

**Competition documentation for an open public competition  
to receive Russian Science Foundation grants for research projects initiated by leading  
researchers in overseas**

1. The competition to receive grants from the Russian Science Foundation for the priority area of the Russian Science Foundation's activity "Basic research and applied research conducted by leading researchers in overseas" is carried out in accordance with the Procedure for the competitive selection of scientific and technical programs and projects submitted to the competition of the Russian Science Foundation, by decision of the board of the Russian Science Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the Foundation) (minutes No. 20 dated September 20, 2025).

2. The source of the Foundation's grants shall be the Russian Federation's property contribution to the Russian Science Foundation.

3. Concepts used in this tender documentation:

3.1. **Team leader, Leading Scientist** – a foreign or Russian scientist living abroad<sup>1</sup> who wishes to work in Russia and has, among other things, experience in creating advanced technical solutions and establishing a process for producing high-tech products.

The team leader cannot be replaced during the project implementation.

3.2. **Organization** – a Russian scientific organization registered and located in the territory of the Russian Federation, a Russian educational institution of higher education, or another organization whose constituent documents provide for the possibility of performing research, an international (interstate and intergovernmental) research organization located in the territory of the Russian Federation.

3.3. **Qualified Customer** – a qualified customer and (or) a technology partner who forms a Technology Proposal regarding the development of a technology that has no analogues<sup>2</sup> in the world (including one that achieves qualitatively new characteristics when used).

Confirmation of the possibility of implementing the specified technology are prototypes (laboratory samples, experimental samples, mock-ups) created during the project (hereinafter referred to as the prototype). The key characteristics of the prototypes are determined by a qualified customer within the framework of the Technological Proposal.

A qualified customer may be a Russian organization<sup>3</sup> operating in the real sector of the economy, as well as "integrators"<sup>4</sup> formulating the key characteristics of the said prototypes, including for the purpose of organizing interaction with foreign partners and entering global markets.

Affiliated legal entities with the organization may not act as a qualified customer: the founders of a qualified customer may not include the organization and members of the research team; a member of the research team may not be the head of a qualified customer. A

---

<sup>1</sup> Not a tax resident of the Russian Federation at the time of submitting an application for participation in the competition. Violation of the terms of this clause leads to rejection of the application at any stage of the competition.

<sup>2</sup> Violation of the terms of this clause will result in rejection of the application at any stage of the competition.

<sup>3</sup> In the authorized (share) capital of which the share of direct or indirect (through third parties) participation of offshore companies in total does not exceed 25 percent, the profit of which in the previous three-year period is not less than the expected maximum amount of co-funding during the project implementation period. Violation of the terms of this clause leads to rejection of the application at any stage of the competition.

<sup>4</sup> Legal entities that facilitate cooperation between scientists, scientific organizations and/or high-tech companies with other market participants, development institutions, state corporations and executive authorities, promoting the interests of high-tech companies, including with the aim of their entry into global markets, or investing in leading companies in the Russian Federation.

qualified customer may not participate in the competition as an organization implementing the technological proposal of this qualified customer.

A qualified customer may be replaced in cases of its reorganization, assignment of relevant rights within a group of companies or a holding company, or the adoption of decisions by the President of the Russian Federation or the Government of the Russian Federation that make it impossible for the qualified customer to continue to fulfill the relevant duties.

**3.4. Project** - a scientific, scientific and technical program or project that ensures an increase in the level of readiness for the use of promising and priority high-tech technologies, providing for the implementation of fundamental scientific research and exploratory scientific research under the supervision of a leading scientist of an applied nature that can contribute to the creation of high-tech production in the Russian Federation and aimed at creating a certain number of prototypes in the interests of a qualified customer that have key characteristics<sup>5</sup> determined by the qualified customer.

The project should be aimed at solving specific problems within the framework of priority areas<sup>6</sup> of scientific and technological development, as well as in technology development projects<sup>7</sup> (if any).

The implementation of the project should be aimed at attracting new competencies to scientific, educational organizations and enterprises of the real sector of the economy in organizing high-tech production aimed at increasing the level of readiness for the use of promising and priority high-tech technologies, the formation of scientific and technological reserves that ensure economic growth and social development of the Russian Federation, and the acquisition of new knowledge for the purpose of their subsequent practical application.

Project implementation may involve<sup>8</sup> scientists and specialists from several organizations, as well as the implementation of some research and work at the facilities of a qualified customer<sup>9</sup> and co-contractors (including within the framework of a consortium being created).

**3.5. Technological Proposal** — a proposal from a qualified customer to create or improve a domestic science-intensive technology<sup>10</sup>, which provides for the implementation of applied research under the supervision of a leading scientist as a backbone part of the project in order to obtain scientific and technical products in the interests of the qualified customer and achieve a practical result with specific technical and technological characteristics.

The number of Technological Proposals from a qualified customer is not limited.

**3.6. Agreement** — an agreement<sup>11</sup> providing for the implementation of the project between the Russian Science Foundation, the team leader, the organization and the qualified customer on the provision of a grant for conducting applied research.

**3.7. Contract** – an agreement concluded between a qualified customer and an organization, providing for the organization to carry out research work using co-funding (research funded

---

<sup>5</sup> Technical requirements (initial data) for the scientific and technical products being developed and technical documentation for them, requirements for the scope of work and the form of presentation of results.

<sup>6</sup> Approved by Decree of the President of the Russian Federation dated July 18, 2024 No. 529 “On approval of priority areas of scientific and technological development and a list of the most important science-intensive technologies”.

<sup>7</sup> National projects to ensure technological leadership of the Russian Federation, as well as projects to develop cross-cutting technologies and other projects to create high-tech products and implement technological innovations that are not national projects to ensure technological leadership of the Russian Federation.

<sup>8</sup> Regardless of the team leader's position, academic degree, and citizenship, the organizational and legal form and ownership of the legal entities with which the team leader and members of the research team will have employment or civil law relationships.

