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**DIGITAL, INNOVATION, AND GREEN TECHNOLOGY PROJECT
(DIGIT PROJECT)**

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**REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

**MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND YOUTH**

Donje Svetice 38, Zagreb 10 000, Croatia

**DIGITAL, INNOVATION, AND GREEN TECHNOLOGY PROJECT (DIGIT PROJECT)**

IBRD LOAN NO. 9558-HR

PROJECT ID: P180755



**Annex IV. Indicative content of the baseline survey**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**PROFESSIONALIZATION OF RESEARCH CENTERS**

CALL REFERENCE NUMBER: DIGIT.1.2.03

June 2025

## Baseline survey for applicants to the Call for proposals “Professionalization of Research Centers”

INT1 The purpose of the Call for proposals “Professionalization of Research Centers” is to optimize the operation and use of research infrastructures in Croatia. Through improved infrastructure management and greater private sector collaboration, research centers will improve research performance and increase the return on investment. Implementing this program is crucial for advancing research, innovation, and private-sector collaboration, contributing to Croatia’s research and innovation excellence and socio-economic growth.

This survey collects data that will allow MSEY to assess the impact of grants on the research and development capacities of Croatian research organizations. The information you provide through this survey will not be used to assess the quality of your project application. The survey data will only be used to assess the effectiveness of the Professionalization of Research Centers Program upon its completion and to inform future improvements to the Program.

The survey must be completed by the applicant listed in the project proposal.

Please complete **all** **questions**, unless instructed otherwise. If you take a break from filling out the survey, you can continue from where you left off if you open it in the same web browser on the same device, unless you clear browser cookies. Press the arrow at the bottom of the screen to start the survey.

Any questions regarding this baseline survey must be submitted through the application portal eDIGIT. Potential applicants can submit their questions by selecting the relevant Call (DIGIT.1.2.03) on the application portal. The MSEY will respond to these questions in the form of a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section. The FAQ will be published on the DIGIT Project website. (at the foot of each page)

## Research organizations

INT 2 Please enter contact details in case of questions related to the form:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name and surname: (text value) | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Job title | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Name of the research organization | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Telephone number | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Email address (valid Email address) | Click or tap here to enter text. |

INT2\* Please note that you may be contacted for follow-up questions regarding the baseline survey, and the designated contact person may be asked for clarification or additional information.

# Project information

INT\_1 **Important note:** Please enter the correct information about the applicant and the project as they will be used to verify the completion of the survey during the administrative check.

* 1. Please provide the full name of your project and the name of the research organization acting as the lead applicant to the Call.

**Project name** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Applicant name (Research organization)** Click or tap here to enter text.

* 1. Please mark the predominant scientific area of your project proposal.

☐ Biomedicine and health

☐ Biotechnical sciences

☐ Humanities

☐ Natural sciences

☐ Social sciences

☐ Technical sciences

1.3.1. Please select the predominant scientific field of your project proposal from the dropdown menu. (if 1.2. = Natural sciences)

☐ 1.01. Mathematics

☐ 1.02. Physics

☐ 1.03. Geology

☐ 1.04. Chemistry

☐ 1.05. Biology

☐ 1.06. Geophysics

☐ 1.07. Geography

☐ 1.08. Interdisciplinary natural sciences

(dropdown)

1.3.2. Please select the predominant scientific field of your project proposal from the dropdown menu. (if 1.2. = Technical sciences)

☐ 2.01. Architecture and urban planning

☐ 2.02. Naval architecture

☐ 2.03. Electrical engineering

☐ 2.04. Geodesy

☐ 2.05. Civil engineering

☐ 2.06. Graphic technology

☐ 2.07. Chemical engineering

☐ 2.08. Metallurgy

☐ 2.09. Computer science

☐ 2.10. Mining, petroleum, and geological engineering

☐ 2.11. Mechanical engineering

☐ 2.12. Traffic technology and transport

☐ 2.13. Textile technology

☐ 2.14. Aeronautics, rocket, and space technology

☐ 2.15. Fundamental technical sciences

☐ 2.16. Interdisciplinary technical sciences

(dropdown)

1.3.3. Please select the predominant scientific field of your project proposal from the dropdown menu. (if 1.2. = Biomedicine and health)

☐ 3.01. Basic medical sciences

☐ 3.02. Clinical medical sciences

☐ 3.03. Public health and health care

☐ 3.04. Veterinary medicine

☐ 3.05. Dental medicine

☐ 3.06. Pharmacy

(dropdown)

