

**1st Public Tender of National Centres of Competence 1
Programme: Support programme for applied research,
experimental development and innovation**

2018

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1 Basic Information

1.1 Public Tender Announcement

The Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (hereinafter, the “Provider”) announces a single-stage public tender in research and experimental development (hereinafter, the “Public Tender”) in the Programme in Support of Research, Experimental Development, and Innovation of National Centres of Competence 1 (hereinafter, the “National Centres of Competence 1 Programme”) focused on the support of long-term cooperation between the research and application spheres and the strengthening of the institutional base of applied research.

The Tender Dossier of this Public Tender is published in Czech and English language. In case of any discrepancies, the Czech version shall prevail.

Provider’s address:

Technology Agency of the Czech Republic
Evropská 1692/37
160 00 Prague 6
Czech Republic

Signature Container ID: afth9xp

Inquiries to the Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme will be submitted to and processed through the HELPDESK application available at <http://helpdesk.tacr.cz> in accordance with the SME-17 Helpdesk for Applicants and Beneficiaries of Support Directive v2 (5.2.1. R1801 Entering inquiry to the helpdesk application; 5.2.2. R1802 Processing answer in the helpdesk application).

For the duration of the tender and evaluation period, no information relating to the specific Project proposal or to the interim evaluation results will be provided.

1.2 Definitions

Any and all necessary terms are listed in the General Terms and Conditions (Version 5), which are included in Annex 6 to the SME-11 Preparation and Announcement of Public Tender Directive v6 and in the relevant internal regulations referred to in the Tender Dossier. Other specific conditions for the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme are set forth in the specific terms and conditions of the Agreement/Decision on the Provision of Support.

1.3 Legal Framework

1. The Public Tender is announced under the Act on the Support of Research and Development and in accordance with the Framework, Regulation, and Budgetary Regulations.
2. The Public Tender will be implemented in accordance with the Updated National Research, Development and Innovation Policy of the Czech Republic for the years 2016 to 2020 approved by the Government Resolution No. 135 of 17 February 2016, National Priorities of Oriented Research, Experimental Development and Innovations adopted by Government Resolution No. 552 of 19 July 2012, and the national and sectoral strategies.

3. The Providers and Applicants are bound by their relevant provisions in the following internal regulations valid and effective on the day of the Public Tender announcement and published at <http://www.tacr.cz>.

Directives

The directives clearly document the Provider's binding practices defined in other regulations and legislations. See the legal framework above.

SME-06 Acceptance of Project Proposal to Public Tender Directive v5

SME-07 Project Change Management v6

SME-08 Complaints in Public Tender Directive v3

SME-10 Public Tender Cancellation Directive v2

SME-11 Preparation and Announcement of Public Tender Directive v6

SME-13 Conclusion of Agreement/Issue of Decision on the Provision of Support Directive v2

SME-17 Helpdesk for Applicants and Beneficiaries of Support v2

SME-23 Directive on Ensuring Compilation of Reports, Positions and Expert Evaluations v4

SME-34 Acceptance of Project Proposal to Public Tender Directive v1

Statutes

RAD-01 Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Project Proposal Committee v2

RAD-02 Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Expert Council Body v5

Methodologies

MET-01 Evaluation of Applicant's Financial Health Methodology v1

MET-02 Evaluation of Ownership Structure Methodology v1

For the purposes of the First Public Tender in the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme when the internal regulation should state the Patriot information system, the ISTA information system shall be used (hereinafter, the "ISTA").

2 Binding Terms and Conditions of the Announced Public Tender under Section 17(2) of the Act on the Support of Research and Development

2.1 Effective Wording of Programme

The National Centres of Competence 1 Programme was approved, including amendments, by the Government Resolution No. 354 of 10 May 2017. The complete wording of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme, Tender Dossier and other documents under this Public Tender are published at <http://www.tacr.cz> in the “National Centres of Competence 1 Programme” Section.

The Project proposal shall fully comply with the focus and objectives of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme.

2.2 Tender Period

The tender period commences on 30 March 2018 at 9 a.m. and ends on 31 May 2018 at the following times:

1. the Project proposal may be sent via ISTA until **4:30 p.m. on 31 May 2018**.
2. the confirmation of the electronic Project proposal submission in ISTA will be accepted **until 23:59:59 p.m. on 31 May 2018** via the Provider’s signature container. Any delay (even of seconds) shall be considered as a late delivery of the Project proposal.
3. Documentation proving the applicant’s eligibility (with the exception of documents included in the Project proposal, cf. below) will be accepted until **12:59:59 p.m. on 31 May 2018** via the Provider’s signature container. The documents proving the eligibility of foreign applicants will be accepted in paper format.

2.3 Requirements for Proving the Applicants’ Eligibility upon Submission of Project Proposals

The applicant’s eligibility shall be demonstrated in accordance with the general legal regulations summarised in the SME-06 Acceptance of Project Proposal to Public Tender Directive v5 and this Tender Dossier.

1. The support may be obtained only by applicants which meet the eligibility conditions set forth in Section 18 of Act on the Support of Research and Development (except the obligation under Par. 2(a) which is proven within the Project proposal and is a part thereof) and the Regulation.
2. Each applicant is obliged to prove its eligibility separately under Section 18 of Act on the Support of Research and Development with the applicant’s affidavit on the prescribed form stated in **Annex 1** of this Tender Dossier.
3. For the purposes of the eventual proof of the applicant’s eligibility under Section 18(2e) of Act on the Support of Research and Development, the applicant shall present the Provider with details for the purpose of obtaining a copy of the Criminal Register under Section 18(7) of Act on the Support of Research and Development prior to signing the Agreement on the Provision of Support.

The provision of these details is a legal requirement whereby the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic is obliged to obtain a copy of a criminal record within the meaning of Section 18(7) of Act on the Support of Research and Development and Act No. 269/1994 Coll., on Criminal Register, while such copy is impossible to produce without such details. The details are processed solely for the purpose of producing such copy and they are stored for the purposes of record-keeping of the Project proposal within the meaning of Section 26 of the Act on the Support of Research and Development.

