or international importance; the Research Centre

- a) Will follow a clearly defined research mission and a long-term development plan including a strategy of a simple and open access for the scientific community, i. e. will provide its capacity to the national and international community based on free competition;
- b) Will be used in a significant way⁸ for conducting research at a high international level by national and foreign researchers and research teams, executing top science and research Projects;
- c) Will regularly produce internationally recognized results of excellent/high-quality research;
- d) Will continually educate talented young scientists and first-rate researchers and significantly participate in scientific and technical education at the highest possible level in a given field;
- e) Will be an efficient platform of cooperation and mobility for an open and direct knowledge exchange and these facilities will regularly serve as a meeting point for students, academic workers, research and development workers from the industrial sector;
- f) Will effectively support regional development in which it operates, strengthen its competition ability and create an environment for promoting innovation based on new knowledge that will become the foundation of further prosperity of the region;
- g) Will maintain or increase the number of jobs opened in the Research Centres, most notably the number of research workers;
- h) Maintains increased or reconstructed capacity in use for the purpose of RDI, exclusively for the purpose of RDI it will notably use the tangible and intangible fixed assets acquired by means of eligible expenses of the Research Centre Projects with the support from the structural funds.

The results of the research activities of the NPS II Projects shall be measurable and possible to evaluate according to the Methodology of the Results of Research Organizations Evaluation in force approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of

⁸⁾ It is assumed that e. g. 30% of "machine" time or capacity of the research infrastructure will also be offered to other interested persons for activities in the sphere of RDI. This share will be subject to expert evaluation in relation to the uniqueness of the research infrastructure.

19 June 2013 No. 475 (hereinafter referred to as the “Methodology”). The minimum expected number and kind shall be defined in the Proposal of the NPS II Project and will be subject to evaluation together with the description of the research activities. The expected results of RDI shall be proposed as divided according to the approved categorisation applied in the Registry of Information about Results (hereinafter referred to as the “RIV”⁹⁾ of the IS RDI.

At the same time every Project shall contribute to the development of international and intersectoral cooperation. The cooperation will be monitored during the whole period of the NPS II Project implementation and evaluated based on a set of indicators mapping mostly the mobility of researchers and the scope of their joint research activities.

Another important objective of the supported Projects is the education of talented young science workers, mostly postgraduates. The number of both native and foreign students is assessed as well as the number of postgraduates who have graduated from the Programme and provably and actively participated in the research and educational activities of the Research Centre in its premises and in the top foreign facilities and also their scientific accomplishments (number and quality of their publications, number of patents and other accomplishments of their research work, or potential qualification certificates acquired abroad).

The development of Research Centres, so that they meet the requirements defined in relation to research infrastructures and integrate into the group of national research infrastructures is a highly significant aspect. For this reason the extent of their international cooperation is assessed, mostly in the form of international Projects with the participation of top foreign scientists carried out in the facilities of the Research Centre and the achieved results.

The expected results and benefits of the individual Projects are required to be realistically attainable solely through the activities described in the Proposal of the NPS II Project and in the terms and conditions specified in the NPS II Project. In the Proposal of the NPS II Project the Applicant shall define the indicators under this Tender Documentation (for details see Article 3), which will be used for monitoring the achievement of milestones of the NPS II Project, and to define their minimum target values. These minimum values defined by the Applicant will be binding for successful completion of the NPS II Project.

The NPS II Programme can solely support Projects with a real outlook of achieving new accomplishments within RD that were formed solely in the course of the Project implementation and were applied in the RIV IS RDI as a result of the NPS II Project by one of the members of the Beneficiary’s implementation team or by a research worker using the services of large infrastructures within the NPS II Project. The expected scope of results is at least one unique result in the following categories: J – a reviewed expert article in a specialized periodical, D – an article in a collection or B – a specialized book per each full-time research worker¹⁰⁾, with at least 10 results per Project each year. Furthermore at least one new result of the P category is expected – a patent or another result protected under special laws and regulations or the results of categories N, Z, R, F¹¹⁾ for each Project in the course of the implementation time.

⁹⁾ RIV – The Registry of Information about Results of the RDI Information System of research, experimental development and innovation (IS RDI) managed pursuant to Section 33 et seq. of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.

¹⁰⁾ Work classification pursuant to the Regulation of the Government of the Czech Republic No. 222/2010 Coll., on the Catalogue of the Works in Public Service and Administration, part 2.15. Research and Development and part 2.16 Education and Training or classification in compliance with Act No. 111/1998 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to some other Acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended.

¹¹⁾ See the result definition at <http://www.vyzkum.cz/FrontWebSearch.aspx?q=druhy+v%c3%bdsledk%c5%af>

The principal and necessary condition for granting aid and for successful completion of the Project within the NPS II Programme is the fulfilment of all principal objectives and milestones of the NPS II Programme. The expected results and benefits of each NPS II Project shall correspond to the expected results specified above and in more detail in Article 3.5 et seq.

For the purpose of this Tender Documentation, a **Project of the NPS II Programme** (hereinafter referred to as the “NPS II Project”) means a Programme Project meeting the following requirements:

- a) It will maintain the purpose in RDI for which the Research Centre was originally established and built with financial participation of the ERDF and ensure the Research Centre will not undergo a fundamental change within the meaning of an EU legislative act¹² that would jeopardize the original purpose of the Research Centre (notably in the sphere of substantive and legal ownership relations),
- b) Shall at least maintain or increase the original values of the Research Centre indicator or its self-contained phase in compliance with the obligation set for the termination date of the Research Centre Project in the respective Operational Programme, i. e. “the number of newly created jobs that were achieved as of the termination date of the Research Centre Project implementation within the Operational Programme or its completed and technologically self-contained 1st phase”;
- c) Shall at least maintain or increase the indicator values of the “Extended or reconstructed capacity” and the “Constructed capacity used for the original purpose” of the Research Centre or its self-contained phase in compliance with the obligation set for the termination date of the Research Centre Project in the respective Operational Programme, (these indicators are specified) in Article 3.2
- d) Operates and uses tangible and intangible fixed assets acquired by means of eligible expenses of the Research Centre for the original purpose or will, upon written consent of the Granting Authority, enable a mere substitution of these assets, chiefly in relation to technological development when the same type of assets is replaced by assets that are technologically more sophisticated;
- e) Produces high-quality, competitive RDI results created by the members of the Project Team who are employees of the applicant/Aid Beneficiary or employees of other NPS II Project participants;
- f) Stabilizes the conditions for efficient operation and successful development of the Research Centre research infrastructure, including obtaining and stabilizing financial resources.
- g) The NPS II Project budget proposed by the Applicant shall not exceed the financial limits specified in Chapter I, Article 4 (1)i) of the Regulation; the limits apply to the sum total of the NPS II Project financial resources paid from public funds.

¹²⁾ Article 57 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999.

2. General information on the Public Tender and the conditions of participation in the NPS II Programme

2.1 Basic information on the Public Tender of the NPS II Programme

The Public Tender of the NPS II Programme is opened on 28 April 2015.

The tender period, in which the Proposals of NPS II Projects can be submitted (the applications for special-purpose aid), starts on 29 April 2015 and finishes on 14 July 2015 at 2:30 p.m.

In the course of the tender period the Granting Authority will hold two informative seminars for all parties considering participation in this Public Tender. More detailed information is provided in Article 2.7.

The evaluation period, in which the Granting Authority will carry out the evaluation of the NPS II Project Proposals, make a decision and announce the results of the Public Tender, starts on 15 July 2015 and finishes on 9 November 2015 by publication of the Public Tender results on the website of the Granting Authority <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum/narodni-program-udrzitelnosti-ii>.

There is no legal right to the aid. The decision of the Granting Authority concerning the result of the Public Tender is final and shall be without appeal.

Granting Authority: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Karmelitská 7, 118 12 Praha 1

Registry office hours for public: Mon - Fri 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Electronic Registry: posta@msmt.cz

Data Box ID: vidaawt

Website: www.msmt.cz

Contact persons for the NPS II Programme: Ing. Jana Hakenová (hakenova@msmt.cz), RNDr. Jan Polecha, CSc. (jan.polecha@msmt.cz).

Place of Tender Documentation takeover: Website of the NPU II Programme <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum/narodni-program-udrzitelnosti-ii>.

Place and manner of submitting the Proposals of the NPS II Projects: The complete Proposal of the NPS II Project shall be filed by the Applicant within the tender period in the registry of the Granting Authority in a single sealed envelope pursuant to Article 2.4.2. The envelope shall contain the name and address of the Applicant, the address of the Granting Authority and a noticeable sign “NPS II – 1st Public Tender – DO NOT OPEN!”.

2.2 Applicants and other participants in the NPS II Project

The Applicant can be exclusively a research organization that meets the definition pursuant to Section 2 (2)d) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and also the definition stated in Chapter 1, Section 1.3 (15)ee) of the Framework, which will enrol in the Public Tender and apply for aid as a sole Aid Beneficiary.

In the event the Research Centre was built within the respective Operational Programme with the participation of the Beneficiary and Partners, the following conditions need to be met:

- a) The Proposal of the NPS II Project contains a copy of a Cooperation Contract between the Beneficiary and the Partners (other participants in the NPS II Project) concluded for

the purpose of building a Research Centre within the respective Operational Programme and in force at the time of the NPS II Project Proposal submission as well as for the whole period of the Research Centre Project sustainability;

- b) The Applicant can exclusively be the Aid Beneficiary who has been provided aid from the ERDF for building the Research Centre, unless the Applicant have agreed otherwise with the Partners of the Research Centre Project prior to submitting the NPS II Project Proposal; however, if there is such an agreement, as a part of the Project Proposal the Applicant shall present a copy of such a newly executed cooperation agreement with the Partners (other participants in the NPS II Project), effective throughout the whole time of the Research Centre Project sustainability;
- c) Other participants in the NPS II Project are solely the Partners participating in building the Research Centre from ERDF within the respective Operational Programme;
- d) In the event of a change in the number and composition of the Partners participating in the Research Centre operation when compared to the original Project funded from the ERDF, this situation shall be justified in the Proposal of the NPS II Project and substantiated by the copy of a Contract signed by all participating entities including the resigning ones, which clearly defines the relationship between the Applicant and the other participants in the NPS II Project for the period of the NPS II Project implementation.

2.3 Eligibility of Applicants and other participants in the NPS II Project

2.3.1 Eligibility Conditions

The aid for executing the NPS II Project can be provided exclusively to the Applicants that presented a Project Proposal to the Granting Authority within the tender period, meeting all the conditions of the NPS II Programme and simultaneously all eligibility conditions pursuant to Section 18 of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and the Regulation specified herein. Should there be any other participants in the NPS II Project pursuant to Section 2 (2j) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., these conditions shall always apply to all of the other participants in the NPS II Project, if any.

The aid from the NPS II Programme is without territorial limitation and will be granted to applicants from the whole of the Czech Republic, provided they meet the remaining conditions of the NPS II Programme.

The Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) meets the eligibility conditions for submitting a Project Proposal within the Public Tender of the NPS II Programme and is eligible to apply for the aid by the Granting Authority for its implementation, provided that, at the same time:

- 1. The Applicant has the expert and legal capacity, i. e.
 - a) Has the expert and legal prerequisites for executing the NPS II Project, as the Applicant is also
 - a1) A legal person (with a Company identification No.) or its part, which deals with the NPS II Project, and submits a Project Proposal signed by an authorised person;

- a2) A Research Organization pursuant to the provision of Section 2 (2)d) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and the provision of Article 2 (83) of the Regulation¹³ or Chapter I, Section 1.3 (15)ee) of the Framework;
 - a3) Has the relevant right to practise or an authorisation to practise required by special legislation;
2. Has the economic capacity, i. e.
- b) Is not in liquidation and its bankruptcy or imminent bankruptcy is not being solved by means of insolvency proceedings;
 - c) Its payables towards the State Budget or the budget of a territorial self-government unit and other payables towards the State, the State Fund, the health care insurer or the Czech Social Security Administration are settled;
 - d) No recovery order has been issued in relation to the decision of the European Commission which declares the aid to be unlawful and incompatible with the internal market;
 - e) Is not a company in difficulty referred to in Chapter 1 of Article 2, Section 18 of the Regulation¹⁴;
3. Is irreproachable,¹⁵ i. e. he has not been

¹³⁾ A „Research Organization“ pursuant to Section 2 (83) of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014, which pursuant to Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty defines certain aid categories as compatible with the internal market, and the Communication from the Commission (2014/C 198/01), Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation means entities that are "organizations for research and knowledge dissemination", i. e. entities regardless of their legal status of independent fundamental research or experimental development or public dissemination of the results of such activities through teaching, publications and knowledge transfer. The businesses that are able to exercise decisive influence on such an entity shall not have priority access to its accomplishments.

¹⁴⁾ Company in difficulty definition: A company in difficulty within the meaning of Chapter 1 of Article 2, Section 18 of the Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 July 2014, means such a business in which at least one of the following circumstances occurs:

- a) A private limited company (which is not a small or medium-sized enterprise and its existence does not exceed three years or – for the purpose of risk financing eligibility – which is not a small or medium-sized enterprise within seven years after its first commercial distribution which is, based on a due diligence carried out by a selected financial intermediary, eligible for investments in the sphere of risk financing) which suffered a loss of more than a half of the subscribed capital stock due to loss accumulation. This circumstance arises when the result of the deduction of the accumulated losses from the reserves (and all other components generally regarded as capital) is negative and exceeds a half of the subscribed capital stock. For the purposes of this provision the concept of a “private limited company” covers chiefly the forms of businesses specified in Appendix 1 to the Regulation 2013/34/EU and “capital stock” includes any potential share premium;
- b) A company where at least some associates have unlimited liability for the debt of the company (which is not a small or medium-sized enterprise and its existence does not exceed three years or – for the purpose of risk financing eligibility – which is not a small or medium-sized enterprise within seven years after its first commercial distribution which is, based on a due diligence carried out by a selected financial intermediary, eligible for investments in the sphere of risk financing) which suffered a loss of more than a half of its capital recorded in the company's accounts. For the purposes of this provision the concept of a "company where at least some associates have unlimited liability for the debt of the company" means mostly forms of businesses specified in Appendix II to the Regulation 2013/34/EU;
- c) If collective insolvency proceedings have been initiated against the company or the company meets the criteria of internal law concerning the initiation of collective insolvency proceedings upon the request of its creditors;
- d) If the company has received a subsidy for salvage but has not yet paid off its loan or has not terminated guarantee or if it has received aid for restructuralization and a restructuralization plan is still being applied;
- e) A company, which is not small or medium-sized enterprise, where in the last two years the accounting ratio of the company's debt to capital stock to equity exceeds 7.5 and the ratio of the net profit interest coverage of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization is below 1.0.

- a) Has not been finally convicted of a criminal offence whose state of facts is related to the subject matter of the Applicant's business (activities) or an economic criminal offence or a proprietary criminal offence or an offence viewed as such by law, if such an offence is related to the subject matter of the Public Tender;
 - b) In the last 3 years a disciplinary penalty has not been imposed on the person under special laws and regulations governing the performance of expert activities if these activities are related to the subject matter of the Public Tender;
4. Has expert guarantees, i. e. is able to put together a Project Team for a successful implementation of the NPS II Project, comprising of its employees or the employees of other Project participants whose nature, qualification and number correspond to the extent of the proposed NPS II Project;
 5. Meets the condition of the NPS II Programme participation, i. e. was an Aid Beneficiary (Partner) of any one of successful Research Centre Projects aimed at building research infrastructure of the new EU Centres of Excellence, Regional Research Centres and other types of research and development centres built by the implementation of Projects within the Operational Programmes financed from the ERDF with costs exceeding EUR 50 mil. at the time of the decision being issued by the relevant managing authority of the Operational Programme subsidised from the ERDF in 2007-2015, which will be (or its technologically self-contained part – 1st phase) completed by 31st December 2015 at the latest;
 6. Meets the indicators of the Research Centre Project, i. e. continuously proves the ability to meet the indicators
 - a) "The number of newly created jobs – total of RD employees" according to the schedule of the Research Centre Project;

¹⁵⁾ Irreproachable persons are persons who have not been finally convicted for a crime of economic or proprietary nature or a crime with state of facts related to the subject matter of the Applicant's activities defined in the Project or related to the subject of the aid and at the same time they are not subject to criminal proceedings due to any of the above criminal offences. The Applicant's integrity is assessed as the integrity of a legal person and all the natural persons who constitute the statutory body of the Applicant. For criminal proceedings that have not been concluded yet, the Granting Authority reserves the right of individual assessment of the Applicant's eligibility and the right to request additional documents for this purpose. The condition "has not been finally convicted" is defined as follows:

The Applicant is a natural person

- Has not been finally convicted of a criminal offence whose state of facts is related to the subject matter of the Applicant's business/ economic criminal offence/ proprietary criminal offence or an offence viewed as such by law;
- In the last 3 years a disciplinary penalty has not been imposed on the person under special laws and regulations governing the performance of expert activities if these activities are related to the subject matter of the Public Tender in research, development and innovation;

The Applicant is a legal person

- The statutory body/member of statutory body has not been finally convicted of a criminal offence whose state of facts is related to the subject matter of the Applicant's business (activities) / economic criminal offence/ proprietary criminal offence or an offence viewed as such by law;
- In the last 3 years a disciplinary penalty has not been imposed on the statutory body/member of statutory body under special laws and regulations governing the performance of expert activities if these activities are related to the subject matter of the Public Tender in research, development and innovation (in case of a statutory body with multiple members, it shall be established for each member individually).

Integrity shall not be established where the function performance itself (of the statutory body or its member) entails similar conditions of establishing integrity by means of a specific legal provision, e. g. Act No. 111/1998 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to Certain Other Acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended, or Act No. 341/2005 Coll., on Public Research Institutions, as amended.

- b) “Constructed capacity” and “Reconstructed, extended and newly built capacity (m²)” used for the purposes of RDI.
7. The Granting Authority further requests the Applicant includes in the Project Proposal
- a) A list of 3 most significant accomplishments/results or successful Projects or other activities of the person dealing with the Project;
- b) 1 significant accomplishment/result of the last calendar year per each key member of the Project Team¹⁶.

2.3.2 Eligibility Assessment

In the event the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) submits multiple Proposals of NPS II Projects within one Public Tender of the NPS II Programme, a single assessment of the Applicant’s eligibility shall be sufficient, attached to any of the NPS II Project Proposal. Together with the selected NPS II Project Proposal, the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) shall list all the respective NPS II Project Proposals the documents are related to; other Project Proposal shall include a reference to the complete documentation, i. e. the Proposal of the NPS II Project containing the required documents.

Failing to comply with any of the Applicant’s (another NPS II Project participant) eligibility conditions as stipulated in this Tender Documentation constitutes a reason for disqualifying the Proposal of the NPS II Project from the Public Tender, i. e. not concluding the Contract or not issuing the decision concerning granting aid for the implementation of the given NPS II Project.

Eligibility Condition		Assessment	
		Upon submitting NPS II Project Proposal	After Public Tender results publication
1.	Expert and legal capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Applicant substantiates meeting the conditions of the Research Organization – by a statutory declaration¹⁷ on the corresponding form for submitting the NPS II Project Proposal, which is a part of this Tender Documentation (including stamp and signatures of all Applicant’s statutory body members (or the statutory body members of another NPS II Project participant) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Applicant shall deliver to the Granting Authority a certified copy not older than 90 calendar days of the right to practise certificate²⁰ or a Certificate of Incorporation not older than 90 calendar days or other statutory evidence – <i>this certificate is not required from an Applicant (another NPS II Project participant), which is an</i>

¹⁶⁾ A key worker means such a research, development or academic worker of the Beneficiary (another NPS II Project participant) who is responsible for expert level and implementation of an individual research activity of the NPS II Project. The number of key workers shall be proportional to the scope of the NPS II Project.

¹⁷⁾ The statements on the form requested by the Granting Authority are related to proving eligibility in the scope of the provisions of Article 2.3.1 of this Tender Documentation and pursuant to Section 18 (2)c) to f) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.; for legal persons the eligibility stated in e) and f) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. shall be established for these legal persons and also for all natural persons executing the function of the Applicant's statutory body or its member, except for the persons for whom the implementation of the statutory body function or its member function is governed by a different legislation in force in the Czech Republic with similar conditions as the eligibility conditions specified in Section 18(2)e) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. – the organisational units of the Ministry fill in the statement solely as legal persons.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The right to practise is substantiated by attaching a simple copy of a business licence or another evidential certification¹⁸ to the NPS II Project Proposal, stating the scope of activities includes, but is not limited to research and development – <i>the right to practise shall not be substantiated by entities founded by special legislation and stated namely in such legislation¹⁹ (e. g. public and state universities and public research institutions)</i> • The Applicant shall always attach to the Project Proposal a simple copy of the relevant document authorizing the authorised person to sign the Project or to sign the Aid Contract concluded with the Granting Authority, which implies a signing authority (Power of Attorney to represent the Applicant/copy of internal rule with specimen signatures etc.) 	<p><i>organizational unit of the Ministry conducting research and development or a state university or a public research institution founded under a special legal regulation;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of Research Organization (RO) is not further submitted by the Applicant/another NPS II Project participant; it is verified by the Granting Authority which is entitled to request additional information and documents from the Applicant anytime in the event of any suspected discrepancy (this provision also applies to the following items in this chart)
2.	Economic eligibility (liquidation, bankruptcy, settled payables, recovery order, company in difficulty)	A statutory declaration on the respective form for submitting the NPS II Project Proposal, which is a part of this Tender Documentation	is not further submitted by the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant); when verifying it the Granting Authority cooperates with other public authorities, Office for the Protection of Competition or EC; <i>in the event of any suspected discrepancy noticed by the Granting Authority, the Granting Authority will proceed in a similar manner as with the condition stated in this chart</i>
3.	Integrity (final conviction, disciplinary penalty)	A statutory declaration on the respective form for submitting the NPS II Project Proposal, which is a part of this Tender Documentation	The Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) does not further substantiate – <i>verified by the Granting Authority through remote access to the Penal Register and potentially in cooperation with other public authorities</i>
4.	Expert guarantees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the relevant form of the NPS II Project Proposal the Applicant shall 	The Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) shall further not

²⁰⁾ E. g. an officially certified copy of a business licence, Articles of Organization, Articles of Incorporation, Memorandum of Association, a founding document or another document with the same level of explanatory power pursuant to the Trade Licensing Act, the Commercial Code, the Civil Code or Act No. 246/1992 Coll., on Protection of Animals Against Cruelty, as amended, or another legal regulation in force or effect at the time of foundation or association.

