

**Funding for synergy creation with Horizon 2020**

<b>Funding programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>EU Funds – Competitiveness Operational Programme – Priority Axis 1 – Research, development and innovation (RDI) that supports economic competitiveness and business development – <b>Creating synergy with RDI activities from the EU's Horizon 2020 programme and other international RDI programmes</b></i></li> </ul>
<b>Programme operator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ministry for European Funds</b></li> </ul>
<b>Programme objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has a specific objective: „<b>Increasing participation in research at EU-level</b>”</li> <li>• This action aims at “<b>creating synergy with RDI activities from the EU's Horizon 2020 programme and other international RDI programmes</b>” of a university or a host enterprise, by attracting specialists from abroad, of any nationality, with distinguished competences.</li> </ul>
<b>Eligible beneficiaries</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research organisations</li> <li>• Enterprises with R&amp;D activities</li> </ul>
<b>Targeted areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Projects focus on the following <a href="#">smart specialisation areas (click here for more details)</a>:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bio-economics</li> <li>○ Information and communication technology, space and security</li> <li>○ Energy, environment and climate change</li> <li>○ Eco-nanotechnology and advanced materials</li> <li>○ Health, priority area of national interest.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Project eligibility criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A. For R&amp;D projects and CENTRE-SUPPORT projects:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The proposal's scope and objectives must be in accordance with the specific objectives of the priority axis</b>, as well as with the activity's objectives as stated in the request for proposals.</li> <li><b>The project must take place within Romania.</b></li> <li><b>The project's duration must be within the limits set in the request for project proposals.</b></li> <li><b>The project's research area must be within one of the priority areas and sub-areas.</b></li> <li><b>The size of the requested grant funding must be within the limits set in the request for project proposals.</b></li> <li><b>The project activities must not have received or be currently receiving funding for any public sources.</b></li> <li><b>Project proposals submitted by enterprises must prove the incentive effect of the funding</b> by submitting a written affidavit that the project activities have not begun before the submission of the funding application (except preparatory documents that confirm the project's viability). For RDI projects/activities, the start of works means the start of the RDI activities, even the first agreement between the beneficiary and the contractor on carrying out the project, depending what occurs first. Preparatory work, such as obtaining the permits and drawing up feasibility studies, is not considered the start of works. State aid cannot be requested for preparatory feasibility studies for R&amp;D activities when these studies have been done before the submission/registration of the funding application at the OI Research.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• <b>B. For investment projects (CATEDRE-ERA and TEAMING), the eligibility criteria for projects are:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CO-ECSEL projects</b> The applicant must present a copy of the contract or official document for funding from the ECSEL Joint Undertaking and provide an affidavit that the information in the funding application is identical with the information in the ECSE-funded project (except the transposition differences in the funding application format).</li> <li><b>COMPLEMENT projects</b> The applicant must present an official document from JTI that certifies that the package of additional/complementary RDI activities is an integrated part of a project evaluated and funded by JTI, and it was positively evaluated by JTI evaluators and is in accordance</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

