



Joint Call on Sustainable Hydrogen Technology as Affordable and Clean Energy

CALL TEXT AND NATIONAL AND REGIONAL REGULATIONS

Proposal Submission Period:

https://ptoutline.eu/app/eigjapan_jc2021

(Deadline of Friday, 9 July 2021, 10:00 CEST, i.e. 17:00 Japanese time)

Websites:

<http://www.concert-japan.eu/> (for call text and national/regional regulations)

https://ptoutline.eu/app/eigjapan_jc2021 (for online proposal submission portal)

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Table des matières

PART 1: CALL TEXT	3
1. Background and Rationale	3
1.1. EIG CONCERT-Japan	3
1.2. EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Calls	4
2. The EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call on Sustainable Hydrogen Technology as Affordable and Clean Energy.....	4
2.1 Thematic Area	4
2.2. Participating countries and regions	5
2.3. Eligible beneficiaries and composition of the consortia.....	6
2.4. Eligible costs and duration of funding.....	7
2.5. Call budget and funding principle	7
3. Proposal Submission.....	8
3.1. Project Consortium Submission	8
3.2. National Funding Institution Submission	9
4. Proposal Evaluation and Funding Decisions.....	9
4.1. Eligibility check	9
4.2. Online Evaluation of Proposals	10
4.3. Meeting of the Scientific Committee.....	10
4.4. Meeting of the Funding Organizations Forum	11
5. Project implementation and reporting.....	11
6. Indicative timetable*	12
PART 2: NATIONAL AND REGIONAL FUNDING REGULATIONS	13
Japan – Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST).....	13
France – French National Research Agency (ANR)	15
Germany – Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	17
Spain - Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) - State Research Agency	19
Turkey – The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK).....	21
Czech Republic – Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)	22
Czech Republic – Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS).....	24
Bulgaria – Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF).....	25
Hungary - National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH).....	27
Lithuania - Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA)	28
Norway - Research Council of Norway (RCN)	30
Poland – National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR).....	32
Slovakia – Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS).....	34
Switzerland – Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)	36
PART 3: CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE EIG CONCERT-JAPAN PROGRAM SECRETARIAT AND NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONTACT PERSONS	38

PART 1: Call Text

1. Background and Rationale

1.1. EIG CONCERT-Japan

European Interest Group (EIG) CONCERT-Japan (<http://www.concert-japan.eu/>) is an international joint initiative to support and enhance science, technology and innovation (STI) cooperation between European countries and Japan. EIG CONCERT-Japan is flexible and inclusive in nature, able to accommodate a range of forms of collaboration from broad concerted efforts to individual participation among its core members and other interested STI institutions.

CONCERT-Japan began as an ERA-NET project funded by the 7th EU Framework Program for Research and Technical Development (FP7) from 2011 to 2014. As an FP7 project, CONCERT-Japan had a high impact on the coherence and coordination of European collaboration and joint funding activities with Japan as a partner country.

At the end of the period, the success of the program until that point called for its continuation. As a result, the European Interest Group was founded as a flexible successor platform for communication and coordination among STI institutions in Europe and Japan. The collaboration, which began in the FP7 work programme, is now continuing independently of EU support as an activity of the European Interest Group, now under the name of EIG CONCERT-Japan.

The primary function of EIG CONCERT-Japan is to implement multilateral joint funding activities collaboratively, with the objective of enhancing cooperation and promoting transnational mobility between European countries and Japan in various STI fields.

As a collaborative funding initiative of EIG CONCERT-Japan (the eighth of CONCERT-Japan, the sixth as an EIG activity), the core members representing Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Spain and Turkey, together with a funding agency from Switzerland joining as a guest funder, have decided to implement a Joint Call under the title of *Sustainable Hydrogen Technology as Affordable and Clean Energy*.

Incentives for partnering with EIG CONCERT-Japan

The EIG CONCERT-Japan research community, in addition to nurturing links between Europe and Japan, is a close-knit coordinated network supported by common academic interests as well as social and interdisciplinary concerns. The coordinating funding institutions are an independently governed, flexible body continually monitoring current support needs in research as well as science-society engagement. Successful applicants may be invited as speakers at interdisciplinary scoping events, institutional advisory roles and generally looked to as pillars of the EU-Japan cooperative network.

1.2. EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Calls

EIG CONCERT-Japan joint calls aim to support sustainable and multilateral research cooperation, especially promoting the transnational mobility between European and Japanese researchers, through:

- Enhancing inter-regional communication and cooperation
- Increasing and developing opportunities for high quality research networking between researchers
- Developing new partnerships and strengthening existing ones
- Exchanging existing knowledge and creating new knowledge

Previous CONCERT-Japan joint calls have included Efficient Energy and Distribution and Resilience against Disasters (2012), Photonic Manufacturing (2014), Food Crops and Biomass Production Technologies (2016), Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution (2017), Functional Porous Materials (2018), Smart Water Management for Sustainable Society (2019), and ICT for Resilient, Safe and Secure Society (2020) with more than a hundred and seventy joint applications received and more than €15,252,000 of funding offered in total.

2. The EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call on Sustainable Hydrogen Technology as Affordable and Clean Energy

2.1 Thematic Area

This EIG CONCERT-Japan joint call is in the thematic area of Sustainable Hydrogen Technology as Affordable and Clean Energy.

Background

There is an uninterrupted trend towards an increasing world energy consumption. This comes from both well-established sectors, such as transportation and residential sectors, as well as the growing demands of the recent digital transformation of society. Moreover, the move away from fossil fuels propels a transformation of the transportation sector toward a battery-based model, which will also demand greater advances in energy-related technology.

At the same time, the world faces many pressing challenges, including climate change, environmental degradation and the depletion of traditional energy sources. Therefore, the sustainable production of affordable and clean energy is an urgent challenge, which must be taken on in order to mitigate the risks of our increasing energy needs. To achieve this transition, having competitive energy alternatives compared to traditional fossil fuels and efficient energy transport and delivery is vital. So is the challenge of overcoming variability associated with several renewable energy sources, including wind and solar power.

The development of the hydrogen economy and its associated technologies offers an opportunity to make advances in this area. Hydrogen can be produced from many energy sources, especially carbon-free ones, and efficiently stored for future use. This makes it a flexible carrier of energy, capable of addressing grid balancing issues and energy delivery in remote places, while simultaneously being a concrete sustainable alternative to fossil fuels. It possesses numerous technological applications such as in transportation, energy storage and even building heating. However, in order to push it into the mainstream, it is pivotal to ensure that the associated processes are clean and affordable, including production, delivery, conversion, energy storage, and end-user technologies of hydrogen and their by-products.

