

Call for additional funds

Context:

In reply to the current economic challenges including exceptional price increase because of the influence of COVID -19 pandemic, the conflict in Ukraine and the inflation rate, there is the possibility of increasing funding for already approved collaborative research projects funded under EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021.

The exceptional price increases are clearly beyond the control of the Project Promotor and were unforeseeable when the project proposal was submitted.

These circumstances have also been noted by the Donors, who have notified about the possibility to allocate additional funds to already approved projects which have the potential for absorbing these funds.

Calendar:

Deadline for submission: 1st of September 2023.

The publication of the evaluation results on the 15th of September 2023.

Budget:

The available budget consists of 397,952 EUR, savings from the EEA and Norway calls (2018 and 2019) and Small Grant Scheme ERC.

Who may apply?

Project Promotors who are currently implementing Collaborative Research Projects in the framework of the EEA and NO Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021, and have the project implementation period deadline in December 2023 or until April 2024.

Conditions for submitting applications for funding request:

- The application can only be submitted if the project has a real need for additional funding and the capacity to absorb additional funding, supported by declaration (Annex 1) made by a person authorized to represent the Project Promotor and the Principal Investigator that such additional funds will be spent by the end of the implementation of the project;
- The application can be submitted if all already allocated funds have been spent or are planned to be spent, supported by a declaration (Annex 2) made by a person authorized to represent the Project Promotor and the Principal Investigator, that existing funds are spent or planned to be spent for undergoing activities no savings will be recorded that could support the costs for the activities financed under this call;
- The maximum requested budget/project is up to 15.000 EUR;
- The additional funds can be allocated to the following budget lines: publication taxes (open access), patenting taxes, consumables, small equipment and travel (for dissemination of project results);

- Transfer of the additional funds will be made in November 2023, according to the period when the PO will receive the amounts from FMO (article 9.3 of the Regulation). Until then, existing funds at the promoter/partner level can be used for the eligible expenditure under this call;
- The funding request is made by the Project Promoter but the additional funds can be used by the entire partnership (RO/NO/ISL) **with the exception of enterprises partners**;
- This additional funding does not involve the State Aid Scheme;
- The application must be written in English, according to Annex 3;
- Salary costs and indirect costs are not eligible under this call.

Assessment process:

The assessment of the funding request is carried out by the Programme Operator in accordance with the following criteria:

- The application was submitted on time;
- The application has been completed in English, according to Annex 3;
- The requested budget is up to 15,000 EUR;
- The requested declarations are submitted;
- The documents have been signed;
- The additional funds are requested for the eligible budget lines: **other costs** for publication taxes (open access) or/and patenting taxes, **consumables, equipment** (only for small equipment) and **travel** (for dissemination of project results);
- The implementation project dead line is in December 2023 or until April 2024;
- The funding request is well justified in accordance with the real needs.

In order to be recommended for funding, an application must meet all the above criteria.

The list of applications which fulfill all the criteria will be analyzed and endorsed by Programme Committee.

Funding Decision:

Taking into consideration the available budget, the number of submitted applications and the results of assessment process, the PO will take the final funding decision.

Programme Operator will notify the Project Promoter about the funding decision.

The contract budget (its latest form after all the addenda already signed) will be amended accordingly and an addendum of the financing contract will be signed between the Programme Operator and the Project Promoter acting on behalf of all project partners.

Rules for payment, settlement and possible return of funds as well as rules for reporting will remain as specified in the project Contract.