

Call for Joint Innovation Project Proposals Russia and France

Project Applications and national funding applications will be accepted until 19.04.2018

Scope

France and Russia are announcing a Call for Proposals for **joint innovation projects**, focusing on developing innovative products and applications **in all technological and application areas**. Applicants are expected to develop ready-to-market solutions for products, technology-based services or methods which have strong potential for France, Russian and international markets. Partners apply with an application form (provided for download) demanded by the national funding agencies Bpifrance and FASIE.

FASIE and Bpifrance will provide access to public funding for joint selected projects. Minimum requirement concerning project consortium is the participation of at least two companies from the participating countries (one each).

FASIE and Bpifrance will provide all necessary assistance to project partners during the project proposal, evaluation and monitoring phases. In addition, Bpifrance and FASIE will facilitate the application process and will accompany the progress of the respective projects.

The call invites partners to present joint proposals for industrial R&D projects until 19.04.2018 according to the following structures and procedures:

Financing

The accepted projects will be partially funded by respectively, Bpifrance on the French side and FASIE on the Russian side. The remaining costs will be the responsibility of the project participants. They will finance their share of the costs from their own national funds, venture capital or the applicable national, regional or international public funding schemes.

Project content and evaluation for national funding request

Expected project results will have to contribute to the development of commercial products, applications and/or technology-based services. The project proposals have to comply with the following guidelines:

- The consortia should include at least two companies from the participating countries (participation of research institutes/universities is welcome as additional participants or as subcontractor according to each country's funding regulations).
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the countries (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).
- The project should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from the two countries.

Any partner whose cooperative R&D project is consistent with the aforesaid criteria can apply to the present announcement in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.

Submission and approval procedures

The completed electronic forms should be submitted to the contact person at Bpifrance (see details below) by **19th April 2018**.

The forms have to be legally signed by all participants. The signatures must be scanned and sent together with the forms as an integral part of the application.

The forms will be screened and evaluated by FASIE and Bpifrance together. The applicants will be notified of the results of the formal eligibility check **within 15 days after** the completion of the national eligibility check. The national evaluation that follows depends on each countries individual policies and procedures.

Only projects approved (evaluated positively) by both countries will be recommended for funding. Each country will fund its eligible participants in accordance with its funding criteria. The applicants will be notified about the final decision for funding **before 15th October 2018**.

As a short summary, main aspects of the national criteria are explained below:

France

ADI (Aide pour le développement de l'innovation) requirements:

- Partnerships: Two or more industrial partners (a Foreign company and a French company)
- No country or partner representing more than 70% of the total budget of the project.
- Eligible Beneficiaries: French companies up to 2000 fulltime equivalents (FTE)
- Eligible costs: Industrial research and experimental development (industrialization and commercialization costs are not eligible)
- Funding amount: from € 50,000 up to € 3Millions (submitted to financial analysis of the company and financial conditions)
- Duration: maximum of 3 years
- Funding: zero interest rate loan reimbursable in case of technical success, up to 65% of the eligible costs for an SME and up to 50% for midcap companies

Any payment is subject to a signed consortium agreement.

Russia

- **Eligible Beneficiaries:** Only small companies (LLC) according to the Russian law (Federal Law №209, Article 4): up to 100 personnel, up to 800M Roubles turnover and less than 49% participation of public, foreign and large companies. Special exception is made for “Skolkovo” residents. Universities, research organizations and other public bodies can participate as subcontractors (with not more than 30% share received as a grant from FASIE being subcontracted).
Ideally, applicant should be a small company not younger than 2 years with a proved track record, IP, and a good turnover.
- **Eligible costs:** Personnel costs (up to 60%) , equipment (where applicable), subcontracting, some „other” costs are eligible. Travelling/subsistence, industrialization and commercialization costs are not eligible.
- **Funding amount:** Maximum 15 mln Roubles
- **Duration:** maximum of 2 years
- **Funding:** Funding is provided as a grant. 50% of the amount of the grant provided by FASIE should be co-financed (7.5 M Roubles)

A full description of the conditions and terms can be found here (in Russian):

<http://fasie.ru/programs/programma-internatsionalizatsiya/#documentu>

Timeline

Launch of the Call for Proposals	19 Dec 2017
Deadline for application	19 April 2018
Deadline for the eligibility check	7 May 2017
Final decision for funding	15 October 2018

Contact

France

Questions on Bpifrance funding
Mr. Mael M'Baye
Bpifrance
Tel. +33 1 53 89 78 74
Email: mael.mbaye@bpifrance.fr
<http://www.bpifrance.fr/>

Russia

Questions on FASIE funding
Mrs. Olga Levchenko
FASIE
Tel. + 7 (495) 231-38-51
Email: levchenko@fasie.ru
<http://www.fasie.ru>