

Targeted scientific research in the field of SMART specialization



Role of Research Council (1)

- Cooperation with Ministry of Education and Science in preparing the Guidelines for Applicants
- Administering calls for proposals
- Eligibility check
- Assessment of proposals (including ranking list)
- Decision of financing
- Management of grant agreements
- Mid-term and final assessment of project implementation



Role of Research Council (2)

Eligibility check (RCL)

Remote assessment (Experts)

Expert group meetings
(Expert groups)

Ranking list (RCL Committees)

List of financed projects (Chairman of RCL)

Mid-term and Final assessment (Experts)



Research Projects Implemented by World-class Researcher Groups

- Open call
- Selection carried out according to selection criteria
- Young researchers up to 10 years after PhD
- Experienced researchers more than 10 years after PhD
- International experts (mostly from ERC) involved
- Minimum score 45. Maximum score 100.
- Project duration up to 48 months
- Maximum funding per project Eur 700 000
- Call budget Eur 28 900 000
- Own financial contribution (optional)
- Final Beneficiary Institution



Facts and figures

- 85 applications for Eur 51.05 mln
- 47 Grant agreements for Eur 28.4 mln

SMART area	Number of applications	Number of projects
Energy and a sustainable environment	6	4
Health technologies and biotechnologies	16	10
Agro-innovation and food technologies	16	10
New production processes, materials and technologies	30	15
Transport, logistic and information and communication technologies	11	5
Inclusive and creative society	6	4



Scheme

Eligible Applicants	Eligible Partners
Research institutions Universities University Hospitals	Legal entities implementing R&D

Successful partnership must be included in case of State-aid

Project implementation	Indirect costs and other costs according to the flat rate
Personnel costs (unit costs)	Research implementation (flat rate) (34/18 % of Personnel costs)
Travel allowance (EU countries only) (unit costs)	Indirect costs (project administration and related costs) (flat rate) (15 % of Personnel costs)



Assessment criteria

		Max./Min.
1.	Significance and the prospect of use of projected research results	35/15
2.	Novelty and feasibility of the research project idea	30/20
3.	Scientific competence of the research leader	20/10
4.	Amount of own contribution of the Applicant and/or the partner	10/0
5.	Scope of the Applicant's involvement in the projects of international research programs, and applied research orders by economic entities fulfilled by the Applicant	5/0
	Total:	100/45



Attracting Foreign Researchers for Research Implementation

- Open call
- Selection carried out according to selection criteria
- Foreign researcher employed abroad for not less than 5 years prior to the call
- International experts (mostly from ERC) involved
- Minimum score 59. Maximum score 100.
- Project duration up to 48 months
- Maximum funding per project Eur 1 000 000
- Call budget Eur 14 481 001
- Own financial contribution (optional)
- Final Beneficiary Institution



Scheme

Eligible Applicants	Eligible Partners
Research institutions Universities University Hospitals	Legal entities implementing R&D

Successful partnership must be included in case of State-aid

Project implementation	Indirect costs and other costs according to the flat rate
Personnel costs (unit costs)	Research implementation (flat rate) (34/18 % of Personnel costs)
Travel allowance (EU countries only) (unit costs)	Indirect costs (project administration and related costs) (flat rate) (15 % of Personnel costs)
Resettlement costs of principal investigator and research members (unit costs)	



Assessment criteria

		Max./Min.
1.	Significance and the prospect of use of projected research results	35/15
2.	Novelty and feasibility of the research project idea	30/24
3.	Scientific competence of the research leader	30/20
4.	Scope of the Applicant's involvement in the projects of international research programs, and in R&D orders by economic entities fulfilled by the Applicant	5 / 0
	Total	100 / 59



Parallel Laboratories (1)

- Open call
- Parallel laboratory cooperation of Lithuanian and foreign laboratory that has exceptional competence of research in the SMART area "Health technologies and biotechnologies" priorities "Molecular technologies for medicine and biopharmaceutics" or/and "Advanced medical engineering for early diagnostics and treatment"
- Scheme:
 - 2 independent research groups working on the same research topic
- Mandatory internship of Lithuanian research group in foreign laboratory
- Limitations EU countries only



Parallel Laboratories (2)

- Minimum score 63. Maximum score 100
- Project duration up to 48 months
- Maximum funding per project Eur 700 000
- Call budget Eur 1 448 000
- Own financial contribution (optional)
- Final Beneficiary Lithuanian Institution

Eligible Applicants	Eligible Partners
Research institutions Universities University Hospitals	Legal entities implementing R&D

- 3 main assessment criteria:
 - Expected results
 - Research idea
 - Scientific achievements of PI



Main goals of all 3 activities

Purposes of financial instrument:

- Research project implemented under SMART specialization area
- Clear prospects of commercialization of research results

Horizontal purposes:

- Strengthening researchers' abilities to "sell" to market research ideas
- Strengthening connections between research institutions and SMEs



Main challenges (1)

Assessment of projected results:

- 7 listed results in Assessment table
- Patent of EPO, UPSTO, JPO equal to Lithuanian Patent
- Possible result "Another product of R&D activity (a process, a system, a service, a method, an object of art or a solution of cultural and societal problems, based on research and practical experience)"

Identification of State-aid:

- No clear practice of State-aid rules applied in Research
- Projects with Patent application have the potential of Stateaid
- In case of State-aid no clear identification of exact financial contribution in case of Unit costs and Flat rate



Main challenges (2)

Own contribution possible as a non-monetary contribution – volunteer work:

- According to State Labour Inspectorate, volunteer work is a non-profitable, society-oriented activity:
 - not suitable for Research implementation
 - Functions performed according to Work-contract should not be identified as volunteer work

Identification of Research and Development stages:

- No connection to Research plan
- No connection to mid-term assessment



Advantages

Straightforward budget justification:

- Unit costs:
 - No description of:
 - public-procurement
 - personnel costs
 - other eligible expenses

Mid-term assessment:

- Possibility to determine full project implementation with no financial corrections.



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