

ANNOUNCEMENT - Foreign experts wanted for assessment of demand driven research project strategies

General information

The Research Agency (Výskumná agentúra), established by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic as the Managing Authority (MESRS of the SR), acts as the Intermediate Body for the Operational Programme *Research and Innovations* financed by the European Structural and Investment Funds in the programme period 2014-2020. The Research Agency is responsible for carrying out activities within the scope of the tasks delegated by the MESRS of the SR and ensuring overall process of acceptance, assessment, financial management and monitoring of the research development projects.

The MESRS of the SR and the Research Agency are looking for senior foreign experts for assessment of the research strategies which are going to be submitted within eight new demand driven calls announced in recent weeks.

The aim of the assessment of the research strategy is to assess professionally, objectively and transparently the feasibility, originality and quality of the proposed research and/or development activities and overall project impact potential. Any recommendations raised by an expert has to be reflected by the applicant in final research project application. There are three key aspects of the research strategy to be assessed by the expert:

- **excellence (scientific quality):**

- the compliance of the planned research with the principles of research-development excellence will be considered,
- the project intervention logic,
- a detailed description of the expert/research and/or development activities,

- **innovation/impact potential:**

- the degree of originality and innovation of planned research will be assessed,

- **quality assessment of the planned project management:**

- the acquisition of professional capacities for research management and implementation will be assessed, and the current state of research-development and related educational infrastructure will be assessed.

The process of assessment

Each individual research strategy will be assessed by 3 foreign experts in following way:

- 3 foreign experts will be selected for assessment of each research strategy (document approx. from 15 to 30 pages, submitted in English),
- each expert will elaborate his/her assessment,
- one of the experts will be assigned the role of rapporteur,
- rapporteur will be responsible for elaboration of the common assessment report based on three individual assessments (the common report has to be agreed by all three experts).

We would like to emphasize, that whole communication will be held via e-mails or via internet applications (Skype, etc.), therefore, there is no need to travel to the Slovak Republic.

The cooperation with foreign experts is expected to take place during from September to November 2018.

Remuneration of experts is in line with international standards.

General requirements for expert

The Research Agency is looking for senior experts in following areas and with following minimum qualification standards:

- **Minimum qualification standards requirements:**
 - university education of the 3rd grade,
 - relevant experience for the given knowledge field (10 years within the last 15 years, the latest experience not older than 1 year),
 - experience with at least five R&D projects implementation during last 10 years in the relevant area of the science within the scope of identified knowledge field,
 - fluency in English.
- **Minimum research experience requirements:**
 - Senior expert must have publication activities according to the requirements shown in the table below:

| Smart Specialization domain | Publications | Citations | H index |
|---|--------------|------------|-----------|
| Domain: Transportation means for the 21st century Relevant research/knowledge areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Automation and robotics - Energy sector - Chemical science and technologies - ICT - Material engineering and nanotechnologies - Machinery, construction and equipment technologies | 38 | 300 | 11 |
| Domain: Industry for the 21st century Relevant research/knowledge areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Automation and robotics - Energy sector | 38 | 300 | 11 |

| Smart Specialization domain | Publications | Citations | H index |
|---|--------------|------------|-----------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chemical science and technologies - ICT - Material engineering and nanotechnologies - Machinery, construction and equipment technologies | | | |
| Domain: Digital Slovakia and the creative industry Relevant research/knowledge areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ICT - Creative industry | 36 | 170 | 8 |
| Domain: Public health and health-care technologies Relevant research/knowledge areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental engineering - Pharmaceutical and medical sciences - Chemical science and technologies - ICT - Material engineering and nanotechnologies - Machinery, construction and equipment technologies | 38 | 750 | 15 |
| Domain: Healthy food and environment Relevant research/knowledge areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy sector - Environmental engineering - Chemical science and technologies - ICT - Forestry - Food Technology - Plant production, genetics of plants and animals - Machinery, construction and equipment technologies - Animal production | 38 | 600 | 15 |

- and/or expert is an applicant (inventor) of the active patent application (national, international), with verified payment of the filing and search fees or excellent (top ranking) worker is an applicant (inventor) of the granted patent (national, regional: e.g. European).

Contact for communication

In case of your interest in cooperation with the Research Agency, you are welcome to send your curriculum vitae with addressing the above-mentioned minimum qualification and quality standards (e.g. H-index value) and **defining the relevant research/knowledge area** to our email address expert@vyskumnaagentura.sk.