**Exchange of Scientists under Estonian-Taiwanese Agreements of Scientific Cooperation**

**Guidelines for applying the travel grant 2015**

The exchange visit programme provides opportunities for researchers from one partner country to visit research institutions in other partner country with aim to facilitate research cooperation between Estonia and Taiwan; promotes mobility, the building of international contacts and knowledge transfer.

**1. Fields of Research**

* Environmental and Biosciences
	+ Plant sciences (physiology, genetics, plant health, etc.)
	+ Biochemistry
* Social sciences
	+ Political Science and Administration
* Health Research
	+ Biomedicine
	+ Clinical Medicine
* Physical Sciences and Engineering
	+ Physics
	+ Space Research and Astronomy
	+ Information Security

**2. Period**

2.1. The Call is announced in **20th of October 2014**, and the **deadline is 24th of November 2014**.

2.2. The potential **travel period** set from **1st of January to 31st of August 2015**.

2.3. **Duration** of one travel can be anywhere from **1 – 8 weeks**.

**3. Eligibility**

3.1. Each candidate must possess the citizenship or be a permanent resident of sending country.

3.2. The travel grant can be applied for by a scholar who is holding a doctoral degree and has worked in the research institution of the sending country at least three years prior to the application deadline.

**4. Procedure for applying for the grant**

4.1. The National Science Council of Taiwan (NSC) and Estonian Research Council (ETAG) will organize a public competition for the travel grant. The applications will be awarded on a competitive basis. Up to three (3) travel grants will be awarded by both parties. The final decision among the applicants is made by sending country in cooperation with receiving country.

4.2. Estonian applicant has to submit the electronically signed application via e-mail (aare.ignat@etag.ee) or send signed hard copy to Eesti Teadusagentuur, A. Lauteri 5 Tallinn 10114.

**5. Amount of the travel grant**

The Parties shall contribute to the programme as follows:

5.1. The sending partner will contribute a sum towards the travel expenses of the researcher. The upper limit of the travel expenses is 1400 € (ETAG) and NT$ 75000 (NSC). Travel expenses include air ticket in the economy class, local transport to the destination and insurance expenses.

5.2. The receiving partner will cover accommodation costs according to their rules; the host institution in the receiving country ensures all other costs associated with hosting.

5.3. Costs will be covered according to the receipts or invoices.

**6. Documents to be submitted**

6.1. The proposal for the travel grant consists of the application. The application must be submitted in English.

6.2. Proposed projects must directly involve researchers working at a research institution (i.e. university, research laboratory or research institute) of the receiving country.

6.3. Proposals must be based upon a firm potential for research collaboration. The primary objective of the travel will be for the researchers to meet in person and discuss in details the project and determine how to go forward with proposals for funding and research itself. Thus, contact must have already been established with the partner researcher before the application is submitted.

**7. Programme reporting**

7.1. A final report on the project is required, and must be submitted three weeks after completion of travel grant. The report should provide a review of activities conducted under the grant and state the future plans for cooperation. The report should not be more than 2 pages (A4 size). More specific guidelines for the report will be given to the successful applicants.