



7th South Korea – Switzerland Call for Joint Innovation Projects

Deadline for submission of Project Pre-Proposal – **April 30, 2021**

Deadline for submission of Full application – **August 02, 2021**

1. Purpose of the Call

South Korea and Switzerland are announcing a bilateral Call for joint R&D project outlines, focusing on developing ready to market solutions for products, technology based services or methods, which have a significant market potential for South Korea and Switzerland. The Call is open for all scientific disciplines; however projects for products or services in following topics are particularly appreciated:

- Biotech; Medtech
- Renewable Energy; Mobility
- Digitalisation; Industry 4.0; IoT
- Additive Manufacturing
- Smart Materials / Innovative surfaces
- Augmented and virtual reality

The aim is to strengthen the activity of the business and research community of both countries. KIAT and Innosuisse have opted for a two-stage evaluation process, to align the common targets and cooperation within the project consortia and allow for a greater numbers of funded projects.

2. Formal criteria

All proposals must meet following eligibility criteria to be qualified for evaluation:

- The partners (project consortia) must include at least one commercial company from each country and one research institute from Switzerland.
- The participation of further research organizations and further commercial companies from both countries according to each country's funding regulations is welcome.
- The research organizations and commercial companies must comply with the regulations of their respective country.
- The project partners shall name a designated main-coordinator.
- The project duration cannot be more than three (3) years.
- The project should demonstrate a relevant innovation content, added-value and benefit from the bilateral cooperation in both countries. The project must be equally significant to all participants. **One country cannot represent more than 70% of the overall project budget.**
- With the proposal, the consortium is encouraged to present a draft agreement on the Intellectual Property Rights IPR together with the proposal, in order to reduce the negotiation time after the proposal has been approved and prior to the project starting date.
- Both agencies will only consider project costs, which arise in their country eligible for funding. Cross-border funding is not foreseen.

Only proposals meeting all eligibility criteria will be considered for evaluation. **There will be no opportunity to correct errors in the proposals after the application deadline.**

Please note that the inclusion of an ineligible partner in a proposal will result in the non-consideration of the entire proposal. For the definition of eligible partners, see the national regulations and contact your national contact person.

3. Evaluation criteria

3.1 Innosuisse Switzerland

Project goals

The project partners should demonstrate:

- Complementary technological excellence, qualifications and added-value of international cooperation.
- Strong base of partnership and aim for continuing collaboration even beyond the project duration,
- Management ability to successfully carry out the project and implement the results,
- Mutual advancement of R&D through the transfer of knowledge and expertise.

Research where downstream application is for national defence or security purposes, as well as research which poses a threat to public health and misuse of personal data will not be supported.

Innovation Content

The innovation aspect of a project must go beyond the international state of the art. The innovation project should be science-based, targeting to achieve advances in technology or service aspects. The main objectives in terms of performance of the product, process or service and cost issues (with regard to competitive ability) shall be presented in a comprehensive way.

Market

The project is targeting to establish a new, or to integrate into an existing value chain. A **market and implementation idea** must exist for the planned product, process or service.

3.2 KIAT South Korea

Main Project evaluation criteria

- Expected benefits of project and expected quality of project results,
- The validity of project planning and the importance of the related technology,
- The capacity of the applicants for performing the project,
- The international cooperation strategy.

4. Call Structure and Submission (2-Step)

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| Launch of Call for Project Pre-Proposal | 1 st of February 2021 |
| Partnering | partner search platform for b2b match making meetings available from mid-February 2021 on. |
| Call information webinar | 10 th of March 2021 |
| Deadline for submission of Project Pre-Proposal | 30th of April 2021 |
| Communication of results of Project Pre-Proposal and recommendation letter | beginning of June 2021 |
| | |
| Deadline for submission of full application in line with country systems | 2nd of August 2021 |
| Communication of the results | September / October 2021 |
| Start of projects for: | end of 2021 |

4.1 Call information and Partnering (optional)

- The **search for project partners** in South Korea and Switzerland will be supported and organised by Enterprise Europe Network EEN. EEN Korea and [Switzerland](#) will open an online business to match platform <https://south-korea-swiss-call-2021.b2match.io> with partner profiles to establish contacts between interested organisations. The platform will open soon after launching the call until end of July 2021. All questions related to partner search will be managed by your EEN contact listed below. Partners are requested to register their needs on the platform at the earliest possible stage in order to increase the chance to build a consortia.
- A **webinar** for interested parties will be organized beginning of March 2021 (March 10). The webinar will provide information on funding conditions, call process, partner search and other aspects of the call. Interested parties will have the opportunity to ask questions to representatives of KIAT, Innosuisse and EEN. The link and registration to the webinar will be provided on <https://south-korea-swiss-call-2021.b2match.io>.

4.2 Pre-Proposal (mandatory)

The deadline for submitting a Pre-Proposal is **30th of April 2021**. Both agencies will check and compare the preproposals and provide a recommendation to the applicants. The applicants can expect a feed-back on their project and recommendation for submission of a full-application by beginning of June 2021.

