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 Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency



5th S. Korea – Switzerland Call for Joint Innovation Projects

Call description for applicants

Deadline for submission of Project Pre-Proposal – **May 15, 2019**

Deadline for submission of Project full proposal – **September 9, 2019**

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1. Purpose of Funding

S. Korea and Switzerland are announcing a bilateral call for joint R&D projects aiming to support innovative propositions in all scientific areas. The Call is open for all scientific disciplines, however projects for products or services in following topics are particularly appreciated:

- Biotech; Medtech
- Renewable Energy; Mobility
- Digitalisation; Industry 4.0; IoT; AI
- Additive Manufacturing
- Smart Materials / Innovative surfaces
- AR; VR

Projects shall originate from applied research areas. Hence applicants are expected to develop ready to market solutions for products, technology based services or methods, which have a significant market potential for S. Korea and Switzerland.

The call is announced between the Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology, KIAT and the Swiss Innovation Agency, Innosuisse in continuation of the cooperation which was initiated in 2015. KIAT and Innosuisse will provide access to public funding for joint projects. They will also provide all necessary assistance to project partners during project proposal and the project monitoring phase.

The aim is to strengthen the activity of the business and research community of both countries. KIAT and Innosuisse have opted for a two-stage evaluation process, to align the common targets and cooperation within the project consortia and allow for a greater numbers of funded projects.

2. Scope

Partners participating in the present call are welcome to apply in any scientific field for innovation. The Call therefore is open for all topics, but project proposals for products or services in the topics named in chapter 1, are highly welcomed, as development in these technology areas are particularly important to face the present societal challenges.

Project goals

The project partners should demonstrate:

- Complementary technological excellence and qualifications,
- Strong base of partnership and aim for continuing collaboration even beyond the project duration,
- Management ability to successfully carry out the project and implement the results,
- Mutual advancement of R&D through the transfer of knowledge and expertise.

All applicants should consider and address any dual use issues associated with their proposals. Research where downstream application is for national defence or security purposes, as well as research which poses a threat to public health will not be supported.



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Innovation Content

The innovation aspect of a project must go beyond the international state of the art. The innovation project should be science-based, targeting to achieve advances in technology or service aspects. The main objectives in terms of performance of the product, process or service and cost issues (with regard to competitive ability) shall be presented in a comprehensive way.

Market

The project is targeting to establish a new, or to integrate into an existing value chain. A market and implementation idea must exist for the planned product, process or service.

3. Call Structure and Submission (2-Step)

Project Pre-Proposal

In the first step the partners are invited to present a **joint project** of an innovative idea based on an applied R&D project as well as a **separate national document**. The necessary documents related to the call are available on the webpages of both agencies, KIAT for S. Korea and Innosuisse for Switzerland. The listed regulations and qualifications apply to all applicants.

All separate national regulations of the funding organisations of each country have to be taken into consideration right from the project pre-proposal stage. Applicants of each country must refer and comply with the applicable regulations of the national funding organisations (see Annex I for S. Korea and Annex II for Switzerland).

The Call for Project Pre-Proposals is launched on **April 1, 2019** by KIAT and INNOSUISSE.

The submission date is **15 May 2019, 18:00hrs local time**.

Project full proposal

In the second step the partners will be invited to submit a complete, **separate national document** according to national rules and in line with the national application systems. **The request for improvements from the pre-proposal assessment must be specifically addressed and marked in the application document.**

Following documents are required for getting the formal submission approved:

- Korean Partners fill in their project scope in English using the English version of the KIAT application form.
- Swiss Partners fill in their project scope in English using the Innosuisse online application form.

If the applicants wish to add a complement to the **joint proposal** document submitted with the pre-proposal, they may do so. The financial plan does not need to be in change-mode-track but the modifications should be high-lighted in another colour. Please use another colour for the modifications you have inserted.

All duly completed project forms must be submitted to KIAT for Korean partners and to Innosuisse for Swiss partners as explained below:

- In Korea, the participants have to submit a formal KIAT application through Project Management System (<http://www.k-pass.kr>).
- In Switzerland, the participants have to submit the application as described on the Innosuisse webpage. Please mark in the title “JOINT CALL SK-CH 2019”.
<https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/start-your-innovation-project/innovationsprojekte.html>

The submission date for the project full proposal is **9 September 2019, 18:00hrs local time**.

Links to the application forms in:

S. Korea: <http://www.k-pass.kr>

Switzerland: Project pre-proposal: www.innosuisse.ch/southkorea

Full Project Outline; online application Link:

<https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/analytics-portal.html>

Timetable of project pre-proposal and full proposal

Launch of Call for Project Pre-Proposal	1 April 2019
Deadline for submission of Project Pre-Proposal	15 May 2019
Consensus Meeting of Project Pre-Proposal	7 June 2019
Communication of results of Project Pre-Proposal and invitation to submit a project full proposal	17 June 2019
Deadline for submission of full project outline according to country systems	9 September 2019
Final Consensus Meeting	30 October 2019
Communication of the results	Beginning of November 2019
Start of projects for: - KIAT - Innosuisse	November 2019 after submission of all requested documents and signing of contract between Innosuisse and Swiss project partners; tentatively beginning of February 2020



Supportive Measures

KIAT and Innosuisse as well as the Swiss Embassy in Korea will facilitate the **identification of project partners** within academia as well as among industry partners. They are cooperating with Enterprise Europe Network, with national clusters and other national experts and points of contact.

