

Annex 2 - Call for proposals BIN 01 - Selection Criteria (including evaluation sheet)

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Call for proposals on the support of innovation and business development

**CALL CODE: BIN 01**

Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014 – 2021

### 1. ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE CRITERIA

No.	Criterion	Source of verification	Yes/No	Note
1.	The grant application was submitted within the period set by the Call for proposals and latest by the Call deadline	Date of submission/ record of the application in <i>egrant</i> system		
2.	The grant application was submitted within the electronic grant system <i>egrant</i> using relevant application form	Electronic application in <i>egrant</i> system		
3.	All mandatory annexes listed in the Article 11 of the Call are attached:	Electronic application in <i>egrant</i> system		
	a) Signed Partnership Statement (Annex 4 of the Call), letter of intent or other similar document proving partner's interest in participating in the project <sup>1</sup>			
	b) Applicant's and Slovak Partner's approved financial statements from the previous economic/calendar year <sup>2</sup>			

<sup>1</sup> Submitted by the applicant if the project will be implemented in partnership. The answer "yes" applies to all criteria relating to partnership also if project will be not implemented in partnership.

<sup>2</sup> Mandatory for subjects requesting aid under the relevant state aid scheme, if the financial statement is not published in the Register of financial statements. The answer "yes" is given if the applicant/partner is not subject to the relevant state aid scheme.

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	c) Signed Declaration of the Applicant and each Partner (Annex 5 of the Call)			
	d) Filled in and signed Declaration of the Applicant and each Partner for de minimis aid granted (Annex 6 of the Call) <sup>3</sup>			
	e) Filled in and signed Declaration determining the size category of the enterprise (Annex 8 of the Call) <sup>4</sup> .			
4.	The applicant has submitted all missing documents, information, eliminated the identified deficiencies within the set deadline? <sup>5</sup>	Electronic application in egrant system or email or written communication		

## 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

No.	Criterion	Source of verification	Yes/No	Note
1.	Is the applicant and partner(s) eligible subjects for the chosen Call?	Electronic application in <i>egrant</i> system, Commercial Register and other available registers.		
2.	Was the minimal and maximal amount of the Grant that can be applied for observed?	Electronic application in e-grant system		
3.	The project implementation does not exceed the date indicated in the Call.	Electronic application in e-grant system		
4..	The applicant has chosen 2 mandatory indicators from Article 2 of the Call.	Electronic application in e-grant system		

<sup>3</sup> Submitted by the applicant and the partner in case of de minimis aid granted under the relevant de minimis aid scheme. The answer "yes" is given if the applicant/partner is not subject to the relevant de minimis aid scheme.

<sup>4</sup> Submitted by the applicant and the partner in case of aid granted under the relevant state aid scheme and/or the relevant de minimis aid scheme. The answer "yes" is given if the applicant/partner is not subject to the relevant state aid scheme and/or the relevant de minimis aid scheme.

<sup>5</sup> Applicable if the Programme Operator has requested the missing documents or the elimination of deficiencies. The answer „yes“ is also given in the case of an applicant who has not been requested to complete missing documents or eliminate deficiencies.

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5.	The applicant has chosen at least 2 non-mandatory indicators from Article 2 of the Call.	Electronic application in e-grant system		
6.	The applicant (incl. partner <sup>6</sup> ) is not an undertaking in difficulty within the meaning of point 20 of Communication from the Commission (2014/C 249 /01) <sup>7</sup> .	Declaration of the Applicant/Partner <sup>8</sup>		
7.	The applicant's (incl. partner) assets is not subject to bankruptcy or restructuring proceedings, bankruptcy proceedings have not been closed due to lack of assets (Act No. 7/2005 Coll. on bankruptcy and restructuring and on amendments to certain laws).	Declaration of the Applicant/Partner		
8.	The applicant (incl. partner) is not an undertaking which is subject to an outstanding recovery order following a previous Commission decision declaring an aid illegal and incompatible with the internal market.	Declaration of the Applicant/Partner		
9.	The applicant (incl. partner) has not been lawfully convicted under Act No. 91/2016 Coll. on Criminal Liability of Legal Entities and on Amendments to Certain Acts.	Declaration of the Applicant/Partner		
10.	The applicant (incl. partner) do not have tax liabilities (Act No. 563/2009 Coll. on Tax Administration (Tax Code) and on amendments to certain acts).	Declaration of the Applicant/Partner		
11.	The applicant (incl. partner) do not have health insurance, social insurance and retirement savings liabilities (Act No. 580/2004 Coll. Act on Health Insurance and on amendment and amendment of Act No. 95/2002 Coll. on insurance and on amendments to certain laws; Act No. 461/2003 Coll. on social insurance; Act No. 43/2004 Coll. on old-age pension savings and on amendments to certain laws).	Declaration of the Applicant/Partner		
12.	Enforcement of a decision is not made against the applicant (incl. partner).	Declaration of the Applicant/Partner		
13.	The applicant (incl. partner) must not violate the illegal prohibition employment under a special regulation (Act No. 82/2005 Coll. on illegal work and illegal work employment as amended) during 3 years.	Declaration of the Applicant//Partner		

<sup>6</sup> In the references to the legislation in the relevant criteria, the Norwegian partner is subject to Norwegian legislation

<sup>7</sup> Relevant for the applicant and the partner in case the granting of state aid under the relevant state aid scheme applies. The answer "yes" is given if the applicant/partner is not subject to the relevant state aid scheme.

