



8th South Korea – Switzerland Call for Joint Innovation Projects

Deadline for submission of Pre-Proposal – **April 14, 2022**

Deadline for submission of Full application – **August 01, 2022**

1. Purpose of the Call

The **Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology (KIAT)** and the **Swiss Innovation Agency (Innosuisse)** are announcing a bilateral Call for joint R&D project outlines, focusing on developing ready to market solutions for products, technology based services or methods, which have a significant market potential for South Korea and Switzerland. The Call is open for all scientific disciplines; however, projects for products or services in following topics are particularly appreciated:

- Biotech; Medtech
- Digitisation; Industry 4.0; IoT
- Additive Manufacturing
- Smart Materials / Innovative surfaces
- Augmented and virtual reality
- Hydrogen Technologies
- Renewable Energy & Batteries

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

2. Formal criteria

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

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

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

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

3. Evaluation criteria

3.1 Innosuisse Switzerland

Project Quality

- Clear and well defined project
- Realistic goals and milestones
- Justification of proposed procedures and resources.

Project Consortia

The project partners should demonstrate:

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

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

Innovation Degree

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

Market Value Creation:

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

3.2 KIAT South Korea

Main Project evaluation criteria

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

4. Call Structure and Submission (2-Step)

Launch of Call	14 th of February 2022
Partnering	Partner search platform for b2b match-making meetings available from Jan 2022.
Call information webinar	3 rd of March 2022
Deadline for submission of Pre-Proposals	14th of April 2022
Communication of Project Pre-Proposal evaluation results	End of May 2022
Deadline for submission of full application	1st of August 2022
Communication of the results	End of October 2022
Start of projects:	End of 2022

4.1 Call information and Partnering (optional)

- The **search for project partners** in South Korea and Switzerland will be supported and organised by Enterprise Europe Network EEN. EEN Korea and [Switzerland](#) will open an online business to match platform <https://south-korea-swiss-call-2022.b2match.io> with partner profiles to establish contacts between interested organisations. The platform is already available and meetings among participants can be scheduled as a video call at any time until 14 April 2022. All questions related to partner search will be managed by your EEN contact listed below. Partners are requested to register their needs on the platform at the earliest possible stage in order to increase the chance to build a consortium.
- A **webinar** for interested parties will be organized beginning of March 2022 (March 03). The webinar will provide information on funding conditions, call process, partner search and other aspects of the call. Interested parties will have the opportunity to ask questions to representatives of KIAT, Innosuisse and EEN. The link and registration to the webinar will be provided on <https://south-korea-swiss-call-2022.b2match.io>.

4.2 Pre-Proposal (mandatory)

The submission of a pre-proposal is mandatory to be eligible to submit a full-proposal. The deadline for submitting a pre-proposal is **14th of April 2022**. Both agencies will check and compare the preproposals and provide a recommendation to the applicants. The applicants can expect a feedback on their project and recommendation for submission of a full-application by end of May 2022.

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

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

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

- **Korean participants** have to submit a formal KIAT application (in English) through Project Management System of KIAT (<http://www.k-pass.kr>).
- **Swiss participants** have to submit a **simplified Innosuisse application**, as well as a **joint call document**. Both documents can be found on the [Innosuisse webpage](#). The pre-proposal documents (in English) must be submitted exclusively via the [PrivaSphere](#) transfer platform. This transfer platform and the corresponding contact form is available on the webpage as of 01 March 2022 and will be open until **14 April 2022**. Please add “JOINT CALL KR-CH 2022” in the subject field, and select option “South Korea” for “Joint.Call” of the PrivaSphere contact form. Applications submitted via any other channel will not be considered. Once you have submitted your pre-proposal, you will receive an automated confirmation email from in the name of Innosuisse.

4.3 Full-proposal

The deadline for submitting the full-proposal is **1st of August 2022**. Partners with a positive assessment will be invited to submit a full-proposal. The request for improvements from the pre-proposal assessment and other feedback must be specifically addressed.

The full-proposal consists of the updated joint call document and a submission of the national application at KIAT and Innosuisse. Both agencies will evaluate and decide on the full-proposals by October 2022

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

- In Korea, the participants have to submit a formal KIAT application (in English) through Project Management System of KIAT (<http://www.k-pass.kr>).
- In Switzerland, the participants have to submit the Innosuisse application (in English) as described on the [Innosuisse webpage](#). On the web-based [submission portal of Innosuisse](#) (innolink.innosuisse.ch),
 - **Please mark your project title to begin with “JOINT CALL KR-CH 2022 :”**
 - Please **select** option **“Bilateral - South Korea”** for **“Are you submitting your funding application within the framework of a special funding measure?”**
 - Please upload the **updated Joint Call Document as an attachment** on the submission portal under **“4. Solution → Publications and Documents”**.

5. Contacts for Details and Partner Search Requests

Contacts for Information about the Call conditions (Pre- and Full Proposal)	
KIAT https://www.kiat.or.kr Wonseok Shin Tel: +82 2 6009 3208 wsshin1204@kiat.or.kr	Innosuisse https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home.html Prabitha Urwyler Tel: +41 58 469 17 67 prabitha.urwyler@innosuisse.ch
Contacts for Partner Search Requests	
EEN EEN Korea Chloe Choi Tel: +82-2-6009-4102 chloechoi33@kiat.or.kr	EEN EEN Switzerland Inès Rossetti Tel: +41 58 468 70 38 ines.rossetti@innosuisse.ch

6. Funding rules

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

6.1 Switzerland - Innosuisse funding regulations:

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

- Swiss research partner and Swiss implementation partner share costs of the project 50:50; Innosuisse may fund the share of the Swiss research partner, i.e. up to 50% of eligible project costs;

- The implementation partner has to cover at least 50% of the project costs from the total project work of the Swiss partners. The implementation partner(s) must also provide a cash contribution to the research partner(s) in the amount of 10% of the requested Innosuisse funding.
- Swiss implementation partners get a non-exclusive right to exploit the project results in their specific business area.

Project reviews, reporting:

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

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

New Covid-19 promotion initiative of Innosuisse: Impulse programme

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

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

Please note:

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

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

6.2 South Korea - KIAT funding regulations:

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

Project funding consists of government contributions and civilian dues (cash and in-kind). The amount of government contributions will vary depending on the type of executing organizations and project in accordance with Article 24 (Funding criteria) and Article 25 (Civilian dues) of the Common Operational Regulations for the Industrial Technology Innovation Programs.