<sup>9</sup> Expenses for conducting research at the facilities of a qualified customer are not considered co-financing and are not covered by the Foundation's grant.

<sup>10</sup> That has no analogues in the world (including achieving qualitatively new characteristics when used).

<sup>11</sup> The terms of the agreement are set out in paragraph 27 of this documentation.

by a provided donation), as well as<sup>12</sup> financial support (co-funding), monitoring implementation, control, and acceptance of the project's results as a whole.

The Contract is concluded to ensure cooperation between the organization and the qualified customer on all matters related to the implementation of the Research Plan, the Technical Specifications (Form 6 of Appendix No. 2 to these tender documentation) and the Project Work Schedule (Form 7 of Appendix No. 2 to these tender documentation) developed by the organization in the interests of the qualified customer.

The Contract must be aimed at implementing the results of the Project implementation in the national economy.

The Contract must provide for the annual<sup>13</sup> provision by the qualified customer of co-funding<sup>14</sup> in cash in the amount of at least 10 (Ten) percent of the Foundation's grant amount, as well as, if necessary, assets (cash, inventory, fixed assets, and intangible assets) of the qualified client used for the Project's implementation, received from extra-budgetary sources, from income-generating activities (if cash is used), or created (acquired) using funds from extra-budgetary sources of inventory, fixed assets, and intangible assets.

For the purpose of co-funding projects supported as a result of the competition, throughout the entire period of their practical implementation using the Foundation's grant, no funds other than those provided by the qualified customer may be used, including funds from the state assignment, the organization's own funds, and grants from other funds, unless otherwise provided for in this competition documentation for the payment of specific expenses.

The Contract that is not a donation agreement must include technical specifications and a schedule for the execution of work under the Agreement, which ensure the timely completion by the organization of the Technical Specifications for the scientific research within the framework of the technological proposal (Form 6 of Appendix No. 2 to these tender documentation), the Schedule for the execution of work under the project (Form 7 of Appendix No. 2 to these tender documentation), and the acceptance by the qualified customer of the relevant work and research results.

The Technical Specifications and the Schedule for the execution of work under the Contract may specify the Technical Specifications for the scientific research within the framework of the Technological Proposal, the Schedule for the execution of work under the project, and also provide for the execution of elements of applied research and development

The Contract may provide, in particular:

- the creation of a certain number of prototypes in the interests of the qualified customer;
- a requirement to approve the program and methodology of tests conducted during the evaluation of work under the Contract, to verify the compliance of the work performed under the Contract with the requirements of the technical specifications under the Contract (hereinafter referred to as tests); requirements regarding the management of rights to the results of intellectual activity obtained under the Foundation's grant and/or co-financing;
- a requirement that prior to the disclosure, including the publication of any scientific work completed within the framework of the Project, the Project abstract, and the Project

---

<sup>12</sup> In accordance with subparagraph "z" of paragraph 4 of the Strategy for Scientific and Technological Development of the Russian Federation, approved by Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 145 of February 28, 2024.

<sup>13</sup> Or one-time payment for several stages of the project.

<sup>14</sup> Co-funding may be provided by funds from a qualified customer in monetary form, as permitted by Russian Federation law. Co-funding may include funds under the Contract spent directly on the project implementation (excluding overhead costs). Subsidies for financial support of a state (municipal) assignment, funds from scientific, scientific-technical, and other support funds, innovation activities; funds from budgets at any level (the federal budget, budgets of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, and local budgets) allocated to fund the implementation of state development programs, technology development projects, and other state support instruments, as well as assets acquired (created) using these sources - are not recognized as co-funding.

implementation reports, the composition of the materials must be pre-approved by the qualified customer, and the published materials must not contain confidential information obtained within the framework of the Project; The use of assets (cash, inventories, fixed assets, and intangible assets) of the qualified client other than the above-mentioned co-funding for the implementation of the Project, obtained from extra-budgetary sources, from income-generating activities (in the case of the use of cash) or inventories, fixed assets, and intangible assets created (acquired) using funds from extra-budgetary sources; use of co-funding amounts to pay for (reimburse) expenses<sup>15</sup> for the relocation of the team leader, members of his family, and transportation of property, for arrangements at the new place of residence, as well as expenses<sup>16</sup> for renting (subletting) residential premises for the team leader and his/her family members; use of personal funds to pay (reimburse) these expenses if relocation standards or rental standards are exceeded; one-time provision of co-financing for the entire period of the Project.

The Contract may be concluded annually. By the discretion of the qualified customer, the Contract may be a donation agreement.

**3.8. Agreement on Electronic Signature** – an agreement concluded between the Foundation and an organization or qualified customer on the recognition of a simple electronic signature as equivalent to a handwritten signature.

4. For the purposes of the competition, the qualified customer shall submit **by November 26, 2025 (inclusive)** a Technological Proposal in accordance with the form of Appendix 1 to this tender documentation via the Foundation's information and analytical system in the Internet information and telecommunications network at <https://ias.rscf.ru> (hereinafter referred to as the IAS), in accordance with the current<sup>17</sup> agreement on the EP in accordance with the form in Appendix No. 1 to this competition documentation.

Submission of Technological Proposal is permitted only by a qualified customer with whom the Fund has signed an EP agreement, and in the presence of a valid power of attorney issued by the qualified customer to its employee, authorized to sign technology proposals with a simple electronic signature.

Technological Proposal for the competition must be submitted as an electronic document signed through the IAS with a simple electronic signature of an authorized employee of the qualified customer, acting on the basis of a previously submitted power of attorney (original or duly certified copy) to the Fund, or with a qualified<sup>18</sup> electronic signature of the qualified customer's manager, acting on the basis of the qualified customer's charter.

Submission of a Technological Proposal to the Foundation in any manner other than that specified above is not permitted.