	<p>with JTI objectives (in the case of the CLEANSKY2 certificate that certifies the “CSJU synergy label”. The applicant must present a copy of the project proposal that was evaluated and funded by JTI and will provide an affidavit that the information in the funding application is identical with the information in the proposal evaluated and funded by JTI regarding additional/complementary RDI activities (except the transposition differences in the funding application format).</p> <p><b>c) RO-EIT projects</b>              The applicant must present an official document from a Knowledge and Innovation Community (EIT KIC) or a regional innovation scheme from EIT (EIT RIS) that confirms its affiliation to one of them as a partner.</p> <p><b>d) RO-ERIC projects</b>              The applicant must present the European Commission’s Decision to establish a pan-European infrastructure like ERIC on the basis of the Council Regulation (EC) 723/2009, including the Infrastructure Statute (annexed to the Decision), that confirms that Romania is a member or observer, and an official document that confirms the representative from Romania within this infrastructure with a role of national facilitation of partner research.</p> <p><b>e) SMEInstrument Phase 2 Finalists (Seal of Excellence) projects</b>              The applicant must present an official document from the European Commission that certifies the “Seal of Excellence”, as a finalist in the H2020 competitions such as H2020-SMEINST Phase 2. The applicant must present a copy of the project proposal that obtained the “Seal of Excellence” and provide an affidavit that that the information in the funding application is identical with the information in the proposal that obtained the “Seal of Excellence” (except the transposition differences in the funding application format).</p> <p><b>f) CENTRE-SUPPORT</b>              The applicant must provide an affidavit regarding the list of FP6/FP7/H2020 projects that the applicant has contracted as a member or coordinator in the 2005-2015 period (“grant agreement”, “accession form”, “grant preparation form” or participation agreement signed in 2005 or after), as well as other projects with foreign funding contracted in the same period and the amount of EU/international funding obtained by the applicant on these projects. The total of the EU/international funding contracted by the applicant between 2005 and 2015 will be done.  <b>An applicant can submit only a single CENTRE-SUPPORT project proposal. All the applicant’s proposals that submit more than one CENTRE-SUPPORT proposal will be ineligible.</b></p> <p><b>g) CATEDRE-ERA projects</b>              The applicant must present an official funding document („grant agreement”) signed with the European Commission, as a result of winning a “ERA-Chiars” competition organised and funded by the H2020 programme.</p> <p><b>h) TEAMING projects</b>              The applicant must present an official funding document („grant agreement”) signed with the European Commission, as a result of winning the first phase (preparatory phase) of a “Teaming” competition organised and funded by the H2020 programme.</p>
<p><b>Ineligible activities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within the current action, funding <b>will not be awarded</b> for:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ export activities to foreign countries or Member States, linked directly to the export quantity, to the creation and functioning of a distribution network or for other costs currently linked to export activities;</li> <li>○ the use of mainly national products to the detriment of imported products;</li> <li>○ activities for processing and marketing agricultural products, in cases where:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ i) the funding value is determined on the basis of the price or quantity of such products purchased from primary producers or sold to the enterprises involved;</li> <li>▪ ii) awarding the grants is conditional on the obligation to be fully or partially passed on to primary producers.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Eligible activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For these projects, the following activities are eligible:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ fundamental research activities;</li> <li>○ industrial research activities;</li> <li>○ experimental development activities;</li> <li>○ activities for developing preparatory feasibility studies for R&amp;D activities;</li> <li>○ activities for obtaining, validating and protecting industrial property rights (for research organisations and SMEs);</li> <li>○ information and publicity activities for the project (only for research organisations);</li> <li>○ project management (only for research organisations).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Eligible costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs for fundamental/industrial/experimental development research                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Costs for personnel (researchers, technicians and auxiliary staff to extent that they are engaged in the research project)</li> <li>2. Costs for purchasing tangible assets, to the extent of the duration that they will be used for the research project</li> <li>3. Costs for purchasing fixed intangible assets</li> <li>4. Costs for purchasing services</li> <li>5. Costs for the amortisation of the buildings and facilities, to the extent of the duration that they will be used for fundamental/industrial/experimental development research</li> <li>6. Costs for renting land to extent that it serves the realisation of the fundamental/industrial/experimental development research activities</li> <li>7. General administration costs (overheads) incurred directly from fundamental/industrial/experimental development research activities</li> <li>8. Costs for purchasing substances, materials, plants, laboratory animals, consumables and other similar products necessary to conduct fundamental/industrial/experimental development research activities</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Costs for drawing up preparatory feasibility studies for R&amp;D activities</li> <li>• Costs for obtaining, validating and protecting industrial property rights (for research organisations and SMEs);</li> <li>• General administration costs (overheads) – eligible by applying a flat rate of 25% of the total eligible direct costs, except for eligible direct costs for purchasing.