

## Announcement

### 7th German-Korean Call for Proposals for joint R&D projects by Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)

Deadline for proposal submission: October 30, 2020

#### 1. Scope

Germany and Korea are announcing a Call for Proposals for joint R&D projects, focusing on developing innovative products and applications in all technological and application areas.

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

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of Korea (MOTIE) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) will provide access to public funding for joint projects provided by MOTIE and by the BMWi's Central Innovation Programme for SMEs (ZIM).

MOTIE (Coordinator: Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology - KIAT) and BMWi (Coordinator: AiF Projekt GmbH) will provide all necessary assistance to project partners during project proposal, evaluation and monitoring phase.

KIAT and AiF Projekt GmbH will evaluate the submitted proposals and communicate the results within about 3 to 4 months after the call deadline.

#### 2. Call Structure

The call invites partners to present joint proposals for industrial R&D projects until October 30, 2020, according to the following procedures.

##### 2.1 Financing

Eligible project participants from Germany and Korea will finance their costs from the national funding schemes and complementarily from their own resources. Provision of funding from one national scheme will neither indicate that funding from the other national scheme will be provided, nor bind the other national scheme in its provision of funds to the eligible project participants.

##### 2.2 Minimum requirements

Project results will have to contribute to the development of commercial products, processes and / or technical services. The project proposals have to comply with the following guidelines:

- The consortium must include at least one Korean and one German commercial company.
- Participation of research organisations and further companies is welcome as additional participants or subcontractors according to each country's funding regulations.
- Companies and/or research organisations from other countries may also participate. However, these partners will not be funded by MOTIE or BMWi.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the two countries (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial needs, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).
- Project duration should not exceed 3 years.
- The project should demonstrate a balanced technological contribution by the participants from both countries, and must be equally significant to all participants.
- In a project with two cooperating partners, no partner may contribute more than 70% of total person months in the project.
- In a project with more than two cooperating partners, no partner may contribute more than 50% of the person months.
- In the scenario where one or more research organisations are involved in the consortium, they may not contribute more than 50% of total person months combined.

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.

### **2.3 Submission**

Between the opening of the call on **August 3<sup>rd</sup>** and the call deadline on **October 30<sup>th</sup>**, 2020 all participants file one short common proposal in English language, legally signed by all organisations participating in the project and a draft consortium agreement (not yet signed) that regulates the terms of cooperation between all partners in English language.

The minimum requirements for the agreement are:

- Naming of all project partners
- Description of the project aims and differentiation of the subprojects of the partners including their work plans using person months (for this purpose the common application proposal can be declared as part of the agreement)
- Identifying and naming of any 3rd party contractors required in the project
- Regulation of intellectual property rights (background and arising)

- All partners commit to preparing and signing a joint record of the project achievements.
- Basic regulation of joint commercialisation and apportioning of benefits. If research organizations from Germany or Korea are involved in the project, a passage has to be included that allows them to publish their own results without duty to obtain consent from the other partners.

The proposal form is available on

<https://www.zim.de/ZIM/Redaktion/DE/Artikel/International/suedkorea.html>

The common proposal and the draft consortium agreement must be sent electronically to [leewh@kiat.or.kr](mailto:leewh@kiat.or.kr) and [zim-international@aif-projekt-gmbh.de](mailto:zim-international@aif-projekt-gmbh.de). All Korean participants are also required to upload all documents via a dedicated online system (<http://k-pass.kr>).

In addition to the common proposal and draft consortium agreement, project partners that want to apply for funding within this call must submit a national application according to the respective rules (see below).

### **Germany**

Each German project partner submits an individual ZIM application to AiF Projekt GmbH. Every German SME, in accordance with the relevant EU regulations, as well as medium-sized companies with less than 500 employees (full-time equivalents), which carry out R&D for the development of innovative products, processes or technical services, are eligible to apply. Other medium-sized companies with less than 1,000 employees are eligible to apply for funding if they cooperate with at least one SME (EU definition) whose project is being funded. Research and technology organizations (RTOs) are eligible to apply as cooperation partners of eligible companies.

Detailed criteria for submitting applications and the ZIM application form are available on the ZIM website ([www.zim.de](http://www.zim.de)); you may also contact AiF Projekt GmbH directly as described below. The application must comply with the regulations of the ZIM guideline and be written in German.

### **Korea**

Innovative projects of companies based in Korea are eligible for applying for this funding programme. Every Korean company should submit a full application for funding in Korean language when they file all documents.

Project funding is comprised 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 Programmes.

A party that participates in a project shall carry out its project using the government contribution allocated to it, and for-profit organizations shall individually bear the cash portion of civilian dues.

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Share of government contributions in executing organization's project budget</b>	<b>Share of cash in executing organization's civilian dues</b>
<b>Large company</b>	33% or less	60% or more
<b>Mid-tier company</b>	50% or less	50% or more
<b>SME</b>	67% or less	40% or more
<b>Other</b>	100% or less	To be borne if necessary

Early stage consultations with the national funding organizations (KIAT in Korea, AiF Projekt GmbH in Germany) are highly recommended. Please find the contact details below.

## Contact



### Deutschland

Mr. Christian Fichtner  
 AiF Projekt GmbH  
 Tschaikowskistrasse 49  
 13156 Berlin  
 Tel.: +49 30 48163-590  
 e-mail: [c.fichtner@aif-projekt-gmbh.de](mailto:c.fichtner@aif-projekt-gmbh.de)  
[www.zim.de/international](http://www.zim.de/international)

### Korea

Mr. Dr. WooHyoungh Lee  
 Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology  
 5th Fl., Korea Tech. Center, 305 Teheranno,  
 Kangnam-gu, Seoul  
 Tel.: +82-2-6009-3182 / 3187  
 Fax: +82-2-6009-3199  
 e-mail: [leewh@kiat.or.kr](mailto:leewh@kiat.or.kr)  
[www.kiat.or.kr](http://www.kiat.or.kr)