SOUTHEAST ASIA-EUROPE
JOINT FUNDING SCHEME FOR
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

6th JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS OF INNOVATION
IN THE THEMATIC AREAS OF
DIGITAL HEALTH (INCL. INFECTIOUS DISEASES) AND
BIOECONOMY (INCL. APPLICATION OF ICT-BASED TECHNOLOGIES)

Type of funded projects: Southeast Asia-Europe Joint Call Projects must comprise of at least 3 partners from 3 different countries (either 2 partners from 2 different Southeast Asian countries and 1 European partner or 2 partners from 2 different European countries and 1 Southeast Asian partner) applying for funding from funding agencies participating in the call. The proposals have to cover the thematic areas of Digital Health (including Infectious Diseases) or Bioeconomy (including Application of ICT-based Technologies), to enhance bi-regional cooperation and develop new partnerships as well as strengthen existing ones. The 2020 Innovation Call aims to support projects with a strong application focus and the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) that the project begins at should at least be 3[1].

Extended Deadline: 15th of January 2021 12:00 (noon) CET/ 18:00 Jakarta time

****The deadline that was originally set on the 16th of November has now been extended to the the 15th of January 2021!****

THEMATIC AREAS

1) Digital Health (including Infectious Diseases)

Cooperation on infectious diseases of health related research between European and Southeast Asia countries is proven strong in both regions. Nonetheless, major obstacles exist to overcome the existing and increasing global health challenges including the need for a deeper understanding of diseases pathology and the socio-economic causes of the diseases and linked effectiveness of health intervention. Moreover, a crucial collaboration is emerged in the area of COVID-19 as the whole world is affected by the outbreak situation and require actions to which it can contribute. Those can be covered under the thematic area of Digital Health.

Digital health is the convergence and use of modern digital technologies and services to enhance the efficiency of healthcare delivery and make medicines more personalized and precise. It would offer more innovative ways for monitoring health and well-being. These

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[1] Referring to the definition of TRL as applied by H 2020 Work Programme:
https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl_en.pdf

technologies include but are not limited to, telemedicine, mobile phones and applications, wearable devices, remote monitoring sensors. It also involves the development of interconnected health systems to improve the use of computational technologies, smart devices, computational analysis techniques and communication media to support healthcare professionals and patients manage illnesses and health risks, as well as promote health and well-being.

2) Bioeconomy (including Application of ICT-based Technologies)

The Bioeconomy comprises those parts of the economy that use renewable biological resources from land and sea – such as crops, forests, fish, animals, and micro-organisms – to produce food, materials, and energy. Bioeconomy is a top-priority on the research agendas of the EU and ASEAN countries.

In addition to Bioeconomy issues, ICT is a crucial instrument for finding scalable and sustainable solutions. In the EU-STI Roadmap, pilots will be launched for innovative service creation based on existing technologies, with a focus on the participation of relevant innovation stakeholders from developing countries, including end-user community representatives (ICT-39-2016-2017: International partnership building in low and middle income countries in WP 2016-2017). There is interest to work on innovative service creation based on existing technologies, with focus on involving all stakeholders especially end-user community representatives, e.g. through innovation hubs and "Living Labs".

This has been translated in the ICT Work- Programme 2016-2017 with a call for "partnerships with low and middle income countries" with ASEAN being one of the regions targeted and a total budget of €13 million. It calls for the co-design, adaptation, demonstration and validation (e.g. pilots) of ICT related research and innovation in relevant thematic areas addressed by Horizon 2020 including Content Technologies and Societal Challenges.

