Pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 1, item 3) of the Law on the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 95/18 - hereinafter: the Law) and Article 10, paragraph 1, item 4) of the Statute of the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia, No. BD 2/19 of April 17, 2019, to which the Government gave its consent by the decision 05 number: 110-5430/2019 of May 30, 2019 ("Official Gazette of the RS", number 38/19), at the 60 session held on May 24, 2024, the Board of Directors of the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia issues the following proposal:

# Serbian Scientific Cooperation Programme with the Diaspora: Support for Research Visits of Scientists from the Diaspora Act on Objectives, Method of Implementation and Conditions of Project Financing

INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS	3
INTRODUCTION	3
PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES	3
CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PUBLIC CALL	3
Project Lead Institution and Project Participants	3
Project Manager	4
Project Team Members	4
Diaspora Partner	5
Project Duration and Budget	5
Eligible Expenses	5
Ineligible Expenses	6
APPLICATION TO PUBLIC CALL AND PREPARATION OF PROJECT PROPOSAL	7
Public Call	7
Project Proposal – Mandatory Content	7
Documentation Preparation	8
Application to Public Call and Preparation of Project Proposal	8
Administrative Check	9
PROJECT PROPOSALS EVALUATION PROCEDURE	9
Complaint Filing	11
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION	11
Agreement	11
Payment	11

### Science Fond of the Republic of Serbia

Procurement of Goods and Services	12
Project Management	12
Project Monitoring and Evaluation during Implementation	13
Project Results	14
Archive	14
PROMOTION AND VISIBILITY OF PROJECT RESULTS	15
FINAL PROVISIONS	15

# INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS INTRODUCTION Article 1

This Act shall govern the objectives of the Serbian Scientific Cooperation Programme with the Diaspora: Support for Research Visits of Scientists from the Diaspora (hereinafter: the Programme) and the projects within this Programme (hereinafter: the Project), the conditions for announcing and the procedure for conducting public calls within the Programme, and in particular the procedure and conditions for the submission of project proposals (hereinafter: the Project Proposal), the project proposal evaluation procedure and criteria, the project implementation monitoring procedure, the project for evaluating project results, financing conditions, and the rights and obligations of the project funds beneficiaries.

#### Article 2

The Programme supports basic and applied research in all scientific fields. Projects within this Programme do not have predetermined topics.

This Programme of general interest for the Republic of Serbia is planned and implemented in accordance with the Law on the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter: the Law) and in accordance with all other regulations in the field of scientific research and innovation activities.

The Programme is intended for teams of researchers led by the project manager (hereinafter: the Project Manager) who wish to establish cooperation with experts engaged in development and research from the diaspora (hereinafter: the Project Partner).

The term 'diaspora' includes the citizens of the Republic of Serbia living abroad and Serbian nationals who are emigrants from the territory of the Republic of Serbia and the region and their descendants.<sup>1</sup>

### PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES Article 3

The Programme objectives include: the development of scientific cooperation with the diaspora to establish or improve scientific cooperation, improvement and exchange of knowledge, joint work on scientific-research and research-development problems and challenges, expansion of the network, and cooperation with the diaspora.

Through the established cooperation, the long-term expectations are publication of joint works and patents, support for the development of new services, commercialisation of products, technology transfer, preparation of proposals for joint projects for applying to foreign funds and attracting investments in research and development institutions in Serbia through cooperation between the diaspora and local scientists.

# CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PUBLIC CALL Project Lead Institution and Project Participants Article 4

Accredited research and development institutions in the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter: RDI) shall have the right to participate in this Programme.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The term diaspora in this Programme does not include the countries of the former Yugoslavia: the Republic of Slovenia, the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Montenegro, and the Republic of North Macedonia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Including innovation centres (as registered innovation organisations in accordance with the regulations on

The project team shall consist of the Project Manager and team members from the Republic of Serbia, as well as the Diaspora Partner. All members of the project team must meet the conditions stipulated by the Act.

The Project Lead is the RDI from the Republic of Serbia in which the Project Manager is employed, while the other RDIs are Project Participants.

The application shall be prepared and submitted by the Project Manager, who is employed in the research and development institution which is the Project Lead. Other team members may be researchers employed in the RDI which is the Project Lead, or researchers employed in other research and development institutions (which are Project Participants).

