

Germany – AiF GmbH	
Institution	AiF Projekt GmbH – Project Management for BMWi (ZIM Koop)
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Telephone number	+49 30 48163526
Initial Funding Commitment	All project applications evaluated positively may be funded

### Who can apply?

- Small and medium-sized enterprises as well as other medium-sized enterprises with up to 500 employees
- Non-profit-making research institutes that serve as cooperation partners to companies

One German SME is mandatory in each cooperation project application. Research institutions that receive basic funding from the federal government and the regions can only be granted funds to cover extra expenditure in addition to their basic financing.

### What types of costs are eligible for funding?

Direct Costs:

- Costs of personnel: Grants towards the costs of scientific staff, technical staff and/or student assistants, required in connection with the proposed project can be provided. In case a project includes more than one German partner, one person may only apply in one project with the related personnel costs. The costs are limited to 100.000 € / per person, direct personnel costs on basis of gross salaries and productive annual work hours. A maximum of 10,5 person month per person and year can be calculated.
- Subcontracting: In general it is possible to use third party orders, which can not be provided by the applicants due to technical or economic reasons. These are limited to 25% of the calculated personnel costs of each participating partner and have to be proven with a reasonable offer of the subcontractor.

Indirect Costs:

- Overheads: Overhead costs are eligible and there is no obligation to produce proof. The amount depends on the type of institution. All German SMEs can apply for an additional lump sum of max. 100% (Projektpauschale) of the requested direct costs for research projects. Research and technology organizations (public/non-public) and universities can apply for an additional lump sum of max. 75% of the requested direct costs for research projects.

### Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

- SME: 380.000 € per project partner including subcontracting and overhead costs (lump sum), funded with 30% to 55% depending on company size and location.
- Private and public research institutions / universities: 190.000 € per project partner including subcontracting and a maximum of 75% overhead costs, all together funded with 100%.

SME funding levels	Funding Rate	+ Foreign Partner

<b>Small Company - old fed. state</b> (max. 10 full time equivalents )	45 %	55 %
<b>Small Company - new fed. state</b> (max. 10 full time equivalents )	50 %	55 %
<b>Mid size Company</b> (max. 250 full time equivalents )	40 %	50 %
<b>Further Mid size Comp.</b> (max. 500 full time equivalents )	30 %	40 %

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the Joint Transnational Call with all details are available in the ZIM guidelines which can be downloaded on:

<http://www.zim-bmwi.de/download/programminformationen/programminformationen>

Please contact AiF Projekt GmbH before submitting any ZIM application for further consultation and detailed advice on all specific questions that are connected to the application requirements.

**Call contact point:**

AiF Projekt GmbH – Project Management of BMWi

Georg Nagel – Coordinator International Cooperation

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**Other Information:**

All German ZIM applicants are asked to use the electronic documents provided on <http://www.zim-bmwi.de/kooperationsprojekte> and application documents have to be submitted in German language only. The draft cooperation agreement can be submitted in English, with a German working translation attached. Projects may start at own risk after the application receipt has been confirmed by AiF Projekt GmbH.