4. Each applicant provides a proper proof of eligibility in electronic form under the SME-06 Acceptance of Project Proposal to Public Tender Directive v5 (5.2.1. R0201 Submission of Project Proposals in Public Tender and Provision of Qualification Documents). In the “Subject” of the message, the applicant shall state “**1st Public Tender – National Centres of Competence 1 Programme – PROOF OF APPLICANT’S ELIGIBILITY**”. The documents may be sent at any time during the tender period according to Chapter 2.2 of this Tender Dossier. The decisive factor is the date of dispatch of the document from the applicant’s signature container proving the applicant’s eligibility.
5. The professional prerequisites of the Researcher and key persons of the Research Team for the project implementation under Section 18(2a) of the Act on the Support of Research and Development are demonstrated by the details specified in the Project proposal. The professional prerequisites for the Project implementation are demonstrated separately for each Project proposal and are included in *Chapter 4 RESEARCH TEAM section Curriculum vitae* with the option of attaching the CV as a link¹ to the NCC Centre presentation website or the applicant’s/NCC Centre branch’s website or as links to profiles of individual research team members where the CV is available; the decisive information is that stated in the Project proposal.
6. An Enterprise against which, following the decision of the European Commission under which the aid received from a provider from the Czech Republic was declared as illegal and incompatible with the internal market, a recovery order has been issued which is unpaid and an Enterprise in difficulties under Article 1(4a and c) and Article 2(18) of the Regulation are not considered eligible applicants.
7. An Enterprise which does not comply with the obligations under Act No. 563/1991 Coll., on Accounting, in particular, the obligation to disclose the financial statement in a relevant register within the meaning of Act No. 304/2013 Coll., on the Public Registers of Legal and Natural Entities, is not considered an eligible applicant. This Paragraph applies solely to those entities which are bound by such obligations. The Provider shall check the compliance of this obligation for the period in which the applicant submits the financial data in the electronic Project proposal; the performance of entities which are not subject to this legal obligation for the entire period shall only be checked for the period for which the entities are subject to such obligation. The Beneficiary is obliged to fulfil this obligation for the entire duration of the

¹ Link to the website of the NCC Centre presentation or to the Centre applicant’s website must be functional and include information specified by this Tender Dossier.

Project Implementation Period (cf. specific terms and conditions of Agreement on the Provision of Support).

8. If the activity related to the Project implementation requires a special permission in accordance with Section 18(2b) of Act on the Support of Research and Development, the qualification documentation shall also include a copy of the business authorisation or other required authorisation (e.g. in accordance with Act No. 246/1992 Coll., on the Animal Protection, and with the Decree No. 311/1997 Coll., on the Breeding and Use of Experimental Animals).
9. An entity which is prohibited to provide the support within the meaning of Section 4c of Act No. 159/2006 on Conflict of Interest is not considered an eligible applicant.
10. Within the Project proposal, the applicant is obliged to state the ownership structure, i.e. the legal and natural entities with a share to the legal entity of the applicant, divided according to *Chapter 3 APPLICANTS-NCC BRANCH/Ownership Structure/Owners/Shareholders*, and details on the ownership interests of the applicant in other legal entities and their share in the structure according to *Chapter 3 APPLICANTS-NCC BRANCH/Ownership Structure/Ownership Interests* of the Manual for Applicants. If the applicant fails to state the ownership structure or the details stated are false or incomplete, the Project proposal shall not be accepted to the Public Tender or it shall be excluded therefrom if circumstances arise showing the incomplete and false statement of the ownership structures during the Project proposal evaluation.

2.4 Location and Method of Submitting Project Proposals

1. The Project proposal must be submitted in electronic form to the Public Tender via ISTA within the tender period under Chapter 2.2 of this Tender Dossier on the prescribed forms. Another form of the electronic submission of the Project proposal is not admissible. The decisive factor is the date of submitting the Project proposal in ISTA.
2. After submitting the Project proposal via ISTA, the main applicant will generate a document entitled "Confirmation of Electronic Project Proposal Submission in ISTA". This document contains unique identifiers also included in the electronically-submitted Project proposal. These unique identifiers must be identical. **The Submission Confirmation must be sent from the main applicant's signature container to the Provider's signature container until the end of the tender period under Chapter 2.2 of this Tender Dossier.** The sending date from the main applicant's signature container is decisive. In the "Subject" of the message, the applicant shall state "**1st Public Tender – National Centres of Competence 1 Programme – PROJECT PROPOSAL**".
3. During the tender period, the applicant may edit or withdraw the project proposal. The applicant may open the Project proposal for editing via the TA CR Office after its submission only until 3 p.m. on the penultimate day of the tender period, i.e. 30 May 2018.

2.5 Evaluation Period

The Evaluation Period commences on 1 June 2018 and ends on 31 October 2018.

2.6 Evaluation of Project Proposals

The Project proposals which meet the conditions of the Public Tender under Section 21(2) of the Act on the Support of Research and Development for the admission to the Public Tender are being evaluated. These evaluations, including the method of assigning individual experts from the opponents, reporters and expert evaluators, is performed according to the SME-23 Directive on Ensuring Compilation of Reports, Positions and Expert Evaluations v4. Furthermore, the evaluation of the applicant's financial health is performed according to the MET-01 Evaluation of Applicant's Financial Health Methodology v1 as well as the evaluation of the ownership structures according to the MET-02 Evaluation of Ownership Structure Methodology v1.

The process of evaluating the Project proposals is regulated by the SME-34 Acceptance of Project Proposal to Public Tender Directive v1. The Programme Council activities are regulated by the RAD-02 Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Expert Council Body v5. The specifications of the evaluation within the First Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme are stated below.

For the purposes of the First Public Tender, there is no Expert Collegium established; the Project proposals are evaluated by the Expert Council Body (Programme Council), of which the reporter is a member.

Evaluation by Opponents

For each Project proposal, there will be four opponent's reports drafted for the Public Tender: two reports will be drafted by domestic opponents (from the Czech Republic) and two reports by foreign opponents. The opponents will evaluate the factual part of the Project (objectives and benefits of the Project, commercial potential of the Project Outputs, the structure of the Consortium, level of the Research Team, etc.). The opponents will evaluate each sub-criterion on the point scale (see Chapter 2.6.1 of the Tender Dossier) and further evaluate the fulfilment of the binary criteria of the Project proposal. The opponent's report also includes a final evaluation of the Project proposal with its final position on whether to recommend the project for aid.

Evaluation by Reporters

The reporter (member of the Programme Council) draws up a comprehensive evaluation report based on the opponents' reports to the given Project proposal. The comprehensive evaluation report will provide the base for the consensus meeting.

Evaluation by Expert Evaluators

Within the First Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme, the financial health and ownership structure of the applicant will be evaluated. These evaluations will be performed by the expert evaluators. The outputs of such evaluations will be the base for the Programme Council meeting.

