

CRITERIA FOR COMPETITIVE SELECTION OF SCIENTIFIC AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS PRESENTED FOR THE RUSSIAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPETITION

These criteria were adopted in accordance with Article 11, Part 9, Point 3 of the Russian Federation's Federal Law "On the Russian Science Foundation and Introducing Changes to Certain Acts of the Russian Federation" dated 2 November 2013. The criteria are used to carry out expert evaluation of scientific and scientific-technical programs and projects (hereinafter – "projects") "during competitive selection by the Russian Science Foundation (hereinafter – the "competition" and the "Foundation", respectively).

1. Project topics relevant to the research areas supported by the Foundation.

Evaluates the relevance of the research topics submitted in the areas (scientific classifier) funded by the Foundation.

2. Professional skill level of the project leader and research team.

Evaluates the professional and creative skill level of the project leader, their research team and their potential in terms of the possibility of successful completion of the project and history of success.

The following can be used to assess the professional skill level of the leader (research team):

- *information about the project leader (research team)(academic credentials, degrees, membership in leading scientific communities, awards and prizes for scientific activities, participation on editorial boards of leading peer-reviewed scientific publications);*
- *list of the leader's and key team members' major publications appearing over the past five years (theses, publications in leading peer-reviewed scientific publications, publications in journals indexed in citation systems such as Web of Science, Scopus, Russian Science Citation Index);*
- *information about the leader's (or research team members') scientific experience and completed scientific projects (previously received grants and completed scientific projects) -over the past five years;*
- *information about the leader's and other main project executors' participation in educational activities (tutoring of graduate students, development and delivery of new educational courses in Russian and foreign universities);*
- *other additional information which, in the project leader's opinion, could be useful in deciding whether it is economically justifiable to finance the project in question.*

3. Scientific validity of the project.

Evaluates the scientific content of the project, including the scientific significance, relevance of the project's topic, the scope of the assigned tasks, the degree of scientific originality of the research, its complexity, awareness of the current state of research on the project topic, proposed methods and approaches, probability of the project's success and achievements of the anticipated results, material and technical foundation, use of shared research facilities and unique installations and testing devices, information and other resources to successfully complete the project.

4. Significance of the project results.

Evaluates the scientific and social impact of the completed project's results, including how the results correspond to the international research level, the possibility of their practical use in economic or social spheres, publications and other methods of disclosing of the project results (including theses, publication in leading peer-reviewed scientific journals, publication in journals indexed in citation systems such as Web of Science, Scopus, Russian Science Citation Index), commitment to engaging young scientists and specialists, postgraduates and students to work on the project.

5. Quality of project planning

Evaluates the quality of the project management, including assessment of the leader's ability to manage the project, whether his/her choice of the research team members and the project implementation resources corresponds to the project scope and purpose; relevance and completeness of the stated project objectives, justification of the proposed

equipment acquisition , as well as of the planned business trips (expeditions) for the project; sufficiency and validity of the amount of project funding requested.