Call aims and requirements

This call for proposals invites Japan and Europe-based researchers to develop more efficient, reliable, flexible and clean hydrogen-based technologies. We welcome research proposals taking cross-sectoral approaches, which bring natural and social sciences together. Proposals that involve various non-academic participants, such as practitioners, industry and other individuals and groups of the general public are also encouraged.

At the center of this call is a recognition that hydrogen technologies that are fuelled by clean and affordable energy can contribute to building a better society, and help mitigate climate change and other environment impacts caused by ever-growing human reliance on energy.

Research scope

This call focuses on research around the development of sustainable hydrogen technology. This includes tackling research challenges related to hydrogen production, usage and storage. A close consideration will be given to proposals that promote energy security and environmental quality.

As a part of this call, researchers are envisioned to explore areas of research such as:

- Hydrogen Production (different mechanisms for water splitting – renewable, electrolysis, biological (fermentation), ...)
- Manufacturing (fabrication methods for continuous process: scalability, cost-reduction, reliability, sensors integration, quality control, ...)
- Hydrogen Storage and transportation (physical-based: gas, liquid, ...; materials-based: absorbent, organichydride, metalhydride ...; models, ...)
- Technology applications and validation (transport, power generation, hydrogen fuel cells (catalyst, electrolytes, electrodes, models, ...), heating and cooling ...)
- Systems Modelling and Analysis (performance models, aging and degradation models, life cycle analysis, financial analysis, required infrastructures, lab pilots, ...)

2.2. Participating countries and regions

The following national and regional funding organisations have agreed to participate in this joint call, leveraging their national and regional R&D programs and applying their respective funding regulations:

- **Bulgaria:** Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF)
- **Czech Republic:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)
- **Czech Republic:** Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)
- **France:** French National Research Agency (ANR)
- **Germany:** Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
- **Hungary:** National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH)
- **Japan:** Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
- **Lithuania:** Agency for Science, Innovation & Technology (MITA)
- **Norway:** Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- **Poland:** National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
- **Slovakia:** Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)
- **Spain:** Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)
- **Switzerland:** Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
- **Turkey:** The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)

Only researchers based in these countries/regions are eligible for funding in this EIG CONCERT-Japan joint call. See the annexes for each of the above funding agencies for details.

2.3. Eligible beneficiaries and composition of the consortia

In general, this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is open to applications from *public and private legal RTD entities, higher education institutions and non-university research establishments*, as well as enterprises and other kinds of organisations (the “beneficiaries”) depending on the individual national/regional regulations and restrictions of the participating funding institutions (see Part 2).

Each project consortium submitting an application should consist of *at least three (3) eligible beneficiaries (project partners), one (1) from Japan and two (2) from two different European countries participating in the Joint Call. In addition, in consideration of the priority to spread research networks across Japan and the EU, projects with four (4) or more partner countries will be given particularly strong consideration.* The number of beneficiaries in a project consortium should be appropriate for the aims of the research project and reasonably balanced in terms of multilateral participation. Applications should clearly demonstrate the added value of working together.

Each project consortium should choose *two (2) project leaders, one from the Japanese side and one from the European side.* One of the two project leaders (the “principal project leader”) will be responsible for submitting the proposal on behalf of the whole consortium. Project leaders may participate in only one project proposal. Each beneficiary will be represented by one (and only one) Principal Investigator (PI) and this PI will be the contact person for the relevant national/regional funding organisation.

Researchers/research teams from countries/regions not participating in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call may participate as additional partners in a project consortium (after satisfying the minimum consortium criteria) if they can prove that they have secured funding from other sources that allows

them to fulfil their obligations within the consortium. A *confirmation letter* from the external funding institution has to be submitted at the time of proposal submission.

2.4. Eligible costs and duration of funding

Within the framework of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call, costs eligible for funding may be:

- **Research materials and small-scale research equipment:** Consumables, small equipment and subcontracting (for example for the fabrication of samples at a specialised facility) are eligible if their need is listed in detail and duly justified
- **Travel costs:** Only travel costs and associated living expenses incurred in travel to the countries participating in the same project consortium (including additional partners from countries/regions other than those participating in the Joint Call who secure their own funding) are eligible
- **Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events:** Room rent, catering, printing of conference brochures, travel and accommodation of invited external experts (that do not form part of the project consortium but are considered necessary for the success of the event) are eligible
- **Personnel costs:** According to the rules of each agency

The eligibility of all costs for each applicant depends on the relevant national and regional regulations applied by each Joint Call funding institution and should be calculated accordingly (see Part 2).

All project partners are advised to contact their National and Regional Contact Persons (see Part 3) for further information on eligible costs and national and regional specifications.

Funding will be provided for the maximum duration of 3 years. The funding of projects should start in April 2022 and should be concluded by the end of March 2025.

2.5. Call budget and funding principle

This EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call follows the principle that the national and regional financial contributions to a virtual common pot will be assigned to project partners of that respective country or region only, in accordance with national and regional regulations. Cross-border funding is not envisaged.

The overall budget of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is the sum of the individual budgets allocated by each participating funding institution. If more than one funding institution from a given country participates in the Joint Call, the combined amount from these institutions is considered as the country's overall Joint Call contribution.

Below is an overview of the individual national and regional funding contributions envisaged to this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call budget by each participating funding institution:

Country/funding institution	Amount*
Bulgaria: Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF)	€306,775
Czech Republic: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)	€600,000
Czech Republic: Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)	€240,000
France: French National Research Agency (ANR)	€600,000
Germany: Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	€750,000
Hungary: National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH)	€300,000
Japan: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)	€900,000
Lithuania: Agency for Science, Innovation & Technology (MITA)	€100,000
Norway: Research Council of Norway (RCN)	€500,000
Poland: National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)	€750,000
Slovakia: Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)	€120,000
Spain: Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)	€400,000
Switzerland: : Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)	€675,000
Turkey: The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)	€500,000
Overall call budget	€ 6 741 775

*Indicative only. The funding amount should be confirmed with the national contact point towards the end of the call. Check Part 2: National and Regional Regulations for details on funding in local currencies

It is expected that six (6) *projects* will be funded in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call.

Some funding institutions may choose to set an upper limit on the amount that can be requested per project partner coming from their country/region. *Applicants should therefore thoroughly check the national and regional regulations (Part 2) and contact their National and Regional Contact Persons (Part 3) for related inquiries.*

3. Proposal Submission

3.1. Project Consortium Submission

Project proposals are to be submitted between 10 May 2021 and 9 July 2021 10:00 CEST electronically using the PT-Outline webtool:

https://ptoutline.eu/app/eiqjapan_ic2021 (The server will not accept proposals outside of this application period)

The principal project leader should submit the proposal via the webtool on behalf of the whole consortium. Only one online proposal per project is needed. Proposals sent by post, e-mail, or fax will be rejected. Proposals must be written in English.

