

**Terms of Reference**  
**For Taiwanese-Czech Bilateral Co-funding R&D Projects**

**1. Scope**

A Call for Proposals for Joint R&D Projects between the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of China (MOST) and the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR) is hereby announced. Joint R&D projects focus on developing innovative products and applications.

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

*NOTE: This Joint Call for Proposals, written in the English language, serves to provide the common understanding of the program structure and to brief the requirements in general terms. Participants are subject to additional rules and regulations. Lead Organizations (Principal Applicants) on both sides, Czech and Taiwanese, have the responsibility to understand the respective national laws, rules and regulations, and abide accordingly.*

**2. Program Structure**

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

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

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

## 2.1 Areas of R&D Projects

1. IoT (Internet of Things)
2. Green Energy
3. Smart Machinery
4. Biomedicine
5. Cyber Security
6. New Agriculture
7. Circular Economy
8. Digital Economy
9. Cultural Technology
10. Semiconductor

## 2.2 Applicant Eligibility

Applicants shall take the form of a consortium consisting of R&D participants based in the Republic of China (Taiwan) and R&D participants based in the Czech Republic.

### Taiwanese

Eligible Taiwanese applicants, to collaborate with Czech partners for DELTA program, must have been appointed by one of the institutes below:

- 1) Universities
- 2) National Applied Research Laboratories (NARLabs)
- 3) Research Institutes recognized to apply for MOST funding

An eligible proposal must include at least one research institute into the work plans.

### Czech

A company, regardless of the size, must be the lead organization on the Czech side. Universities or research organizations may apply for the DELTA program funding only provided that the consortium constitutes at least one Czech company.

## 2.3 Program Procedure and Schedule

- ① Joint Call for Proposals  
30<sup>th</sup> May 2017

## Program Delta

- ② Submission / Requisition of R&D proposals  
31<sup>st</sup> May – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017
- ③ Proposal Evaluation (Refer to Section 2.6)  
20<sup>th</sup> July – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017
- ④ Evaluation Results Announcement  
31<sup>st</sup> October 2017
- ⑤ Agreement Between the Participants and the Respective Organization  
since 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 onwards
- ⑥ Project Kickoff and Start of Funding (eligible costs since)
 

1 <sup>st</sup> November 2017	TACR
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2018	MOST

### 2.4 Project Duration and Funding

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

#### Taiwanese

MOST will award a two-year funding starting from January 2018.

MOST to Taiwanese applicants' affiliations:

EUR 100,000/ project maximum per year, up to 2 years

(appx USD 110,000 per year)

#### Czech

TA CR will award funding in January 2018 following the conclusion of agreement on the provision of funding with the lead applicant.

One time lump sum funding will be awarded not to exceed CZK 20 million/project for the entire duration of the project of 2 years. Should the project be found to be

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disqualified from the interim evaluations, TA CR may retrieve the unused government funding.

TA CR to Czech participants:

CZK 20 million/ project maximum, one time lump sum

(appx USD 1,030,000\* one time lump sum)

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

## 2.5 Proposal Submission

By the Call Deadline on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017, the lead organizations from both countries shall file to the respective organization the documents as follows:

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

### Taiwanese

- Taiwanese participants must submit full proposal through the MOST online system before deadline following the instructions announced by MOST.
- Consultation with Science and technology division in Prague at an early stage is highly recommended.
- Application has to include: division of roles, expenditure plan
- More information is available at MOST website

### Czech

- Czech participants shall upload a complete funding application at the time of the proposal submission.
- More information is available at:  
<https://tacr.cz/index.php/cz/programy/program-delta.html>
- Consultation at an early stage (before the call is launched/opened on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017) is highly recommended. After 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017 only consultations via official TA CR online helpdesk (<https://tacr.cz/hesk/>) is available in order to secure the same access to information to all applicants.

## 2.6 Proposal Evaluation

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

MOST and TA CR will independently evaluate the submitted proposals in accordance with the respective national rules and regulations. Evaluation results for the top candidates will be shared and discussed between two organizations. Finally, MOST and TA CR will jointly select the final consortia within approximately 4 months after the call deadline.

## 2.7 Annual Evaluation / Progress Inspection

### Taiwanese

First year of running project the report of progress should be submitted to MOST, upon which funds for second year will be allocated. In the case the report of progress would be found insufficient, compared with project goals, the MOST may refuse to provide funding for second year. In case the project is disqualified by the Czech side only, the case will be subjected to further evaluation to decide whether to continue funding the project on Taiwanese side.

### Czech

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

### 3. Contacts

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