



QUANTERA

ERA-NET Cofund in Quantum Technologies

Call 2021 for Transnational Research Proposals

Supporting the topics of

Quantum Phenomena and Resources

and

Applied Quantum Science

Launch of the Call 12th March 2021

Deadline (pre-proposals): 13th May 2021, 17:00 CET

Deadline (full proposals): 15th September 2021, 17:00 CET

Documents and procedures: <http://www.quantera.eu>

Call information: Sergueï Fedortchenko
+33 1 78 09 80 37

Serguei.Fedortchenko@anr.fr

Maximum call budget: €40 M



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History of changes

Date	Changes to the document
13.04.2021	Update on FWF's contact point (overview table and national annex). Update on CNR's limit of the amount which may be requested to 250k€ per project.
25.03.2021	AEI National Annex - maximum % of indirect costs changed to 15%.

Key Facts & Figures

QuantERA

QuantERA II ERA-NET Cofund in Quantum Technologies is a consortium of national and regional Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) in Europe supporting research in Quantum Technologies (QT). QuantERA II is supported by the European Union's Future and Emerging Technologies programme (FET).

The funding organisations of QuantERA II jointly support European multilateral research projects with the potential to initiate or foster new lines of QT through collaborations exploring advanced multidisciplinary science and/or cutting-edge engineering.

Call 2021

Scope: **Quantum Phenomena and Resources**
Applied Quantum Science

Maximum call budget: €40 M

The project consortia must have a minimum of 3 eligible partners requesting funding in at least 3 of the following countries:

International consortium: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey.

Standard consortium size: Three to six partners

Evaluation: Pre- and full proposals are evaluated based on the EC FET criteria of *Excellence, Impact, and Quality and efficiency of the implementation*

National/Regional RFOs Each partner must fulfil the conditions of the national/regional eligibility for funding: funding organisation, as described in the Annex (p. 19)

Tentative Timeline

13th May 2021, 17:00 CET **Deadline for pre-proposal submission**

July 2021 Notification of accepted pre-proposals

15th September 2021, 17:00 CET **Deadline for full proposal submission**

December 2021 Notification of accepted proposals

Early 2022 Start date for funded projects

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Research Targeted in the Call

The submitted proposals are expected to be aligned with one of the two QuantERA 2021 co-funded call 2021 (hereinafter referred to as the “call”) topics:

- **Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR)**, where the goal is to lay the foundations for the QT of the future. The focus is on basic quantum science and fundamental physics, and the projects should explore novel quantum phenomena, concepts, resources, and/or address major challenges that prevent broad applications of some quantum technologies;
- **Applied Quantum Science (AQS)**, where the goal is to take known quantum effects and established concepts from quantum science, translate them into technological applications and develop new products. These could be novel devices that are based on known quantum effects and that will serve a novel application in QT, or devices that translate known quantum applications into products and industrial applications.

Note that if the tasks of (a) partner(s) are not well in line with the consortium’s chosen call topic (and closer to the other topic), the said partner(s) are strongly encouraged to contact their respective RFOs to check their eligibility. Each funding organisation participating in the call decides to allocate its budget to the QPR topic, or the AQS topic, or both. The table in the section “Research Funding Organisations: Overview Table” (p.10) shows this information.

Through this call, the Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) of the QuantERA II consortium support the Quantum Technologies Flagship agenda¹. By launching joint calls for proposals for research projects, RFOs can support diverse research communities, able to tackle the most challenging and novel research directions.

Projects funded in QuantERA II should contribute to the development of the European research and innovation in QT. The transformative research funded within the QuantERA II should explore collaborative advanced interdisciplinary science and/or cutting-edge engineering with the potential to initiate or foster new lines of QT and help Europe grasp leadership early on in promising future technology areas.

To promote equal opportunity and gender balance, QuantERA II encourages the participation of consortia with a fair representation of female researchers both as PIs and in the research team.

To spread research excellence throughout Europe, QuantERA projects are encouraged to include partners from the widening countries participating in the call: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey.

To build leading innovation capacity across Europe and connect with industry, QuantERA projects are encouraged to involve key actors that can make a difference in the future, for example excellent young researchers (in both topics), ambitious high-tech SMEs (in particular in the AQS topic), etc.

¹ See Strategic Research Agenda of the European Quantum Technology community at www.qt.eu

Target Outcomes

Funded projects in both topics are expected to address one or more of the following areas:

1. Quantum communication

Methods/tools/materials/strategies to deal with the issues of distance, reliability, efficiency, robustness and security in quantum communication; novel protocols for multipartite quantum communication; quantum memory and quantum repeater concepts.

Novel photonic sources for quantum information and quantum communication, coherent transduction of quantum states between different physical systems; integrated quantum photonics; quantum communication embedded in optical telecommunications systems; other communication protocols with functionality enhanced by quantum effects.

Methods for quantum communications in space, between satellites and Earth.

2. Quantum simulation

Platforms and materials for quantum simulation; development of new measurement and control techniques and of strategies for the verification of quantum simulations.

Application of quantum simulations to condensed matter, chemistry, thermodynamics, biology, high-energy physics, quantum field theories, quantum gravity, cosmology and other fields.

3. Quantum computation

Development of noisy intermediate-scale quantum platforms; devices to realise multiqubit algorithms; demonstration and optimisation of error correction codes; progress towards fault-tolerance; interfaces between quantum computers and communication systems.

Development of novel quantum algorithms and software stacks; demonstration of quantum speed-up; new architectures and programming paradigms for quantum computation, including hybrid approaches.

4. Quantum information sciences

Novel sources of non-classical states and methods to engineer such states. Development of device-independent quantum information processing. Methods for the reconstruction and estimation of complex quantum states or channels and certification of their properties. Development of resource theory for quantum information. Study of topological systems for quantum information purposes. Understanding and control of open quantum systems; development of methods to confine dynamics in controllable decoherence-free subspaces. Study of thermodynamic processes at the quantum scale.

Novel ideas and applications in quantum science and technologies, based on e.g. superposition and entanglement, as means to achieve new or radically enhanced functionalities.

5. Quantum metrology sensing and imaging

Use of quantum properties for time and frequency standards, light-based calibration and measurement, gravimetry, magnetometry, accelerometry, and other applications. Development of detection schemes that are optimised with respect to extracting relevant information from physical systems; novel solutions for quantum imaging and ranging. Implementation of micro- and nano-quantum sensors, for instance for quantum limited sensitivity in the measurement of magnetic fields at the nanoscale. Extension of the reach of quantum sensing and metrology to other fields of science including e.g. the prospects of offering new medical diagnostic tools.

Expected Impacts

Funded projects are expected to significantly advance the state-of-the-art of quantum sciences and technologies² by achieving one or more of the following targets:

- Develop a deeper fundamental and practical understanding of systems and protocols for manipulating and exploiting quantum information;
- Enhance the robustness and scalability of quantum information technologies in the presence of environmental decoherence, hence facilitating their real-world deployment;
- Develop reliable technologies for the different components of quantum architectures;
- Identify new opportunities and applications fostered through quantum technologies, and the possible ways to transfer these technologies from laboratories to industries;
- Enhance interdisciplinarity in crossing traditional boundaries between disciplines in order to enlarge the community involved in tackling these new challenges;
- Create a diverse and inclusive quantum community;
- Spread excellence throughout Europe by involving partners from the widening countries;
- Build leading innovation capacity across Europe by involvement of key actors that can make a difference in the future, for example excellent young researchers, ambitious high-tech SMEs or first-time participants.

² QuantERA projects shall not duplicate research funded as part of the projects of the Call 2017 and Call 2019 of QuantERA and the projects of the EC Quantum Flagship call (see the lists of the projects [HERE](#), [HERE](#), and [HERE](#))

Management of the Call

The Call Secretariat is jointly set up at ANR (France) and AEI (Spain), and supported by QuantERA Coordinator NCN (Poland) and will assist the Call Steering Committee and the Evaluation Panels.

Call Steering Committee

The Call Steering Committee (CSC) is the highest decision-making body of the QuantERA 2021 co-funded call, being composed of representatives of QuantERA Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) participating in the call.

The CSC steers all activities of the call. In particular, the CSC nominates the members of the Evaluation Panels, selects the pre-proposals to be invited to submit a full proposal at the second stage, and establishes the final list of proposals recommended for funding to the funding organisations based on the ranking lists provided by the Evaluation Panels. All decisions concerning the call implementation are taken by the CSC (e.g. management of confidentiality and conflicts of interest).

Evaluation Panels

The Evaluation Panels are the evaluation bodies of the QuantERA 2021 co-funded call, being composed of experts in Quantum Technologies. Each topic, QPR and AQS, has a dedicated Evaluation Panel.

With the aim of providing as much diversity as possible to the scientific evaluation, gender balance will be considered in the panel formation.

The Evaluation Panel evaluates the pre- and full proposals. In particular, each panel establishes a ranking list of proposals which serves as a basis for the CSC funding recommendation.

Eligibility

The call, the proposal evaluation and the selection process are transnational. Proposals shall be submitted by consortia with partners (research groups and/or companies) from at least three countries participating in the QuantERA 2021 co-fund call. Funding is provided directly to the selected individual consortium partners by the respective Research Funding Organisations (RFOs).

Each partner is directed by a **Principal Investigator (PI)**, who interacts with the respective funding organisation. One partner acts as the **Coordinator for the consortium** and is the single point of contact towards the QuantERA Call Secretariat.

It is necessary that the consortium as a whole is eligible with respect to QuantERA's transnational rules detailed below, and that each consortium partner requesting funding is eligible with respect to national rules of the respective RFO. For more details on national eligibility rules, see Annex on p. 17. If a partner requesting funding is eligible to receive funding from multiple funding organisations, this applicant must choose only one of them.

A PI may not coordinate more than one proposal.

In general, QuantERA projects have a duration of 36 months. Consortia may also propose 24 months, but each member of the consortium is strongly advised to read the national rules of their RFOs (Annex p. 17), to be aware of the durations authorized by respective RFO. Proposals recommended for funding in this call are expected to start early in 2022.

After the submission deadline, if an eligibility issue is detected at the transnational or national level for a proposal, depending of the issue, the proposal's consortium will be contacted and asked to propose a solution to resolve the eligibility issue, in order for the proposal to remain in the evaluation process of the call. In such a situation, the proposal's consortium will be given one week to provide a solution (e.g., a proposal with three partners where one partner is ineligible, thus breaking the 3 countries rule). To avoid such situations, **we strongly encourage all applicants to contact the respective funding organisations to check their eligibility before the submission deadline.**

Eligibility of the Consortium

1. The consortium must be international:
 - It must have a minimum of 3 partners requesting funding to organisations participating in the QuantERA 2021 co-fund call from 3 distinct countries.
2. The consortium must be balanced:
 - At most 60% of the total requested funding may be requested by partners from one country;
 - At most 40% of the total requested funding may be requested by a single partner.

The consortium needs to be focused, that is, the proposed research must have a clearly defined goal. Consortia should therefore normally contain a minimum of three partners, and typically between three and six partners. Consortia may also comprise more than six partners.

Partners who are not requesting funding may be part of a consortium if they are able to financially secure their participation. The Coordinator must request funding.

Eligibility of Partners

The eligibility rules for partners are specific to the chosen Research Funding Organisation (RFO). For each RFO, the table on the next page provides an overview, including contact point(s). The full list of eligibility rules can be found in the corresponding national/regional annex (p. 17 and following).

In particular be aware that some funding organisations require that:

- Applicants contact or even register with them prior to pre-proposal submission;
- Eligibility of partners is checked with them prior to applying;
- Additional documents are submitted to them.

In order not to jeopardise the whole consortium, partners should ensure that no doubts exist about the eligibility of their institution (university, academic institution, industry, end user, standard organisation etc.), the eligibility of their Principal Investigator (permanent staff, position secured for the duration of the project, etc.), and their eligible costs.

