

CLUSTER Programme: Lithuanian eligibility criteria and funding information

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Eligibility criteria

- ✓ The national application is submitted by the Lithuanian research and study institution.
- ✓ At least one partner is mandatory - a privately registered legal entity in Lithuania (SME).
- ✓ Applications can only be submitted by those applicants who have submitted an international application and have entered into a cooperation agreement with all project participants.
- ✓ Funded activities: starting from the **5th** (or higher) TRL stage.
- ✓ Projects are encouraged to achieve results corresponding to a stage of **7-9 TRL stages**.
- ✓ The research and study institution must have a valid procedure for managing rights arising from intellectual activity results.
- ✓ Project duration up to 36 months.

Requirements for projects



According to the National Rules, financing is provided as *state aid*.

The funding amount depends on the participant's status and the nature of the activity (economic/non-economic):

- ✓ For non-economic activities of research and study institutions, 100% of their eligible expenses (state aid not provided);
- ✓ For SMEs (state aid), the funding amount is up to 80% of eligible expenses. The portion of eligible expenses that is not covered by the funding allocated to the project must be financed from the partner(s)' funds.



Organization Type	Applied Research	Experimental Development
Research and Study Institutions	up to 100%	up to 100% (if non-commercial)
Very Small, Small Enterprises (SME)	up to 80%	up to 60%
Medium Enterprises	up to 75%	up to 50%
Large Enterprises	up to 65%	up to 40%

For non-economic activities of **research and study institutions** – **100 %** of their eligible expenses

Funding is provided as state aid under EU and Lithuanian regulations.

Maximum funding intensity depends on organization type, size and activity:

- **Additional bonuses:** +15% for SMEs collaborating with other enterprises or research institutions.
- **Private co-financing required** for companies receiving aid.

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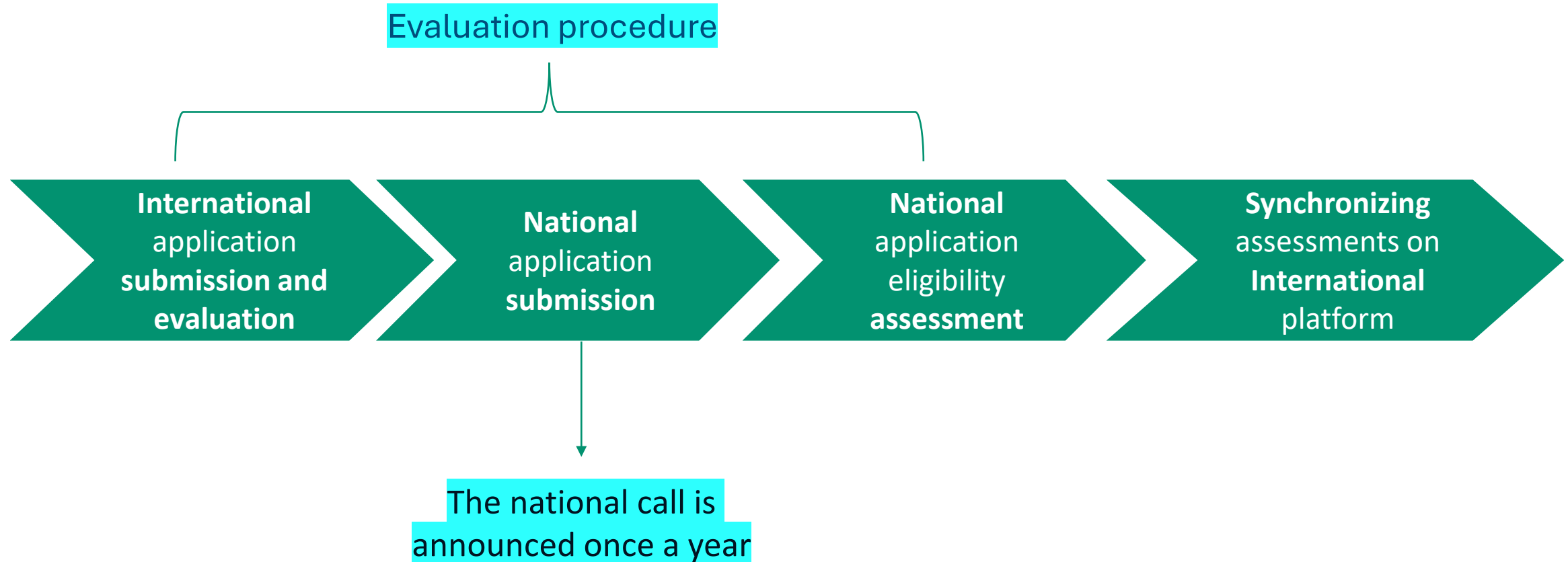
Eligible costs and funding rates

Eligible costs are:

- ✓ **Personnel costs:** salaries, social security contributions, taxes and any supplementary payments made to employees within national law and benefits schemes paid by the company.
- ✓ **Travel costs.**
- ✓ **Fixed assets.**
- ✓ **Indirect costs (overhead): 3%.**

→ Funding rates can reach up to 100% for research and study institutions and up to 80% for industrial partners (SME).

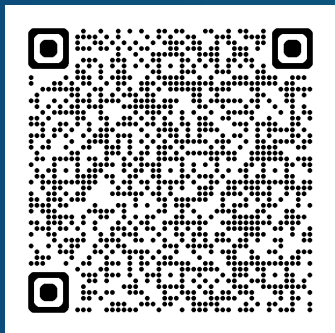
Application end evaluation procedure



Key Takeaways & Next Steps

- ✓ CLUSTER programme provides state aid for innovative R&D projects.
- ✓ An eligible applicant from Lithuania is a research and study institution together with an Lithuanian SME.
- ✓ Funding varies based on company size, type and activity type.
- ✓ Eligible costs include salaries, equipment, subcontracting, and more.





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