

UNIVERSITETET I STAVANGER

Postboks 8600 4036 STAVANGER Norway

att: Prorector for research Merete Vadla Madland

Oslo, 03.01.2023

Enquiries to:

Ingrid Anne Munz +4722037568 iam@forskningsradet.no

Application received: 15.09.2021

Our ref.:331644/E30

Dispatch of amended contract

Project Title: National Centre for Sustainable Subsurface Utilization of The Norwegian Continental

Shelf

Project No.: 331644

Project Manager: Head of department, Professor Alejandro Escalona Varela **Project Administrator:** Prorector for research Merete Vadla Madland

Dear Sir/Madam,

We refer to the current contract regarding the above project.

As of today, the amendments specified below have been incorporated into the agreement document (attached):

We refer to your change application 11/18/2022 with updated name and organization numbers for the collaborating partners DNO ASA and Landmark Graphics AS.

Please read through the contract documents carefully and accept or not accept them electronically via "My RCN Web" as soon as possible and at the latest **within one month**. If you choose to not accept the contract documents, please provide your reasons.

Please remember to mark any new and/or amended collaboration agreements with the assigned project number in the file name and to upload them on "My RCN Web" before the contract may be accepted by the project administrator or contract administrator.

Please note that in addition to the reporting obligations set out in the General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects, the Project Owner is required to keep the Research Council apprised of any changes to the following:

- the Project Owner's enterprise number (now: 971564679);
- organisational changes carried out at the Project Owner;
- the Project Owner's current mailing address, telephone number and email address;
- the party to whom the specifications regarding potential automatic disbursement of funds are to be sent: name and email address;

• the bank account number to be used for the Research Council's disbursements.

The project administrator should send any new or updated information to the Research Council at *okonomi@forskningsradet.no*.

All changes to and deviations in the project framework must be reported to the Research Council as soon as possible via "My RCN Web > Projects/Reports > View / Change project"

This letter has been sent in electronic form to Prorector for research Merete Vadla Madland who has been authorised by the Project Owner to sign the contract with the Research Council on "My RCN Web".

If the Project Owner has chosen to centralise the responsibility for signing all R&D contracts with the Research Council to a single contract administrator within the organisation, then Merete Vadla Madland as project administrator and Alejandro Escalona Varela as project manager have been included as secondary recipients with read access to the available contract documents on "My RCN Web".

The Project Owner is responsible for informing the other parties involved in the project about the contract with the Research Council. The project administrator is responsible for ensuring that all project documents of archival value are stored internally within the organisation. All contract documents may be downloaded from "My RCN Web".

Yours sincerely, **The Research Council of Norway** Ingrid Anne Munz Spesialrådgiver

Approved and expedited electronically

Attachments

Project no.: 331644

R&D Project Agreement Document

Article 1: Contracting parties

Between

The Research Council of Norway

Enterprise number: 970141669

(hereafter also referred to as the Research Council)

and

UNIVERSITETET I STAVANGER

Enterprise number: 971564679

(hereafter referred to as the **Project Owner**)

a contract has been signed for the following project, described below (hereafter referred to as the **project**).

The following project partners /collaborating partners will participate in the project:

Organizationno.	Project partner	From date	То	Role in the
			date	project
874789542	UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner
959432538	INSTITUTT FOR ENERGITEKNIKK	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner
923609016	EQUINOR ASA	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner
919160675	VÅR ENERGI ASA	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner
993250287	AKER BP ASA AVD STAVANGER	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner
994265873	SCHLUMBERGER OFFSHORE	01.01.2022		Collaborating
	SERVICES LIMITED,			partner
	SCHLUMBERGER OFFSHORE			
	SERVICES LIMITED			
985224323	WINTERSHALL DEA NORGE AS	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner
971106514	LANDMARK GRAPHICS AS	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner
915419062	OKEA ASA	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner
919408049	NORCE Teknologi/Energi	01.01.2022		Collaborating
	ROGALAND, NORCE NORWEGIAN			partner
	RESEARCH CENTRE AS			
913905881	DNO NORGE AS	01.01.2022		Collaborating
				partner

The Project Owner is under obligation to draw up a collaboration agreement with the partners with reference to Section 5 of the Requirements and guidelines for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre and Section 3 of the General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects.

