Innovation Vouchers support programme – Call IV

The Innovation Vouchers support programme aims to develop communication and share knowledge and know-how between the business sector and research, which can be used by enterprises for launching or intensifying their own innovation activities.

SCHEDULE
- Applications for support are to be submitted from 2 January 2019 to 30 June 2020.

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES
- Purchase of advisory, expert and support services in the area of innovations from organisations for research and knowledge dissemination or from accredited labs with the aim to commence or intensify the innovation activities of small and medium-sized enterprises.

APPLICANT
The applicant/beneficiary is a business entity that:
- is a business entity;¹ a small enterprise as defined in Annex I to Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 including entrepreneurs in food and retail sectors, according to the programme conditions.
- according to the applicant’s statutory declaration, is registered as an income tax payer in any of the EU Member States, and has been so continuously for at least three closed tax periods preceding the date of filing the aid application. The applicant notes that it will have to have an establishment or a foreign branch established in the Czech Republic at the moment of receiving the support. The applicant must have the branch registered, as of the first request for payment, in the Register of Licensed Trades, documented by an extract.
- based on its statutory declaration, the applicant is not in arrears in respect to selected institutions in the country of its registration, or in the country where its branch is registered, and in respect to providers of support from projects co-financed from the EU budget.
- according to its statutory declaration, does not have any outstanding liabilities based on its employees’ wage and salary claims.
- does not have any arrears in respect to the selected institutions and in respect to the providers of aid under projects co-financed from the European Union budget.

SECTORAL DEFINITION
- The aid shall not be provided to projects with outputs affecting any of the below stated sectors:
  - Production, processing and marketing of products listed in Annex 2 to this Call

¹ A self-employed person or legal person with an assigned Business ID or a similar identification number of another State.
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and aquaculture (CZ-NACE A 01, A 02, A 03)

**KEY CONDITIONS OF THE CALL**
- The project must be implemented in the Czech Republic outside the territory of the City of Prague.
- The project must include all mandatory elements listed in the Call for its submission.
- The project does not expect any aid directly linked to the quantities exported, aid to the establishment and operation of a distribution network abroad or any aid to other current expenditure linked to export activity or any aid contingent upon the use of domestic goods instead of imported goods.
- The project has not started before the date of filing the application.
- The project must not violate EU horizontal policies and their basic principles such as equal opportunities, non-discrimination and sustainable development.
- The objectives of the project must comply with the objectives of the aid programme and of the Call.

**ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE**
- Advisory, expert and support services in innovation, i.e. mainly measurements, diagnostics, testing, tests, analyses, verification, certification of products, calculations, designs of new systems, technological processes, unique structural designs, modelling, development of software, hardware, materials, equipment, system elements, prototypes, functional samples with respect to developing or marketing a new product (product, service or process), optimisation of processes, characteristics of products, services, methods, parameters etc.

**FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID**
- The minimum grant for a project is CZK 50,000 and the maximum grant is CZK 299,999.
- Aid intensity for the project:
  - Aid is provided up to a maximum of 85% of the demonstrable eligible costs if the project focuses on improving the activities of SMEs aimed at more effective water management in order to respond to the risks associated with the effects of droughts, in particular the potential shortage of water to ensure production and thus a possible reduction in economic performance.