1.3.4. Please select the predominant scientific field of your project proposal from the dropdown menu. (if 1.2. = Biotechnical sciences)

☐ 4.01. Agriculture

☐ 4.02. Forestry

☐ 4.03. Wood technology

☐ 4.04. Biotechnology

☐ 4.05. Food technology

☐ 4.06. Nutrition science

☐ 4.07. Interdisciplinary biotechnical sciences

(dropdown)

1.3.5. Please select the predominant scientific field of your project proposal from the dropdown menu. (if 1.2. = Social sciences)

☐ 5.01. Economics

☐ 5.02. Law

☐ 5.03. Political science

☐ 5.04. Information sciences

☐ 5.05. Communication sciences

☐ 5.06. Sociology

☐ 5.07. Psychology

☐ 5.08. Pedagogy

☐ 5.09. Educational and rehabilitation sciences

☐ 5.10. Speech and language pathology

☐ 5.11. Kinesiology

☐ 5.12. Demography

☐ 5.13. Social work

☐ 5.14. Interdisciplinary social sciences

(dropdown)

1.3.6. Please select the predominant scientific field of your project proposal from the dropdown menu. (if 1.2. = Humanities)

☐ 6.01. Philosophy

☐ 6.02. Theology

☐ 6.03. Philology

☐ 6.04. History

☐ 6.05. Art history

☐ 6.06. Science of art

☐ 6.07. Archaeology

☐ 6.08. Ethnology and anthropology

☐ 6.09. Religious studies

☐ 6.10. Croatian studies

☐ 6.11. Interdisciplinary humanities

(dropdown)

# Information about the applicant

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE APPLICANT RESEARCH ORGANIZATION**

INT\_2 The questions in this section refer to the research organization applying to the Call.

**A. RESEARCH COLLABORATION ACTIVITIES**

* 1. Has your research organization engaged in collaborative R&D activities with other research organizations **in the last three years**?

*It is possible to mark more than one answer. Please mark all applicable responses.*

|  |
| --- |
| [ ]  No (exclusive answer) |
| [ ]  Yes, with research organizations from abroad |
| [ ]  Yes, with research organizations from Croatia  |

(If "Yes," skip to 2.3.)

* 1. Please indicate up to three reasons (and at least one) why you have not collaborated in R&D activities with other research organizations in the last three years. (if 2.1 = No)

[ ]  We were not confident in the capabilities of research organizations

[ ]  We had administrative or legal obstacles in establishing cooperation or procuring services

[ ]  We can do all R&D independently

[ ]  We didn't have enough resources for collaboration

[ ]  Research organizations did not understand our needs

[ ]  We were concerned about confidentiality

[ ]  Other (*please* specify): Click or tap here to enter text.

* 1. In the last three years, has your research organization engaged in collaborative R&D activities with **enterprises** or provided services to enterprises?

*It is possible to mark more than one answer. Please mark all applicable responses.*

|  |
| --- |
| [ ]  No (exclusive answer) |
| [ ]  Yes, we collaborated with or provided services to enterprises from abroad  |
| [ ]  Yes, we collaborated with or provided services to enterprises from Croatia  |

(If "Yes," skip to 2.5)

* 1. Please mark up to three reasons (and at least one) why you have not collaborated in R&D activities with enterprises or provided commercial research services in the last three years. (if 2.3 = No)

[ ]  We were not confident in the capabilities of enterprises

[ ]  We had administrative or legal obstacles in establishing cooperation or providing services

[ ]  We can do all R&D independently

[ ]  We didn't have enough resources for collaboration or provision of services

[ ]  We didn't have enough time for collaboration or provision of services

[ ]  We were concerned about confidentiality

[ ]  No enterprise was directly involved in our type of activity

[ ]  Other (*please* specify): Click or tap here to enter text.

* 1. Please mark what form of collaboration it was.

*It is possible to mark more than one answer. Please mark all applicable responses. (if 2.3. = Yes, we collaborated with or provided services to enterprises from abroad or 2.3. = Yes, we collaborated with or provided services to enterprises from Croatia)*

[ ]  The collaboration was financed by external funding (e.g. grants)

[ ]  The research organization provided research services on commercial terms.

**B. INNOVATION ACTIVITIES**

INT\_IA **Innovation activities** include the acquisition of machinery, equipment, buildings, software, and licenses; engineering and development work, feasibility studies, design, training, R&D and marketing when they are specifically undertaken to develop and/or implement a product, service, or process innovation. This includes also all types of R&D consisting of activities to create new knowledge or solve scientific or technical problems.

