

General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects

The General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects constitute an integral part of all decision concerning R&D project grants from the Research Council of Norway and apply unless otherwise agreed in writing. The General Terms and Conditions also applies to other types of grants to the extent applicable.

The following general terms and conditions apply to all projects receiving grant decision letters from the Research Council of Norway as from 1 March 2026.

1 Key terms

Allocation: The Research Council's approved funding of a project, which is binding for one budget year at a time.

Associated partners: Foreign partners in a consortium that have received a funding/grant decision under an international call. The partner receives funding for its share of the project costs from the funding body in its respective country.

Background: The knowledge, including intellectual property rights, that the Project Owner and partners bring into the project

Conditions: Prerequisites that must be met in order for the applicant to receive a grant.

Commercial utilisation: Direct or indirect use of project results in the development and/or marketing of products, services or processes, or the transfer and/or licensing of use of project results to third parties. Publication through publishing houses is not defined as commercial utilisation.

Cost plan: A list of the overall budgeted project costs for the project period distributed by cost category.

Collaboration agreement: Agreement regulating among other things the approach, distribution of tasks and rights and obligations between the Project Owner and the partners.

Direct costs: Costs that are directly attributable to the implementation of the project.

Effective collaboration: Collaboration between at least two independent parties to exchange knowledge or technology, or to achieve a common objective based on the division of labour, where the parties jointly define the scope of the collaborative project, contribute to its implementation and share its risks, as well as its results. One or several parties may bear the full costs relating to the project and thus relieve other parties of its financial risks. Contract research and provision of research services are not considered forms of collaboration.

Funding plan: A plan indicating how the project costs will be financed throughout the project period.

Force majeure: Unforeseeable or exceptional circumstances beyond a party's control.

Intellectual property rights: Patents and all other rights to technical solutions, methods, processes, procedures, drawings, prototypes, specifications, design, circuit layout drawings and trade secrets, regardless of whether or not these are or may be patented or registered as well as all copyrights, database rights and other similar rights, rights to trademarks, domains, and other distinguishing business identification marks, and rights protected under the Act relating to the control of marketing and contract terms and conditions, etc. (Marketing Control Act), regardless of whether these are or may be registered.

Indirect costs: Costs that are associated with the project's proportional use of resources that are not directly attributable to the implementation of the project.

Partners: The entities that, in accordance with the agreement document, are to perform the project in effective collaboration with the Project Owner and, if relevant, other partners.

Partner representative: The individual holding the authorised position to represent and assume obligations on behalf of the Partner in respect of the Project Owner.

Pledge: A conditional promise of funding from the Research Council to the project.

Progress plan: Plan for the performance of the project's activities, including secondary objectives and milestones.

Project: The overall activities covered by the grant letter.

Project Owner: The entity that is responsible vis-à-vis the Research Council for ensuring that the project is carried out in accordance with the grant letter, receives the Research Council's allocation on behalf of itself or any partners, and that is otherwise obligated under the grant letter.

Project description: Scientific and administrative description of and plan for the implementation of the project.

Project funding: Resources that are made available to cover the project costs.

Project costs: Direct and indirect costs associated with the implementation of a project.

Project manager: The individual who is in charge of the progress and performance of the project on behalf of the Project Owner.

Project partner: Project Owner, partner and R&D provider.

Project period: The time span during which the project is to be performed, as specified in the grant letter.

Project accounts: Accounts detailing the project costs and project funding.

Project results: All results produced or achieved in connection with the project, including intellectual property rights, regardless of whether or not the results are protected by law.

Project summary: Short scientific description of the project that may be made available to the public.

Representative of the Project Owner: The individual holding the authorised position to represent and assume obligations on behalf of the Project Owner in respect of the Research Council.

Research-generated data: Registered records, notes and reported information in the form of numbers, text, visual and audio files that are generated by or emerge in the course of the research project.

