Targeted scientific research in the field of SMART specialization
- Cooperation with Ministry of Education and Science in preparing the Guidelines for Applicants
- Administering calls for proposals
- Eligibility check
- Assessment of proposals (including ranking list)
- Decision of financing
- Management of grant agreements
- Mid-term and final assessment of project implementation
Role of Research Council (2)

- Eligibility check (RCL)
- Remote assessment (Experts)
- Expert group meetings (Expert groups)
- Ranking list (RCL Committees)
- List of financed projects (Chairman of RCL)
- Mid-term and Final assessment (Experts)
- Open call
- Selection carried out according to selection criteria
- Young researchers – up to 10 years after PhD
- Experienced researchers – more than 10 years after PhD
- International experts (mostly from ERC) involved
- Minimum score – 45. Maximum score – 100.
- Project duration – up to 48 months
- Maximum funding per project Eur 700 000
- Call budget – Eur 28 900 000
- Own financial contribution (optional)
- Final Beneficiary – Institution
Facts and figures

- 85 applications for Eur 51.05 mln
- 47 Grant agreements for Eur 28.4 mln

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMART area</th>
<th>Number of applications</th>
<th>Number of projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy and a sustainable environment</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health technologies and biotechnologies</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agro-innovation and food technologies</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New production processes, materials and technologies</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport, logistic and information and communication technologies</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive and creative society</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible Applicants</th>
<th>Eligible Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research institutions</td>
<td>Legal entities implementing R&amp;D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Hospitals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Successful partnership must be included in case of State-aid*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project implementation</th>
<th>Indirect costs and other costs according to the flat rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel costs (unit costs)</td>
<td>Research implementation (flat rate) (34/18 % of Personnel costs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel allowance (EU countries only) (unit costs)</td>
<td>Indirect costs (project administration and related costs) (flat rate) (15 % of Personnel costs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assessment criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Significance and the prospect of use of projected research results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Novelty and feasibility of the research project idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Scientific competence of the research leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Amount of own contribution of the Applicant and/or the partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Scope of the Applicant’s involvement in the projects of international research programs, and applied research orders by economic entities fulfilled by the Applicant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Open call
- Selection carried out according to selection criteria
- Foreign researcher – employed abroad for not less than 5 years prior to the call
- International experts (mostly from ERC) involved
- Project duration – up to 48 months
- Maximum funding per project Eur 1 000 000
- Call budget – Eur 14 481 001
- Own financial contribution (optional)
- Final Beneficiary – Institution
### Eligible Applicants
- Research institutions
- Universities
- University Hospitals

### Eligible Partners
- Legal entities implementing R&D

*Successful partnership must be included in case of State-aid*

### Project implementation
- Personnel costs (unit costs)
- Travel allowance (EU countries only) (unit costs)
- Resettlement costs of principal investigator and research members (unit costs)

### Indirect costs and other costs according to the flat rate
- Research implementation (flat rate) (34/18 % of Personnel costs)
- Indirect costs (project administration and related costs) (flat rate) (15 % of Personnel costs)
### Assessment criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Max./Min.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td><strong>Significance and the prospect of use of projected research results</strong></td>
<td>35/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td><strong>Novelty and feasibility of the research project idea</strong></td>
<td>30/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td><strong>Scientific competence of the research leader</strong></td>
<td>30/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td><strong>Scope of the Applicant’s involvement in the projects of international research programs, and in R&amp;D orders by economic entities fulfilled by the Applicant</strong></td>
<td>5 / 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100 / 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Open call
- Parallel laboratory – cooperation of Lithuanian and foreign laboratory that has exceptional competence of research in the SMART area “Health technologies and biotechnologies” priorities “Molecular technologies for medicine and biopharmaceutics” or/and “Advanced medical engineering for early diagnostics and treatment”

- Scheme:
  - 2 independent research groups working on the same research topic
  - Mandatory internship of Lithuanian research group in foreign laboratory

- Limitations – EU countries only
- Minimum score – 63. Maximum score – 100
- Project duration – up to 48 months
- Maximum funding per project Eur 700 000
- Call budget – Eur 1 448 000
- Own financial contribution (optional)
- Final Beneficiary – Lithuanian Institution

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<td>University Hospitals</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 3 main assessment criteria:
  - Expected results
  - Research idea
  - Scientific achievements of PI
Main goals of all 3 activities

Purposes of financial instrument:
- Research project implemented under SMART specialization area
- Clear prospects of commercialization of research results

Horizontal purposes:
- Strengthening researchers’ abilities to “sell” to market research ideas
- Strengthening connections between research institutions and SMEs
Main challenges (1)

Assessment of projected results:
- 7 listed results in Assessment table
- Patent of EPO, UPSTO, JPO equal to Lithuanian Patent
- Possible result – “Another product of R&D activity (a process, a system, a service, a method, an object of art or a solution of cultural and societal problems, based on research and practical experience)”

Identification of State-aid:
- No clear practice of State-aid rules applied in Research
- Projects with Patent application have the potential of State-aid
- In case of State-aid – no clear identification of exact financial contribution in case of Unit costs and Flat rate
Own contribution possible as a non-monetary contribution – volunteer work:

- According to *State Labour Inspectorate*, volunteer work is a non-profitable, society-oriented activity:
  - not suitable for Research implementation
  - Functions performed according to Work-contract should not be identified as volunteer work

**Identification of Research and Development stages:**
- No connection to Research plan
- No connection to mid-term assessment
Advantages

Straightforward budget justification:
- Unit – costs:
  - No description of:
    - public-procurement
    - personnel costs
    - other eligible expenses

Mid-term assessment:
- Possibility to determine full project implementation with no financial corrections.
Eglė Miltakienė

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