---

<sup>15</sup> The reimbursement amounts for relocation expenses for the Team Leader, their family members, and transportation of property, as well as for settling into their new residence, using the Foundation grant and co-financing, must not exceed the amounts established by Decree No. 514 of the Government of the Russian Federation of August 11, 2007 (hereinafter referred to as the "relocation standards"). Any excess funds are covered by the organization and/or the qualified customer, other than the Foundation grant, and are not included in the co-funding.

<sup>16</sup> The amount of compensation for residential rental (sublease) expenses for the team leader and their family members, using the Foundation grant and co-funding, must not exceed the amounts established in paragraph 4 of Russian Government Resolution No. 1103 of October 27, 2012, and paragraph 7 of the Rules approved by this Resolution (hereinafter referred to as rental standards). Any excess of these standards is covered by the organization and/or qualified customer's own funds, other than the Foundation grant, and is not included in the co-funding.

<sup>17</sup> Submitting a technology proposal by a qualified customer with whom the Fund has not signed an EP agreement, or in the event of expiration of the power of attorney authorized to sign applications, is not possible with a simple electronic signature of the qualified customer's employee.

<sup>18</sup> With the submission to the IAS of a file containing information about the electronic signature of the head of the qualified customer.

It is not permitted to submit to the Foundation Technological Proposal that is similar in content to a project<sup>19</sup> simultaneously submitted to competitions of the Foundation, other scientific foundations or organizations, or currently being implemented using funds from foundations or organizations<sup>20</sup>, state (municipal) assignments, development programs, funded from the federal budget.

By submitting a Technological Proposal, a qualified customer agrees:

to the terms of the competition;

to the requirement to provide the Foundation with a written conclusion (opinion) on projects submitted to the project competition for the implementation of the technological proposal;

to the requirement, when disclosing the results of any scientific work carried out within the framework of a project supported by the Foundation, to indicate receipt of financial support from The Foundation (first in order, regardless of the availability of other sources of support) and a qualified customer (if necessary), affiliation with the organization;

with the Foundation publishing<sup>21</sup> abstracts of the technological proposal and project, relevant project implementation reports, including on the Internet, with the Foundation using for non-commercial purposes materials submitted to the Foundation, including those containing the results of the project's implementation, and with the provision of these materials to government bodies of the Russian Federation and development institutions;

for the Foundation, the qualified customer, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, and state financial control bodies to carry out mandatory audits of the Foundation's grant recipient's compliance with the terms, objectives, and procedure for its provision, as well as audits by state (municipal) financial control bodies in accordance with Articles 268.1 and 269.2 of the Budget Code of the Russian Federation.

By submitting Technology Proposal to the competition, the customer undertakes to:

conclude with the winning bidder the Agreement and Contract stipulated in paragraphs 3.6-3.7 of these competition documentation;

ensure oversight of the research under the Agreement and the work under the Contract, and acceptance of the research results under the Agreement and the work under the Contract;

provide the winning bidder with monetary co-financing, as stipulated in paragraph 8 of these tender documentation.

Technology Proposal is submitted to the Foundation in Russian; individual fields of the forms are completed in English (only where specifically indicated).

If the technology proposal is signed with a simple electronic signature of an authorized employee of the qualified customer, a printed copy of the technology proposal must be submitted to the Fund upon signing Agreement in accordance with paragraph 30 of these competition documentation.

The qualified customer has the right to revoke the submitted Technology Proposal by revoking the simple electronic signature in the IAS. Subject to compliance with the above requirements for Technological Proposal, the Foundation will conduct a competition to achieve the results stated in Technological Proposal.

5. The Foundation's grants are allocated<sup>22</sup> for the implementation of projects by research teams conducting<sup>23</sup> applied research under the supervision of a team leader (lead scientist) in

---

<sup>19</sup> Projects that are similar in their goals, objectives, objects, subjects, and research methods, as well as expected results. A review of similar projects is conducted by the Foundation's expert council.

<sup>20</sup> With the exception of organizations that provided co-funding to the project.

<sup>21</sup> Except for those sections (clauses) designated by the organization, team leader, and/or qualified customer that contain commercial secrets and/or confidential information.

<sup>22</sup> With the exception of studies aimed at human cloning, human genetic modification, the creation or genetic modification of a human embryo for research purposes or the production of stem cells. Research experiments involving humans, human material, animals as well as studies with a great impact on humans and their

the interests of a qualified customer based on an organization, in 2026–2030, with a subsequent possible<sup>24</sup> extension of the project implementation period for three years. The Foundation's grant is provided to the team leader on a gratuitous and non-refundable basis based on the results of a competition under the conditions stipulated by the Foundation, through the organization.

6. Priority support will be given<sup>25</sup> to projects that provide assistance in implementing national projects of technological leadership and (or) are necessary for the creation of high-tech products that have no analogues in the world.

Priority support will also be given to projects that involve the creation (achievement of qualitatively new characteristics using previously applied technology) of product prototypes, the creation of new applied technologies; the possibility of further development of the project through other instruments of state or extra-budgetary financing.

7. The size<sup>26</sup> of one grant of the Foundation shall range<sup>27</sup> from 20 (Twenty) to 80 (Eighty) million roubles annually.

The Foundation may alter the amount of annual funding in the event of insufficiency of the Foundation's assets for funding obligations or according to a decision by the Foundation's Board based on the results of an expert evaluation of the grant application, reports submitted on the implementation of the project and the proper use of the grant of the Foundation by its recipient.

8. In order to implement the project by a qualified customer in accordance with the Agreement, the qualified customer shall annually provide co-funding<sup>28</sup> in cash in the amount of at least 10 (Ten) percent of the amount of the Foundation grant, as well as, if necessary, <sup>29</sup>

---

environment must obtain an approval from the ethics committee of the respective host organization, if such a committee exists.

<sup>23</sup> Regardless of the position held by the team leader, his academic degree and citizenship, the organizational and legal form and form of ownership of legal entities with which the team leader and members of the research team will be in labor or civil law relations.

