



PROGRAMME Proof of Concept Call I

SCHEDULE

Receipt of applications for support:

- 03.01.2018 – 04.05.2018

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

- Support will be provided to activities associated with verifying the technical feasibility and commercial potential of research and development, in order to market a new product/ service. The project output will be a feasibility study that will serve as a source document for implementing another possible phase of the project. A feasibility study means assessment and analysis of the project's potential, which are to support the decision-making process by identifying objectively and rationally the strengths and weaknesses of the project, its opportunities and threats, and identifies the resources necessary for its implementation, as well as its prospects of success.

APPLICANT

The applicant/ beneficiary is a business entity that:

- is a natural person conducting business or a legal entity who meets the definition of a small or medium-sized enterprise as per Recommendation 2003/361/EC;
- is authorized to conduct business corresponding to the supported economic activity which is to be carried out through the project;
- is registered, according to the applicant's sworn declaration, as an income tax payer in any of the EU member states, and has been so continuously for at least two closed tax periods preceding the date of filing the application for support; must have an establishment or a branch established in the Czech Republic at the moment of receiving the support;
- is not, based on its sworn declaration, in arrears to selected institutions in the country of its registration, or in the country where its branch is registered, and to providers of support from projects co-financed from the EU budget;
- does not have any outstanding liabilities, according to its sworn declaration, based on its employees' wage and salary claims;

SECTORAL DEFINITION

- The aid shall support projects with outputs affecting the sectors defined by CZ-NACE C 10 – 11, 13 – 18, 20 – 33, D 35, E 38, F 41 – 43, J 58, 59, 61 – 63, M 69 – 72, 74, 75, N 78, S 95.
- The aid shall not be provided to projects with outputs affecting any of the below stated sectors:
 - production, processing and marketing of products listed in Annex I to the EC Treaty,
 - agriculture, forestry, fishing and aquaculture (CZ-NACE A 01, A 02, A 03)

KEY CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must be implemented in the Czech Republic outside the territory of the City of Prague.
- The applicant must clearly demonstrate ownership or other rights to buildings and land plots, where the project will be implemented.
- The project must include all mandatory elements listed in the Call for submission.
- The project does not expect any aid for activities linked to the quantities exported (export subsidies), aid for the establishment and operation of a distribution network abroad or for other current expenditure linked to the export activity (customs duties, insurance, etc.) or any aid contingent upon the use of domestic goods instead of imported goods.
- The project has not started before the date of filing the application.
- The project must not violate the EU horizontal policies and their basic principles such as equal opportunities (equality of men and women, removing discrimination based on sex, race, ethnic origin, religious belief, world view, disability, age or sexual orientation), equal opportunities and non-discrimination (e.g. due to social exclusion or health environment) and sustainable development (observing the EU and national regulations concerning environmental protection).
- Compliance of the project with the National Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation of the Czech Republic will be verified as part of the project appraisal in terms of meeting the selection criteria defined in this Call.
- Each applicant (each Id. No.) shall be entitled to submit maximum 2 projects in this Call (i.e. 2 active grant applications)

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- Costs directly related to creating the feasibility study:
 - personnel costs: wages and insurance premiums for researchers, technicians and other support personnel at the extent necessary for the project;
 - costs of tools, devices and equipment in the form of depreciation of long-term tangible and intangible movable property, to the extent and during the time they are used for the purposes of the project;
 - costs of consultancy and external expert services used exclusively for the project - non-investment costs of licences purchased or acquired from third parties for the project;
 - additional overhead and other operating costs incurred as an immediate consequence of the project;
 - costs of material;

- costs of posting highly qualified staff from the research and knowledge dissemination organisation, who work at the beneficiary organisation on research, development and innovation in a newly established position but do not replace other workers;
- costs of obtaining and validating patents and other intangible assets.

THE FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID

- Minimum aid for one project is CZK 300,000 and maximum aid up to CZK 10 mil.
- The maximum intensity of public aid is 60% of total eligible expenditure of the project on costs directly related to creating the feasibility study under the Call for medium-sized enterprises, or 70% for small enterprises.
- The maximum intensity of public aid is 50% of total eligible expenditure of the project on costs of posting highly qualified staff from the research and knowledge dissemination organisation, or the costs of obtaining and validating patents and other intangible assets.