3.2. National Funding Institution Submission

Some participating funding institutions may require the project partner applicant from their country or region to submit a *parallel proposal* or project registration in line with the national and regional requirements (see *Part 2*).

The *Japanese project leader* is required to register their project's information on the *e-Rad* website portal according to the national regulations listed in Part 2.

Before the submission of a proposal the national or regional regulations (Part 2) applicable for each consortium partner should be thoroughly checked.

4. Proposal Evaluation and Funding Decisions

A four-step evaluation process will be implemented for proposals submitted within this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call.

4.1. Eligibility check

The Program Secretariat and the National and Regional Contact Persons (see Part 3) will check the eligibility of all submitted proposals taking into consideration the general Joint Call criteria and the individual national and regional criteria respectively. If a partner is found to be ineligible by one of the funding organisations, the entire proposal may be rejected without further review.

The *general eligibility criteria* are:

- Appropriate length and layout of the proposal (maximum number of pages adhered to and use of template for the Project Description)
- Inclusion of all necessary information in English
- Eligibility of all project partners
- Participation of at least three eligible project partners (beneficiaries), from a minimum of two different European countries participating in this Joint Call and Japan
- Eligible thematic focus
- Eligibility of requested funding
- Inclusion of a confirmation letter from the external sponsoring institution in case of additional partners that need to secure their own funding

The *national and regional eligibility criteria* of the participating funding institutions are given in the National and Regional Funding Regulations (Part 2).

Proposals meeting all eligibility criteria will be forwarded to the online evaluation stage.

4.2. Online Evaluation of Proposals

The selection of project proposals to be funded is based on an *international, independent evaluation by scientific peers*. Each proposal is assessed and given a written evaluation by at least two evaluators, nominated by the participating funding institutions.

The following *three evaluation criteria* are used:

1. Scientific excellence (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Sound research concept and quality of objectives
- Ambition, innovative potential and uniqueness of the research idea
- Scientific track–record and potential of the partners (including publications in scientific journals)
- Scientific standing of the organisations the applicants belong to

2. Impact of project results (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Impact of the project on the scientific field and community
- Contribution to enhancing innovation capacity and integration of new knowledge
 - Expected exploitation and dissemination of the results
- Added value of the multilateral project consortium

3. Implementation (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Quality and effectiveness of the methodology
- Feasibility of the work plan (in relation to governance, adequate budget, resources, time schedule)
- Collaborative interaction and complementarity of project partners
- Expected sustainability of the collaboration
- Interdisciplinarity
- Involvement of early-stage researchers and gender balance

The *scoring system* is as follows:

- 5: EXCELLENT** – The proposal fully satisfies all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.
- 4: VERY GOOD** – The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are possible.
- 3: GOOD** – The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but improvements are necessary.
- 2: FAIR** – There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.
- 1: POOR** – The criterion is addressed in an inadequate and unsatisfactory manner.
- 0: FAILS / INCOMPLETE INFORMATION** – The proposal fails to address the criterion in question or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.

4.3. Meeting of the Scientific Committee

A Scientific Committee, comprising one expert nominated by each participating funding institution and chaired by an independent chairperson, will rank the proposals based on the online evaluations and

internal discussion and recommend to the Funding Organisations Forum a list of proposals to be funded.

4.4. Meeting of the Funding Organizations Forum

The Funding Organizations Forum, comprising representatives of each participating funding institution, will take the final decision on the project proposals to be funded on a consensus basis, based on the recommendations of the Scientific Committee and in consideration of available budget. Funding will be administered in accordance with the rules and regulations of the participating national and regional funding institutions.

All applicants will be informed by the Program Secretariat of the outcomes of the evaluation.

5. Project implementation and reporting

Following announcement of the funding decision to successful applicants, the project partners of each proposal to be funded will conclude an individual funding contract with their respective national/regional funding institution. Support to funded projects will be provided on the basis of these funding contracts and in accordance with all applicable national/regional rules and regulations.

Each project consortium funded in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is *required to conclude a Consortium Agreement* listing the rights and responsibilities of each project partner. Depending on the nature of the funded project, special regulations should be included in the Consortium Agreement regarding intellectual property rights. Scientific and technological outcomes and any other information derived from the collaborative activities funded in this call can be announced, published or commercially exploited with the agreement of all partners in a funded project and according to the national and regional regulations as well as international agreements concerning intellectual property rights. The Consortium Agreement *must be signed by all project partners and sent to the Program Secretariat by the principal project leader* preferably before the official project start date but *no later than six months* after the official project start date.

The principal project leaders of the funded projects will be requested to send an *interim report (after 18 months of funding)* as well as a *final report (after three years of funding)* to the Program Secretariat. The reports should highlight the main results and outputs of the projects and any problems that have arisen and how they have been solved. Report templates will be prepared to ensure the comparability of information.

Additional reporting to the individual national/regional funding institutions *may also be necessary* depending on national/regional regulations (see Part 2).

Project teams will be expected to attend and reserve budget for two joint workshops to be held within Europe, one mid-term and one final, as shown in 6. *Indicative Timetable*.

In case of any significant changes in the work program or the consortium composition, the principal project leader must inform the Program Secretariat, who will inform the relevant funding organisations, who will decide upon the proper action to be taken.

6. Indicative timetable*

Publication of the Call for Proposals	10 May 2021
Deadline for Proposal Submission	9 July 2021 (<i>9 weeks</i>)
Eligibility Check	12 July – 30 July 2021 (<i>3 weeks</i>)
Online Evaluation	2 August – 10 September 2021 (<i>6 weeks</i>)
Scientific Committee Meeting & Funding Organizations' Forum Meeting	Mid October 2021
Publication of Results Online and Notification Letters to Applicants (Principal Project Leader only)	December 2021
Preparation of National and Regional Funding Agreements	December 2021 – February 2022
Start of Projects	April 2022
Joint Midterm Workshop	May/June 2023
Interim Project Reporting	October 2023
Final Joint Workshop	Jan/Feb 2025
Final Project Reporting	April 2025

* This is an approximate implementation schedule and is subject to change

PART 2: National and Regional Funding Regulations

Japan – Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

The official national call announcement for Japan is published on the JST website:

https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/program/announce/announce_hydrogen2021.html (Japanese)

https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/program_e/announce_e/announce_hydrogen2021.html

→ Who can apply?

Any independent researcher personally affiliated with (and actively conducting research at) a domestic Japanese research institution (or who would fulfil this requirement by the start of the research project if not currently affiliated with a research institution in Japan), regardless of nationality, is eligible to apply.