</li> <li>• Other costs are eligible only for research organisations:                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information and publicity costs for the project</li> <li>2. Project management costs</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Eligibility conditions for enterprises</b></li> <li>• The applying enterprise is eligible if it meets the following conditions, with its justification in the documentation that is submitted by the date mentioned project proposal application/call.                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The applicant is a legal person that is registered and carries out its activities in Romania.</li> <li>b) R&amp;D activity is the principal/secondary activity of the enterprise.</li> <li>c) The enterprise does not have outstanding debts to public institutions, and has met its fiscal obligations on time (taxes and other contributions to the state budget, specialised budgets and local authority budgets), as per the law currently in force.</li> <li>d) The enterprise is not in any financial difficulties.</li> <li>e) The enterprise is not bankrupt or in liquidation, its affairs are not managed by a bankruptcy court or its business activities are not suspended or subject to a creditor arrangement or it is not in a similar situation as regulated by law.</li> <li>f) The enterprise is not subject to an unexecuted recovery order resulting from a European Commission decision that has declared a state aid unlawful and incompatible with the internal market.</li> <li>g) The legal representative of the enterprise has not been convicted in the last years in a final court judgement for an act that breached professional ethics or for committing a professional error.</li> <li>h) The legal representative of the enterprise has not been convicted in a final court judgement for fraud, corruption, organised crime or for committing other</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Applicant eligibility criteria</b></p>	<p>crimes against the financial interests of the European Union.</p> <p>i) Information about the applicant must be registered and updated in the RPC (Register for Potential Contractors).</p> <p>j) Applicants that are small and medium-sized enterprises must submit a declaration with information regarding the classification of an enterprise as an SME.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Eligibility conditions for research organisations</b></li> <li>• The applicant is eligible if it meets the following conditions, with its justification in the documentation that is submitted by the date mentioned project proposal application/call.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The applicant carries out R&amp;D activities in Romania.</li> <li>b) The applicant is a research organisation and is formed and structured as such.</li> <li>c) Information about the applicant must be registered and updated in the RPC (Register for Potential Contractors), namely:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The statute and incorporation documents of the institution / Extract from the Trade Register with details about the shareholders and the capital / The registration (incorporation) certificate from the Trade Register;</li> <li>▪ The official balance sheets for the previous two years, including the profit and loss account.</li> </ul> </li> <li>d) The applicants must prove its ownership rights or administration rights or concession rights over the land, and, as the case, the ownership, the concession, the administration or the lease of the building where the investment is being made.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>																																											
<p><b>Project duration</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Maximum 36 months</b></li> </ul>																																											
<p><b>Grant value</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The grant value for an <b>ECSEL</b> project is <b>maximum RON 1,000.000.</b></li> <li>• The grant value for a <b>COMPLEMENT</b> project is <b>maximum RON 4.500.000.</b></li> <li>• The grant value for a <b>RO-EIT</b> project is <b>maximum RON 4.500.000.</b></li> <li>• The grant value for a <b>RO-ERIC</b> project is <b>maximum RON 9.000.000.</b></li> <li>• The grant value for a <b>SMEInstrument Phase 2 Finalists (Seal of Excellence)</b> project is <b>maximum RON 2.500.000.</b></li> <li>• The grant value for a <b>CENTRE-SUPORT</b> project is <b>maximum RON 4.500.000.</b></li> <li>• The grant value for a <b>CATEDRE-ERA</b> project is <b>maximum RON 20.000.000.</b></li> <li>• The grant value for a <b>TEAMING</b> project is <b>maximum RON 20.000.000.</b></li> </ul>																																											
<p><b>Intensity and size of the grant</b></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Activity</th> <th colspan="3">Enterprise</th> <th rowspan="2">Research organisation</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Large</th> <th>Medium-sized</th> <th>Small</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fundamental research</td> <td>100%</td> <td>100%</td> <td>100%</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial research</td> <td>50%</td> <td>60%</td> <td>70%</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Experimental development</td> <td>25%</td> <td>35%</td> <td>45%</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Developing preparatory feasibility studies for R&amp;D activities</td> <td>50%</td> <td>60%</td> <td>70%</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Obtaining, validating and protecting industrial property rights</td> <td>-</td> <td>50%</td> <td>50%</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial research with the dissemination of the results</td> <td>65%</td> <td>75%</td> <td>80%</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Experimental development with the dissemination of the results</td> <td>40%</td> <td>50%</td> <td>60%</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Enterprise			Research organisation	Large	Medium-sized	Small	Fundamental research	100%	100%	100%	100%	Industrial research	50%	60%	70%	100%	Experimental development	25%	35%	45%	100%	Developing preparatory feasibility studies for R&D activities	50%	60%	70%	100%	Obtaining, validating and protecting industrial property rights	-	50%	50%	100%	Industrial research with the dissemination of the results	65%	75%	80%	100%	Experimental development with the dissemination of the results	40%	50%	60%	100%
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<p><b>Call for submissions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Continuous submission</b> after opening date (first come - first served)</li> <li>• Call launch date: <b>Estimated 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016</b></li> </ul>																																											

