

Joint Call Text for Funding V4-Korea Joint Research Projects

Established between the following partners - the Visegrad Group (V4) countries and Korea:

- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic, hereafter referred to as “MEYS”
- National Research, Development, and Innovation Office of Hungary, hereafter referred to as “NKFIH”
- National Centre for Research and Development, Poland, hereafter referred to as “NCBR”
- Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia, hereafter referred to as “SAS”
- National Research Foundation of Korea, hereafter referred to as “NRF”

The above entities (hereinafter singularly referred to as “Participant” and collectively as “Participants”) have launched a joint call for proposals to support collaborative research projects in priority areas in accordance with the “Memorandum of Understanding on Research Cooperation in the Fields of Science and Technology” signed on December 2, 2021.

1. General Description of the Program

1-1. The V4-Korea Joint Research Program (hereinafter referred to as V4-KOR JRP)

A mechanism for formulating and supporting concrete fundamental and applied research projects that would involve scientists from V4 countries (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) and Korea.

1-2. V4-Korea Joint Call for Proposals

The aim of the Joint Call is to develop high quality research networking and to pursue state-of-the-art science and technology through collaboration, towards realization of innovative and robust economies and societies in participating countries.

2. Design of the V4-Korea Joint Call

2-1. Research Field

For the second Joint Call, the Participants, i.e. the participating funding organizations, shall invite researchers from their countries to submit joint proposals for cooperative research projects in the fields of “**Clean Energy**” and “**Bio and Material fields**”.

2-2. Prospective Applicants

All applicants must fulfill their respective national eligibility rules for research grant application. The Participants, i.e. the participating funding institutions (NRF, MEYS, NKFIH, NCBR, SAS), will individually decide on the eligible beneficiaries in their countries according to their national regulations and restrictions.

2-3. Composition of the Consortia

For the Joint Call, each project consortium should consist of **at least 3 partners: one from Korea and two from two different V4 countries** participating in the Joint Call. Proposals eligible for the call are those that follow the models of Korea+2 countries (1+2), Korea+3 countries (1+3), and Korea+4 countries (1+4). Please note, that the **bilateral model of Korea+1 country (1+1) is not eligible**. Priority will be given to the **1+4 model** projects in consideration of the concept of the V4-Korea collaboration.

Researchers should be affiliated with a research institute/enterprise. The number of researchers participating in a project consortium should be appropriate for the aims of the research project and reasonably balanced in terms of multilateral participation.

Each project should clearly demonstrate the added value of working together. In each project consortium, **principal project leader** shall be the Korean applicant who submits the one proposal at the electronic submission system at Integrated R&D Information System. In addition, **project partners** from the V4 countries, should cooperate together with the principal project leader to coordinate the proposal and submission of the relevant application forms in the right way in accordance with the national rule of each country. All other researchers involved in a project are considered project partners (if they lead a work package) or project members (all other researchers).

Main partners definition:

Principal Project Leader – Korean researcher who should gather all relevant information of the research and submit it to Korean application system.

Project partner – researcher who leads a work package.

Project member – all other researchers

Principal project leader: Korean researcher who should gather all relevant information of the research and submit it to www.iris.go.kr under his/ her authorities.

Project partners from the V4 countries: they should submit the relevant forms to their own countries in accordance with the national rules.

All project partners are advised to contact their V4-KOR JRP National Contact Persons for further information on eligible costs and national specifications.

2-4. Funding/the V4- Korea Joint Call budget

The Participants fund the researchers of their own countries respectively in accordance with the national regulation. The overall budget of the V4-Korea Joint Call is the sum of the individual budgets allocated by each of the Participants.

Some funding institutions might decide to set an upper limit that can be requested per project partner coming from the respective country. The upper funding limits may thus differ from one country to another. Applicants should therefore thoroughly check the national regulations and contact their V4-KOR JRP National Contact Persons for information.

Research Period: 3 years (36 months)

Overall Call Budget:

- NRF (Korea): 540,000 EUR in total for 3 years
- MEYS (Czech Republic): 500,000 EUR in total for 3 years
- NKFIH (Hungary): 400,000 EUR in total for 3 years
- NCBR (Poland): 750,000 EUR in total for 3 years
- SAS (Slovakia): 240,000 EUR in total for 3 years

1) 1+4 model

This model will be funded by **NRF, MEYS, NKFIH, SAS, and NCBR**.

2) 1+3 model

This model will be funded by **NRF, 3 funding institutions out of MEYS/NKFIH/NCBR/SAS**.