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND FUNDING AGENCIES / MINISTRIES
1= Digital Health (incl. Infectious Diseases); 2= Bioeconomy (incl. Application of ICT-based Technologies)

- **Brunei Darussalam –** *University of Brunei Darussalam (UBD)[2]*
- **Bulgaria -** *Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF)[1+2]*
- **Cambodia –** *Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MEYS)[1+2]*
- **Czech Republic –** *Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)[1+2]*
- **Indonesia –** *Ministry of Research and Technology / National Research & Innovation Agency (RISTEK / BRIN) [1+2]*
- **Lao PDR -** *Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)[1+2]*
- **Myanmar –** *Ministry of Education (MOE)[2]*
- **The Philippines -** *Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Philippine Council for Industry, Energy & Emerging Technology (PCIEERD)[2]*
- **Spain -** *Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology (CDTI)[1+2]*
- **Thailand -** *Thailand Center for Excellence for Life Science (TCELS)[1]*
- **Turkey -** *Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK)[1+2]*
- **Vietnam –** *Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)[1+2]*

PLEASE NOTE:
Some funders only participate in one of the thematic areas. This is indicated with 1=Digital Health (incl. Infectious Diseases) and 2=Bioeconomy (incl. Application of ICT-based Technologies) after the name of each funding agency in the list above.

Scope of the projects:

Funding will be provided for the **duration of a maximum of three years (36 months)**. They should start earliest in **July 2021**.

Within the framework of the Joint Call, funding can in general be applied for:

- Personnel costs
- Equipment and consumables (project-related miscellaneous expenses and project-related larger equipment)
- Mobility costs (exchange research visits between Europe and Southeast Asia. Travel costs, living expenses and visa costs are eligible for funding.
- Other costs (Costs which cannot be classified under the previous cost items but are required for the project implementation, such as costs related to dissemination, intellectual property, demonstration, market search, management, organisational and subcontracting costs).

The eligibility of cost items and their calculation is according to respective national regulations. The respective **National Regulations** from the participating countries / the funding ministries or agencies can be downloaded at the end of this site.

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The upper funding limit can also be found in the respective national regulations.

Who can apply?

Proposals may be submitted by public legal RTD (Research and Technology Development) entities, higher education institutions, non-university research establishments, companies (all depending on national regulations). Eligibly criteria can be found in the respective national funding regulations.

Institutions not explicitly mentioned as recipients might be included in consortia if they provide their own funding (non-eligible organizations might join at their own costs). A Letter of Commitment has to be submitted in these cases. Other entities may apply if the respective national regulations allow it.

We strongly suggest that applicants discuss their intentions and confirm eligibility with their respective National Contact Point (NCP) before submitting a proposal.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Proposals for Innovation projects have to be submitted electronically using PT-Outline Web Tool, accessible through

Link: https://ptoutline.eu/app/jfs20in

During the submission phase, the web tool will be open from the publishing date of the call on **15 June 2020 until 15 January 2021, 12:00 CET (noon) / 18:00 Jakarta time.**

Any proposal that is submitted after this deadline cannot be accepted by the secretariat and therefore will not be considered for evaluation.

After successful submission of the proposal, each principal coordinator will receive an automatic **confirmation e-mail**. This e-mail can be used **as proof that the proposal was submitted on time and correctly**. In case the coordinator is not sure whether the proposal was submitted correctly, he or she should contact the call secretariat immediately and/or resend the proposal via e-mail to the call secretariat **within the deadline**.

Please note: Some funding agencies require that applicants from their respective countries **submit specific complementary documents at the national level**, in addition to the JFS application. These additional requirements will be made clear in the national regulations of the concerned countries.

Each project consortium has to choose a **Project Coordinator** from among all partners of the respective project eligible for funding (partners participating on their own budget may not be coordinators). **Only one proposal per project and applicant** should be submitted using PT-Outline. The Project Coordinator is responsible for submitting the proposal on behalf of his / her project consortium. The responsibilities of the Project Coordinator are to keep the other project partners updated on the submission process, to ensure the internal management and coordination of the project consortium and to constitute the main contact to the Joint Call Secretariat.

All proposals must be written in **English only**.

The PT-Outline electronic template consists of four pages (General information, Project coordinator, Project partners and Project description) that need to be filled-in online. In addition, a word template has to be downloaded from the project description page of PT-Outline, filled-in with the requested information, converted to PDF format and then uploaded again.

