What funding sources for company-research institution cooperations
The form of a cooperation determines relevant sources of funding.

R&D collaborations can be supported on the national level, among others, by combining FNR instruments and Ministry of the Economy’s incentives.

Companies can receive in addition to basis R&D funding from the Ministry of the Economy, an additional incentive in case of an effective collaboration with a research organization.
Form of cooperation determines relevant source of funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of cooperation</th>
<th>Source of funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research services / Contract research</td>
<td>Innovation aid for SMEs or eligible cost in a R&amp;D project for any type of company (Ministry of the Economy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition of licence</td>
<td>Eligible cost in a R&amp;D project for any type of company (Ministry of the Economy)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Collaborative research               | **National level:**  
- **Companies:** increased aid intensity (+15%, in addition to “basis” funding depending on the size of the company and type of research) in a R&D project (Ministry of the Economy);  
- **Research organizations:** Bridges programme or Industrial Partnership Block Grant for research organisations (FNR)  
  **European level:** Horizon Europe, Eureka, partnership programmes (ERA-Nets, Eurostars, ECSEL, etc) |
| Resource-sharing                     | **People:** industrial fellowship or Industrial Partnership Block Grant (FNR), Marie Sklodowska-Curie actions (Horizon Europe)  
- **Infrastructure:** innovation aid for SMEs or eligible cost in a R&D project (Ministry of the Economy) |
Find more information about funding schemes

- R&D funding
- Innovation aid for SMEs
- Industrial Fellowship
- BRIDGES
- Industrial Partnerships Block Grant
- Eureka
- Horizon Europe
- Marie-Sklodowska-Curie Actions
Collaborative R&D: how to combine FNR funding with MinEco funding?

The case of a BRIDGES FNR project with an R&D – MinEco project

Joint project

- Research organisation’s net costs (total costs – >15% contribution received from the company)
- Company’s costs, including >15% contribution to the research institute costs

BRIDGES (FNR)  R&D (Ministry of the Economy)
How shall the joint project be defined?

Partner should agree on a joint project (same workpackages structure, common Gantt chart, etc) that should be reflected in the two funding requests. The joint project description may be appended to the collaboration agreement.

Are the two funding applications the same?

No. In the “Bridges” application to FNR, the research organisation describes its contribution to the joint project. In the “R&D” application to the Ministry of the Economy, the company describes its contribution.

Is there a deadline?

A strict deadline applies to the research organisation applying for the BRIDGES programme. It is recommended that the company applies for funding at the Ministry of the Economy before the same deadline.
In an “effective collaboration” at least two independent parties pursue a common objective based on the division of labour and jointly define its scope, participate in its design, contribute to its implementation and share its financial, technological, scientific and other risks, as well as its results.

(...) The terms and conditions of a collaboration project, in particular as regards contributions to its costs, the sharing of risks and results, the dissemination of results, access to and rules for allocation of IPR, must be concluded [but not signed] prior to the start of the project.

Source RDI Framework – section 2.2.2.
A collaboration bonus, in the form of an increased aid intensity of 15 percentage points for a R&D project, is granted to the company under the condition that the project is carried out in “effective collaboration” and that the research organizations bear at least 10% of the total project costs and have the right to publish their own results.

The additional grant received by the company through the collaboration bonus can be used to cover part of the research organization’s cost as long as the above conditions are still fulfilled.
Collaborative R&D: MinEco funding for effective collaborations

**Allocation of tasks**
- Company
- Research organisation

**Allocation of budget**
- Costs related to company's tasks
- Contribution
- Research organisation

**Source of funding**
- Eligible costs for MinEco R&D project
- Own funds, FNR, etc

**Collaboration bonus (MinEco)**
- Basis R&D funding
- +15% aid intensity (*)
  - (*) if > 10% of total project costs and right to publish

**Subsidies**
- Company's net costs

As defined in a joint collaboration agreement