“Domestic Japanese research institution” in Japan refers to universities, independent administrative institutions, national/public testing and Research Institutions, specially authorized corporations, public-service corporations and enterprises, etc. that must satisfy predetermined requirements designated by MEXT. Please refer to the MEXT homepage for more information:

https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kansa/houkoku/1324571.htm (available in Japanese only)

In addition to the joint application process, Japanese applicants will have to register their applications on the Cross-Ministerial R&D Management System (e-Rad):

<https://www.e-rad.go.jp/index.html>

Applicants must complete a research ethics training program conducted by the research institute with which they are affiliated and then declare the completion of the program to JST within 30 days after the deadline of the call for proposals. If it would be very difficult for them to undertake a program provided by their own institute, they should contact JST to register for a research ethics program provided by CITI Japan. Unless applicants complete a research ethics program, their application will be deemed ineligible for funding.

Funded researchers will also have to complete a consortium agreement and should consult within their own institutions regarding their regulations. Further guidance can be found on the JST website:

<https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/research/contract/contract.html> (available in Japanese only)

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Japan?

The level of the funding available to Japanese researchers may be up to 6,000,000 Japanese Yen including 30% of indirect costs per year (i.e. overall around 18,000,000 Japanese Yen for the three years of funding). Funding will be made in Japanese Yen.

1. Eligible direct costs

In principle, eligible direct costs are those costs directly necessary for accomplishing the research, indicated below from 1.1 to 1.4. Please refer to the guidance documents available at the following link for further details of eligible direct costs (available in Japanese only).

<https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/research/contract/contract.html> (available in Japanese only)

1.1 Research materials and small-scale research equipment

Research equipment, spare parts, prototypes, software (in-line product), and purchase of books, reagents, materials and consumables

1.2 Personnel costs

Personnel costs of the researchers, temporarily staff, etc., who are hired for the research, and other costs such as honoraria for invited lecturers

1.3 Travel costs

Travel costs and associated living expenses of the Project Leader as well as research project members registered in the research project plan, and costs of inviting external experts

1.4 Others

Costs for organizing meetings in Japan including rental costs for the venue, food & beverage (excluding alcohol) costs and other costs which are deemed to be necessary for organizing the event. Expenses for creating software, renting or leasing equipment, transporting equipment, etc.

2. Eligible indirect costs

Please refer to the following link for the provisions regarding indirect costs:

<https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/compefund/shishin2.pdf> (available in Japanese only)

→ Who can apply?

Any (public or private) organisation established in France and performing research activities can apply for funding from ANR. International Research Units affiliated to a French public research institute (CNRS, IRD...) are also eligible for funding.

However, for a proposal submitted to this call to be eligible for funding by the ANR, the consortium must involve at least one French partner of the "public research organizations" type or similar (include entities established in France carrying out research and knowledge dissemination activity, at the exclusion of companies).

Funding rates:

- Public research organisations are covered at 100% of their additional costs, except in the case of research institutions classified as EPIC, when involved in consortia with a company, will be covered at 50% of their full costs.
- Large companies are covered at a maximum of 30% of their full costs for basic research and industrial research activities and at 25% of their full costs for experimental development activities.
- SMEs are covered at a maximum of 45% of their full costs.

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in France?

The amount of funding by ANR is limited to a maximum of 150,000 Euros per project for the whole duration of the project.

ANR rules for funding will apply: they are described in details in the ANR's "*Règlement financier*" (<https://anr.fr/fr/rf/>), available in French only. We strongly invite French partners to read them carefully before applying.

1. Eligible direct costs

To determine the maximum amount of a grant that can be allocated to a beneficiary, the ANR takes into account the estimated eligible costs necessary for carrying out the project, presented by this beneficiary.

The types of eligible expenses are distributed over the following five categories:

- a) Personnel costs
- b) Costs for consumables and small-scale research equipments
- c) Costs for buildings and land used for the project
- d) Costs for subcontracting (services provision)
- e) General costs (additional and other operating costs): travel costs

Please refer to the "*règlement financier*" (<https://anr.fr/fr/rf/>) for a comprehensive and updated description of these eligible direct costs.

2. Eligible indirect costs

The indirect eligible costs represent 12% of the eligible direct costs for partners funded under the marginal cost scheme (*frais d'environnement forfaitisés*).

For partners funded under the full cost scheme, a maximum of 68% of eligible personnel costs and 7% of other eligible direct costs.

→ **Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?**

No.

→ **For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point:**

Mélanie Lorion (e-mail : melanie.lorion@agencerecherche.fr; : +33 1 73 54 82 37)

Pascal Bain (pascal.bain@agencerecherche.fr)

Please note that the guidelines given above are translations of the terms and regulations enclosed in the ANR *Règlement financier* and the appendix to the call *Modalités de participation pour les Partenaires sollicitant une aide de l'ANR*, available on the ANR website. In case of a contradiction between the present document, the *RF* and the *Modalités de participation*, the terms of the two latter shall prevail.

Please refer to the German call documents on www.bmbf.de as well because these documents are binding.

→ Who can apply?

Funding will be awarded as project grants usually amounting to 150,000 Euros per collaborative project and year usually for a maximum period of 36 months.

The basis for calculating the grants for universities, non-university research institutions and similar institutions is the eligible project-related expenditure (in the case of the Helmholtz Centres and the FraunhoferGesellschaft [FhG] the eligible project-related costs) which can be individually funded up to a maximum of 100 percent.

In the case of research projects at higher education institutions (public and private) and teaching hospitals (irrespective of the legal form), a flat-rate grant amounting to 20% of total expenditure will be awarded in addition to the eligible expenditure. It should be noted that the project flat rate grant is already included in the above-mentioned maximum grant amount of 150,000 Euros.

Grants for commercial companies will be calculated on the basis of the eligible project-related costs, up to 50% of which can, as a rule, be covered by government grants, depending on the project's relevance to application. The calculation of the respective rate of funding must take account of the provisions governing de minimis aid and the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER/AGVO). The GBER (AGVO) allows various additional payments for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) which could in some circumstances lead to a higher rate of funding.

Research establishments that are financed jointly by Bund and Länder can (in addition to their basic funding) only obtain funding for their additional expenses under certain circumstances.

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Germany?

The level of the funding of German researchers may be up to 50,000.00 Euro per year (i.e. overall 150.000 Euro for maximum three years of funding). In case two or more partners of a project are located in Germany, they may together request the aforementioned maximum sum.

1. Eligible direct costs

The national rules will be applied.

1.1 Travel costs: As a general rule, travel costs (from the point of departure to the location of the project partner) will be paid by the sending country.