### Project Manager Article 5

The Project Manager may be a researcher from Serbia who meets the following conditions:

- was awarded a scientific title or an equivalent teaching title according to the regulations on higher education;
- is, or will be, employed in an accredited research and development institution (hereinafter: RDI) for the duration of the Project, which is the Project Proposal Lead, whereby employment in that RDI on a monthly basis amounts to a minimum of 50% full-time engagement for the duration of the project.

A person may be the Project Manager in only one Project Proposal within the programme Diaspora – Support for Research Visits of Scientists from the Diaspora.

A person who is a Project Manager on a current/future programme of the Science Fund has the right to be a Project Manager within this Programme.

### Project Team Members Article 6

Project Team Members must be employed in an accredited RDI in the Republic of Serbia which is the participant of the Project, whereby employment in that RDI on a monthly basis is equal to a minimum of 50% full-time engagement for the entire duration of his/her engagement on the Project.

Project Team members shall hold the valid research or scientific title<sup>3</sup> or an equivalent title in the higher education for the entire period of their engagement in the implementation of the Project. If a Project Team member loses his/her title, he/she shall not be eligible for participating in the Project as a team member.

Persons who are PhD students and who have never been elected for a teaching or research position until the submission of the Project Proposal may apply as team members even though they do not have a title, whereby RDI must initiate their title selection as soon as they receive information about the acceptance of the Project Proposal.

The area of research of team members needs to be compatible with the expertise of the Diaspora Partner.

-

scientific research activity, i.e., on science and research, whose founder is an accredited RDI).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Researcher-trainee, research associate, scientific associate, senior scientific associate or scientific adviser, i.e., teaching associate, PhD teaching fellow, doctoral assistant, assistant professor, associate professor or full professor.

### Diaspora Partner Article 7

The Diaspora Partner may be:

- a researcher from the diaspora a person who holds the scientific title of Doctor of Science, is employed in a research and development institution abroad, and who published scientific papers and other scientific research results, demonstrating his/her qualification for independent scientific research work with his/her overall scientific work;
- a researcher or entrepreneur in the industry a person who holds the scientific title of Doctor of Science and is engaged in research and development as a person employed in a company engaged in research and development abroad;
- a retired person holding the scientific title of Doctor of Science with an accomplished career in scientific research work in RDIs or companies abroad.

The Diaspora Partner can participate in more than one Project Proposal in this Public Call.

It is possible to include in the Project over one diaspora partner from the same or different RDIs if their knowledge and experience are of exceptional importance for the development of science in Serbia.

All diaspora partners who are included in the Project Proposal as Diaspora Partners need to meet the conditions referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

### Project Duration and Budget Article 8

The duration of the Project is up to a year (12 months).

#### **Article 9**

The maximum amount of the budget is EUR 20,000 per Project.

The Programme budget is specified in the Public Call.

### Eligible Expenses Article 10

The following categories of Project costs are eligible for financing under the Programme:

#### **Direct Costs**

#### **Travels**

• Trips of Diaspora Partners to the Republic of Serbia to visit the Project Participants RDIs from the Republic of Serbia with the aim of implementing project activities. Travel expenses include accommodation, health insurance, and other travel expenses. During the Diaspora Partner's stay, the compensation for work may be provided in one of the following two ways: 1) in the form of financing the costs of accommodation and per diem allowances, or 2) in the form of an employment or temporary service contract, in accordance with the contract concluded between these diaspora partners and a Serbian RDI, which is a Project Participant, and for the activities that will be implemented during their stay in Serbia and their work in such Serbian

RDI. The maximum net amount of compensation for work cannot be higher than the maximum net amount for a scientific adviser in the Republic of Serbia;

- If necessary for the learning process and knowledge exchange, it is possible to approve the trips of team members from the Republic of Serbia to visit the foreign RDI/company where the Diaspora Partner is employed.
- Travel costs in the Republic of Serbia for the purposes of project activities implementation.

#### **Dissemination and visibility** (up to 20% of the project budget)

• Organisation of lectures, seminars and workshops during the stay of Diaspora Partners in the Republic of Serbia and other costs of disseminating the results of the Project.

#### **Indirect costs** (up to 20% of the project budget)

- Compensation of RDIs from the Republic of Serbia employing Project participants for administrative and other costs related to the Project;
- Compensation of RDIs from abroad employing the Diaspora Partner for expenses related to the implementation of project activities (bench fee), if a visit of the team members to the institution of the Diaspora Partner is organised as part of the Project;
- Costs related to intellectual property (IP) rights protection, if applicable;
- Other costs, such as bank fees, import costs, customs, postage, etc.

