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**Announcement of rules for applications to support excellent teams at FFWS in 2020 and 2021**

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Article 1

**Introductory provisions**

- (1) This Dean's Regulation is valid for the Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague (hereinafter "FFWS") and establishes the rules of applications to support excellent teams at FFWS in 2020 and 2021.
- (2) The aim is mainly to significantly increase FFWS involvement in major international projects, and thus raise the attractiveness of FFWS in international environment, and also to ensure fulfilment of the indicators within research projects OP VVV (EXTEMIT – K and EVA4.0), as well as raise the number of FFWS publications in selected top journals on Web of Science and high-quality non-bibliometric outputs within M17+ Module 1.

Article 2

**Tender documentation for application within a call to support excellent teams 2020**

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2020, the FFWS Dean announced a call to support excellent teams. An application in PDF format must be submitted by the main researcher via e-mail to: [zachova@fld.czu.cz](mailto:zachova@fld.czu.cz) by 12 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 2020.

The call objective:

- Supporting the excellent teams at FFWS following the creation of international consortia with the aim to involve FFWS in major international projects.

Period of research:

- IV/2020 – XII/2021

A project application must contain:

- The name of the team
- Research team members (team leader and other members)
- Brief professional CV (including published work) of the team leader (the team leader must be an FFWS employee on at least 0.5 working hours and actively present at the Faculty)
- A detailed description of objectives and a team development strategy for 2020 and 2021
- A framework strategy and team vision for the period 2022 – 2025
- A detailed plan of the team for creation of new consortia at FFWS as part of the involvement in major international research projects in 2020 **(this part of the application will be of major**

**importance when assessing the team's application for support)** and framework plan for these activities in the period 2020 – 2025

- Budget / financial balance sheet with justification (it is necessary to fill in Appendix No. 1 "Project budget")

**The maximum length of an application is 6 pages of A4 format, font size 12 and line spacing 1 (Times New Roman) or larger, including a brief structured CV of the team leader.**

**The conditions that the team must fulfil in order to get the support:**

- **significant potential to create international consortia and involvement in international cooperation.**

It must be clear and demonstrable from the application for support that it is a team with sufficient potential and ambition to involve in at least two consortia (a position of a leader or partner) for preparation of an international research project and which has a prerequisite for the use of outputs in the most significant journals with IF or other high-quality outputs.

A necessary condition for the use of funds under the call to build excellent teams is to present a plan for 2020 and 2021 for involvement in at least two consortia (a position of a leader or partner) for preparation of an international research project. An international research project is the funds that the applicant obtains in international public tenders, especially (but not exclusively) in the EU Framework Research and Innovation Programme Horizon 2020 (2014 – 2020), including its partial implementation tools (Joint Technology Initiatives, EUROSTARS, etc.), and Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2014 – 2018) exclusively from international sources. Another condition is that the project is provided by a foreign institution (i.e. outside the Czech Republic) and the award of which was decided by competition (i.e. it is not a project of direct allocation of funds).

Overall, one team may apply for support of 250,000 – 500,000 CZK during the project (2020 and 2021). For each year of the project, i.e. 2020 and 2021, it is necessary to present a separate budget.

The support can be used to pay rewards and scholarships for team members who are also FFWS core employees, but they can be up to a maximum of 10% of the total support budget. Funds should be drawn primarily for activities related to establishing and deepening international contacts and activities (travel, services, refunds per diems, external experts via DPC or DPP contract, etc.).

By 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020, an interim report must be written (1-2 A4 pages), including a description of an excellent team's activity, involvement in consortia, and an overall benefit of the team for FFWS. This report, in PDF format, must be submitted via e-mail to: zachova@fld.czu.cz. Simultaneously, one copy of the report must be signed by the team leader and submitted to the FFWS Office for Science and Research, room L 122b (Ing. Romana Zachová) by 12 pm on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

At the beginning of 2021, the defence of the team's activities will take place before the Committee, which will be composed by the Dean of the Faculty. The Committee will give its opinion on the work

of the team, on the fulfilling of the objectives in 2020, and on a prerequisite for fulfilling the objectives within the allocated support in 2021. The Committee will prepare an assessment for the Dean which will include a brief comment and recommendations in the following form: (I) continue the research without cutting the budget, (II) continue the project with a reduced budget, (III) end the financial support of the team. The Dean decides on the continuation of the project and the amount of support for 2021.

### Article 3

#### **Procedure for evaluating an application to support excellent teams**

- (1) The application is evaluated by an expert Committee appointed by the Dean. It consists of two representatives of the Faculty management (FFWS Vice-deans) and two FFWS Academic Senate members.
- (2) The Committee will assess the fulfilment of the requirements. The Committee will prepare a brief review which includes oral assessment, justification of the assessment result, and placing the proposal into the following categories: A) support the team to the full proposed amount, B) support the team with a reduced budget, C) the team will not be supported.
- (3) The Committee may also recommend flat reduction of the funding in the case of a large number of assigned supports.

### Article 4

#### **Final provisions**

- (1) The call is announced as one-round.
- (2) There is no entitlement to receive support under this Regulation.
- (3) This regulation comes into effect on the day of the Dean's signature.

Prague, 16 March 2020

prof. Ing. Róbert Marušák, PhD.

FFWS Dean