Research infrastructure: Facilities, resources and related services that are used by the scientific community to conduct research in their respective fields and covers scientific equipment or sets of instruments, knowledge-based resources such as collections, archives or structured scientific information, enabling information and communication technology-based infrastructures such as grids, computing, software and communication, or any other entity of a unique nature essential to conduct research.

Such infrastructures may be 'single-sited' or distributed' (an organised network of resources).

R&D: Research and development.

R&D provider: An entity that, pursuant to the grant letter, will deliver R&D work on assignment for the Project Owner and/or any partners.

Sub-contractor: An actor who supplies goods and/or provides services to the project on assignment from the Project Owner and/or any partners, and who is not a partner or an R&D provider.

Terms: The subsequent obligations of the grant recipient during the project period.

2 The project

2.1 Project implementation

The project shall be carried out in accordance with the grant letter.

The Project Owner is required to comply with the applicable statutory framework and other public regulations, ethical guidelines as well as recognised quality standards and norms for good research practice.

2.2 R&D providers

The Project Owner and/or partners can enter into agreements with R&D providers in accordance with the framework that follows from the call and the grant letter.

The use of R&D providers does not exempt the Project Owner from its obligations and liability pursuant to the call and the grant letter.

The Project Owner is required to ensure that R&D providers comply with the rights and obligations that follow from the grant letter.

Any changes in the composition of R&D providers as outlined in the the grant letter will require the prior written approval of the Research Council.

The Project Owner is obliged to ensure that the R&D providers deliver their services on terms and conditions that ensure that the Project Owner and partners do not receive indirect state aid from the R&D provider, in accordance with the EFTA Surveillance Authority's guidelines on state aid for research and development and innovation.

2.3 Subcontractors

The Project Owner and/or any partners can enter into agreements with subcontractors in accordance with the framework that follows from the grant letter.

The use of R&D providers does not exempt the Project Owner from its obligations and liability pursuant to the grant letter.

Subcontractors may not be granted any rights to project results.

The Project Owner is required to ensure that subcontractors comply with the rights and obligations that follow from the grant letter.

3 Projects in collaboration with partners

In projects carried out in collaboration with partners, the Project Owner shall represent the partners vis-à-vis the Research Council.

The Project Owner is required to sign a collaboration agreement with the partners. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, The Research Council must have received confirmation that the signed collaboration agreement has been entered into within three months after the Research Council has sent the grant letter to the Project Owner. The confirmation must be

received before the Research Council will disburse any funds. If such confirmation has not been received within the deadline, the grant will cease.

The collaboration agreement is to govern the reciprocal rights and obligations of the Project Owner and respective partners, including distribution of project costs, ownership of research infrastructure and rights, etc., pertaining to research results, cf. Section 10.

The Project Owner is required to ensure that the collaboration agreement reflects the terms and conditions of the grant letter from the Research Council, so far as this is relevant for the partner's role in the project. The partners must through the collaboration agreement accept the same terms and conditions as laid down in the contract including provisions on confidentiality, control and auditing, etc.

The Project Owner must, among other things, ensure that the allocation is used in accordance with the call and the grant letter, and that the partners receiving funding keep and submit cost accounts to the Project Owner as a basis for the preparation of project accounts that meet the requirements set out in the contract, cf. Section 7.

Collaboration shall take place on terms and conditions that ensure that neither the Project Owner nor the partners receive indirect state aid, in accordance with the EFTA Surveillance Authority's guidelines on state aid for research and development and innovation.

The Research Council may stipulate special requirements pertaining to collaboration between partners.

The signing of the collaboration agreement in no way changes the Project Owner's responsibility pursuant to the grant letter.

Any changes in the composition of the partners as outlined in the grant letter will require the prior written approval of the Research Council.