Consensus Meeting

The Programme Council meetings are preceded by consensus meetings, i.e. discussing the domestic opponents (from the Czech Republic), reporter and other Programme Council members for each individual evaluated Project proposal. The aim of the consensus meeting is to reach a common statement from all participants. The output of such meeting is the protocol of the consensus meeting

which includes, in particular, the statements to the evaluation criteria for which the individual opponents did not come to an agreement in evaluation, statements on the identified pros and cons of the Project proposal, possible recommendations for adjustment of the point assigned by the opponents (within the Programme Council competence) and statements on whether to recommend the Project proposal or not.

Evaluation by Programme Council

The Project proposals are further evaluated by the Programme Council consisting of experts from the research and application sphere (some of whom work for foreign facilities) and representatives of the public administration. The Programme Council will base its evaluation on the evaluation performed by the opponents, the reporter and expert evaluator and on the protocol of the consensus meeting.

The number of points allocated to individual Project proposals by the Programme Council is based on the total points the Project proposal received from individual opponents or on the proposal to adjust these points, which is the outcome of the consensus meeting. The Programme Council is authorised to adjust the score of the Project proposal within the maximum range of $\pm 20\%$ of the points received by the Project as the total amount of points from the opponents. If the Programme Council adjusts the number of points in a manner other than that recommended by the consensus meeting for the given Project proposal, it is obliged to clearly appeal such recommendation in the protocol of the meeting. The point limit is rounded to integers in accordance with the general principles of rounding in mathematics (≥ 0.5 is rounded up, < 0.5 is rounded down), while the difference in these points shall not exceed the set limit of $\pm 20\%$. The Programme Council always assigns or detracts full points from the total of points assigned by the opponents, while shall justify each change in the point evaluation in writing according to the evaluation protocol of the Project proposal.

The Programme Council may note in its statement that the binary criterion is defined incorrectly by the opponent and then reverse the opponent's binary criterion.

If the Project proposal fails to meet any of the binary criteria, the Programme Council may not recommend it for support.

The output of the Programme Council meeting is the proposed order of the Project proposal according to the Programme Council's final statement and the point evaluation.

Evaluation by Board of TA CR

The Board of TA CR may adjust the evaluation score of the Project proposal, reduce the total costs proposed, and adjust the Programme Council recommendations while justifying its decisions in writing. The Board of TA CR makes the final decision on whether or not to provide the aid.

2.6.1 Evaluation Criteria

The Project proposal evaluation sets forth 4 evaluating and 3 binary criteria. The evaluating criteria are divided into other sub-criteria (see the following overview). The opponents evaluate each sub-criterion on a four-grade point scale as follows:

sub-criterion 2.1 on a scale of 0;6;14;20 points;

sub-criterion 1.1, 2.2, 3.1 and 3.2 on a scale of 0;5;10;15 points;

sub-criterion 1.3, 3.3 and 4.2 on a scale of 0;3;7;10 points;

and sub-criterion 1.2, 1.4 and 4.1 on a scale of 0;1;3;5 points.

If the opponents evaluate one of the Project proposals' sub-criteria below with 0 points, they may no longer be able to recommend the Project proposal for support. The opponents also may not recommend the Project proposal for support in case of an evaluation of less than 60 points in total for all sub-criteria.

Failure to fulfil any of the binary criteria justifies the opponents or the Programme Council not recommending the Project proposal for support by National Centres of Competence 1 Programme, regardless of its point evaluation.

Point Scale for Point-Score Criteria Evaluation:

20/15/10/5 – fulfilled without reservations
14/10/7/3 – fulfilled with minor reservations
6/5/3/1 – fulfilled with serious reservations
0 – not fulfilled

Point-Score Criteria

1. Quality of NCC Project Management Model (max 35 pts)

- 1.1. Method of Organising NCC Centre's Activities and Management.
- 1.2. Quality and Extent/Level of Cooperation among NCC Centre's Participants and with Other (External) Partners.
- 1.3. Describing Strategy for Commercialisation of Know-How Gained in NCC Centre and Experience of Participants with R&D Outcome Commercialisation.
- 1.4. Sufficient Credibility of Risk Analysis Contained in Project and Consideration of Risks of NCC Project.

2. Quality of Research and Implementation Team/Consortium (the existing quality, results and experience of the participants/implementation team including international experience and cooperation with regard to the NCC Centre's focus) (max 35 pts)

- 2.1. Quality of Research Team.
- 2.2. Quality of institutions.

3. NCC Centre's Research Focus (max 40 pts.)

- 3.1. Relevance, Topicality, Necessity, Potential, Applicability (in relation to the NCC Centre's focus, the selected topic(s) and planned outcomes).
- 3.2. The commercial potential of selected NCC Centre's focus and proposed method of cooperation with the application sphere and its long-term vision and knowledge of third party (future clients, partners) and target group needs.
- 3.3. Usefulness of the Project and its contribution to meeting the objectives of the Programme

and relevant national strategies.

4. Budget (max. 15 pts)

- 4.1. Involvement of resources from Enterprises – Consortium members.
- 4.2. Volume of NCC Centre's commercial revenues.

The list of the point-score criteria together with the facts evaluated by the opponents in the opponent report within the given point-score criteria are included in the Manual for Opponents available at www.tacr.cz under documents related to the announcement of the Public Tender.

Binary Criteria

1. Activities implemented within the Projects are considered activities of applied research and/or experimental development².
2. The NCC Centre's management fulfils all requirements of the Programme and the tender dossier.
3. The NCC Centre complies with the focus and objectives of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme and at least one of the research themes for the First Public Tender.

2.6.2 Independence of Evaluation Process

The applicant may not contact or influence persons involved in the evaluation of the Project proposals with the intention of influencing the evaluation process of any Project proposal. If the applicant is prodded into doing so or discovered to be involved in such activities, it is obliged to inform the Provider of such an event immediately.

The initiatives regarding suspicion of corrupt behaviour may be sent to protikorupci@tacr.cz.

3 Other Terms of the Announced Public Tender under Section 19(1) of Act on the Support of Research and Development

3.1 Applicants Within Public Tender

The applicants to this Public Tender may be:

- a. **Research Organisations** implementing the Project in cooperation with Other Participants - **Research Organisations shall be the main applicants of the Project proposal** and may co-finance the Project from non-public sources.
- b. **Enterprises** – legal entities or entrepreneurs (entrepreneur activity according to Act No. 455/1991 Coll., on Trades) performing an economic activity within the meaning of Article 1 of Annex 1 to the Regulation who implement the project in cooperation with Other Participants

² The Czech translation of the key chapter of the Frascati manual: https://www.tacr.cz/dokums_raw/ck/FRASCATI_MANUAL.pdf

and demonstrate their ability to co-finance the Project from non-public sources. **An Enterprise may not be the main applicant in the Project proposal. In the Project budget, Enterprises must plan non-zero costs and zero support.**

Each Project must include **at least 4 applicants**, with at least two of which being SE or ME.

