

Methodology for determining the budget of the existing CoE and CoC to be funded under PRIDST

- ❖ *The received value for total sum of the budget has to fill on item 6.2.1. in the template of the Sustainability programmes with business plans and in item 1.7.1. on page 6.2.1. Income from Annex 1*

The funding will be provided in two steps:

1st part: **basic budget** for the whole duration of the project, 2024-2029, to be included in the contract (determined by the procedure described below).

2nd part: the remaining amount of funding within PRIDST will be distributed as **optional additional budget** after 2026 based on the performance and efficient use of the basic budget in the period 2024-2026.

The budget under PRIDST will consist of **3 main components**:

Component 1 (General), Component 2 (Results), Component 3 (Regional) for the **3 types of Centres** (CoEs, CCs and Teaming)

1. **Component 1 (General)** will be calculated as 25 % of the **verified amounts** under the Operational Programme “Science and Education for Smart Growth” (OPSESG). The verified project expenditure will correspond to the value as of the date for submission of the proposal for the new project;
2. **Component 2 (Results)** will be performance-based and **will be limited to maximum 75% of component 1**. It is designed to stimulate the Centers, which obtained more and better-quality results during the previous period.
Component 2 will take into account the following sub-components:
 - I. The **number of scientific publications**, reported by quartile (Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4) as a result of the project under PRIDST. Different coefficients (measured in BGN) are assigned for each quartile. The contribution for scientific publications will be further weighted by coefficients depending on the Centre type (coefficient equal to 1,3 for CoEs, coefficient equal to 1,0 for CCs and coefficient equal to 1,3 for Teaming projects). Only publications, in which the funding from OPSESG/EFRR with the contract number is acknowledged, will be counted. Publications, not ranked in any quartile should be included in Q4. Monographs should be included as publications in Q1 and studies in Q3.
 - II. **IPR protection**, expressed in the number patents *registered* and patent applications *submitted* as well as utility models and utility models applications resulting from the project under OPSESG. Different coefficients (measured in BGN) are applied, depending on the type of IPR protection and place for protection (International and EU, or Bulgarian). The contribution of the IPR protection will be further weighted by weight coefficient depending on the Centre type (coefficient equal to 1,0 for CoEs, coefficient equal to 1,5 for CCs and coefficient equal to 1,0 for Teaming projects). Only IPR protection documents, in which the Center is explicitly mentioned will be counted.
- III. **Revenues received**:
 - Number of contracts with undertakings
 - Revenue from licensing agreements and other TT agreements;
 - Revenue (incl. expenses covered by business) from effective collaboration;
 - Revenue from contract research and research services performed on behalf of undertakings.

A coefficient will be applied to the received revenue, generated by the project under OPSESG. The contribution of the **project revenue generated** will be further weighted by coefficients depending on the Centre type (coefficient equal to 1,0 for CoEs, coefficient equal to 1,5 for CCs and coefficient equal to 1,0 for Teaming projects). Only the amount of received revenue, which is registered in the accounting system and assigned to the Center, will be counted.

- i. **Hired scientific and innovation staff** expressed as the ***Number of researchers for the project working in improved research infrastructure sites***, measured in full-time equivalent FTE, as at 2023 (verified number as per OPSESG)

A coefficient (measured in BNG) will be applied to the FTE per month.

3. Component 3 (Regional) is directed to stimulate activities of the Centers in less developed regions in the next period, which is one of the focuses in that program period. It will measure the intended contribution of the new project to the development of less developed region (outside SW region). **It will be limited to maximum 75% of component 1.** Component 3 will consist of 2 sub-components:

- i. Funding for activities of the Center related to solution of problems of businesses/ municipalities/ users from the less developed regions (limited to 25% from Component 1). This part of the budget should be explained and justified with relevant activities, described in the Development and sustainability programmes with business plans.
- ii. Additional budget for project partners located in the less developed regions (limited to 50% from Component 1). This component is calculated on the base of the component 1 multiplied by the percentage of the budget of component 1 allocated for the new project to the partners from less developed regions but not more than 50%. This additional budget has to be allocated to the partners in the less developed regions.

Finally, the total budget will be calculated as sum of the Components 1, 2 and 3. All values, used for calculation of the Component 2 of the basic budget will be counted for the date for submission of the proposal for the new project. Changes in the values for calculation of Component 2 after that date will be taken into account in determination of the optional additional budget after 2026.

Notes:

1. Eligible for funding from PRIDST will be only Centers, which achieved at least 65% verified expenditure by the date of submission of the projects of the corresponding call.
2. For the new project the Centers may partially change the partnership in the following ways:
 - To add up to two new partners from less developed regions
 - Partners that do not have infrastructure obtained with the support from the project and their participation is not critical for sustainably and functioning of the Center, may leave the partnership for the next period. The same may be applied also for partners, which obtained only mobile equipment, if this equipment is transferred to a partner remaining in the partnership.

The budget will be calculated using the attached Excel file titled as ***Annex 1a***. The data should be filled in the orange boxes. At the stage of the preparation of the Development and sustainability programmes with business plans, in the field “Verified expenditure under OPSESG”, fill the forecasted value at the date for submission of the proposal for support for the next programming period. The file should be updated for the final submission. All values in the file will be verified by EAPE when the proposal is submitted using available information or information provided as justification during the submission.