4 Projects with Associated Partners

The Research Council will occasionally provide grants to Norwegian partners in a consortium that has received a grant decision under an international call. The consortium includes partners in several countries. Each partner receives funding for its share of the project costs from the funding body in its respective country. The conditions governing the grant are set out in the international call, and the consortium is subject to these conditions.

In addition, the Norwegian partner is subject to the Research Council's General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects and any other conditions set out in the Grant letter, while the foreign partners are subject to the terms and conditions of their respective funding bodies.

The Norwegian partner is registered as the project owner in the Research Council's systems. The foreign partners in these projects shall be registered as associated partners.

5 Disbursement, transfers and reservations

5.1 Disbursement

Funding will not be disbursed until the project has been given status “active” by the Research Council, which occurs when the necessary confirmations stated in the Grant letter are in place.

Payment is made to the project manager's bank account when this can be confirmed in the banks' joint account and address register - KAR. The project owner must ensure that they have a bank account registered under their organization number.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the funds are paid in arrears based on submitted EHF invoice Peppol BIS Billing 3.0, that will document the costs of the project. The Research Council will not disburse the final payment until the final report and/or annual accounting report has been submitted and approved, cf. Section 8.3.

5.2 Termination of disbursement

The Research Council can stop any further payments if the Research Council finds that the implementation of the project deviates from the Grant letter, or if other circumstances so indicate, cf. Section 5.7.

5.3 Transfer of unused funds from a budget year

Any unused portion of the grant at end of the year will be carried forward to the next calendar year, unless otherwise communicated by the Research Council. If the lower-than-planned expenditure is due to project delays, the project owner must update the progress plan as soon as possible. Where necessary, an application for an extension of the project period must be submitted. If the lower-than-planned expenditure is due to the project having incurred lower costs than expected, the Research Council will either reduce the payment for the next calendar year by a corresponding amount or require the repayment of unused funds.

5.4 Reduced payment and reimbursement of unused funds due to lower project costs

If the project costs are lower than the amounts indicated in the cost plan, then any remaining undisbursed funds will not be paid out. Disbursed funding in excess of the Research Council's agreed proportion of the project costs shall be repaid to the Research Council in the manner that it specifies.

5.5 Reimbursement as a result of incorrect disbursement

If the Research Council has disbursed a higher amount than what follows from the allocation, the Project Owner shall repay the difference immediately. Unless the incorrect disbursement is due to conditions on the part of the Research Council, interest accrues in accordance with the Act relating to Interest on Overdue Payments etc. (LOV-1976-12-17-100) from the date on which the Project Owner received the funds.

5.6 Offsetting

The Research Council may recover overpayment of funding by offsetting the amount against remaining payments or other claims that the Project Owner may have vis-à-vis the Research Council, including undisbursed funding in other projects. This applies regardless of the date on which the claim arose or fell due.

5.7 Reservations

Allocations are made for one budget year at a time. Any pledges for subsequent years are not binding on the Research Council unless specifically stated in the agreement document.

Disbursement of the grant for Year 1 and honouring of any pledges for subsequent years are contingent on there being no changes in public regulations (rules, standards, legislation, etc.), and that no other unforeseen circumstances have arisen that will have a major impact on the implementation of the project, or the Research Council's ability to contribute to it.

The Research Council will honour its pledge for subsequent years contingent on the following stipulations, among others:

- That no breach of the terms and conditions set out in the Grant letter has occurred
- The Research Council receives the progress report for the project and approves any requests to change the approved project framework, cf. Section 8.2.

In the event one or more of these conditions is not satisfied, the Research Council may stop or change any future allocations or pledges. Furthermore, the Research Council may require repayment of all or part of the disbursed allocation, or reverse the decision pursuant to Section 19, if this is warranted under the circumstances.

6 Eligible project costs

Only direct and indirect costs that are necessary to the implementation of the project and that are included in the cost plan may be charged to the project.

7 Accounting

The Project Owner and its partners are to keep separate project accounts specifying project funding and project costs.