The stay(s) of Diaspora Partners in the Republic of Serbia are a mandatory project activity and a budget item in the Project Proposal. The stay can last up to three months per diaspora partner, which can be organised as a continuous stay or multiple visits, in accordance with the Project needs.

Stays of team members from the Republic of Serbia abroad in the RDI/company employing the Diaspora Partner (one or more stays for one or more team members from the Republic of Serbia) are an optional activity that can be implemented after the visit of the Diaspora Partner to expand cooperation and accelerate the learning process or knowledge exchange. Such stays can last up to 28 days per team member, which can be organised as a continuous stay or multiple visits, in accordance with the Project needs.

In case these travels are organized through multiple visits, it is necessary to plan them reasonably, in accordance with the Project needs and efficient spending of the budget, as well as to follow the standards related to pollution reduction and environmental protection.

Value Added Tax (VAT) for Project Expenses is an eligible expense and can be paid from approved Project funds.

Funds from the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia shall be paid to RDIs from the Republic of Serbia participating in the Project.

### Ineligible Expenses Article 11

The expenses not to be considered by the Science Fund for funding include, but are not limited

to:

- Costs of compensation for work of team members;
- Equipment purchase costs;
- Costs of activities financed from other sources (costs that are already financed through another programmes or by a company/institution);
- Costs of adaptation and furnishing of RDI premises and any construction or other works;
- Costs of repair, servicing or maintenance of existing RDI equipment;
- Costs of interest or existing debts to any person, including such obligations incurred or assumed during the consideration of the Project application or after the approval of the Project financing;
- Costs/participation in the costs of purchase, lease or sublease of vehicles, movable property and equipment not intended for scientific research activities related to the implementation of the Project.

# APPLICATION TO PUBLIC CALL AND PREPARATION OF PROJECT PROPOSAL Public Call Article 12

The Public Call for the application of research and development projects within the framework of which the Programme Diaspora – Support for Research Visits of Scientists from the Diaspora is implemented (hereinafter: the Public Call), shall include:

- Full name of the Programme Diaspora Support for Research Visits of Scientists from the Diaspora;
- Programme Objectives;
- Duration of the Projects;
- Conditions that must be met by the Project Manager and Team Members;
- Total budget available for the Programme implementation per Public Call;
- The largest budget of individual Projects;
- Eligible categories of expenses for financing by the Science Fund;
- Method of submitting the Project Proposal;
- Deadline for submitting the Project Proposal;
- List of necessary documentation to be enclosed with the duly and complete application of the Project Proposal;
- Method and criteria for evaluation of the Project Proposal;
- Expected duration of the evaluation procedure of the proposed Projects;
- Reporting requirements;
- Other data of relevance for the Programme implementation and realization.

The public call shall be published on the website of the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia (<u>www.fondzanauku.gov.rs</u>).

#### Project Proposal – Mandatory Content Article 13

Mandatory elements of the Proposal are as follows:

 Project title, acronym, scientific field (primary, secondary and tertiary), abstract and keywords of the Project (all in English);

- Data related to the Project Manager, Project Team Members, and RDIs participating in the Project;
- Project description (in English, prepared in accordance with the Instructions and the forms from the documentation);
- Total Project Budget (in English, prepared according to the Instructions and the form from the documentation);
- Environmental and Social Impact Screening Questionnaire;
- Ethical consent (if applicable for the Project);
- Attachments (statements of the RDI, statement of the Diaspora Partner, joint statement of the Team and evidence of compliance with the requirements for the Project Manager and Team members stipulated by the Programme, in Serbian or English, prepared according to the Instructions and forms included in the documentation, etc.).

### Documentation Preparation Article 14

The documentation, which is a mandatory element of the Project Proposal, shall be prepared in accordance with this Act, the Instructions for the Preparation and Submission of Project Proposals (hereinafter: Instructions), the Form and notes in the forms, which are published on the website of the Science Fund of the RS.

### Application to Public Call and Preparation of Project Proposal Article 15

The application for the Public Call shall only be submitted electronically through the specialised portal, with the documents specified in the Public Call and according to the Instructions for the implementation of the Public Call published on the website of the Science Fund.

The proposal must be complete and contain all necessary attachments and must be prepared in accordance with the Instructions. Otherwise, the Project Proposal shall be excluded from further evaluation.

The Proposal shall be submitted by the potential Project Manager.