The arrival and departure costs / expenses including necessary visas (for air tickets: Economy class) to and from the destination in the participating partner countries mentioned under point 2.2, as well as the residence expenses / costs as well as domestic German trips are calculated in accordance with the respective applicable regulations of the research institutions or the company.

Travel to international conferences can only be subsidized in exceptional cases. Conference attendance fees are generally not covered.

1.2 Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events in Germany (including the invitation of external experts): Grants can be provided towards expenses such as room rent and catering, accommodation of guests, transfer costs in Germany). Please see national regulations.

1.3 Research materials and small-scale research equipment: only on a limited scale and if its need is demonstrated. An upper limit of 20% of the project budget per partner / year should not be exceeded.

1.4 In justified cases, funds can also be requested for orders to third parties (Aufträge an Dritte).

1.5 Personnel costs: personnel to carry out scientific activities or research

As a rule, no funding will be provided to cover any of the cost of the participating institutions' normal basic equipment.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

→Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

Yes. General BMBF funding regulations apply. German researchers whose proposal is recommended for funding by the scientific committee will have to submit a formal proposal in order to prepare the contracts.

Participating organisation: Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) – State Research Agency

Indicative Budget: 400.000€

Juan Climent (technical and administrative issues)

Tel.: +34 916037242

E-Mail: CONCERT-Japan@aei.gob.es

Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:

Programa Estatal de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación Orientada a los Retos de la Sociedad, [Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica y Técnica y de Innovación 2021-2023](#)

The instrument for funding the Spanish groups will be the Spanish national call on International Joint Programming or its equivalent (**Programación Conjunta Internacional, PCI**), which is expected to be launched in 2021/2022. As a reference, the beneficiaries are advised to read the call [PCI 2020](#).

Concert Japan 2020 Call on *Sustainable Hydrogen Technology as affordable and clean energy* will be managed by the [Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia](#)

Project duration: from 24 to 36 months (preferable 36 months)

Maximum funding per project:

The following funding limits are considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible.

- Maximum amount of funding per proposal eligible for AEI should not exceed €120,000, independently of the number of Spanish partners in the project.
- Additional 30,000€ can be granted if the applicant is the Coordinator of the transnational project.

The final funding will take into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the add value of the international collaboration, the participation of the industrial sector, and the financial resources available.

Institutional eligibility criteria:

The eligible entities for the State Research Agency funding are: Non-profit research organizations according to the PCI 2020.

Spanish Principal Investigators must demonstrate experience as investigators in projects funded by the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2013- 2016, the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2017-2020, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant national or international programmes.

Additional eligibility criteria:

Incompatibilities: These must be taken into account when participating in different international calls or other international initiatives.

- Principal Investigators will not be eligible for funding if applying for more than one proposal of this 8th Concert Japan call.
- Principal Investigators will be declared ineligible if applying for more than one proposal in the same PCI call or in two PCI calls in consecutive years.
- Principal Investigators should have a minimum employment relationship with the institution marked by the duration of the projects and must remain unchanged between the proposal to this transnational call and the PCI call.

The AEI will avoid double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding) and will not grant projects or parts of projects that are funded from other sources.

Eligible costs:

- Personnel costs for temporary employment contracts.
- Current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
- Indirect costs (overheads) up to 15%.

Mandatory: Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge the Agencia Estatal de Investigación funding: "Project (reference nº XX) funded by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación through PCI XXXX.

Who can apply?

Higher education institutions, training and research hospitals, public research centers and institutes, companies established in Turkey (private organizations) can apply for funding under TÜBİTAK 1071-The Support Programme for Increasing the Capacity to use International Research Funds and to Join International R&D Cooperations.

Funding Rates

The maximum funding per project is 720.000 TL (total for three years) to be shared between participating Turkish partners. This amount includes the scholarship payments, However, it excludes overhead and payments to the Project Incentive Premium (PTİ) and institution shares.

Higher education institutions, training and research hospitals and public research centers and institutes will be supported by 100% support rate. In private organizations, the support rate is applied to 60% of the budget of large-scale organizations and 75% of the budget of SMEs.

Eligible Costs

The personnel costs, travel costs, consultancy and service purchase costs, equipment, machinery, software and publication expenses and material/consumable purchase costs. . Please see the detailed information at <https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>.

The online national application is compulsory and will be received online **until 23 June 2021** (in parallel to the one on PT-Outline) Please see the detailed information at <https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>

Important Note: National applications to TÜBİTAK can only be made by using electronic signature. The persons who are included in the project team and all executive / participant institutions should have qualified electronic certificate (e-signature).

Further information relevant to national applicants/regulations please visit <https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>

For more information please contact:

EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point

Elif DOĞAN-ARSLAN

e-mail: concertjapan@tubitak.gov.tr

Tel.: +90 312 298 14 16

Contact Person for TÜBİTAK 1071 Programme

E. Burcu YAMAK

e-mail: burcu.yamak@tubitak.gov.tr

Phone: + 90 312 298 18 12

Information about call announcement will be published on the MEYS website: <http://www.msmt.cz>

→ **Who can apply?**

In the Czech Republic universities, research organizations and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). For universities and research institutes, up to 100% of eligible cost can be funded. SMEs up to 50% (according to the Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014).

→ **What types of funding are eligible for researchers in the Czech Republic?**

The level of the funding available to Czech researchers may be up to 200 000 euros per year (i.e. overall around 600 000 euros for the three years of funding).

1. Eligible direct costs

National rules will be applied in accordance with the Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 (in line with articles No. 107 and 108 Agreement) and Act. No. 130/2002 Coll. Costs eligible for funding needs to be listed in details and duly justified.

1.1 Research materials and small-scale research equipment

Research equipment, spare parts, software, reagents, materials and consumables

1.2 Subcontracting

The beneficiary is entitled to use this financial tool but only if it is unable to perform the activity of its own capacity and this fact justifies in the project proposal

1.3 Personnel costs

Personnel costs of the researchers, temporarily staff, etc., who are hired for the research, in accordance with the internal regulations of the applicant. Max. 40 % of total budget of a Czech participant.

1.4 Travel costs

Travel costs (economy class flight / train ride 2nd class) are eligible) and associated living expenses of research project members on the daily allowance basis (in accordance with the national legislation) and accommodation costs of the members of the participating Czech team are eligible.

2. Eligible indirect costs

Eligible indirect costs are eligible as per HORIZON 2020 rules.