3) 1+2 model

This model will be funded by **NRF and 2 funding institutions out of MEYS/NKFIH/NCBR/SAS**.

4) 1+1 model

NOT applicable for this Call.

The number of joint projects selected for funding and the total funding awarded will depend on the number and quality of project proposals submitted, on available funds, and on the Participants' decision.

2-5. Eligible costs and duration of funding

MEYS, NKFIH, NCBR, SAS, and NRF fund the researchers of their own countries respectively; funding should not in principle cross national borders.

The eligibility of all costs for each applicant depends on **the national regulations** applied by each Joint Call Participant. However, all costs can fit into three categories in the Budget Plan in the Application Form:

1. Salary:

- salaries of scientific and technical staff in research projects within the scope the salary range and rates prescribed by the national regulations

2. Research Activities & Operating Expenses:

- material costs that are directly related to the research work, namely material of enduring value, expendable items, field expenses, travel expenses, third-party charges, cost of computing time and data as well as of providing open access to research data;
- direct costs incurred through the use of research infrastructure linked to the research work;
- costs for the organization of conferences and workshops in connection with the funded research;
- costs for national and international cooperation and networking activities carried out in connection with the funded research.

3. Indirect Cost

All project partners are advised to contact their V4-KOR JRP National Contact Persons for further information on eligible costs and national specifications. Funding will be provided for the duration of three years (36 months). The projects are expected to start in July 2023.

2-6. Intellectual Property Rights

The Participants will respect policies relative to the negotiation of Intellectual Property (IP) Rights established by researchers' respective institutions.

The participating research institutions may deem it necessary to enter into an agreement for cooperative research to ensure good collaboration and to specify the rights regarding intellectual property. Such an agreement must not restrict the utilization of research results in Korea or the V4 counterpart countries for the benefit of any country. Once an agreement is concluded, it should be reported to the Participants. The Participants may suggest that intellectual property agreement should be concluded between the partners and may withhold funds until such an agreement is in place.

2-7. Proposal Submission

The project proposal should be submitted via the Integrated R&D Information System of NRF.

The principal project leader – Korean partner shall submit the proposal on behalf of the whole consortium. The following information should be included in the form:

Project title

Project acronym

Specific research field

5 Keywords for the project

Information and contact data of the principal project leader, project partner and other project members:

- The Project Description template is structured as follows (a maximum number of pages will be given for each item to avoid overly long proposals)

A. Key data

A.1 Project Summary

A.2 Financial Summary

A.3 Work Packages Summary

B. General information

B.1 General Information

B.2 Detailed project plans by work package

B.3 Importance of International Cooperation

B.4 Budget Plan (filled out in EUR)

C. Signature of both V4 and Korean side

Some funding organizations may ask the applicant to submit a parallel proposal in line with their national requirements. These additional proposals submitted to the national funding organizations may be evaluated or may not be evaluated by the funding institution, according to national rules and regulations. For further details about such submission requirements, please contact V4-KOR JRP National Contact Persons or see Annex.

3. Proposal Evaluation and Funding Decision

A three-step evaluation process will be implemented for the proposals submitted within the V4-Korea Joint Call.

3-1. Eligibility Check

Participants will check the eligibility of all submitted proposals taking into consideration the general V4-Korea Joint Call criteria and the individual national criteria respectively.

The **general eligibility criteria** that will be applied are:

- Inclusion of all necessary information in English
- Participation of at least three partners from a minimum of two different eligible V4 countries and Korea
- Eligibility of all project partners
- Eligibility of requested funding
- Eligible thematic focus

3-2. Evaluation of Proposals

The selection of the proposals for funding is based on an international, independent evaluation by scientific peers. Each proposal is assessed by at least three evaluators, who may be from each country involved and are chosen by the Participants.

The following four evaluation criteria are used:

1. Scientific excellence of the project and the project partners (scoring from 0 to 5 points)*

- Sound concept and quality of objectives
- Originality, innovative character, uniqueness of the research idea
- Scientific track–record of the partners/publications in scientific journals
- Scientific standing of the organization the applicants belong to

2. Methodology and work plan (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Quality and effectiveness of the methodology
- Feasibility of the work plan (in relation to governance, adequate budget, resources, time schedule)

3. Expected impact of project results (scoring from 0 to 5 points)*

- Impact of the project on the scientific field/community
- Expected exploitation of the results

4. Added value of multilateral cooperation (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Level of the collaborative interaction between project partners
- Added value of the international project consortium
- Sustainability of the expected collaboration
- Interdisciplinarity
- Involvement of early-stage researchers and gender balance

* Criteria 1 and 3 will be doubled weighted into the total points

The **scoring system** is as follows:

5: EXCELLENT – The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.