Research Funding Organisations: Overview Table

* The budget is indicative and represents the committed funding available for all the proposals expected to be funded in this call. Together with the budget, the maximum number of projects gives an indication of the financial constraints that should be expected by partners applying to be funded by this organisation. **Partners are strongly discouraged from requesting greater budgets than are necessary for the activities being proposed.**

Note: If the currency used in the country of the funding organisation is not the euro, the figure in the table is based on the exchange rate at the time of publication of the present document.

** Some funding organisations require that partners contact them **prior to submission** or send specific documents. Some allow funding for industrial partners but additional conditions may apply. Applicants are strongly recommended to contact their contact point prior to submission in order to verify their eligibility.

Country	RFO	Budget (M€)*	QPR budget (M€)	AQS budget (M€)	Expected number of projects *	Limits on amount which may be requested*	Contact prior to submission **	Additional forms **	Industrial partner eligible for funding**	Contact(s)
Austria	FFG	2.00		2.00	2-4	Up to 500k€ per project	Recommended	Yes	Yes, at least one Austrian company has to be part in the project consortium	Fabienne.Nikowitz@ffg.at
Austria	FWF	1.00	1.00		-	-	Recommended	Yes	Yes, but only basic research, not aiming at direct commercial application	Natascha.Dimovic@fwf.ac.at
Belgium	FNRS	0.20	0.20		1	Up to 200 k€ per project	Recommended	Yes	No	Florence.Quist@frs-fnrs.be Joel.Groeneveld@frs-fnrs.be
Belgium	FWO	0.70	0.70		2-3	Up to 350 k€ per project	Recommended	Yes	No	eranet@fwo.be
Bulgaria	BNSF	0.23			2-3	Up to 76k€ per project	Yes	Yes	No	Aleksandrova@mon.bg
Croatia	HRZZ	0.20			1-2	Up to 200k€ per project	Yes	Yes	No	Jasminka@hrzz.hr
Czech Republic	MEYS	0.50	0.50		3-4	-	Yes	Yes	No	Michal.Vavra@msmt.cz
Czech Republic	TA CR	1.00		1.00	4-5	-	Recommended	Yes	Yes	Baya.Barbora.Nunez@tacr.cz Iveta.Zaparkova@tacr.cz Eliska.Sibrova@tacr.cz

Country	RFO	Budget (M€)*	QPR budget (M€)	AQS budget (M€)	Expected number of projects *	Limits on amount which may be requested*	Contact prior to submission **	Additional forms **	Industrial partner eligible for funding**	Contact(s)
Denmark	IFD	1.00	0	1.00	3-4	Maximum funding budget for a Danish partner is € 300,000. If two or more Danish partners participate in a project the maximum funding budget is € 500,000.	Recommended	National registration of international application	The application must include Danish Industrial partners or user organisations. Universities and research organisations are also welcome to participate.	Jens.Peter.Vittrup@innofond.dk
Estonia	ETAg	0.15			1	Up to 150k€ per project	Recommended	No	Yes	Margit.Suuroja@etagee Maarja.Soonberg@etagee
Finland	AKA	1.00			2-4	Up to 600 k€ per project and up to 450 k€ per partner	Recommended	No	No	Jukka.Tanskanen@aka.fi
France	ANR	3.00	3.00		-	Up to 450 k€ per project and up to 300 k€ per partner	Recommended	No	Yes	Serguei.Fedortchenko@anr.fr
Germany	DFG	1.50	1.50				Recommended	Yes	No	Andreas.Deschner@dfg.de Michael.Moessle@dfg.de
Germany	BMBF, VDITZ	3.50		3.50	-	Minimum 100 k€ per German partner in a project	Yes	No	Yes	Krug@vdi.de
Hungary	NKFIH	0.45			3-4	Up to 150 k€ per partner	Recommended	No	Yes	Edina.Nemeth@nkfih.gov.hu
Ireland	SFI	1.50				Up to 200 k€ for partner or 300 k€ for coordinator.	Mandatory requirement	Yes, Expression of Interest form required	No	EU-Cofund@sfi.ie Maria.Nash@sfi.ie
Israel	Inn Auth	0.50			-	Subject to selected Inn Auth benefit track (see national annex). Expected to be up to 200 k€ per partner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dan@iserd.org.il Tzliil.Ribak@iserd.org.il

Country	RFO	Budget (M€)*	QPR budget (M€)	AQS budget (M€)	Expected number of projects *	Limits on amount which may be requested*	Contact prior to submission **	Additional forms **	Industrial partner eligible for funding**	Contact(s)
Italy	CNR	1.00			-	Up to 250k€ per project	Recommended	Yes	No	info.quantera@cnr.it
Italy	MUR	0.60			4-5	Up to 150k€ per project	Recommended	Yes	Yes	Giorgio.Carpino@miur.it Aldo.Covello@miur.it
Italy	INFN	0.75			-	Up to 200k€ per project	Recommended	Yes	No	Alessia.Dorazio@bo.infn.it
Latvia	VIAA	0.42			1-2	Up to 70 k€ per year per partner	Recommended	No	Yes	Jbalodis@latnet.lv Juris.Balodis@viaa.gov.lv
Lithuania	RCL	0.15			1	Up to € 100.000 per project (for project partner) or up to € 150.000 per project (for project coordinator)	Recommended	No	Yes, if sub-contracted by academic/research partner	Saulius.Marcinkonis@lmt.lt
Luxembourg	FNR	0.50			-	Within the limits of the call budget	Recommended	Yes (see national annex)	No	Christiane.Kaell@fnr.lu Helena.Burg@fnr.lu
Malta	MFIN	0.15			1	Up to €225k per project including EU contribution	Mandatory	No	Yes	Diane.m.Muscat@gov.mt
Norway	RCN	0.50			1-3	Up to 250 k€ per partner	Recommended	No	Yes	Psma@forskningsradet.no
Poland	NCBR	1.00		1.00	-	-	Recommended	No	Yes	Krystyna.Maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl
Poland	NCN	1.00			-	-	Strongly Recommended	Yes	Yes	quantera@ncn.gov.pl
Portugal	FCT	0.25			1-2	Up to 150 k€ per project (up to 250 k€ if project led by Portugal)	Recommended	Yes	Yes	Germana.Santos@fct.pt
Romania	UEFISCDI	0.50			-	Up to 200 k€ per project (250 k€ if the coordinator is from Romania)	Recommended	No	Yes, with R & D activity and according to state aid scheme	Nicoleta.Dumitrache@uefiscdi.ro
Slovakia	SAS	0.24			2	Up to 120k€ per project	Recommended	Yes	No	Mnovak@up.upsav.sk Panisova@up.upsav.sk
Slovenia	MIZS	0.30			1-2	Up to 300 k€ per project	Recommended	Yes	No	Andrej.Ograjensek@gov.si
Spain	AEI	1.00			4-5	Up to 150 k€ per project with one AEI applicant; Up to 225k€ per project with two AEI applicants.	No	No	No	era-ict@aei.gob.es

Country	RFO	Budget (M€)*	QPR budget (M€)	AQS budget (M€)	Expected number of projects *	Limits on amount which may be requested*	Contact prior to submission **	Additional forms **	Industrial partner eligible for funding**	Contact(s)
						Additional 75 k€ if the coordinator is AEI applicant.				
Sweden	VR	0.64	0.64		2-4	Expected to be in the range from 0.4 to 1.5 MSEK/year (approx. 80 to 150 k€) per project per year	Recommended	Yes (see national annex)	No	Tomas.Andersson@vr.se
Switzerland	SNSF	1.00			3-5	-	Recommended	Yes	Yes, but only basic research, not pursuing direct commercial goals	quantera@snf.ch
Turkey	TUBITAK	0.50			8-10	See national annex.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Serkan.Ucer@tubitak.gov.tr

Partner Search Tool

In order to facilitate the process of forming research consortia, we offer applicants a partner search tool available here: <https://ncn.gov.pl/partners/quantera/>. This tool can be used by projects looking for partners and partners looking for projects.

Application Procedure

1. Ensuring the Proposal is Valid

Proposers are asked to check if:

- The research is in line with the scope of the call;
- The consortium meets the eligibility criteria;
- Each partner meets all the eligibility criteria applying to them.

It is the responsibility of the partners to ensure their eligibility. Refer to the overview table on the previous page and the detailed regulations of each organisation in the annex for partner-specific conditions. **Please contact your respective research funding organisation prior to the submission of your proposal.**

2. Submitting the Proposal

The call follows a **two-stage submission and evaluation procedure**. First, a short outline proposal, the **pre-proposal** (max. 12 pages), is submitted. If the pre-proposal is selected, the consortium is invited to submit a detailed proposal, i.e. the full proposal (max. 35 pages).

The projects presented in the full proposal and in the short proposal **must be consistent**³. Any change to the plans described in the pre-proposal should be explained and justified.

At both stages of the application, the coordinator prepares a joint proposal (pre-proposal or full proposal) for the whole consortium, using the templates available on the QuantERA website (<http://www.quantera.eu/>). Two forms are submitted **via the electronic submission system** on the website: the pre-proposal form at the 1st stage (or full proposal form at the 2nd stage), and a financial form (at both stages).

At both stages, the electronic submission system will require some administrative and financial information to be filled in by the coordinator when creating the submission on the platform. Once the email addresses of the other partners are filled in by the coordinator, they receive an email from the platform inviting them to connect to the submission platform and adjust the administrative and financial information already filled in by the coordinator.

In addition, a Partner Search Tool is provided at <https://ncn.gov.pl/partners/quantera/>.

We recommend to submit the preliminary proposal several days before the deadline in case that unforeseen issues occur. Proposals that have already been submitted can be modified until the deadline.

Partners whose funding organisation requires submitting forms alongside the joint proposal submission must do so at this point (see annex on page 17).

The Coordinator and all partners must be prepared to diligently answer email queries after the submission. If a partner's PI is not available, the PI must be represented by a collaborator from the same organisation.

³ Prior to the 2nd stage, the Call Steering Committee (see 'Management of the Call' section) may list countries with a risk of budget underspending. The projects invited to the 2nd stage will be informed of the possibility to add a partner eligible for funding from these countries, provided that such an addition would add value to and strengthen the project and the consortium.

Evaluation and Selection Procedure

Evaluation

The evaluation relies on international Evaluation Panels of experts (EP), assisted by external experts.

The Call Secretariat (CS) and the Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) will check the proposals against the general as well as the RFO's eligibility criteria (see Annex).

By default, each evaluation criterion is scored 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5.

The scores indicate the following with respect to the criterion under examination (the definitions of scores are taken from the H2020 Guidelines to Applicants⁴):

0. The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information (unless the result of an 'obvious clerical error').
1. Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
2. Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
3. Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but with a number of shortcomings.
4. Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but with a small number of shortcomings.
5. Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

At both stages of the evaluation, the eligible proposals recommended by the EPs are those proposals that reach a score of 3 in each of the three criteria used for the evaluation and detailed below. While the "Quality" threshold is the same for each criterion and each topic, the weights of the other two criteria differ between the QPR and the AQS topics (see below).