<sup>24</sup> It is carried out on a competitive basis by decision of the Supervisory Board of the Foundation, given the availability of the Foundation's property.

<sup>25</sup> Priority support will also be given to projects that will provide for the formation of a scientific and technical reserve in priority areas of scientific and technological development for the most important science-intensive technologies, as well as the creation and transfer to a technology partner (hereinafter referred to as a qualified customer) of prototypes, product samples, materials, the creation (improvement) of product prototypes, the creation of new or improvement of applied technologies, the possibility of using the results of the project in the implementation of economic activities of enterprises of the Russian Federation, the possibility of further development of the project through other instruments of state or extra-budgetary financing.

<sup>26</sup> The grant of the Foundation is a gratuitous receipt and is recorded in the Chart of Accounts for the financial and economic activities of the organization as deferred income (gratuitous receipts). The grant is not cash held in the temporary possession of the organization.

<sup>27</sup> The planned size of the Foundation grant is indicated in paragraph 1.8 of Form 1 of Appendix 1. Violation of the terms of this paragraph will result in rejection of the application at any stage of the competition.

<sup>28</sup> The planned size of co-funding is specified in paragraph 1.13 of form Appendix 1 and in paragraph 1.12 of form 1 Appendix 2. Violation of the terms of this paragraph will result in rejection of the application at any stage of the competition.

Funds of a qualified customer in monetary form, permitted by the legislation of the Russian Federation, may be used as co-financing. Funds under the Agreement spent directly on the implementation of the project (excluding overhead costs) may be used as co-funding.

The following items are not recognized as co-financing: subsidies for financial support of a state (municipal) assignment; funds from funds to support scientific and technical, and innovative activities; funds from budgets of any level (federal budget, budgets of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, and local budgets) aimed at financial support for the implementation of state development programs, technology development projects, and other state support instruments, as well as assets acquired (created) using the specified sources.

<sup>29</sup> The specified assets are used in addition to the co-funding (in excess of the co-funding) specified in the first paragraph of this clause of the competition documentation..

assets (cash, material reserves, fixed assets and intangible assets) of the qualified customer used to implement the project, received by it from extra-budgetary sources, from income-generating activities (in the case of using cash) or created (acquired) at the expense of funds from extra-budgetary sources of material reserves, fixed assets and intangible assets. For the purpose of co-funding the projects supported as a result of the competition, during the entire period of their practical implementation using the Foundation grant, other funds, other than those provided by the qualified customer, may not be attracted, including funds from the state assignment, the organization's own funds and grants from other funds, unless otherwise provided by this competition documentation for the payment of specific expenses.

The Foundation reserves the right to reduce<sup>30</sup> the grant amount, unilaterally terminate the Agreement, and demand the return of grant funds held by the organization and unused on the date the organization receives the Foundation's request for the return of such funds, if the qualified customer fails to provide co-financing within the timeframe and in the amounts stipulated in the agreement, if there is no documentary evidence of such co-financing by November 1 of the corresponding year, or if funds other than those of the qualified customer are used as co-funding.

The organization has the right<sup>31</sup> to use its own funds for the purposes of project implementation.

9. The team leader must have experience in creating or implementing technological solutions or technologies, setting up a process for manufacturing high-tech products.

The team leader must meet the qualification requirements (if any) established by the qualified customer in the Technological Proposal (Section 3.10. Form Appendix 1 to this competition documentation).

The team leader must be<sup>32</sup> in an employment relationship with the organization for the entire period of practical implementation of the project, while the employment contract with the team leader must not contain conditions for remote work<sup>33</sup>.

The employment contract with the team leader must provide for his/her full-time participation in the performance of work on the project on the territory of the organization<sup>34</sup> for at least 90 days annually<sup>35</sup>. A qualified customer may provide for an increase in the duration of annual presence.

---

Funds of a qualified customer in monetary form, permitted by the legislation of the Russian Federation, may be used as co-financing. Funds under the Agreement spent directly on the implementation of the project (excluding overhead costs) may be used as co-funding.

The following items are not recognized as co-financing: subsidies for financial support of a state (municipal) assignment; funds from funds to support scientific and technical, and innovative activities; funds from budgets of any level (federal budget, budgets of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, and local budgets) aimed at financial support for the implementation of state development programs, technology development projects, and other state support instruments, as well as assets acquired (created) using the specified sources.

<sup>30</sup> The specified assets are used in addition to the co-funding (in excess of the co-funding) specified in the first paragraph of this clause of the competition documentation.

<sup>31</sup> The Foundation's grant amount for the current year is reduced proportionally to the amount of confirmed co-funding.

<sup>32</sup> The requirements for the employment contract are set out in Appendix 4. The team leader's right to dispose of grant funds arises from the moment of making (if necessary) changes to the current employment contract with the organization or concluding an employment (fixed-term employment) contract with the organization in accordance with the agreement.

<sup>33</sup> During the team leader's absence, he/she may be granted leave/leave with pay in accordance with Article 128 of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation.

<sup>34</sup> The organization is obliged to notify the Foundation about the provision of leave/leave without pay for a total period of more than 90 calendar days to the team leader during the previous 365 calendar days (or from the date of signing the agreement) and not to spend grant funds until the Foundation makes a decision to continue the implementation of the project.

<sup>35</sup> In the first year of project implementation - at least 60 days.

The team leader must begin his/her duties within 180 days from the date of signing the agreement.

10. The team leader and members of the research team may be employees of the organization and other individuals involved in the project and who, for the duration of the project's practical implementation, are in employment<sup>36</sup> or civil law relations with the organization.

11. A scientist whose right to participate in competitions is limited in accordance with the Procedure for the competitive selection of scientific and technical programs and projects providing for the implementation of research submitted to the competition of the Russian Science Foundation, or the Regulation on the expert councils of the Russian Science Foundation cannot be a team leader.