The applicant defined in Section 18(11) of Act on the Support of Research and Development may participate in the Public Tender provided that the Project includes at least one applicant which has a place of business or a branch in the Czech Republic in accordance with Article 1(5) of the Regulation.

3.2 Specific Conditions for Applicants

The National Centres of Competence 1 Programme is expected to create NCC Centres from the existing centres, such as the Centres of Competence (TA CR), Centres of Excellence (GA CR), RDI Centres and other existing infrastructures. Each applicant's NCC Centre will be a group of facility teams. The branches will jointly contribute to the implementation of the research activities to meet the objectives of the NCC Centre and will be subordinate to the NCC Centre's joint management. The branches participate in the NCC Centre via their staff team, infrastructure, existing know-how and their own resources, as well as ongoing and future projects. Each branch must be a financially independent unit with separate accounting within the institution. These branches should work intensively with the application sector and should generate knowledge with a high potential for direct application in practice; they should also acquire a significant portion of their income from contractual research as well as from other resources.

Project implementation is carried out by implementing individual sub-projects.

The first sub-project shall be defined, approved and submitted before the conclusion of the Agreement on the Provision of Support.

In this Public Tender, the responsibility and control over the selection of Sub-Projects are transferred closer to the Beneficiaries. A detailed elaboration of the sub-projects is not part of the project proposal. The Sub-Project will be submitted to the Provider during the Project implementation and will contain, in particular, the declaration of specific outputs/outcomes under Chap. 3.6 Tender Dossier, including the planned activities and milestones resulting in achieving the outputs/outcomes, compulsory annexes to the planned outcome under Chap. 3.6 Tender Dossier, and including the planned budget under Chap. 3.4.3 Tender Dossier, for each applicant of the Project.

The Beneficiary or Beneficiaries define the Sub-Project and submit it to the Centre Council for approval. As part of the sub-project assessment, the Centre Council will prepare an evaluation which will be part of the information submitted to the Provider on the sub-project. The sub-project will be submitted to the Provider via ISTA in accordance with the SME-07 Project Change Management v6 Directive. The Provider is entitled to submit comments to the sub-project within 30 business days of its delivery. These comments are binding for the beneficiary and the beneficiary shall either integrate them into the sub-project and resubmit it to the Provider or not implement the sub-project at all. The costs of sub-projects may be funded from the aid only after the expiration of the time limit for the Provider's statement or notice of no objections to the sub-project proposal. Failure to comply with this

obligation results in a reduction of the amount of the budget discipline, i.e. the amount of all aid, provided for the sub-project.

The subsequent commercialisation of the Sub-Project outcomes must be performed in accordance with the Framework and with Section 16(4a) of the Act on the Support of Research and Development, i.e. under non-discriminatory and market conditions.

The Centre Council as the principal decision-making body meeting the conditions of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme is established prior to the submission of the Project proposal to the Public Tender. The Centre Council governs the NCC Centre and is composed of e.g. representatives of public administration, research and the application or financial spheres with an adequate portion of members being from foreign facilities. Apart from their institutions, half of the Centre Council members must be involved in the NCC Centre. The Centre Council determines the conceptual and strategic direction of the NCC Centre and makes fundamental decisions about its operation; it especially oversees the implementation of the strategic research agenda and cooperation with the application sphere. The definition of the Centre Council role is included in the **Agreement on the Establishment of the National Centre of Competence**, a mandatory annex to the Project proposal under Par. 10 of Chapter 3.5.1 of this Tender Dossier. The Centre Council must discuss and approve the NCC Project proposal and submit it to the Provider in the form of minutes or other documentation from the Centre Council meeting pursuant to Par. 11 of Chapter 3.5.1 of the Tender Dossier.

The Centre Council presents the Provider with **an annual report on its activities (not to be confused with the interim report on the Project implementation; the annual report relates to the Centre Council's activities and includes, among other things, information on the number of Council meetings, their attendance, issues discussed and other Council activities)**. The report will be submitted annually from 2019 even if the Project has already commenced its implementation in 2018 (in which case, the activities implemented in 2018 shall be included in the 2019 report).

The Project on a Sub-Project level may not be a duplicate of another project or research intention that is already implemented. The Provider will perform inspections focusing on whether or not the Projects on a Sub-Project level are duplicates prior to their approval.

3.3 Project Implementation Period

1. The commencement date of the Project implementation is no earlier than 1 June 2018 and no later than 1 February 2019.
2. The Project shall be completed no later than on 31 December 2020.

In 2020, the implemented Projects will be evaluated and, if evaluated positively, the Implementation Period for such Projects may be extended until 2022. In this such case, the aid for these Projects for 2021–2022 may be increased under Section 9(7) of the Act on the Support of Research and Development by the maximum of half of the aid amount granted for 2018–2020.

The evaluation of Projects implemented in 2021-2022 shall be performed by the Provider on the basis of the NCC Centre's existing activities and the request for the extension of Project implementation, which will include a proposal for the Project implementation for the period of 2021-2022.

The Project will be evaluated in terms of meeting the objectives of the strategic research agenda, the Programme's objectives and compliance with the conditions under Section 13 of Act on the Support of Research and Development.

In the event of a failure to meet the conditions specified for this evaluation, the Provider shall not agree with the extension of the Project implementation based on the proposal of the Programme Council and the decision of the Presidium of TA CR.

The NCC Centres aided under the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme, which will be evaluated as successful on the basis of the established criteria, can be subsequently supported in the follow-up National Centres of Competence 2 Programme. However, successful extension of Projects within the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme does not lead to automatic funding under the National Centres of Competence 2 Programme. Simultaneously, the participation in the Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 2 Programme is not conditional on the Project implementation under the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme.

Details of the evaluation will be published at least 6 months prior to the requested deadlines for the submission of the request for Project implementation extension.

3.4 Financial Support: Amount and Method of Provision

There is no legal claim to the support provided.

3.4.1 Funds for Public Tender

In this Public Tender, the allocation of CZK 330 million to the Beneficiaries is expected for the first two years of implementation, i.e. 2018 and 2019.

