

Joint Call for Proposals For Korea-Czech Bilateral Co-funding R&D Projects

1. Scope

A Call for Proposals for Joint R&D Projects between Korea Institute of Energy Technology Evaluation and Planning (KETEP) of the Republic of Korea and the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR) is hereby announced. Joint R&D projects focus on developing innovative products and applications in the priority areas set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding signed on December 2, 2015.

Applicants are expected to develop ready-to-market solutions for products, technology based services or methods which have strong market potential.

NOTE: This Joint Call for Proposals, written in the English language, serves to provide the common understanding of the program structure and to brief the requirements in general terms. Participants are subject to additional rules and regulations.

Lead Organizations (Principal Applicants) on both sides, Korean and Czech, have the responsibility to understand the respective national laws, rules and regulations, and abide accordingly.

2. Program Structure

Project results shall contribute to the development of commercial products, processes and / or technical services. The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the two organizing agencies (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial needs, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).

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

The program invites technology related organizations from both countries to participate in joint R&D projects. Refer to Section 2.2 Applicant Eligibility for more information. Joint R&D Project Proposals shall be submitted according to the following procedures.

2.1 Areas of R&D Projects

While R&D subjects across all energy technology will be considered, priority will be given to the R&D subjects in the following areas pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding signed on December 2, 2015:

- a) Nuclear Power
- b) Sustainable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- c) Distributed Power Generation, including Smart Grid, Micro Grid and Energy Storage Systems

2.2 Applicant Eligibility

Applicants shall take the form of a consortium consisting of R&D participants based in the Republic of Korea and R&D participants based in the Czech Republic.

Korea

A company shall be the lead organization on the Korean side while universities or research institutes may participate as participating organizations only.

Czech

A company, regardless of the size, can be the lead organization on the Czech side. Bonus points are given in the evaluation phase to the consortium whose lead organization is a company.

Universities or research organizations may apply for the DELTA program as lead organization, only provided that the consortium constitutes at least one company.

2.3 Program Procedure and Schedule

- ① Joint Call for Proposals
(Korea: April 27, 2016)
(Czech: April 27, 2016)
- ② Submission / Requisition of R&D proposals
(April 28, 2016~ July 20, 2016)
- ③ Proposal Evaluation (Refer to Section 2.6)
(July 21, 2016 ~ October 30, 2016)
- ④ Evaluation Results Announcement

(October 31, 2016)

- ⑤ Agreement between the participants and the respective organization
& Project Kickoff
(November 1, 2016 ~)

2.4 Project Duration and Funding

- Government contribution is available for three years maximum.
- KETEP and TA CR will fund the respective nationals in the selected consortia in accordance with their national funding rules. Supplementary funding may come from participant's own resources should the total project cost exceed the government funding.
- Matching fund is the basis of the funding scheme, but flexibility in the funding ratio may be allowed depending on the roles each participant undertakes.

Korea

KETEP will award its first year funding between November 2016 and January 2017 following the agreement.

The subsequent funding will be awarded on a yearly basis according to the annual evaluation results. No government funding will be awarded should the project is found to be disqualified; the Korean participants may proceed with their own source of fund.

KETEP to Korean participants:

KRW 500 million/ project maximum annum, up to 3 years
(appx USD 425,000* annum)

Czech

TA CR will award funding in January 2017 while the project will start in November 2016. Czech participants are advised to plan accordingly.

One time lump sum funding will be awarded not to exceed CZK 25 million/project for the entire duration of the project of 3 years. Should the project is found to be disqualified from the interim evaluations, TA CR may retrieve the unused government funding.

TA CR to Czech participants:

CZK 25 million/ project maximum, one time lump sum
(appx USD 1,030,000* one time lump sum)

*may vary depending on the exchange rate in effect at the time of tender

2.5 Proposal Submission

By the Call Deadline on July 20, 2016, the lead organizations from both countries shall file to the respective agency the documents as follows:

- A common proposal (attached), written in the English language
The proposal shall be signed by all participants.
- Funding documents as required by the respective organization pursuant to the rules set forth within.

Korea

- Korean participants shall upload a complete funding application at the time of the proposal submission.
- More information is available at www.ketep.re.kr
- Consultation at an early stage is highly recommended.
- Additional documents related to evaluation process will be required.

Czech

- Czech participants shall upload a complete funding application at the time of the proposal submission.
- More information is available at:
https://tacr.cz/index.php/cz/?option=com_content&view=article&id=668
- Consultation at an early stage is highly recommended.
- Consultations are available only through the online helpdesk:
<https://tacr.cz/hesk/>

2.6 Proposal Evaluation

All Korean applicants are subject to initial screening which examines the SME's capability to carry out the project. Examination criteria includes, but are not limited to, bankruptcy history, disposition for tax delinquency, default history of the head of the company, debt ratio, review of the recent financial statement in terms of capital erosion, etc. Failure in any of the criteria will disqualify the applicant and the respective proposal will not proceed to the next step of proposal evaluation.

KETEP and TA CR will independently evaluate the submitted proposals in accordance with the respective national rules and regulations. Evaluation results for the top candidates will be shared and discussed between two organizations. Finally KETEP and TA CR will jointly select the final consortia within approximately 3 months after the call deadline.

2.7 Annual Evaluation / Progress Inspection

Korea

KETEP requires the lead organization on the Korean side to submit an annual evaluation report of the project no later than one month prior to the end of each project year. In addition to the report submission, annual evaluation may include onsite inspection, interview, etc.

In case the Korean lead organization fails to submit the report in time or the project progress is found to have failed its obligations, etc., the project may be disqualified for government funding and terminated early. The Korean participant may proceed with their own source of fund.

Czech

TA CR performs regular inspections of the supported projects, at least once during its solution. Also TA CR may demand project reports for review and ad hoc inspections may be executed when a problem is spotted. In case the project is found to have failed its obligations, the Board of TA CR may retrieve the TA CR fund, of which the final amount to be retrieved is calculated in accordance with the national rules and regulations in effect at the time. In case the project is disqualified by the Korean side, only, the case will be subject to further evaluation by the Board of TA CR to decide whether to retrieve the remaining government fund.

3. Contacts

KETEP

www.ketep.re.kr

Ms. Sangkyoung Kim

E-mail: international@ketep.re.kr

Tel.: +82-2-3469-8349

Fax: +82-2-556-1337

Address:

Korea Institute of Energy Technology

Evaluation and Planning

114gil 14 Teheranno

Gangnam-gu

Seoul, Republic of Korea