Project funding and project costs must appear in the Project Owner's formal accounts. The accounts shall be kept current. Under all circumstances, information of significance to the preparation of compulsory reports stipulated in the grant letter must be recorded within the deadlines that apply to such reporting. Project accounts must satisfy the requirements set out by the Research Council in its relevant guidelines and must be in accordance with good accounting practice and commonly accepted accounting principles.

Research organisations and others engaged in both economic and non-economic activity, must clearly separate the two kinds of activities and their costs, funding and revenues so that cross-subsidisation of the economic activity is effectively avoided.

8 Reports

8.1 In general

The Project Owner is required to prepare and submit reports within the stipulated deadlines, in the manner and format specified by the Research Council. The information shall be up-to-date and meet the Research Council's guidelines applicable at all times.

All changes and deviations to the project and from the content of the grant letter shall be reported to the Research Council unsolicited and without undue delay in the format specified by the Research Council. Submitted reports are considered final once they have been accepted and may not be amended thereafter.

The Project Owner shall store the final report and project data in a safe and secure manner for at least 10 years after the conclusion of the project period.

8.2 Progress reports

In the progress report, the Project Owner annually is to provide information regarding the project accounts, progress and the project results achieved, unless otherwise agreed

The progress report must be received and any requests for changes to the project framework must be approved by the Research Council before the grant can be disbursed and/or funding pledges will be honoured, cf. Section 5.7.

8.3 Final reports

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the Project Owner is to submit the final report to the Research Council by at the latest one month after the conclusion of the project period or any other date specified by the Research Council.

The project owner shall specify where the project's research data and results data have been made available. This applies to all documentation necessary for reuse, including source code.

Projects that have submitted a data management plan must append a link to the latest version of this plan to the final report.

The final report must be approved by the Research Council.

8.4 Other reports

Within reason, the Research Council is entitled to request additional reports covering shorter periods of time or specific parts of a project.

For certain types of projects, the Research Council requires the submission of an annual project account report. This will in such case be specified in the grant letter.

Upon the request of the Research Council, and to the degree possible, the Project Owner and partners are required to contribute at no charge to the Research Council's evaluation of the project and measurement of results. This evaluation includes an assessment of the scientific and economic significance of the project's results. Unless otherwise agreed in

writing, the Project Owner will be under obligation to contribute in this way for a period of up to 10 years from submission of the final report.

The Project Owner is also required to submit account information and any other statistical data relating to the project to the national research statistics authorities.

9 Employer responsibility

The Project Owner has employer responsibility for all its own staff members who are affiliated with the project.

10 Right of ownership, utilisation rights and licensing

10.1 Research infrastructure

The Project Owner has ownership of research infrastructure purchased with project funds in projects without partners. In projects involving collaboration with partners, the ownership of the research infrastructure shall be regulated in the collaboration agreement, cf. Sections 3 and 10.3.

The Project Owner and, if relevant, any partners with ownership rights to the infrastructure, is required to ensure that the research infrastructure is adequately insured and kept operational and in good working order during the project period.

10.2 Project results

10.2.1 Rights

The Project Owner and any partners must obtain the rights to commercial utilisation of the project results and are required when necessary to sign agreements with owners, employees (including individuals with multiple employers), subcontractors and others to achieve this.

The obtainment of such rights is not intended to limit the protection accorded the rights holder's moral rights pursuant to the Norwegian Copyright Act, nor does it preclude agreements regarding remuneration schemes for rights holders corresponding to those that apply to employees' patentable inventions pursuant to the Act respecting the right to employees' inventions.

The Project Owner shall ensure open access to scientific publications relating to the project results, including that the Project Owner, partners and/or authors shall retain sufficient intellectual property rights to meet the open access requirements, which are described in more detail in Section 11. Among other things, this means that the Project Owner, partners and/or authors shall retain the unconditional right to make the final version of a manuscript following a peer review (AAM) and/or the publisher's published version (VoR) of a scientific

article available under an open licence through an open archive, immediately on publication by the publisher.