¹⁸⁾ E. g. a copy of the Articles of Organization or Incorporation, Memorandum of Association, Articles of Association or another founding document of the Applicant issued under any legal provisions in force in the Czech Republic constituting the Trade Licensing Act, the Commercial Code, the Civil Code or Act No. 246/1992 Coll., on Protection of Animals Against Cruelty, as amended, or another legal regulation in the Applicant is governed by such a legal regulation.

¹⁹⁾ E. g. Act No. 111/1998 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to some other Acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended, or Act No. 341/2005 Coll., on Public Research Institutions, as amended.

	(Project Team)	<p>namely identify the person dealing with the Project, i. e. the natural person who is an employee of the Applicant and is responsible for the expert level and implementation of the whole Project, Project administration and communication with the Granting Authority. At the same time the Applicant will transparently list the names of Project Team members²¹ in the Project Proposal, including their respective most significant accomplishments/results in the previous calendar year; the Applicant will further identify the key persons and their job positions, required qualification level, scope of work activities executed within the NPS II Project and shall specify the corresponding work capacity and role in the Project Team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured CV of the person dealing with the Project in the Appendix to the Project Proposal, listing three most significant RDI achievements, Projects or other activities successfully completed in the last three calendar years, related to the expert orientation of the proposed NPS II Project or its implementation for the purpose of substantiating the qualification prerequisites of the person dealing with the Project. 	<p>submit – <i>assessed by the Granting Authority and expert opponents and members of the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority from accessible information systems, annual reports of the Applicant and other documents</i></p>
5.	Participation Prerequisite for NPS II (existence of a successfully constructed Research Centre)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of the last updated technical description of the Research Centre Project (without design documentation), which has been accepted by the Managing Authority of the respective OP in the Czech language, • A simple copy of the latest monitoring report of the Research Centre, • A simple copy of the latest evaluation report of the Research Centre²², 	<p>The Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) does not further submit – <i>the Granting Authority verifies with the respective Managing Authority; further assessment is carried out by expert opponents and members of the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority; the results are also verified e. g. in RIV and other accessible databases (e. g. citation databases, patent databases, etc.) and information systems, annual reports of the Applicant and other</i></p>

²¹⁾ If the Applicant intends to create a new job position and not fill it until the start of Project implementation based on the results of the selection procedure, this fact has to be explicitly stated and described in the Project Proposal, including the selection procedure schedule, qualification requirements and the expected employment commencement date of the new employee – in this case the name of the worker shall not be listed. The Project Team means all employees of the Applicant or other Project participants who participate in Project implementation, creating its results and whose personal costs are paid from the Project.

²²⁾ The evaluation report is solely for the monitoring purposes of the Granting Authority and shall not be passed on to external opponents or members of the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A simple copy of a Cooperation Contract concerning the Research Centre Project implementation, where the Research Centre is being constructed with the participation of ERDF, concluded by and between the Beneficiary and the Partners (accepted by the Managing Authority of the relevant Operational Programme and valid for the sustainability period) always in case of existence of other NPS II Project participants, • The original statement of the Managing Authority of the respective Operational Programme establishing successful completion of the Research Centre Project or its technologically self-contained phase, if the Project of the respective Operational Programme has already been terminated at the time of the NPS II Project Proposal submission, or establishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) no obstacles impeding successful completion of the Research Centre Project or its technologically self-contained phase are known; b) The indicators of the Research Centre are successfully being met and in accordance with the stipulated schedule: “Number of newly created jobs – total of RD employees”, “Constructed capacity” and “Reconstructed, extended and newly built capacity (m²)”. 	<p><i>accessible documents</i></p>
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The statutory declarations related to a legal person shall always be signed by the statutory body of the given legal person or all members of statutory bodies consisted of multiple members.

The Applicant for special-purpose aid within this Public Tender of the NPS II Programme is a legal person and shall ascertain research and development as the subject matter of its activities or as the subject matter of its part implementing the Project. These activities shall always be stated in the Articles of Organization or Incorporation, Memorandum of Association, Articles of Association or another founding document of the Applicant required by law or shall be stipulated by a special law, if the Applicant is governed by such a law – the respective document which unambiguously substantiates the subject matter of the activities in the sphere of research and development, shall be enclosed to the Project Proposal, as stipulated in the chart above. The Granting Authority is entitled to verify the status of the Applicant/another Project participant anytime in the course of the Public Tender and subsequently and anytime in the course of Project implementation, as a research organization above the statutory declaration framework. In this respect the Granting Authority is entitled to request additional information and documents from the Applicant.

When verifying the integrity condition, the Granting Authority shall obtain an extract from the

Penal Register in the scope of the relevant authorization in compliance with another legal regulation²³). Integrity shall be established for each person who executes the function of the statutory body or is a member of the statutory body of the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant), who is a legal person, unless there are similar conditions related to the implementation of the statutory body function or the function of its member as the eligibility conditions defined in Section 18(2)e) and f) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. defined by another legal regulation. In this respect the Granting Authority is entitled to request additional and detailed information for such persons, including personal data, necessary for establishing integrity in the period after the termination of the evaluation period, for the Contract conclusion or the decision concerning granting aid.²⁴

The Applicant is obliged to deliver the documents for establishing eligibility (for itself as well as all other NPS II Project participants) immediately after the Public Tender results publication, **within 10 working days after the Public Tender results publication at the latest**. Should the Applicant fail to do so, the Granting Authority reserves the right not to conclude the Aid Contract.

If there are any changes after the submission of the NPS II Project Proposal and before the conclusion of the Contract or the decision on granting aid concerning the legal status of the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) or the data required for establishing eligibility or changes that could affect the decision-making process of the Granting Authority, the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) is obliged to inform the Granting Authority about such changes in writing **within 7 calendar days** after the day of finding out about such circumstances. Failing to meet the obligation of informing the Granting Authority about changes concerning the eligibility of the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) constitutes a reason for **immediate disqualification** of the NPS II Project Proposal from the Public Tender and not granting the aid.

In the event of finding discrepancies between the requisites stated in the NPS II Project Proposal and submitted documents on establishing the Applicant's eligibility (or eligibility of another NPS II Project participant), the Granting Authority reserves **the right not to conclude** the Aid Contract with such Applicant.

2.4 NPS II Programme Project Proposal

2.4.1 General Information

The application for special-purpose aid for implementation of a Project of the NPS II Programme **is the NPS II Project Proposal** (in the Czech and English language) submitted on required forms according to this Tender Documentation. The forms for submitting NPS II Project Proposals are available to the Applicants throughout the tender period on the website of the Programme <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum/narodni-program-udrzitelnosti-ii> or can be obtained from the contact person at the address of the Granting Authority stated in Article 2 of this Tender Documentation. These forms **cannot be formally changed in any way** or modified, except for filling in the requested data and information concerning the Project. Moreover it is not allowed to remove any form items, even if the Applicant does not fill them in. Otherwise the NPS II Project Proposal will be disqualified from the Public Tender. Where charts are used, all data shall be entered solely in thousands CZK.

²³) Act No. 269/1994 Coll., on Penal Register, as amended.

²⁴) E. g. Section 17 (4) of Act No. 341/2005 Coll., on Public Research Institutions, as amended.

The material content of the submitted NPS II Project Proposal shall comply with the NPS II Programme objectives specified in Article 1.3, the expected results in compliance with Article 1.4 and the announced tender conditions that constitute a part of this Tender Documentation. The Applicants are obliged to ensure the NPS II Project Proposal they are submitting is in complete compliance with generally binding legal regulations.

The period of the NPS II Project implementation is 5 years. The NPS II Project implementation shall take place within the effective period of the Aid Contract, the earliest possible commencement date being 1 January 2016 after due completion of drawing the aid from the ERDF and the implementation of the previous Research Centre Project or its technologically self-contained part (1st phase) in the Operational Programme.

The success of the NPS II Project Proposal in the Public Tender depends on the ability of the Applicant to duly describe all the parts of the NPS II Project and to prove the proposed manner of using the constructed and operated infrastructure of the Research Centre offers good prospects and that the NPS II Project implementation with the requested aid from the NPS II Programme will include its own research activities that will ensure:

- a) Producing high-quality, internationally recognizable and competitive results of RDI;
- b) Efficient use and operation of existing Research Centre capacity;
- c) Progressive development of research and development activities of the Research Centre in connection to the objectives and accomplishments of the Research Centre Project **while strictly adhering to the purpose this Research Centre has been established for;**
- d) Long-term sustainability of the Research Centre infrastructure including spatial, technological and human resource capacities.

At the same time the NPS II Project Proposal shall demonstrate its feasibility, meaning

- e) The Applicant guarantees expert quality of the material Project implementation with the use of high-quality Project Team of experts and managers, as well as a good strategy and operation management concept of the Research Centre;
- f) Proving the Research Centre strategic concept accounts for the interests of the research and application industries as well as all NPS II Project participants, including the definition of their financial shares and the extent of executing their rights to the results;
- g) Proving the expected financial means are adequate for a successful completion of the NPS II Project;
- h) Proving the amount of aid requested by the Applicant is adequate and has been limited by the Applicant to the essential minimum allowing the Applicant to make further investments or activities within RD which could otherwise not be executed or which would be executed in a highly limited scope²⁵;
- i) Proving the aid will contribute chiefly to the NPS II large-scale Project implementation with considerably greater objectives or possibly with higher financial participation of businesses in the NPS II Project and most notably in a shorter period of time compared

²⁵⁾ Aid requested by the Applicant shall not, within the meaning of Chapter, 4, Section 4.4, Article 4.4.1 (62) and Article 4.4.2 (71) of the Communication from the Commission (EU), Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01), subsidize the costs of the Applicant's activities that would arise in any case, shall not compensate for general economic business risks, to the contrary, shall change the manner of implementation by means of initiating additional activities.

to the time necessary without the aid (condition of motivational effect pursuant to Chapter 3 (36)d) and Section 4.4 of the Framework);

- j) Identifying other financial resources necessary for successful completion of the NPS II Project and proving the Applicant is capable of ensuring co-financing of the NPS II Project by other financial resources in the necessary extent and required structure, as well as quantifying these resources.

Moreover each Applicant for aid within the NPS II Programme shall demonstrate in the NPS II Project Proposal the ability to efficiently utilize and operate the Research Centre or its technologically self-contained phase, to achieve results to be recognized and competitive at the international level and that the proposed manner of utilizing the Research Centre to be constructed and operated has good prospects and aims at forming research infrastructure registered in the ESFRI²⁶ Roadmap or similar specialized structures supported and recognized abroad. For this reason, each NPS II Project Proposal shall contain an analysis of the existing scope of the Research Centre utilization based on:

- k) Evaluation of the results of the existing strategic concept of the research activities conducted by the Research Centre, including the concepts of management and human resources that were previously in place;
- l) Assessing the efficiency of the Research Centre operation in the past;
- m) Analyzing, identifying and quantifying all financial resources used up to this point, including quantification of the gained percentage share of the financial resources of the Partners/users of the Research Centre in the total volume of the Research Centre operational costs up to this point (divided into public, foreign and non-public financial resources);
- n) Evaluation of the implemented concept of human resources development;
- o) Analysis, identification and assessment of the results achieved in the area of RDI utilizing the facilities and infrastructure of the Research Centre (including the identification of the authors of the results) and assessing the contribution of the Research Centre employees to the results, including quality assessment;
- p) Evaluation of the existing external relations policy (in particular contractual relationships with Partners using the Research Centre), including the assessment of the results of international and regional cooperation.