12. An employee of an organization to which the team leader is directly subordinate cannot be a member of the research team.

13. The team leader shall be entitled<sup>37</sup> to submit only one application<sup>38</sup> to take part in this competition. There shall be no restriction on the number of projects funded through one organisation.

14. It shall not be permitted to submit to the Foundation a project that is similar in scope to a project<sup>39</sup> which has been concurrently submitted for the other competitions of the Foundation or other research foundations or organisations<sup>40</sup> (other than those specified by this competition documentation) or which is currently being implemented using the funds of foundations or organisations, a government (municipal) objective or development programmes funded by the federal budget. If these conditions are violated, the Foundation shall discontinue funding for the project regardless of its stage of implementation with the simultaneous recovery of the funds paid to the recipient of the grant of the Foundation in the prescribed manner.

15. The projects supported as a result of the competition may not contain information that constitutes a state secret or other restricted information that is to be protected in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation. The funding of the project by the grant of the Foundation shall be discontinued if such information arises over the implementation of the project.

16. A mandatory condition for the provision of the grant by the Foundation shall be the undertaking of the following obligations by the international research team:

16.1. To make the results of their research a part of the public domain in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation by publishing them in Russian and foreign peer-reviewed scientific journals;

16.2. To publish<sup>41</sup> in Russian and foreign peer-reviewed<sup>42</sup> scientific journals<sup>43</sup> during the practical implementation of the project certain number<sup>44</sup> of publications containing the results of research;

---

<sup>36</sup> Requirements for employment and civil law contracts are set out in Appendix. 4.

<sup>37</sup> The number of other projects where he or she is declared as the member of the team but is not entitled as the leader of the project shall not be limited.

<sup>38</sup> A breach of the terms of this clause shall result in the rejection of the application at any stage.

<sup>39</sup> Projects similar to this project application with respect to the goals, objectives, targets, subjects and methods of research as well as to the results expected. Project comparison and relevant investigation is carried out by the Expert Council of the Foundation.

<sup>40</sup> With the exception of organizations that provided co-funding to the project.

<sup>41</sup> The number of publications planned for publication is indicated in clause 1.11 of form 1 of Appendix 1. Violation of of this clause shall result in the rejection of the application at any stage of processing.

<sup>42</sup> Publications indexed in foreign bibliographic databases of publications and/or Russian Science Citation Index (RSCI).

<sup>43</sup> The Foundation has the right to establish (change) the list of international databases in which scientific publications are indexed, and / or scientific publications, publications in which will be taken into account with a multiplier.

16.3. To mention the financial support received from the Foundation, the qualified customer, if necessary, and indicate the organisation, through which the funding of the project is performed, in published results of any research work performed as part of a project funded by the Foundation;

Before disclosure, including publication, of any scientific work carried out within the framework of the project, the project abstract and reports on the implementation of the project, the composition of the materials must be preliminarily agreed upon with a qualified customer. The materials must not contain confidential information obtained within the framework of the project.

16.4. To agree that the summary of the supported project and relevant project implementation reports will be published<sup>45</sup> by the Foundation, including publication on the Internet as well as the use by the Foundation for non-commercial purposes of reporting materials containing the results of the project;

16.5. to agree to mandatory audits by the Foundation, the qualified customer, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, and state financial control bodies to ensure the grant recipient's compliance with the terms, objectives, and procedures for its provision, as well as audits by state (municipal) financial control bodies in accordance with Articles 268.1 and 269.2 of the Budget Code of the Russian Federation

When implementing the project, the research team, represented by the team leader, has the right to:

16.6. Conduct schools for young scientists on the subject of the project on the territory of the Russian Federation (including on the basis of the organization and (or) a qualified customer) with results published on respective web-sites.

16.7. To attract young scientists (postdocs) aged under 35 from other organizations. The team leader has the right to:

16.8. Conduct teaching activities, provide scientific supervision to postgraduate students, applicants and doctoral candidates.

16.9. Provide consulting services to a qualified customer, paid for by co-funding of the project.

16.10. The organization and the qualified customer have the right to use their own funds (except for the grant and co-funding) to pay (reimburse) the expenses<sup>46</sup> for the relocation of the leading scientist, members of his family and transportation of property, for settling in a new place of residence, as well as the expenses<sup>47</sup> for the rental (sublease) of residential

---

In cases of adoption by the authorities of the Russian Federation or the Foundation's management bodies of the relevant decision, the Foundation has the right not less than 8 months before the start of the reporting period in

unilaterally establish or change the list of international databases in which scientific publications are indexed, and / or scientific publications by sending to the winners of the competition relevant written notice.

<sup>44</sup> No more than half of the specified publications may be replaced by a productive result of intellectual activity, which may include: rights to the results of intellectual activity obtained within the framework of the project, transferred to a qualified customer on a paid basis; rights to use the result of intellectual activity granted to a qualified customer on the basis of a paid license agreement.

<sup>45</sup> Except for those sections (clauses) designated by the organization, team leader, and/or qualified customer that contain commercial secrets and/or confidential information.

<sup>46</sup> The amount of compensation for expenses related to the relocation of a leading scientist, members of his family and transportation of property, and for settling in a new place of residence at the expense of the Foundation grant and co-funding must not exceed the limits established by the Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation of August 11, 2007, No. 514. The exceeding amounts are paid at the expense of the organization's own funds and (or) qualified customers, other than the Foundation grant and co-funding.

<sup>47</sup> The amount of compensation for expenses on the rental (sublease) of residential premises for a leading scientist

premises for the leading scientist and members of his family.

17. The application for the competition shall be submitted by the team leader and the organization regarding the Technological Proposals received in accordance with paragraph 4 of this competition documentation, using the forms in accordance with Appendix No. 2 to this competition documentation through the IAS in accordance with the current<sup>48</sup> EP Agreement.

Applications may only be submitted by organizations with which the Foundation has signed an electronic signature agreement, and only with a valid power of attorney issued by the organization to its employee authorized to sign applications with a simple electronic signature, or with a qualified electronic signature of the organization's manager.