If the Beneficiary plans to incur Eligible Costs in 2018 (in the case that the implementation has already commenced in 2018, but no sooner than 1 June 2018), it shall include them in the costs for 2019 in the Project proposal.

The Provider will decide on the amount of the support for the selected Project based on the Project proposal evaluation for the announced Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme.

3.4.2 Rules for Determining Aid Intensity

1. The maximum aid intensity per Project in this Public Tender is 80% of the total Recognised Costs. The maximum aid intensity is always set for the entire Project, i.e. for all applicants of the Project proposal together. At the same time, the maximum aid intensity is maintained for the entire Project implementation of the Main Beneficiary and Other Participants of the Project under the Regulation.
2. The amount of funding required for co-financing is 20% which shall be paid from non-public sources.
3. The financial support is provided only to Research Organisations. An applicant of the

Enterprise type is not eligible for financial support.

4. The applicant shall ensure that the Project proposal meets the conditions which prevent the funding of a Research Organisation leading to unauthorised indirect Public Aid in terms of the European law in accordance with the provisions 2.1 and 2.2 of the Framework, or the duplication of funding. It is necessary to consider the definition of the distribution of rights and access to the Project Outcomes in accordance with the provision 2.2.2(28) of the Framework.
5. The Public Aid may not be combined with another public aid for the same Eligible Costs, i.e. the targeted funding may not be drawn from different sources.

3.4.3 Eligible Costs

The eligible costs are listed and specified in the individual categories of Article 17 of the General Terms and Conditions (version 5) while the costs categories of investment and scholarship do not count as Eligible Costs in this Public Tender. The eligible costs include NCC project administration costs and Centre Council activities that shall be planned in the corresponding eligible costs categories in the framework of the Sub-Project under Article 17 of the General Terms and Conditions (version 5).

Indirect Costs (Expenses) incurred in direct connection to the Project implementation may be reported using the following methods:

- a) The reporting of actual indirect costs with the “**full cost**” method when the organisation already has an existing system and internal regulations on the basis of which the individual indirect costs of the project are assigned. Indirect costs reported in this way must be supported by the relevant accounting documents and the amount of indirect costs is unlimited. It is not possible to use this method only for the Provider’s projects.
- b) Reporting the indirect costs on the basis of a fixed rate, i.e. the “**flat rate**” method, in the amount of up to 20 % of the sum of the actual reported personnel costs and other direct costs of the beneficiary in the year that indirect costs reported in such way do not need to be supported by the relevant accounting documents. However, the total amount of indirect costs of the organisation and their distribution to the centres / projects / divisions etc. are reported.
- c) Reporting the indirect costs on the basis of a fixed rate, i.e. the “**increased flat rate**”, in the amount of up to 30 % of the sum of the actual reported personnel costs and other direct costs of the Beneficiary in the year that indirect costs reported in such way do not need to be supported by the relevant accounting documents. **The increased flat rate of up to 30 % shall be granted in cases where an applicant proves that it holds the HR Excellence in Research Award (hereinafter the “HR Award”). Proof of the HR Award shall be a mandatory annex to the submission of the sub-Project.** While submitting the Project proposal to the First Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme, the applicant must prove the ownership of the HR Award. The applicant shall prove the ownership of the HR Award with a copy of the e-mail confirmation from the European Commission (EC) stating that the applicant is listed in the EURAXESS: (<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/hrs4r>), or with the link to the stated list which must be

a part of the Sub-Project.

The Beneficiary shall specify the financial plan by individual categories within the Sub-Projects. When submitting the Project proposal, the Beneficiary shall also present the financial plan collectively for the Project.

3.4.4 Provider's Method of Providing Aid

The Agreement/Decision on the Provision of Support regulates the method of the aid provided by the Provider, including the specific terms and conditions included therein (cf. Article 4) and the General Terms and Conditions (version 5).

Since the Main Beneficiary is a public university, public research organisation or an entity specified in Section 3(h)10-14) of the Budgetary Regulations, it is obliged to set up an account with the Czech National Bank for the purpose of receiving the support under Section 3(h)13-14) of this act.

The support will be provided in a lump sum payment for the relevant year in the amount specified in the Binding Parameters of Project Implementation

- a) within 60 calendar days of the date the Agreement becomes effective and
- b) for the second and each subsequent year of the implementation of multi-year Projects within 60 days of the commencement of a given calendar year.

The aid granted is not to be used to finance activities that are required by law or other regulations which would have to be implemented by the beneficiary anyway (i.e. without aid).

3.4.5 Funding of NCC Centres

For the First Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme, **it is expected that the support will be granted only to the Project Beneficiaries**

- a. **which declare in the Project proposal and for the duration of the Project implementation that they will ensure the co-financing of the Project of at least 20% from non-public funds.** This co-financing may be done in the secure in-kind form and it must be identified as the NCC Project's Recognised Costs.
- b. **which declare in the Project proposal and for the duration of the Project implementation that they will ensure revenues from commercialisation activities in the amount of at least 19% of the requested financial support.**

For the purpose of the public tender, the following are considered to be the revenues:

- revenue from contractual research;
- revenue from licences;
- costs of a research organisation paid by the enterprise as part of the collaborative research project implementation, i.e. in the form of effective cooperation to which no targeted Public Aid was granted³.

³"**Effective Collaboration**" under the Framework for state aid for research and development and innovation (point 1.3, Par. 15, letter h)) means collaboration between at least two independent parties to exchange knowledge or technology or to achieve a common objective based on the division of labour where the parties jointly define the scope of the collaborative project, contribute to its implementation and share its risks as well as its results. The Project costs may be borne in full by one or more Parties and thereby free the other Parties from their

The aforementioned revenues, as well as other revenues from commercialisation activities, must cover the performance implemented or incurred within the research or development activities; therefore, it cannot be e.g. revenues from non-research activities, rent, etc.

These revenues amounting to at least 19% of the requested amount of support will be recognised and reported only by the branches of the Research Organisations involved in the NCC Project. Revenues from commercialisation activities can not be counted in the case of related enterprises⁴.

The applicants of the Project proposal declare the total budget for the Project, including the requested amount of support. The proportion of the commercialisation activities above shall amount to at least 19% of the requested amount of support **as a sum** of all individual branches of all NCC Project Research Organisations. Such minimum proportion of revenues from commercialisation activities in relation to the requested amount of support shall be reported for each year of the Project implementation.