#### Article 16

When submitting the Project Proposal, a Statement signed by the RDI's authorised persons and the Manager shall be enclosed, confirming the fulfilment of the required conditions for the Manager, Diaspora Partner, and team members, signed under penalty of perjury. If the Project is approved for financing, the Science Fund may request evidence of the fulfilment of these conditions.

If it is determined, after the approval of the Project, that this or other information from the Project Proposal is not true (data related to Team Members, Diaspora Partner, or RDI), the Project shall be disqualified, and the person who submitted the Project shall be barred from applying for the SF projects for the next two years.

The Science Fund reserves the right not to allow applications within the Science Fund's programme to the researchers whose applications contain incorrect data or whose content is

formulated in such a way as to lead to wrong conclusions, up to two years after such an event. If a researcher has been determined to have violated the code of ethics, the Ethics Committee, formed by the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development, may propose a ban on funding Science Fund research and development projects for that researcher for a period of up to five years.<sup>4</sup>

#### Article 17

The Project Manager may submit a Proposal for only one Project within the Public Call. The Project Manager who submitted a Proposal for one Project may not be listed as a Team Member in other proposed Projects within the same Public Call.

The number of Proposals per one RDI is not limited in the Public Call.

### Administrative Check Article 18

All received Proposals shall undergo an administrative check, which includes a review of the documentation submitted to the first Public Call, in order to determine:

- the timeliness of the submitted Proposal in relation to the deadline set in the announced Public Call;
- technical correctness and completeness of the Proposal documentation, including all enclosed appendices, confirmations, and signatures;
- fulfilment of the general conditions of the tender prescribed in the Public Call within the Programme, including formal compliance with the criteria for the Project Manager, Team Members, and the Diaspora Partner.

A Proposal that has passed the administrative check shall be referred to the next stage of the evaluation procedure.

The Science Fund may request clarification or additional information from the applicant if it deems it necessary to perform a complete administrative review. If the Proposal has not met the criteria of the administrative review, the Science Fund shall exclude the Proposal from further evaluation and inform the applicant of the Public Call about the reasons for rejecting the Proposal in the administrative review procedure.

### PROJECT PROPOSALS EVALUATION PROCEDURE Article 19

The evaluation criteria are:

- 1. Excellence assessment of the scientific grounds and quality, innovation and excellence of the research on which the Project is based;
- 2. Impact assessment of the potential of the Project to improve scientific cooperation with the diaspora, the impact of the Project on the future development of research in the Project area, and the development of international cooperation;
- 3. Implementation assessment of the feasibility of the Project implementation plan, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Pursuant to Articles 94 and 95 of the Law on Science and Research, "Official Gazette of RS", No. 49 of July 8, 2019.

competence of the project team (research team and diaspora partners), the compatibility of the project team, and the capacity of the RDI for the successful implementation of the Project.

#### Article 20

After the call is closed, the Science Fund shall check the received applications and evaluate the Project Proposal.

The evaluation of Project Proposals shall be carried out by the Programme Board for Evaluation (hereinafter: Programme Board).

The selection and appointment of members of the Programme Board shall be governed by the Act on Procedures for Programme Preparation and Selection of Project Proposals and the Act on Procedures for the Selection of Expert Body Members and Reviewers of the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia.

The members of the Programme Board shall review and evaluate the Project Proposals received by completing the evaluation form, which constitutes an integral part of the project documentation.

The evaluation form has 12 questions, each worth up to 5 points. The minimum number of points that a Project Proposal must meet to be approved for funding is 42, while the total number of points that the evaluator may assign to an individual Project Proposal is 60.

After the evaluation of all received Project Proposals, the Programme Board shall prepare a ranking list of Project Proposals in descending order based on the evaluators' assessment, taking into account only Proposals that meet the criteria of the minimum number of points, and designate all Project Proposals whose total budget does not exceed the Programme budget amount defined in the Public Call.

The Programme Board can ask the Project Manager to rebalance the proposed budget of the Project as a whole or in individual items. In addition, the Programme Board can request from the Project Manager to correct and/or clarify key points of the Proposal, or another type of modification of the project proposal with all associated elements.

Upon completion of the evaluation, each Project Manager shall receive a notification about the evaluation result.

#### Article 21

The Programme Board shall propose to the Scientific Council a list of Project Proposals that have met all funding requirements. The list of Project Proposals shall be discussed at the session of the Scientific Council, after which the Scientific Council shall approve the proposed ranking list and submit it to the Board of Directors along with its opinion about that list.

The Board of Directors shall make a decision on the final list of Project Proposals approved for funding.

