

Announcement

3rd Call for Proposals for Joint Research and Development (R&D) Projects between Germany and Catalonia (Spain)

Deadline for proposal submissions: 23rd October 2017

1. Scope

Germany and Catalonia (Spain) are announcing a call for proposals for **joint R&D projects** focusing on developing innovative products, technology-based services or methods in all technological and application areas which have strong market potential.

The Catalan agency for competitiveness of the Catalan ministry of industry (ACCIÓ) and the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy (BMWi) will provide access to public funding for joint projects provided for Germany by the BMWi's ZIM program (Central Innovation Program for SMEs) and for Catalonia by "Nuclis d'R+D internacionals" program.

ACCIÓ and AiF Projekt GmbH (Project management agency for the BMWi) will provide all necessary assistance to project partners during project proposal, evaluation and monitoring phase. Please contact your local funding agency as soon as possible and before submitting an application.

2. Call Structure

The call for applications invites partners to present joint proposals for industrial R&D projects according to the following procedures:

2.1 Financing

Eligible project participants from Germany and Catalonia will finance their costs from the national funding schemes (in Germany ZIM, in Catalonia by "Nuclis d'R+D internacionals") and complementarily from their own resources.

2.2 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 has to include at least two independent enterprises, one from Catalonia and one from Germany which contribute considerably to the project. Participation of research institutes and other companies is welcome as additional participants or subcontractors according to each country's funding regulations.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the two jurisdictions (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).
- Project duration should not exceed 2 years. An extension of 1 year could be accepted by both countries if sufficiently justified.

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, including the European [Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation](#). (2014/C 198/01)

2.3 Submission Guidelines

Before the call deadline all participants file one **short common proposal** in English language, legally signed by all partners participating in the project and a draft Cooperation Agreement (not yet signed) that regulates the terms of cooperation between all partners in English language.

The common proposal application form is available for download at: www.zim-bmwi.de and www.accio.gencat.cat/

The minimum requirements for the Cooperation Agreement are:

- Naming all project partners
- Description of the project aims and differentiation of the subprojects of the partners including their working plans with effort estimates in man months (Short common proposal annexed)
- Identifying and naming any 3rd party contractors required in the project
- Regulation of intellectual property rights (new and old)
- Basic regulation of joint commercialization and apportioning of benefits
- If research organizations from Germany are involved the publishing rights of each part need to be agreed by the parts

- These two documents have to be submitted before the deadline electronically to both international@aif-projekt-gmbh.de and Catalonia-Germany.accio@gencat.cat. Simultaneously, all applicants must file national applications according to the following rules. Please contact your local funding agency as soon as possible and before submitting an application.

Submissions from Catalonia

All the Catalonian partner files jointly one application following the templates and instructions available at <http://accio.gencat.cat/>.

Catalonian enterprises are welcome to apply if they meet the regional call conditions as found on the same website.

Catalonian enterprises are defined as profit companies, sole proprietorships or partnerships with an office and employees in Catalonia. More details and criteria can be found on the www.accio.gencat.cat website.

Submissions from Germany

Every German project partner files one individual ZIM application in paper form to AiF Projekt GmbH. All German SMEs, following the guidelines of the European Union definition which perform R&D to develop an innovative product, process or technological service – also in cooperation with research organisations – have the right to apply. More detailed criteria can be found on the [ZIM website](#). The application has to be in line with the ZIM regulations, e.g. it has to be in German language.

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