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# Supplementary Funding for Ongoing Projects to Enhance Knowledge and Results Transfer from ICT Research to the Defence Sector

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Financial scheme: Coordination and Support Activity

Funding scale: NOK 200 000-4 500 000

Application deadline: Open-ended

Amount of funding presumed available for this call for proposals:

Relevant thematic areas for this call:

NOK 15 000 000

Enabling technologies

Project duration: 12-36 months

Target groups: Research organisations

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Utlysningen ble stengt 21.8, da det er sendt inn flere støtteverdige søknader

🔒 **ⓘ**nn det er tilgjengelige midler. Beslutning om hvilke søknader som får tildeling tas i september av Porteføljestyret for muliggjørende teknologier.

## Important dates

**01 Jul 2024: Earliest permitted project start**

**01 Jun 2025: Latest permitted project start**

**31 May 2028: Latest permitted project completion date**

## Purpose

The objective of this call for proposals is to connect national research groups to the defence sector. The call is intended to strengthen national research communities and contribute to new knowledge that is of interest to the defence sector and that supports military technology development and realises synergies with other technology initiatives in the defence sector. The call is also intended to contribute to the establishment of R&D projects with

persons who can be granted security clearance.

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## About the call for proposals

We will keep this call for proposals open as long as there is budget coverage for new projects. The call will be closed as soon as we have received applications eligible for funding corresponding to the funds available under the call.

The call is aimed at researcher and collaboration projects that have already been initiated in the field of ICT, which centre on researching artificial intelligence (AI), autonomy and/or quantum technology.

Funding is available for independent additional activities that strengthen and support competence building in and the transfer of results to the defence sector. By strengthen, we mean achieving better utilisation of knowledge, technology and expertise developed in ongoing projects, which is done through establishing new activities in the project for interaction with the defence sector that will strengthen the sector.

The call is available in both Norwegian and English. The text of the Norwegian call for proposals is legally binding.

Who is eligible to apply?

Only approved Norwegian research organisations that are Project Owners for an ongoing Researcher Project or collaborative project in the Research Council's ICT research portfolio are eligible to apply.

[See the list of approved research organisations.](#)

Who can participate in the project?

### **Requirements relating to the Project Owner**

The Project Owner must be identical to the one listed in the contract for the ongoing project. The research organisation listed as the Project Owner in the application form must have approved the submission of the application.

If the application is a collaboration between several organisations, the Project Owner must submit the application on behalf of all partners.

### **Requirements relating to the project manager**

The project manager must be identical to the person who is listed as the project manager for the ongoing project.

### **Requirements relating to partners**

Partners in the reinforcement project should preferably have formal roles in the ongoing project from which the reinforcement project originates. We accept partners other than those who participate/have participated in the ongoing project when their participation provides added value to the reinforcement project. You must account for this added value in the application. Approved Norwegian research organisations and similar foreign organisations may participate as partners in the project and receive funding.

What can you seek funding for?

You can apply for funding for specific major measures and activities that are not already part of the ongoing project.

Activities covered can be:

- to bring in a new partner or resource into the project that represents the defence sector
- mobility in or out of the project for the transfer of knowledge and results between the project and representatives from the defence sector, for example by project participants visiting actors in the defence sector and/or employees in the defence sector visiting research partners
- extra efforts to disseminate or exploit results from the project that lead to the transfer of expertise and results to the defence sector and/or that realise synergies with other technology initiatives in the defence sector. The activities can be series of working meetings with relevant actors, dissemination activities such as the establishment of communication channels and networks, or other activities.
- new doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships for candidates who can get security clearance to a minimum of "Secret".

We recommend that any PhD candidates who are employed by a company or a public enterprise look into the possibilities of applying for an [Industrial PhD Scheme – Doctoral Project in Industry](#) or a [Public Sector PhD Scheme – Doctoral Project in the Public Sector](#).

- All activities must comply with the requirements for responsible research and innovation (see [Responsible Research and Innovation in the Research Council of Norway](#) (forskingsradet.no)).

You can apply for funding to cover the actual costs necessary to carry out the project. The Project Owner must obtain information about costs from the partners in the project. These costs must be entered in the cost plan under the cost type to which they belong.

We require that you break down the project budget into the following cost types in your application:

- **payroll and indirect expenses**, which are costs incurred by the Project Owner and partners in the public sector, research organisations and Norwegian trade and industry
- **other operating expenses**, which are costs for other activities necessary to carry out the project's R&D activities. Any purchases from subcontractors must be entered here. All costs entered as "other operating expenses" must be specified in the application.
- **equipment**, which includes operating and depreciation costs for scientific equipment necessary to carry out the project

The item procurement of R&D services cannot be used.

If doctoral and postdoctoral research fellows are included in the project and there are specific plans for them to stay abroad, this may be included in the application. The Research Council also has a separate call for proposals for research stays abroad for doctoral and post-doctoral research fellows. Here, the project manager can apply for funding for research stays abroad for research fellows who are part of the project during the project period.

You can find detailed and important information about [what to enter in the project budget](#) on the website.

### **Scope of funding**

Funding of up to NOK 4.5 million per project may be awarded under this call. We do not require own financing, but for the higher education sector, the Research Council expects some own financing of researcher time..

### **Prerequisites for awarding funding**

The reinforcement project must generally start and end within the project period of the ongoing project. You can go beyond the end date of the ongoing project, but you must ensure that the reinforcement project builds on and reinforces the results of the ongoing project.