#### Article 22

After the decision of the Board of Directors has been made, the Science Fund shall publish the final list of Project Proposals approved for funding on its website, and the Project Manager will be notified of the evaluation outcome.

#### Article 23

For Project Proposals approved for funding, an Agreement with the Science Fund shall be signed.

### Complaint Filing Article 24

Applicants of Proposals under this Programme have the right to submit a fact-based complaint to the results of:

- a) administrative checks specified in Article 18 hereof (referring to obvious omissions, oversights, or material errors on the part of the Science Fund);
- b) the evaluation procedure (referring to obvious omissions, oversights, or material errors of the Programme Board).

The complaint shall be submitted by the applicant in writing on the form of the Science Fund, in up to 500 words, within five days from the date of receipt of the notification from the Science Fund on the outcome of the administrative check/evaluation.

The content of the objection must be limited to clarifying the data that already exists in the Proposal and cannot in any way suggest or imply a change in the content of the proposed Project in any segment.

The Science Fund shall submit an official response to the complaint within 30 days of receiving it.

## PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION Agreement Article 25

For Proposals that have been approved for funding, the Project Lead shall sign with the Science Fund the Agreement on Financing the Research and Development Project of the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter: the Agreement).

### Payment Article 26

After signing the Agreement, the Science Fund shall pay the amount specified in the Agreement as follows:

- The first payment in the amount of up to a maximum of 80% of the approved budget funds shall be made after the signing of the Agreement to the account of the Beneficiary. The Beneficiary must provide a special-purpose bank account/sub-account for the Project, where all transactions related to the funded Project will be recorded and be available to the Science Fund for inspection.
- The second payment shall be made after the approval of the six-month report by the Science Fund.

All payments by the Science Fund shall be made in RSD to the dedicated special-purpose accounts of RDI Project participants from the Republic of Serbia.

#### Procurement of Goods and Services Article 27

The procurement of goods and services related to the implementation of the Project, the financing of which is approved under the Programme, shall be carried out in accordance with the law and the Agreement between the Science Fund and the Project Lead, and in accordance with the procedures required by the funding source, which will be specified in the Agreement.

The Project Manager shall be obliged to submit to the Science Fund the relevant documentation related to the completed procurements referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article in accordance with the Programme, the Agreement or upon the Science Fund's written request.

### Project Management Article 28

The Project Manager shall be obliged to manage the Project conscientiously, responsibly and in accordance with the regulations governing science and research, environmental protection, protection of intellectual property, protection of personal data, prevention of conflicts of interest and other regulations relevant for the ethical and legal implementation of the Project activities.

#### Article 29

The Project Manager must be engaged on the Project for the entire duration of the Project. Project Team Members may be engaged for the entire duration of the Project or only during certain time periods, depending on the Project needs and in accordance with the proposed budget.

If, during the implementation of the Project, the Project Manager needs to replace a Team Member with another member or change the percentage of their engagement in the Project, the Project Manager shall submit a reasoned proposal for the change to the Science Fund and must obtain the written consent of the Science Fund for this before such change is made. The team member to replace the previous one must meet all requirements referred to in Article 6 of this Act.

#### Article 30

If a justified and objective need arises during the implementation of the Project, the Project Manager can propose amendments to the Project Budget within the same budget category and amendments to the Project Budget between budget categories. All proposed amendments must be for the purpose of the implementation of project activities and in accordance with the rules of the programme governing eligible expenses.

#### Article 31

The rights pertaining to all new intellectual property and *know-how*, which may be created during the Project implementation, as a rule belong to the RDI Project Lead, unless otherwise provided for by the respective contract. If the members of different RDIs, or Team Members who are employed in different RDIs, participate in the Project, when submitting the Project Proposal, all Project participants must agree and regulate their mutual relations and intellectual property rights that will be created during the Project implementation by entering into an appropriate agreement that will be submitted to the Science Fund if the Project is approved for funding.

The commercialisation of the results shall be carried out in accordance with the law and the RDI rulebooks. RDI shall be obliged to ensure intellectual property rights and know-how in agreements with any third parties.

### Project Monitoring and Evaluation during Implementation Article 32

The Science Fund shall supervise and monitor the implementation of the Project regularly, by evaluating submitted reports, conducting supervisory visits to Project Participants, direct monitoring of individual project activities, and evaluating the final reports on the project results. If it is established that the Project funds have been spent for unintended purposes, the Science Fund reserves the right to suspend the implementation and funding of the Project, request the return of funds, and undertake such other activities that it deems appropriate.