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Article 2: The project

2.1 Project title: National Centre for Sustainable Subsurface Utilization of The Norwegian Continental Shelf

2.2 Project no.: 331644

Please specify the project number in connection with all enquiries directed to the Research Council, including on payment documents.

2.3 Objective of the project

The primary objective of NCS2030 is to fill knowledge gaps and provide solutions for maximizing value creation of subsurface resources to reach the Net Zero Emission (NZE) goals on the Norwegian Continental Shelf (NCS).

The secondary objectives are to:

- Build integrated near field subsurface holistic models for increasing reserve base and evaluate the potential of geological CO2 and H2 storage;
- Develop new IOR solutions for improved and accelerated HC production at low environmental footprint;
- Develop data-driven and machine learning approaches to integrate subsurface characterization, uncertainty quantification and management workflows;
- Recommend field cases with high potential for NZE production;
- Create awareness and acceptance of NCS2030 activities;
- Establish an innovation platform for technology development with industry;
- Attract and train future scientists and skilled professionals for the energy transition and disseminate results.

2.4 Project description and project summary

The project description for project no. 331644 is provided in the document dated 18.03.2022.

Changes in the project description must be approved by the Research Council. Requests for changes must be submitted to the Research Council via "My RCN Web" > "Projects/Reports" > "View / Change project".

The following project summary may be published by the Research Council:

The vision of the NCS2030 centre is to facilitate an energy-efficient, multi-purpose utilization of the subsurface into a "Sustainable Subsurface Value Chain" to reach the Net-Zero-Emissions goals on the Norwegian Continental Shelf. Four main research areas are identified, namely Subsurface energy systems, Net-zero emission production, Digitalization and Society. The research activities are organized into eight work packages (WP): six WPs in research, one WP in education and outreach and one WP in management.

The Centre will:

- Develop new and improved knowledge of geological plays for both hydrocarbon and renewable resources, including storage of CO2 and H2, and geothermal energy near field areas;
- Recommend more effective hydrocarbon production solutions with minimized energy and reduced carbon footprint by integrating renewable energy sources and CCS;
- Develop the next generation of digital tools and methods for improved subsurface characterization, with multiple scenarios, uncertainty, decision analysis for highly nonlinear problems, large models and big data;
- Extend the experience of ensemble-based workflows for emission reduction, energy efficiency and supporting utilization of reservoirs for storage of energy and waste.

Education of professionals with new competencies that will drive the transition is an important priority.

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NCS2030 will enable collaboration between policy makers, field operators, service companies, technology providers and academic groups, and will complement established research initiatives to create new solutions through an innovation program.

The Centre consists of 4 main academic and research partners (UiS, NORCE, IFE, UiB), 3 national (UiT, UiO, NFiP) and 13 international academic collaborators, support from at least 6 major energy operators on the NCS, 2 major service companies and 8 innovation/technology companies and associations who will ensure high relevance, impact and dissemination.

Article 3: Contract documents and rules of interpretation

The contract includes this signed agreement document and as a minimum the following documents:

- The General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects (attached)
- **Project description** (see reference in Article 2.4)

This project will be carried out in collaboration with partners, and a copy of the signed collaboration agreement(s) must be attached to this agreement document.

In the event that the provisions of the various contract documents conflict with one another, they shall apply in the order of precedence listed above.

Amendments agreed between the parties in writing subsequent to the signing of the contract are also part of the contract and will take precedence over other contract documents.

Article 4: Project management – administrative and scientific

The Project Owner has appointed the following project management:

Project administrator

Name: Merete Vadla Madland Title: Prorector for research

Project manager

Name: Alejandro Escalona Varela Title: Head of department, Professor

Any change of project administrator shall be immediately reported to the Research Council. Notification must be submitted to the Research Council via "My RCN Web" > "Projects/Reports" > "Change of role".