Excellence (weight in QPR: 50%; weight in AQS: 25%)

Compliance with 'FET Gatekeepers'⁵

- i. *Clarity and novelty of long-term vision, and ambition and concreteness of the targeted breakthroughs towards that vision*
- ii. *Novelty, non-incrementality and plausibility of the proposed research for achieving the targeted breakthrough and its foundational character*
- iii. *Appropriateness of the research methodology and its suitability to address high scientific and technological risks*
- iv. *Range and added value from interdisciplinarity, including measures for exchange, cross-fertilisation and synergy*

⁴ See https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/from-evaluation-to-grant-signature/evaluation-of-proposals/elig_eval_criteria_en.htm

⁵ See 'FT Gatekeepers' p. 7 at https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-fet_en.pdf

Impact (weight in QPR: 25%; weight in AQS: 50%)

Extent to which the outputs of the project contribute at the European or international level to:

- i. The expected impacts (see Call Announcement)*
- ii. The transformation of technology and/or society*

Quality of the proposed measures to:

- iii. Exploit and disseminate the project results (incl. management of intellectual property rights), and to manage research data where relevant*
- iv. Communicate the project activities to different target audiences*

Quality and efficiency of the implementation (weight in QPR: 25%; weight in AQS: 25%)

- i. Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables*
- ii. Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management*
- iii. Complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise*
- iv. Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role*

At both stages of the evaluation, the Evaluation Panels meet to discuss the proposals and each one of them establishes a ranking list of the proposals. The evaluation of each proposal is summarised in a consensus report, which is made available to the applicants at the end of each evaluation stage.

Selection

The selection decision of the proposals to be recommended for funding to the RFOs is based on both ranking lists. When two or more proposals reach equal total scores, the following additional selection criteria will be applied:

- The output of the call, i.e. the overall funding, should be maximised;
- The success rates of both topics should be comparable;
- If possible, each funding organisation should fund at least one proposal;
- The proposals demonstrating a fair gender representation and involving partners from the widening countries in their consortium should be prioritised (see Annex on QuantERA II Gender Equality Statement).

Management of Projects

Setting up the Consortium

If the proposal is recommended for funding, each partner may need to submit an administrative application to the chosen RFO to apply for the QuantERA funding. In rare cases, specific partners in a consortium may be requested to apply for their funding from another funding organisation than the one they had chosen initially. The subsequent negotiation phase between the partner and the funding organisations follows the established procedures and, if successful, results in a contract between the two parties.

In order to ensure that the collaborative research can be conducted as planned, all partners of a consortium should request that their funding start at approximately the same date.

The administrative and financial management of funding is overseen by the respective funding organisations, according to the respective national/regional rules and guidelines.

The project must follow the *European Charter for Researchers* and the *Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers* (<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter>). The project should bear in mind gender balance and promote equal opportunities between women and men at all levels in the implementation of the research activities.

A consortium agreement managing *inter alia* the ownership and access to key knowledge (including IPR, data management, GDPR etc.) has to be signed by all partners and sent to QuantERA Coordination Office no later than three months after the start of a project. Some funding organisations require that the consortium agreement be signed before the contract can be finalised.

Reporting and Publications

Consortia must present the status of their project at three follow-up events organised by QuantERA. The related costs are eligible and must be secured by the consortia as part of the project's budget.

Furthermore, each coordinator of a funded project has to submit a mid-term activity report and a final activity report. These reports must be sent to QuantERA within two months after the end of each period.

Some funding organisations require separate reports for individual project partners. This is specified in the individual contracts with respective national/regional funding organisations.

Any publications resulting from QuantERA projects must acknowledge QuantERA⁶, and an electronic copy must be sent to QuantERA. Open access publications are encouraged.

⁶ An example of acknowledgement: « This work was supported by the QuantERA grant [insert project acronym], by [insert the funding organisation and the grant number for that funding organisation], [insert the next funding organisation and the grant number for that funding organisation],.... ».

Annex 1: Research Funding Organisation Specific Information

Austria

FFG – Austrian Research Promotion Agency

Contact point

Fabienne Nikowitz

Programme Leader

+43 5 7755 5081 - fabienne.nikowitz@ffg.at

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

Maximum funding for the QuantERA Call 2021: 2 M€.

Funding regulations

For Austrian proposers, the same regulations hold as for cooperation projects, see the application guidelines and regulations available at the FFG website (available 17 March 2021):

<https://www.ffg.at/2021-ausschreibung-qfte-transnational>

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Funding of Austrian participants is available for TRLs 2 till 8:

-) For companies;
-) For universities and research institutes/organisations - only in cooperation with at least one Austrian company.

All Austrian applicants are encouraged to contact FFG prior to submission.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applications must be submitted in electronic form following these links:

<https://ecall.ffg.at/Cockpit/Cockpit.aspx>

Mandatory are:

-) QuantERA Pre- and Full proposal application form and financial Form as requested;
-) Costs and requested funding.

No application will be considered after the final submission date.

Additional requirements

Consortium requirement: at least one Austrian industry partner.

Maximum funding: 500.000€ per project

Further information and requirements can be found at the FFG website (available 17 March 2021):

<https://www.ffg.at/2021-ausschreibung-qfte-transnational/downloadcenter>

Contact point

Natascha Dimovic

Administrative project officer

+43 1 5056740 8402 –

natascha.dimovic@fwf.ac.at

Funding criteria and regulations

Austrian applicants are encouraged to contact FWF prior to submission. The same regulations as for regular stand-alone projects hold, see the application guidelines available at the FWF website:

http://www.fwf.ac.at/fileadmin/files/Dokumente/Antragstellung/Einzelprojekte/p_application-guidelines.pdf

Funding commitment

The FWF commits 1 M€ of national budget to the call topic “Quantum Phenomena and Resources”.

Funding regulations

Only proposals in basic research in the call topic “Quantum Phenomena and Resources” will be accepted.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The same eligibility criteria as for regular stand-alone projects have to be fulfilled by applicants.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applications have to be submitted in electronic form following this link (*signed forms still need to be sent prior to the deadline, either in original form or signed electronically*):

<https://elane.fwf.ac.at/page/panel/loginpanel>

In the pre-proposal stage, applications in the category “IK – International projects (preproposal)” as well as the Call “QuantERA 2021” have to be selected before filling in forms. In the full-proposal stage, the programme category “I – International Projects” has to be selected.

Additional requirements

The FWF only funds proposals in the call topic “Quantum Phenomena and Resources”.

Contact point

Dr. Florence Quist

Scientific officer

+32 (0)2 504 9351 - Florence.quist@frs-fnrs.be

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

Maximum funding for the QuantERA Call 2021: 200 k€

Maximum funding per project: 200 k€/3 years. If the project involves the recruitment of a PhD student, project duration of the F.R.S.-FNRS sub-project could be up to 4 years (cf. [PINT-MULTI regulations](#)).

Funding regulations

[PINT-MULTI regulations](#)

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

F.R.S.-FNRS funds only basic research (low Technology Readiness Level) carried out in a research institution from the “Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles”. The F.R.S.-FNRS will not fund industrial partners. All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the [PINT-MULTI regulations](#).

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding must provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application on [e-space](#) **within 5 working days after the general deadline of QuantERA to be eligible**. Please select the “PINT-MULTI” funding instrument when creating the administrative application. Proposals invited to the second stage will be able to complete the pre-proposal form and provide information for the full proposal upon validation by the F.R.S.-FNRS.

General rules and regulations of FNRS apply: www.frs-fnrs.be

See also: <http://www.ncp.fnrs.be/index.php/appels/era-nets>

Additional requirements

F.R.S.-FNRS only participates in the Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR) topic.

Contact point

Toon Monbaliu

Adviser Research Affairs

+32 (0)2 550 15 70 – eranet@fwo.be

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

Funding commitment: € 0,7 m

Maximum funding per awarded project: € 0,35 m

Anticipated number of projects with Belgian (FWO) partners: 2-3

The FWO only funds projects within the Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR) topic!

Funding regulations***Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution***

Both the FWO Strategic Basic Research (SBO) and junior/senior research project (FO) funding channels are integrated in this call, each with specific regulations. It is, in the light of the projects eligibility, of utmost importance to respect their particular regulations. For example when it comes to the **mandatory valorisation aspect for the SBO projects** (see ‘additional conditions for FWO funding’ below).

Who can be eligible for FWO funding?

The eligibility of institutions and its researchers can be verified in the relevant regulations:

→ For junior/senior research projects, [see articles 10-12](#)

→ For Strategic Basic Research, [see articles 4-8](#)

Additional conditions for FWO funding:

- 1) When the strategic basic research channel (SBO) would be the appropriate source of funding, we ask researchers **to provide us with a ‘valorisation plan’ before the pre-proposal submission deadline**. There is no fixed format and one A4 page should suffice. What the FWO wants to know is i) how the valorisation within Flanders - and potentially internationally – will take place and ii) which Flemish actors are involved in this. This information can be submitted to the general eranet@fwo.be email address.

- 2) SBO projects aiming at the development of a spin-off company are not eligible here.
- 3) Researchers have to inform the central research coordination units, at their host institutions, about their participation.
- 4) One and the same researcher can only participate in 2 different research projects/consortia when applying for FWO funding, within the same call. Double funding is not allowed.
- 5) Projects may last up to 36 months, which implies the funding has to be budgeted and spent accordingly.

ERA-NET participation does not interfere with the 'regular' project submission framework, and is consequently not taken into account for calculating the max. available number of new applications and running projects combined.

Eligibility of costs

The regular FWO cost categories from the (junior/senior) '[research project](#)' or [SBO project](#) funding channels are eligible:

The maximum requested budget per project amounts to 350.000 EUR (incl. overhead). **Beware, the funding rules differ per FWO funding channel (FO and SBO):**

- **FO:** a 6% structural overhead should be calculated on the direct costs. E.g., a practical example: when the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, etc.) amounts to 300.000 EUR, then the overhead will be 18.000 EUR (6% of 300.000 EUR) and the total requested cost 318.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed 350.000 EUR (for further detailed financial information, [see chapters 6, 7 and 8 in the project regulations](#)).
- **SBO:** The [SBO cost model](#) applies. A maximum 17% overhead rate is applicable.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

No submission at the national/regional level is required. However, if SBO, a valorisation plan has to be submitted before the pre-proposal submission deadline.

Additional requirements

It is always strongly advised to contact the FWO before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects/research consortia.

Contact point

Milena Aleksandrova

Function ERA-NET Programmes Officer

Telephone number - +359 884 171 363

email: aleksandrova@mon.bg

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

230 081 €

Funding regulations

Applicants under this procedure shall be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities under the project proposal and shall not act as intermediaries, but they shall carry out activities under the project proposal on their behalf and at their expense.

Applicants to this procedure must be entities:

- Carrying out fundamental research studies; and
- Whose activities are entirely of a non-profit nature; or
- Whose activities are of both for-profit and not-for-profit nature, but these activities are clearly distinguished and their organization allows tracking of revenue and expenditures connected with their implementation, including by keeping analytical accounting. In the event that an applicant is involved in both for-profit and not-for-profit activities, the funding, expenditures and revenues shall be taken into account separately for each type of activity and on the basis of consistently applied principles of accounting of expenditures being justifiable.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

- 1) Accredited universities as defined in Art.85 para.1, p. 7 of the Higher Education Act;
- 2) Research organizations as defined in Art. 47, para 1 of the Higher Education Act.
http://III.mon.bg/uploaded_files/zkn_visseto_obr_01.03.2016_EN.pdf

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applicants have to submit an application form for national eligibility when submitting the proposals. The form, entitled „Administrative description of the project“ should be filled in both Bulgarian and in English and signed. Application forms can be obtained at:

<https://www.fni.bg/?q=node/578>

They have to be sent it back by post or in person to BNSF Registry Office before the deadline of 1stage proposal submission.

Additional requirements

Contact point

Jasminka Boljević

email: jasminka@hrzz.hr

Max. project duration: proposed projects may last from 24 to 36 months

Max. funding per project: 200.00 EUR

Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal within this call.

1-2 projects can be funded

Funding criteria and regulations

Croatian applicants (Principal Investigators) are recommended to contact HRZZ prior to the submission of the proposal for the purpose of checking the national funding terms and conditions.