4: VERY GOOD – The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are possible.

3: GOOD – The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but improvements are necessary.

2: FAIR – There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.

1: POOR – The criterion is addressed in an inadequate and unsatisfactory manner.

0: FAILS OR MISSING/INCOMPLETE INFORMATION – The proposal fails to address the criterion in question or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.

The process consists of the following steps:

Peer review: Proposals for V4-KOR JRP will be reviewed according to standard international peer review procedures, jointly organized by each Joint Call Participant, including V4 and Korean reviews. External experts conduct a peer review of the applications, evaluating the scientific quality of V4-KOR JRPs.

Evaluation panel: An evaluation panel will be set up, composed of experts proposed by each Joint Call Participant. Based on the peer reviews and the panel members' own assessment, the evaluation panel will rate and rank the proposals. The panel members' recommendations will include a rationale for the rating.

Decision: The 5 highest-ranked proposals will be funded, regardless of the research area. At each Joint Call Participant, the ranking list and the projects proposed for funding must be approved by the Scientific Committee and Funding Organizations Meeting. At NRF, it must be approved by the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT). By undergoing this procedure, the projects will be considered as approved by the V4-Korea Joint Committee.

3-3. Meeting of the Scientific Committee and Funding Organizations Meeting

The Scientific Committee will discuss **proposals based on the online evaluations and their own internal discussions and will recommend to the Funding Organizations Meeting a list of proposals to be funded.**

The Funding Organizations Meeting consisting of the Participants' representatives will make **the final decision on the proposals to be funded on a consensus basis**, based on the recommendations of the Scientific Committee. It will discuss and approve the recommended projects according to the scientific groupings and the available budget.

All applicants will be informed of the outcomes of the evaluation by the end of June 2023.

4. Conclusion of the funding contract

After the funding decision, all applicants will be informed by the funding institutions of their countries respectively about the results of the evaluation process and the next steps to be taken. From then, parallel contract negotiations will start between MEYS, NCBR, NKFIH, SAS, and NRF and their respective researchers.

The project partners of each proposal to be funded will conclude an individual funding contract with their respective national funding institutions. This may mean that partners of a successful proposal will have to submit an additional application to their national funding organization to receive their funding.

For further details please contact V4-KOR JRP National Contact Persons or see Annex.

5. Project Implementation and results communication

Each consortium funded through the V4-Korea Joint Call is required to conclude a **Consortium Agreement** listing the rights and responsibilities of each project partner. Depending on the nature of the funded project, special regulations should be included in the Consortium Agreement regarding **Intellectual Property Rights**. Scientific and technological results and any other information derived from the co-operation activities under this call, can be announced, published, or commercially exploited with the agreement of the partners of the funded projects and according to the national regulations as well as international agreements concerning intellectual property rights.

The following regulations will apply for all research projects that are funded through the V4-Korea Joint Call:

- In any publication of results of the research for which V4-Korea Joint Call funding was awarded, mention must be made of the support received in the frame of the V4-Korea Joint Call **‘This work was supported by funding received from the V4-Korea 2023 Joint Call’**.

Reporting will be done on national level by national funding organizations.

6. Indicative Timetable

Main Task	Time
Publication of the Call for Proposals	31 st March 2023
Deadline for proposal submission	V4: 12th May 2023, 24:00 (CET) KR: 12th May 2023, 18:00 (KST)
Deadline for institution approval in application system (IRIS)	16 th May 2023, 18:00 (KST)
Eligibility Check	17 th – 23 th May 2023
Online Evaluations	24 th May – 25 th June 2023
Scientific Committee / Funding Organization Meeting	June 2023
Notification to applicants about the results of the evaluation	End of June 2023
Preparation of national/ regional funding contracts	June 2023 - September 2023
Start of projects	End of July 2023
Interim project reports	National level
Final project reports (in English) (including the publishable summaries)	National level

To the extent possible, the Participants will synchronize the communication of the funding decisions to the applicants.

