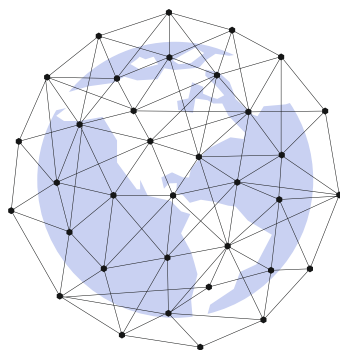


FACTS

AND STATS ABOUT CORNET *



14

PARTNER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS WORLDWIDE

COVERAGE

By funding one project, at least 10 SMEs (5+5 per participating country/region) benefit from the results, plus many more SMEs potentially reached in the sector. With one public € or \$ invested, we generate a several times higher impact on our economies compared to projects where only single companies are supported.

Since 2005, CORNET funded more than

340

PROJECTS.

SUCCESS RATE

With a well-established and running network, CORNET can offer an average success rate of 64 per cent.



TOP 5

REASONS TO JOIN CORNET



01 CORNET is bottom-up: give your SMEs access to interdisciplinary knowledge, equipment and know-how abroad and let the SMEs in your country/region become international.



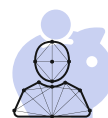
02 The Network is stable and running: 2 calls per year are available to 'hop on', offering a reliable call scheme ready to use. You choose which calls you would like to participate in, depending on your national/regional rules and available budget.



03 CORNET is highly efficient in two respects: with one project at least 10 SMEs benefit, plus potentially many more SMEs reached in the sector. And with one public € or \$ invested, we generate a several times higher impact on our economies compared to projects where only single companies are supported.



04 Quality assurance – use your public funding the right way: benefit from the established and unbureaucratic evaluation procedure as well as the dedicated, reliable and field-tested network procedures in CORNET.



05 No member fee: coordination costs of the network are covered by the German Federal Ministry BMWK – you get the service of the coordination office for free.



GET IN TOUCH WITH US

The CORNET coordination office is based at the German Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA), Frankfurter Str. 29–35, 65760 Eschborn
E-Mail: cornet@bafa.bund.de
Web: www.cornet.online

Supported by:



on the basis of a decision by the German Bundestag

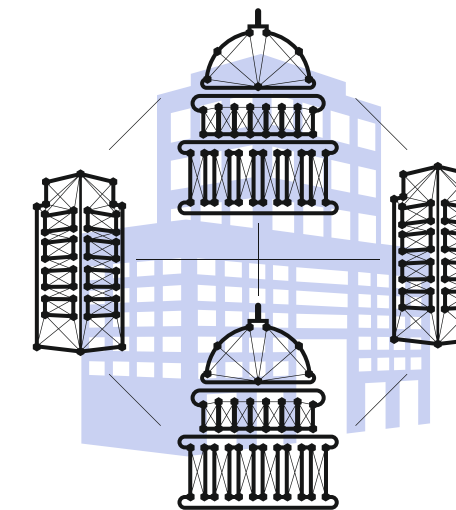


CORNET AT A GLANCE

INFORMATION FOR FUNDING ORGANISATIONS

CORNET

NETWORK OF MINISTRIES AND FUNDING AGENCIES



WHO IS CORNET?

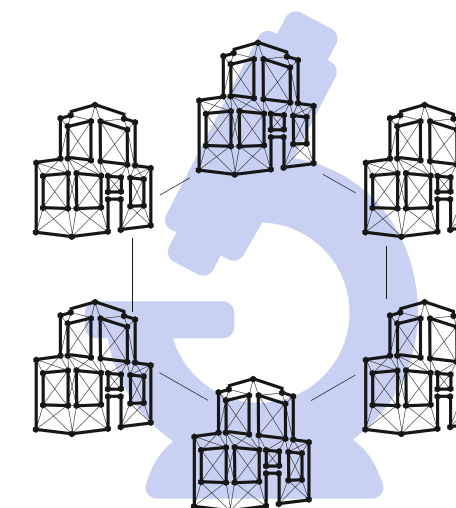
CORNET is a network of ministries and funding agencies that combine their existing funding schemes to increase competitiveness of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs). The bottom-up approach ensures that the projects solve common pre-competitive problems of SMEs relating to a branch of industry or even cross-sectoral issues.