The NPS II Project Proposal whose quality will be evaluated shall cover the complex requirements of fundamental protection of the Research Centre infrastructure.

2.4.2 Conditions of admission of a Project Proposal within the NPS II Programme Public Tender

1. The Project Proposal shall describe the research Project pursuant to Section 2 (2)i) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., with substance and content corresponding to one of the research categories (fundamental research, industrial research or experimental

²⁶ European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (<http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures>)

- development pursuant to Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and the Regulation²⁷⁾ or their combination and at the same time its achievements shall fulfil the conditions and objectives of the NPS II Programme specified in this Tender Documentation.
2. The NPS II Project Proposal shall be submitted as complete, on the forms provided and required by the Granting Authority in a complete printed and electronic form. The electronic version shall be submitted together with the printed version in one sealed envelope and shall contain the final electronic version, corresponding to the printed version, protected against changes (including the signatures – e. g. in a *.pdf format²⁸⁾), as well as the second final electronic and version with corresponding content, created primarily in the required formats (“*.docx/*.doc” or “*.xlsx/*.xls”) in which the forms were provided by the Granting Authority.
 3. The NPS II Project Proposal shall be submitted in the Czech and English language at the same time, unless explicitly stated otherwise on a form drafted by the Granting Authority. This condition does not apply to the documents listed in the Appendices. The Appendix that was originally drafted in English can be attached in the English as well as the Czech language version of the NPS II Project Proposal, unless the Czech version is explicitly required in the description of a form intended for submitting the NPS II Project Proposal by the Granting Authority. The conformity of the content and meaning of both language versions of the text is the responsibility of the Applicant.
 4. The NPS II Project Proposal shall be complete and shall include all the required data, obligatory appendices, including documents establishing the Applicant’s eligibility; respective stamps and signatures in compliance with the description given in the forms.
 5. The NPS II Project Proposal in paper and electronic form (on a CD, USB or another commonly used electronic medium) shall be delivered to the Granting Authority at the same time in a single sealed envelope with the address of the Granting Authority and the Applicant and a noticeable sign “NPS II – 1st Public Tender – DO NOT OPEN!”, at the latest on the date of tender period termination stated in Article 2.1 of this Tender Documentation. The printed version shall be submitted unbound and with numbered pages. Paperclips or other easily removable connecting office material, including a regular office stapler, can exceptionally be accepted as a way of connecting the pages.
 6. The NPS II Project Proposal shall cover multiple years and the expected and the earliest possible implementation commencement date shall be set for the date of the day following the Research Centre Project implementation completion or its technologically self-contained part, at the same time not preceding 1 January 2016.
 7. The total implementation period of the NPS II Project is 5 years after the starting date of implementation.

²⁷⁾ The definition of „*fundamental research*“ is a part of Article 2 (84) of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 June 2014, by which certain aid categories are declared to be compatible with the internal market, in compliance with Articles 107 and 108 of the Contract.

The definition of „*industrial research*“ is a part of Article 2 (85) of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 June 2014, by which certain aid categories are declared to be compatible with the internal market, in compliance with Articles 107 and 108 of the Contract.

The definition of „*experimental development*“ is a part of Article 2 (86) of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 June 2014, by which certain aid categories are declared to be compatible with the internal market, in compliance with Articles 107 and 108 of the Contract.

²⁸⁾ In the event of a discrepancy or disagreement, the final electronic version of the Project shall be deemed decisive; it should correspond to the printed version and be protected against changes

8. The NPS II Project shall be completed, including the aid drawing and achieving the target indicator values, on 31st December 2020 at the latest.
9. The NPS II Project Proposal can be represented solely by one Applicant who will become an exclusive Beneficiary in case of succeeding in the Public Tender. This does not restrict potential participation of other NPS II Project participants pursuant to Section 2 (2j) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.
10. Should there be any other participants in the NPS II Project pursuant to Section 2 (2j) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and Article 2.2 of this Tender Documentation, the NPS II Project Proposal shall incorporate a copy of a contract on participation in the NPS II Project implementation defining their mutual relationship, notably their shares in the rights to the results and assets acquired in the course of this Project, contributions to Project implementation and respective costs.
11. All the data concerning the Applicant and the Project Team stated in the NPS II Project Proposal shall comply with the required documents establishing the Applicant's eligibility. For legal persons established under a special legal regulation these data shall be in accordance with the applicable legal regulation.
12. The NPS II Project Proposal shall not be modified in the course of the Public Tender. The decision of the Granting Authority not to accept a part of the costs of the NPS II Project proposed by the Applicant or to reduce the total amount of the aid from public resources requested by the Applicant shall not be regarded as a change of the NPS II Project. The reduction of the proposed costs of the NPS II Project or the amount of aid from public resources shall be stated in the NPS II Project Proposal evaluation protocol.

2.5 Financial Affairs of the NPS II Project Proposal

2.5.1 Cost Eligibility

Eligible costs of the NPS II Project can solely be such costs and expenses that are in compliance with Section 2 (2l) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and Appendix I to the Framework essential for the NPS II Project and used by the Applicant or another NPS II Project participant in compliance with the objectives of the NPS II Programme and directly related to the NPS II Project implementation with the aim to meet the objectives defined in the NPS II Project.

The costs defined by the Applicant in the NPS II Project Proposal in the required itemization specified below are subject to evaluation in the Public Tender. The items shall be adequate and correspond to the material content of the submitted NPS II Project Proposal, scheduled research activities, shall be specified, justified and assigned to the individual Project activities of the Project Team members. Each aid request shall be specified in detail in the NPS II Project Proposal and duly justified in terms of necessity for utilization in the NPS II Project and in connection to the specific research activities of the NPS II Project. Budget items with insufficient justification are a reason for aid reduction.

The NPS II Project costs shall correspond to the regular local and current prices and shall be paid in compliance with the principles of economy (minimizing expenses while adhering to the NPS II Project objectives), purposefulness (direct connection to the NPS II Project and necessity with regard to the NPS II Project implementation) and efficiency (maximizing the ratio of outputs and inputs of the NPS II Project).

The costs are specified in the NPS II Project Proposal throughout the whole implementation period.

To quantify the costs of the NPS II Project, **the Applicant shall assign the NPS II Project to a particular research category.**²⁹ If the NPS II Project cannot be assigned to a single research category, the NPS II Project Proposal of the Applicant shall, in compliance with the given regulation, specify the particular activities by research categories, define their scope and quantify the costs corresponding to these activities and quantify the requested aid. Every activity within the NPS II Project that the Applicant requests aid for shall be completely assigned to a single research category.

The NPS II Project costs can solely include the costs incontrovertibly and directly related to the NPS II Project implementation. These costs shall not exceed the expected costs of the Research Centre sustainability accepted by the Managing Authority of the respective OP as of the date of opening the NPS II Programme Public Tender. Decisions concerning cost eligibility shall be made by the Granting Authority.

No requests for increasing the aid can be presented in the course of the Public Tender, not even due to changes of legislation or exchange rates.

The eligible costs of the NPS II Project include:

I. Direct costs

A. Capital expenditures

A.1 Capital expenditures on tangible fixed assets

Capital costs or expenditures up to 50% of the price of purchase and renewal of tangible assets (incl. reinvestments) required for the NPS II Project implementation and in the amount adequate considering the time and extent of use within the NPS II Project. If the assets used in the course of the Project are not used for the whole period of their lifespan, eligibility applies solely to the depreciation part corresponding to the time and extent of use of the assets in Project implementation, calculated on the basis of generally accepted and internally approved accounting principles. This part is then shown in the item of operational costs.

A.2 Capital expenditures on intangible fixed assets

Capital costs or expenditures up to 50% of the price of purchase and renewal of intangible assets (incl. reinvestments) required for the NPS II Project implementation and in the amount adequate considering the time and extent of use within the NPS II Project (e. g. technical knowledge, patents, licenses, software etc.). If the assets used in the course of the Project are not used for the whole of their lifespan, eligibility applies solely to the depreciation part corresponding to the time and extent of use of the assets in Project implementation, calculated on the basis of generally accepted and internally approved accounting principles. This part is then shown in the item of operational costs.

²⁹⁾ Categories pursuant to Section 4 of Article 25 (2) of the Regulation: Fundamental research, industrial research, experimental development.

B. Running costs

B.1 Personal running costs

Personal costs and expenditures on research and development workers, academic workers, technicians and other support staff who are employees of the Applicant (or another NPS II Project participant) and participate in the NPS II Project implementation and the corresponding costs of statutory deductions and contributions to the Social and Cultural Fund or the Social Fund (hereinafter referred to as “SCF”). Personal costs **shall not** be willingly increased for the purpose of the NPS II Project, they should correspond to the wage or salary schedule of the Applicant (or another NPS II participant) approved in advance. The Applicant should be able to substantiate the eligibility of personal costs. Maximum eligible extent of one worker’s load is 1.2³⁰. Personal costs and expenditures include:

B.1.1 Personal costs of employees in an employment relationship, in the extent necessary for the purpose of NPS II Project implementation and corresponding to their work load within the NPS II Project implementation and job description;

B.1.2 Grants of people directly engaged in the research conducted within the NPS II Project or participating in study Programmes or other types of scientific training taking place in the Research Centre, including research work conducted for the purpose of meeting the NPS II Project objectives, paid pursuant to Section 91 of Act No. 111/1998 Coll. in the extent corresponding to the extent of their participation in the NPS II Project,

B.1.3 Other personal costs or expenditures based on Contract for work or Contract for services concluded in direct connection to the NPS II Project implementation;

B 1.4 Statutory deductions and SCF

B.2 Running operational costs or expenditures arisen in direct connection to the NPS II Project implementation, namely

B.2.1 Costs and expenditures on purchase, operation, maintenance and repairs of current tangible assets. If the assets used in the course of the Project are not used for the whole of their lifespan, eligibility applies solely to costs in the extent and time necessary for Project implementation;

B.2.2 Costs and expenditures on purchase, operation, maintenance and repairs of current intangible assets (e. g. patents, licenses, software);

B.2.3 on material and small tangible assets in time and extent required exclusively for the NPS II Project implementation.

B.3 Other operational costs or expenditures arisen in direct connection to the NPS II Project implementation, namely:

B.3.1 Travel expenses of the Project Team members pursuant to Act No. 262/2006 Coll., the Labour Code, as amended, arisen to the Project Team members in direct connection to the NPS II Project;

³⁰⁾ Council Directive 93/104/EC, Article 6 and the Labour Code, Part Four.

B.3.2 Direct costs of the NPS II Project publicity and dissemination of the results of the NPS II Project, including the costs or expenditures on their publication, popularization or other forms of dissemination (including for instance conference fees for active participation of a Project Team member or the costs of translating information on results, PR events etc.);

B.3.3 Costs or expenditures for obtaining and recognizing the rights to the NPS II Project results, including the costs and expenditures to protect intellectual property, which is a result of the NPS II Project and is applied by the Beneficiary or another NPS II Project participant, which is a research organization, a small or medium-sized enterprise pursuant to the Framework;

B.3.4 Other operational costs

B.4 Costs or expenditures for services of external suppliers (including contractual research) used exclusively for the purpose of the NPS II Project, provided that the supplier/service provider is not a member of the Project Team or another employee of the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) or a person related to such a member or employee. In the NPS II Project Proposal the Applicant will justify the eligibility of these costs or expenditures in relation to meeting the particular NPS II Project objectives and will also give reasons why the work cannot be performed by its own capacities.

