

Announcement:

Korea – France Call for Proposals for Joint R&D Projects

Deadlines for Submission –14th May 2021

Scope

Korea and France are announcing a bilateral Call for joint R&D project outlines, focusing on developing innovative products and applications in market oriented technological and application areas. Applicants are expected to develop ready to market solutions or projects, which have a significant market potential for Korea and France.

- ★ The call is announced within the framework of the Declaration of Intent on Call for proposal among the Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology KIAT and the French Public Investment Bank BPIFrance
- ★ Korea and France are members of the EUREKA initiative and support innovation projects through the different EUREKA instruments. The call is managed in cooperation and in line with the international procedures of EUREKA (www.eurekanetwork.org).
- ★ KIAT and BPIFrance will provide access to public funding for joint projects. They will also provide all necessary and coordinated assistance to project partners during project proposal, evaluation and monitoring phase.

Call Launch and Structure

The Call is launched on **15th February 2021** by KIAT and BPIFrance, and is open until **14th May 2021** at 18:00 (local time). This call is open in line with EUREKA programmes. Eligible partners are invited to present joint project outlines for industrial R&D projects according to the following criteria:

Qualifications

Consortium

The consortia should consist of a market oriented mix of R&D performing commercial companies and research institutes.

The consortia should demonstrate:

- Complementary technological excellence and qualification of the partners,
- Sustainability of the partnership and intensity of the collaboration between the partners,
- Management ability of the consortia to successfully carry out the project and implement the results,
- Mutual advancement of R&D through the transfer of knowledge and expertise,
- Added value for the participants from both countries in a balanced way.

Innovation Content

The innovation aspect of a project outline should go beyond the international state of the art. The innovation project should be science-based targeting to achieve advances in technology or a service. The main objectives in terms of performance or cost to become competitive shall be presented in a specific way.

Companies proposing projects are encouraged to apply in any technological field, namely with a specific focus on the following fields:

- Bio Technology and Medical Technology
- Energy and Environment Technology
- Robot, Automobile and Machinery Systems Technology
- Materials and Nano Technology
- Information and Communication Technology
- Digital transformation

Companies wishing to propose projects in other fields are encouraged to contact the program managers whose contact information is shown at the bottom of this call.

Market

The project should aim to the establishment of a new or the integration into an existing value chain. A market and an implementation prospects must exist for the envisaged product or service.

Submission and Approval Procedures

Participants are invited to contact the officers from the National Authorities (see contact details at the end of the text) before submitting the documents.

Step 1: submit the Eureka application through EUREKA SMARTSIMPLE Platform

Partners will have to submit their EUREKA applications through the Eureka Application portal Smartsimple, http://eureka.smartsimple.ie/s_Login.jsp, and put their digital signatures through the system.

Step 2: Submit the application to each National Authority

- In Korea, the participants will have to submit a formal national application through KIAT Project Advanced Smart System (<https://www.k-pass.kr>) including the EUREKA application form (in English). Additional documents in Korean language, containing detailed information on the Korean participants, could be requested depending on the specific type of funding request by the company.
- In France, the participants will have to submit a formal R&D international project application through Bpifrance (international.innoproject@bpifrance.fr). Additional financing and administrative documents in French language, will be requested.

Financing Rules

Each country will fund its eligible participants according to their national procedure and funding rules. Funding conditions and eligibility criteria may vary from one country to another. The main aspects of funding 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 € 3 Millions (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. Deeptech companies could also benefit from a specific Bpifrance funding scheme (please contact Bpifrance).

Korea

KIAT funding: The Korean dedicated budget provided by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) and managed by KIAT is open to all applications from companies with registered R&D laboratories, research institutes and universities. The funding amount is up to KRW500,000,000 (approximately € 370,000, exchange rate is ₩1,350/€ 1, quoted as an illustrative purpose) annually, and duration of the project is maximum 3 years. The partners should be consisting of at least one Korean R&D performing commercial company. Participation of research institutes or universities is welcome as additional participants or subcontractors according to each country's funding regulations.

Project funding is comprised of government grants and civilian dues (cash and in-kind). The amount of government grants will vary depending on the type of executing organizations and project in accordance with Article 24 (Funding criteria) and Article 25 (Civilian dues) of the Common Operational Regulations for the Industrial Technology Innovation Programs. Be aware of that the total costs for each of the partners in the consortium should also be reflected in the Smartsimple application form and match with the national application.

A party that participates in a project shall carry out its project using the government grants allocated to it, and for-profit organizations shall individual bear the cash portion of civilian dues. The share of cash in executing organization's civilian dues in the year 2021 will be subject to the Special Regulation for the Industrial Technology Innovation Programs Coping with COVID-19.

Monitoring and impact

Applicants will be requested to provide information during the lifetime of the project at international level to make sure the project has been developed as expected. Additionally, they will have to provide information regarding the impact of the project once it has been finished.

Contacts for Details and Partner Search Requests

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