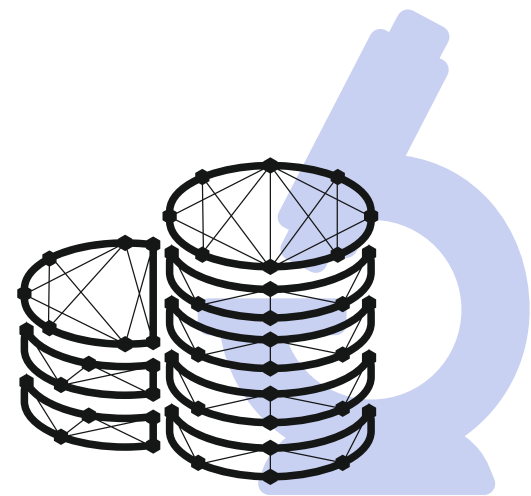
TARGET GROUP

Beneficiaries of CORNET are SMEs with no or limited own research capacities from any branch of industry, often from traditional sectors.

WHAT DOES COLLECTIVE RESEARCH MEAN?

SMEs are often confronted with challenges such as new security or environmental norms, new materials, or the need to innovate their production processes. Most SMEs lack financial and personnel resources to perform research activities that would be necessary to tackle these issues. Collective Research offers the solution: several enterprises of the same branch (or even across sectors) with a common pre-competitive problem join forces within a project consortium. Usually supported by an SME organisation, the project consortium receives funding for assigning a research organisation (RTO) with the task of solving their problem. After the completion of such a research project, the results are widely distributed.





01 FUNDING SCHEME

3 STEPS

TO JOIN CORNET

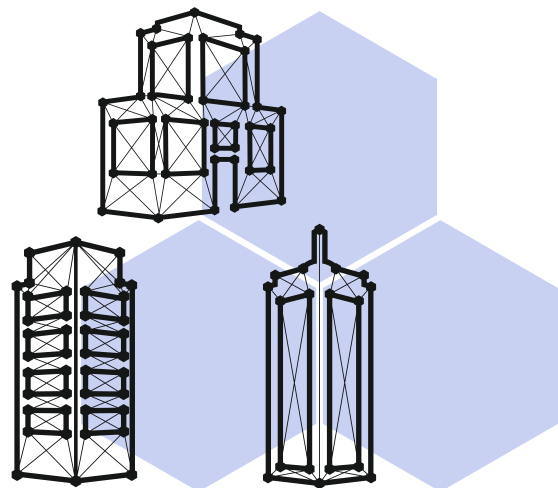
Provided there is a funding scheme for Collective Research in your country or region, you can easily use it to join CORNET. If your programme has rules that seem to be in conflict with CORNET, talk to us! We are open-minded and willing to find a solution. If there is no funding scheme, you have two possibilities:

1. YOU CAN USE COMMON FUNDING RULES

Some CORNET partners fund CORNET projects on the basis of general rules for beneficiaries who participate in international programmes. All partners will be happy to share their experience with you.

2. YOU CAN ESTABLISH A PROGRAMME

A lot of know-how and best practice tips are available within the network. Learn from the experiences that suit your country/region best.



02 ORGANISATION STRUCTURES

To be eligible to submit CORNET proposals, your country/region needs a structure of SME organisations, federations or other groups that are dealing with Collective Research.

However, it is true that in some countries and regions it is difficult to find groupings of SMEs whose task is to define the research needs of their SME members, and to be part of Collective Research projects. There are several solutions:

1. ALLOW CLUSTERS TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS

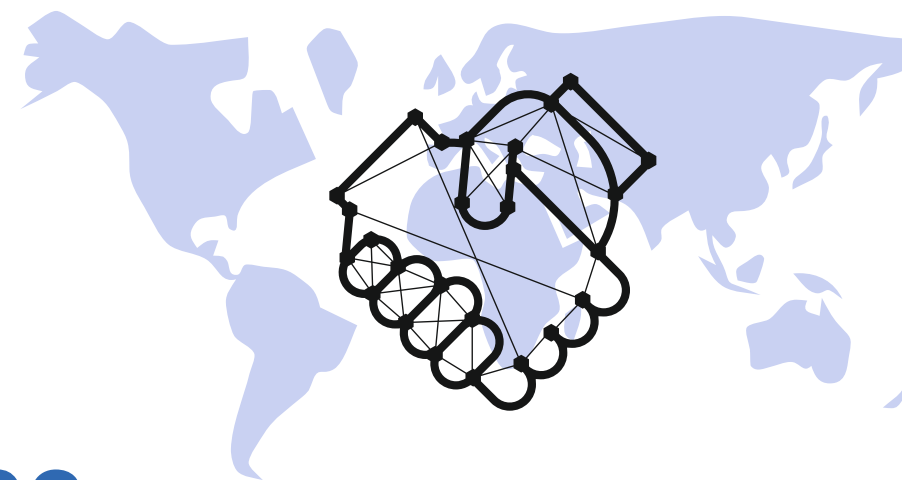
Cluster organisations are usually dynamic networks, which have SMEs and research organisations as their members. Therefore they are able to bundle the research needs of their SME members.

