

FRENCH-ICELANDIC PROGRAM OF INTEGRATED ACTIONS

Within the framework of the cultural Agreement between the Government of the French Republic and the Icelandic Government signed the 1st April 1983, the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Icelandic Ministry of Culture, Education and Science agree to implement a program of integrated actions.

The objective of this program is to facilitate and develop high quality scientific and technological co-operation between research laboratories of the two countries, from the point of view of setting up a European Research environment. It has been decided to give to the program of integrated actions the name of Program " Jules Verne ".

These scientific and technological co-operation projects will be led jointly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with the Education and Research Ministries in France, and by the Ministry of Culture, Education and Science in Iceland.

The French organization ensuring the management of this program is Egide, the Icelandic organization is RANNIS (Icelandic Research Office).

The program must allow for the creation of Franco-Icelandic scientific partnerships, by publication of calls for joint research project proposals, which will be launched simultaneously in Iceland and France.

The integrated, co-registered and co-evaluated research projects will be selected by a Joint Committee which will meet every year, alternatively in Iceland and France.

In order to improve the effectiveness of the selection procedure, the two parties to this agreement undertake:

- To define jointly the terms for the 'call for proposals'. (criteria of selection, forms of presentation, etc...).
- To examine only the projects received within the specified time limits.
- To exchange the lists of projects lodged with either party, in order to draw up a list of co-registered projects for respective scientific evaluation.
- To subject each project to a scientific evaluation, and to exchange notes and observations before the meeting of the Selection Committee.

- The 'call for proposals' will be open to all laboratories, research teams belonging to Higher Educational establishments, Research Organizations or Companies.

The scientific fields addressed by this program will be specified annually in the 'call for proposals'. For the first 'call for proposals', all the fields of knowledge are concerned, including social sciences.

- The scientific evaluation of the projects will take into account the following criteria:
 - Scientific quality of the project
 - Competence of the teams to complete the project successfully
 - Quality of the infrastructure
 - Mutual transfer of competence
 - Foreseeable scientific or industrial impacts
 - Participation of Ph.D. students or young researchers

- After the completion of each project, a report will be written by the two teams in the partnership in order to review accomplished work and to present its possible prospects for industrial valorisation and co-operation in the European Research environment

It rests with each partner to ensure the effective protection and the correct distribution of the intellectual property resulting from the realization of the joint project.

- The number of accepted projects will be specified in the official report of the Joint Selection Committee according to the budget allocated to the program by each Party to this agreement.

- This program will be co-financed with parity. The duration of each integrated project will be two years. The financing will be annual.

- The means granted by the two countries to the Research Teams will be complementary and is intended to cover the international overhead costs of the projects. This financial assistance is provided for the Researchers' travelling and related expenses.

The assumption of responsibility by both parties relates to short periods of travel (one month maximum).

- The country sending Researchers abroad will pay for their travelling and living expenses and social security cover.

- The preliminary project milestone dates are as follows:

- Launching of the ' call for proposals': 15th of February 2003
- Deadlines of the co-deposition of the proposals: 2nd of May 2003
- Evaluation of the proposals : May/June 2003
- Joint Committee of selection: 2nd half of June 2003
- Projects start date: 1st of July 2003

- Each of the two parties can terminate this agreement by giving three months' written notice to the other party. However, the arrangements made within the framework of the Program will continue to apply to all projects which would not have been completed by the date of the termination of this Program.

Issued on, the

For the French party

For the Icelandic party,

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