7. V4-KOR JRP National Contact Persons

Korea (NRF)

Mr. Yang Sehyung

E-mail: ysh9167@nrf.re.kr

Phone: +82 2 3460 5618

Czech Republic (MEYS)

Ms. Jiřina Fryčová

E-mail: jirina.frycova@msmt.cz

Phone: +420 234 811 683

Hungary (NKFIH)

Ms. Orsolya Küttel

E-mail: orsolya.kuttel@nkfi.gov.hu

Phone: +36 30 375 7382

Poland (NCBR)

Ms. Krystyna Maciejko

E-mail: krystyna.maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl

Phone: +48 22 39 07 489

Slovakia (SAS)

Ms. Silvia Kecerová

E-mail: kecerova@up.upsav.sk

Phone: +421 2 5751 0 118

8. Miscellaneous

Specific information other than the items in this document will be discussed and decided among the Participants through relevant communications. The Participants will maintain the highest ethical and legal standards as funding institutions through their Joint Calls.

9. Overall budget overview

Organisation	Total budget	Budget per project (max.)	Budget per project (max.)/year	Research Period	Number of funded projects	supported models of cooperation
NRF	540 000 €	108 000 €	36 000 €	3	5	1+2, 1+3, 1+4
MEYS	500 000 €	125 000 €	40 000 €	3	4	1+2, 1+3, 1+4
NCBR	750 000 €	150 000 €	50 000 €	3	5	1+2, 1+3, 1+4
NKFIH	400 000 €	120 000 €	40 000 €	3	4	1+2, 1+3, 1+4
SAS	240 000 €	120 000 €	40 000 €	3	2	1+2, 1+3, 1+4

Annex 1: National Funding Regulations

Czech Republic – Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)

Who can apply?

Research organisation – Public university, public research institute or other entity that can be classified as „research and knowledge – dissemination“ (hereinafter referred to as „research organization“) in accordance with the [General Block Exemption Regulation \(GBER\)](#) – Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (Article 2, Paragraph 83).

Enterprise – Small, medium or large-sized enterprise as defined by the [General Block Exemption Regulation \(GBER\)](#) – Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (Article 2, Paragraphs 2 and 24), listed in the Business register of the Czech Republic and performing research, development and innovation in the Czech Republic.

What types of funding are eligible for the Czech researchers?

The MEYS's total allocation for the current Call for V4 – Korean Joint Research Projects is **500.000 EUR**. The level of funding for Czech participants involved in a V4 – Korean Joint Research Project consortium should not exceed the amount of **125.000 EUR per project** for its whole duration (up to 3 years = 36 months).

The **eligible costs** for the Czech participants in V4 – Korean Joint Research Projects are defined by the respective documentation available on the official websites of the [MEYS](#).

The **aid** for the Czech participants (research organisations) provided by the MEYS will not exceed the **intensity** as defined by the [General Block Exemption Regulation \(GBER\)](#):

- **100 % of the eligible costs for fundamental research;**
- **50 % of the eligible costs for industrial research;**
- **25 % of the eligible costs for experimental development.**

The aid intensity for activities carried out by a research organisation may be increased **up to 100 %** for industrial research and experimental development only if the research organization complies with the requirements set by the Article 2.1.1 “Public funding of non-economic activities” of the [Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation \(2022/C 414/01\)](#) and proves it appropriately by a Statutory Declaration (see below).

Is an additional documentation requested by the MEYS?

The support from public funds for the Czech participants in V4 – Korean Joint Research Projects consortia will be provided by the MEYS pursuant to the [Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on the Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from Public Funds and on the Amendment to Some Related Acts](#) (hereinafter referred to as the “Act on the Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation”).

Given the circumstances, it is obligatory that a Czech participant proves compliance with the eligibility criteria (status of a research organisation / enterprise) and fulfilment of the conditions set by the § 18 of the Act on the Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation by the means of submitting a **Statutory Declaration**. **The required procedures are described, and the respective Statutory Declaration form is available on the official websites of the [MEYS](#).**

Hungary – National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH)

The official national call announcement for Hungarian participants is published on the [NKFIH website](#).

Who can apply?

Eligible applicants from Hungary are entities falling under any of the following GFO codes:

- budgetary units and other entities falling under the budgetary rule (e.g. higher education institutions, municipalities; etc.) (GFO code: 311, 312, 322, 341 342, 381, 382)
- enterprise with legal entity (GFO code: 11X)
- non-profit organisation with legal entity (GFO code: 551, 552, 559, 562, 563, 569 599, 931)
- enterprise with a registered office in the European Economic Area and a branch in Hungary (GFO: 226).

What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Hungary?