2. ALLOW SO CALLED 'AD HOC GROUPS' TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS

In some countries and regions a group of SMEs is allowed to form a legal entity for the duration of a CORNET project. This ad hoc group is eligible to submit proposals without an SME association. Certain organisational tasks which would normally be performed by an SME association could also be taken over by the assigned research organisation (RTO). Additionally, the ad hoc group will be acting simultaneously as an SME User Committee.

3. ALLOW RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS TO BE PROVIDED WITH BUDGET

Sometimes when there is no association, the RTO can get funding directly through the contract with the funding organisation. In most countries and regions, funding rules allow researchers to be provided with a budget.



03 WELCOME

As soon as your national/regional funding structure is in place you can start participating in CORNET.

TWO CORNET CALLS PER YEAR TO 'HOP ON'

You choose if you participate once or twice a year, depending on your national/regional rules and available budget.

THERE IS NO LEGAL WORK TO ATTEND TO

The CORNET partners just sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

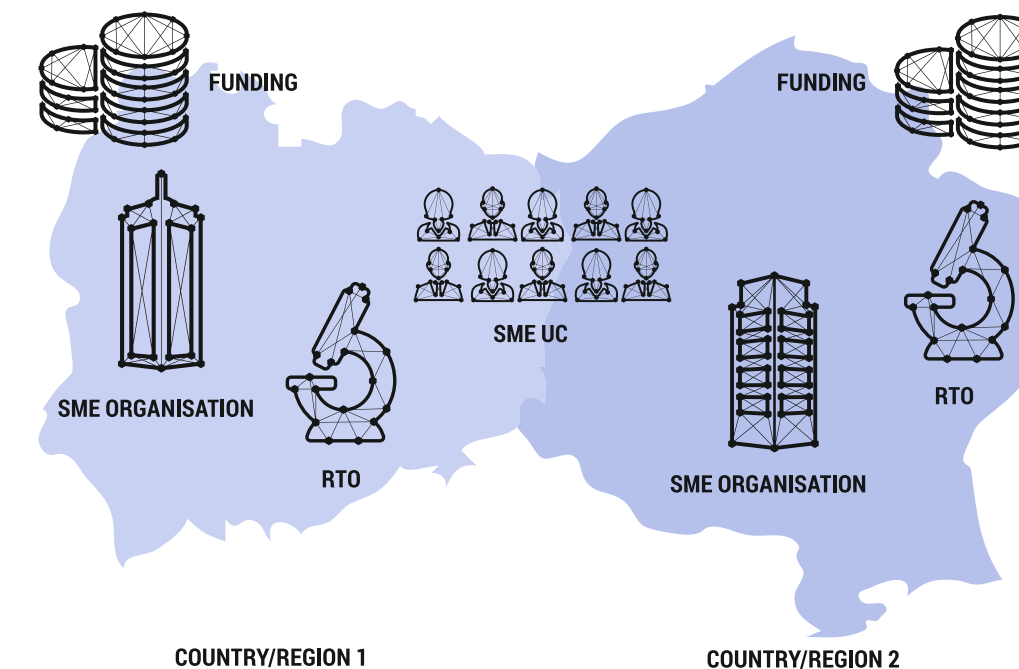
COMMON EVALUATION PROCESS AND DECISIONS

Every respective CORNET partner assigns up to two evaluators for each submitted CORNET project. The CORNET coordination office collects and combines the evaluation reports, providing

a ranking list of all projects. According to the results and the available national/regional budget for the call, the respective CORNET partners in a project decide upon funding.

THERE IS NO MEMBER FEE

The network coordination and organisation of Calls for Proposals as well as PR and Partnering Events are all free of cost since the CORNET coordination office is financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK).



CORNET

SETTING UP A PROJECT CONSORTIUM

In CORNET at least two **COUNTRIES/REGIONS** need to submit a joint proposal requiring three entities per applicant: an **SME ASSOCIATION, ORGANISATION** or **GROUP** that submits and coordinates the project, a **RESEARCH ORGANISATION (RTO)** that is (sub-)contracted to perform the research activities, and an **SME USER COMMITTEE (SME UC)** consisting of at least 5 SMEs per country, which guides the research, ensures the pre-competitive character and benefits from the results. However, the structure

per country/region can vary according to national/regional rules. **FUNDING** is provided country-by-country, combining resources into one project budget.