**Application file**

- **Enterprises**
  - Funding application
  - Affidavit regarding the enterprise's eligibility
  - Declaration regarding the avoidance of double funding from public funds
  - Affidavit regarding the confirmation of the incentivising effect
  - Declaration certifying the application
  - Declaration regarding eligibility/non-deductibility of the VAT from the eligible costs included in the budget proposed for grants from structural instruments (where applicable)
  - Affidavit regarding the classification of the enterprise as an SME (where applicable)
  - The decision of the company's AGM/EGM/board that approves the project to participate in the POC-A1-A1.1.4-2014-x competition, as well as financial contribution of the applicant for the project
  - Certificate or extract from the Trade Register with details about the shareholders and capital (where applicable)
  - Statute and legal document establishing the institution and, where applicable, the registration (incorporation) certificate from the Trade Register
  - The financial situation of the enterprise in the previous two years
  - **CO-ECSEL projects :**
    - Contract or official document for funding from the ECSEL Joint Undertaking
    - Conformity affidavit
  - **COMPLEMENT projects:**
    - Certification document from JTI (in the case of the CLEANSKY2 certificate "CSJU synergy label")
    - Project proposal evaluated and accepted for funding by JTI
    - Conformity affidavit
  - **RO-EIT projects:**
    - Official document from a Knowledge and Innovation Community (EIT KIC) or a regional innovation scheme from EIT (EIT RIS)
    - Background note on the values contained in the indicative budgets from the funding application (on paper and CD); offers must be presented only on CD
  - **RO-ERIC projects:**
    - European Commission's Decision to establish pan-European infrastructure like ERIC and the relevant Statute
    - Official document that certifies the delegate from Romania within this infrastructure
    - Background note on the values contained in the indicative budgets from the funding application (on paper and CD); offers must be presented only on CD
  - **FINALIST-IMM projects:**
    - Official document from the European Commission that certifies the "Seal of Excellence"
    - The SME Instrument (Phase 2) project proposal that obtained the "Seal of Excellence"
    - Conformity affidavit
- **Research organisations**
  - Declaration regarding the avoidance of double funding from public funds
  - Declaration certifying the application
  - Declaration regarding its classification as a research organisation
  - Declaration regarding eligibility/non-deductibility of the VAT from the eligible costs included in the budget proposed for grants from structural instruments (where applicable)
  - Certificate from the Trade Register (where applicable)
  - Extract from the Trade Register with details about the shareholders and capital (where applicable)
  - Statute and legal document establishing the institution
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- **SUPPORT projects:**
  - Affidavit regarding the list of FP6/FP7/H2020 projects that the applicant has contracted as a member or coordinator in the 2005-2015, as well as other projects with foreign funding contracted in the same period and the amount of EU/international funding obtained by the applicant on these projects
- **CATEDRE-ERA and TEAMING projects:**
  - A copy of the official funding document („grant agreement”) signed with the European Commission
  - Background note on the values contained in the indicative budgets from the funding application (on paper and CD); offers must be presented only on CD
  - Feasibility study, done in accordance with HG nr. 28/2008; Documentation for approval if intervention works, done in accordance with HG nr. 28/2008 (where applicable)\*\*\*
  - The technical memorandum for projects that equip an existing infrastructure by purchasing new instruments and equipment and works exempted from authorisation (where applicable)
  - Affidavit that the land/property is not subject to any litigation
  - Certification note of the purchasing cost of the land/building of an authorised independent evaluator, that confirms that its value does not exceed the market value (where applicable)
  - Pre-contract of sale for the land/building where the investment will take place (where applicable)
  - The title deed for the land/building, contract of sale / concession document / rental contract / bailment contract / document conferring administration rights (where applicable)
  - Urbanism certificate and a copy of the application for the urbanism certificate. For projects that require only the acquisition of research equipment and instruments, an urbanism certificate will be presented only informational reasons, together with a copy of the application for the urbanism certificate

*Information presented in this presentation have been obtained from the funding programme’s Applicant Guide, as published on the Ministry of European Funds website, hence our liability is limited to the extent thereof.*

▶ To benefit from a preliminary verification of your project’s eligibility, please provide us with a few relevant details in [our online questionnaire](#), and we will contact as soon as possible.

▶ For any details or additional information, please contact us.

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