

## OP VVV – Call “Support for excellent research teams”

Publication Date: **15<sup>th</sup> of July 2015**  
Submission Deadline: **8<sup>th</sup> January 2016**  
Projects Duration: 36 to 84 months  
Call Budget: 2 500 mil. CZK  
Project budget: 40 – 250 mil. CZK

Link (in the Czech language): <http://www.msmt.cz/strukturalni-fondy-1/vyzva-c-02-15-003-podpora-excelentnich-vyzkumnych-tymu-v?lang=1>

### AIM

The goal of the call is to **create new research teams** in collaboration with global scientific leaders and **provide appropriate material and technical conditions** for them. This should support efficient use of infrastructures for research and development, their development towards regional benefits, efficient knowledge transfer from abroad and capacity to create internationally competitive quality.

Within the scope of the call, projects with the potential to conduct top quality research and development implemented by the new research team under the **leadership of key incoming researcher** within the infrastructures of R&D centres will be supported. Projects must have sufficient quality and potential to reach critical size and success in attractive research fields at least in scope of European Research Area. Support will be provided mainly for investments into instrumental, laboratory and IT equipment for R&D and for associated human resources. Strategic development of international collaboration via building clear links with foreign research partners leading to submission of joint project proposals in prestigious international grant schemes (e.g. Horizon 2020) will be supported.

### ELIGIBLE RESEARCHERS / STRUCTURE OF THE TEAM

#### Key Incoming Researcher

The Key Incoming Researcher (leader of the new team) is defined as high quality researcher (without regard to nationality or citizenship), who has worked/worked for at least 5 years **in a foreign R&D institution (during years 2009-2013 FTE not higher than 0,2 at the Czech host institution)**, where she/he actively conducted independent research for at least 36 consecutive months. The Key Incoming Researcher shall be well recognized in her/his field at international level, fulfilling the conditions for **R3 (Established Researcher) or R4 (Leading Researcher) level<sup>1</sup>**, with a strong publication record, managerial qualities, demonstrable ability to acquire grants in international R&D programmes and other skills and experience in R&D required for leading researchers at prestigious foreign R&D centres.

<sup>1</sup>[http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/pdf/research\\_policies/Towards\\_a\\_European\\_Framework\\_for\\_Research\\_Careers\\_final.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/pdf/research_policies/Towards_a_European_Framework_for_Research_Careers_final.pdf)

## New Research Team

New Research Team shall be progressively oriented, newly established research team assembled around the Key Incoming Researcher comprising **maximally 15 members** (plus one technician with max. 1,0 FTE) which will have sufficient research potential derived from experiences researchers (especially senior researchers) and which will be dedicated predominantly to research using the new infrastructure purchased using the project funding. Simultaneously, the research team will have potential to include starting researchers and contributed to their scientific development. In the proposal, at least **1/3 of the members of the new team must be listed** (including their experience in CV). Maximally 50% of the team members and 50% of the total FTE may be staffed by current or former employees of the host institution or partner institutions participating in the R&D centre.

## PROJECT BUDGET

The minimum eligible costs of the project shall be **40 mil. CZK** (c. 1,48 mil. EUR / 1,6 mil. USD) and the maximal eligible shall not exceed **250 mil. CZK** (c. 9,2 mil EUR / 10 mil USD).

Eligible direct costs:

- Personal costs
- Travel costs
- Direct goods and services
- Investments – equipment etc.
- Subcontracting
- Indirect costs

Personal costs:

- shall not exceed **55 % of the total eligible costs** of the project
- only the scientific / expert positions could be financed within this category
- the team could comprise of maximum 1 key excellent researcher, 15 members of the research team and one supportive technical worker (rule 1+15+1), maximum 50 % of the HC and FTE could be recruited from the previous and current employees of the organization
- Salary limits:
  - o Excellent scientist – reasonable, subject to justification.
  - o Research team – the maximum gross salary is 56 000 CZK / month

Travel costs:

- Only international business trips are eligible
- Domestic business trips shall be covered from the other sources

Services:

- Shall not exceed **49 % of the total eligible costs** of the project
- Research activities and administrative and financial management of the project could not be outsourced

**Indirect costs**

- Maximum 25 % of direct eligible costs

**Examples of eligible costs:**

- Purchase of instruments, laboratory and ICT equipment for R&D in order to realize new scientific activities;
- Specialized services (laboratories etc.);
- E-sources: databases, journals etc.;
- Consumables, material costs;
- Costs related to the international collaboration (international travel costs)
- Indirect costs
- Specific services related to the scientific activities and integration of international researchers (will be specified)

**Proposal submission**

The proposal is submitted electronically, using the IS KP14+ system (<https://mseu.mssf.cz/index.aspx>) in Czech language. Cost-benefit analysis of the project is also requested, to be filled in the IS KP14+. Full English version must be provided as an annex. There are 20 more annexes required, mostly administrative, but including also:

**Feasibility Study**

1. Basic identification data
2. Abstract
3. Profile of the host centre
4. Development plan of the host centre
5. Research agenda
6. Personnel
7. Technical implementation
8. Financial plan
9. Synergies

**Links to the National RIS3 Strategy****CVs of the New Research Team members (at least one third of the total staff)****Instrumentation needed for implementation of the research agenda****Motivation letter of the Key Incoming Researcher**

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