The Croatian applicant may have the status of a Principal Investigator (PI) and/or team member or PI and a co-PI on a maximum two HRZZ projects : as a PI of one project and a team member or co-PI on another project or as a team member and co-PI on two projects. This does not include the role of PI and team members in HRZZ projects ending on 31 December 2021, and PIs on IP-Corona-2020-04 and IP-Corona-2020-12 and TTP projects.

Co-PIs on projects are PIs of Croatian research groups in Cooperability programme, SwissCroatian research projects and projects in bilateral programmes.

Applicant can participate in only one project consortium in one ERA-NET Cofund Call.

Institutional eligibility criteria:

Eligible applicants are public research organisations. **Partners from the industry sector are not eligible for funding.**

The document “Upute za ERA-Net Cofund natječaje za 2021. godinu” presenting the modalities of participation of the Croatian applicants, eligibility of the organizations and eligible costs will be available at www.hrzz.hr.

Following the conclusion of the consortium agreement between the consortium partners, the Croatian applicant in the project consortium will be required to sign a grant agreement with HRZZ for the portion of the budget provided by HRZZ.

Eligibility confirmation**For pre-proposal**

The HRZZ requests the Croatian applicants to send the following documentation, not later than 2 days after the submission of the pre-proposal:

1. Financial Plan for the Croatian applicant (the part to be financed by the HRZZ), extracted from the - Financial Form submitted by the project consortium;
2. Pre-proposal (in PDF format, sealed on the date of Call deadline);
3. Letter of Support in Croatian, i.e. a written commitment of the Croatian applicant's organization, accepting the proposed research and committing to its administration (signed and certified by the authorized person of the Croatian applicant's organization);
4. Signed letter of commitment for the participation in the projects for all associates and consultants not employed at the applicant's organisation.

For full proposal

The HRZZ requests the Croatian applicants to send the following documentation, not later than 2 days after the submission of the full proposal:

1. Financial Plan for the Croatian applicant (the part to be financed by the HRZZ), extracted from the Financial Form submitted by the project consortium;
2. Full proposal (in PDF format, sealed on the date of Call deadline);
3. Ethics approval (if applicable), PDF document.

The electronic version of the requested documentation shall be sent via e-mail to the following address: jasminka@hrzz.hr.

Submission of financial reports at the national level The funded Croatian applicants will have to submit annual Financial reports and justifying documentation (e.g. invoices, contracts, pay slips and similar) to HRZZ, together with a Declaration on VAT status and Declaration on the prevention of double financing for the year in question.

Eligible costs are:

- Research costs
- Personnel costs (postdocs only)
- Equipment;
- Dissemination and travel expenses;
- Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of contracted direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs and cost for subcontracting) and travel expenses. It can be claimed only if there is an explanation and specification for its use. Indirect costs will not exceed 5 % of direct costs.

Institutional thematic priorities: n/a

Proposals with the following focus cannot be funded: n/a

Additional information: n/a

Contact point

Michal Vávra

Department of Research and Development

+420 234 812 853 – michal.vavra@msmt.cz

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

The funding commitment of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic is 500 000 EUR for the call Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR).

Funding regulations

Eligible costs for a Czech participant involved in a project consortium are defined by *the Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from Public Funds* and on Amendment to Some Related Acts. The maximum indirect costs set for the present call are 25% (*flat rate*) of direct costs without the sub-contracting.

The *aid intensity* for activities carried out by a research organisation might be at the level of 100% provided that the research organisation complies entirely with requirements stipulated by the Article 2.1.1 “Public funding of non-economic activities” of the [Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation \(2014/C 198/03\)](#) and proves it by means of the above-mentioned *Statutory Declaration*.

Should the above-stated criteria not be fulfilled by the Czech participant, funding rates will be adjusted appropriately by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and will reach the level of 100% for *fundamental/basic research* activities, 50% for *applied research* activities and 25% for *experimental development* activities.

Each Czech participant in a project consortium is also requested to specify the costs related to the envisaged R&D activities in detail by using the *Eligible Costs Specification* template available on websites of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports: <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/quantera>.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The participants from the Czech Republic in the projects’ consortia must meet the criteria of *the research and knowledge-dissemination organization* (hereinafter referred to as “research organisation”) in accordance with the [Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and](#)

[Innovation \(2014/C 198/03\)](#). These might be public universities, public research institutes and/or other entities classified as research organizations.

It is obligatory that the Czech participants involved in the projects' consortia prove compliance with the eligibility criteria and fulfillment of the conditions set by § 18 of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from Public Funds and on Amendment to Some Related Acts by means of a *Statutory Declaration*. The required procedure is described and Statutory Declaration form will be available on website of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports: <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/quantera>.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

The Full Project Proposal form and all the other requested documentation (Statutory Declaration and Eligible Costs Specification) shall be sent by each Czech participant in a project consortium to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports no later than 17th September 2021 via means specified at the website of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports: <http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/quantera>.

In the case that project with Czech participants is recommended for funding based on the international evaluation outcomes and is approved by the Call Steering Committee, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports may ask the successful Czech applicants to submit additional documents in order to issue the Grant Agreement needed for providing the national financial support according to the rules stipulated by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Additional requirements

n/a

Contact point

Eliška Šibrová

ERA-NET Cofund Project Manager

+420 778 464 012 – eliska.sibrova@tacr.cz

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

Funding available: 1 000 000 €.

Czech applicants will be financed from the [EPSILON Programme for the support of applied research and experimental development](#).

Funding regulationsType of research funded

Applied research, i.e. industrial research and experimental development.

Eligible costs

- Personnel costs (including scholarships);
- Subcontracting costs⁷ (max. 20% of total eligible costs throughout the whole project period);
- Other direct costs (write-offs, protection of intellectual property, operating expenses, travel costs, consumables);
- Overheads (full cost/flat rate 25%).

Specific categories of eligible costs are defined under Article 17 of [the General Terms & Conditions](#).

Investment costs are NOT eligible in this Joint Call.

Funding rates

The aid intensity for each Czech applicant in the project is determined based on the type of entity and type of research according to [the Regulation](#) and at the same time must not exceed the maximum permissible aid intensity for the Czech part of the project, which is **85%** of the total eligible costs.

⁷ For TA CR subcontracting represents funding of outsourced research services. Other kinds of subcontracted activities apart from research ought to be categorized under “other direct costs”.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Eligible applicants

- Enterprises (according to Annex 1 of [the Regulation](#));
- Research organizations (according to the Article 2 paragraph 83 of [the Regulation](#));
- Enterprises who act as natural persons according to Annex 1 of [the Regulation](#) engaged in an economic activity pursuant to Act no. 455/1991 coll. on Trades (Trade Act).

The TA CR excludes the disbursement of individual aid to an enterprise:

- against which a recovery order has been issued which is unpaid;
- meeting the definition of an “[enterprise in difficulties](#)” (only in Czech);
- which has not met the obligation to publish the financial statements for the years 2017, 2018, 2019 in the respective register – the so-called “Veřejný rejstřík”.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Each Czech applicant participating in the Joint Call and requesting funding from TA CR must submit specific documents via TA CR data box within the same deadline as the project pre-proposal.

Mandatory forms to be submitted:

- Sworn statement of the applicant;
- TA CR Application Form (Excel file);
- if the applicant plans to achieve the “NmetS” type of result, the “[Confirmation of the Certification authority for NmetS results](#)” needs to be attached;
- if the applicant plans to achieve the “Patent” type of result, patent search must be substantiated.

The TA CR will check following eligibility criteria at national level:

- the project meets the definition of applied research;
- the aim of the project is relevant to the overall aim of the EPSILON programme;
- the research results correspond to the national rules (see below) and are applicable / exploitable;
- the share of industrial research and experimental development corresponds to the activities of the Czech partner described in the project proposal;
- the applicants are eligible;
- the costs are eligible;

- the requested funding meets the national regulations for aid intensity;
- the applicants have published the financial statements for the requested years.

For more information see TA CR [QuantERA II website](#) or contact TA CR's contact person.

Additional requirements

Supported results

Projects that achieve at least one of the following types of results can be supported in this Call. The [type of the result](#) has to be clearly described in the project proposal:

P – Patent;

G – Technically realized results – prototype, function sample;

Z – Pilot plant, proven technology;

R – Software;

F – Results with legal protection – utility model, industrial design;

N – Certified methodologies and practices, treatment, conservation methods, procedures and specialized maps with professional expert content;

O – Other results.

Results not to be recognized only in combination with at least one other result listed above, i.e. not as a single result of a given project:

H - results reflected in non-legislative directives and regulations binding within the competence of the respective provider and results reflected in the approved strategic and conceptual documents of the state or public administration.

Intellectual property rights

Czech candidates are obliged to sign an agreement with their foreign partners (i.e. Consortium Agreement), which will define the modalities of cooperation on the project and the distribution of intellectual property rights.

Start of the project

Please note that following the national legislation, Czech applicants shall start within 120 days from the funding decision being communicated by the Call Management (60-day period to make a contract + 60-day period to start the project).

Contact point

Jens Peter Vittrup, National Contact Point,

Phone: +45 6190 5023

E-mail: jens.peter.vittrup@innofond.dk

Børge Lindberg, Investment Officer

Phone: +45 6190 5012

E-mail: boerge.lindberg@innofond.dk

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment;***

1M€

Funding regulations:

Maximum funding budget for a Danish partner is € 300,000. If two or more Danish partners participate in a project the maximum funding budget is € 500,000.

Eligible cost-categories for Danish partners: Salary, Travel, Subcontracting, Materials, Communication and knowledge sharing and Other expenses (overhead).

<https://innovationsfonden.dk/sites/default/files/2018-10/general-terms-and-conditions-for-international-projects-approved-after-1-feb-2018.pdf>

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution:

IFD can fund all types of partners within the Applied Quantum Science (AQS) topic only, but will require to have included a Danish user organization or a commercial partner apart from having a Danish university partner or other types of knowledge partners included.

Submission of the proposal at the national level:

Danish applicants must, no later than two weeks after the deadline for submission, register individually in the national e-grant system and upload a pdf version of the international application form.

Additional requirements

For further information on the national call criteria please consult our national call homepage: www.innofond.dk

Contact points

Margit Suuroja

Maarja Soonberg

Senior Adviser

Adviser

+372 731 7360 – margit.suuroja@etag.ee+372 731 7387 – maarja.soonberg@etag.ee**Funding criteria and regulations*****Funding commitment***

150 000 EUR

Funding regulations

Research expenses consist of direct costs (personnel costs incl. scholarships, travel costs and other direct costs) and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be respectively identifiable.

1. Direct costs

1.1 Personnel costs are monthly salaries with social security charges and all other statutory costs of the participants of the project calculated according to their commitment and proportionately to their total salary cost at their Host Institution.

1.2 Scholarships equal to the state doctoral allowance may be paid out of the grant to doctoral students not receiving any salary from the Host Institution. Should a doctoral student participate in several projects financed by the Estonian Research Council, the total amount of the scholarship from these projects may not exceed the nationally determined amount of doctoral allowance.

1.3 Travel costs may cover expenses for transport, accommodation and daily allowances.

1.4 Other direct costs are:

- consumables related to the project;
- costs for publication and dissemination of project results;
- costs for organising meetings, seminars or conferences;
- fees for participation in scientific forums and conferences;
- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for the implementation of the project.

2. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation and should cover only additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. costs for translation, analyses, etc.) performed by third parties. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted.

Subcontracting costs may not exceed 10% of the total costs.

3. Overhead may not exceed 20% of eligible direct research costs and should cover general expenses of the Host Institution. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (copying machine or printer publicly used, phone bills, copying service, etc.) should be covered from the overhead.

4. Double funding of activities is not acceptable.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Participants of the project

1. The Host Institution is the institution to which the grant will be allocated. The Host Institution must be a legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia.

The Host Institution must declare that the project can be carried out within their premises and that it will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding.