4. Qualifications and Eligibility

All proposals must meet following eligibility criteria to be qualified for evaluation:

- The partners (project consortia) must include at least one commercial company from each country and one research institute from Switzerland.
- The participation of further research organizations and further commercial companies from both countries according to each country's funding regulations is welcome.
- The research organizations and commercial companies must comply with the regulations of their respective country.
- The project partners shall name a designated main-coordinator.
- The project duration cannot be more than three (3) years.
- The project should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from both countries on an equal base, and the project must be equally significant to all participants. **One country cannot represent more than 70% of the overall project budget.**
- With the proposal, the consortium is encouraged to present a draft agreement on the Intellectual Property Rights IPR together with the proposal, in order to reduce the negotiation time after the proposal has been approved and prior to the project starting date.

Only proposals meeting all eligibility criteria will be considered for evaluation. There will be no opportunity to correct errors in the proposals after the application deadline.

Please note that the inclusion of an ineligible partner in a proposal will result in the non-consideration of the entire proposal. For the definition of eligible partners, see the national regulations and contact your national contact person.

5. Evaluation

Step 1

The joint project pre-proposal will be evaluated by experts from both funding agencies according to the criteria roughly outlined in the project pre-proposal.

The reviewers shall comment the proposal according to the scale as shown in Table 1. The information on “invitation to submit full-proposal” will be attributed to projects that are evaluated to have high potential from the experts of the national funding bodies viewpoint. Projects with a “low potential of success” will not be suggested to submit a full proposal.

Overall score	Recommendation	No recommendation
Criteria for recommendation	High/Medium Potential: added value through international collaboration, very innovative, high potential for of successful application	No Potential: formal criteria not fulfilled, incomplete application, no added value through international collaboration, low potential for successful application due to different country focus or for other reasons such as low value creation

In a joint consensus meeting all received project pre-proposal will be discussed. KIAT and Innosuisse will decide which projects will be invited to submit a full-proposal. With this approach a better funding alignment within the projects shall be achieved. Over subscription of national budgets will not be taken into consideration at the pre-proposal step. The applicants with high-quality promising innovative projects in both countries, will be invited to submit a full-proposal in line with country specific systems in the week commencing 17.06.2019.

Step 2

The project full proposal will be evaluated by experts from both funding agencies according to the project goals and criteria described under chapter 2, the national funding criteria and following overall criteria:

- Excellence / Innovation content
- Impact / value creation
- Methodology and quality / competences of the project partners

The evaluation will be assessed individually by the reviewers of KIAT and Innosuisse for their national scope of participation. In addition to the evaluation the reviewers shall attribute an overall statement based on an ABC-System for the proposal according to the scale as shown in Table 1. Scores A and B can only be attributed to projects that fulfill the goals and criteria described under chapter 2 and the national funding regulations in chapter 8.

Overall score	A	B	C
Assessment of Funding Agency	Fund	Fund if budget is available	Do not fund
Reviewer recommendation	High Priority: very innovative, high potential for market penetration	Medium Priority: Innovative, reasonable market potential	Low Priority / not competitive: submitted remarks from agencies not satisfactory documented, rather low innovation and weak market implementation

Table 1: Scale of ratings for proposal evaluation by remote reviewers (A is highest).



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After the full-proposal has been evaluated a second joint consensus meeting between KIAT and Innosuisse will be set up to take the available budget of each country into consideration with regard to the final project evaluations. The applicants will be notified of the results of the common assessment in the week of October 30, 2019.

6. Funding

Financing Rules

- The applications have to be in line with the rules of KIAT and Innosuisse explained below. On request partners will be instructed in detail by the contact persons of the two agencies how to apply for funding (please refer to para. 8).
- Each country will fund its eligible participants according to their national procedure and funding rules. Funding conditions and eligibility criteria may vary between S. Korea and Switzerland. However the bi-lateral joint cooperation between the partners and its added value is an important aspect to be considered within the evaluation. The main aspects of funding criteria are explained below (for further details see annex 9.1 and annex 9.2) and in chapter 2 “Project goals” and chapter 3 “Evaluation criteria”.
- The project partners must submit a common consortium agreement (incl. IPR agreement) to KIAT and Innosuisse prior to start of the project.

