

[ROK Government/Ministry of Trade, Industry & Energy]

Call for R&D Project Submissions

Overview

The Korean government (Ministry of Trade, Industry & Energy /MOTIE) is accepting joint R&D project proposals for the *Advanced Technology Center Plus* program (ACT+) for 2022. The program aims to support Korea research institutes of SME's to strengthen their R&D capabilities and promote them as industry key players in specified fields.

Category	Convenient and Safe Future Transportation	Customized Smart Healthcare	Smart and Convenient Lifestyle	Clean and Smart Energy/Environment
Public's Quality of Life (Demand)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy hydrogen vehicles - Self-driving vehicles - Eco-friendly smart shipbuilding plants - Next generation aviation (including drones) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital healthcare - Customized bio diagnosis/treatment - Smart medical devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smart home - Service robot - Wearable devices - Display - Intelligence information service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hydrogen energy - Renewable energy (solar/wind) - Intelligent electricity system - Enhancing energy efficiency - Clean production - Safe nuclear power and dismantlement
(Demand customized smart manufacturing) Production (Supply)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cutting edge new material - Intelligent semiconductor - Cutting edge manufacturing process/equipment - Smart industrial machines - Design integration - Smart engineering - 3D printing 		

The international industry/academic/institute collaboration track of this program will have a Korean SME with its own research institute/department in Korea as the leading research institute to collaborate with an overseas industry (company) / academic / institute.

Budget support: 5.5 billion won / roughly 4 million euros (for up to 4 years, up to 11 projects)
600 million won / 440 thousand euros

Procedure

- A Korean institute will take the lead, form a consortium with one or more overseas organization and write the proposal. Deadline is February 7, 2022.
- An MOU the Korean and foreign entity must be submitted with the project proposal (including the scope of research, interaction plan, R&D results sharing plan etc.)
- Establishment of a 'global collaboration center': a shared office facility with research equipment, meeting room etc.

Assessment Procedure

1. Pre-evaluation (Form an evaluation committee)
2. Document evaluation (Research institute growth/development plan + R&D development plan)
 - Up to 2x the no. of the final projects will be selected
3. Research institute's capability evaluation and site visit
Presentation (Growth/development plan: 55%, R&D development plan: 45%)
4. Announcement

1. Pre-evaluation
 - Check documents and compliance of government support
 2. Document evaluation
 - Evaluate (relative grading) the projects selected for presentations (up to 2x)
 3. Site visit
 - Check and inspect the research institute
 - May be online or postponed subject to COVID-19 restrictions
- Presentation
- The results of the site visit will be used as reference in the presentation evaluation
 - Those declining a site visit will not be considered for a presentation
 - Growth/development plan (55%) and R&D development plan (45%) will both be a total of 100 points which will then be converted as a %

Timeline

February 7, 2022: Deadline for submissions

'22. 2. ~ 3. : Pre-evaluation / document evaluation
'22. 3. : Finalize document evaluations
'22. 3. : Notify results and appeal
'22. 4. : Site visit and presentations
'22. 4. : Finalize results
'22. 4. Notify results and appeal
'22 .4. Sign agreements and provide government funding

Assessment Criteria

(Site visit)

CEO/CTO: R&D investment and activities

- R&D investment experience after being designated as a research institute
- R&D activities after being designated as a research institute

R&D planning/management system

- R&D plan: A year by year (5) mid-long term plan (roadmap) on technology innovation
Materials, equipment procurement level
- Process management: Project management structure
Project information database
Project process management system
System for open research (external cooperation / personnel database)

(Document evaluation and presentation)

Research institute R&D capability (20%)

- Background and history
- Current capabilities (organizational, manpower, infrastructure, network, technical/economic outcomes)

Research institute growth (development) plan (60%)

- R&D plan (roadmap)
- Personnel procurement plan
- Investment plan (financing plan)
- Collaboration plan (how the research institute will collaborate with the overseas partner and its operation of the global collaboration center)

Growth (development) direction of the research institute and R&D plan alignment (20%)

- Alignment with the research institute and company
- Alignment of the growth/development plan and the R&D plan

(R&D research development plan)

Researcher and research capabilities (15%)

- Expertise of the researchers
- Intellectual property records of the relevant field

Selected partner organization (15%)

- Expertise of the partner organization
- Role allocation between the organizations
- Result sharing plan between the organizations

Creativity and integrity (40%)

- Creativity of the suggested technology in relation to the field
- Specifics and integrity of the development objectives
- Appropriateness of the technology procurement strategy

Results utilization plan (20%)

- Business model
- Job creation effects
- Spillover effect in the community and industry

R&D budget appropriateness

- Labor cost and incentives
- R&D system establishment

Materials, equipment, gear, AI, big data, system semi-conductor, bio health, future vehicles will receive **2 bonus points**.

Low carbon (ecofriendly, carbon deduction, greenhouse gas deduction, energy efficiency etc.), aerospace, space industry projects will receive **3 bonus points**.

Detailed information in Korean can be found here: <https://itech.keit.re.kr/index.do#02010100>