NCN’s Contact Point for the T-AP DGT Call 2023: Democracy, Governance and Trust

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Financial contribution: 600 000 EUR (no cap per project)

Proposal submission

Lead Principal Investigators of the international consortium must submit:

- Notice of Intent to Apply – via FAPESP website, by 29 September 2023. (updated on 8 September 2023)
- Full Proposal – via SAGe system, by 6 November 2023.

Applicants requesting NCN funding must additionally submit a national proposal to NCN – via OSF system, by 13 November 2023 (15:00 CET).

PLEASE NOTE: Full Proposal must be attached to the national proposal submitted via OSF. Information in both proposals must be consistent (e.g. costs planned must be the same and equal).

Funding Criteria and Regulations

National eligibility requirements for applicants requesting NCN funding are provided in the Annex to the National Science Centre (NCN) Council’s Resolution No. 32/2023 on the terms and regulations on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration UNISONO (hereinafter: UNISONO: version in EN; version in PL).

Only proposals involving basic research (empirical or theoretical work seeking to expand knowledge of the fundamentals of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct commercial use) may be awarded NCN funding in the T-AP DGT Call 2023.

Who may apply for NCN funding? (eligible entities)

Proposals may be submitted by entities specified in Article 27 (1) of the NCN Act:

1. universities,
2. federations of science and Higher Education (HE) entities,
3. research institutes of the Polish Academy of Sciences operating pursuant to the Act on the Polish Academy of Sciences of 30 April 2010 (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 1796, as amended),
4. research institutes operating pursuant to the Act on Research Institutes of 30 April 2010 (Journal of Laws 2022, item 498, as amended),
5. international research institutes established pursuant to other acts and acting in the Republic of Poland,
5a. Łukasiewicz Centre operating pursuant to the Act on the Łukasiewicz Research Network of 21 February 2019 (Journal of Laws 2020, item 2098, as amended),
5b. institutes operating within the Łukasiewicz Research Network,
6. Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences,
7. other entities involved in research independently on a continuous basis,
8. groups of entities (at least two entities mentioned in sections 1-7 or at least one institution as such together with at least one company)*,
9. scientific and industrial centres laid down in the Act on Research Centres of 30 April 2010 (Journal of Laws 2020, item 1383, as amended),
10. research centres of the Polish Academy of Sciences laid down in the Act on the Polish Academy of Sciences of 30 April 2010 (Journal of Laws 2020, item 1796, as amended),
11. scientific libraries,
12. companies operating as R&D centres within the meaning of the Act on Certain Forms of Support for Innovation Activities of 30 May 2008 (Journal of Laws 2021, item 706, as amended),
13. legal entities with registered office in Poland,
13a. President of the Central Office of Measures,
14. natural persons**, and
15. companies conducting research in other organisational form than set forth in sections 1-13a.

*If two or more Polish entities apply for NCN funding, they must submit the national proposal as a group of entities. Each entity within the group has a separate budget, but the limits on the remuneration apply to the group as a whole (please see UNISONO: version in EN; version in PL). Please note that groups of entities have higher limits on the remuneration.

**If a natural person applies for funding, the project must not be carried out at a group of entities or at an entity for which NCN funding constitutes State Aid.

➢ **Who may act as a Principal Investigator?**

The Principal Investigator in the Polish (/NCN-funded) research team must be at least a PhD holder when submitting the proposal. Additional restrictions are laid down in Chapter IV of UNISONO: version in EN; version in PL.

➢ **What are the eligible costs?**

All costs relevant, necessary and directly related to the proposed research project – direct costs, including:

- Costs of salaries and scholarships:
  ✓ Full-time remuneration: funds for full-time employment of the Principal Investigator and/or Post-doc(s)
  ✓ Additional remuneration for members of the research team – Co-investigators
  ✓ Salaries and scholarships for Students and PhD Students (detailed Regulations for awarding scholarships in NCN-funded research projects: version in EN; version in PL)
- Costs of research equipment, devices and software: up to 500 000 PLN per unit
- Other direct costs, such as:
  ✓ Materials and small equipment
  ✓ Outsourcing (costs of services rendered by third parties)
  ✓ Business trips (travel and subsistence costs)
  ✓ Visits and consultations
  ✓ Compensation for collective investigators
  ✓ Other costs crucial to the research project

As well as indirect costs (/overheads) – there are two types of indirect costs:

- Indirect costs of Open Access (to publications and data) - up to 2% of the total direct costs of the project
- Other indirect costs - up to 20% of the total direct costs of the project. Other indirect costs include, i.a., administrative personnel costs, as well as costs of organizing conferences, workshops, seminars or meetings

There is no cap per project, however, the costs planned in the proposal must be well justified with regard to the subject and scope of the research, based on realistic calculations and compliant with the guidelines provided in UNISONO: version in EN; version in PL. The proposal may be rejected as ineligible if an unreasonable budget is planned and/or discrepancies occur between the costs planned in the national proposal and the Full Proposal.

Please note that cooperation with Russian entities is suspended as of 24 March 2022 and must not be planned in the proposal (thus, costs for business trips of NCN-funded researchers to Russian entities and/or costs for visits of researchers affiliated to Russian entities to NCN-funded research team must not be planned in the proposal).

Applicants requesting NCN funding must complete a budget form of the Polish research team. This budget form must be submitted with the Full Proposal, the amounts requested therein must be equal to the amounts provided in the national proposal. The total requested amount must be provided in PLN and EUR, calculated at the following exchange rate: 1 EUR = 4,5259 PLN.

We strongly advise Polish applicants to read the full information on eligible costs provided in UNISONO: version in EN; version in PL, and to consult the budget form of the Polish research team with NCN prior to proposal submission: to do so, please send the budget form of the Polish research team in .xlsx format to Przemyslaw.Puchala@ncn.gov.pl by 20 October 2023.
Additional documents

1. Terms and regulations on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls launched by the NCN and carried out as multilateral collaboration UNISONO: version in EN; version in PL
2. Regulations for awarding scholarships in NCN-funded research projects: version in EN; version in PL
4. NCN’s proposal submission procedure: version in EN; version in PL
5. Guidelines for applicants to complete the national proposal in the OSF submission system: version in EN; version in PL
6. Guidelines for applicants to complete the Data Management Plan in the national proposal: version in EN; version in PL
7. Guidelines for applicants to complete the ethics issues form in the national proposal: version in EN; version in PL
8. Code of the NCN on research integrity and applying for research funding: version in EN; version in PL
10. Resolution No. 136/2022 by the NCN Council of 8 December 2022 on collaboration with the Russian Federation within the framework of NCN-funded grants: version in EN; version in PL