3.5 Project Proposal

This is the process of accepting the Project proposal in the Public Tender from the announcement of the Public Tender and opening the electronic application for Project proposal submissions until the announcement of the evaluation of fulfillment of the terms and conditions of the Public Tender and the eventual dispatch of the Decision on Rejection of the Project Proposal to the Public Tender specified in the SME-06 Acceptance of Project Proposal to Public Tender Directive v5.

3.5.1 Project Proposal Essentials

1. The Project proposal is submitted in English. Some parts of the Project proposal are completed in Czech, namely, those which provide information via CEP RDI IS. Annexes may be in Czech or English language, but they must always include a translation into the other language.
2. The Project proposal must be complete and contain all the requirements specified by the Tender Dossier and be in accordance therewith and with all documentation, which it refers to as the generally-binding legal regulations.
3. All information provided in the Project proposal and documents submitted to the Provider

financial risks. Contractual research and provision of research services are not considered forms of cooperation. Due to the favourable conditions of this cooperation, the Enterprises will not be granted the indirect Public Aid, provided the conditions defined in Articles 28 and 29 of the Framework are met.

⁴ An enterprise is considered to be related to other undertakings if they have one or other of the following relationships:

- a) one entity owns more than 50% of the voting rights attaching to the shareholders or members in another entity;
 - b) one entity has the right to appoint or remove more than 50% of the members of the administrative, management or supervisory body of another entity;
 - c) one entity has the right to exercise more than 50% of the influence in another entity under a contract with a given entity or under a in the founder's agreement or in the statutes of that entity;
 - d) one entity that is a shareholder or member of another entity controls itself, in accordance with an agreement entered into with other shareholders, or members of the entity, more than 50% of the voting rights attaching to the shareholders or partners in the entity.
- Entities having any relationship referred to in (a) to (d) through one or more other entities are also considered for the related undertaking. Directly or intermedially incorporated enterprises include persons registered in the basic registers in accordance with the with Act No. 111/2009 Coll., on the basic registers, as amended.

Note: For more information on the Linked Enterprise, see the METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE for applying the term "one business" from the rules de minimis support, see <http://www.uohs.cz/cs/verejna-podpora/podpora-de-minimis.html>

together with the Project proposal must be true and correspond to its true state as of the day of the Project proposal submission. Any misuse of the system or deliberate input of false or non-existent Project proposal data shall constitute an obligation to compensate the Provider for the damage incurred.

4. The Project proposal may not contain classified information pursuant to Act No. 412/2005 Coll., on the Protection of Classified Information and Security Capacity, as amended.
5. Neither the Project proposal nor its content or part is or has ever been implemented within another project.
6. No third party intellectual property rights may be infringed upon in connection with the submission of the Project proposal.
7. The Project proposal must describe the cooperation of the main applicant and Other Participants, in particular, the description of the Project management method, distribution of rights and access to the Project Outcomes within the submitted Project proposal.
8. The applicants have to select from the National Priorities of Oriented Research, Experimental Development, and Innovation (RDI Priorities) one main and zero to two additional objectives which will benefit the most out of the project implementation, i.e. achieving objectives and outcomes of the Project. The selected objectives may be from different areas and sub-areas. The list of RDI Priorities is included in **Annex 2**.
9. In the Project proposal, applicants shall choose 1 to 11 themes from the total 11 topics which will be contained in their project. The topics defined by the TA CR Research Board and their list are included in **Annex 3**.
10. In the Project proposal, the Research Organisations involved must **declare the amount of revenue from the commercialisation activities in the amount of at least 19 % of the requested financial support** according to chapter 3.4.5 of this Tender Dossier.
11. The mandatory annex to the Project proposal is **the written Agreement on the Establishment of the National Centre of Competence concluded between the individual NCC Centre members** (the main applicant and Other Participants). This Agreement on the Establishment of the National Centre of Competence may fulfil the function of the Agreement on the Participation on the Project with all the mandatory requirements under Article 6 of the General Terms and Conditions v5. Agreement on the Establishment of the National Centre of Competence must correspond to the description of co-operation in the project proposal. Part of the contractual relationship defined by the Agreement on the Establishment of the National Centre of Competence or another similar document, such as the Statute, shall be the manner of operation of the NCC Centre and the definition of the role of the Centre Council whose rudimentary roles are defined by the programme. This Agreement on the Establishment of the National Centre of Competence shall be signed by all the members of the NCC Centre (the main applicant and Other Participants)⁵. This Agreement on the Establishment of the National

⁵ The principles for drafting the Agreement are available at the TA CR website.

Centre of Competence may be dissolved with the untying condition for the refusal of support or in the form of the Binding Preliminary Agreement.

12. The mandatory annex to the Project proposal shall be **the document establishing the NCC Centre Council**, including the activities and functions of the Centre Council. It may have either the form of an agreement, rules of procedure or another legally binding document.
13. The mandatory annex to the Project proposal shall be **the meeting minutes** or a similar document **from the Centre Council meeting confirming the discussion of the submitted project proposal** to the First Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme **and its approval by the Centre Council**.

3.5.2 Changes in Project Proposal or Proof of Eligibility Details

In accordance with Section 18(9) of the Act on the Support of Research and Development, the main applicant is obliged to inform the Provider in writing of changes which have occurred since the submission of the Project proposal until the eventual conclusion of the Agreement/Decision on the Provision of Support and which are related to the legal status or details required for the proof of eligibility, or such changes which may affect the Provider's decision; it shall do so within 7 calendar days of learning of such fact. Failure to comply with such obligation within the specified deadline shall result in rejection of the Project in the Public Tender or exclusion of the Project proposal from the Public Tender.

3.5.3 Disclosure of Information on Project Proposal

The Provider shall ensure that the information stated in the Project proposal is not to be disclosed to unauthorised persons. Each person authorised to access the Project proposal content shall maintain the confidentiality of all information learned. The authorised persons are the TA CR Office employees, the TA CR bodies' members, the evaluation bodies' members, the opponents, and expert evaluators involved in the evaluation of the Project proposal in the Public Tender or in the processing of complaints within such procedure. To this end, the Provider ensures that each such person undertakes to comply with this obligation in writing.

3.6 Expected Outcomes

It is primarily the Projects that can reasonably be expected to accomplish usable outputs, including publications, and whose application will contribute to meeting the objectives of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme and benefits (social and economic) for the society that shall be supported under this Programme.

The first Project Outcome shall be defined in the first Sub-Project.

Only Projects that can reasonably be expected to accomplish at least one of the types of results supported by the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme can be supported under this Programme.

