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MINISTRY
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DEVELOPMENT CZ



AGENTURA
PRO PODNIKÁNÍ
A INOVACE



Applications - Call III - DEEP TECH

The goal of the Call is to gain new knowledge needed for the development of new products, materials, technologies and services through industrial research and experimental development projects.

TIMETABLE

Receipt of grant applications:

- 16.12.2024 – 19.03.2025

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Conducting industrial research and experimental development as per Article 25 GBER. The aid is intended for projects that aim to increase the level of technological readiness of advanced technological solutions and demonstrate highly innovative procedures, products and services in areas defined in Annex 11 to this Call:

- Advanced materials;
- Aeronautics and space, smart mobility and unmanned systems;
- Robotics; Semiconductors (microchips);
- Biotechnology and advanced healthcare technologies;
- Electronics and photonics;
- Sustainable energy and clean (low emission) technologies incl. means of transport;
- Communication and network technology;
- Artificial intelligence and machine learning, including big data.

THE APPLICANT

- is a natural person or legal entity pursuing business, that has been assigned a Czech ID number and is authorized to do business¹;

¹ This is a trade license or license to do business according to other legal regulations (unless otherwise stated in the Rules for Applicants and Beneficiaries of OP TAC - specific part).

- is authorized to conduct business corresponding to the economic activity² in which the project is implemented;
- If it is a legal entity, it provided the data to the extent required in Section 14, paragraph 3, letter e) of Act No 218/2000 Coll. on budgetary rules and amending certain related acts (the Budgetary Rules)³
 - in ISKP21+, it entered information on the identification of persons acting on behalf of the applicant, indicating whether they act as its statutory body or whether these persons act on the basis of a granted power of attorney;
 - has registered the real owners of the legal entity in accordance with Act No 37/2021 Coll., on the registration of real owners (fulfilment of the condition will be verified by IB);
 - in ISKP21+, it entered information on the identification of the entities in which it has a share and the amount of this share⁴
- According to its declaration on honour, it is not in liquidation.
- according to its declaration on honour, it has been registered as an income tax payer in the Czech Republic, continuously for at least two tax periods¹⁶ preceding the date of submission of the grant application.
- According to its declaration on honour, it has not and will not submit a grant application with a similar project in the TWIST programme (first competition)⁵. A similar project is a project that has the same place of implementation (up to the level of municipality), similar activities and a similar budget size and structure.

TERRITORIAL ELIGIBILITY

- Target territory: The territory of the Czech Republic, except NUTS 2 Prague.
- The territorial eligibility is not assessed based on the registered office of the applicant (beneficiary) but based on the actual place of project implementation, i.e. the territory where the physical implementation takes place and the project expenses are incurred.

MAIN CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must not violate horizontal EU policies and their basic principles. In particular, the project must comply:
 - with principles of non-discrimination (primarily non-discrimination based on race, gender, religion, ethnic origin, disability, age or sexual orientation),
 - with the principles of sustainable development,
 - with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (the applicant provides a declaration on honour)
 - with environmental legislation (the applicant submits a declaration on honour).
- The project objectives shall be in line with the objectives of the operational programme and the Call.

² In the application in ISKP21+, the applicant indicated the CZ-NACE in which the project is implemented, which corresponds to the activity recorded in the public registers. The registered CZ-NACE must not be listed in the Call Annex titled "Unsupported CZ-NACE categories".

³ Also referred to as the Budgetary Rules Act.

⁴ Does not apply to partners with financial contribution

⁵ This does not apply to partners with a financial contribution from the category of research and knowledge dissemination organizations.

- For projects whose total eligible expenses are equal to/higher than CZK 5 million, the score obtained in the simplified economic evaluation, which expresses the financial health of the applicant, must not be lower than 5 points.
- The project does not significantly harm the environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶.
- Grant applications of applicants who have submitted a similar active project (in any PP status) under OP TAC will not be approved in the phase of appraisal of formal requirements and eligibility, unless the applicant has withdrawn from the project. A similar project is a project that has the same place of implementation (up to the level of municipality), similar activities and a similar budget size and structure. The aim of the above-mentioned measure is to prevent blocking of budget funds by the fact that the still unfinished project proposals from OP EIC are submitted again in an identical wording, or slightly modified.

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- external services (contractual research, R&D consulting services used for the purposes of the project and other operating costs) in a maximum amount of 30% of TEE;
- personnel costs – salaries and insurance premiums of researchers, technicians and other technical support staff to the extent necessary for the purposes of the project;
- the costs of tools, devices and equipment acquired from third parties in the form of depreciation of movable tangible fixed assets, to the extent necessary and for the period they are used for the purposes of the project at a maximum amount of 20% TEE;
- material and component costs incurred directly as a result of the project;
- flat-rate costs (additional overhead costs) amounting to 15% of personnel costs.

FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID

- The grant for a project is provided in the minimum amount of CZK 3 million⁷ and up to a maximum of CZK 125 million.
- Projects requesting less than the minimum aid according to the aid intensity are unacceptable and will not be accepted in the appraisal process. The maximum aid level is unsurpassable.

The maximum level of State aid (EU share) is specified in the following tables showing the decisive categories of supported activities and the size of the enterprise:

Activity category	Small enterprise	Medium-sized enterprise	Large enterprise
Industrial research ⁸	70%	60%	50%
Experimental development ⁹	45%	35%	25%

⁶ See Annex "Do No Significant Harm" verification form.

⁷ Valid at the stage of approval by the selection committee.

⁸ Industrial research is defined in Article 2(85) GBER.

⁹ Experimental development is defined in Article 2(86) GBER.

In the case of project implementation, **which involves effective collaboration among consortium members¹⁰**, the maximum level of State aid based on the category of supported activities and the size of the enterprise is as follows:

Activity category	Small enterprise	Medium-sized enterprise	Large enterprise ¹¹
Industrial research	80%	75%	65 %
Experimental development	60%	50%	40%

If the project does not constitute State aid, the aid is provided in accordance with the Framework, namely for entities that meet the definition of a research organization. The maximum aid intensity here must not exceed 85% of the total eligible expenditure of the research organization, regardless of the size of the research organization.

Activity category	Aid not constituting State aid
	Research organization
industrial research	85%
experimental development	85%

The participation of the research organization in the project is not mandatory.

The maximum total share of eligible expenditure on the supported activity “industrial research” must not exceed 50% of the total eligible expenditure of the project.

¹⁰ According to Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014, the effective collaboration must be (1) between undertakings among which at least one is an SME, or is carried out in at least two Member States, or in a Member State and in a Contracting Party of the EEA Agreement, and no single undertaking bears more than 70% of the eligible costs, or (2) between an undertaking and one or more research and knowledge-dissemination organisations, where the latter bear at least 10 % of the eligible costs and have the right to publish their own research results.

¹¹ In the case of the implementation of a project that involves effective cooperation among consortium members, the term Large Enterprise also includes Small Mid-Cap Company and Mid-Cap Company.