



Measures to improve the efficiency of the Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency



Public Procurement Principle: **Efficiency**



Procurement Stage: **Pre-tendering, Tendering**



Audience: **Procuring entity, Private sector**

Description

The Ministry of Economy required following measures in order to improve the efficiency of the Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency (SIEA).

1. Interim deployment of employees from the department responsible for project approval within the Operational Programme Environment, to help for the call for support of smart innovations in industry OPVAI-MH/DP/2018/1.2.2-21 until it is fully screened (the call has since been cancelled).
2. Methodological support for the SIEA from the Ministry of Economy within the approval process, in particular:
 - a. Establishing the management documentation for the purpose of ensuring the project approval, including the control list for administrative verification, guidelines for evaluators, evaluation sheets and decision templates.
 - b. Verification of the condition concerning the accordance of the application with the RIS3 Strategy.
 - c. Verification of the condition concerning the activity of the company applying for a grant.
 - d. Verification of the condition concerning the interdiction to submit more than one application for the grant under the same project objective.
 - e. Verification of the condition concerning the size of the enterprise.
 - f. Verification of the condition concerning the undertaking in difficulty.
 - g. Selection of evaluators based on the knowledge areas, training for evaluators and appointment of evaluators to applications.
 - h. Methodological preparation within the process of projects approval.
 - i. Dealing with the applicants' requests for additional information (questions relating to the call and to the preparation of the applications).
3. The implementation and drawdown of funds is co-ordinated. Nevertheless, it was agreed that the Ministry of Economy establish an internal unit to be in charge of all processes, from call publication to implementation, for half the calls.

Source: OECD (2021), "Promoting research and innovation in the Slovak Republic through an effective use of European funds"