II. Indirect costs

Additional costs or expenditures, meaning additional **indirect** (overhead) costs or expenses incurred in direct relation to the NPS II Project implementation (e. g. administrative costs, expenses for support staff and infrastructure, energy and utilities etc.), unless these are already stated in different categories and can be shown in another way as direct costs.

The additional costs or expenditures shall relate to the NPS II Project, shall be accounted in compliance with the methodology of real indirect costs, the so-called “full cost model”. If the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) does not apply this methodology, the overhead expenses shall be accounted in accordance with the valid and regularly used methodology of the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) approved for accounting real indirect costs. Their payment from NPS II is limited by the maximum of **25%** of the total yearly eligible running costs of the NPS II Project.

If the NPS II Project costs include purchase or necessary renewal of Research Centre devices and equipment, the requested aid amount shall correspond to the ratio and time of such devices or equipment being used solely for research activities of the NPS II Project and at the same time it shall correspond to the mandatory categorization of activities pursuant to the Regulation. Other operational or purchase costs related to such devices or equipment shall be obtained by the Applicant from other financial sources. When acquiring fixed assets, the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) is obliged to justify the eligibility of the costs in the NPS II Project Proposal in relation to the NPS II Project objectives and the particular scheduled research activities; the statement should include the extent and time frame of the fixed assets being used by the Project Team for the purpose of the NPS II Project. Renewal of Research Centre devices and equipment is based on the original renewal schedule within the Research Centre Project within the respective Operational Programme. Any potential differences shall be duly substantiated.

In the event of purchasing services or assets within the NPS II Project, the Applicant shall follow the provision of Section 8 (5) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.

If the Applicant (another NPS II Project participant) includes leased asset appreciation in the eligible NPS II Project costs, the Applicant is obliged to obtain the Lessor's approval of such appreciation in advance. If the lease terminated before the NPS II Projects termination, the relationships connected to such technical appreciation shall be settled in accordance to a special legal regulation³¹.

Fixed tangible and intangible assets where the purchase costs are included in eligible costs of the NPS II Project cannot be sold or otherwise transferred by the Beneficiary throughout the whole implementation period. This does not affect the mere asset substitution related to technological progress when the same type of asset is substituted by a more technologically advanced type. If a sale based on a prior consent of the Granting Authority takes place, the amount gained for such a sale or lease of the substituted assets is revenue of the NPS II Project and the aid shall be decreased by this amount. A pledge, encumbrance, long-term lease or other legal rights can be established exclusively based on a prior explicit written consent of the Granting Authority.

The eligible costs of the NPS II Project **shall not include** purchases of cars and other vehicles necessary for successful completion of the NPS II Project or purchases of regular office, telecommunication and computing technologies including portable consumer electronics, office furniture and similar standard office equipment³². The purchase costs related to such equipment **shall not be paid from the special-purpose aid of the NPS II Project**.

The Applicant/Beneficiary shall ensure that in the event of multi-source financing of the NPS II Project the limit of maximum support intensity is observed and double financing of one research activity from public resources is avoided. The Granting Authority will take account of all authorised ways of multi-source financing. All financial resources of the NPS II Project shall be quantified by the Applicant in the NPS II Project Proposal and all expected financial resources shall be identified.

In the event of aid provision from the NPS II Programme, the Beneficiary shall regularly provide the Granting Authority with information on the use of the granted aid as well as the use of other financial resources and these shall be clearly identified. Under no circumstances will the NPS II Programme grant aid to a research activity, which is being financed in duplicate from another public financial resource or such a facility where the remaining amount of costs required for its operation or purchase.

Each request on aid provision shall be specified and duly substantiated in terms of its essential nature within the NPS II Project.

2.5.2 Form, intensity and amount of aid

Form of aid provision

The aid shall be granted in the form of a grant to legal persons or by increasing expenditures of state administration units, organizational units of territorial self-government or

³¹ The Civil Code.

³²) E. g. personal computers, monitors, copy machines, printers, plotters, notebooks, notepads, ipads, mobile phones, smartphones, GPS and other navigation devices, recorders and other regular recording devices, cookers, fridges, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers etc.)

organizational units of ministries engaged in research and development. This subsidy shall be granted as special-purpose aid pursuant to Section 7 (4) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. after conducting the Public Tender in research, development and innovation pursuant to Section 17 and the following provisions of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.

Aid intensity

The aid intensity defined as percentage of approved NPS II Project costs shall be calculated individually for each NPS II Programme Project pursuant to Chapter III. of the Regulation. The maximum aid amount shall not exceed the limits of the total approved costs stipulated by the regulations specified above. The highest permitted aid intensity provided from the NPS II Programme financial resources shall amount to 60% of the total amount of approved costs (including approved financial bonus pursuant to Article 3.5 and 3.8 of this Tender Documentation for the NPS II Project being assessed at level II of category A).

The mandatory proportion of non-public resources and foreign financial resources shall be at the minimum of 40%, which the Beneficiary and other NPS II Project participants shall jointly use for executing the NPS II Project, and should contribute to achieving sufficient motivation for efficient use of the aid throughout the NPS II Project implementation and efficient exercising of rights to results and implementation of the achieved results in practical applications.

Pursuant to Article 4.5.1.4 and Appendix II of the Framework and Chapter I, Article 8 of the Regulation, when calculating the total aid amount, the resources of the Research Organization invested in the NPS II Project from other public resources (e. g. from special-purpose aid of another Programme or from institutional aid) are counted as well.

The aid intensity and its amount for the individual NPS II Projects shall be determined by the Granting Authority based on the results of the NPS II Project Proposal evaluation and can be modified in the course of the NPS II Project implementation based on the results of the NPS II Project periodic evaluation in compliance with Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and the announced Programme conditions, conditioned by the compliance with the limits pursuant to the Regulation and Framework.

The aid intensity shall be quantified by the Applicant in the NPS II Project Proposal according to the NPS II Project classification and its individual research activities (and corresponding eligible costs) in the respective research categories. If the NPS II Project consists of different research activities, these activities shall be qualified as activities under one of the research categories below and their costs shall be quantified separately in compliance with the Regulation. The quantification shall be made by the Applicant on a separate form. The calculation of the requested aid amount shall be presented clearly and transparently and shall be carried out and identified in relation to the particular eligible costs of the particular research activities defined in the NPS II Project Proposal with the aim of meeting the particular milestones and objectives of the NPS II Project, otherwise the Applicant undertakes the risk of the requested aid amount being reduced due to legal safeguard. This provision serves as a motivation to the Aid Beneficiary to utilize the aid efficiently and actively seek other resources of the Research Centre funding. The intensity of the NPS II Project aid from public resources **shall not** exceed 60% of the total approved Project costs while complying with the limits pursuant to Chapter III, Section 4, Article 25 (5) of the Regulation:

- 100% of eligible costs for fundamental research;
- 50% of eligible costs for industrial research;

- 25% of eligible costs for experimental development.

In the event of other NPS II Project participants, the aid intensity shall be quantified in compliance with the above for each participant to be drawing the aid. If another NPS II Project participant is a business, the aid intensity of individual industrial research and experimental development activities can be increased pursuant to Chapter III, Section 4, Article 25 (6) and (7) of the Regulation.

The Granting Authority reserves the right to monitor if the approved aid intensity has been complied with and if duplicate financing of the same RDI activities from public resources has been avoided, anytime in the course of implementation and 10 years after Project termination. At the same time the possibility of cross-financing permitted within certain Operational Programmes shall be taken into account. These financial resources shall be clearly identified in accounting and the Beneficiary shall substantiate them regularly to the Granting Authority.

The other Granting Authorities will be provided access to the information on submitted Project Proposals within the NPS II Programme in the extent defined in the following article of this Tender Documentation, in compliance with applicable legislation for the purpose of efficient assessment of financial resources and their monitoring, with the aim to eliminate risks of financing the same activities from multiple sources and eliminating the cases when the total aid intensity could exceed the permitted aid limit³³. The Granting Authority reserves the right to potentially use another suitable, legal and mutually agreed form of cooperation with the other RDI Granting Authorities.

Use of Aid

The use of aid shall continue in compliance with Section 8 and other related provisions of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and the Regulation. From the granted special-purpose aid of the NPS II Project such eligible costs of the NPS II Project may be paid, which are paid by the Beneficiary or another NPS II Project participant for the NPS II Project implementation, which are approved by the Granting Authority based on the facts and reasons stated in the NPS II Project Proposal and which are defined in the Aid Contract or decision concluded with the Granting Authority (hereinafter referred to as the “approved NPS II Project costs”). The granted special-purpose aid can be drawn solely for the payment of approved costs of the NPS II Project stated in the NPS II Project Proposal, i. e. from the effective date of the Aid Contract to the date of Project implementation completion.

The aid provided for the NPS II Project implementation **shall not be used**

- a) For such activities of the Research Centre for which aid within one of the complementary synergy grant measures, mostly the “activity of special-purpose support of research infrastructure Projects for RDI³⁴” has already been granted and is being provided;
- b) If the Research Centre has already been granted aid within the National Programme of

³³) Act No. 148/1998 Coll., on Protection of Classified Information and Amending Certain Acts, as amended, No. 101/2000 Coll., on Protection of Personal Data and on Amendment to Certain Acts, as amended, No. 106/1999 Coll., on Free Access to Information, as amended, No. 121/2000 Coll., on Copyright and Rights Related to Copyright and on Amendment to Certain Acts (the Copyright Act), No. 89/2012 Coll., the Civil Code, as amended).

³⁴) Aid granted pursuant to Section 3 (2)d) and Section 7 (5) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., e. g. based on the implementation of the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 22 February 2011 No. 143 or the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 15 March 2010 No. 208 or the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 29 June 2011 No. 502 or the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 14 December 2011 No. 922 et seq. approved and effective at the time of the NPS II Programme duration.

Sustainability I – NPS I, identification code LO, according to the Information System of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation (hereinafter referred to as “IS RDI”);

- c) For executing the second unfinished (parallel) phase of multi-phased Projects under the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education (OP RDE).

Aid amount modification

After evaluating each individual stage of dealing with the NPS II Project, the Granting Authority reserves the right to change the originally approved aid amount throughout the course of dealing with the Project in relation to the result of quality assessment of each individual Project milestone.

The Granting Authority will generally reduce the aid amount by approximately 10% where the NPS II Project will not demonstrate the required quality and result level (e. g. insufficient quality of published results at the international level, non-compliance with the set indicator values and milestones according to the stipulated schedule, failure to gain the requested amount of funding from non-public resources etc.).

On the other hand, where the NPS II Project proves results or contribution of exceptional quality (e. g. the Project Team members will receive and in the course of dealing with the Project will start an exceptionally prestigious grant (e. g. a grant funded by the European Research Council etc.³⁵), or will successfully complete one of the prestigious international and certified study Programmes (EMBL etc.) within an international research fellowship, in view of the current volume of resources available in the NPS II Programme, the Granting Authority can acknowledge such a fact by increasing the aid of the NPS II Project for the following calendar year (details are specified below, in Articles 3.5 and 3.8). However, there is no legal right to the aid increase.

Changes of approved costs or aid amount will be limited pursuant to Section 9 (7) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and by the maximum, i. e. 60 %, permitted aid intensity in the NPS II Programme.

