



Potential - Call I

The main goal of the call is to increase the number of enterprises with research and development infrastructure, and to develop and strengthen their research and innovation capacities.

TIMETABLE

Receipt of grant applications:

- 02.06.2023 – 25.09.2023

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

- Establishment or expansion of corporate centres for industrial research, development and innovation, consisting in the acquisition of technologies/devices and other equipment necessary for research and development activities of the centres.

THE APPLICANT

- is a **natural person** or **legal entity** pursuing business, that has been **assigned a Czech ID number** and is **authorized to do business**¹.
- is authorized to conduct business corresponding to the **economic activity**² in which the project is implemented.
- According to its solemn declaration, the applicant did not relocate³ the establishment in which the initial investment, for which the aid is requested, is to be made during the two years preceding the grant application, and will not relocate the establishment within two years following the completion of the initial investment;

¹ This is a trade license or license to do business according to other legal regulations (unless otherwise stated in the Rules for Applicants and Beneficiaries of OP TAC - specific part).

² In the application in IS KP21+, the applicant indicated the CZ-NACE in which the project is implemented, which corresponds to the activity recorded in the public registers. The registered CZ-NACE must not be listed in the Call Annex titled "Unsupported CZ-NACE".

³ Relocation means a transfer of the same or similar activity, or a part thereof, from an establishment in one contracting party to the EEA Agreement (initial establishment) to an establishment in which the aided investment takes place in another contracting party to the EEA Agreement (aided establishment). It is a transfer if the product or service in the original and in the supported establishment serves at least partially the same purposes and meets the requirements or needs of the same

- If it is a legal entity, it provided **the data to the extent required in Section 14, paragraph 3, letter e) of Act No 218/2000 Coll.**, the Act on Budgetary Rules and amending certain related acts, as amended:
 - in IS KP21+, it entered information on the identification of persons acting on behalf of the applicant, indicating whether they act as its statutory body or whether these persons act on the basis of a granted power of attorney,
 - has registered the real owners of the legal entity in accordance with Act No 37/2021 Coll., on the registration of real owners (fulfilment of the condition will be verified by IB),
 - in IS KP21+, it entered information on the identification of the entities in which it has a share and the amount of this share.
- According to its sworn statement, it **is not in liquidation**.
- According to its sworn statement, it has been registered as an income tax payer in the Czech Republic, continuously for at least two tax periods⁴ preceding the date of submission of the grant application.
- As of the date of the Grant Award Decision, the applicant is:
 - a small and medium-sized enterprise as defined in Annex I to the GBER;
 - a small mid-cap company⁵;
 - a mid-cap company⁶.

TERRITORIAL FOCUS

- Target territory: The territory of the Czech Republic, except NUTS 2 Prague
- The territorial eligibility is not assessed based on the registered office of the applicant (beneficiary) but based on the actual place of project implementation, i.e. the territory where the physical implementation takes place and the project expenses are incurred.

MAIN CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must not violate horizontal EU policies and their basic principles. In particular, the project must comply:
 - with principles of non-discrimination (primarily non-discrimination based on race, gender, religion, ethnic origin, disability, age or sexual orientation),
 - with the principles of sustainable development,
 - with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

type of customers and there is a loss of jobs in the same or similar activity in one of the original establishments of the beneficiary in the EEA.

⁴ This is a tax period according to Section 16b for natural persons / Section 21a for legal entities of Act No 586/1992 Coll., on income taxes.

⁵ These are entities that have **no more than 499 employees** and are not small or medium-sized enterprises. See Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU) 2015/1017 of 25 June 2015 on the European Fund for Strategic Investments, the European Investment Advisory Hub and the European Investment Project Portal and amending Regulations (EU) No 1291/2013 and (EU) No 1316/2013 — the European Fund for Strategic Investments.

⁶ These are entities that have **no more than 3,000 employees** and are not SMEs; small mid-cap companies are also included. Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU) 2015/1017 of 25 June 2015 on the European Fund for Strategic Investments, the European Investment Advisory Hub and the European Investment Project Portal and amending Regulations (EU) No 1291/2013 and (EU) No 1316/2013 — the European Fund for Strategic Investments.

- The project objectives shall be in line with the objectives of the operational programme and the Call.
- For projects whose total eligible expenses are equal to/higher than CZK 5 million, the score obtained in the simplified economic evaluation, which expresses the financial health of the applicant, must not be lower than 5 points;
- The project must meet the conditions of the "do no significant harm" principle for the environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council - see Annex 8;
- Investments in infrastructure with an expected lifetime of at least 5 years have been examined in terms of climate impact in accordance with Article 73(2)(j) of Regulation (EU) 1060/2021 of the EP and of the Council on common provisions for the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund - see Annex 8;
- Grant applications of applicants who have submitted a similar active project (in any PP status) under OP PIC will not be approved in the phase of appraisal of formal requirements and eligibility, unless the applicant has withdrawn from the project. A similar project is a project that has the same place of implementation (up to the level of the municipality), similar activities and a similar amount of budget and its structure. The aim of the above-mentioned measure is to prevent blocking of budget funds by the fact that the still unfinished project proposals from OP PIC are submitted again identically, or slightly modified, in OP TAC. The applicant must choose whether it can realistically complete the project in OP EIC, or whether it will end the administration of this project and submit the project proposal in OP TAC.

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- The cost of investments in tangible and intangible fixed assets.
- The cost of investments in buildings (new buildings and building modifications).

FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID

- The aid is provided in the form of a grant.
- The grant for the project is provided in the amount of at least CZK 2 million⁷ and up to a maximum of CZK 100 million.
- The aid will be paid in accordance with the "Rules for the co-financing of the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund, the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for financial support for border management and visas for the 2021-2027 programming period⁸" and will be reimbursed **retrospectively after the end of the project** or its stage (if the project is staged in accordance with the Rules for applicants and beneficiaries - general part) provided that the conditions of the Decision are met.
- The beneficiary is obliged to ensure the financing of expenses for the implementation of the project, including VAT.
- The aid may not be provided for the same project expenses for which other aid from public sources has already been or will be provided, including an aid from Union funds that are centrally managed by bodies, agencies, joint ventures and other Union entities and that are not directly or indirectly under control of member states.

⁷ Valid at the stage of approval by the selection committee.

⁸ Document of the Ministry of Finance approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in Resolution No 354 of 12 April 2021.

- The aid may not be provided to a beneficiary who has an unpaid obligation arising from a recovery order issued after a previous decision of the Commission declaring that the aid received from a provider from the Czech Republic is illegal and incompatible with the internal market.

AID INTENSITY AND BREAKDOWN OF FUNDING SOURCES⁹

Region	Small enterprise	Medium-sized enterprise	(Small) mid-cap company
Northwest	70%	60%	50%
Northeast	50%	40%	30 %
Central Moravia	50%	40%	30 %
Moravia-Silesia	60%	50%	40%
Central Bohemia - Mladá Boleslav, Beroun, Prague-west, Prague-east, Nymburk, Kolín, Příbram, Benešov, Kutná Hora	40%	30 %	20 %
Central Bohemia - Kladno, Rakovník, Mělník	45%	35 %	25 %
Southwest – Rokycany, Pilsen, Pilsen–south, Domažlice, Klatovy, Písek, Tábor, Strakonice, České Budějovice, Jindřichův Hradec, Prachatice, Český Krumlov	40%	30 %	20 %
Southwest – Pilsen-north, Tachov	45%	35 %	25 %
Southeast	40%	30 %	20 %

⁹ The chapter shows the EU share. The remaining part of the funding will be covered from the beneficiary's resources.