**Call for Mobility Project Proposals CNR-SAS**

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| **Partner country:** | **Italy** |
| **Partner organisation:** | **CNR National Research Council of Italy** |
| **Programme:** | **Mobility** |
| **Period:** | **2025-2026** |
| **Announcement of the call:** | **15. 4. 2024** |
| **Deadline for submission:** | **17. 6. 2024** |

The call is based on Agreement on Scientific Cooperation between the National Research Council of Italy CNR and the Slovak Academy of Sciences SAS.

**Objectives:**

* Improvement of scientific cooperation between both countries;
* Stimulation of involvement of young researchers and PhD. students;
* Supporting research teams aspiring to cooperate on large international projects in the future;
* Enabling the use of methodology, infrastructure and equipment for the mutual benefit of both institutions.

**Eligibility criteria:**

Projects proposals from **all research fields are accepted**.

Maximum project duration is **2 years (24 months),** extension beyond this period is not permitted.

Project proposals can be submitted:

* On the Slovak side by a SAS institute or centre
* On the Italian side by an Italian institute

In case applicant submits more than one project proposal within one call, only one of them can be funded.

**Research team:**

Each research team consists of:

* One principal investigator (senior or junior researcher)
* One or more co-invastigators.

**Research team members are divided into four categories:**

* Senior researchers (5 or more years after receiving PhD)
* Junior researchers – postdoc (less than 5 years after receiving PhD)
* PhD students
* Others (engineers, technicians…)

**On the Slovak side**

* All members must be employees of the SAS Institutes.
* At least 1/3 must be junior researchers of PhD students.

**Financial provisions:**

Financial contributions must be calculated and provided according to the valid national legislation and internal regulations of the partner organisations.

***Up to 4 (four) two-year mobility projects shall be selected for funding.***

* Financial contribution shall be provided by the SAS towards the costs of the Slovak research team.
* The maximum financial contribution shall be EUR 3,000 per mobility project per year (6,000 EUR per two years).
* The approved financial contribution shall be used first of all to cover mobility costs: travel, living expences.
* Max. 30% of the approved financial contribution can be used to cover research costs: services, small equipment and networking.
* Non-eligible costs are: personnel, large equipment, overheads.
* There are no eligible indirect costs.
* The project will be monitored through annual and final reports.

**Project proposal submission:**

Project proposals must be submitted in parallel to both partner organisations.

* Project proposals in English must be completed and submitted within the deadline exclusively via the Intranet online application.
* To submit a project proposal, log into the SAS Intranet – Standard rules, select SAS-CNR and fill in a project proposal. It is important to attach the document „Approval CNR SAS“. After finishing your proposal, you shall forward it through your Intranet account to the Director of your SAS Institute for its approval. The Director shall approve your proposal. Once the project proposal is approved by the Director, it will be automatically sent to OMS Úrad SAV (Department of International Cooperation, Office of the SAS) via his/her Intranet account. Bear in mind that all project proposals must be submitted by the SAS Institute Directors by 17 June 2024.
* Follow the attached instructions for online submission.

**Evaluation and Selection:**

Consists of two step process:

* At national level, each partner organisation evaluates submitted proposals based on its internal rules and prepares a ranking list.
* SAS sends the projects proposals each to two independent evaluators.
* At the international level, both partner organisations exchange their ranking lists, negotiate the final ranking and approve the proposals selected for funding. Total number of projects approved for funding is published in the call.
* Projects are approved by the Commission of International Relations SAS and finally by the SAS Presidency.

**Criteria for evaluation of project proposals:**

* Quality of the project (scientific relevance, innovative character, quality of objectives).
* Impact of project results, their dissemination and exploitation.
* Quality of research teams: (composition and expertise of research team, previous cooperation and outputs).
* Active involvement of junior researchers and PhD students.
* Added value and broader impact of bilateral cooperation.

**Indicative call schedule**

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| **15 April 2024**  | **Announcement of the call for project proposals** |
| 17 June 2024  | Deadline for submission of project proposals |
| September/October 2024  | Completion of the assessment undertaken by external evaluators and the Commission for Foreign Relations on the Slovak side |
| November 2024  | Comparison and approval of results by both partner organizations |
| December 2024  | Announcement of results |

Contact persons:

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