→ **Projects funded from other national or EU sources will not be supported.**

→Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

There is no need for an additional/parallel application to the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports. A copy of the application sent to the call secretary should be sent to the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports through data box **vidaawt** according to following rules:

- data message cannot exceed 20MB.
- In data message in the field „Věc“ fill in „EIG CONCERT JAPAN“
- In data message in the field „K rukám“ fill in „Oddělení 33“
- In data message must be tickled the field „Do vlastníchrukou“

After announcement the EIG CONCERT JAPAN call results the MEYS will administer the institutional support in line with national regulations: Act. No. 130/2002 Coll., §7, article 8.

→ **Who can apply?**

Only teams from the CAS institutes are eligible to apply. SMEs and/or industries may participate on the condition that they secure their own funding. Universities and other research organisations are eligible to apply to MEYS (see MEYS's guidelines and conditions).

→ **What types of funding are eligible for CAS teams participating in consortia?**

The level of funding for the CAS teams may be up to 120,000.00 Euro per project (3 years), in case two or more project partners in a proposal are from the CAS institutes, they may together request up to 120,000.00 Euro per project proposal.

1. Eligible direct costs

Mobility costs. All mobility costs may only be related to networking events and secondments within the project.

Transport costs of the members of the participating Czech team (economy class flight / train ride 2nd class) are eligible.

Living expenses on the daily allowance basis (in accordance with the national legislation) and accommodation costs of the members of the participating Czech team are eligible.

Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events related to the project in the Czech Republic are eligible. The upper limit of 20% of the project budget should not be exceeded.

Costs for consumables and small equipment, only on a limited scale and if its need is demonstrated, are eligible.

Personnel costs for young researchers (PhD students and postdocs) participating in the project are eligible. The upper limit of 20% of the project budget should not be exceeded.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

→ **Is an additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?**

Yes. Basic information about project and project team must be submitted on a special form available for download at <https://era.avcr.cz/cs/multilateralni-spoluprace/EIG-CONCERT-Japan/> to the Contact point at the CAS. Following information will be required:

1. Identification of the project: Project title, Name of the principal project coordinator and List of all project partners and their affiliations;
2. Abstract of the project (1 100 characters incl. spaces);
3. Summary of Research Plans of the Czech Project Partner(s), their Implementation and Justification of Proposed Collaboration (1/2 page);
4. Description of the Czech Project Team – Involvement of Young Researchers is Mandatory (1/2 page);
5. CV of the Czech Principal Investigator (1 page).

→ **For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call CAS Contact Point:**

Dr. Alena Žochová

Division of International Cooperation, CAS

E-mail: zochova@kav.cas.cz

Phone: +420 221 403 566

The official national call announcement for Bulgaria is published on the BNSF website:

<https://www.fni.bg/>

→ Who can apply?

Eligible applicants under the present call are Bulgarian entities, which are:

- 1) Accredited universities under Art. 85 Para. 1 item 7 of the Law on Higher Education
- 2) Science organizations under Art . 47 Para. 1 of the Law on Higher Education.

Applicants under items 1 and 2 must comply with the definition for “research and knowledge distribution organization” under item 15 “b” of the Framework for State Aid for research and development and innovation.

Applicants under the present procedure must be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities of the project proposal, and not act as intermediaries; they must perform the proposed project activities on their own behalf and at their own expense.

Call applicants must be persons:

- performing research;
- and
- whose activities are fully not-for-profit or
- whose activities are both for-profit and not-for-profit, but they are clearly separated and are organized in a way to allow tracking of expenses and revenues related to their performance, including through analytical accounting. When the applicant performs both for-profit and not-for-profit activities, the financing, expenses and revenues about each type of activity are considered separately on the basis of consistently applied accounting principles for costs that can be objectively justified.

In addition to the joint application process, Bulgarian applicants will have to submit in Bulgarian and English following documents: Administrative description of the project and Declarations

<https://www.fni.bg/?q=node/578>

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Bulgaria?

The level of the funding available to Bulgarian researchers may be up to 100 000€ per project over 3 years.

Funding will be made in Bulgarian Leva.

National rules and BNSF internal processes will apply.

1. Eligible direct costs

In principle, eligible direct costs are those costs directly necessary for accomplishing the research, indicated below from 1.1 to 1.4.

1.1 Research materials and small-scale research equipment

Research equipment, spare parts, prototypes, software (in-line product), and purchase of books, reagents, materials and consumables.

1.2 Personnel costs

Personnel costs of the researchers, temporally staff, etc., who are hired for the research, and other costs such as honoraria for invited lecturers

1.3 Travel costs

Travel costs and associated living expenses of the Bulgarian Project Team Members registered in the research project plan.

1.4 Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events in Bulgaria

In general, all costs directly related to the preparation and the implementation of events like international workshops, conferences, etc. in relation with the project are eligible.

→ Room rent, catering, printing of conference brochures, travel and accommodation of invited external experts (that do not form part of the project consortium but are considered necessary for the success of the event), translation.

1.5. Expenses for dissemination of the project results

All costs related to participation in seminars, conferences and congresses related to the topic of the Project and presenting its results (travel, accommodation, daily subsistence) of Bulgarian Project Team Members. These costs have to be based on the National Regulation, respectively Ordinance for business trips abroad.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

→ Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

In addition to the joint application process, Bulgarian applicants will have to submit in Bulgarian and English following documents: Administrative description of the project and Declarations

The official national call announcement for Hungarian participants is published on the NKFIH website:

<https://www.nkfi.gov.hu/>

→ **Who can apply?**

Eligible applicants from Hungary are entities falling under any of the following GFO codes:

- budgetary units and other entities falling under the budgetary rule (e.g. higher education institutions, municipalities; etc.) (GFO code: 311, 312, 322, 341 342, 381, 382)
- enterprise with legal entity and other non-profit enterprise (GFO code: 113, 114, 141, 572, 573)
- non-profit organisation with legal entity (GFO code: 551, 552, 559, 562, 563, 569 599, 931)
- enterprise with a registered office in the European Economic Area and a branch in Hungary (GFO: 226).

→ **What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Hungary?**

The level of funding of Hungarian participants may be up to around **EUR 100 000 – 150 000** per project over 3 years.

→ **Eligible activities and costs**

All research-related costs in accordance with government decree 380/2014 (XII.31) are eligible. In case a partner is subject to State Aid rules, funding intensity shall be set at a level that complies with the State Aid rules in force at the time of the funding decision.

The detailed eligible costs and funding rules of the national 2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET call shall apply.