Changes of the project manager must be approved by the Research Council. Requests for changes must be submitted to the Research Council via "My RCN Web" > "Projects/Reports" > "Change of role" and must include the CV of the desired project manager as well as the desired date of commencement of duties.

Research performance site at the Project Owner:

UNIVERSITETET I STAVANGER, Organization number: 971564679

Article 5: Project period and progress plan

The project period is five years:

From the starting date: 01.01.2022 To the date: 31.12.2026

The Research Council of Norway will decide if the project period shall be extended with three years (with reference to Section 6 of Requirements and guidelines for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre). On the condition of a positive decision on a prolongation of the centre after five years, the project period will be extended:

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From the date: 01.01.2027 To the date of completion: 31.12.2029

The Project Owner is under obligation to carry out the activities listed in the progress plan:

Main activity / milestone	From year	Quarter	To year	Quarter
WP1 - Near Field resource evaluation	2022	1	2029	4
M1a Methodologies for quantitative prediction	2023	2	2024	4
M1b Reservoir potential and integrity	2025	1	2026	4
M1c Established models for primary migration	2025	1	2028	4
M1d M2d Reservoirs for geothermal	2024	1	2029	4
WP2 - Reservoir for energy transition	2022	1	2029	4
M2a Solutions for combine CO2 EOR	2023	1	2025	4
M2b parameters to enhance storage CO2 H2	2024	1	2025	4
M2c Modelling tools for CO2 andH2 plume	2028	1	2029	4
WP3 - Net Zero Emission production	2022	1	2029	4
M3a EOR methods with low emission potentia	2022	1	2028	4
M3b IOR Solutions for tight reservoirs	2023	1	2028	4
M3c M4b Improved near-well modelling	2024	1	2028	4
WP4 - Efficient water management	2022	1	2029	4
M4a Water conformance control method cases	2023	1	2025	4
M4c IORSim upgrade	2024	1	2024	4
M4d Field methods demonstration	2028	1	2029	4
WP5 - Digital subsurface for decisions	2022	1	2029	4
M5a Subsurface Knowledge Cloud	2023	1	2024	4
M5b Methodologies for MF uncertainty	2024	1	2025	4
M5c ML proxy models tested	2025	1	2025	4
M5d Hybrid ML-Ensemble methods	2023	1	2027	4
M5e ML/MF calculation of BME	2024	1	2026	4
WP6 - Energy policy, economy and society	2022	1	2029	4
M6a Impact into the business climate	2025	1	2029	4
M6b policy impact of emissions	2023	1	2026	4
M6c Criteria for supporting policy makers	2025	1	2029	4
WP7 - Education and Outreach	2022	1	2029	4
PhDs 9, Postdocs 2	2022	1	2026	4
PhDs 7, Postdocs 3	2026	1	2029	4
15 Scientific workshops	2022	1	2026	4
9 Scientific workshops	2027	1	2029	4
75 Scientific publications	2022	1	2026	4
75 Scientific publications	2027	1	2029	4
5 Energy Conference	2022	1	2026	4
3 Energy Conference	2027	1	2029	4
WP8 - Management and reporting	2022	1	2029	4
M8a NCS2030 start, all contracts in	2022	1	2022	3
M8a Kick-off workshop	2022	1	2022	2
M8b NCS2030 website up and running	2022	1	2022	2
M8c Midway evaluation by RCN	2026	2	2026	4
M8dFinal center ending event.	2029	2	2029	4

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Article 6: Project budgets and funding

6.1 Cost plan

6.1.1 Distribution of project costs by cost category (amounts in NOK 1 000)

The project is to be implemented in accordance with the following cost plan:

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Payroll and indirect expenses	21.687	31.860	37.086	42.080	38.320	34.235
Procurement of R&D services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment	587	957	965	972	981	989
Other operating expenses	2.753	2.753	2.753	2.753	2.753	2.753
Total amount	25.027	35.570	40.804	45.805	42.054	37.977

	2028	2029	Amount
Payroll and indirect expenses	32.219	28.480	265.967
Procurement of R&D services	0	0	0
Equipment	998	704	7.153
Other operating expenses	2.753	2.753	22.024
Total amount	35.970	31.937	295.144

Changes in the cost plan must be approved by the Research Council. Requests for changes must be submitted to the Research Council via "My RCN Web" > "Projects/Reports" > "View / Change project".