Upon achieving the outcomes, the Beneficiary shall assign each outcome supported by the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme to specific objectives of the selected sub-fields of the National

Priorities of Oriented Research. In other words, upon submission of the project proposal, the proposed outcomes of the Project proposal must already be in accordance with the selected sub-fields and objective(s). Upon completion of the Project, the Provider shall perform an inspection, final evaluation and recognition of applicability for the evaluation of the received outcomes and practical impacts of the Project.

The Project Outcome depends on the outcomes of the future Sub-Projects. The Project proposal includes the general achievement of outcomes in applied research and experimental development defined in the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme.

Main Outputs/Outcomes Supported by National Centres of Competence 1 Programme

- F_{prum} – industrial model
- F_{uzit} – utility model
- G_{prot} – prototype
- G_{funk} – functional sample
- H_{leg} – outcomes reflected in legislation and standards
- H_{neleg} – outcomes reflected in non-legislative directives and regulations binding within the competence of the respective provider
- N_{lec} – medical procedure
- N_{map} – specialised map with professional content
- N_{metC} – methodologies certified by authorised body
- N_{metS} – methodologies approved by the relevant government body that has competence for the issue in question
- N_{metA} – methodologies and procedures accredited by authorised body
- N_{pam} – preservation procedure
- P – patent
- R – software
- Z_{polop} – pilot plant
- Z_{tech} – proven technology
- O - other outcomes

The specified results must meet the conditions set forth in the Methodology for evaluating the results of research organisations and the results of completed programmes. For example, the outcome type of a patent (P) is considered an achieved outcome at the moment of issuing the letters patent (in the case of a Czech patent) or another document with the same effect.

The defined outcomes may only represent one type of outcome achieved within the Project implementation under the Public Tender, including the other outcomes “O”. Each type of outcome according to the Methodology for Evaluating the Outcomes of Research Organisations and the Outcomes of Completed Programmes shall be presented separately. If the Project is implemented, the data on its outcomes will be entered into Information Register of R&D Outcomes (RIV).

The First Public Tender of the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme will emphasise the outcomes of the Sub-Projects, particularly their application and market potential.

According to Chapter 3.2 of this Tender Dossier, the applicant must supplement each main outcome of the Sub-Project with **one mandatory annex**, namely, a market survey pursuant to the details below. If a market survey is performed to relate to several planned outputs/outcomes, it may be attached to

these outputs/outcomes. This annex clearly indicates to which outputs/outcomes it relates to. The exceptions are the outcomes of type P – patents which require a proof of market research including a patent research, type N_{metS} – methodologies approved by the relevant government body that has competence for the issue in question which requires the mandatory annex containing a confirmation by a certification body, and type O – other outcomes which require the mandatory annex containing an estimate of potential use.

The applicant may further submit the recommended annexes such as the research of the state of equipment and available solutions, estimate of potential use (further use of the outcome after the Project completion), proof of interest of a future buyer of the outcomes (e.g. Letter of Intent), preliminary calculation of expected costs and revenues, and the SWOT matrix.

P – patent

- **patent research – mandatory** → **market research including patent research**
- **market research – mandatory**
- proof of interest in the future buyer of the outcomes (e.g. Letter of Intent)
- preliminary calculation of expected costs and revenues
- SWOT Matrix

G – technically implemented results – prototype, functional sample

- **market research – mandatory**
- research of the state of equipment and available solutions
- estimate of potential use (further use of the outcome after the completion of the Project)
- proof of interest in being a future buyer of the outcomes (e.g. Letter of Intent)
- preliminary calculation of expected costs and revenues
- SWOT Matrix

Z – pilot plant, proven technology

- **market research – mandatory**
- research of the state of equipment and available solutions
- estimate of potential use (further use of the outcome after the completion of the Project)
- proof of interest in being a future buyer of the outcomes (e.g. Letter of Intent)
- preliminary calculation of expected costs and revenues
- SWOT Matrix

R – software

- **market research – mandatory**
- research of the future use of the outcomes and their benefits
- proof of interest in being a future buyer of the outcomes (e.g. Letter of Intent)
- preliminary calculation of expected costs and revenues
- SWOT Matrix

F – industrial and utility model

- **market research – mandatory**
- research of technical solutions
- estimate of potential use (further use of the outcome after the completion of the Project)

- proof of interest in being a future buyer of the outcomes (e.g. Letter of Intent)
- preliminary calculation of expected costs and revenues
- SWOT Matrix

N – certified methodologies, procedures and specialised maps with professional content

- **N_{metS}: confirmation by certification body - mandatory**
- **N_{metC}, N_{metA}, N_{map}, N_{iec}, N_{pam}: market research – mandatory**
- research of the future use of the outcomes and their benefits
- SWOT Matrix

O – other outcomes

- market research
- research of technical solutions
- **estimate of potential use (further use of the outcome after the completion of the Project) – mandatory**
- proof of interest in being a future buyer of the outcomes (e.g. Letter of Intent)
- preliminary calculation of expected costs and revenues
- SWOT Matrix

H – outcomes reflected in the legislation and standards and results reflected in non-legislative directives and regulations binding within the competence of the respective provider.

- **proof of interest in being a future buyer of the outcomes (e.g. Letter intent) – mandatory**

Specification of Individual Annexes

- **Market Research**

If the output is relevant for the market, the annex should contain its life cycle in the given sector, the size of its market share, a brief description of the competitors (competitive solution) or identification of the segment and estimation of the number of potential customers. If a demand is surveyed using questionnaires, the representative sample on which the survey was conducted must be clearly described. If market research is performed based on the publicly available information, the sources must be stated. If a market survey is performed to relate to several planned outputs/outcomes, it may be attached to these outputs/outcomes. This annex clearly indicates to which outputs/outcomes it can relate to. If the output has a use other than a market-based use, the annex should clearly state to which target population such output will be useful for and which socio-economic area it will benefit.

- **Research of the state of equipment, technical solutions, patent research**

The knowledge of the current state of the implementation, up-to-date topicality and the need for the implementation should be, among other things, proven by research on the state of equipment and patent research (hereinafter Research)*. Include a summary or the relevant research directly.

*The research may be conducted by any patent office (Czech Industrial Property Office <https://www.upv.cz/en.html>), patent attorney or by means of a public database (e.g. EspaceNet - <http://www.epo.org/searching/free/espacenet.html>) and more.

- **Estimate of Potential Use (further use of the outcome after the completion of the Project)**

The annex should describe that manner of using the outcome after completion of the Project implementation. For example, a functional sample will be donated to a university for teaching purposes and the prototype will serve as the basis for a series of productions.

