

Regulation of application for Multi-sectorial Collaborative Projects

Implementation program NRP 2020 - 2023 of the
canton of Fribourg

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1. Introduction

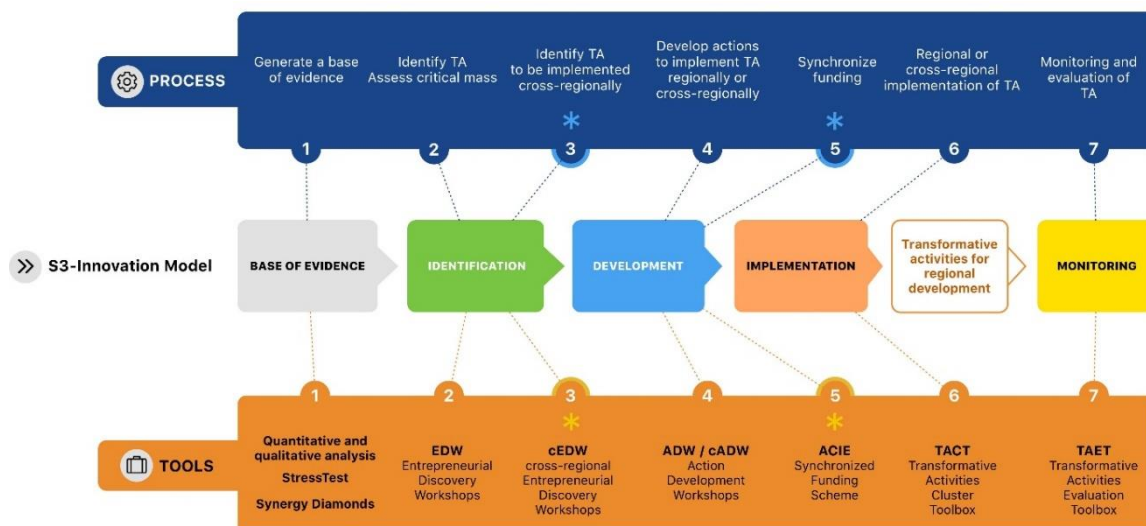
In the implementation of the cantonal program NRP 2020-2023, the canton of Fribourg supports the development of multi-sectorial or transversal collaborative projects (PCM). This program is able to finance two or even three multi-sectorial collaborative projects according to the strategic axes defined by the canton. These projects intensify the relationship between companies and high schools in the field of innovation and implement the smart transformation of existing resources to create new value chains.

2. Definition of a multi-sectorial collaborative project

A multi-sectorial or transversal collaborative project is part of a logic of Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3). S3s are regional strategies for innovation that define strategic priorities based on the region's capabilities, resources and opportunities. The ultimate goal of S3 is the smart transformation of a region's existing resources to increase its competitiveness, stimulate innovation in its companies and create jobs in new value chains that are promising and adapted to current and future technological developments.

The cantonal program NRP 2020-2023 supports a smart specialization initiated by a multi-sectorial collaborative project according to the three strategic axes defined: Agri-food and Bio-economy, Digital Anchorage and Smart Territory.

As a result of the Interreg S3-4AlpClusters project, the S3 innovation model developed (see figure below) is to be used in the initiation and implementation of a multi-sectorial collaborative project.



S3 innovation model

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3. Objectives

The canton of Fribourg has defined a strategy of NRP support for companies, particularly those in the industrial sector, with the objective of increasing their added value.

The realization of multi-sectorial collaborative projects in the strategic axes defined by the NRP 2020-2023 program allows the canton of Fribourg to achieve the following objectives:

- Promote and support smart specialization by disseminating exemplary cases of transformation of existing resources through multi-sectorial collaborative projects according to the strategic axes defined;
- Strengthen collaboration between economic promotion, business networks (clusters), companies and high schools;
- Develop and deploy the S3 innovation model;
- Implement technologies and practices that support regional smart specialization;
- Increase its economic development through a smart transformation of the existing structures of the canton of Fribourg for the creation of jobs in new innovative fields with high growth potential.

4. Operating rules

Applications for project funding and portfolio management of collaborative projects are managed by INNOSQUARE under a mandate given by PromFR.

The evaluation of NRP grant applications for multi-sectorial collaborative projects is entrusted to CAPE as the evaluation committee.

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The conditions and operating rules for the granting of NPR funding are as follows:

- a. The identification and definition of a multi-sectorial collaborative project is supervised by INNOSQUARE in order to remain in line with the canton of Fribourg's strategy of smart specialization. This strategy is defined in the Implementation Program NRP 2020-2023 with three strategic axes.
- b. Companies in the identified areas of smart transformation can join together to form a multi-sectorial collaborative project consortium.
- c. The project consortium must include a maximum of companies from canton of Fribourg. Non-Fribourg companies are requested to obtain financial assistance from their canton in order to increase the overall project budget. A synchronization of the support of multi-sectorial collaborative projects between the cantons is requested with the involvement of the economic promotions of different cantons.
- d. Projects validated by independent experts are presented by invitation to a meeting of the project evaluation committee (CAPE).
- e. The amount of the NPR grant requested is limited to a maximum of CHF 300,000 and should not exceed 50% of the total budgeted project costs.
- f. The co-financing by the partner companies of the project is ensured to at least 50% of the total cost of the project, of which at least 50% of the amount of the NPR grant must be paid in cash and the remaining part in in-kind services.
- g. With the exception of funding for companies' in-kind services, project funding must cover the costs of public research organizations, which include personnel costs, equipment costs (max. 10%) and other project expenses.
- h. The cash co-financing is paid in two parts, the first half of the cash co-financing upon signature of the project consortium agreement and the second half after validation of the intermediate project report.
- i. The administrative management of the multi-sectorial collaborative project during its realization is entrusted to INNOSQUARE in order to support the project team in the development and implementation of transformative activities and the implementation of the S3 innovation model. An amount of 2.5% of the total NPR grant awarded per year of project implementation must be paid to INNOSQUARE for administrative management.
- j. INNOSQUARE manages the portfolio of multi-sectorial collaborative projects.

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In order to obtain NRP's financial participation in a multi-sectorial collaborative project, an application for project funding must be submitted in accordance with the **Procedure for submission and evaluation a funding application of Multi-Sectorial Collaborative Projects**.

Once the NRP funding promise has been granted, the implementation of a multi-sectorial collaborative project must follow the **Procedure for the realisation of a multi-sectorial collaborative project**.

Fribourg, April 21, 2021

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Appendices :

- **Procedure for submission and evaluation a funding application of Multi-Sectorial Collaborative Project**
PCM - Procedure for submission and evaluation.pdf
- **Procedure for the realisation of a multi-sectorial collaborative project**
PCM - Procedure for realisation.pdf

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