



Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica - CONICYT



## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO SUPPORT NEW PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN REGIONAL CENTRES AND SMES THAT PROMOTE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND INNOVATION IN THE REGIONS OF CHILE**

### **CONTEXT:**

The Regional Programme of the Chilean National Science and Technology Commission (CONICYT)<sup>1</sup> works with Regional Governments across Chile to support scientific and technology research and innovation in the different regions of the country. It does this through a network of Regional Centres, each of which focuses on the scientific and research challenges most relevant for the economic and social development of their local region.

The British Council is a delivery partner for the Newton-Picarte Fund, a joint initiative between the UK and Chilean governments to support joint research and the development of new links between institutions in the UK and Chile to further Chile's economic and social development.

The British Council is therefore supporting CONICYT's Regional Programme in a new call designed to support new partnerships between regional centres and SMEs that promote technology transfer and innovation in the regions of Chile.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL**

The objective of the partnerships funded through this call is to apply existing scientific and technological solutions (either products or processes) that have been developed in Chile or internationally, to challenges and opportunities specific to particular regions in Chile.

The objective for each proposed partnership is to demonstrate the pathway from an existing solution to its development and application within the local context, within the duration of the project.

Further details on the structure of that pathway can be found in the application form (in English) and in the full Terms of Reference for the call (available in Spanish at the call webpage at [www.conicyt.cl/regional](http://www.conicyt.cl/regional)).

### **UK INSTITUTION INVOLVEMENT**

These partnerships must be supported by a UK Partner Institution, able to provide expert assistance to the delivery of the project and the successful application of the technology in the region in question.

This Institution could be a University, a Company or a Technology Centre, and it is expected that the collaborations supported by this call contribute to sustainable partnerships between research centres in the UK and Chile.

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<sup>1</sup> Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (CONICYT)



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## **FUNDING AVAILABLE AND DURATION OF PROJECTS**

Successful projects can apply to receive up to CLP \$130.000.000<sup>2</sup> (£140,000)<sup>3</sup> for a period of up to 24 months. This grant will be awarded by CONICYT to the successful Regional Centre, who will administer the project budget and be responsible for its financial management. 60% of this funding will be received as an upfront payment following the signing of the project agreement with CONICYT.

In addition to providing non-remunerated support to the project (which should be detailed in their Commitment Letter), UK Partner Institutions can also be contracted from the Regional Centre that is leading the project in which they are participating to deliver specific services, including expert consultancy, use of laboratory or pilot facilities and specialised analytic services. These should be detailed in the project budget and work plan.

For full details of items and costs eligible for funding, please refer to the full Terms of Reference (available in Spanish under the call webpage at [www.conicyt.cl/regional](http://www.conicyt.cl/regional)).

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

All projects must comply with the full conditions set out in the Terms of Reference available at [www.conicyt.cl/regional](http://www.conicyt.cl/regional) (in Spanish). In particular, all applications must be made in English, and project proposals must include, in addition to the sponsoring Regional Centre, three Small or Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and at least one Partner Institution from the UK. The involvement of a Partner Institution from another country is optional.

## **ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION**

Applications must be received in English using the application form provided on the call webpage. They will be evaluated according to the three core areas of the project application –

1. Scientific and Technological Merit (including the quality of the hypothesis, and its relevance to the economic and social development of the region concerned)
2. Capability and Capacity of Project Team (including the experience of the work team, the quality and feasibility of the work plan, and the commitment of the participating institutions.
3. Potential Impact of the project (the first results should be demonstrated within the duration of the project).

The evaluation of applications will be conducted by CONICYT, with support from the British Council, and will be concluded within 120 days of the closing date of this call.

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<sup>2</sup> Chilean pesos (CLP)

<sup>3</sup> Approximate figure based on exchange rate in February 2015



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## **DETAILS FOR APPLYING**

Applications should be submitted online and received by CONICYT before 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 2015 at 15:30:00 (Chilean continental time). For further application details, and to log into the applicant platform, please go to [www.conicyt.cl/regional](http://www.conicyt.cl/regional).