10.2.2 Protection

The Project Owner and any partners must assess the need to protect project results that may have commercial value and, when so indicated, take suitable protective action. Where legislation requires that rights must be registered to obtain protection, such registration shall be carried out.

10.2.3 Utilisation

The project results must be utilised within a reasonable period of time, given the characteristics of the particular industry or market, the specific field of research, and the relevant product's development time-frame, useful economic life and utilisation opportunities. If the party holding the rights to the project results does not achieve such utilisation, the persons who have produced the project results may demand that the rights are transferred to them, unless a different agreement is in place between

the Project Owner and those same persons, or between the various parties involved in projects in collaboration with partners, cf. Sections 3 and 10.3. This does not apply, however, in cases where:

- measures to achieve utilisation have been launched and are underway; or
- the rights holder's lack of utilisation of a project result is of commercial significance for the utilisation of the rights holder's other project results

10.2.4 Transfer of project results to a foreign legal entity

The transfer of ownership and/or licensing of exclusive rights to project results to a third party who is not a partner, and who is in a country outside the European Economic Area, may not take place without the written approval of the Research Council. The Research Council may refuse to grant approval for example if the transfer/licensing is considered to be in conflict with national economic interests, ethical principles, considerations relating to the safety of the realm or research security. Alternatively, the Research Council may stipulate conditions for the proposed transfers/licensing agreements. A request may be considered approved if the Research Council has not responded within four weeks of receipt of written notification. This provision applies for the duration of the project period and for three years after the project has been concluded.

10.2.5 Changes in ownership – foreign owners

The Research Council shall be notified immediately and in writing if a person or an undertaking outside the European Economic Area assumes a controlling interest in the Project Owner through the acquisition of a stake in the enterprise (shares, etc.), by agreement or by other means. The Project Owner is also required to notify the Research Council immediately and in writing if a person or an undertaking outside the European Economic Area assumes a controlling interest over any of the partners.

If the changes in ownership entail that the project results may be used in conflict with national economic interests, ethical principles, considerations relating to the safety of the realm or research security, the Research Council is entitled to impose conditions on the project and project results, including that the Project Owner shall wholly or partially transfer

the project results exclusively to the Research Council. The Research Council may also cancel the agreement document and require reimbursement for disbursed allocations pursuant to Section 18 and 19. This provision applies for the duration of the project period and for three years after the project has been concluded.

10.3 Supplementary provisions for projects in collaboration with partners

The collaboration agreement between the parties, cf. Section 3, is to regulate ownership of infrastructure, and the rights to, protection of and use of project results, as well as use of, and any compensation for, the background and any research infrastructure brought into the project.

The following principles are to be adhered to:

- For the duration of the project period, the Project Owner and partners must have the right to use, at no charge, all project results that are necessary for implementing their own work in the project.
- The Project Owner and partners must have the right to use project results and background brought in according to the agreed-upon terms, when this is necessary for commercial utilisation of the project results to which they themselves have rights under the project.

11 Publication and archiving

11.1 Publication of project results

Unless otherwise stipulated below, the Project Owner is required to make the project results public as quickly as possible. This includes ensuring that the dissemination measures and plans specified in the grant letter are implemented.

If publication of project results will interfere with the protection or commercial utilisation of the project results, the publication may be temporarily postponed until such protection or commercial utilisation has been achieved.

In special cases, the Research Council may give its written consent to the imposition of permanent secrecy on the project results. For projects with participants from the university and university college sector, permanent restrictions on the right to publish results cannot be agreed or determined beyond what is stipulated in or authorized by law.

Research data and results data, as well as all documentation necessary for reuse, including source code, must be made publicly available after the conclusion of the project, unless this is prevented by the terms and conditions of the grant letter, public rules, or special circumstances.