2. The Principal Investigator is the researcher who submits the project proposal and who will be responsible for the use of the grant and for the implementation of the project.

The Principal Investigator:

2.1 must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS);

2.2 must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded by the submission deadline of the grant application, at the latest;

2.3 must have published at least three articles which comply with the requirements of clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five years prior to the proposal submission deadline. International patents are equalled with publications of clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications mentioned in clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or less. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or in the compulsory military service, or has other serious grounds, the publication period requirement will be extended by the respective time.

3. Senior research staff of the project participates in the substantial performance of the project. They must hold at least master's degree or an equivalent qualification.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

No needed

Additional requirements

1. Enterprises

EU Regulations on State Aid for Research and Development must be taken into account when requesting funding from the Estonian Research Council. The state aid form must be filled in. No tax arrears are allowed on the proposal submission date.

2. Grant Agreement

In case of a positive funding decision, the Estonian Research Council shall enter into a grant agreement with the Host Institution and the Principal Investigator. The transnational project must be entered into the ETIS.

3. Research involving human subjects or animal tests

If human research or animal tests are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorization Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Estonian Research Council by the start of the relevant activities.

4. Nagoya protocol

By applying for funding by the Estonian Research Council the applicants agree to consider the relevance of Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration if applicable.

Contact point

Jukka Tanskanen

Senior science adviser

+358 295 33 5071 - jukka.tanskanen@aka.fi

Funding criteria and regulations

Finnish applicants are recommended to contact the Academy of Finland before proposal submission for the purpose of checking national funding terms and conditions (e.g. national eligibility criteria).

In addition to their doctorate, the PI must have other significant scientific merits. Usually they are a professor or docent-level researcher. In addition, the applicant must have a close connection with Finland to support the implementation of a multi-year project. A PI requesting funding from the Academy of Finland may not participate in more than two proposals.

The Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering plans to grant a maximum of 600 k€ per project (150,000 euros per year) and up to 450 k€ per partner. In general, the conditions and restrictions on Academy Projects apply to the funding. Funding is granted to sites of research in Finland (usually universities or research institutes). The Academy applies the full cost model in its funding, and the Academy's funding contribution for a project can come to no more than 70% of the total project costs. Funding can be granted to research teams for purposes of hiring scientific staff, for the acquisition of equipment and supplies, and for other expenses arising for instance from researcher mobility and networking activities. The PI's salary costs must not be significant in relation to the project's total costs. For example, a three-year research project must not include more than 4.5 months of the PI's effective working hours.

More information on the Academy's general conditions and guidelines for funding:

<https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/apply-for-funding/how-to-use-funding/>

Guidelines for research project funding granted by the Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering: <https://www.aka.fi/en/about-us/decision-making-bodies/research-councils/research-council-for-natural-sciences-and-engineering/>

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Finnish partners of projects that have been successful at the second call stage will be invited to submit national application forms.

Contact point

Sergueï Fedortchenko

International Scientific Project Officer

+33 1 78 09 80 37 – Serguei.Fedortchenko@anr.fr

Funding criteria and regulations

The document presenting the modalities of participation of the French applicants will be available in March 2021 at <http://www.anr.fr/AAPProjetsOuverts>.

Contact point

Andreas Deschner

Michael Mößle

Programme Officer

Programme Director

+49 228 880 2959 - andreas.deschner@dfg.de+49 228 885 2351 - Michael.Moessle@dfg.de**Funding criteria and regulations*****Funding commitment***

1.5 M€ for the proposals of the topic QPR. No funds are allocated for the topic AQS.

Funding regulations

- Eligible cost categories (related to specific *Programme Modules*) are specified in DFG forms 52.01 – 52.07, available on the DFG website at:
http://www.dfg.de/foerderung/programme/einzelfoerderung/sachbeihilfe/formulare_merkblaetter/index.jsp
- The standard module that fits most needs is the *Basic Module* (form 52.01).
- The DFG grants 22% of the direct costs as overhead (Programmpauschale). Please choose 22% of the direct costs as the overhead for the submission to QuantERA II.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

- The general DFG rules and conditions as defined in the current DFG form 50.01 “Guidelines Research Grants Programme” (www.dfg.de/formulare/50_01/) apply.
- The Guidelines regarding the Duty to Cooperate (www.dfg.de/formulare/55_01/) do not apply.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

The deadlines for submission to the DFG are the same as the deadline for submission to QuantERA II.

Submission of the pre-proposal at the national level

- A copy of the pre-proposal and a CV for each applicant has to be submitted via the DFG’s elan Portal: <https://elan.dfg.de/>.

- First steps on elan: Log-In > Proposal Submission > New Project / Draft proposal > Individual Grants Programme > “Draft Proposal for a Research Grant”> Start online form .
- Please select the Call

QuantERA II 2021: ERA-NET Cofund in Quantum Technologies (pre-proposals)

- If you do not have an elan-account yet, you must register on the elan portal before submitting your draft proposal. Confirmation is usually provided within three working days. It is not possible to submit a pre-proposal or to submit a proposal without prior registration.

Submission of the full proposal at the national level

- A copy of the proposal and accompanying documentation has to be submitted via the DFG’s elan Portal:

<https://elan.dfg.de/> .

- First steps on elan: Log-In > Proposal Submission > New Project / Draft proposal > Individual Grants Programme > “Proposal for a Research Grant”> Start online form .
- Please select the Call

QuantERA II 2021: ERA-NET Cofund in Quantum Technologies

- Overheads will be calculated automatically by elan.
- Point 5 of the guidelines *Proposal Preparation Instructions - Project Proposals* (www.dfg.de/formulare/54_01/) lists mandatory information that needs to be provided. Please address these aspects in an additional document if the documents provided to QuantERA II lack this information.

Additional requirements

In submitting a proposal for a research grant to the DFG, applicants agree to adhere to the rules of good scientific practice

(http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/principles_dfg_funding/good_scientific_practice/). The DFG expects that the results of funded projects will be made available to the public.

Data Protection Notice:

Please note the DFG’s data protection notice on research funding (www.dfg.de/privacy_policy). If necessary, please forward this information to any individuals whose data will be processed by DFG due to their involvement in your project.

Contact point

VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH (VDI TZ) – funding agency on behalf of the BMBF

Sebastian Krug

Dr. Bastian Hiltcher

Procedural contact person

Scientific contact person

+49 211 6214 472 – krug@vdi.de

+49 211 6214 441 – hiltcher@vdi.de

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

BMBF budget earmarked for the funding of German participants in projects under the AQS topic:

3.5 m€

Funding regulations

Project proposals involving German participants requesting funding from the BMBF must:

1. Clearly address and be in line with the Applied Quantum Science (AQS) topic;
2. Be in line with the German Federal Framework Programme ‘*Quantum technologies – from basic research to market*’ which can be downloaded in German or in English language at <https://www.quantentechnologien.de/qt-in-deutschland/programm.html>.

Funding for German applicants under this call will be granted based on §§ 23 and 44 BHO (‘Bundeshaushaltsordnung’) and the related administrative regulations and BMBF guidelines. An entitlement to funding cannot be derived.

In particular, the national regulations *NABF*, *NKBF 2017* and *BNBest-mittelbarer Abruf-BMBF* apply. The documents can be found at: foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy_index.php

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

BMBF funding of German participants is available:

- For universities and research institutes/organisations (funding up to 100% of the total eligible costs/expenditures; while overhead is not eligible for universities, they will receive an additional lump sum (‘Projektpauschale’) equivalent to 20 % of the eligible expenditures);
- For companies (funding up to 50% of the total eligible costs; SMEs may receive an additional bonus).

Submission of the proposal at the national level

No additional national forms are required at pre-proposal or full proposal stage. However, previous registration with the funding agency (VDI TZ) is mandatory (see section *additional requirements* below).

Successful German participants are requested to provide complete BMBF application forms (AZA/AZK including annexes) within three months after the official notification of the project selection. Non-compliance may result in exclusion.

Additional requirements

- **Mandatory registration:** German applicants are required to contact and to register with the responsible BMBF funding agency (*Projektträger VDI TZ*) prior to the submission of a project (pre-)proposal they are involved in.
- **Industry involvement:** Due to the application orientation of the AQS topic, the involvement of at least one company in the project is mandatory.
- **Exploitation plan:** Each proposal shall include a scheme towards subsequent application and/or future commercial use of the expected results. As a minimum requirement, a concrete description of the subsequent innovatory steps must be included, clearly demonstrating the contribution of the expected results to the realisation of such an application. In this context, the term *application* does not imply the utilisation of the results for merely scientific purposes.
- **Additional benefit:** In order to be eligible for BMBF funding project proposals must demonstrate an additional benefit due to the transnational cooperation.
- **Funding limits:** The requested BMBF funding must amount to at least 100 k€ per German partner over the entire duration of a project. Moreover, at least 50 % of the total eligible costs/expenses on the part of the German participant(s) in a project must be personnel costs/expenses.

Contact point

Edina Nemeth

National Contact Point for ICT & FET

+36-70-221-0387 - edina.nemeth@nkfi.gov.hu

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

The total indicative national funding for this call is € 450 000.

Funding regulations

The specific call for proposals for applicants from Hungary participating in ERA-NETs is available on the website of NKFIH <https://nkfi.gov.hu/>.

The conditions for the call for ERA-NET COFUNDs (2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET) are applicable. For details see:

<https://nkfi.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/era-net-ejp-cofund-2019-217-era-net/palyazati-felhivas-2019-217-era-net>

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The conditions for the call for ERA-NET COFUNDs (2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET) are applicable. For details see:

<https://nkfi.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/era-net-ejp-cofund-2019-217-era-net/palyazati-felhivas-2019-217-era-net>

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Not required prior to the QuantERA call submission.

Following the international selection of the projects to be funded, a proposal should be formally submitted to NKFI Hivatal.

Additional requirements

Contact point

Maria Nash

International Executive

+3531 607 3291– maria.nash@sfi.ie ; eu-cofund@sfi.ie

Funding criteria and regulations

The document presenting the modalities of participation of the Irish applicants will be available on the Science Foundation Ireland website in due course www.sfi.ie.

Contact point

Mr. Danny Seker
Director: Digital, Industry and Space; Civil Security
for Society; ECSEL
+972-3-5118121 - dan@iserd.org.il

Tzlil Ribak
Head of Sector: EIC Pathfinder and Transition;
QuantERA; FLAG-ERA
+972-3-5118182 - Tzlil.ribak@iserd.org.il

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding will be provided according to the rules of the "Procedure for Implementation of International Agreements Related to the European Framework Program" ([נוהל ליישום הסכמים בינלאומיים הקשורים בתכנית המסגרת האירופית](#)) (the "Procedure") and the selected Inn Auth benefit track:

- Benefit Track 1 - R&D Foundation;
- Benefit Track 5 – Sub Track C –Academic Knowledge Direction for Industry Implementation;
- Benefit Track 5 – Sub Track D - Knowledge Commercialization from Research Facility to Industrial Corporation.

Funding commitment

Up to Euro 500k for all of the approved applications.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

The Inn Auth requires a national application to be submitted **in parallel** with the international pre-proposal stage:

- Each applicant needs to provide the Inn Auth a preliminary proposal in a form that may be found at the Inn Auth site, by the deadline of stage 1 of this call.
- Only applicants that passed Inn Auth eligibility committee and stage 1 evaluation check will be permitted to pass to stage 2 of the call.
- Applicants that passed to stage 2 will need to provide the Inn Auth a formal request for the project based on the Procedure, up to 14 days after the closing date of stage 2.
- A single applicant may request a maximum amount of funds based on the benefit track chosen.

Israeli applicants may contact ISERD (cf. contact information above) before proposal submission for the purpose of checking national funding terms and conditions.

More detailed information (e.g. eligibility criteria, eligibility of the costs and funding rates) can be found at ISERD website, QuantERA webpage.