In the **pre-proposal**, partners are invited to present the basic information on innovation content, market potential expertise of involved partners and their impact expectations benefit of the international cooperation and costs of the planned work.

The preproposal consists of the **joint call document** and for Swiss partners a **simplified Innosuisse application** form. The necessary pre-proposal documents are available on the webpages of [KIAT](#) for South Korea and [Innosuisse](#) for Switzerland.

The listed regulations and qualifications in chapter 6 apply to all applicants. Applicants of each country must refer and comply with the applicable regulations of the national funding organisations.

- **Korean participants** have to submit a formal KIAT application through Project Management System of KIAT (<http://www.k-pass.kr>).
- **Swiss participants** have to submit a **simplified Innosuisse application**, as well as a **joint call document** both documents can be found on the [Innosuisse website](#). **Please add to the title “JOINT CALL KR-CH 2021...” and send to: innosuisse@innoprojects.ch**

4.3 Full proposal

The deadline for the Full-Proposal is **2nd of August 2021**. Selected partners will be invited to submit a **full proposal**. The request for improvements from the pre-proposal assessment must be specifically addressed.

The Full-Proposal consists of the updated joint call document and a submission of the national application at KIAT and Innosuisse. Both agencies will evaluate and decide on the full-proposals by September/October

The duly completed application must be submitted to KIAT for South Korean partners and to Innosuisse for Swiss partners as follows:

- In Korea, the participants have to submit a formal KIAT application through Project Management System of KIAT (<http://www.k-pass.kr>).
- In Switzerland, the participants have to submit the Innosuisse application as described on the [Innosuisse webpage](#). Important: **Please add to the project title “JOINT CALL KR-CH 2021...” and attach the updated document “Joint Call Document”.**

Important: On the web-based submission portal of Innosuisse (analytics), you will be asked to specify the context of your application, please select: **“International Call”**.

5. Contacts for Details and Partner Search Requests

| Contacts for Information about the Call conditions (Pre- and Full Proposal) | |
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| KIAT https://www.kiat.or.kr Wonseok Shin Tel : +82 2 6009 3208 wsshin1204@kiat.or.kr | Innosuisse https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home.html Roland Buehler Phone : +41 58 466 77 03 roland.buehler@innosuisse.ch |
| Contacts for Partner Search Requests | |
| EEN EEN Korea Sue Kim Tel : +82-2-3016-5404 sj.kim@edresearch.co.kr | EEN EEN Switzerland Inès Rossetti Phone: +41 58 468 70 38 ines.rossetti@innosuisse.ch |

6. Funding rules

- The applications have to be in line with the rules of KIAT and Innosuisse explained below. On request partners will be instructed in detail by the contact persons of the two agencies how to apply for funding.
- Each country will fund its eligible participants according to their national procedure and funding rules. Funding conditions and eligibility criteria may vary between S. Korea and Switzerland. However, **the bi-lateral joint cooperation between the partners and its added value is an important aspect to be considered within the evaluation.**
- The project partners must submit a common consortium agreement (incl. IPR agreement) to KIAT and Innosuisse prior to start of the project. A failure in submitting this document would rule the project as void.

6.1 Switzerland - Innosuisse funding regulations:

Innosuisse is responsible for encouraging science-based innovation in Switzerland. One of its main task is to help the innovation of products and services onto the market for the benefit of the Swiss economy.

- Innosuisse funding is approved to Swiss project partners as follows:
- Swiss research partner and Swiss implementation partner share costs of the project 50:50; Innosuisse may fund the share of the Swiss research partner, i.e. up to 50% of eligible project costs;
- The implementation partner has to cover at least 50% of the project costs from the total project work of the Swiss partners. The implementation partner(s) must also provide a cash contribution to the research partner(s) in the amount of 10% of the requested Innosuisse funding.
- Swiss implementation partners get a non-exclusive right to exploit the project results in their specific business area.

Project reviews, reporting:

- Innosuisse experts can request reviews or intermediate reports on the project progress, contents and time schedule where necessary.
- At the end of the project, a plan must be presented showing how the results will be implemented.

For more details, please refer to the [Innosuisse webpage](#).

New Covid-19 promotion initiative of Innosuisse: Impulse programme

Eased financial terms for innovation projects submitted in 2021 and 2022 are intended to help small to medium-sized companies and organisations maintain their innovative strength during the pandemic. Eligible for Swiss consortia with participating companies not bigger than 500FTE.

The applicants must provide sound reasons that the economic consequences of the pandemic is affecting their business (e.g. turnover, profit, cash flow) and that this measure is necessary to start a project.

Please note:

- If the reasons for participating in the programme are not deemed sufficient by the evaluators, the application will be rejected without the possibility of resubmission for the current bilateral call.
- The eligibility for the impulse programme can be assessed at the pre-proposal stage.

For more details, please refer to the [Innosuisse webpage](#).

6.2 South Korea - KIAT funding regulations:

The Korean dedicated budget provided by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) and managed by KIAT is open to all type of applications from Korean companies with registered R&D laboratories, Korean research institutes and universities.

Project funding consists of government contributions and civilian dues (cash and in-kind). The amount of government contributions 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.