6.1.2 Distribution of project costs by cost code (in NOK 1 000)

Project costs are to be distributed by cost code as follows:

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Trade and industry	3.201	3.202	3.202	3.200	3.202	3.201
Research institutes	16.045	16.551	16.763	16.982	17.207	17.439
Universities and university colleges	5.781	15.817	20.839	25.623	21.645	17.337
Other sectors	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abroad	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total amount	25.027	35.570	40.804	45.805	42.054	37.977

	2028	2029	Sum
Trade and industry	3.201	3.201	25.610
Research institutes	17.678	16.534	135.199
Universities and university colleges	15.091	12.202	134.335
Other sectors	0	0	0
Abroad	0	0	0
Total amount	35.970	31.937	295.144

Changes in the distribution between cost codes must be approved by the Research Council. Requests for changes must be submitted to the Research Council via My RCN Web> Projects/Reports > View/Change project.

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6.1.3 Distribution of project costs per partner per main activity (in NOK 1 000)

The distribution of project costs per partner per main activity is to be as follows:

Partner / Activity	01	06	10	14	18	24
UNIVERSITETET I STAVANGER	18.218	6.592	8.471	14.112	20.472	4.985
INSTITUTT FOR ENERGITEKNIKK	9.800	11.111	9.800	9.800	9.800	1.625
UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN	0	11.523	11.817	551	1.653	276
NORCE Teknologi/Energi	4.200	20.975	15.505	11.800	23.200	4.850
ROGALAND						
SCHLUMBERGER OFFSHORE	1.000	1.500	1.500	1.000	4.000	0
SERVICES LIMITED						
LANDMARK GRAPHICS AS	1.000	1.500	1.500	1.000	4.000	0
Total amount	34.218	53.201	48.593	38.263	63.125	11.736

Partner / Activity	28	37	Sum
UNIVERSITETET I STAVANGER	6.903	25.533	105.286
INSTITUTT FOR ENERGITEKNIKK	200	3.500	55.636
UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN	836	836	27.492
NORCE Teknologi/Energi ROGALAND	400	5.800	86.730
SCHLUMBERGER OFFSHORE SERVICES LIMITED	0	1.000	10.000
LANDMARK GRAPHICS AS	0	1.000	10.000
Total amount	8.339	37.669	295.144

Changes in the distribution of project costs between the various partners or main activities must be approved by the Research Council. Requests for changes must be submitted to the Research Council via "My RCN Web > Projects/Reports > "View / Change project".

6.2 Funding plan (amounts in NOK 1000)

The project is to be implemented in accordance with the following funding plan:

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
The Research Council	8.153	9.229	10.067	11.355	10.820	10.083
Own financing	4.228	10.073	12.708	15.790	12.301	8.685
Public funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private funding	12.646	16.268	18.029	18.660	18.933	19.209
International funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total amount	25.027	35.570	40.804	45.805	42.054	37.977

	2028	2029	Amount
The Research Council	10.125	10.168	80.000
Own financing	6.278	5.081	75.144
Public funding	0	0	0
Private funding	19.567	16.688	140.000
International funding	0	0	0
Total amount	35.970	31.937	295.144

Changes in the funding plan may be approved in writing by the Research Council and is treated as a contractual amendment, ref. General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects, item 15. Requests for changes must be submitted to the Research Council via My RCN Web > Projects/Reports > View > Change project.

