



## Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009 - 14 Norwegian-Estonian Research Cooperation Programme

### Call for proposals Preliminary Announcement

Estonian Ministry of Education and Research in cooperation with the Estonian Research Council and the Research Council of Norway intend to open a call for proposals under Norwegian-Estonian Research Cooperation Programme.

The overall objective of the Norwegian-Estonian Research Cooperation Programme is to enhance research-based knowledge development in Estonia. The Programme shall strengthen bilateral relations with the aim of stimulating long-term cooperation, capacity and competence building. The Programme will be implemented in cooperation with the NO/EEA Scholarship Programme. An important objective of the Programme is to strengthen human resources in research through facilitating international relations and involving PhD and master's students in the projects.

Proposals for collaborative research projects are invited **in all areas of research**. Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of scientific and/or technical excellence, sustainability of the bilateral collaboration, and relevance in relation to the priority areas of the Estonian RD&I Strategy.

The applicants are research and development institutions with their individual research teams; **cooperation with research institutions of Norway is a mandatory criterion for the projects**. Project partners have to be public or private research and development institutions or private law enterprises/companies. Project partners established in countries outside of Estonia or Norway, shall participate under the same terms and conditions as project partners from the Beneficiary State (Estonia) and Donor State (Norway), but shall not be entitled to receive funding from the research programme.

There will be a one-stage submission procedure for proposals: full proposals. The call is scheduled to open at the end of September, 2012. The deadline for submitting proposals is scheduled for the end of November, 2012.

Proposals are submitted by Estonian research and development institutions (**Project Promoters**) electronically via ETIS ([www.etis.ee](http://www.etis.ee)).

Eligible duration of the projects is up to 36 months. The projects must end no later than **30 April 2016**.

*The content of the call described in this pre-announcement may be subject to changes.*

The minimum amount of project grants is 50 000 EUR; the maximum amount is 300 000 EUR (including overhead costs).

Eligible costs are personnel costs, scholarships (stipends) for master and doctoral students studying in the Estonian universities, subcontracting, travel costs, other costs and institutional overhead.

Proposals are evaluated by at least three international independent experts. Evaluation rules will be defined in the „Guide for Evaluators“.

„Guide for applicants“ and „Guide for Evaluators“ will be introduced on the homepage of the Estonian Research Council [www.etag.ee](http://www.etag.ee) at the end of September simultaneously with opening of the call.

Interested researchers have possibility to take part in the **Matchmaking Event** scheduled for September. The matchmaking event will support the identification of potential partners in Norway. Travel grants will be available for researchers from Norway to attend this event. Information will be published in ETIS, on the homepages of the Estonian Research Council and Norwegian Research Council.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Reference to:

- Regulation on the implementation of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009 – 2014 [http://www.eeagrants.org/asset/4443/1/4443\\_1.pdf](http://www.eeagrants.org/asset/4443/1/4443_1.pdf)
- Annex 12 Rules for the establishment and implementation of donor partnership programmes falling under the Programme Areas “Research within Priority sectors” and “Bilateral Research Cooperation”  
[http://www.eeagrants.org/asset/3667/1/3667\\_1.pdf](http://www.eeagrants.org/asset/3667/1/3667_1.pdf)

For questions regarding the call please contact:  
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