2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET Call for proposal & Guide for applicants:

PÁLYÁZAT AZ ERA-NET COFUND és EJP COFUND PROGRAMOK KÖZÖS NEMZETKÖZI PÁLYÁZATI FELHÍVÁSAIBAN SIKERESEN SZEREPLŐ MAGYAR SZERVEZETEK TÁMOGATÁSÁRA, 2019

<https://nkfi.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/era-net-ejp-cofund-2019-217-era-net>

→ **Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?**

There is no need for an additional/parallel application for the proposal evaluation phase. After the announcement of the EIG CONCERT JAPAN call results, the Hungarian member of the supported international consortia will have to submit a grant application to NKFIH in order to prepare the contracts in line with the national regulations, as described in the 2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET Call for proposal & Guide for applicants.

→ **For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point:**

Ms Györgyi Juhász

gyorgyi.juhasz@nkfi.gov.hu

The official national call announcement for Lithuanian participants is published on the MITA website www.mita.lt.

→ Funding organisation

Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA)

In addition to the national funding regulations provided herewith, all Lithuanian applicants are strongly advised to check the web page of MITA for the conditions of funding, and before applying they are strongly advised to contact with the Lithuanian national contact person.

→ Who can apply?

In Lithuania only small, medium, large enterprises are eligible for funding and could be beneficiaries. Eligible expenditures deemed appropriate by MITA, is paid to the beneficiary, after these expenditures for project activities are made and paid by the beneficiary. Beneficiary may demand a certain amount of pre-payment to cover the expenditures to be made.

Universities, research and science institutions or similar establishments can participate in the joint call but have to cover the project costs from their own sources.

Grants for commercial companies are calculated on the basis of the total project-related costs eligible for funding, may be up to 75% for SMEs and up to 65% for large companies, of which can, as a rule, be covered by MITA, depending on research and innovation activities, performed in the project. State aid rules apply.

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Lithuania?

The level of the funding of Lithuanian beneficiaries may be up to 33,000.00 Euro per year (i.e. overall 100,000 Euro for maximum three years of funding). In case two or more partners of a project are located in Lithuania, they may together request the aforementioned maximum sum.

1. Eligible direct costs

National rules will be applied in accordance with the Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 (in line with articles No. 107 and 108 Agreement). Costs eligible for funding needs to be listed in details and duly justified..

1.1 Travel costs: Travel costs (economy class flight / train ride 2nd class) are eligible) and associated living expenses of research project members on the daily allowance basis (in accordance with the national legislation) and accommodation costs of the members of the participating Lithuanian project team are eligible

1.2 Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events in Lithuania (including the invitation of external experts): funding can be provided towards expenses such as room rent and catering,

accommodation of experts (that do not form part of the project consortium but are considered necessary for the success of the event). Daily allowances will not be paid in this case. The upper limit of 20% of the project budget per partner / year should not be exceeded.

1.3 Research materials and small-scale research equipment: only on a limited scale and if the need is listed in detail and duly justified. An upper limit of 20% of the project budget per partner / year should not be exceeded.

1.4 Personnel costs: Personnel costs of the researchers, temporarily staff, etc., who are hired for the research.

1.5. Other eligible direct costs

Other eligible direct costs include the following:

- Costs of R&D services and consultancy related to the project from universities and/or R&D institutions. An upper limit of 15% of the project budget per partner should not be exceeded.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

→Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

Yes. Lithuanian company whose proposal is decided to be funded by the FOF will have to submit a formal financial proposal in order to prepare the contracts.

→Mandatory acknowledgement

Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge MITA funding: "Project (reference n° XX) partly funded by MITA".

For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point:

Mrs Daiva Keršienė. daiva.kersiene@mita.lt

Who can apply?

In Norway, Universities, research institutes and industrial companies are eligible. For universities and research institutes, up to 100% of eligible cost can be funded. Industry companies can be funded up to 50% (60% for SMEs).

What types of funding are eligible for Norwegian researchers?

The level of funding of Norwegian researchers for each project may be up to 250.000 euro for the three years of funding.

1. Eligible direct cost

The national rules will be applied.

For rates and more detailed national rules and regulations, see:

[What to enter in the project budget \(forskingsradet.no\)](http://forskingsradet.no)

See in particular the paragraphs "Payroll and indirect expenses" and "Procurement of R&D services".

1.1 Travel costs

Travel cost for Norwegian participants in the project will be covered based on economy class flight tickets or similar.

1.2 Living expenses

Living expenses including accommodation costs will be covered according to the Norwegian official rates for each country. For longer stays, the general rates for stipends abroad will be used.

1.3 Expenses for organizing small events in Norway

A limited sum can be used for expenses like room rent, catering etc.

1.4 Research material and small-scale research equipment

This will normally not be covered by the project.

1.5 Personnel costs

Personnel costs will be covered according to the general rules for hourly prices for the research institutions and industry companies towards the Research Council. Personnel cost should be limited in order to give room for networking activities and mobility.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

There is no need for an additional/parallel application to the Research Council. A copy of the application sent to the call secretary should be sent to the Research Council.

→ For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point:

Ms. Julie Christiansen

jc@forskningsradet.no

+4722037372

Information about call announcement will be published on the NCBR website:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/platforma-konkursowa>

Who can apply?

- **Research organisations**
- **Enterprises** (micro, small, medium or large)
- **Groups of entities** (scientific consortia)

The scope of support:

- **Basic research** (only research organisations) – up to 15% of the total project cost for the Polish researchers
- **Applied research**
- **Experimental development**

What types of funding are eligible for the Polish researchers?

The NCBR's total allocation for the current EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call for Proposals is **750.000 EUR**. The level of funding for Polish participants is limited up to the maximum of **150.000 EUR per project** for up to 3 years (36 months).

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

1. Personnel costs (W) - researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the research project;
2. Costs of subcontracting (E) - i.e. costs based on agreements with third parties to perform a portion of the project without a direct supervision of the project participant and without a relationship of subordination the subcontracting can be obtained from consortium partner only in justified case, this need will be verified by a national experts panel; Costs of subcontracting cannot exceed 70% of all eligible costs of the project.
3. Other costs (Op):
 - Costs of instruments, equipment and intangible assets (such as patents, certificates etc.) to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if they are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;
 - Purchase of land and real estate to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;
 - Other costs including costs of support services, materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity, travel costs (costs of delegations, costs of participation in conferences), costs of maintaining a separate bank account, costs of promoting the project.

4. Overheads (O) - incurred indirectly as a result of the research project; Overheads must be calculated according to the formula: $O = (W+Op) \times 25\%^*$

*percentage 25% estimated by the Applicant himself (the same percentage for every task in the project)

For the funding granted by the NCBR, the following regulations apply:

1. The Act of 20 July 2018 on the Law of Higher Education and Science, published in Journal of Laws item 1668, 2018, as amended;
2. The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1770, 2019;
3. The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1456, 2020.