Support for a research organisation goes to the organisation's non-economic activity. It therefore does not constitute state aid. The Research Council assumes that the necessary accounting separation is in place. Companies are not eligible to receive funding to cover project costs.

In addition, you must be aware of the following if you should receive an award from us:

- The Research Council's prerequisites for awards can also be found in our general terms and conditions for R&D projects on the information page [What the contract involves](#).
- The Research Council requires full and immediate open access for scientific articles, see [Plan S - open access to publications](#).

- For all projects that handle data, the Project Owner must prepare a data management plan in connection with the revised application, where [you will find more information about the requirements for data management plans in projects that receive funding from us](#).
- For medical and health studies involving humans, the Research Council sets [special requirements and guidelines for registration and disclosure of medical and health-related studies involving human participants](#).

## Relevant thematic areas for this call

### Enabling technologies

RESEARCH ON ICT DEVELOPMENT

## Practical information

### Requirements for this funding scheme

Please note that you can only submit the application once. If you submit the application and subsequently see that it needs to be changed, you can create a new application – e.g. as a copy of the one you have already submitted – and in that way submit a new version. In this case, you must send an email to the Research Council, see contact information in the call, notifying us of this.

- The application and all attachments must be written in Norwegian and/or English.
- All attachments must be in PDF format.

### Mandatory attachments

- Project description of a maximum of 5 pages. Use the default template that you can download at the bottom of the page.
- If the application includes funding for a doctoral fellowship or postdoctoral fellowship, confirmation of security clearance and authorisation for the research fellow must be attached, or alternatively a confirmation including a description of how the process for advertising a research fellowship position and appointment is carried out so that the requirement for security clearance is met. You should upload the attachment under the attachment category "Other".
- CV for new, key participants who do not participate in the ongoing project. Use the default template that you can download at the bottom of the page.
- Letters of intent from new partners.
  - [See sample letter of intent on our guidance page](#).

Applications that do not meet the requirements above will be rejected.

All attachments to the application must be submitted with the application. We do

not accept attachments submitted after the application deadline unless we have requested additional documentation.

We will not consider documents and websites linked to in the application, or attachments other than those specified above. Be careful to upload the correct attachment type, as there are no technical restrictions on what kind of templates it is possible to upload in the application form.

#### Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed in light of the purpose of the call and the following criteria:

#### **Excellence**

##### Originality/Novelty

- The extent to which the concept is sound, credible and novel.

##### Solidity

- The extent to which the project objectives are clear and relevant.
- The quality of the proposed deliverables from the project.

#### **Impact**

##### Potential

- The extent to which the expected effects are specified.
- The extent to which expected impacts on the system and societal levels are specified.

##### Knowledge sharing and exploitation

- The quality of the proposed communication and dissemination activities.
- The extent to which it is credible that the proposed outputs will contribute to the specified effects and impact.

#### **Implementation**

##### Project Manager and project group

- The extent to which the Project Manager and project group are qualified and have the necessary expertise and are positioned to implement the project.
- The extent to which management structures and procedures are appropriate.

##### Plans and management

- The extent to which the work plan is clear and understandable, and the time table realistic
- The extent to which objectives and measures are coherent.
- The extent to which the project has the support of the leadership of the Project Owner and any partners, and the allocation of roles in the project is clear.
- The extent to which the budget is realistic and appropriate, and resources are allocated so that each of the partners can fulfil their role.
- The extent to which potential risks have been discussed.

#### **Relevance to the call for proposals**

The extent to which the project satisfies the guidelines and stipulations set out in the call for proposals.

#### Administrative procedures

All applications will be assessed by the Research Council's administration and will be read by a minimum of two case officers. Applications are assessed against the three criteria, and are also given a separate relevance mark and an overall mark. All grades are given on a scale from 1 to 7, where 7 is the best.

All applications with an overall mark of 4 or lower and/or a relevance mark of 4 or lower will not be eligible for funding.

Applications with an overall mark of 5 or higher and a relevance mark of 5 or higher are eligible for funding. These are presented to the Portfolio Board for Enabling Technologies, which makes the final decision on which applications will be funded.

Expected response to the application: As soon as possible and no later than the end of September 2024. If there are remaining funds, new applications will receive a response in mid-December 2024.

## Download templates



Mal for prosjektbeskrivelse - Forsterkningsmidler IKT-portefølje.docx



Template for Project Descriptions - Supplementary Funding ICT-portfolio.docx



Template for CV researchers.docx



\* MANDATORY ATTACHMENT

Download all templates

## About the results of the application assessment process

<b>Total amount sought</b>	40 500 000
<b>Amount awarded</b>	15 000 000
<b>Total number of applications</b>	9
<b>Number of approved applications</b>	4

Approved applications

Project no. ▾	Organization ▾	Project title ▾	Subject ▾	Sought ▾	Published ▾
354831	UiO, Senter for materialvitenskap og nanoteknologi	QUantum emitters in semiconductors for future Technologies; Single-photon emitters in Aluminium Nitride	Muliggjør endeteknologier	4 500 000	20.09.2024
354581	NTNU, Institutt for datateknologi og informatikk	Defending Norway with Computationally Efficient AI	Muliggjør endeteknologier	4 500 000	20.09.2024
354904	SINTEF AS	PortDefense: AI enhanced Automation for military port logistics	Muliggjør endeteknologier	3 000 000	20.09.2024
354740	STIFTELSEN SINTEF	Artificial intelligence-guided point-of-care ultrasound for combat casualty care	Muliggjør endeteknologier	3 000 000	20.09.2024

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Messages at time of print 8 April 2025, 16:30 CEST

No global messages displayed at time of print.