

POTENTIAL – CALL I

Support can be obtained for investments in establishing or expanding a development centre (department) aimed at research and development of products and technologies, including the development of specific software needed to innovate the production; specific software means a software that is an integral part of the product or technology. Innovation or development of specific software thus lead to product or technology innovation. The centre should contribute to the introduction of technologically new or innovative products, production lines, manufacturing processes and technologies. However, there must be a realistic expectation that the results of the centre's work will really be used in production activities.

SCHEDULE

Receipt of project applications:

- Applications stage I: 1 June 2015 – 31 August 2015
- Applications stage II: 1 December 2015 – 29 February 2016

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

- a) Establishment or expansion of industrial research, development and innovation centres based on the acquisition of land, buildings, machinery and other equipment necessary to carry out the activities of the centre.
- b) In the case of SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) the aid includes also selected operating costs of the centre.

APPLICANT

- An eligible beneficiary shall be a business entity, an agricultural entrepreneur (defined by Act No 252/1997 Coll., on agriculture) or an entrepreneur in the food sector specializing in the production of items not listed in Annex I to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, with a project in the field of R&D and innovation.
- The applicant is authorized to conduct business in the territory of the Czech Republic corresponding to the supported economic activity, which the project is being implemented for.
- The applicant is registered (according to the applicant's affidavit) as an income tax payer with the Tax Office pursuant to s. 125 of Act No 280/2009 Coll., Tax Code, as amended, continuously at least for two closed tax periods preceding the date of filing the application.
- The applicant does not have any outstanding liabilities (according to its affidavit) towards the selected institutions and towards the providers of aid under projects co-financed from the European Union budget. Deferral of outstanding arrears or an agreement to pay the arrears shall be considered to constitute settled arrears.

- The applicant does not have any outstanding liabilities (according to its affidavit) based on its employees' wage and salary claims.
- The applicant does not have any outstanding liability based on a recovery order issued after a prior Commission's decision declaring the aid illegal and incompatible with the common market.

SECTORAL DEFINITION

- The aid shall support projects with outputs affecting the sectors defined by CZ-NACE C 10, 13 – 33; E 38.32; J 62, M 71.2, S 95.1.
- 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 3 to the Call
 - agriculture, forestry, fishing, aquaculture (CZ-NACE A 01, A 02, A03)

KEY CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must be implemented in the Czech Republic outside the territory of the Capital City of Prague.
- The project does not expect any aid directly linked to the quantities exported (export subsidies), aid to the establishment and operation of a distribution network abroad or any aid to other current expenditure linked to the export activity (customs duties, insurance, etc.) 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 applicant's financial health expressed as a simplified economic evaluation by the intermediary must not be less than 5 points.
- Compliance of the project with the National RIS3 Strategy will be verified within the project evaluation.
- The minimum investment in fixed assets used to provide activities for the project amounts to CZK 4 million for SMEs, CZK 10 million for large enterprises.
- Each applicant (1 Id. No.) shall be entitled to submit only four projects under this call (i.e. four active applications).

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- Tangible fixed assets – purchase of land, buildings, machinery and other equipment needed to equip R& D centres.
- Intangible fixed assets – acquisition of patents, licenses and know-how.
- Selected operating costs (only for SMEs) – personal costs of graduates, consultant and expert services and studies.
- Expenses on the obligatory publicity of the project.

THE FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID

- The project subsidy shall be provided at the minimum amount of CZK 2 million and up to the maximum amount of CZK 75 million / CZK 150 million in regions facing economic problems and areas with above-average unemployment rates.
- The aid shall be granted up to 50 % of the total eligible expenditure notwithstanding the size of the undertaking and the project location.