* A product innovation is the introduction of a **new** or **significantly** improved **good or service** with respect to its capabilities, user friendliness, components or sub-systems. A **good** is usually a tangible object such as a smartphone, furniture, or packaged software, but downloadable software, music and film are also goods. A **service** is usually intangible, such as retailing, insurance, educational courses, air travel, consulting, etc.
* A process innovation is the implementation of a **new** or **significantly** improved production process, distribution method, or supporting activity.
	1. **In last three years**, has the research organization worked on innovation activities related to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes | No |
| New or significantly improved **goods** (*excludes simple resale of new goods and changes of a purely aesthetic nature*) | [ ]   | [ ]   |
| New or significantly improved **services.** | [ ]   | [ ]   |
| New or significantly improved **production methods** for the production of goods or services | [ ]   | [ ]   |
| New or significantly improved **methods of logistics, delivery or distribution** for imported products, goods or services | [ ]   | [ ]   |

(If all options are marked "No," skip to 2.12)

* 1. **In last three years**, has the research organization carried out any of the following activities when developing these innovations?

*It is possible to mark more than one answer. Please mark all applicable responses.*

|  |
| --- |
| ☐ Applied for public funding  |
| ☐ Purchased or otherwise assisted by a technology transfer office, business support organization, or similar entity (e.g., a business incubator) |
| ☐ Acquired new equipment, plant or other forms of physical capital☐ Acquired new patents, intellectual property rights, or other forms of intellectual or intangible property |
| ☐ Purchased or otherwise received consulting services from experts  |

* 1. **In last three years,** have the innovation activities of the research organization resulted in the following:

*It is possible to mark more than one answer. Please mark all applicable responses.*

|  |
| --- |
| ☐ Analysis of market potential☐ Commercialization strategy☐ Commercialization agreement |
| ☐ Collaborative research |
| ☐ Contract research |
| ☐ Protection of intellectual property |
| ☐ Licensing of intellectual property |
| ☐ Setting up a *spin-off* |
| ☐ Launching an innovation on the market (goods or services sold, processes implemented)  |

* 1. As far as you know, are any of these innovations: (if 2.8. = Launching an innovation on the market (goods or services sold, processes implemented))

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes | No | I don't know |
| The first in Croatia | ☐  | ☐  | ☐  |
| The first in Europe\* | ☐  | ☐  | ☐  |
| The first in the world | ☐  | ☐  | ☐  |

2.9\* *Includes the following countries: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Ireland, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, North Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom.*

* 1. **In last three years,** has the research organization carried out activities that did not result in innovation (i.e., product or process innovation being launched on the market)?

*It is possible to mark more than one answer. Please mark all applicable responses.*

|  |
| --- |
| ☐ No (exclusive answer)☐ Yes, activities were abandoned or suspended before completion |
| ☐ Yes, activities are still ongoing |

* 1. You have stated that the research organization has abandoned or suspended innovation activities. What was the reason for this? (if 2.10 = Yes, activities were abandoned or suspended before completion)

*It is possible to mark more than one response. Please mark all applicable responses.*

☐ The innovation was assessed as technically unfeasible

☐ The innovation was assessed as unprofitable

☐ The research organization could not purchase certain tangible or intangible assets that were necessary for the development of the innovation

☐ The research organization could not recruit staff or consultants with the skills and knowledge needed to develop the innovation

☐ A competitor or other organization developed the same or a very similar innovation before the research organization was able to complete theirs

☐ The research organization was unable to raise the funds needed to develop the innovation

☐ Other reasons (please specify): Click or tap here to enter text.

* 1. Please indicate up to three (and at least one) most significant factors preventing the research organization's innovation activities or decisions to carry them out.

|  |
| --- |
| ☐ Lack of information on the rules of commercialization of research within the research organization |
| ☐ Lack of or difficulty in obtaining project management support (e.g., technology transfer services) |
| ☐ Lack of incentives (monetary or non-monetary) for the commercialization of research |
| ☐ Difficulties in obtaining funding (e.g. grants or innovation subsidies from the state budget or EU funding) |
| ☐ Lack of or difficulty in acquiring tangible assets (e.g. equipment, machinery, etc.) |
| ☐ Lack of or difficulty in acquiring intangible assets (e.g. patents) |
| ☐ Lack of or difficulty in hiring external collaborators (e.g. consultants) |
| ☐ Lack of or difficulty in forming partnerships (e.g. R&D partnerships) |
| ☐ Difficulties in obtaining intellectual property rights for the innovations (e.g. through patents) |
| ☐ Uncertainty or unfavorable market conditions (e.g. demand for products, competition) |
| ☐ Uncertainty due to legislation or regulations, excessive administrative burden |
| ☐ Other (please specify): Click or tap here to enter text. |

* 1. **In the last three years**, has your research organization been involved in any research commercialization activity?