Contact point

Mustarelli Chiara

Staff Call QuantERA - Support Project Manager

email: info.quantera@cnr.it

Funding criteria and regulations

The call document presenting the requirements of participation of the Italian applicants will be available at <http://www.cnr.it> and www.quantera.cnr.it

Eligible applicants: Researchers, technologists recruited at CNR Institutes or Departments and associated researchers affiliated to CNR Institutes.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Additional annexes and proposals must be sent via PEC at the following mailing address: protocollo-ammcen@pec.cnr.it according to the requirements of CNR call to be launched

Contact point

Giorgio Carpino

Aldo Covello

+39 06 5849 7147 – giorgio.carpino@miur.it+39 06 5849 6465 – aldo.covello@miur.it**Funding criteria and regulations*****Funding commitment***

Overall funding commitment for the call: 600.000 €. The funding commitment will be indicatively split evenly between the two call topics.

Funding regulations

The name of the funding programme is FIRST (Fondo per gli Investimenti nella Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica) and IGRUE account for the EU cofunding.

A maximum grant of 150.000 Euro can be awarded to each project proposal, even if it includes more than one Italian participant requesting funding to MUR.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

A maximum of two Italian participants per project proposal, requesting funding to MUR, is admitted.

A Principal Investigator can participate (either as coordinator or as partner) in only one project proposal.

The following entities are eligible, providing that they have stable organization in Italy: enterprises, universities, research institutions, research organizations in accordance with EU Reg. n. 651/2014 of the European Commission - June 17, 2014.

Any participant, in order to be eligible, must comply with the eligibility criteria listed in the art. 2.4 of the “Linee guida al DM 593/2016”.

All activities classifiable as Basic research, Industrial research and Experimental development are eligible for funding. Furthermore, Basic Research and Industrial research activities must be predominant with respect to Experimental development activities (in terms of costs).

All costs incurred during the lifetime of the project under the following categories are eligible: Personnel, Equipment, Consulting and equivalent services, Consumables and Overheads. Overheads (“Spese generali”) shall be calculated as a percentage of the personnel costs and cannot be higher than 50% of them. Travel expenses, dissemination and coordination costs are to be included in the overheads or in any other cost categories where possible.

The amount of funding which can be granted to each beneficiary is calculated multiplying the eligible costs for the funding rate listed in the following table:

Activity typology		Funding Rates			
		Applicant typology			
		Enterprises and private research bodies (which meets the requirements of research organization under EU Reg. no. 651/2014 of the Commission - June 17, 2014)			
		Small Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Big Enterprises	Universities, public research institutions, research organizations (public and private) in accordance with Reg. EU n. 651/2014 of the Commission - June 17, 2014)
Basic Research	grant	40%	30%	20%	70%
Industrial Research	grant	40%	30%	20%	50%
Experimental Development	grant	30%	20%	10%	25%

On request of applicants a pre-payment may be done. The amount of the pre-payment is defined in the “Avviso integrativo nazionale”. The remaining part of contribute will be paid in instalments after each financial and progress reporting period.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

In addition to the project proposal, which shall be submitted at European level, the Italian participants requesting funding to MUR are requested to submit further documentation, through the national web platform, available at the following link: <https://banditransnazionali-miur.cineca.it>

These national additional documents must be submitted by the same deadline established for the pre-proposal phase submission as defined in the international joint call. Any participant who does

not submit its national documents by the deadline of the pre-proposal phase will be considered not eligible for funding.

It is strongly recommended to contact the National Contact Persons already in early stage of project preparation.

MUR will require to all Italian participants admitted to the full proposal phase some additional documents describing in more detail the participant and its research activities within the project.

The admission for funding is subject to the adoption of the necessary accounting and administrative measures for the allocation of the resources.

Funded participants will be requested to submit financial and scientific reports to MUR.

Additional requirements

The criteria and provisions provided herewith are intended only for informative purposes. The complete list of criteria and provisions legally valid, which must be respected by all the Italian participants, is included in the “Avviso integrativo nazionale”, published on the dedicated web page on MUR website ([http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/era/eranet-cofund-\(h2020\)/quantera-ii.aspx](http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/era/eranet-cofund-(h2020)/quantera-ii.aspx)), and in the applicable Italian laws.

Applicable laws and rules (<http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/evidenza/normativa-prog-internazionali.aspx>):

- Decreto legge n. 83/2012
- Decreto Ministeriale n. 593 del 26 luglio 2016
- Linee guida al D.M. del 26 luglio 2016 n. 593
- Procedure operative per il finanziamento dei progetti internazionali ex art. 18 D.M. del 26 luglio 2016 n. 593

Information available at [http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/era/eranet-cofund-\(h2020\)/quantera-ii.aspx](http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/era/eranet-cofund-(h2020)/quantera-ii.aspx)

Contact point

Alessia D’Orazio

INFN Project Officer

Email: alessia.dorazio@bo.infn.it

Funding commitment

The total indicative INFN funding for this call is EUR 750.000.

Maximum funding per project is EUR 200.000.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Researchers, technologists recruited at INFN Laboratories or Sections and associated researchers from other Research Organisations and Universities affiliated to INFN.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Detailed information on modalities of participation (e.g. national eligibility criteria, eligible costs, proposal submission guidelines) of the applicants will be available at the following link:

<https://home.infn.it/download/quantera2.html>

Contact point

Juris Balodis
Senior Expert,
Research Funding Programme Department,
International Research Programme Unit
+371 29 451 344
juris.balodis@viaa.gov.lv

Maija Bundule
Head of Unit,
Research Funding Programme Department,
International Research Programme Unit
+371 67 785423
maija.bundule@viaa.gov.lv

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding criteria are defined in the Regulations of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia No 259 "Procedures for granting support for participation in international cooperation programs in the field of research and technology" (adopted on 26 June 2015):

<http://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-dalibai-starptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas-petniecibas-un-tehnologiju-joma>

Funding commitment

For QuantERA II 2021 Call: 420 000 Euro

Funding regulations

For project coordinator or partner a maximum of 70 000 Euros can be requested per project year. The grant can be used to cover all project-related costs, which include salaries (corresponding to the level of activity in the project), travels, purchase of materials, publication costs, minor equipment and depreciations, etc. Overhead costs must not exceed 25% of eligible costs excl. subcontracting.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Following legal persons are eligible for funding:

- (1) R&D institutions -research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, their institutes and research centres. R&D institution (research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, research centres etc.) must be listed in the Registry of Research Institutions operated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia.
- (2) Enterprises. Enterprise must be registered in the Registry of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia and most of its R&D&I activities must be carried out in the Republic of Latvia.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Not requested.

Additional requirements

N/a.

Contact point

SAULIUS MARCINKONIS

Chief officer

+370 676 17256, saulius.marcinkonis@lmt.lt

Funding criteria and regulations

Up to € 100.000 per project (for project partner) or up to € 150.000 per project (for project coordinator)

Funding commitment

Up to € 150.000 in total

Funding regulations

National funding will be provided according to the [General Rules of the Research Council of Lithuania for the competitive funding of the Research and Dissemination Projects](#) approved by the Order No V-176 of the Council Chairman on 4 April , 2019.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The general funding rules of Research Council of Lithuania (LMT) apply:

the applicant is Lithuanian higher education and research institution (which is listed in the Register of Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Lithuania);

SME eligible to apply only in collaboration with Lithuanian higher education and research institution.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applicants not requested to submit any national forms during pre-proposal and full proposal submission stages.

Additional requirements

The general funding rules of Research Council of Lithuania (LMT) apply:

The applicant who intends to act as a project leader (PL) or principal investigator (PI) has to be a scientist (researcher holding at least a Ph.D. degree);

A person, acting as a PL, PI or a core group member can participate only in one proposal per Call;

The workload of the core members of project team (PL and PI) must be ≥ 20 hours multiplied by the duration of the project in months.

Contact point

Christiane Kaell

Head of Research Programmes

email: christiane.kaell@fnr.lu

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

500.000 EUR

Funding regulations

<https://www.fnr.lu/funding-instruments/inter/>

See [INTER Application guidelines](#)

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

- Public institutions performing research

<https://www.fnr.lu/fnr-beneficiaries/>

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Additional documentation must be submitted the FNR no later than 5 working days after the QUANTERA II deadlines. Submissions to the FNR must be done [FNR Online Grant Management System](#).

Applicants will need to provide basic information and attach the proposal (including all further relevant documents) based on the form provided by the lead agency/ organising network.

Additional requirements

A principal investigator may act in one proposal only. A consortium leader from a Luxembourg-based public research institution should be a researcher with solid experience of managing collaborative research projects.

Contact point

Diane Muscat

Director, Policy Development and Programme
Implementation

+35625998257 – diane.m.muscat@gov.mt

Funding criteria and regulations

The following legal persons are eligible for funding:

- Research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, their institutes and research centres etc.
- Enterprises and companies.

Entities must be registered in Malta.

Funding commitment

0.15

Funding regulations

Yes

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Yes

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Mandatory

Additional requirements

No

Contact point

Pål Sigurd MALM

Senior Adviser, Division for Innovation
NCP-EIC

+47 9153 5683 – psma@rcn.no

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

500.000 EUR

Funding regulations

Norwegian funding in QuantERA calls shall only be applied to Norwegian research institutions.

We encourage Norwegian industry participate in not-for-profit research partnerships. Industrial partners must collaborate with a Norwegian research institution, and the planned allocation needs to be in accordance with the terms in the EU & EEA state aid rules.

Funding will be provided according to the rules of Researcher projects (Forskerprosjekt) of RCN. Up to 100% of total eligible costs may be funded. RCN does not require a national application, but it should be clear from the common application what role the Norwegian partners would have and the size of their budget.

We expect 1-3 projects and will fund up to 250 k€ per partner.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Norwegian funding in QuantERA calls shall only be applied to Norwegian research institutions.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Norwegian applicants need to notify the Norwegian contact point about their application, partners and requested budget for Norwegian partners in NOK and EUR. Use exchange rate at call deadline.

Additional requirements

Applicants are advised that this annex is for general guidance only. For more detailed rules and regulations please refer to the national call announcement and contact the National Contact Point.

Rules for Researcher Projects are found here:

<https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/who-can-apply-for-funding/research-organisations/Researcher-Project/>

Contact point

Krystyna Maciejko

Department of International Cooperation

+48 22 39 07 489 - krystyna.maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

Maximum funding for the Call 2021: 1 M€.

Funding regulations

Detailed information (e.g. eligibility of the costs and funding rates) can be found at:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/platforma-konkursowa>

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Universities and research institutes/organisations;

Enterprises (micro, small, medium or large).

NCBR supports only applied research and experimental development.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

After international evaluation has been completed and the ranking list established, Polish participants from consortia recommended for funding will be invited to submit the National Application Form (NAF).

All eligible entities invited to submit NAF are obliged to use the rate of exchange of the European Central Bank dated on the day of opening of the call.

NAFs will be then examined by the interdisciplinary panel of experts for international projects for the appropriateness of funding requested. Based on recommendations of the panel, the Director of NCBR issues a funding decision.

Contact point

Dr. Ewelina Szymańska-Skolimowska

Coordinator for Physical Sciences and Engineering

Email:

ewelina.szymanska.skolimowska@ncn.gov.pl

Sylwia Kostka

Deputy Head, International Cooperation
Department

Email: quantera@ncn.gov.pl

Funding Criteria and RegulationsNCN Eligibility Requirements for QuantERA applicants based in Poland

Only proposals involving basic research (experimental or theoretical endeavours undertaken to gain new knowledge of the foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct commercial use) may be submitted in response to the call for proposals.

- Who can act as Principal Investigator?

