

**Minutes of the 17th Steering Committee Meeting
of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of the Republic of Slovenia and
the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission CEA**

16–17 November 2023, Ljubljana

Location: Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation (MHESI), Masarykova 16, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Participants:

Slovenian delegation:

- **Mag. Peter Volasko**, Science Division, Science and Innovation Directorate, MHESI, Head of delegation
- **Ms Tatjana Jurkovič**, European Affairs and International Cooperation Office, MHESI
- **Ms Maja Kranjc Todorovič**, Department International Cooperation and Popularization of Science, Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

French delegation:

- **Ms Julie Oddou**, Managing Director for European Affairs, CEA
- **Mr Alexandre Barret**, European Affairs Office, CEA

Observers:

- **Ms Petra Kodra**, European Affairs and International Cooperation Office, MHESI
- **Ms Marion Hamonou**, French Institute, Ljubljana

I. 17th Steering Committee Meeting

The 17th Steering Committee Meeting of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of Slovenia and the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission CEA took place on 16 November 2023 at the MHESI premises.

Selection of projects for the period 2024-2025

In the joint call for projects for the period 2024-2025, the Slovenian side received 9 applications, among which one application was not eligible and one application was not submitted on the French side. The French side received 8 applications. Thus 7 joint project proposals were discussed for joint selection during the Steering Committee Meeting.

The Steering Committee approved 5 projects for funding. The projects were selected based on the priority lists of both sides. The projects will be funded according to the table given in Annex. The projects will run for two years from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025.

The total funding by the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency is up to 500.000 EUR for the period 2024-2025. In CEA funding is provided by the own budget of the unit concerned for the total amount of up to 500.000 EUR.

The results of the joint call will be published on both sides in the week of 4 to 8 December 2023.

Review of on-going projects in the period 2022-2024

The Steering Committee has positively evaluated the mid-term outputs of five ongoing projects selected for the period 2022-2024. There are numerous exchanges and scientific outputs, such as participation to conferences, publications.

Next call for proposals

The next call for the period 2025-2026 is planned to be published in March 2024. The Steering Committee decided to put a limit of the maximum amount proposed by each project at 100.000 EUR for each side for the duration of the project.

Sides agreed to strive to support early-career stage project leaders (up to 5 years from their first PhD).

For the next call for proposals, sides also agreed to avoid overlapping of project funding for projects, submitted by same partners with similar topic and selected in the last call.

The next meeting should take place in France in October 2024. CEA will take the initiative to propose the dates to Slovenian partners. The status of current projects will be reviewed and the projects for the period 2025-2026 will be selected during that meeting.

General information from both sides

Sides informed each other about the R&D policy developments.

II. Visit of the Institute 'Jožef Stefan' Reactor Centre

On 17 November 2023 the delegation visited the Reactor Centre of the Institute 'Jožef Stefan' in Podgorica including the TRIGA reactor.



Mr Peter Volasko
Science Division
Science and Innovation Directorate
Ministry of Higher Education, Science
and Innovation



Ms Julie Oddou
Managing Director for European Affairs
CEA

CEA-SLOVENIA CALL 2024 - 2025 - selected projects

	TITLE	CEA			SLOVENIA			FUNDING (EUR)	
		Project leader	Directorate/Centre	Direction	Project leader	Institution	CEA	Slovenia	
	Design and deployment of a high temperature irradiation device for the JSI TRIGA mark II reactor	Gégoire de Izarra	Laboratoire de Dosimétrie, Capteurs et Instrumentation, CEA Cadarache	DES	Klemen Ambrožič	Jozef Stefan Institute	100.000,00	100.000,00	
1	Biorefinery of MicroAlgal Biomass:BioMAB	Florian Deltue	CEA	DRT	Filipa A. Andre Vicente	National institute of Chemistry	100.000,00	100.000,00	
2	Liquid neutron filter for experimental simulation of the thermal neutron spectrum shift to higher energies	Olivier Serot	CEA - IRESNE/DER/SPRC/LEPh	DES	Vladimir Radulović	Jozef Stefan Institute	100.000,00	100.000,00	
3	Understanding H-embrittlement mechanisms in additive manufactured stainless steels	Franz Martin	CEA de Saclay - Direction des Energies (DES)	DES	Bojan Podgornik	Institute for metal materials and technology	100.000,00	100.000,00	
4	Radiation induced point defects in ultra-low loss pure silica core optical fibers	Antonino Alessi	Laboratoire des solides irradiés UMR 7642 / CNRS - CEA - Ecole polytechnique	DRF	Mattia Farnetti	University of Nova Gorica	72.887,50	72.887,50	
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CEA:


16/11/2023

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation