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6.3 Specification of the Research Council's allocations for 2022 and pledges for upcoming years

Year	Up to NOK	Limited to persent of approved actual costs
2022	8.153.000	32.6 %
2023	9.229.000	25.9 %
2024	10.067.000	24.7 %
2025	11.355.000	24.8 %
2026	10.820.000	25.7 %
2027	10.083.000	26.6 %
2028	10.125.000	28.1 %
2029	10.168.000	31.8 %

6.4 Disbursement

The Research Council's allocation for the first year and any pledges for subsequent years will be disbursed in accordance with the conditions set out in this agreement and the General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects.

The Research Council will initiate automatic disbursement subsequent to the approval of the first project account report.

Once the first project account report has been approved, funds will be disbursed automatically at four-month intervals during the first and second interims in the calendar year provided that the project is in compliance with the progress and funding plans set out in the contract. Disbursement for the third interim will be subject to approval of the project accounts report.

Article 7: Reports

The following reports shall be submitted to the Research Council:

7.1 Project account reports

The Project Owner is to submit project account reports for each calendar year. The reports are to show the total project costs in relation to the total project funding.

The following cost categories are to be used in the Project Owner's accounts:

- Payroll and indirect expenses
- Equipment
- Other operating expenses

Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre does not use the cost category Procurement of R&D services.

The first project account report is to be delivered at the end of the first full four-month interval after project start-up, if possible, and at the latest by the end of the first year of the allocation. For subsequent years, the project account report for each year shall be submitted at the latest by **20 January** of the following year.

Forms to be used: Project Account Report available on My RCN web.

7.2 Progress reports

The Project Owner is to submit progress report annually.

Deadline: 1 December

The progress report is to be submitted electronically via "My RCN Web".

Otherwise, please see Section 6 of the General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects.

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7.3 Final report

Deadline: 3 months after the conclusion of the project period.

The Project Owner is to submit the final report electronically via "My RCN Web".

Otherwise, please see Section 6 of the General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects.

7.4 Other reports

The Project Owner is to submit an annual work plan to the Research Council with updated plans for the forthcoming year. Deadline: 1 December

The Project Owner is to submit an annual report for the previous year. Deadline: 1 April

Reports and publications that are not compulsory that have been drawn up on the initiative of project management shall not be submitted to the Research Council, unless specifically agreed upon. The Project Owner is required to store all technical reports and publications for at least 10 years after conclusion of the project period. The Project Owner shall assign an ISBN/ISSN number to the reports and/or publications, where so required, and ensure that these are sent to the National Library in Mo i Rana.

Article 8: Other special terms of contract and deviations from the General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects

The following special conditions shall apply to this project:

- 1. The centre shall comply with Requirements and guidelines for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre.
- 2. Special stipulations:

The centre board should consider to carry out a techno-economical preproject of the work package 2.3 "Geothermal Heat Mining from HPHT Reservoirs" to confirm that the work package is appropriate, before the activity is started.

The centre must coordinate the activity with ongoing centres in PETROSENTER or other large projects, such as a Norwegian Centre of Excellence (SFF), Centre for Research-based Innovation (SFI) or Centre for Environment-friendly Energy Research (FME).

3. The centre must have three or more partners that are not research organisations and that provide funding to the project (user partners). Funding from the Research Council may be a maximum of two times that of funding from user partners. Both cash contributions and the user partners' work effort (in-kind contributions) can be included. The requirement to collaboration agreement is described in Requirements and guidelines for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre and General Terms and Conditions for R&D projects. The Project Owner is required to ensure that the collaboration agreement reflects the terms and conditions of the contract, including that the partners are bound by the same obligations as the Project Owner in so far as this is relevant for the partner's role in the project, and that the partners at all times are informed about the contract. The collaboration agreement shall specify the financial contribution of each collaboration partner, and at all times reflect the funding plan in the contract with the Research Council. The innovation program shall be organized as a separate project, and is not a part of the contract and the collaboration agreement 4. State aid will not be granted through the research centre. Undertakings may not receive funding to cover project costs. Funding awarded to a research organisation is only to go to the organisation's non-economic activity. The Research Council requires a clear separation of accounts for the organisation's economic and non-economic activities. Ownership of project results must be regulated to ensure that undertakings participating in the centre do not receive indirect state aid from participating research partners. The regulation of ownership must therefore be in compliance with paragraph 28 of the EFTA Surveillance Authority's guidelines for state aid for research and development and innovation.