The competition application must be submitted as an electronic document,

signed through the IAS with the simple electronic signature of the Team Leader, as well as with the simple electronic signature of an authorized employee of the organization acting on the basis of a power of attorney previously submitted to the Foundation (original or duly certified copy), or with a qualified<sup>49</sup> electronic signature of the organization's manager, acting on the basis of the organization's charter.

Applications may not be submitted to the Foundation by any means other than those specified above.

By submitting an application for the competition, the Team Leader and the organization agree to the terms of the competition.

In accordance with the EP Agreement, the Team Leader and all key project implementers are required to provide the organization with personally signed consents from personal data subjects for the processing of their personal data, as well as post<sup>50</sup> scanned copies of these consents in the Signatory's personal account in the IAS. This consent is submitted in the recommended form posted on the Foundation's official website on the Internet.

18. The application is submitted to the Foundation in Russian language, individual fields of the application forms are filled in English (only where it is specifically indicated).

If the application is signed with a simple electronic signature of an authorized employee of the organization, a printed copy of the application must be submitted to the Foundation upon signing the agreement in accordance with paragraph 30 of this competition documentation.

19. The application must be registered in the IAS by an authorized employee of the Organization's organization no later than 17 hours 00 minutes (Moscow time) on **26 December 2025**.

20. The following applications are not eligible for the competition:

- a) applications that are completed and/or submitted to the Foundation with violations of the requirements of clauses 19, 20 and 21 of this competition documentation;
- b) applications that are completed and submitted to the Foundation with violations of the requirements for the content of the application to take part in the competition set forth in the announcement on the competition and the competition documentation;

---

and members of his family at the expense of a grant from the Foundation and co-financing must not exceed those established in paragraph 4 of the Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of October 27, 2012 No. 1103 and paragraph 7 of the Rules approved by this resolution. Exceeding amounts are paid at the expense of the organization's own funds and (or) qualified customers.

<sup>48</sup> Applications may not be submitted through an organization with which the Foundation has not signed a corresponding agreement, or if the power of attorney for the authorized person to sign applications has expired. The simple electronic signature of the organization's employee and/or the organization's director lacks a qualified electronic signature.

<sup>49</sup> Submitting a file containing information about the electronic signature of the organization's director to the IAS.

<sup>50</sup> If they have not been posted previously, the absence of the specified document in the team leader's or core investigator's personal account means the team leader's or core investigator's refusal to sign electronic documents with a simple electronic signature.

- c) applications whose content violates the requirements of clauses 3-5, 7<sup>51</sup>, 7-8, 10, 11, 13-18, 35, 37 of this competition documentation, including the qualification requirements set out in clause 10;
- d) applications containing inconsistent information regarding applicants' qualification requirements, namely in clause 2.9 of Form 2 of Appendix 1.
21. The Foundation shall notify the Russian team leader via the IAS about the registration of the application in the form of an electronic document, about non-eligibility<sup>52</sup> status of the application (indicating the reason, if the application is not admitted to the competition), the results of the competition.
22. The Russian team leader shall be entitled to withdraw an application submitted for a competition by revoking its simple electronic signature in the IAS.
23. The Russian team leader shall be entitled to make changes to an application submitted for a competition only in the form of its withdrawal in accordance with clause 25 of this competition documentation and the submission of a new application for the competition by the required deadlines.
24. Applications eligible for the competition shall undergo review procedures in accordance with the Procedure for the expert evaluation of scientific and technical programmes and projects submitted for a competition of the Russian Science Foundation and the Criteria for the competitive selection of scientific and technical programmes and projects submitted for a competition of the Russian Science Foundation<sup>53</sup>. Applications shall be referred for an expert evaluation in accordance with the classifier codes for the branches of knowledge specified by the Russian team leaders in the applications.
25. The competition results shall be approved by the Foundation's Board by **1 April 2026**.
26. The list of supported projects based on the competition results shall be published on the Foundation's website no later than 10 days after the competition results are determined.
27. Within 15 business days from the date of approval of the competition results, the team leaders supported by the Foundation will receive, through the Information Analysis System (IAS), the texts of the agreements for formalization and signing. These agreements specify, among other things:
- the research focus;
  - the research plan and cost estimate<sup>54</sup> for conducting the research;
  - **organization's responsibilities:**
    - to submit an annual report on project implementation;
    - to perform work in accordance with the Agreement, ensure the implementation of the project in full and within the established timeframes in accordance with Contract and Agreement;
    - to conclude civil or employment (fixed-term employment) contracts with each member of the research team that comply with the grant terms;
    - to pay members of the research team remuneration for work performed under the project;
    - to maintain separate records of the Foundation's grant expenditure (including overhead costs for the Foundation's grant), ensure the targeted use of the grant, and submit reports thereon;

---

<sup>51</sup> If the project leader concludes with the Foundation a new grant agreement based on the results of another competition of the Foundation or consideration of applications from persons implementing RSF-funded projects, prior to the approval of the results of this competition by the Board, leading to a non-compliance of the application with paragraph 7 of the competition documentation, the application is rejected at any stage of its consideration.

<sup>52</sup> Within 10 (ten) days after notification by the Foundation through IAS about the non-eligibility status of the application, the respective project leader has the right to submit written objections to the conclusions of the Foundation.

<sup>53</sup> The documents were published on the Internet at the address <http://rscf.ru/ru/documents>.