The Science Fund shall periodically organise an audit of the expenditure of funds during the implementation of projects, in accordance with the acts of the Science Fund.

The Beneficiary shall be expected to report on the progress of the Project implementation six months after the start of the Project implementation. During the Project implementation period (up to 12 months), a semi-annual report and final report are to be prepared and delivered.

The semi-annual report shall be submitted to the Science Fund no later than 30 days after the expiry of six months of the Project implementation. The report shall contain information on the progress of the Project implementation in relation to the envisaged implementation plan and budget expenditure information, with explanations provided in case of deviations from the plan. The approval of the report is required for disbursement of the remaining funds for the Project.

The Final Report shall cover the entire implementation period and shall be submitted to the Science Fund no later than 30 days after the Project end. The Final Report shall provide all relevant information about the completed Project and the results achieved.

The reports shall be prepared on the prescribed forms, in accordance with the instructions and deadlines set by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia.

#### Article 33

For the monitoring and evaluation purposes, the Science Fund can organise an independent review of the funds beneficiaries during and at the end of the Programme implementation under the Public Call, based on clearly defined milestones and results. In order to achieve the stated objective, the beneficiaries shall provide to the Science Fund all the necessary information and documentation and access to relevant sites and facilities.

#### Article 34

The achieved results of the Project shall be evaluated through semi-annual, extraordinary evaluation and evaluation at the end of the Project implementation. Evaluation may also include audit.

The Project Manager shall provide appropriate information and documents for the external audit of the Project. The Project Manager and RDI must ensure that the use of funds is in accordance with the law and the agreed conditions and obligations. The RDI shall pay funds to third parties in accordance with the approved Project Budget, implementation of activities on the Project and applicable legislation.

Project evaluation shall include a comparison of the proposed and achieved research objectives, achieved results, assessment of funds execution, and other relevant indicators. If, during the implementation of the Project, it is established that the Project has not been fully implemented according to the Proposal, the Science Fund shall inform thereof the competent bodies of the Science Fund. Based on the findings, a decision may be made to reduce the budget allocated by the Agreement or to completely suspend the Project funding, including the initiation of the procedure for the return of misappropriated or unlawfully spent funds or any other procedure that it deems appropriate.

### Project Results Article 35

The achieved results of the Project shall be monitored and evaluated during the implementation of the Project in accordance with the rules of this Act. If necessary, the implementation and dedicated spending of funds in accordance with the approved budget of the Project can be evaluated on an extraordinary basis at the initiative of the Science Fund or on the basis of a reasoned request from the RDI or the Project Manager.

For the purpose of evaluation, the Project Manager shall be obliged to document the achieved results of the Project by submitting an appropriate report.

### Archive Article 36

The Project Lead shall create the Project archive for keeping accurate and regular records related to the Project implementation, using appropriate systems in accordance with accounting regulations, financial and other regulations.

The Project Manager shall be obliged to obtain and keep in the archive all the accompanying administrative and financial documentation of the Project and, if requested, submit it to the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia for inspection and verification. The Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia may ask to inspect and verify the documentation at any time throughout the duration of the Project.

The Project archive must be available to the Science Fund.

### PROMOTION AND VISIBILITY OF PROJECT RESULTS Article 37

The Project Manager shall ensure the promotion of the Project and the visibility of non-confidential results during the implementation of the Project.

The publication of data and other information related to the Project should be limited to the data and information whose disclosure will not jeopardise the eligibility for legal protection of intellectual property created in connection with the Project.

If the Project Team publishes scientific or other publications as a result of the project activities, they shall state that the results are arising from the Project financed by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia, as set out in the Agreement.

The Project Manager shall allow access to the Project results to the interested parties, at any time during the Project implementation as well as at least one year after the Project end, if such access will not jeopardise the eligibility for legal protection of intellectual property created in connection with the Project.

Additional rules on visibility and promotion of the Project shall be set out in the Agreement.

### FINAL PROVISIONS Article 38

This Act shall enter into force on the eighth day from the date of its publication on the website of the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia.

science Fund of the Republic of Serbia
SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL
Chairman
Stovan Dilinović Acadomician
Stevan Pilipović, Academician

This Act shall be published on the website of the Science Foundation of the Republic of Serbia upon receipt of the decision of the Government of the Republic of Serbia 05 number: 660-8475/2024 of September 12, 2024, on giving consent to the Programme Diaspora – Grants for Research Visits ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 76/2024 of September 13, 2024).