The Project Owner shall ensure that all scientific publications about or based on project results that are written by authors affiliated to the Project Owner or the partners, are published in accordance with the Research Council's requirements for such publications at all times, available at [Open access to publications](#). Among other things, this means that

scientific articles shall be made immediately available online with open access under a Creative Commons Navngivelse CC BY 4.0 licence unless otherwise agreed with the Research Council.

11.2 Archiving of project results

The Project Owner shall ensure that all research data and results data, including all documentation necessary for reuse, including source code, is stored in a secure digital archive. Such archiving is to be carried out as soon as possible and at the latest two years following the conclusion of the project period. The Research Council may require that all such data, including the necessary documentation for reuse of data (metadata), is stored in designated, secure national or international archives, unless there are special reasons for otherwise, or contractual terms or public regulations prevent it.

The Project Owner is under obligation to ensure that a copy of peer-reviewed scientific publications based on research that is wholly or partially funded by the Research Council is stored in appropriate, open-access archives immediately on publication by the publisher. The archived version shall be the last version of the manuscript following peer review (AAM) and/or the publisher's published version (VoR).

11.3 Publication of project information

The Project Owner and any partners are required to make reference to the Research Council's funding in any external information issued about the project.

The Research Council has the right to publish the name of the Project Owner and project manager, partners, the project title, the duration of the project, the project summary, the popular science presentation and the amount of its allocation.

The Research Council may publish project results that are reported in connection with the progress and final reports unless the information has been designated as confidential.

Within reason, the Research Council is entitled to require that the Project Owner establishes a website for the project and takes part in relevant seminars, conferences and other dissemination and networking measures.

12 Confidentiality

The Research Council is required to comply with the Freedom of Information Act of 19 May 2006 No. 16 and the provisions relating to duty of secrecy under the Public Administration Act of 10 February 1967.

13 Transfer

The Project Owner may not transfer, mortgage or in any other way convey the use of the grant letter, or portions of the contract, including allocations and pledges from the Research Council, without the prior written consent of the Research Council.

14 Indemnification and discharge of liability

The Project Owner bears liability for ensuring that the performance of the project does not violate the rights of any third parties, including the third party's copyrights and other intellectual property rights, or can in any other way lead to claims from a third party.

The Project Owner shall indemnify the Research Council against any claims resulting from the Project Owner's performance of the project, including claims related to infringements of intellectual property rights.

The Research Council bears no legal or financial liability for injuries or losses ensuing from e.g. defects in or non-proficient use of equipment, methods or programmes associated with the project.

15 Force majeure

Either party shall notify the other party without undue delay should a situation of force majeure prevent that party from fulfilling its obligations under the grant letter.

None of the parties is to be held liable for a breach of contract if the inability to fulfil its obligations is due to force majeure.

Should force majeure entail a risk that the project cannot be performed in accordance with the grant letter, the parties shall meet to negotiate any necessary adjustments of the grant letter that might be required. Should the parties fail to agree on such adjustments, the Research Council is entitled to stop payment of the allocation until the situation of force majeure is resolved.

If the situation of force majeure is expected to last, or has lasted, for more than 90 days, the grant letter may be reversed with one month's notice.

16 Amendments

The project owner may apply for project amendments. Any project amendments must be approved by the Research Council.

17 Verification, auditing and disclosure requirement

The Research Council, the Office of the Auditor General, EU bodies or a third party appointed by the Research Council are entitled at any time to verify that the funds are being applied in accordance with the grant letter. The Research Council may carry out on-site control.

Upon request from the Research Council or Office of the Auditor General, the Project Owner shall produce receipts, time sheets, calculations and any other relevant documentary

evidence and information requested by the Research Council and/or the Office of the Auditor General in order to carry out such verification.

The Research Council and the Office of the Auditor General may require the Project Owner to disclose all information that is necessary to verify compliance with the rules pertaining to public support.