The Project description document should contain the following information (max. number of 10,000 words incl. all Annexes):

1. Basic project data
1.1 Project title
1.2 Project Acronym
1.3 Name and institution of the Project Coordinator

1.4 Names and institutions of other project partners

2. Project description
2.1 Describe why your proposal suits the respective call thematic area.
2.2 Describe as precisely as possible the technological objectives of the project.
2.3 Explain the novel character of the activities proposed. Show how the objectives of the project aim at significant advances in the state-of-the-art through extending the current technologies and/or filling the gaps identified. Why is your approach an innovation? What is the commercialization/application potential? Are there related market-needs?
2.4 Lay down the addad-value of transnational cooperation which is implemented in your consortium.
2.5 Describe what makes up the excellence of your consortium. Describe how the teams complement each other and the added value resulting from the multilateral cooperation. Mention where there is a potential for synergy effects between different tasks of the project and how this is going to be exploited.
2.6 Descirbe the multidisciplinarity / interdisiplinarity of your proposal.
2.7 Lay down if (and how) the research project matches national priorities of the partners involved.
2.8 Self-assessment of targeted Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and explanation

3. Work plan
3.1 Describe the research project with respect to the methodology; justify the methodology chosen to reach the objectives. Highlight the particular advantages of the methodology chosen.
3.2 Describe the type of activities that are implemented in your project.
3.3 Describe the distribution of tasks. What is the involvement of each partner in relation to the proposed activities? How are the resources distributed among the partners? (time plan).
3.4 Describe the management structure of your project.

4. Potential impact and exploitation of results
4.1 Describe the commercial and market-related expected impact.
4.2 Describe whether the project has any beneficial impact on society, in particular regarding societal challenges.
4.3 Describe the measures for the dissemination and / or exploitation of trans-national projects results, and management of intellectual property. What are the next steps?
4.4 Prospects for establishing efficient and sustainable partnership.

5. Financial Plan

6. Annexes
6.1 If applicable: the Letter of Commitment securing willingness to collaborate by partners from countries which are not on the list of funding for the JFS 6th Call.
6.2 CVs and lists of principal publications of participating researchers (3 pages max. per researcher).

Aims and methods of the proposed collaborative project should clearly demonstrate the excellence and innovativeness of the project, product or service, including the added value for Southeast Asia - European research and innovation cooperation and describe expected outcomes / marketability. In addition, a financial plan and a time and work-plan, including milestones, have to be included. All budgets will be submitted in Euros. The applicants will

have to identify the TRL which is targeted at the end of the project, and the TRL of the work that the project proposal is based on at the moment. This self-assessment / estimation will have to be justified in brief paragraphs.

All information inserted into the PT-Outline web tool is saved after having clicked on the "SAVE" button at the bottom of each page.

During the proposal submission phase, it is allowed to replace already registered and eligible project partners, or to add project partners to the consortium. Please note that after the binding submission of a proposal (through clicking on the 'SUBMIT NOW' button in PT-Outline) **no further changes can be made to your proposal**.

EVALUATION PROCESS

The evaluation process includes the following steps.

Eligibility check

The Joint Call Secretariat (JCS) will check all proposals to ensure that they meet the following **general eligibility criteria** of the Call:

- Date of submission
- Composition of consortium (2+1 rule)
- Duration of project
- Inclusion of all necessary information in English
- Appropriate length of the proposal
- Eligibility of the Project Coordinator
- Eligibility of the other project partners (in case the Project Coordinator or a project partner is rejected in the eligibility check, the whole proposal might be rejected)
- Eligible thematic focus
- Reflection of national priorities (if applicable)
- Eligibility of required funding
- Complete appendixes required

The JCS will forward the proposals to the National Contact Points (NCPs) who will perform a check for compliance of the respective country / national regulation.