Maximum level of funding:

- For research organisations – up to 100% of eligible costs
- For enterprises – up to the level submitted in the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1456, 2020.

	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Micro/Small Enterprises	Research Organizations
Basic Research	0%	0%	0%	Up to 100 %
Applied Research	Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)	Up to 100 %
Experimental development	Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)	Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)	Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)	Up to 100 %

National phase of the applying procedure:

After international evaluation has been completed and the ranking list established, Polish participants from consortia recommended for funding will be invited to submit the National Application Form (NAF).

All eligible entities invited to submit NAF are obliged to use the rate of exchange of the European Central Bank dated on the day of opening of the call.

NAFs will be then examined by the interdisciplinary panel of experts for international projects for the appropriateness of funding requested. Based on recommendations of the panel, the Director of NCBR issues a funding decision/rejection decision.

Contact Person:

Mrs. Krystyna Maciejko
 National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
 Department of International Cooperation
 E-mail: krystyna.maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl
 Phone: +48 22 39 07 489

→ Who can apply?

Only organisations of the Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible for funding by the SAS. The **principal investigator (PI)** must be a senior researcher and must have, at the time of submission, a full-time employment contract with a SAS organisation (or several part-time contracts with multiple SAS organisations summing up to one full-time employment equivalent) valid for the whole duration of the project. Each core member of the SAS research team must also have an employment contract or a fellowship with the same or another SAS organisation.

Individuals involved in preparation of the Call, in the evaluation process or in the funding decision process are eligible neither as PIs nor as team members.

→ What types of funding are eligible for Slovak researchers?

Funding available for Slovak researchers is up to 120 000 EUR per project (i.e. 40 000 EUR per year) in accordance with the SAS Presidium's resolution no. 1169 (14. 1. 2021), of which 45 000 EUR is the in-kind personnel contribution (spoluucast) of the applicant's organisation. This must be declared in a Letter of Commitment sent to the national contact point by the application deadline. A template will be published alongside the Call announcement at www.sav.sk in the International Cooperation section (Medzinarodna spolupraca)

1. Eligible direct costs

1.1. Personnel costs

- Must accurately reflect the work on the project;
- May be used only to cover the costs (including health and social insurance) related to work agreements performed outside of employment;
- Up to 20 % of all direct costs excluding the organisation's in-kind personnel contribution.

1.2. Material costs and expenditures

- a. Consumables: minor equipment and instruments, small-scale office and laboratory material (no basic equipment of the workplace; essential computer equipment is exception);
- b. Costs and expenditures for services directly related to the project: contracts, consultations, publication of project results, conference fees;
- c. Travel costs and living expenses: limits for travel costs and daily subsistence allowance vary depending on destination country;
- d. Capital expenditures: up to 40% of all direct costs excluding the organisation's in-kind personnel contribution.

2. Indirect Costs

- Administration, energy and infrastructure;
- Up to 20% of all direct costs excluding the organisation's in-kind personnel contribution.

Further information on eligible costs can be found in the [Financial rules for awarding the SAS grants for international research projects](#) approved by the SAS Presidium on 1 July 2018.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to read this document carefully and to contact the national contact point before submission in order to ensure compliance.

→ Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

Yes. Submission of an application at the national level will be required once the international evaluation has taken place and the ranking list has been drawn up by the Funding Organisations Forum. The Slovak project partner will be informed about recommendation for funding and invited by the SAS to submit the national application form (Formular MVTŠ). The final decision on funding of selected project(s) is made by the Presidium of the SAS.

Further guidance

- https://www.sav.sk/?lang=sk&doc=services-news&source_no=25
- Financial rules for awarding the SAS grants for international research projects ([*Financne pravidla na udelovanie grantov SAV na medzinarodne vyskumne projekty*](#))

Before submitting the proposal, Slovak applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their EIG CONCERT-Japan National Contact Point:

Ms Zuzana Cernakova
cernakova@up.upsav.sk
+421 2 5751 0 118

Swiss applicants are advised to contact the respective National Contact Points in order to check who is eligible to apply and what costs are eligible before submitting the complete application. Please note that Swiss applicants must submit an application to [mySNF](#) in parallel.

→ Who can apply?

All Swiss applicants must meet the eligibility requirements of the SNSF. The [SNSF Funding Regulations](#), the [General implementation regulations](#) and the [Regulations on Project Funding](#) are applicable or applicable mutatis mutandis. Please note that private companies are not eligible for funding.

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Switzerland?

A maximum amount of CHF 250,000 is allocated per project. Article 8, paragraph 1 of the [Regulations on Project Funding](#) defines the eligible costs:

- Salaries of scientific and technical staff in research projects within the scope of the salary ranges and rates prescribed by the SNSF;
- Material costs that are directly related to the research work, namely material of enduring value, expendable items, field expenses, travel expenses, third-party charges, cost of computing time and data as well as of providing open access to research data;
- Direct costs incurred through the use of research infrastructure linked to the research work;
- Costs for the organisation of conferences and workshops in connection with the funded research;
- Costs for national and international cooperation and networking activities carried out in connection with the funded research.

Swiss applicants may not apply for their own salaries.

As of 1 April 2018, fees for open access publications are no longer eligible costs within SNSF grants and have to be requested separately via mySNF. The SNSF considers applications for Book Processing Charges (BPS) as of 1 April and for Article Processing Charges (APC) and Book Chapter Processing Charges (BCPC) as of 1 October 2018. Please visit www.snf.ch/oa for further information.

Please note that partners of an international project consortium located in a country of the EIG CONCERT-Japan consortium cannot be included as project partners in the sense of article 11, paragraph 2 of the [SNSF Funding Regulations](#).

Grants will be managed according to standard SNSF rules. Reporting requirements duplicating those of EIG CONCERT-Japan will not be enforced.

→ Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

Swiss applicants must submit an application via the online submission system [mySNF](#) for the same deadline as the consortium applications are submitted. Please select the “Programmes / EIG CONCERT-Japan” funding instrument.

According to the SNSF policy on Open Research Data (follow [this link](#) for details), Swiss applicants must submit a Data Management Plan.

→ For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point:

Delphine Marchon

Swiss National Science Foundation

delphine.marchon@snf.ch

+41 31 308 23 19

PART 3: Contact information of the EIG CONCERT-Japan Program Secretariat and National and Regional Contact Persons

The EIG CONCERT-Japan Program Secretariat (PS) is entrusted with the overall operational management of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call. It is the general contact point for questions related to the Joint Call, the application process and the use of the PT-Outline webtool.

The *National and Regional Contact Persons (NRCs)* are located in each country/region participating in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call. One of their main tasks is to advise potential applicants from their countries/regions on the applicable national/regional regulations during the proposal submission process.

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