Guide for Applicants

Scientific cooperation projects

FWO (Flanders) – NRF (Republic of Korea)

From April 1st to June 30th 2019, the call is open for two-year joint collaboration projects between research groups from South Korea (Republic of Korea) and Flanders in the framework of the cooperative programme developed by the National Research Foundation (NRF) and the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO).

1. Objectives

To strengthen collaboration in scientific research between South Korea (Republic of Korea) and Flanders, by funding joint scientific cooperation projects with a duration of two years involving the exchange of young researchers (doctoral and postdoctoral candidates).

2. Scientific Areas

The call is open to all scientific areas of fundamental research.

3. Ways of Cooperation

A joint scientific cooperation project is understood as a programme agreed between two or more research groups of both South Korea and Flanders, with clearly defined objectives to be achieved within the established timeframe, implemented through the exchange of scientists and experts between both Parties.

The proposals should meet the usual requirements for scientific research quality and meet the specific requirements for scientific cooperation projects of the research council they are submitted to. **Please be aware that the guidelines as stated in this document are to be respected by the Flemish research team(s).** For specific guidelines for the South Korean research team(s) we kindly refer to the [NRF website](http://www.nrf.kr) and the NRF contact person (see below).
4. Time schedule

- Opening of the call for applications: April 1st, 2019
- **Deadline for receipt of applications: June 30th, 2019**
  - At FWO: 5 pm Belgian time
  - At NRF: 6 pm Korean time
- Evaluation procedure: June-October, 2019
- Final joint decision on the funded projects: November, 2019
- Communication of the results: December 2019
- Start of projects: January 1st, 2020

5. Application procedure

Projects must be endorsed by the Principal Investigators (PIs) (one South Korean and one Flemish) duly authorized to conduct research and providing the guarantees on the operational resources (financial resources). All PIs are required to have a PhD degree.

- **In Flanders,** PIs must hold throughout the entire period of the project an appointment of at least 50% at:
  - a university in the Flemish Community (including the academic programmes within the corresponding association), or
  - a federal or Flemish scientific institute as scientific staff of the Dutch-speaking community, or
  - a university hospital in the Flemish Community as scientific staff, or
  - a hospital with an academic character recognized as research center in the Flemish Community as scientific staff.
- **In South Korea,** PIs are required to be affiliated to a university or a research institute in Korea. The affiliated universities or research institutes should be under Article 2 of the Sciences Promotion Act.

Applications should be submitted simultaneously to NRF by the researcher(s) in South Korea and to FWO by the researcher(s) in Flanders. Lack of submission of the application to one of the Parties and/or reception after the deadline will cause the application to be considered ineligible. Please note that the title, names of the Flemish and South Korean PIs, project description, methodology, work packages, etc. in the research proposal submitted by the Flemish and South Korean PI should be identical.

Each application should be submitted according to the regulations of each Party:

**FWO:**

- The Flemish research group should submit the form ‘*Application for international cooperation programmes*’ (to be found on the FWO website) to interprog@fwo.be.
- In addition, all members of the South Korean and Flemish research teams should have or create an account on the FWO e-portal and keep their publication list up to date.

Once the application is approved, Flemish researchers should notify the FWO of each stay in South Korea by completing the form ‘Notification of a stay abroad’ at least two months before departure.

NRF:
For further information for South Korean applicants please contact:

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National Research Foundation of Korea
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6. What can be funded
Exchanges of researchers in South Korea and Flanders in the framework of two-year scientific cooperation projects can be funded. In addition, NRF foresees for the South Korean researcher(s) a grant covering the organization of seminars. (Please be aware that FWO will only fund the exchanges of researchers.)

Please note that at Flemish side, in each scientific cooperation project at least one young scientist, with no more than 6 years of postdoctoral experience, should perform an exchange.

Visits must be indicated in the application form, duly justified, including their duration, the estimated dates and names of the involved researchers. Project approval by both Parties shall imply approval of the visits in accordance with the terms established in the form, unless otherwise decided by both NFR and FWO.

All missions must be executed within the year for which they had been approved and are not transferable to the next year of implementation. Allocated resources expire if not used within the year for which they were approved.

Duration of the missions (only applies to Flemish researchers):

- Short term research missions: minimum 1 week, maximum 2 weeks

Short term missions for up to 2 weeks can be used by senior researchers with more than 6 years of postdoctoral experience and PI's.
• Long term research missions or internships: maximum 4 weeks

*Long term missions for up to 4 weeks are to be used exclusively by PhD and postdoctoral students. These missions should be performed by early career researchers with a maximum postdoctoral experience of 6 years on the exact date of the submission deadline.*

**Number of exchanges:**

The number of exchanges has been established initially at a rate of maximum two short term and one long term mission per year per project for the researchers in Flanders travelling to South Korea. The South Korean researchers travelling to Flanders can perform their research activities according to their research plans regardless of the terms under the budget.

**Funding:**

NRF will cover the international travel and living expenses of the South Korean participants in Flanders:

- Korean researchers will be funded with the total amount of 20.000.000 KRW per year (approximately 15.000 euro).

FWO will cover the international travel expenses and the *per diem* for the Flemish participants in South Korea:

- Travel costs to and from South Korea;
- A daily allowance of € 66 for accommodation, domestic travel and other costs in South Korea, with a maximum of € 1.650 per month.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type of support</th>
<th>For researchers in Flanders travelling to South Korea</th>
<th>For South Korean researchers travelling to Flanders</th>
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<tr>
<td>Airfare tickets</td>
<td>In charge of FWO according to its internal regulations. Tickets are to be booked with the Omnia Travel agency or Uniglobe Smart Travel.</td>
<td>In charge of NRF according to its internal regulations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Living expenses</td>
<td>In charge of FWO according to its internal regulations. A daily allowance of € 66 for accommodation, domestic travel and other costs in South Korea, with a maximum of € 1.650 per month.</td>
<td>In charge of NRF according to its internal regulations.</td>
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During their travel and stay abroad in the frame of an approved NRF-FWO project, all researchers involved in an allocated NRF-FWO project and independent of nationality, can rely on a travel and assistance insurance and repatriation covered by FWO. This insurance is not a health insurance. Social security remains a responsibility of the home country.

7. Evaluation criteria

At Flemish side, the evaluation criteria for regular research projects are considered, yet with special attention for:

- Scientific quality of the proposal
  - Expected impact
  - Originality
  - Feasibility
  - Focus
- Scientific track record of the applicants
- Necessity of planned stays and exchanges
- Added value of the collaboration and complementarity of the research teams involved

For South Korean applicants, please note that NRF will announce the criteria through the website of NRF.

8. Contact details

For further information on the FWO modalities, visit the FWO website or contact:

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For further information on the NRF modalities, visit the [NRF website](#) or contact:

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