



Funding possibilities

From the French-Norwegian Foundation

The French Norwegian Foundation (FNS) was created in 1983.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Support joint R & D projects where French and Norwegian companies are main partners. The projects have to lead to processes and products with industrial applications
- Connect French and Norwegian industry partners
- Organise and support workshops and seminars
- Promote cooperation between French and Norwegian research and industry

RESEARCH PRIORITIES

- Aquaculture and food industry
- Biotechnology and biomedical industry
- Informatics and information technology
- Environmental technologies and energy
- Marine science and technology
- Material science and technology
- Oil and gas exploration and production



Facts:

- **FNS:** 30 years of project funding
- **Projects:** 120
- **Public funding:** 193 mill NOK / 24 mill €

PROJECT FUNDING IN NORWAY

Norwegian participants receive grants directly from the Foundation. Grants to Norwegian participants can be up to 50.000 € per year, or 150.000 € in total for two / three years. The Foundation can cover up to 50 per cent of the project costs.

PROJECT FUNDING IN FRANCE

No funding can be obtained directly from the Foundation in France. A French applicant involved in a proposal has to apply for public funding to relevant agencies, such as Bpifrance, Agence Nationale pour la Recherche (ANR), ADEME, or specific public funding organisms. The French secretariat will assist the applicants in identifying such funding. Grants to French partners are in general about the same size as the Norwegian grants from the Foundation.



FOTO: Havforskningsinstituttet

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

FNS also supports bilateral seminars and exchange of researchers between France and Norway (Åsgard programme).



FNS is in a unique position to help companies finding the right partner for their project.

RECENT EVOLUTION

- Since 2014, the FNS and Innovation Norway are pooling their resources in order to establish more French-Norwegian R&D projects eligible for IRD grants.
- With its extensive network and knowledge, FNS is in a unique position to help companies finding the right partner for their project.

- The FNS can advise Norwegian companies on whether their project may be eligible for an IRD grant, and facilitate their entry to important meeting points where potential French partner companies signal current and future R&D needs.
- Projects that are not eligible for an IRD grant, can obtain funding from FNS, provided approval of the Board.

THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (IRD)

is an Innovation Norway support programme, aimed at Norwegian SMEs that are developing new products, processes and services for foreign companies. The support

Two deadlines a year for funding: April and October.

is based upon a contractual cooperation where the foreign company acts as a demanding customer for the Norwegian company, and has a need for the new product or solution through R&D cooperation. The product or solution developed should demonstrate a high level of innovation and represent a novelty in the market. Both parties must contribute with necessary resources and competence. Most IRD projects last for 1–3 years. Innovation Norway funds NOK 300 million annually through the IRD programme. The IRD programme may cover up to 45 per cent of the development costs incurred by the Norwegian companies, or if an European Economic Area bonus is applicable, up to 60 per cent. The contribution of the French partner in an IRD project in terms of workload and funding must be at least 20 per cent of the total eligible project costs.

FOTO: poLight AS



HOW TO APPLY FOR FUNDING

- Contact the Secretariats for advice and guidelines
- Fill in and sign the application form
- Send it by email to the Secretariats before the deadline
- The application for support is evaluated by one expert in France and one in Norway
- The decision for funding from FNS, is taken by the Board of FNS.

The OffPAD prototype.



PASSWORD SECURITY

OffPAD is a unique device providing greatly enhanced security when using Internet services. The FNS has helped establish important research cooperation between France and Norway.

Large numbers of passwords and user credentials that individuals have to manage is a source of significant security risks. System security is usually based on password secrecy, but in practice users must come up with shortcuts just to remember all the passwords, and such practices can be exploited by hackers.

The FNS funded Lucidman project has developed the OffPAD concept, which consists of an authentication unit that makes it possible for users to collect and manage their various user names and passwords in one place, without having to remember them all. Since the OffPAD never exposes the password to the client terminal and only communicates online with the service providers at

the moment it is in use, it greatly reduces the risk of attack.

The objective is to develop the OffPAD into a commercially viable product, and French companies are among the research partners. The project has also received support from the Eurostars programme.

"We have enjoyed excellent cooperation with the industrial cluster in Caen, with companies and academics working together, which has been vital for the project. The FNS has made it easier for us to establish the right contacts and has been very supportive throughout the project period," says Project Manager Petter Taugbøl of Vallvi AS, a Norwegian company that specialises in commercialising new technology.

"We have received good support from the French Norwegian Foundation, and the Research Council the entire time," say project manager Petter Taugbøl (left) of Valli AS and Knut Husa of Tellu AS.

FOTO: Nils-Ragnar Lovhaug



FEEDING THE FRENCH ARMY

Each year, Drytech deliver about 40.000 freeze-dried meals to the French army. Support and know-how from Innovation Norway was vital in winning the contract.

Since 1989, Tromsø based Drytech have fine-tuned their uniquely developed drying process for fresh food. The process maintains the food's natural taste, flavour, appearance and nutritional values, and thanks to the combination of freeze drying, high quality wrapping and vacuum packing, the lightweight product has a shelf life of five years. Adding hot water and using just a simple spoon, a full meal is prepared within five minutes.

Popular among ordinary outdoorspeople, the products are also delivered to the Norwegian army. It all started with Drytech AS completing several R&D projects with the Norwegian Army as their demanding customer ten years ago. Since then, the company has delivered dried food rations to the Norwegian Army, the Finnish Army and when the French army submitted a tender for deliveries of freeze-dried meals in 2011, Drytech seized the opportunity.

"The support we received from Innovation Norway's French

office was invaluable. Their competency helped us gain a better understanding of the tender and how the French system works. This opened important doors, and was decisive in us winning the contract," says Manager Defence Market Monica Mathiasen of Drytech.

The IRD-contract has later been renewed, again with the aid of Innovation Norway. Drytech products based upon traditional French recipes, obeying strict demands for energy content and composition, are now used in field meals by among others French alpine hunters and forces as far away as New Guinea.



FOTO: Drytech

More information in Norway

www.forskningsradet.no/fns

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