The Principal Investigator in the Polish research team must be at least a PhD holder when submitting a proposal. The Principal Investigator must be a person employed at the host institution for the project for the entire project duration period pursuant to at least a part-time employment contract. The Principal Investigator must reside in Poland for at least 50% of the project duration period.

- What are the eligible costs for Polish researchers?

We strongly encourage all applicants to read information on eligible costs included in the Annex to NCN Council's Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration [UNISONO](#).

Applicants can apply for funding for all costs relevant, necessary and directly connected to the proposed research project including:

1. Personnel costs (salaries):
 - full time remuneration: funds for full-time employment of the principal investigator or post-doc(s);
 - additional remuneration for members of the research team;
 - salaries and scholarships for students and PhD students.
2. Purchase or manufacturing of research equipment, devices and software (the cost of

an individual item of equipment must not exceed PLN 500 000);

3. Other costs such as:

- ✓ Purchase of material and small equipment;
- ✓ Outsourcing (costs of services rendered by third parties)
- ✓ Business trips (travel and subsistence costs)
- ✓ Visits and consultations
- ✓ Compensation for collective investigators
- ✓ Other costs crucial to the research project which comply with the Annex to NCN Council's Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration [UNISONO](#).

EURO exchange rate: 1 EUR = 4,2344PLN

Please note:

- Applicants are obliged to adhere to the rules included in the Annex to NCN Council's Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration: [UNISONO](#).
- The rules for awarding NCN scholarships are laid down in the [Regulations on awarding scholarships](#).
- Up to 7 days from the full proposal submission deadline Polish applicants must submit their national applications in the ZSUN/OSF submission system. The application will include a budget that should be calculated according to the Annex to NCN Council's Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration ([UNISONO](#)).
- If one international project includes partners from two or more different Polish institutions, these institutions apply as a group of entities. Each entity within the group has a separate budget, but the limit on the remuneration applies to the group as a whole (please see: [UNISONO](#)). Please note that groups of entities have higher limits on the remuneration.
- Indirect costs must not exceed a maximum of 20% of the total eligible costs and may not be increased during the course of a research project.
- Additionally, indirect costs of up to 2% of direct costs may be spent on Open Access to publications and research data. Administrative personnel costs and costs of organisation of conferences have to be covered from overheads.
- [Open Access Policy at the NCN](#)
- [Data Management Plan requirements](#)
- [Personal Data Processing at the NCN](#)

Contact point

Germana Santos

Science Officer

+352 21 3911569 – germana.santos@fct.pt

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment: €250.000 €

- ✓ **Maximum requested funding for a consortium coordinated by Portugal: 250.000 €**
- ✓ **Maximum requested funding for a consortium with Portuguese participation: 150.000 €**

Note: if more than one Portuguese institution participates in a given consortium, the budget has to be shared. Consult the links provided in this webpage related to the national documentation.

Funding regulations

National Regulation on R&D Projects

(<https://www.fct.pt/apoios/projectos/regulamentofundosnacionais.phtml.en>)

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

National Regulation on R&D Projects

<https://www.fct.pt/apoios/projectos/regulamentofundosnacionais.phtml.en> (Articles 3-5)

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Only required for proposals selected for funding.

Additional requirements

In addition to the national regulations, within a transnational call specific rules of the consortium may be applicable; please read carefully the Call Text and all the related instructions. Portuguese applicants will have to fill in and send a **Declaration of Commitment (DC)** duly signed and stamped to the NCP via email. FCT may require the original of the DC in the future (Article 5 of the National Regulation). Check the National Regulation terms for admission and acceptance of proposals and projects, namely concerning the update of technical and financial reports and return of funds of ongoing/concluded projects, and situation of proposals previously submitted to FCT regarding pending decisions, scientific areas and other calls.

Contact point

Nicoleta Dumitrache

Telephone number: +40 2 1302 3886

Email: nicoleta.dumitrache@uefiscdi.ro

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment: 500.000 EUR

Funding regulations:

- 250.000 euro in case a Romanian institution is the Coordinator (together with other Romanian partner(s) – if it is the case);
- 200.000 for one/all Romanian partner(s) participating in a proposal.

Eligible costs:

a. Staff costs;

b. Logistics expenses

- Capital expenditure;
- Expenditure on stocks - supplies and inventory items;
- Expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 25 % of the funding from the public budget. The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work;

c. Travel expenses;

d. Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs and cost for subcontracting) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 20 % of direct costs

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution: Universities, national institutes, SMEs, other institutions with R&D activity

Submission of the proposal at the national level – the proposal will not be submitted at national level

Additional requirements:

Funding rates vary in accordance with state aid legislation.

For more information : <http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/articole/4536/Pachet-de-informatii-ERANETERANET-Cofund.html>

Contact point

Martin Novak, PhD.

International Cooperation Dpt.,SAS

Phone: +421257510119

Email: mnovak@up.upsav.sk

Zuzana Panisova,

International Cooperation Dpt.,SAS

Phone: +421257510245

Email: panisova@up.upsav.sk

Funding commitment

240,000 €

Overheads

Up to 20% of the direct costs

Anticipated number of fundable research partners

2

Maximum funding per grant awarded to a partner

120,000 €

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Only research institutes and/or centres of the Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible organisations for funding by SAS (up to 100%). The main applicant must have, at the time of submission, a contract(s) with one or several of the institutes/centres equivalent to at least 1 full-time employment valid for the whole duration of the project. Each member of the applicant's team must also have an employment contract or a fellowship with the same or another SAS institute/centre.

Applicants from other Slovak R&D centres (universities and/or other organisations from Slovakia) can join project consortia only as collaborators that have to secure their own funding.

Eligibility of costs, types and their caps

Funding available for eligible Slovak researchers is up to 120,000 EUR per project (i.e. 40,000 EUR per year) in accordance with the SAS Presidium's resolution no. 1103, of which 45,000 EUR is an in-kind contribution (spoluúčasť) of the respective SAS institute or centre. This must be declared in a Letter of Commitment sent to the national contact point by the application deadline. A template will be published alongside the Call announcement at www.sav.sk in the International Cooperation section (Medzinárodná spolupráca).

1. Eligible direct costs

1.1. Personnel costs

- Must accurately reflect the work on the project;
- May be used only to cover the costs (including health and social insurance) related to work agreements performed outside of employment;
- Up to 15 % of all direct costs excluding the institute's/centre's in-kind contribution or up to 30% of all direct costs excluding the institute's/centre's in-kind contribution, if the Slovak team is the consortium's coordinator.

1.2. Material costs and expenditures

- *Consumables*: minor equipment and instruments, small-scale office and laboratory material (no basic equipment of the workplace; essential computer equipment is an exception);
- *Costs and expenditures* for services directly related to the project: contracts, consultations, publication of project results, conference fees;
- *Travel costs and living expenses*: limits for travel costs and daily subsistence allowance vary depending on destination country;
- *Capital expenditures*: up to 40% of all direct costs excluding the institute's/centre's in-kind contribution.

2. Indirect Costs

- Administration, energy and infrastructure;
- Up to 20% of all direct costs excluding the institute's/centre's in-kind contribution.

Further information on eligible costs can be found in the [Financial rules for awarding SAS grants for international research projects](#) approved by the SAS Presidium on 1 July 2018. **Applicants are strongly encouraged to read this document carefully and to contact the national contact point before submission in order to ensure compliance**

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Submission of the proposal at the national level will be required in parallel to the international evaluation. The submission will be carried out once the international evaluation and the ranking list have been performed and endorsed by the Call Steering Committee and the Slovak partner has been informed about recommendation for funding by the project consortium's coordinator. S/he will be invited by SAS to submit the proposal to it. The final decision on funding of selected projects is made by the SAS Presidium.

Further guidance

- www.sav.sk
- 133 Act of February 19, 2002 on the Slovak Academy of Sciences

[Financial rules for awarding SAS grants for international research projects](#)

Contact point

Andrej Ograjensek

Senior Advisor

andrej.ograjensek@gov.si, +386 1 478 4634

Funding criteria and regulations

Legal basis – national regulation : State Administration Act (Zakon o državni upravi (Uradni list RS, št. 113/05 - UPB4, 89/07 - Odl.US, 126/07 - ZUP-E, 48/09, 8/10 - ZUP-G, 8/12 - ZVRS-F, 21/12, 47/13, 12/14, 90/14 in 51/16)) - Article 16 and 39; Public Finance Act (Zakon o javnih financah (Uradni list RS, št. 11/11- uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 14/13 – popr., 101/13, 55/15 – ZfisP, 96/15 – ZIPRS1617 in 13/18)) - Article 106. j; Regulation on the procedure of standards and manners to allocate means for the promotion of the evolutionary programme and the preferential tasks (Uredba o postopku, merilih in načinih dodeljevanja sredstev za spodbujanje razvojnih programov in prednostnih nalog (Uradni list RS, št. 56/11)); Implementation of the Republic of Slovenia's Budget for 2018 and 2019 Act (Zakon o izvrševanju proračunov Republike Slovenije za leti 2018 in 2019 (ZIPRS 1819) (Uradni list RS, št. 71/17 in 13/18-ZIF-H)); Integrity and Prevention of Corruption Act (Zakon o integriteti in preprečevanju korupcije (Uradni list RS, št. 69/11 – uradno prečiščeno besedilo)); Resolution on the National Research and Development Programme 2011-2020 (Resolucije o raziskovalni in inovacijski strategiji Slovenije 2011-2020 (RISS) (Uradni list RS, št. 43/11)), Research and development Act (Zakona o raziskovalni in razvojni dejavnosti (Uradni list RS, št. 22/06 – UPB1, 61/06-ZDru-1, 112/07, 9/11, 57/12-ZPOP-1A in 21/18-ZNOrg)); Decree on norms and standards used to determine funding for research activities financed from the Republic of Slovenia budget (Uredbe o normativih in standardih za določanje sredstev za izvajanje raziskovalne dejavnosti, financirane iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije (Uradni list RS, št. 103/11, 56/12, 15/14, 103/15, 27/17 in 9/18)); Rules on criteria for establishing compliance with the conditions for being the head of a research project (Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta, Uradni list RS št. 53/16); Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27. 6. 2014) (Okvir za državno pomoč za raziskave in razvoj ter inovacije (2014/C 198/01)); National scheme for state aid in Research and Development (Program za spodbujanje raziskav in razvoja Ministrstva za izobraževanje, znanost in šport na področju znanosti

2016-2020, št. 631-1/2016-1 z dne 8. 1. 2016); National strategy of open access to scientific publications and research data in Slovenia 2015-2020 (Nacionalna strategije odprtega dostopa do znanstvenih objav in raziskovalnih podatkov v Sloveniji 2015-2020, št. 60300-5/2015/5 z dne 3. 9. 2015).

Type of research funded: basic/applied – for Slovenian partner TRL range: 1-6. The type of research conducted by Slovenian researchers must be defined and explained in the project proposal (e.g. in the Comments on budget section).

Period of eligibility of public expenditures: as of budgetary year 2022 until the end of the budgetary year 2025.

Period of eligibility of expenditures on the project: From the starting date of the transnational project stipulated in the consortium agreement for a period of 36 months, with a prescribed additional 30 day period for the payment of invoices related to the project costs. The period of eligibility of expenditures on the project can only start from the date the national contract enters into effect. The exact duration of the project will be defined in the contract between MIZS and the selected Slovenian partner.

Funding: 100 % for research organization (such as universities, public and private research institutes) whose financed activity is non-economic in accordance with the provisions of Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation. Wide dissemination of all research results on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis is required.

National contracting negotiations: will commence after the projects are selected for funding on the level of the transnational call. National documentation, including evidence of the starting date of the transnational project (in the form of a Consortia Agreement or statement on the starting date by the transnational project coordinator), will be a prerequisite for signing the contract on national level. All Slovenian applicants are strongly advised to contact the Slovenian National Contact Person, Mr. Andrej Ograjensek before preparing proposals for application (andrej.ograjensek@gov.si; +386(1)4784634).

