



9th South Korea – Switzerland Call for Joint Innovation Projects

Deadline for submission of Pre-Proposal – **26th April, 2023**

Deadline for submission of Full application – **26th July, 2023**

Purpose of the Call

The **Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology (KIAT)** and the **Swiss Innovation Agency (Innosuisse)** are announcing a bilateral Call for joint R&D project outlines, focusing on developing ready to market solutions for products, technology based services or methods, which have a significant market potential for South Korea and Switzerland. The Call is open for all scientific disciplines; however, projects for products or services in following topics are particularly appreciated:

- Biotech; Medtech
- Digitisation; Industry 4.0; IoT, Artificial Intelligence
- Additive Manufacturing
- Smart Materials / Innovative surfaces
- Augmented and virtual reality
- Hydrogen Technologies
- Renewable Energy & Batteries

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.

Eligibility

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

- The partners (project consortia) must include at least one commercial entity from each country and one research entity from either South Korea or 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 a relevant innovation content, added-value and benefit from the bilateral cooperation in both countries. The project must be equally significant to all participants. **One country cannot represent more than 70% of the overall project person-months.**
- 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.
- Both agencies will only consider project costs, which arise in their country eligible for funding. Cross-border funding is not foreseen.

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.

Call Dates

Launch of Call	14 th of February 2023
Partnering	Partner search platform for b2b match-making meetings available from 01 Feb 2023.
Call information webinar	08 th of March 2023
Deadline for submission of Pre-Proposals	26th of April 2023
Communication of Project Pre-Proposal evaluation results	End of May 2023
Deadline for submission of full application	26th of July 2023
Communication of results	End of September 2023
Start of projects:	1st of November 2023

Call information Event and Partnering (optional)

The **search for project partners** in South Korea and Switzerland will be supported and organized by Enterprise Europe Network EEN. EEN Korea and [EEN Switzerland](#) provide an online business to match platform <https://south-korea-swiss-call-2023.b2match.io> with partner profiles to establish contacts between interested organizations. The platform allows easy scheduling of meetings (incl. video) among participants until 25 April 2023. All questions related to partner search is managed by the country specific EEN contact listed below. Partners are requested to register their needs on the platform at the earliest possible stage to increase their chances of building a successful consortium.

An online **webinar** for interested parties will be organized beginning of March 2023 (March 08th). The webinar will provide information on funding conditions, call process, partner search and other aspects of the call. Interested parties will have the opportunity to ask questions to representatives of KIAT, Innosuisse and EEN. The link and registration to the webinar will be provided on <https://south-korea-swiss-call-2023.b2match.io>.

Pre-Proposal (mandatory) submission

The submission of a pre-proposal is mandatory to be eligible to submit a full-proposal. The deadline for submitting a pre-proposal is **26th of April 2023**. Both agencies will nationally evaluate and provide a joint recommendation to the applicants. The applicants can expect a feedback on their project and recommendation for submission of a full-application by **end of May 2023**.

In the pre-proposal, partners are invited to present the basic information on innovation content, market potential expertise of involved partners and their impact expectations benefit of the international cooperation and costs of the planned work.

Applicants of each country must refer and comply with the applicable regulations of the national funding organisations. The pre-proposal consists of the **joint call document** and a respective national application. The necessary pre-proposal documents are available on the webpages of [KIAT](#) for South Korea and [Innosuisse](#) for Switzerland.

- **Korean participants** must submit a formal KIAT application (in English) through Project Management System of KIAT (<http://www.k-pass.kr>).
- **Swiss participants** must submit the **simplified Innosuisse pre-proposal application**, as well as a **joint call document**. Both documents can be found on the [Innosuisse webpage](#). The pre-proposal documents (in English) must be submitted exclusively via [PrivaSphere](#). Please add "JOINT CALL KR-CH 2023" in the subject field, and select option "South Korea" for "Joint.Call" of the PrivaSphere contact form. Applications submitted via any other channel will not be considered. Once you have submitted your pre-proposal, you will receive an automated confirmation email in the name of Innosuisse.