<sup>54</sup> For information purpose.

to arrange with the qualified customer for the transfer of the results of scientific and technical activities (results of intellectual activity)<sup>55</sup> created/obtained under the Agreement;  
to ensure, during the execution of the project, the preservation of commercial secrets and confidentiality of information regarding the composition and results of the project work, including from third parties involved in the project implementation;

In the manner<sup>56</sup> established by the Government of the Russian Federation, ensure the placement in information systems determined by the Government of the Russian Federation of information on the work, the results of the work, the copyright holders, and the rights to the results of intellectual activity created during the work;

–**team leader’s responsibilities** for coordinating work during the implementation of the project in accordance with the agreement and the Contract;

–**responsibilities of the organization and the qualified customer:**

to provide the research team with the necessary premises and access to the existing experimental facilities for conducting scientific research;

to develop and coordinate the work plan within the framework of the Contract;

to conclude the Contract, stipulating in it the parameters defining the qualitative and quantitative characteristics of the research and work, the requirements for the reporting scientific and technical documentation established in the terms of reference for the Contract, the sequence and timing of the research and work within the scope established by the research schedule for the project;

– **responsibilities of the qualified customer:**

To accept the completed work (work stages) and the results obtained in accordance with the requirements set forth in the technical specifications for the Agreement, use the project results;

To ensure co-funding for the project, maintain analytical records from the start and throughout the entire project implementation period of the costs incurred from co-financing funds, allowing for the unambiguous identification of the source of funding for the costs incurred, including by work area, production process, and project functionality;

To appoint persons responsible for project implementation (e.g., the chief designer and/or chief technologist, scientific director, or other person) authorized to monitor, control, and make decisions on the feasibility of project implementation, testing, and certification;

for five years after the completion of the project, to submit annually to the Foundation reporting information on the practical application (implementation) of the project results in the format established by the Foundation;

– the right of the organization and the qualified customer to submit a reasoned proposal to amend the terms of the grant (terms of the agreement) in terms of:

Improvement of project implementation results (technical specifications);

A change in the technical specifications of the prototype being developed, justified by a qualified customer, that does not impair the final project implementation results;

Transfer of obligations stipulated by the agreement to subsequent periods of project implementation;

Exclusion of some obligations stipulated by the agreement and/or changes to the project implementation results (technical specifications) with a simultaneous reduction in the Project's funding due to the emergence of objective circumstances impeding the possibility or necessity of achieving them, including: the introduction of restrictive measures against citizens of the Russian Federation and Russian legal entities; the loss of equipment or

---

<sup>55</sup> In accordance with Article 1225 of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation.

<sup>56</sup> Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 327 of April 12, 2013, "On the Unified State Information System for Accounting of Civil Research, Development, and Technological Work."

materials (loss of access to equipment or materials) necessary for the implementation of the project; changes in the conditions (relevant technical specifications) for the further practical application of the project results; When issuing acts of a government body (of the Russian Federation, the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), EAEU countries, or the Commonwealth of Independent States) containing other norms, rules, and requirements affecting the execution of work under the project;

- the Foundation's right to request from the organization, Team Leader, and/or qualified customer the necessary documents (information) to assess the fulfillment of obligations and other documents related to the implementation of the project; to participate in commissions and councils established (created) by the organization and/or qualified customer for the purposes of project implementation;

The Foundation's right to participate in commissions and councils established (created) by a qualified customer or organization for the purpose of project implementation;

- the organization's consent to the Foundation, the qualified customer, the

Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, and state financial control bodies conducting mandatory audits of the grant recipient's compliance with the terms, objectives, and procedures for its provision (including with the involvement of third-party

organizations), as well as to audits by state (municipal) financial control bodies in accordance with Articles 268.1 and 269.2 of the Budget Code of the Russian Federation;

- the terms and procedure for suspending project implementation and/or transferring funds from the Foundation's grant, terminating the agreement by the parties, and/or returning (partially returning) funds from the Foundation's grant, including in the event the Foundation discovers misuse of the grant for other purposes or illegally, as well as in the event of unused funds from the Foundation's grant upon expiration of the agreement;

- other rights and obligations of the Foundation, the qualified customer, the Team Leader, and the organization related to the use of the Foundation's grant.

28. The amount of the Foundation's financial support for the project in the agreement may be reduced compared to the amount requested by the Russian team leader in accordance with the decision of the Foundation's Board based on the recommendations from the Foundation's Expert Council.

29. The Foundation may not conclude an agreement if the head of the project, declared in the agreement is different compared to the materials of the relevant application that has undergone the expert evaluation procedure.

30. Within 15 business days after receipt via the IAS of a draft agreement signed by the Russian team leader and authorised representative of the organisation, the agreement together with a hard copy<sup>57</sup> of Technological Proposal and (or) a printed<sup>58</sup> copy of the application (additional materials thereto), prepared in accordance with paragraphs 4, 17, 18 of this tender documentation, or a reasoned refusal by the Team Leader and/or organization and/or a qualified customer must be presented to the Foundation upon signing the agreement.

Printed copies of Technological Proposal and Application (including their supplementary materials) must be laced and affixed with the seals (if any) of the qualified customer and the organization, and the corresponding forms must be personally signed (signatures must be deciphered) by the tea, leader, the head of the qualified customer (an authorized representative

---

<sup>57</sup> It is submitted in case of signing the application with a simple electronic signature of an authorized employee of the organization.

<sup>58</sup> Submitted if the application is signed with a simple electronic signature of an authorized employee of the organization. The application must be accompanied by signed consents from personal data subjects for the processing of their personal data, in accordance with the form set out in Appendix 6 to this tender documentation.

acting under a power of attorney or administrative document), and/or the organization (an authorized representative acting under a power of attorney or administrative document). The dates of signing the Technological Proposal and Application must correspond to the dates of their registration in the IAS.

The Foundation notifies the team leader through their personal account in the IAS of the receipt of the agreement, its referral for revision (indicating the reasons for revision), and the signing of the agreement.

The team leader independently chooses the method of delivery of the signed agreement, application, and Technological Proposal to the Fund, ensuring their timely receipt by the Foundation. If the specified deadline is missed, the Team Leader and the organization will be notified by the Foundation of the unacceptable delay in signing the agreement.