The level of funding of Hungarian participants may be up to **EUR 120 000** per project over 3 years.

Eligible activities and costs

All research-related costs in accordance with government decree 380/2014 (XII.31) are eligible.

In case a partner is subject to State Aid rules, funding intensity shall be set at a level that complies with the State Aid rules in force at the time of the funding decision.

The detailed eligible costs and funding rules of the national 2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET call shall apply.

2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET Call for proposal & Guide for applicants:

[Pályázat az ERA-NET COFUND és EJP COFUND programok közös nemzetközi pályázati felhívásaiban sikeresen szereplő magyar szervezetek támogatására](#)

Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

No additional/parallel application for the proposal evaluation phase is needed.

After the announcement of the V4-Korea Joint Call results, the Hungarian applicants recommended for funding in the V4-KOR JRP peer review process will be requested to submit a grant application to NKFIH in order to prepare the contract in line with the national regulations, as described in the 2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET Call for proposal & Guide for applicants.

Information about call announcement will be published on the NCBR website:

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

Who can apply?

- **Research organisations**
- **Enterprises** (micro, small, medium or large)
- **Groups of entities** (scientific consortia)

The scope of support:

- **Basic research** (only research organisations)
- **Applied research**
- **Experimental development**

What types of funding are eligible for the Polish researchers?

The NCBR's total allocation for the current V4-Korea Joint Call for Proposals is **EUR 750.000**. The level of funding for Polish participants is limited up to the maximum of **150.000 EUR per project** for up to 3 years (36 months).

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

1. Personnel costs (W) - researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the research project.

2. Costs of subcontracting (E) - i.e. costs based on agreements with third parties to perform a portion of the project without a direct supervision of the project participant and without a relationship of subordination the subcontracting can be obtained from consortium partner only in justified case, this need will be verified by a national experts panel; Costs of subcontracting cannot exceed 70% of all eligible costs of the project.

3. Other costs (Op):

- Costs of instruments, equipment and intangible assets (such as patents, certificates etc.) to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if they are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;
- Purchase of land and real estate to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;
- Other costs including costs of support services, materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity, travel costs (costs of delegations, costs of participation in conferences), costs of maintaining a separate bank account, costs of promoting the project.

4. Overheads (O) - incurred indirectly as a result of the research project; Overheads must be calculated according to the formula: $O = (W + Op) \times 25\%^*$

*percentage 25% estimated by the Applicant himself (the same percentage for every task in the project)

For the funding granted by the NCBR, the following regulations apply:

1. The Act of 20 July 2018 on the Law of Higher Education and Science;
2. The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development;
3. The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development.

Maximum level of funding:

- For research organisations – up to 100% of eligible costs
- For enterprises – up to the level submitted in the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development:

	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Micro/Small Enterprises	Research Organizations
Basic Research	0%	0%	0%	Up to 100 %
Applied Research	Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)	Up to 100 %
Experimental development	Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)	Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)	Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)	Up to 100 %

National phase of the applying procedure:

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/rejection decision.

Contact Person:

Mrs. Krystyna Maciejko
National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
Department of International Cooperation
E-mail: krystyna.maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl
Phone: +48 22 39 07 489

Who can apply?

Only research Institutes of Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible organisations for funding by SAS (up to 100%). Applicants from other Slovak R&D centres (universities and/or other organisations) have to cover the project costs from their own sources (Letter of Commitment). In addition to this, the teams outside of SAS can be consortium members but not the coordinator of the consortium.

What types of funding are eligible for the Slovak researchers?

The SAS's total allocation for the current Call for V4 – Korea Joint Research Projects is 240.000 EUR. The level of funding for Slovak Institutes of SAS involved in a V4 – Korea Joint Research Project consortium is limited up to the maximum of 120.000 EUR per project for its whole duration (up to 3 years = 36 months).

Eligible costs for the Institutes of SAS in the V4 – Korea Joint Research Projects are defined by **National and Regional Funding Regulations**.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