Full-proposal (mandatory) submission

Partners with a positive assessment of the pre-proposal will be invited to submit a full-proposal. The request for improvements from the pre-proposal assessment and other feedback must be specifically addressed.

The full-proposal consists of the **updated joint call document** and a national application to KIAT and Innosuisse. The duly completed application must be submitted by end of day **26th of July 2023** as follows:

- Korean participants have to submit a formal KIAT application (in English) through Project Management System of KIAT (<http://www.k-pass.kr>).
- Swiss participants have to submit the Innosuisse application (in English) via the [submission portal of Innosuisse](#) (innolink.innosuisse.ch),
 - Please **select** the drop-down option “**South Korea**” under “*Bilateral Call / Please select the partner country of the bilateral call you intend to submit*” in the Introduction section.
 - Implementation partners with < 250 full time employees need to submit **the annual accounts of the past two years** as an annex to the full-proposal; start-ups without annual accounts submit a **business plan**. If an implementation partner with < 250 full time equivalents is requesting more than CHF 1 Mio. funding, Innosuisse checks the due diligence of the implementation partner. If Innosuisse has already checked the due diligence in the context of another initiative, the result will be considered in an appropriate way.

Both agencies will individually evaluate and jointly decide on the full-proposals by 30th of September 2023.

Evaluation

Subsidy control

Innosuisse is unable to award organisations that are considered to be in financial difficulty. We will conduct financial viability tests to confirm this is not the case following the application stage.

Evaluation Criteria – Innosuisse, Switzerland

Project Quality

- Clear and well defined project
- Realistic goals and milestones
- Justification of proposed procedures and resources.

Project Consortia

The project partners should demonstrate:

- Complementary technological excellence, expertise
- Added-value of international cooperation
- 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

Research where downstream application is for national defence or security purposes, as well as research that poses a threat to public health and misuse of personal data will not be supported.

Innovation Degree

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 Value Creation:

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.

Evaluation Criteria – KIAT, South Korea**Main Project evaluation criteria**

- Expected benefits (incl. commercial, environmental, social) of project and expected quality of project results,
- The degree of technological innovation and the possibility of achieving the objectives,
- The capacity of the applicants for performing the project,
- The validity of strategies for successful commercialization.

Contacts for Details and Partner Search Requests

Contacts for Information about the Call conditions (Pre- and Full Proposal)	
KIAT https://www.kiat.or.kr So Hyun Jin Tel: +82 2 6009 3207 jsh@kiat.or.kr	Innosuisse Innosuisse Prabitha Urwyler Tel: +41 58 469 17 67 prabitha.urwyler@innosuisse.ch
Contacts for Partner Search Requests	
EEN EEN Korea Chloe Choi Tel: +82-2-6009-4102 chloechoi33@kiat.or.kr	EEN EEN Switzerland Inès Rossetti Tel: +41 58 468 70 38 ines.rossetti@innosuisse.ch

Funding 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. 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 bilateral joint cooperation between the partners and its added value is an important aspect to be considered within the evaluation.** The project partners must submit a **common consortium agreement** (incl. IPR agreement) to KIAT and Innosuisse **prior to start of the project**. A failure in submitting this document would rule the project as void.

Switzerland - Innosuisse funding regulations:

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. Swiss implementation partners get a non-exclusive right to exploit the project results in their specific business area.

- Innosuisse covers a **maximum of 70%** of the eligible direct project costs of the Swiss partners as follows:

Funding rate for Research institutions:	100% of eligible costs
Funding rate for Start-up's:	max. 70% of eligible costs
Funding rate for SME's or other implementation partners < 250 FTE	max. 50% of eligible costs
Funding rate for Large Companies or other implementation partners > 250 FTE	max. 25% of eligible costs

- If the commercial entity is a Start-up in Switzerland, the requirement for a research institute in the project consortium is exempted
- The implementation partners must cover **at least 30% of the total project costs** of the Swiss partners

Project reviews, reporting:

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](#).

South Korea - KIAT funding regulations:

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.