<sup>8</sup> The Declaration of the Applicant and the Partner forms Annex 5 of the Call

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14.	The applicant (incl. partner) during the two years prior to the submission of the aid application, has not been transferred to the establishment where the initial investment for which the aid is requested is to be made, and undertakes not to do so within two years of the completion of the initial investment for which the aid is requested <sup>9,10</sup>	Declaration of the Applicant/Partner		
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Only applications meeting all Administrative Compliance and Eligibility Criteria will be assessed on Content-related criteria.

### 3. CONTENT RELATED CRITERIA

No.	Criterion	Criterion description	Min.- Max. score	Achieved Score	Comments
1.	<b>RELEVANCE (max 10 points)</b>				
1.1	Compliance of the project with the defined output, outcome, the goal of the program and the overall goals of Norway Grants 2014-2021	<p><u>Programme's outcome:</u> Increased competitiveness of Slovak enterprises within the focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Industry Innovation</li> <li>• Welfare technology and Ambient Assisted Living technologies</li> </ul> <p><u>Programme's outputs:</u> Enterprises supported to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop innovative green technologies, processes, solutions, products or services,</li> </ol>	0 - 5		

<sup>9</sup> For commitments entered into before 31 December 2019, no loss of employment in the same or a similar activity in one of the Beneficiary's original establishments in the EEA which took place between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2021 shall be considered as a transfer in within the meaning of Article 2 (1) 61a of Commission Regulation No. 651/2014

<sup>10</sup> Relevant if the aid is granted to the applicant/partner under the Art. 14 of the relevant state aid scheme. The answer "yes" is given if the applicant/partner is not subject to the Art. 14 of the relevant state aid scheme.

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		<p>2. Green their business operations,</p> <p>3. Innovate welfare and ambient assisted living technologies, solutions and processes.</p> <p><u>Overall Programme objectives:</u> reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area (EEA) and strengthening bilateral relations between Slovakia and Norway</p>			
1.2	Reflection of the cross-cutting issues in the project proposal	<p>The project took into account relevant cross-cutting issues: gender equality, Roma inclusion and empowerment, social inclusion of vulnerable groups other than Roma,, anti-discrimination, transparency and anti-corruption.</p> <p>The implementation of the project will positively contribute to one or more cross-cutting issues mentioned above.</p>	0 - 5		
<b>2.</b>	<b>EFFECTIVENESS (max. 30 points)</b>				
2.1	The planned activities are directly linked to the output, outcome and objective of the Programme	Project activities are logically connected with the defined output and outcome of the Programme and their implementation will contribute to the overall objective of the Programme. The project has a clear, logical structure.	0 - 8		
2.2	Achievability of target values of the project indicators	There is a high assumption that the applicant will reach the target values of the indicators through the implementation of project activities. The indicators are chosen appropriately with regard to the focus of the project and the main area of support, the proposed target values of the indicators are realistic (they are not overestimated or underestimated).	0 - 5		
2.3	Originality and innovativeness of the project at the company, industry, national or international level	Quality of the project and proposed solutions, perspective of new, unique solutions, modern approach, high added value of the results in long term perspective.	0 - 5		

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2.4	The contribution of the project in terms of the target group	The applicant has clearly identified the relevant main target group (or sub-target group) and stated what benefits (direct or indirect) the implementation of the project will bring.	0 - 2		
<b>Criteria for prioritized projects</b>					
2.5	Project is implemented in a less developed area <sup>11</sup>	If the implementation of the project is located in a less developed area, the evaluator awards 2 points. If not, the evaluator awards 0 points.	0 / 2		
2.6	A young entrepreneur is involved in the project implementation <sup>12</sup>	If a young entrepreneur is involved in the implementation of the project, the evaluator awards 1 point. If not, the evaluator awards 0 points.	0 / 2		
2.7	A female entrepreneur is involved in the project implementation <sup>13</sup> .	If a female entrepreneur is involved in the implementation of the project, the evaluator will award 1 point. If not, the evaluator will award 0 points.	0 / 2		
2.8	Bilateral partnership	At least one partner from the Donor state, i.e. from Norway, is actively involved in the project implementation. The partner participates in the implementation of activities and makes significant contribution to achieving the goal of the project. If at least one partner from Norway is involved in the project implementation, the evaluator awards 2 points. If not, the evaluator awards 0 points.	0 / 2		