The Research Council may refrain from issuing a grant letter after a conditional decision has been made if the recipient of the allocation has previously breached its obligations to the Research Council, cf. section 19. The Research Council may also refrain from issuing a grant letter if the project applied for has a project manager who has been deemed not to be in compliance with ethical rules and regulations for research by The common Commission on Research Integrity or The National Commission for the Investigation of Research Misconduct.

18 Reimbursement

Regardless of what follows from Section 5, the Research Council may demand repayment of the disbursed allocations, in whole or in part, in case of deviations from and/or breach of the terms and conditions of the grant letter. This includes, among other things, cases where the project has received other project funding than assumed when the project was given status “active”, or if the Research Council has disbursed funds that will constitute unlawful state aid.

If the Research Council reverses the decision and requires reimbursement due to material breach by the project owner pursuant to clause 19, the Research Council may claim default interest in accordance with the Act relating to Interest on Overdue Payments (LOV-1976-12-17-100), calculated from the date of the reversal.

19 Reversal of the grant letter

19.1 The Research Council’s authority to reverse a grant letter

The Research Council may reverse the grant letter in the event of a material breach on the part of the Project Owner.

Such material breach includes among other things situations in which:

- there are significant deviations in relation to the progress plan or other factors regulated in the grant letter
- the Project Owner has not fulfilled its obligations relating to reporting and archiving, including that the reporting provides an incorrect picture of the actual situation, cf. Sections 8 and 11, respectively
- the disbursed funds have not been applied in accordance with the grant letter
- research infrastructure has not been adequately insured and kept operational and in good working order during the project period, cf. Section 10.1

- the Project Owner is engaged in activities which are not compatible with the current legislation, the consideration of research security or with the Research Council's objectives and guidelines
- the Project Owner is unwilling or unable to complete the project

The Research Council may furthermore reverse the grant letter in the event that:

- a person or undertaking outside the EEA assumes control of the Project Owner, and the terms set out under Section 10.2, final clause are met
- there is notification of a declaration of bankruptcy, or a petition for compulsory winding up or the opening of composition proceedings on the part of the Project Owner, or there is other compelling reason to believe that the Project Owner is insolvent
- a decision has been taken to close down the Project Owner's activities or there is other compelling reason to believe that grounds exist for forced dissolution of the company
- key prerequisites underlying the grant letter are not fulfilled. This includes, among other things, cases where the Research Council receives less funding than expected, or there are changes in public regulations or other unforeseen circumstances arise that will have a major impact on the implementation of the project or the Research Council's ability to contribute to it, cf. Section 5.7.
- the Research Council and the Project Owner agree to end the project before the conclusion of the project period.

19.2 Procedure for reversal

The Project Owner is to be notified before the Research Council decides to reverse the grant letter. The notification shall be submitted in writing with specification of the reasons for the reversal.

19.3 Reimbursement claims in the event of reversal

If the Research Council reverses the decision pursuant to Section 19.1, the Research Council may claim repayment of the disbursed allocations, in whole or in part, including interest in accordance with the Act relating to interest on overdue payments, etc. (LOV-1976-12-17-100), calculated from the date of the reversal.

The Project Owner is to be notified before the Research Council decides to claim reimbursement of allocations.

19.4 Transfer of rights to project results in the event of cancellation

In lieu of such reimbursement, the Research Council may demand transfer of the rights to project results. The claim for such transfer shall be submitted in writing, and the Project Owner shall surrender the rights without undue delay, and cover any costs in connection with

the transfer. Upon surrender, the right of ownership will be passed from the Project Owner to the Research Council or to a relevant third party.

20 Choice of law/venue

The grant letter is governed by and shall be interpreted in accordance with Norwegian law.

Any disputes shall be settled in the ordinary courts. Oslo District Court shall serve as the court of venue. In the event that the Project Owner is a public institution, disputes shall be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Research, which will decide how these shall be solved.