Eligibility of principal investigator and other research team members: The project activities of the Slovenian partner have to be under the supervision of the primary investigator/primary researcher

who fulfills the requirements for project leader as defined in Art. 29 of the national Decree on norms and standards used to determine funding for research activities financed from the Republic of Slovenia budget (*Uredba o normativih in standardih za določanje sredstev za izvajanje raziskovalne dejavnosti, financirane iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije*, Uradni list RS, št. 103/11, 56/12, 15/14, 103/15, 27/17 in 9/18) hereinafter: *Decree on criteria and standards*). The criteria are further determined in the [Rules on Determining the Fulfillment of Conditions for a Research Project Leader](#) (*Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta*). All participating researchers have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of researchers (Sicris) and must have available research hours.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution: Research organizations as defined in the national [Research and Development Act](#) (*Zakon o raziskovalni in razvojni dejavnosti – ZRRD*). All participating institutions have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of research institutions (Informacijski sistem o raziskovalni dejavnosti v Sloveniji - Sicris).

Eligibility of costs: MIZS will fund all eligible costs of Slovenian researchers participating in successful transnational projects, recommended for funding in accordance with the *Decree on criteria and standards*. Eligible costs are defined based on the FTE value according to the Slovenian Research Agency's research project categorization (A, B, C or D based on the research conducted). Eligible costs must be directly related to the research conducted and should include personnel, material and equipment costs as elements of the FTE. Indirect costs are eligible. The value is calculated based on the FTE value of category A, B, C, or D research projects, under the condition that costs under each of the specific FTE elements are appropriately decreased (by a max. of 20% for indirect costs). Providing the stipulated conditions are met, the Public Procurement Act (*Zakon o javnem naročanju* (Uradni list RS, št. [91/15](#) in [14/18](#)) applies.

Submission of the proposal at the national level: No

Contact point

Administrative and technical issues:

Scientific issues:

Representative:

Watse Castelein

Dr. Amador Caballero

Beatriz Gómez Miguel

+34 9160 38876 - era-ict@aei.gob.es**Funding criteria and regulations***Instrument for funding the Spanish groups*

Currently, the instrument for funding the Spanish groups is the Spanish call on RDI projects “International Joint programming (PCI)”, applicants are encouraged to consult the [PCI 2020-2](#) since the requirements will be similar.

Funding Programme:

The framework for this funding action is the “Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Técnica e Innovación 2021-2023”. On a national level, the Call will be managed by the “[Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia](#)” of the AEI.

Data Protection:

By submitting a grant application to the AEI, the applicants consent to communication of the data contained in the application to other public administrations, with the aim of further processing of the data for historical, statistical or scientific purposes, within the framework of the Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on Personal Data Protection and Guarantee of Digital Rights.

Funding commitment

Maximum funding for QuantERA call 2021: 1.000.000 €.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The eligible entities for the AEI funding are:

Non-profit research organizations (such as universities, public research institutions, technological centres and other private non-profit institutions performing RDI activities in Spain), as per PCI call (or equivalent).

Funding regulations

Spanish Principal Investigators (PIs) must be eligible as per PCI call, must hold a Ph-D and have experience as investigators in projects funded by the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2013-2016, the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2017-2020, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant international programmes. Spanish PIs must have a contractual relation with the beneficiary covering the expected total length of the project.

Incompatibilities (these must be taken into account when participating in different ERA-Nets or other international initiatives):

- Principal Investigators will not be eligible for funding if they apply in more than one proposal of this transnational joint call, in more than one proposal in the same PCI call (or equivalent) and in PCI calls of consecutive years.
- Principal Investigators must remain unchanged between the proposal of this transnational joint call and the national PCI call (or equivalent).

Only research and innovation activities will be eligible. Mere diffusion, communication or other activities will not be eligible.

The AEI will avoid double funding and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded through other national or EU calls.

Eligible costs

- Personnel costs for **temporary employment contracts (PI contract excluded. Statutory personnel is not eligible for funding.**
- Direct costs such as current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination costs, and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
- Overheads (maximum 15%).
- Subcontracting special tasks to EU and non-EU countries (i.e. IT services, etc) is allowed within the limits legally established.

Funding rates

The following funding limits are considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared non eligible.

IMPORTANT: a maximum of two Spanish Partners requesting funding to the AEI in the same Proposal are allowed.

Maximum direct costs per proposal (indirect costs can be added to these amounts):

- If a Spanish Partner is NOT the Main Applicant (Coordinator) of the transnational project and:
 - there is only one Spanish applicant in the proposal: € 175.000
 - there are two Spanish applicants in the proposal: € 225.000 altogether
- If a Spanish Partner IS the Main Applicant (Coordinator) of the transnational project:
 - there is only one Spanish Partner in the proposal: € 250.000
 - there are two Spanish Partners in the proposal: € 300.000 altogether

These amounts refer to 3 years projects. In case of shorter projects, the amount will be adjusted accordingly

Centres formed by different Spanish legal entities will be considered as a unique entity, and thus the maximum funding should not exceed the limits per proposal established above (for example mixed centres).

The final funding will take into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration, the participation of the industrial sector, and the financial resources available.

Additional requirements

Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge funding by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación: "Project (reference nº XX) funded by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación through the PCI XX call (or its equivalent)".

Contact point

Tomas Andersson,

+46 8 546 441 73,

tomas.andersson@vr.se

Funding commitment	VR has committed in total 6 750 000 SEK for the subcall Quantum phenomena and resources.
Anticipated number of fundable research groups	2-4
Eligibility of project duration	3 years
Maximum funding per awarded project	Indicative SEK 0.4-1.5 million per year for three years for the Swedish partner
Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution	<p>1. SRC funds Swedish partners within the sub-call Quantum phenomena and resources.</p> <p>2. SRC funds basic research of the highest scientific quality, and promotes research collaboration and the exchange of experience.</p> <p>3. Only legal persons are eligible as partners, natural persons are not allowed.</p> <p>4. The investigators need to hold a PhD at the time of application.</p> <p>5. The grants distributed by the SRC must be administrated by a Swedish university, higher education institution (HEI) or other public organisation that fulfils the Swedish Research Councils criteria for an administrating organisation: https://vr.se/english/calls-and-decisions/apply-for-a-grant/who-can-apply.html</p> <p>6. A researcher may only apply for funds from the SRC in one application in the QuantERA JTC 2021. A researcher who already has an ongoing project from SRC in the QuantERA JTC 2019 is not eligible to apply.</p>
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	The project grant may be used to fund all types of project-related costs, such as salaries (including your own salary, however no more than corresponding to the person's activity level in the project), running costs (such as consumables, travel including stays at research facilities, publication costs and minor equipment), premises and depreciation costs. Grants may not be used for scholarships. If a doctoral student participates, project funds may not be paid out as salary during teaching or other departmental duties.. The minimum amount for which you may apply is SEK 400 000 per year, including indirect costs.
Submission of the full proposal at the national level	Yes, both at the pre-proposal stage and the full proposal stage. See below under other information.

Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Yes, according to the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.
Information available at	See national call texts in Swedish and English for all national requirements.
OTHER	<p>Swedish applicants are encouraged to communicate with the national contact person regarding their intention to participate in the call, before submission of the consortium application.</p> <p>All Swedish project leaders participating in the call for support from the Swedish Research Council shall also submit a parallel application using the Swedish Research Council's application system Prisma. The application form in Prisma can be reached from the call text at the Council's website.</p> <p>Parallel application is a mandatory eligibility criterion. Failure to submit the parallel application to the Swedish Research Council before the deadline of the Prisma call will result in the Swedish partner being declared ineligible.</p>

Contact point

Dr. Ahmad Zein Assi

Scientific Officer

+41 31 308 21 83 - quantera@snf.ch

Funding criteria and regulations

Projects must comply with SNSF Project Funding (division II) [regulations and practices](#).

In particular, all Swiss applicants and co-applicants must be eligible for the Project Funding scheme, see also the [Regulations on project funding](#). Swiss applicants who have not previously obtained a Project grant in division II are encouraged to contact the national contact point.

Partners of an international project consortium located in a country of the QuantERA transnational consortium cannot be declared as project partners in the sense of article 11.2 of the SNSF Funding Regulations. They should be declared as consortium partner instead and apply for their funding at their respective research funding organisation.

Article 17, cl. a, of the SNSF Funding Regulations only applies in the sense that proposals with overlapping funding periods are only approved if the research projects pursue different goals in the context of this European programme than any ongoing projects by the same applicant.

Article 7.3 of the Regulations on project funding applies. Swiss applicants may participate in at most one QuantERA proposal.

Researchers based in Switzerland who are beneficiaries of a project funded through the Quantum Flagship are not eligible for this QuantERA call. Any funds available via collaborations, in particular within a project of the Quantum Flagship, have to be declared as “further requested and available funds”.

Grants will be managed according to [standard SNSF rules](#); reporting requirements duplicating those of QuantERA will not be enforced.

Forms to be submitted

Applicants must provide basic administrative data by submitting administrative applications via the online submission system [mySNF](#) for the same deadlines as the consortium applications. Please select the “Programmes/ERA-NET: Pre-proposal” funding instrument when creating the administrative application for the pre-proposal and “Programmes/ERA-NET” if you are invited to submit a proposal for the second stage. The pre-proposal can be used as a template when the full proposal is created in mySNF.

Contact point

Serkan ÜÇER

Scientific Expert

0090 312 298 9257 – serkan.ucer@tubitak.gov.tr

Funding criteria and regulations***Funding commitment***

500000€

Funding regulations

https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071_ar-ge_ve_yenilik_projeleri_surec_dokumani.pdf

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

No.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Yes.

Additional requirements

Successful projects will be funded under program ARDEB 1071.

Annex 2: QuantERA II Gender Equality Statement

TOWARDS A MORE GENDER-BALANCED RESEARCH IN QUANTUM TECHNOLOGIES

Since its inception, the QuantERA II Consortium has been committed to addressing the gender imbalance in Quantum Technologies (QT) research and spreading the research excellence across the European Research Area (ERA). In order to move the gender balance issue into the spotlight, QuantERA II decided to improve the gender equality measures at both the consortium as well as the project level, thus becoming an active agent of the changes encouraged and promoted by the European Commission, research performing institutions and Research Funding Organisations, moving towards achieving gender equality in R&I across Europe.

Considering that:

- There is a particular imbalance in the STEM fields, 39% women among graduates at doctoral level, 35% at postdoctoral level, 28% at mid-career and 15% at senior level (*She Figures*, 2018⁸);
- The promotion of STEM vocations free from gender stereotypes should start at the level of schools, since this is a societal issue and constitutes a long-term objective;

But aware of the impact that our research funding organisations can have in the quantum field, we encourage physics institutes and departments as well as researchers in physics and in Quantum Technologies:

- To create a gender-sensitive environment and organisational culture in the physics field that promotes equal opportunities between women and men **at all levels**;
- To create an equality standard regarding the management structure of their organisations;
- To acknowledge that diversity is beneficial for science and strengthens the quality of science;
- To encourage all women PhDs in physics and in Quantum Technologies and provide them with the adequate career support services and fair chances in promotion process;
- To acquaint STEM students with role models of women researchers in Quantum Technologies;

And thus, help us to have a more gender-balanced research in Quantum Technologies in the coming years. The QuantERA II evaluation process will consider gender balance in the evaluation panels as much as possible and will provide gender-sensitive peer review guidelines for our evaluators. The success rates of this call will be monitored by the QuantERA consortium.

Please visit our **call for proposals** (link) and **join us in our desire to reinforce the participation of fairly composed consortia of researchers**.

The QuantERA Call 2021 Call Steering Committee

⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/she-figures-2018_en