*This includes the sale or licensing of intellectual property, establishment of spin-off companies, or other forms of commercialization of research results.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 1. What kind of commercialization was this?

*It is possible to mark more than one response. Please mark all applicable responses.* (if 2.13 = Yes)

☐ Sale of intellectual property

☐ Licensing of intellectual property

☐ *Spin-off* establishment

☐ Other *(please specify):* Click or tap here to enter text.

* 1. **In the last three years**, has your research organization recorded any income from protected intellectual property (e.g. through sales, licensing, or similar)? (if 2.13 = Yes)

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 1. How important are the following reasons for your research organization not to engage (to a greater extent) in activities of commercialization of research results?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Degree of importance |
|  | High | Medium | Low | Not important |
| Lack of financial resources | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   |
| Lack of other resources (equipment, qualified researchers, etc.) | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   |
| Lack of stakeholders interested in commercializing research results | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   |
| Lack of good ideas for innovations that can generate profits | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   |
| Other (*please* specify): Click or tap here to enter text. | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   |

# Application costs

* 1. Think about all the costs the research organization incurred during the preparation of the application to the Call, such as the time spent on preparing paperwork, consultants, assistants, materials, etc. *Please provide your best estimate of the total costs of preparing the application for this project in euro. For example, if the total costs were ten thousand euro, enter 10000.*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **euro** (number between 0 and 200000)

* 1. Approximately how many days did it take the research organization to prepare the application?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **days** (number between 1 and 365)

* 1. What type of human resources did the research organization use in preparing the application?

*It is possible to mark more than one response. Please mark all applicable responses.*

☐ Administrative assistants

☐ Lawyers and legal advisors

☐ Accountants

☐ Researchers and/or technology professionals

☐ Other external (contracted) experts (e.g. consultants for EU funds)

☐ Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* 1. In your opinion, are the financial and non-financial costs of applying to the Call reasonable?

☐ Yes

☐ No, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

INT\_4 There is only one question left until the end of the survey. After you click on the arrow to the right, you will no longer be able to go back and edit the answers you have already entered.

# Your feedback on the application process

* 1. Please indicate to what extent you disagree or agree with the following statements.

(Positive and negative statements will be randomly distributed)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | I completely disagree | I disagree | I neither agree nor disagree | I agree | I completely agree |
| It was easy to identify and obtain information about the Call |  |  |  |  |  |
| The objectives of the Call are clear |  |  |  |  |  |
| Application support is timely and relevant |  |  |  |  |  |
| The application process is well explained |  |  |  |  |  |
| The application is easy to prepare |  |  |  |  |  |
| The time to complete the application is sufficient |  |  |  |  |  |
| The amount and type of information required in the project proposal is adequate |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eligibility criteria are clear |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eligibility criteria are fair |  |  |  |  |  |
| The selection process is clear |  |  |  |  |  |
| The selection process is transparent |  |  |  |  |  |
| It was easy to access the Call application rules |  |  |  |  |  |
| The rules of the Call are clear |  |  |  |  |  |
| Procedures in case of non-compliance with the rules of the Call are flexible |  |  |  |  |  |
| The list of eligible costs is appropriate for the project |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| It was difficult to identify and obtain information about the Call |  |  |  |  |  |
| The objectives of the Call are unclear |  |  |  |  |  |
| Application support is not timely or relevant |  |  |  |  |  |
| The application process is not well explained |  |  |  |  |  |
| The application is difficult to prepare |  |  |  |  |  |
| The time to complete the application is insufficient  |  |  |  |  |  |
| The amount and type of information required in the project proposal is excessive  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eligibility criteria are unclear |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eligibility criteria are unfair |  |  |  |  |  |
| The selection process is unclear |  |  |  |  |  |
| The selection process is not transparent  |  |  |  |  |  |
| It was difficult to access the Call application rules |  |  |  |  |  |
| The rules of the Call are unclear  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Procedures in case of non-compliance with the rules of the Call are too rigid |  |  |  |  |  |
| The list of eligible costs is not appropriate for the project |  |  |  |  |  |

*We thank you for your time spent taking this survey.*

*Your response has been recorded.*

*Below is a summary of your responses. Download PDF*