- **Proof of Interest in Being a Future Buyer of the Outcomes** (e.g. Letter of Intent or Letter of Support)

This is an expression of potential demand from specific potential buyers in the form of a letter. The interest of the prospective buyer is not binding in this case, but the letter should show an earnest interest. In other words, the letter is signed by the person competent enough to make a decision on the matter, the letter is up-to-date and contains specific arguments explaining the author's interest in the Project Outcomes (not just general phrases, such as: "The planned outcomes are interesting and in the case of a successful completion of the Project implementation we will consider their use."). In such terms, the Letter of Support is the last binding document and thus the least relevant of the annexes proving the future use of the outcome.

- **Confirmation by Certification Body**

If the Project Outcome is of type N_{metS} – methodologies approved by relevant government body with competence for the issue in question, the Beneficiary shall prove that the certification body, or governmental body, will confirm such methodology (certify it). The confirmation form of the certification body for the outcome type N_{metS} – methodologies approved by relevant government body with competence for the issue in question according to the RIV database structure is available at www.tacr.cz under documents related to the announcement of the Public Tender.

- **Preliminary Calculation of Expected Costs and Revenues**

The annex should include an economic comparison of the current supply and simple calculations of the expected costs and revenues. The figures of estimated costs should be based on publicly available data (raw material prices, labour costs, etc.). The calculation should also include any fixed costs (necessary investments related to the new implementation). The estimated revenues should be calculated based on the estimated prices of a final product/final service (if the price is higher than the current market implementation, the reason for the expected switch of the buyer to the new implementation must be justified) and the estimated sales volume (ideally, market research should be used).

- **SWOT Matrix**

This annex should contain the most important strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the new implementation; it is recommended to document the listed S, W, O, T by independent data (e.g. the CZSO data, industry and commodity studies, information of the ICC) and the sources used must be stated.

3.7 Deadline for Publication of Public Tender Results

The results will be published by 31 October 2018 on the <http://www.tacr.cz/> website.

The results of the evaluation will be published in accordance with the SME-34 Acceptance of Project Proposal to Public Tender Directive v1 (5.2.7 R0407 Announcement of the Public Tender Results).

The Provider will subsequently report the results of the Public Tender and send the Decision on Results of Public Tender in accordance with the SME-34 Acceptance of Project Proposal to Public

Tender Directive v1 (5.2.8 R0408 Providing Results of Public Tender to Applicants).

3.8 Complaints

The applicant may file a complaint against the Decision on Rejection of the Project Proposal or against the Decision on Results of Public Tender in accordance with the SME-08 Complaints in Public Tender Directive v3 (5.6.1 M0801 Filing Complaints).

3.9 Reserved Rights of Provider and Other Obligations of Applicants and Beneficiaries

In accordance with Section 24 of Act on the Support of Research and Development, the Provider reserves the right to cancel the announced Public Tender and not to support the Project proposals submitted under this Public Tender in accordance with the SME-10 Cancellation of Public Tender Directive v2 or to limit the number of Projects to be supported. The Decision on cancellation of the Public Tender or on limiting the number of Projects to be supported is based on the total volume of targeted funds allocated by the Provider to support applied research, experimental development and innovation from the state budget of the Czech Republic for 2018-2019.

The Provider notes that it shall not provide support to an applicant who is prohibited to be granted support within the meaning of Section 4c of Act No. 159/2006 Coll., on Conflict of Interest.

In accordance with Section 32 of Act on the Support of Research and Development, the Provider shall disclose the details identifying the Project via RDI IS.

The Provider shall not disclose confidential information such as details on the issue in question, personal details of the Researchers and names of the opponents. The information on the Projects that the Provider decided not to support shall not be disclosed, with the exception of information published when announcing the results of the Public Tender in accordance with the Tender Dossier.

Prior to concluding the Agreement/issuing the Decision on the Provision of Support, the Main Beneficiary is obliged to provide the Provider with the first Sub-Project approved by the Centre Council.

In the event that the Project proposal shows any doubts during the evaluation as to whether the provision of funds on its implementation violated any of the Rules for Public Aid, generally binding legal regulations, or rules set forth under the National Centres of Competence 1 Programme or the aid intensity are not observed, e.g. due to false identification of the applicant's nature, and such doubts cannot be removed only based on information contained in the Project proposal, documents proving its eligibility or publicly available information and simultaneously, there are no other reasons for rejecting to grant the aid, the Provider shall issue a Decision on the Result of Public Tender in favour of the applicant, provided that the Project will be supported under the conditions set out therein only if the applicant disproves these doubts. In this Decision, the Provider will indicate all its requirements against the applicant and their deadline which shall not be longer than 60 calendar days.

In justified cases, the Provider reserves the right to include in the Decision on the Result of Public Tender further conditions determined on the basis of facts found during the Provider's evaluation of

the Project proposal, while there will be an Agreement on the Provision of Support concluded with the Main Beneficiary, or the Decision on the Provision of support issued in its favour for the implementation of this Project only after these conditions are met.

Prior to concluding the Agreement/issuing the Decision on the Provision of Support, each Main Beneficiary of a Project approved for support will submit its Project to the priorities of National Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation of the Czech Republic approved by Government Resolution No. 634 of 11 July 2016 (for National RIS 3 Strategy see <http://www.vyzkum.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=741706>).

In the event that the Project proposal applicant is a company (Enterprise) younger than 18 months (i.e. from the date of registration in the Commercial Register to the date of submission of the electronic project proposal via ISTA), the financial plan showing that the applicant has secured financial coverage of the submitted Project and its activities must be provided prior to the signing of the Agreement on the Provision of Support. The financial plan for the duration of the Project implementation, in a simple form (years, resources–revenues, costs), should include guarantees (bank, parent company, owners, shareholders, etc.) in the form of a written statement or affidavit due to the lack of accounting history.

Failure to provide required documents or insufficient disproval of doubts which will prevent the conclusion of the Agreement/Decision on the Provision of Support, or result in a conclusion thereof with a lower level of aid intensity, if this option is defined in the Decision on the Result of Public Tender, and a revision of such Decision in the applicant's disadvantage.

The applicants are not entitled to compensation of costs associated with their participation in the Public Tender.

Annexes

Annex 1 – Sworn Statement of the Applicant

Annex 2 – Objectives of National Priorities of Oriented Research, Experimental Development, and Innovation of National Centres of Competence 1 Programme First Public Tender

Annex 3 – List of Research Themes defined by TA CR Research Board