Please note if the proposal does not meet the formal criteria / the national regulation / eligibility criteria and requirements, **may be declined without further review.**

Peer review

Independent scientific experts in the relevant thematic research fields will carry out the anonymous peer review of the eligible project proposals according to evaluation criteria set up by the funding parties. Each proposal will be evaluated by at least two online evaluators (at least one Southeast Asian and one European peer reviewer). The peer reviewers will be nominated by the Southeast Asian and European National Contact Points in cooperation with the funding parties.

The evaluation is done using the following evaluation criteria:

1. Scientific / technological excellence and innovativeness of the project idea (scoring from 0 to 10)
   - Sound concept. Has the team a sound and credible concept for the development and commercialisation of the product / service to be developed?
   - Innovativeness of the project idea: Capacity of the project to contribute to the development of a new technology, service or product.
   - Quality and effectiveness of the methodology and associated work plan.
   - Good balance between the technology / knowledge available at each participating team and between the partners with a stronger focus on the research side and those with a focus on the commercialisation side.
   - Complementarity of qualifications and relevant experience of the coordinator and the individual participants/participating teams.

2. Potential impact and expected outcomes / marketability of product or service to be developed (scoring from 0 to 10)
   - Market-need for the product / service to be developed. Has the team give a sound justification for the need for the product / service?
   - Assessment of the chances for a successful commercialisation including a brief comparison with other potentially competing products or services.
   - Potential to meet market, economical and societal needs and significant exploitation potential.
   - Prospects for establishing efficient and sustainable partnership within the network, including transfer of know-how and experience.
   - Appropriateness of measures for the dissemination and / or exploitation of trans-national project results, and management of intellectual property.
   - Assessment of the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) referring to the definition of TRL as applied by the Horizon 2020 Work Programme.

3. Management, Transnationality and Cooperation (scoring from 0 to 10)
   - Quality and effectiveness of the management structure and distribution of tasks
   - Added value of transnational cooperation.
   - Appropriate allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment).

The total score of the proposal is the weighted average of the individual scores given to each criterion, rated from 0 to 10. The table below summarizes the scores and weight coefficients per criterion:

	Criteria	Score	Weight
1.	Potential impact and expected outcomes of the project / marketability	0-10	40%
2.	Scientific / Technological excellence and innovativeness of the project idea or product / service to be developed	0-10	40%
3.	Management, Transnationality and Cooperation	0-10	20%
	TOTAL	0-10	100%

Once the peer review process is finalized, the JCS will send the proposals and pooled reviews to the Innovation Council (IC) members. The IC meeting is in charge to the final ranking based

on the peer review results. The IC members consist of internationally recognized experts offering a high degree of technical, scientific and innovation expertise in the respective research field, as well as broad experiences in international collaboration.

The final ranking list as well as the written remarks by the IC will be forwarded to the Programme Steering Committee (PSC) for the funding decision meeting.

Funding Decision

Based on the ranking list established and the written minutes of the IC meeting, as well as the available funding, the PSC will take a final decision. The JSC will communicate to all project coordinators about the final decisions of their proposal together with the main comments from the IC about the proposal. In the case of a positive funding decision, the national funding agencies will then get in touch with the individual project partners to initiate the process of drafting the contract. The start of funded projects is expected to begin no later than July 2021.

MONITORING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF JFS CALL PROJECTS

The projects funded under the JFS will be asked to submit annual monitoring reports. Each project participant should also submit financial and scientific reports to their national / regional funding organisations according to his / her national regulations.

In the case a partner decided to withdraw from a project before the completion date, due to the reasons such as: discrepancies within the consortia, funding problems, changes in the strategy of companies, technical or sudden market problems; the NCPs have to check whether the basic JFS eligibility criteria are still met and if the excellence of the project is still maintained. If not, the involved funding agencies may decide jointly to cease the funding for this specific project.

In addition, the following regulations will apply for all research projects that are funded through the JFS Call:

- Publications or other form of output resulting from the research for which funding was awarded should be made available to the JFS Call Secretariat (publication of the results in open access journals is strongly encouraged).
- In any publication of results of the research for which JFS Call funding was awarded, mention must be made of the support received.

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