If the Foundation fails to receive a duly signed agreement within the following 5 business days, the relevant project will be removed from the list of projects supported by the Foundation, and a notice to this effect will be published on the Foundation's official website.

31. The Foundation's grant and co-funding may be used solely in compliance with the purposes<sup>59</sup> specified in the agreement.

32. The identification of the misuse of the grant of the Foundation shall constitute grounds for the termination of the agreement and the return of the grant of the Foundation in the manner prescribed by the agreement.

33. The intellectual property rights originated from collective creative work during the implementation of the project will be used by their holders on equal terms and in accordance with national legislation. The Russian Federation may use<sup>60</sup> for public needs the results of intellectual activity created by the Russian research team<sup>61</sup> on the conditions of a royalty-free, ordinary (non-exclusive) licence granted by the right holder to the government, with the payment<sup>62</sup> by the government of the compensation to the respective intellectual property rights holders.

The rights to the intellectual property rights created during the implementation of the project using co-funding as well as the procedure for their transfer to a qualified customer (industrial partner), are determined by the relevant agreement with the qualified customer.

34. The organisation shall be responsible for the proper use of the Foundation's grant.

35. The organisation's overhead may not exceed 5 (Five) percent of the amount of the Foundation's grant.

---

<sup>59</sup> The awarded grant funds may not be expended on project costs incurred for the construction of capital facilities, for educational activities, for organization and conducting any scientific or educational events.

<sup>60</sup> The organisation is responsible for settling matters associated with the implementation of this clause with the foreign research team.

<sup>61</sup> In accordance with article 1228 of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation, a citizen is recognized as the author of the result of the intellectual property if his/her creative work created such a result; the IPR created by creative work initially arises from its author; this right may be transferred by the author to another person under the contract, and may also be transferred to other persons on other grounds established by law (including in accordance with Article 1370 of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation the exclusive right to a service invention, service utility model or service industrial design and the right to obtain a patent belongs to the employer, unless otherwise provided by the labor or civil law contract between the employee and the employer).

<sup>62</sup> Payment by the state customer to the author(s) for the use of intellectual property under a license and/or sublicense agreement is made annually, starting from the date of the license agreement, within one month following the expiration of each year.

In accordance with Russian Government Resolution No. 914 of September 6, 2014, remuneration is paid to each author of intellectual property and must be no less than the average salary in the Russian Federation for the calendar year preceding the payment of the remuneration, determined based on data from the Federal State Statistics Service. If intellectual property is used under several sublicense agreements, such remuneration is paid under each sublicense agreement.

Payment for research work performed by the third-party organizations can not exceed 10 (Ten) percent of the grant amount.

Payment for the work and services of a qualified customer (industrial partner), including its employees, at the expense of the project funds is not permitted.

### **Requirements for labor and civil contracts concluded with members of the research team**

The practical implementation of the project and the expenditure of grant funds may only be carried out during the period of lawful implementation of the concluded employment (fixed-term employment) contract with the team leader, which complies with the labor legislation of the Russian Federation and the terms of the agreement.

The team leader may not be an employee of the organization at the time of filing the application, but, in the event of winning the competition, must conclude an employment contract with the organization. If the team leader is not a citizen of the Russian Federation, the organization must complete all procedures stipulated by the legislation of the Russian Federation for the employment of foreign citizens.

It is not allowed to fulfill the obligations stipulated by the employment (fixed-term employment) contract, which correspond to the terms of the agreement, with the actual place of work outside the territory of the Russian Federation.

Employment contracts with the team leader and members of the research team cannot provide for the possibility of carrying out work activities outside the territory of the Russian Federation (including by sending the employee on a business trip, the significant duration of which is not due to the goals of the project). Sending the team leader and members of the research team on a business trip outside the Russian Federation is possible. The working hours shall be calculated based on the weekly work schedule (except for employees engaged in round-the-clock continuous work, as well as other types of work where, due to the production (work) conditions, the established daily or weekly working hours cannot be observed (Article 104 of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation)).

Flexible working hours shall ensure that the employee works the total number of working hours during the working day or week (Article 102 of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation).

The conclusion of civil contracts with members of the scientific team shall be accompanied by the definition and justification of the initial (maximum) price of the contract. Contracts shall contain the estimated parameters (technical requirements) of the ordered work or services; their implementation may not involve the use of equipment or materials, as well as the corresponding access to work (access to medical or pharmaceutical activities, access to confidential or personal information) that are inaccessible to the contractor or absent from him. The contract shall be physically feasible within the timeframes specified therein. Following the completion of the contract (stage of the contract), the organization must submit a research and development report, prepared in accordance with GOST, or another document confirming the fact that work has been completed (services have been rendered).

The Russian Science Foundation informs that the performance of additional work in another or the same profession (position) for additional pay during the established duration of the working day (shift), along with the work specified in the employment contract, is assigned with the written consent of the employee (Article 60.2 of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation), the amount of additional payment is established by agreement of the parties to the employment contract, taking into account the content and (or) volume of additional work (Article 151 of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation). Combining professions (positions) refers to work in conditions that deviate from normal, the employee is made the appropriate payments stipulated by labor legislation and other regulatory legal acts containing labor law standards, a collective agreement, agreements, local regulations, and an employment contract (Article 149 of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation). In accordance with the Order of the Ministry of Health and Social Development of Russia dated

29.12.2007 No. 822, payments for combining professions (positions) are related to compensatory payments and are established in addition to salaries (official salaries), wage rates of employees. Compensatory payments, the amounts and conditions for their implementation are established by collective agreements, agreements, local regulations. The amounts and conditions for making compensatory payments are specified in the employees' employment contracts. In accordance with the Order of Rostrud dated 11.11.2022 No. 253, an additional agreement to an existing employment contract regarding the performance of additional work must be drawn up for combining jobs. By the time additional work is assigned to an employee, its scope must already be formalized in employment contracts with other temporarily absent employees, in job descriptions for vacant positions in the staffing table, etc.