

Annex 2: Call text

**Research Council of Norway (RCN) –
National Research Foundation of Korea
(NRF) Joint Call 2025**

A maximum of 4 joint projects will be funded.

1 Objective

To enhance mutual cooperation and strengthen the competitiveness of science and technology between Korea and Norway through joint research

2 Summary

- Program Category : Joint Research
- Eligible Fields : AI, Hydrogen

AI	e.g.) Responsible development of new, sustainable AI technologies and solutions. This involves research where results and knowledge can be widely applied. It covers both further development of the "state of the art" within established technology areas, but also research into new methods and techniques. Examples are the development of more energy- and resource-efficient AI models and algorithms, AI models that handle transparency, inequalities and prioritize ethical considerations and development of more sustainable AI systems.
Hydrogen	e.g.) Safe and cost-efficient use of hydrogen and hydrogen derivatives in maritime application.

- Funding Period: 3 years(2025.07.01. ~ 2028.06.30.)
- Funding Size : Up to 4 projects
- Funding Amount: 1 million NOK (120 million KRW) / from each country per project per year.

Note: The number of funding projects for each field will be determined based on the number of projects received and the evaluation results.

3 Funding

This program is funded by both countries on a one-to-one basis, and in principle, expenses for researchers for each country are supported by their own research funds.

- The budget available in Norway (RCN) is NOK 1 million (per project a year)
- The budget available in Korea (NRF) is KRW 120 million. (per project a year)

4 Submission

Proposals are to be jointly prepared by both applicants. The Korean applicant must submit the research proposal (English and Korean versions) through the IRIS (<https://iris.go.kr>). The Norwegian PI must submit the Intention form to RCN before deadline for submission of proposal.

Note: The division of roles must be clearly described in the English proposal after discussion between Korean and Norwegian researchers.

5 Application Documents

The following documents must be submitted via IRIS system.

- Research proposal in Korean (Attachment 1) / Korean PI Only
- Research proposal in English (Attachment 2)
- Other documents including applicant declaration (Attachment 3) / Korean PI Only
- Status of ongoing projects (Attachment 4) / Korean PI Only
- Korean and Norwegian PI's CV (PDF or Other types are available)
- Intention to Submit form / Norwegian PI Only

6 Eligibility and Restriction on Participation

PIs and Participants are not permitted to submit more than one application to this call.

Eligibility criteria in Norway

Norwegian applicants should abide by the applicable laws and regulations in Norway, as stipulated in the National Guidelines for Norway (Annex3).

Eligibility criteria in Korea

Korean researchers must be affiliated with domestic universities, research institutes, and industrial organizations. For more information on eligible Korean host organizations please refer to the National Research and Development Innovation Act.

7 Timetable

Intention to Submit form (Norway)	16 th of Dec 2024 – 28 th of Feb 2025
Proposal Submission (Korea)	16 th of Dec 2024 – 28 th of Feb 2025
Organizational approval (Korea)	16 th of Dec 2024 – 5 th of Mar 2025
Evaluation	March – April 2025
Funding decision and Announcement	May 2025
Start of the project	1 st of July 2025

※ Schedules may vary depending on the progress of the program

8 Evaluation

The evaluation process consists of the following steps:

Pre-review: NRF assesses the projects eligibility, RCN only assess the eligibility of the Norwegian partner institution and PI.

Evaluation: Evaluation panels are set up, composed of external experts proposed by the NRF. Based on the panel members' assessment and discussion, the evaluation panel rates and ranks the proposals based on the evaluation criteria.

Final Decision: The NRF shares the evaluation results with the RCN to finalize the selection. After the RCN confirms the selection, each country announces the selection results according to each party's rules and procedures.