2.6 Defining data to be published

For the purposes of the Public Tender in Research, Experimental Development and Innovation of the NPS II Programme, the Granting Authority is entitled, pursuant to Section 17(6) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., to collect necessary data concerning the Project Proposals and the Applicants including their personal data, both in written and electronic form. These data are not publicly accessible under the applicable legal regulation.³⁶ When collecting, revealing or otherwise processing these data, the Granting Authority is obliged to follow the applicable legal regulations³⁷.

As far as personal data are concerned, the Granting Authority is allowed to reveal solely the name, surname and academic titles and degrees of the person dealing with the Project as well as other workers participating in the proposed Project.

³⁵) Apart from the ERC grants, other activities (ESA, ETI) and Projects (e. g. Horizon 2020) within the EU Framework Programmes will be accepted.

³⁶) Act No. 106/1999 Coll., on Free Access to Information, as amended.

³⁷) Act No. 148/1998 Coll., on Protection of Classified Information and Amending Certain Acts, as amended

Confidential information, such as details concerning the discussed issues and the manner of dealing with them, names of opponents and their evaluation and personal data of the persons dealing with the Project shall not be revealed by the Granting Authority.

All information in the NPS II Project Proposal are considered confidential throughout the course of the tender and evaluation period of the Public Tender.

The delivered Project Proposals and information on Project Proposals not approved for aid shall not be released, except for the basic identification information made public by the Granting Authority when announcing the results of the Public Tender, such as the name of the Project, Applicant, person dealing with the Project, subject matter and requested aid amount.

Pursuant to Section 31 (3) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and Government Regulation No. 397/2009 Coll., on Information System for Research, Experimental Development and Innovation, the Aid Beneficiary is obliged to present information on the Projects and their results to the Granting Authority annually; the Granting Authority shall transfer this information into the IS RDI.

All information included in the Project Proposal are considered confidential throughout the course of the tender and evaluation period of the Public Tender.

The Granting Authority is entitled to provide and release information on subsidized Projects within the NPS II Programme exclusively in the extent and manner defined by Sections 30 to 32 of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., namely to release the name and subject matter of the Project, Aid Beneficiary, the name of the person responsible for dealing with the Project, the total approved costs of the Project and their categorisation, amount of aid, level of data confidentiality and the evaluation of the Project by the Granting Authority after its conclusion.

The Granting Authority reserves the right to enable the other Granting Authorities access to the information on submitted Project Proposals within the NPS II Programme pursuant to Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and special legal regulations or by means of another suitable and mutually agreed form of cooperation for the purpose of efficient assessment of financial resources and their monitoring, with the aim to eliminate risks of financing the same activities from multiple sources and eliminating the cases when the total aid intensity could exceed the permitted aid limit set by the Regulation. If the NPS II Project Proposal includes a Project subsidized from the State Budget of the Czech Republic by one of the Granting Authorities as another financial resource of funding the Research Centre, the Granting Authority (upon request) will be provided the following information from the NPS II Project Proposal, which shall be considered confidential and can be used solely for the purpose described above:

- List of key members of the Project Team, their job positions and extent of work activities including work load performed within the NPS II Project;
- List of tangible and intangible assets specified in the eligible costs of the NPS II Project, time and extent of use within the NPS II Project.

Pursuant to Section 31 (3) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and Government Regulation No. 397/2009 Coll., on Information System for Research, Experimental Development and Innovation, the Aid Beneficiary annually transfers information on the NPS II Programme Projects and their results into the IS RDI in the extent and manner defined in Sections 30 to 32 of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., the Aid Beneficiary namely releases the name and subject matter of the NPS II Project, Aid Beneficiary, the name of the person responsible for dealing

with the Project, the total approved costs of the NPS II Project and their categorisation, amount of aid, level of data confidentiality and the evaluation of the NPS II Project by the Granting Authority after its conclusion.

2.7 Information Support for Applicants

The Granting Authority will hold informative seminars for the Applicants on 20 May 2015 and on 2 July 2015, always from 10:30 a.m. in the conference room No. 081, Building C of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Karmelitská 7, Praha 1. The seminar is scheduled until 4 p.m.

The Granting Authority reserves the right to change the date and place of the seminars and inform about such a change on the website <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum/narodni-program-udrzitelnosti-ii> 3 days prior to the seminar date at the latest.

The representatives of the Applicants will obtain general information concerning the Public Tender of the NPS II Programme and a priority will be given to general answers to questions concerning processing and submitting the NPS II Project Proposal sent to the Granting Authority in electronic form. Considering the aim to ensure a level-playing field, any potential questions and related answers will be published on the website of the Programme <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum/narodni-program-udrzitelnosti-ii>.

Throughout the tender period answers provided by the contact person will be exclusively in relation to questions of technical and formal nature. Answers to other questions will not be provided by the Granting Authority.

If any of the Applicants does not use the technical and informational assistance, no objections of a handicap in the Public Tender on this basis will be accepted.

The Applicants can participate in the above mentioned seminars exclusively after **prior registration**, which is **required** due to limited spatial capacity.

The registration will be closed by the Granting Authority when the capacity of the meeting room is filled, or **two working days before the scheduled seminar date, at the latest**. At the same time the Granting Authority reserves the right to limit the number of participants in the event of exceeded capacity of the meeting room to two persons representing one Research Centre or set an additional date for another seminar for those interested parties who have already registered, in which case the registered persons would be informed directly by email.

Registration and questions:

The Applicant will send an email to the email address of the contact persons of the Granting Authority (hakenova@msmt.cz and a copy to jan.polecha@msmt.cz) with the subject heading **NPU II-SEMINAR**, including: full name of the representing person and their academic degrees, current email address and phone number in case of change in place or time of the seminar, name of employer and represented Research Centre as well as questions related to processing and submitting the NPS II Project Proposal, if any.

If the sender does not deliver the required registration and potential questions in an electronic form **2 calendar days before the scheduled seminar date at the latest** or does not state the correct subject heading of the email, the message might not be identified in time and the Granting Authority does not guarantee the possibility of the representing person participating in the seminar or getting answers to their questions.

3. Evaluation Plan

3.1 Ex ante evaluation of the NPS II Project Proposal in the Public Tender

The subject of evaluation in selection of the NPS II Projects in the Public Tender is the NPS II Project Proposal submitted by the Applicant within the tender period and in compliance with the requirements stipulated in this Tender Documentation, including all required Appendices and documents establishing the Applicant's eligibility.

The evaluation of the NPS II Project Proposals in the Public Tender is governed by Section 21 of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. Foreign experts will participate in the evaluation.

The NPS II Project Proposals will be inspected by the Commission for Accepting the NPS II Project Proposals in terms of meeting the conditions of the Public Tender. The results of the Commission's evaluation will be forwarded to the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority consisting of the members of the Commission for Large Infrastructures who meet the conditions of Section 21 (1) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. The manner of conduct of the Expert Advisory Body of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports formed for the NPS II Programme, its composition, way of handling data included in the NPS II Project Proposals and other rules of conduct of the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority in relation to evaluating the NPS II Project Proposals are governed by internal regulations of the Granting Authority, namely the Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Expert Advisory Body published on the website of the Programme <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum/narodni-program-udrzitelnosti-ii>.

The Granting Authority will provide expert opinions of at least two independent experts for each NPS II Project Proposal that has met all conditions for acceptance of the NPS II Project Proposal to the Public Tender who, pursuant to Section 21 (5) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., are not biased in relation to the subject of the Public Tender or the Applicants in any way, namely they do not participate in drafting the NPS II Project, they do not hold any personal interest in the decision concerning the aid being granted to a particular NPS II Project and are not in any relationship with the Applicants, personal, business-based or other. The expert opinions of the opponents form the basis for evaluating the NPS II Project Proposal by the Expert Advisory Body.

In the event the Granting Authority decides, based on the Proposal of the Commission for Accepting the NPS II Project Proposals, pursuant to Section 21 (3) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., that the NPS II Project Proposal does not meet the conditions of the Public Tender specified in Article 2 of this Tender Documentation, or decides based on a substantiated recommendation of the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority that the NPS II Project Proposal will not be further evaluated for fundamental reasons pursuant to Section 21 (5) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., the NPS II Project Proposal will be disqualified from the Public Tender and no expert opinions of opponents will be provided for this NPS II Project Proposal.

The Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority and independent opponents will evaluate the NPS II Project Proposals objectively and without bias in compliance with the announced rules and criteria of this Public Tender. The evaluation criteria defined in the following Article will be identical in both situations. The Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority is obliged to take into account the evaluation of the NPS II Project Proposal by expert opponents and consider their opinion; in the event of substantial differences the Granting Authority is obliged to justify these duly in the relevant protocol.

The Expert Advisory Body will compile an Evaluation Protocol for each evaluated NPS II Project Proposal delivered to the Public Tender pursuant to Section 21 (6) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.

The decisions concerning the Public Tender result shall be made by the Granting Authority. The Public Tender result will be announced to the Applicant at the website of the NPU II Programme <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum/narodni-program-udrzitelnosti-ii>.

Through this address the successful Applicants will be asked to establish their eligibility pursuant to Article 2.3.2 of this Tender Documentation and at the same time to conclude the Aid Contract.

The final ranking of the NPS II Project Proposals is carried out in compliance with Section 21(7) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. The final ranking of the NPS II Project Proposals will be formed on the basis of point evaluation of the NPS II Project Proposals by the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority and by means of their descending order.

When announcing the results of the Public Tender, the Granting Authority will provide and release information about the NPS II Projects in the extent and manner defined in Sections 30 to 32 of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.; information about the NPS II Projects not accepted for subsidy shall not be released, except for the basic identification information published by the Granting Authority (in the extent defined by Act No. 130/2002 Coll.), such as name, Applicant, name of the person dealing with the Project, subject matter and requested aid amount.

3.2 Criteria for evaluating the NPS II Project Proposal in the Public Tender

Evaluation is carried out in relation to the research activities included in the Project Proposal of Research Centre Funding Sustainability, its scientific strategy and operational management concept of the Research Centre, the way of using and operating the constructed infrastructure of the Research Centre, achieved results, further prospects and the ability of the Applicant to achieve results that are competitive and recognized at the international level, in relation to the NPS II Project budget, quality and composition of the proposed Project Team, management, according to the description in the NPS II Project Proposal.