Switzerland

Innosuisse funding:

Innosuisse is responsible for encouraging science-based innovation in Switzerland. One of its main task is to help the innovation of products and services onto the market for the benefit of the Swiss economy. Innosuisse funding is approved to Swiss project partners as follows:

- Swiss research partner and Swiss implementation partner share costs of the project 50:50; Innosuisse may fund the share of the Swiss research partner, i.e. up to 50% of eligible project costs;
- The implementation partner has to cover at least 50% of the project costs from the total project work of the Swiss partners. The implementation partner(s) must also provide a cash contribution to the research partner(s) in the amount of 10% of the requested Innosuisse funding.
- Swiss implementation partners get a non-exclusive right to exploit the project results in their specific business area.

South Korea

KIAT funding:

The Korean dedicated budget provided by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) and managed by KIAT is open to all type of applications from Korean companies with registered R&D laboratories, Korean research institutes and universities.

Project funding consists of government contributions and civilian dues (cash and in-kind). The amount of government contributions will vary depending on the type of executing organizations and project in accordance with Article 24 (Funding criteria) and Article 25 (Civilian dues) of the Common Operational Regulations for the Industrial Technology Innovation Programs.



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7. Contacts for Details and Partner Search Requests

<p>KIAT https://www.kiat.or.kr</p> <p>Mr. Yongsang Jo Phone : +82 2 6009 3184 jys2949@kiat.or.kr</p>	<p>Innosuisse https://www.Innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home.html</p> <p>Mrs. Colette John-Grant Phone : +41 58 466 77 32 colette.john-grant@innosuisse.ch</p>
	<p>Science and Technology Office Embassy of Switzerland in the Republic of South Korea http://www.stofficeseoul.ch/</p> <p>Mrs. Alessandra Apicella Phone from Switzerland: +41 58 48 45645 Phone from Korea: +82 2 3704 4703 alessandra.apicella@eda.admin.ch</p>

8. Annexes

Below, please find the regulations for funding for KIAT and Innosuisse.

8.1 Funding Regulations – South Korea according to para. 6 of the call document

A party that participates in a project shall carry out its project using the government contributions allocated to it, and for-profit organizations shall individually bear the cash portion of civilian dues.

Classification	Share of government contributions in executing organization's project budget		Share of cash in executing organization's civilian dues	
	Original technology	Innovative product	Original technology	Innovative product
Large company	50% or less	33% or less	60% or more	
Mid-tier company	70% or less	50% or less	50% or more	
SME	75% or less	67% or less	40% or more	
Other	100% or less	100% or less	To be borne if necessary	

8.2 Funding regulations – Switzerland according to para. 6 of the call document

Submission of Swiss projects:

- Partners use the separate pdf.-document (to be downloaded from the Innosuisse webpage; see page 4) to submit the pre-proposal, which shall sent by mail to innoprojects@innosuisse.ch.
- A rough indication of the budget is required. This budget can still be adapted, when submitting the full proposal, but it cannot vary more than +/- 20%.
- The full proposal is submitted by means of the online application tool “analytics”. The text of the pre-proposal shall be introduced into the full proposal (see para. 3).

Innosuisse funding rules as stated in Art. 19 of the Federal Act on the Promotion of Research and Innovation of 14 December 2012 (RIPA, SR 420.1), in Art. 29 f. of the Research and Innovation Promotion Ordinance of 29 November 20135 (RIPO, SR 420.11), in Art. 3 – 10 of the Innosuisse Funding Ordinance of 20 September 2017 (SR 420.231) and in the Implementation provisions for Funding Project of 16 November 2017 and application forms will apply for this call, i.e.:

- At least one Swiss implementation partner and one Swiss non commercial research institution or higher education research centre (e.g. university, Federal Institute of Technology, University of Applied Sciences) must be involved in a Innosuisse funded R&D project.
- The application must contain all information necessary for technical, scientific and economic assessment of the right to and amount of funding.



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- Effective implementation of the research findings in favour of the economy and society may be expected.
- If the main coordinator of the consortium is the Swiss partner, it must be the Main Research Partner.
- The industry partner has to cover at least 50% of the project costs from the total project work of the Swiss partners. The implementation partner(s) must also provide a cash contribution to the research partner(s) in the amount of 10% of the requested Innosuisse funding.
- There is no federal funding allowed to companies (implementation partner).
- The project has to focus on innovation. In general, no funding will be given to projects which propose marginal improvements of existing products, nor for projects with a purely basic research content.
- The criteria for proposal assessment are: innovative content of the project, quality of the project planning, quantitative goals and implementation plan to achieve the targeted economic or social benefit, competence of the project team to implement the project, contribution to sustainable development.
- The project must have quantified, measurable goals and a coherent and structured schedule with verifiable progress milestones. It must be based on a thorough appraisal of the current state of the relevant technology and on an evaluation of the corresponding data base and patent rights.
- The project partners must submit a common consortium agreement (incl. IPR agreement) to KIAT and Innosuisse prior to start of the project.

During granted projects:

- Innosuisse experts can request reviews or intermediate reports on the project progress, contents and time schedule where necessary.
- At the end of the project, a plan must be presented showing how the results will be implemented.

For more details, please refer to the Innosuisse webpage with following link:

<https://www.Innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/start-your-innovation-project/innovationsprojekte.html>