<sup>11</sup> The geographical location of the project is in less developed regions in the Slovak Republic, where GDP per capita is lower than 75% of the EU average (NUTS 2 region)

<sup>12</sup> Young entrepreneur – an applicant whose statutory representative, owner or majority co-owner (shareholder or partner with a share in the registered capital of the applicant exceeding 50%) is a natural person who is less than 29 years old on the date of submission of the project

<sup>13</sup> Woman entrepreneur – an applicant whose statutory representative, owner or majority co-owner (shareholder or partner with a share in the registered capital of the applicant exceeding 50%) is a woman

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2.9.	Applicant is an SME <sup>14</sup>	If applicant is an SME, the evaluator will award 2 points. If not, the evaluator will award 0 points.	0 / 2		
<b>3.</b>	<b>EFFICIENCY (max 40 points)</b>				
3.1	Feasibility of the planned activities	The applicant is able to successfully implement the planned activities within the set timeline, planned personnel, material and financial resources.	0 - 7		
3.2	Capacities of the applicant	The applicant has sufficient material and personnel (taking into account the quantity and quality) resources to ensure the implementation of project activities and achieve the defined outputs.	0 - 3		
3.3	Budget adequacy and efficiency	The project budget is prepared in sufficient detail, is realistic (not overestimated or underestimated) and cost-effective and is in line with the call, the Guideline for Applicant, the Regulation and the Financial Guide. Planned project expenditures are directly linked to project activities.	0 - 10		
3.4	Quality and feasibility of the Business Plan	The applicant has elaborated detailed and clear business plan presenting the roadmap for the firm from marketing, financial, and operational standpoints. The Business plan contains all mandatory and key parts and is based on realistic economic data and forecast. The Business plan is a good basis for achieving the planned goals and meaningful use of the financial investment in the form of a grant.	0 – 8		
3.5	Project co-financing	It is assumed that the applicant or partner(s) have sufficient and demonstrable financial resources to co-finance the	0 - 1		

<sup>14</sup> A micro, small or medium-sized enterprise as defined in Annex I to Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market pursuant to Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/SK/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32014R0651>

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		project (financial statements, available information on the financial balance of the entities involved).			
3.6	Risk analysis and management	The applicant clearly identified the risks and proposed appropriate measures to eliminate, resp. mitigate them.	0 – 4		
3.7	SWOT analysed	SWOT analysis is well elaborated, complex and presents all important and key internal and external factors that affect the project.  Internal factors, manageable by applicant, project strengths and positive opportunities, outweigh external factors and threats, that could seriously jeopardize the project.	0 - 6		
3.8	Communication strategy	The applicant has developed communication strategy for informing and disseminating project results in accordance with the terms of the call.	0 – 1		
<b>4.</b>	<b>IMPACT (max 10 points)</b>				
4.1	The project contributes to building and strengthening the business environment in the selected area of support	The supported undertakings bring innovative competition in its environment and the selected area of support, contributes to the development of the knowledge economy and the creation of new jobs, has the potential to contribute to economic growth at least in the place of implementation, develops business partnerships in SR.	0 - 5		
4.2	The contribution of the project in terms of developing partnerships with the Donor state	The partner from the Donor state, i.e. Norway, is involved in the project. His contribution is not only formal, there is a high precondition for cooperation even after the end of the project financing.	0 - 5		
<b>5.</b>	<b>SUSTAINABILITY (max 10 points)</b>				
5.1	The potential of the project in terms of achieved results, benefits for target	After the end of the financing, the project is able to generate income and the benefits achieved by its implementation will serve the target group and other	0 - 5		



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	groups and stakeholders in the long-term perspective	stakeholders. The project also brings possible (secondary) positive benefits from a long term perspective.			
5.2	Sustainability of project solutions from a long-term perspective	The solutions provided by the project implementation are effective and sustainable and can be applied in the long term.	0 - 5		
<b>Total score achieved:</b>					
<b>The maximum achievable total score is 100. The projects with less than 60 points (in average) will not be supported.</b>					

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Recommend for funding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not recommend for funding</b>
General comment of the evaluator:	

The total allocation for the Call for proposals to support innovations and business development amounts to EUR 11 578 235 and is divided into two areas:

- 1) Green Industry Innovation, in the amount of EUR 7 567 882 and
- 2) Welfare Technology and Ambient Assisted Living in the amount of EUR 4 010 353

In the case that the available amount is not used in one of the areas and the available amount of funds is insufficient in the other area, the Program Operator will seek to transfer funds to the area with insufficient available amount on the basis of the Selection Committee's recommendation. The Selection Committee may propose the transfer of funds from one area to another, if the submitted application should support qualitatively weaker projects in one area at the expense of qualitatively stronger projects in the other.