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One Health research call for universities and research institutes for 2024

Background

The health sector is facing unprecedented challenges on a global scale. At the same time, population ages and the amount of chronic diseases, cancers and mental disorders increases. This leads to shortages in healthcare resources and manpower. A more diverse and intelligent use of health data, the utilization of digitalization and new technologies, and a shift in the focus of healthcare to foresight and prevention are seen as key roles in finding solutions to this challenge. This opens up global opportunities and markets for technology-enabled innovations and new types of digital solutions.

Business Finland is preparing a new programme in the health sector to promote digitalization and shift the focus of healthcare from medical care to anticipation and prevention. In this research call, it is possible to apply for public research funding (Co-Research) for research projects related to the themes of the programme. The research projects are expected to create new expertise and a basis for developing new solutions for maintaining health, predicting and preventing diseases, promoting digitalization in healthcare processes, and effective and personalized care. Research projects aim to increase Finnish expertise and thereby companies' abilities to create new export business. If the topic of the project is such that companies' readiness for their own parallel R&D project could reasonably be expected, Co-Research is not the right financial service. In this case, the applicant should look at Co-Innovation funding for a joint project with companies.

Goals

The call seeks research projects that research, create and develop

- more effective use of health data to promote individual health
- new solutions and business models for disease prediction and prevention
- promoting individual independence and independent living through digitalization or new technologies
- more efficient and personalized treatment and treatment pathways for diseases that will burden societies most in the future (cardiovascular diseases, obesity, diabetes, neurological diseases, cancer, mental disorders) in terms of both costs and impacts

In particular, the call seeks interdisciplinary projects that create new knowledge for the development of new, cost-effective and effective solutions. Various experts are also invited to participate in the projects, such as clinicians or other health care personnel. In addition, research projects must have at least three (3) companies funding the project that aim for internationalization with their solutions.

Projects and requirements

Co-Research projects may be funded in the funding call. The Co-Research projects must be planned in close cooperation with companies, and their steering groups must involve representatives from several companies that could utilize the results. The companies must also contribute to the financing of the

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public research in total by at least ten (10) percent of the overall public research budget. Otherwise, the funding is subject to Business Finland's normal Co-Research funding criteria. In addition, the projects must involve international cooperation.

Evaluation of applications:

- Project compatibility with a focus area of the call
- Credibility and feasibility of the applicant(s) and the draft plan
- Potential business benefits of the research results for Finnish companies in the long run
- Engagement and interest/commitment of enterprises

Read more about Co-Research:

<https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/services/funding/cooperation-between-companies-and-research-organizations/co-research>

Read more about the general terms and conditions of public research funding:

https://www.businessfinland.fi/4b148d/globalassets/finnish-customers/01-funding/08-guidelines--terms/funding-terms/public_research_funding.pdf

Research call schedule and budget

- Call for research will open at the beginning of January at the latest. The information session will be organized on January 17th, 2024 at 10-10.30 in Teams.
- We require discussion with Business Finland before submitting applications. Discussions in Teams take place during weeks 4 to 7. The discussion time must be booked by 2.2. at the latest.
- **Funding applications must be submitted by 27.3.2023 through Business Finland's online service**
- Business Finland estimates that 4 MEUR will be allocated for this research call. Research projects compete for funding with research projects in other programmes. In this call, you can also suggest topics that are relevant not only to the topics of this call, but also to the roadmaps of Veturi companies' ecosystems. Projects combining the ecosystems of leading companies and this programme can expand Business Finland's funding opportunities.

More information about the application process

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