1. Eligible Direct Costs:

1.1 Personal 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
- maximum of 20 % of all direct costs

1.2 Material costs and expenditures:

- a. **Consumables:** minor equipment and instruments, small-scale office and laboratory material (no basic equipment of the workplace; essential computer equipment is exception)
- b. **Travel costs and Living expenses:** limits for travel costs and daily subsistence allowance vary depending on destination country (Pursuant to Slovak Act. 283/2002 Col. of Laws on travel reimbursement)
- c. **Costs for services and other intangible costs:**
 - The costs, which can be substantiated by individual supply document or to be proven by other objective method. They include costs for operation, repair and maintenance of assets used in dealing with the project, the costs for additional services, e.g. contracts, consulting services, the costs of publishing the results of projects (publishing and editorial costs), including the costs to secure the rights for publication of such research and development results, conference fees, membership fees in institutions where membership is demonstrably necessary and cost-effective solution for project execution, telecommunication services and other costs, such as foreign exchange losses, bank charges, taxes and fees tied solely to deal with the grant project. Eligible costs can not include particularly the costs for the edition of periodicals, textbooks and lecture notes and common requirements for basic equipment of the workplace, repair or maintenance of the rooms.
- d. **Capital expenditures:**
 - Capital expenditures represent the costs of purchasing tangible and intangible assets (equipment, machinery, equipment, software and other fixed assets)
 - The costs of the project may identify capital expenditures to a maximum of 40% of all direct costs (current and capital expenditure together).

2. Eligible Indirect Costs:

Indirect (overhead) costs incurred by the beneficiary in the direct temporal and material context of the project solution may be determined to a **maximum of 20% of the amount spent on all direct costs**

(current and capital expenditures together). These costs are fixed and need not be documented.

Eligible costs as defined in the V4-Korea JRP call text can be applied unless they are in conflict with the SAS Financial Rules for awarding grants for research projects. Priority is given to the SAS Financial Rules.

National phase:

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 Funding Organisations Meeting and the Slovak project partner has been informed on recommendation for funding by the project consortium coordinator and invited by SAS to submit the proposal to it (Form MVTS). *The Presidium of SAS makes the final decision for funding of selected projects.*

Further guidance:

- Web site: [Otvorené výzvy – Odbor medzinárodnej spolupráce SAV](#)
- Financial Rules for awarding grants for research projects in programs of Joint research projects (JRP): [Dokumenty Referátu medzinárodných projektov – Odbor medzinárodnej spolupráce SAV](#)

KOREA – National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF)

Who can apply?

- Researchers at Institutes/organizations eligible under **Article 2(3)** of the *National Research And Development Innovation Act*.
- Researchers at Institutes/organizations eligible under **Article 6** and **Article 7** of the *National Research And Development Innovation Act*

What types of funding are eligible for the Korean researchers?

The NRF's total allocation for the current Call for V4 – Korea Joint Research Projects is 540,000 EUR. The level of funding for NRF involved in a V4 – Korea Joint Research Project consortium is limited to **108,000 EUR per project** for its whole duration (**up to 3 years = 36 months**).

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

The corresponding and further organization and researcher must all meet the laws and regulations of the MSIT and NRF. The eligibility criteria for the corresponding and further applicants are identical. Thus, the organization and researcher should meet properly in accordance with the intended use and usage standard outlined in *National Research And Development Innovation Act*. The NRF Funding Regulations, the General implementation regulations and the Regulations on Project Funding are applicable mutatis mutandis where not stated otherwise.

- R&D expenses shall be allocated and approved to conduct research for that specific project in accordance with the research proposal
- R&D expenses shall be used only to perform the specific R&D project and achieve the research purpose
- R&D expenses shall be spent only during the research periods specified in the agreements or contracts.
- R&D expenses shall be disbursed in accordance with Innovation Act (including its subsidiary regulations) and relevant regulations.
- In the absence of the Innovation Act (including its subsidiary regulations) and relevant regulations, R&D expenses shall be disbursed in accordance with the financial regulations of the awardee organization.
- If it is difficult to determine whether the R&D expenses can be allocated for a specific item, contact the responsible department at the awardee institute (such as the industry-university cooperation foundation).
- R&D expenses shall be disbursed via purchasing card (R&D credit card) or wire transfer.
- Financial records and supporting documents (such as electronic documents) are required to disburse R&D expenses.
- Salaries and research incentives of R&D Projects shall be disbursed reasonably and fairly in proportion to the rate of participation and contribution level.
- The execution of the R&D expenses shall be conducted within the public sphere. Thus, it shall be clearly distinguished from personal matters.

Further guidance:

Web site: *National Research And Development Innovation Act*

<https://www.law.go.kr/LSW/lsSc.do?menuId=1&dt=20201211&query=%EA%B5%AD%EA%B0%80%EC%97%B0%EA%B5%AC%EA%B0%9C%EB%B0%9C%ED%98%81%EC%8B%A0%EB%B2%95&subMenuId=15#undefined>