NPS II Project Objectives	Project Criteria	Indicator	Description and evaluation units	Maximum value
Ensuring long-term sustainable funding of the Research	Extending and improving quality of capacity of research in the Czech	Extended or newly reconstructed capacities.	Extending the technological as well as personal (research workers) capacities. Measured by increase in %.	10

Centre.	Republic It will suffice to select one of the indicators.	Constructed capacities	Reconstructed, extended and newly constructed capacities (m ²).	10
	Complying with the scientific strategy of the Research Centre – Ability to provide services leading to scientific excellence.	The number of publications acquired thanks to the services of the Research Centre in the respective disciplines and their level compared to the Czech average according to the classification carried out by the R&D Council/year.	Number modified by the point evaluation according to RIV. The Project with the highest number of points will be awarded rating 14, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	14
		Change in the quality of results of research conducted thanks to the services of the Research Centre at the beginning and at the end of the Programme duration period.	Change in impact factor at the beginning and end of the monitored period in %. The Project with the greatest impact factor change will be awarded rating 10, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	10
To support cooperation of research Organizations, international cooperation in RDI, mobility of research	To ensure stable and efficient management of the Research Centre.	Number of cooperating institutions of the public research sector, international organizations and the private sector.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 5, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	5
		Financial resources obtained from international grants,	Percentage increase. The Project with	5

workers (most notably international mobility), education of students and development of highly qualified work force.		national grants and industry orders.	the greatest increase will be awarded rating 5, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	
		Number of contracts with other organizations (national, international), active or closed in the given period.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 5, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	5
	Complying with the strategy of human resources development.	Number of Projects entailing international mobility of research workers.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 3, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	3
		Number of foreign research workers staying for more than 3 months.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 4, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	4
		Number of foreign research workers staying for a period of time between 1 and 3 months.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 3, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	3

		Number of research workers using the constructed Research Centre.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 5, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	5
		Number of master and postgraduate students of Programmes using the constructed Research Centre.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 4, the remaining Projects proportionally lower; universities and public research institutions will be evaluated separately.	4
	Socioeconomic impact of the Research Centre.	Number of associations / platforms / spin-off / start up companies formed around the Research Centre.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 5, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	5
		Number of patents and other achievements protected under special legal regulations.	Number. The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 5, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	5
		Volume of public contracts for	Financial volume	2

		industrial enterprises within renewal and maintenance of the Research Centre.	The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 2, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	
		Number of newly created jobs – total of RD employees	FTE The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 5, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	5
		Number of Projects of application sphere and the Research Centre cooperation.	Number The Project with the highest number will be awarded rating 5, the remaining Projects proportionally lower.	5
Points total				100

Materially identical criteria will be used for running and final Project evaluation.

3.3 Programme Objectives Fulfilment Criteria

Criteria of the NPS II Programme Evaluation

Programme Objective	Criterion	Indicator
Ensuring long-term sustainable funding of of the Research Centre.	Expansion and improved quality of research capacities in the Czech Republic.	Number of supported large Research Centre Projects, their compliance with the RDI priorities of the Czech Republic.
	Ability to provide services leading to scientific	Number of publications acquired thanks to the services of the Research Centre in the respective disciplines and their level compared to the Czech average according to the classification carried out by the R&D

	excellence.	Council. Change in the quality of results of research conducted thanks to the services of the Research Centre at the beginning and at the end of the Programme duration period (impact factor change at the beginning and end of the monitored period).
To support cooperation of research organizations, international cooperation within RDI, research worker mobility (most notably international mobility), student education and development of highly qualified workforce	Stable and efficient management of the Research Centre.	Number of cooperating institutions of the public research sector, international organizations and the private sector. Number of Projects entailing international mobility of research workers. Number of foreign research workers staying for more than 3 months. Number of foreign research workers staying for a period of time between 1 and 3 months. Number of master and postgraduate students of Programmes using the constructed Research Centre.
	Socioeconomic impact of the Research Centre.	Number of associations / platforms / spin-off / start up companies formed around the Research Centre. Number of patents and other achievements protected under special legal regulations.

3.4 Monitoring of the subsidized NPS II Programme Projects

The results and compliance with the Project objectives will be monitored continuously and regularly and evaluated in cooperation with the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority appointed for the purpose of this Programme based on the set of indicators specified below in Article 3.7. The included results will be such RDI results that will be created and demonstrated in the course of the NPS II Project.

The annual evaluation and inspection of meeting the set objectives will be carried out in compliance with legal regulations, most notably Section 13 of Act No. 130/2002 Coll., and according to the instructions of the Granting Authority at the level of individual NPS II Projects. In accordance with customs and legal requirements the details will be specified in the Aid Contract for the NPS II Project, which shall be concluded between the Granting Authority and the Applicants who succeeded in the Public Tender where the decision of the Granting Authority is positive.

3.5 Running and final NPS II Project evaluation

Each NPS II Project will be continuously monitored and evaluated by the Granting Authority pursuant to Section 13 of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. Running evaluation of the NPS II Project will be executed for each finished calendar year and will mostly focus on the compliance with the Beneficiary's NPS II Project objectives according to the selected indicators, objectives of strategic research agenda in connection to meeting the NPS II Programme objectives and complying with other contractual conditions. Among other things, for this purpose the Beneficiary submits a Proposal for specifying the NPS II Project for the next stage, which is a calendar year.

Running and final evaluation of the subsidized NPS II Projects will be effected according to the instructions of the Granting Authority in cooperation with the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority in two stages:

- I. **Monitoring:** Monitoring and inspection of the works carried out within the NPS II Project and their compliance with the proposed schedule, meeting the milestones and compliance with the proposed budget of the NPS II Project based on the running report presented by the Granting Authority or other documents requested by the Granting Authority. The fulfilment of obligations related to information transfer into IS RDI pursuant to Section 31 of Act No. 130/2002 Coll. will be monitored as well.
- II. **Evaluation:** Comprehensive evaluation of the NPS II Project or its stage. The evaluation will be carried out by the Granting Authority in cooperation with the Expert Advisory Body formed for the NPS II Programme based on a detailed running or final report presented by the Aid Beneficiary and accompanied by an on-site inspection or opponent proceedings. This evaluation will focus on detailed inspection of the achieved RDI results, the course of meeting monitoring indicators of the NPS II Project, utilizing infrastructure for RDI, international cooperation with the public and private sector within RDI, compliance of the Research Centre activities with the schedule and related works approved by the Granting Authority, compliance of resource utilization with the proposed budget, human resources management and other aspects according to the approved NPS II Project. The second stage of the NPS II Project evaluation will always be

carried out by the Granting Authority in the event of finding any incongruity in the first evaluation stage or based on a Proposal of the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority and always after concluding each NPS II Project. The evaluation in the second stage will be executed in compliance with Act No. 130/2002 Coll. as a running evaluation also at least once in the course of dealing with the NPS II Project.

In the event of non-compliance with the NPS II Project objectives, including the mandatory indicators, the Granting Authority shall resort to decreasing the aid for the following years by 10% of the total approved costs. If the objectives of the NPS II Projects are fulfilled successfully and at the same time the mandatory indicator values are efficiently and effectively increased, the Granting Authority can grant a one-time increase of the aid for the given calendar year by up to 10% of the total approved costs within the available financial resources, which will be provided in the same or the following calendar year.

The results of the NPS II Project evaluation in the second stage will be classified into three categories

A. The NPS II Project has fully complied/is complying with the defined objectives:

- A1) The NPS II Project has fully complied/is complying with the defined objectives and has reached outstanding and internationally recognized results even in comparison within the NPS II Programme. At the same time the Project shall demonstrate effective and efficient increase of the indicator values stipulated in the Contract in the past period and meet the premium conditions defined in Article 3.8. By this it achieves the threshold values for assigning premium, which will influence the increase of the aid provided by the Granting Authority by the maximum of 10% for the following Project stage. There is no legal right to the premium financial bonus. Its granting will be subject to decision of the Granting Authority and conditioned by the level of resources available within the NPS II Programme.
- A2) The NPS II Project has successfully complied/is complying with the objectives stipulated in the Contract, achieves internationally recognized results; the previously granted aid amount remains unchanged.
- A3) The NPS II Project has complied/is complying with the extent of the objectives stipulated in the Contract on Granting Aid; however, the results have not achieved the required quality and international recognition, for this reason the NPS II Project aid for the following period will be decreased according to the decision of the Granting Authority; maximum decrease will not exceed 10% in comparison to the previously granted aid amount for the following Project stage.

Premiums do not apply in the final evaluation. In the event of evaluation and meeting the criteria of large infrastructure³⁸ the Granting Authority can recommend and enable the Aid Beneficiary a change of the research activities funding mode within the activity Projects of Large Infrastructures pursuant to Section 2(2)f) and Section 7(4) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.

³⁸ European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (<http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures>) and further also, among others: Fotakis, C.: FP7 Interim Evaluation: Analyse of FP7 supported Research Infrastructure Initiatives in the Context of the European Research Area, Final Report, October 2010

- B. The NPS II Project is not complying/has not complied with the defined objectives for reasons that could not have been foreseen by the Granting Authority or the Aid Beneficiary.
- C. The NPS II Project is not complying/has not complied with the defined objectives.

The result of the NPS II Project evaluation in the second stage in category A1 gives the option to grant a financial bonus of up to 10% of previously granted aid amount for the given or the following calendar year, taking into account the significance of the NPS II Project results in the international context and the resources available within the Programme. The necessary, yet not sufficient condition for granting the bonus is effective and efficient increase of the defined indicator values of the NPS II Project for the following Project stage. There is no legal right to the financial bonus.

If the NPS II Project reaches the A1 category in the second stage evaluation and at the same time its parameters are close to the parameters of an RDI large infrastructure Project and thus is an infrastructure of a strategic national importance with a defined research mission and long-term development plan, which enables scientists to conduct research at a high international level, national and international teams are used mostly for solving high-priority science and research Projects, creates environment for young talented scientists and first-rate researchers and provides effective platform for open and direct knowledge exchange by facilitating encounters of students, academic workers, research and development workers from the industrial sphere, contributes to the highest possible level of scientific and technical education in the field, applies a philosophy of simple and open access for the scientific community, i. e. makes its capacities available to the international community based on free competition and a substantial part of the capacities (e. g. 30% of time or capacity) is used by international research workers, supports regional development and regional competitive ability, the Granting Authority can recommend the Aid Beneficiary prepares a research infrastructure Project pursuant to the provision of Section 2(2)f) and Section 7(4) of Act no. 130/2002 Coll. in such a way that in the event of an approval by the government it could be subsidised by special-purpose aid within the activity of research infrastructure Projects from 2020.

The result of the NPS II Project evaluation in the second stage in category A3 gives the Granting Authority an option to temporarily penalise the insufficient quality of the results by decreasing the aid amount by up to 10% for the given or the following stage. The Granting Authority will take into account the results of the NPS II Project running evaluation and the recommendations elaborated by the experts from the Expert Advisory Body of the Granting Authority.

The result of the NPS II Project evaluation in the second stage in category B represents non-compliance or partial compliance with the contractual obligations provably caused by unforeseeable circumstances on the side of the Granting Authority and the Aid Beneficiary and as such will be dealt with at the level of contractual relations between the Aid Beneficiary and the Granting Authority. Such a result can temporarily affect the amount of the aid provided to the NPS II Project for the next Project stage, unless the Granting Authority and the Aid Beneficiary agree otherwise.

The result of the NPS II Project evaluation in the second stage in category C represents non-compliance or partial compliance with the contractual obligations and as such will be dealt with at the level of contractual relations between the Aid Beneficiary and the Granting Authority. Such a result will always affect the amount of the aid provided to the NPS II

Project for the next Project stage, when the aid amount can be decreased pursuant to conditions stipulated by Act No. 130/2002 Coll. by up to 50% of the total approved costs stated in the Aid Contract. For NPS II Projects that have already been terminated, the result of category C will be settled by a contractual penalty that can even take the form of returning the aid or its part.

3.6 Threshold conditions of successful completion of the NPS II Programme Projects

The threshold conditions of successful completion of the subsidized NPS II Projects are defined as mandatory minimum target indicator values, which all the subsidized NPS II Projects have to reach as of the date of termination of aid provided for its implementation.

The NPS II Programme Project can be considered successfully completed with grading in the A3 category exclusively if, before its termination, new accomplishments within RD were achieved solely in the course of the Project implementation and were applied in the RIV IS RDI as a result of the NPS II Project by one of the members of the Aid Beneficiary's Project Team or by a research worker using the services of large infrastructures within the NPS II Project.

