

ANNEX 2 – PROJECT COMPOSITION

Applicants from India

The Indian Project Lead (IPL; i.e. lead company) must be a commercial company that operates and is headquartered in India. (We expect researchers or managers of these companies to be the nominated applicants). Academic institutions, research hospitals, other R&D institutes (including not-for-profit research institutes recognised by DST/GITA) that are headquartered and operate in India are encouraged to participate in the projects as co-investigators/partners.

Specific criteria for eligible applicants are as follows:

1. The Indian Project Lead (IPL) company applying for the project must be incorporated in India under the Companies Act 1956/2013.
2. At least 51% stake of the IPL Company must be owned by Indian citizens.
3. The IPL should have the required expertise and team capacity to manage the proposed project.

Please note for Indian applicants:

- Sole proprietors and partnership firms are not eligible for support under this programme.
- Companies headquartered and owned outside India and their subsidiaries in India, or vice versa, are not eligible to receive funding from DST/GITA under this programme.

Preferences will be given to:

- Indian companies having partnership with government-funded Indian academic and R&D institutions.
- Indian companies having in-house R&D Centre which is recognised by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Government of India. For details, please refer to <http://www.dsir.gov.in/forms/irdpp/Application%20for%20R&D.pdf>.
- Companies that fall under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) category, as defined by the Government of India. For definition of MSME, please refer to http://www.dcmsme.gov.in/ssiindia/defination_msme.htm.

In India, where business entities are participants in a project, but with no initial involvement in R&D activities, the project must show a plan of how capabilities are going to be developed in the business entity in the following years in order to:

- perform future R&D projects
- develop the human resource capability within the business
- take technologies that are being developed to market
- develop new intellectual property, and
- enhance the Indian technology based companies ecosystem.
- Note that applicants must already possess basic infrastructure/test beds, prototype and developed basic Proof of Concept (PoC).

Applicants from Italy

The Italian Project Lead (ITPL; i.e. lead company) can be an industrial company that operates and is headquartered in Italy and is able to carry on R&D activities. In case the applicant is not able to perform R&D activities, it must collaborate with an academic institution or research institute (including not-for-profit research institutes recognised by the Italian Government) that is headquartered and operates in Italy as co-investigator/partner.

Specific criteria for eligible applicants are as follows:

1. At least 51% stake of the ITPL Company must be owned by Italian citizens.
2. The ITPL should have the required expertise and team capacity to manage the proposed project.

Please note for Italian applicants:

- Sole proprietors and partnership firms are not eligible for support under this programme.
- Companies headquartered and owned outside Italy and their subsidiaries in Italy, or vice versa, are not eligible to receive funding from DGSP IX-MAECI under this programme.
- The funding given to the Italian Company must comply with the *De minimis* rule enforced in the European Union.¹

Preferences will be given to:

- Italian companies that have partnerships with government-funded Italian academic and R&D institutions.
- SME companies that apply in collaboration with a research partner.
- Innovative start-up companies and certified incubators (as defined by art. 25 of Italian DL 179/2012)
- Innovative SMEs (as defined by art. 4 of Italian DL 3/2015).

¹See the Commission regulation (EU) no. 1407/2013 of 18th December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *De minimis* aid.