

## FIRST THEMATIC CALL WITHIN THE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME ICT 2023: INFORMATION SECURITY

### Research, development and innovation programme ICT 2023

One of the key components presented in the report *21 Paths to a Frictionless Finland*<sup>1</sup> by the ICT 2015 working group is a research, development and innovation programme to be carried out by the Academy of Finland and Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation. The aim of the programme is to further improve Finland's strong scientific expertise in computer science and to bring together Finnish universities, research institutes, business companies and funding bodies. The programme will run for ten years with an annual budget of EUR 20 million. The programme, called the ICT 2023 programme, is jointly coordinated by the Academy of Finland and Tekes.

As laid down in the Finnish Government's decision on spending limits for 2014–2017<sup>2</sup>, the proposals made by the ICT 2015 working group will be implemented among others by launching a new research, development and innovation programme to be funded by the Academy of Finland. According to the Finnish Government's 2014 budget proposal, at least EUR 10 million of the Academy's allocation authority for 2014 will be used to implement the ICT 2023 programme.

The key thematic area of the first call is research on information security. The call has two stages and its funding amounts to a maximum of EUR 5 million.

### Thematic areas

The call covers the following thematic areas:

#### 1 Network and service infrastructure security and e-commerce security

Examples of potential research topics include applications and environments of information security technologies where not enough attention has been paid to the use of encryption methods and effective information security solutions. However, the ever-growing processing capacity, for example, would today facilitate such solutions. This will provide a transdisciplinary approach to the thematic area and a potential demand for innovations. In this call, projects are required to involve expertise in both information security methods and applications.

#### 2 Systems security in an increasingly digitalised society and the user's perspective

Potential research topics include new kinds of environments and related systems emerging in an increasingly digitalised society that have not yet been sufficiently explored. Such systems include building automation, home area networks (home automation), ICT linked to an individual person (personal area networks, nanonetworks, systems related to health monitoring and healthcare), protection of social media privacy, information security in cloud computing and the internet of

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<sup>1</sup> [www.tem.fi/files/36671/TEMjul\\_18\\_2013\\_web\\_15052013.pdf](http://www.tem.fi/files/36671/TEMjul_18_2013_web_15052013.pdf) (PDF)

<sup>2</sup> [www.vm.fi/vm/fi/04\\_julkaisut\\_ja\\_asiakirjat/03\\_muut\\_asiakirjat/20130327Valtio/2014-2017\\_kp.pdf](http://www.vm.fi/vm/fi/04_julkaisut_ja_asiakirjat/03_muut_asiakirjat/20130327Valtio/2014-2017_kp.pdf) (PDF, in Finnish)

things, industrial automation systems as well as increasingly diversified steering systems for vehicles and other mobile devices. A separate entity is how to secure critical systems such as telecommunications networks, electricity grids and water supply as well as public authorities' management systems.

## Review of applications

The review of applications and decision-making will follow the Academy's general review criteria (see [www.aka.fi/eng](http://www.aka.fi/eng) > Funding & guidance > [Review of applications](#)). In addition, special attention will also be paid to the following issues:

- international engagement
  - attracting young, high-level and promising researchers from abroad to Finland or hiring researchers who have recently come to Finland to work on the project
  - research visits by Finnish researchers to leading-edge international universities and research institutes
- business cooperation
  - cooperation between universities, research institutes and business companies
  - problem-setting in research
  - application potential of results
- intersectoral mobility of leading-edge researchers
  - mobility from universities to business companies
  - mobility from business companies to universities
- use of universities' and research institutes' own resources in the research
  - use of resources of the site of research and the partners
  - level of commitment and contribution of funding by the site of research.

We may also invite applicants for an interview as part of the review of the letters of intent.

A panel composed of members of the Academy's Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering and any other experts will be responsible for the review of the letters of intent. The full applications will be reviewed by an international expert panel.

## Intersectoral consortia

Applicants must clearly indicate in their research plan if the consortium involves parties who apply for funding from both the Academy of Finland and Tekes. In the [Academy of Finland's online services](#), enter only those consortium parties who apply for funding from the Academy. Within this call, Tekes is prepared to fund only such projects by companies that are parallel with the proposed research projects.

Funding from Tekes is applied for in line with Tekes' guidelines. The deadline for letters of intent addressed to Tekes is 18 December 2013 at 16.15, submitted via Tekes' service at [www.tekes.fi/tunnustelu](http://www.tekes.fi/tunnustelu) > English > Test your idea. Click on *Feeler form* and proceed to fill out the letter of intent. Enter the code **ICT2023 information security** under *Main development areas* in the letter of intent.