At the same time the threshold condition is represented by the foundation of at least one new unique result of

1. Type J – reviewed expert article in a specialized periodical, D – article in a collection or B – a specialized book per each full-time research worker³⁹, with at least 10 results per Project each year;
2. Type P – a patent or another result protected under special laws and regulations or the results of categories N, Z, R, F for each Project in the course of the implementation time.
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Only such results will be accounted for when evaluating the threshold conditions for successful NPS II Project completion, whose evaluation in internationally recognized citation databases (e. g. WOK, Scopus) exceeds the field median and which have been applied in RIV IS RDI exclusively as the results of this Project within the period of its duration.

3.7 Reporting the RDI results and meeting the NPS II Programme Project objectives

Achieving RDI results and meeting the NPS II Project objectives is reported by the Aid Beneficiary continually on a yearly basis and based on yearly stages monitored by the Granting Authority. The following indicators have been set for reporting Project results:

- a) The number of new unique results of the NPS II Project reported in RIV by the Aid Beneficiary or another NPS II Project participant that were published or otherwise officially released during the NPS II Project implementation and whose authors are

³⁹⁾ Work classification pursuant to the Regulation of the Government of the Czech Republic No. 222/2010 Coll., on the Catalogue of the Works in Public Service and Administration, part 2.15. Research and Development and part 2.16 Education and Training or classification in compliance with Act No. 111/1998 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to some other Acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended.

⁴⁰⁾ See the result definition at <http://www.vyzkum.cz/FrontWebSearch.aspx?q=druhy+v%c3%bdsledk%c5%af>

- exclusively the members of the Project Team. Solely such a result will be accounted for, which has been applied exclusively as the result of the given NPS II Project.
- b) The number of new NPS II Project results reported in RIV, which were published or otherwise officially released or utilized in the period of the NPS II Project implementation and which were achieved with the participation of the Project Team within the Research Centre cooperation and where the contribution of at least one member of the Project Team has been recognized.
 - c) The number of new RDI results reported in RIV, which were published or otherwise officially released or utilized in the period of the NPS II Project implementation and which were achieved by the members of the Project Team in cooperation with international research workers or independently by the Project Team members in a foreign research facility within the Research Centre cooperation.
 - d) The number of new RDI results reported in RIV, which were published or otherwise officially released or utilized in the period of the NPS II Project implementation and which were achieved by the members of the Project Team in cooperation with businesses.
 - e) The number of new RDI results reported in RIV, which were published or otherwise officially released or utilized in the period of the NPS II Project implementation and which were achieved by the members of the Project Team in cooperation with the application sphere public sector.
 - f) The number of new RDI results reported in RIV, which were published or otherwise officially released or utilized in the period of the NPS II Project implementation and which were achieved by the members of the Project Team in cooperation with other Research Organizations.
 - g) The number of RDI Projects of international cooperation or Programmes of international cooperation with active participation of the Project Team and RDI Projects, where the Research Centre serves as the host organization or the beneficiary of aid/part of the aid and these Projects were initiated in the period of the NPS II Project⁴¹ and funded with the participation of foreign financial resources (including their identification), from these the number of ERC grants and from these the number of Projects successfully completed within the NPS II Project period.
 - h) The number of RDI Projects of cooperation with businesses initiated in the NPS II Project period, from these the number of Projects successfully completed within the NPS II Project period.
 - i) The number of RDI Projects of cooperation with the application sphere public sector initiated in the NPS II Project period, from these the number of Projects successfully completed within the NPS II Project period.

⁴¹⁾ The number of initiated new Projects of international cooperation means the number of Projects of international cooperation handled by one of the NPS II Project Team members, which in the period of aid being provided from the NPS II Programme succeeded in public RDI competitions and were granted public resource funding for RDI in a Programme of a similar type within EU measures or measures of other foreign grant agencies or based on bilateral or multilateral international agreements concerning the RDI sphere. The Aid Beneficiary is obliged to ensure double financing of identical RDI activities from public resources does not occur when submitting new Projects of international cooperation, and at the same time Project sustainability is taken into account (in the sense of maintaining and further development of the created human resources potential) after the termination of the NPS II Programme funding.

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- j) The number of RDI Projects of cooperation with other research organizations initiated in the NPS II Project period, from these the number of Projects successfully completed within the NPS II Project period.
 - k) The number of research and development workers and academic workers who are employees of the Aid Beneficiary (or another NPS II Project participant) and who have obtained a prestigious international RDI certification or an international academic or scientific degree in the course of the NPS II Project.
 - l) The number of research and development workers and academic workers who are employees of another research organization with the registered address in the Czech Republic and who have provably taken active part in the research activities or the Research Centre in its premises (counted in person months⁴²), from these the number of visiting professors.
 - m) The number of research and development workers and academic workers who are foreign residents and employees of a foreign research organization with the registered address outside the Czech Republic who have provably taken active part in the research activities of the Research Centre in its premises (counted in person months), from these the number of visiting professors.
 - n) The number of research and development workers and academic workers using the constructed Research Centre.
 - o) The number of native students of master and post-gradual Programmes who have provably and actively participated in the research and educational activities of the Research Centre in its premises (counted in person months and divided by Bc./Mgr./Ph.D.).
 - p) The number of foreign university students of master and post-gradual Programmes who have provably and actively participated in the research and educational activities of the Research Centre in its premises (counted in person months and divided by Bc./Mgr./Ph.D.).
 - q) The number of research and development workers and academic workers who are employees of another legal entity operating in the application sphere and who have provably taken active part in the research and education activities of the Research Centre in its premises (divided to public service organizations within the application sphere and businesses).
 - r) The number of Project Team members who are employees of the Aid Beneficiary (or another NPS II Project participant) and who have provably taken active part in the research and educational activities in another foreign research facility in the position of a research and development worker or an academic worker⁴³ (counted in person months and divided to Bc./Mgr./Ph.D., from these the number of invited/visiting professors).
 - s) The number of Project Team members who are employees of the Aid Beneficiary (or another NPS II Project participant) and who have provably taken active part in the research and educational activities in another domestic research facility in the position of a research and development worker or an academic worker (counted in person

⁴²) A “person month” means the calculation of the full-time work load of 1 research and development worker or an academic worker for the period of 21 working days, i. e. 168 working hours.

⁴³) The work classification of a foreign research facility will be used in a similar way.

- months and divided to Bc./Mgr./Ph.D., from these the number of invited/visiting professors).
- t) The number of Project Team members who are employees of the Aid Beneficiary (or another NPS II Project participant) and who have provably taken active part in the research and development activities in an application sphere facility in the position of a research and development worker or an academic worker (counted in person months and divided to Bc./Mgr./Ph.D., from these the number of invited/visiting professors).
 - u) The volume of financial resources obtained by the Aid Beneficiary from abroad based on the activity of a Project Team member in the course of the Project.
 - v) The volume of financial resources obtained by the Aid Beneficiary from businesses based on the activity of a Project Team member in the course of the Project.
 - w) Expansion and improved quality of research capacities (human resources, technologies or construction).
 - x) Socioeconomic impacts of the Research Centre according to items specified above in Articles 3.2 and 3.3.

The value of a selected indicator related to 1 person is defined by calculating 1 FTE of the person or persons in the position of a “research and development worker” or in the position of an “academic worker”, who are employees of the Aid Beneficiary and at the same time members of the Project Team. For foreign facilities the work classification will be defined in a similar way in compliance with the national regulations in force; the position and work classification shall be equal.

The above indicators at the level of the NPS II Project will be **defined by the Applicant himself** in the NPS II Project Proposal. The defined indicators are among the evaluation criteria specified in Article 3.2. At least one indicator with a non-zero target value will be compulsorily defined for each criterion and stated in the Project Proposal. Moreover the Applicant can select another one of the above indicators relevant for the Project and the respective targets; this indicator shall have a non-zero value in the NPS II Project Proposal. Other indicators are optional for the NPS II Project Proposal; they are obligatory for the Aid Beneficiary at the time of regular annual reporting of partial and final Project results for the purpose of monitoring the course of the NPS II Programme Projects by the Granting Authority and for evaluating the degree of meeting the objectives of the NPS II Project and the Programme as a whole.

The Applicant/Aid Beneficiary shall ensure the information concerning the IS RDI Projects is published.

3.8 Premium Conditions

At the same time, the necessary, yet not sufficient condition for obtaining financial premium is:

1. Obtaining and initiation of at least one ERC grant or a similar prestigious type of an NPS II Project subsidized by foreign financial resources;
2. Registration of the minimum of five new unique RDI results in RIV per year, achieved in cooperation with a NPS II Project Team member (“contribution”), based on the type of results according to RIV falling into the category: J – article in a specialized

- periodical (journal) or B – a specialized book or C – chapter in a specialized book. Solely such results will be accounted for when evaluating the NPS II Project, whose evaluation in internationally recognized citation databases (e. g. WOK, Scopus) exceeds the field median;
3. Creating and applying in RIV at least one new unique result of RDI per year counted per one FTE of a research and development worker or an academic worker who is a member of the Project Team and an employee of the Aid Beneficiary or another NPS II Project participant and who according to the RIV results falls into the category: J – article in a specialized periodical (journal) or B – a specialized book or C – a chapter in a specialized book; the total number of the achieved results of this type per each subsidized NPS II Project as of the date of the NPS II Project termination shall not be lower than ten per each single year of the course of the NPS II Project. Solely such results will be accounted for when evaluating the NPS II Project, whose evaluation in internationally recognized citation databases (e. g. WOK, Scopus) exceeds the field median;
 4. Creating and applying in RIV the minimum of five new unique results of type P or five results of type Z according to RIV or ten results of type N according to RIV (or any of their combinations) in total for the period from the NPS II Project initiation (can be applied for the last Project stage at the latest.);
 5. A successful completion of at least one Project of the Research Centre international cooperation lasting at least 12 months and applying at least one RDI result in RIV, where the authorship or contribution of at least one member of the Project Team has been recognized for every single five-year NPS II Programme Project;
 6. A successful completion of at least one Project of the Research Centre cooperation with a business lasting at least 12 continuous calendar months and applying at least one RDI result in RIV, where the authorship or contribution of at least one member of the Project Team has been recognized;
 7. A successful completion of at least one Project of the Research Centre cooperation with the public service sector of the application sphere lasting at least 12 continuous calendar months and applying at least one RDI result in RVI, where the authorship or contribution of at least one member of the Project Team has been recognized; alternatively, in relation to the Research Centre specialization, the Granting Authority is entitled to accept another result defined above in paragraph 4 of this Article;
 8. A work assignment entailing a temporary stay of at least one research and development worker or academic worker who is a member of the Project Team and an employee of the Aid Beneficiary (or another NPS II Project participant) and who has provably taken active part in research and development or research and educational activities in the application sphere of the private sector lasting at least one continuous calendar month and six calendar months at most;
 9. Long-term work assignments entailing a temporary stay of at least 20% of the research and development workers and academic workers who are members of the Project Team and employees of the Aid Beneficiary (or another NPS II Project participant) in foreign research facilities lasting at least one continuous calendar month and six calendar months at most who have provably taken active part in research and research and educational activities of the foreign facility in the position of a research and development worker or an academic worker;

10. A prestigious international certificate in the area of RDI or an international academic or scientific degree obtained by at least on research and development worker or academic worker who is an employee of the Aid Beneficiary (or another NPS II Project participant) and a member of the Project Team.