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This means that ownership of IPR from the project must be allocated to the different project partners in a way that satisfactorily reflects their work packages, contributions and respective interests. The centre activities are to be implemented by means of effective collaboration as defined in the state aid rules (see definition in General Terms and Conditions for R&D projects). More detail is given in Requirements and guidelines for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre.

- 5. The Research Council will carry out a midterm evaluation of the centre as described in Requirements and guidelines for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre.
- 6. A representative from the Research Council may take part in the centre board meetings with the status of observer. The Research Council should receive meeting documents.
- 7. The project owner should work out a Dissemination plan for the centre. Acknowledgement is to be made of PETROSENTER and the Research Council of Norway as the funding source in any external information issued about the project. The project number must be specified. Publication information must be obtained from CRIStin. Those who do not have the opportunity to use CRIStin must register the scientific publications manually. The project number must be registered in CRIStin.

The following persons are engaged in this project:

Amount	Grant/Position
16	Doctoral research fellowship
5	Post-doctoral research fellowship

Name	Grant/Position	Start date	End date	Country
Hilde Halsøy	Doctoral research fellowship	19.10.2022	18.10.2025	Norway
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2026	31.12.2028	Norway
registrert				
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.08.2024	31.07.2027	Norway
registrert				
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2026	31.12.2028	Norway
registrert				
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2023	31.12.2025	Norway
registrert				
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2023	31.12.2025	Norway
registrert				
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.08.2022	31.07.2025	Norway
registrert				
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2025	31.12.2027	Norway
registrert		01.01.0001	21.12.2026) T
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2024	31.12.2026	Norway
registrert	D (1 1 CH 1:	01.00.2022	21.07.2025	NI
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.08.2022	31.07.2025	Norway
registrert	Destand manage Cills also	01 01 2027	21 12 2020	NI
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2027	31.12.2029	Norway
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registrert	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2023	31.12.2023	Norway
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2026	31.12.2028	Norway
registrert	Doctoral research renowship	01.01.2020	31.12.2028	indiway
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2027	31.12.2029	Norway
registrert	Doctoral research renowship	01.01.2027	31.12.2029	1 101 way
NN Navn ikke	Doctoral research fellowship	01.08.2022	31.07.2025	Norway
registrert	Bostoral research fellowship	01.00.2022	51.07.2023	itoiway
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NN Navn ikke registrert	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2025	31.12.2027	Norway
NN Navn ikke registrert	Doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2023	31.12.2025	Norway
NN Navn ikke registrert	Post-doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2024	31.12.2025	Norway
NN Navn ikke registrert	Post-doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2023	31.12.2024	Norway
NN Navn ikke registrert	Post-doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2025	31.12.2026	Norway
NN Navn ikke registrert	Post-doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2025	31.12.2026	Norway
NN Navn ikke registrert	Post-doctoral research fellowship	01.01.2025	31.12.2026	Norway

For research fellowship positions in the project:

When a research fellow is hired, the Project Owner shall submit confirmation of employment with full name, person security number and date of commencement of employment to the Research Council, either by progress reporting or by creating a request for changes via My RCN Web. Employment must commence during the agreed fiscal year, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Research Council.

The Research Council's funding per research fellow will be commensurate with standard rates, and will be awarded as a lump-sum allocation per year for the duration of the employment period. The parameters for the project will not be upwardly adjusted during the project period.

The Project Owner or, if relevant, a partner has employer responsibility for the research fellow and must comply with the rules and guidelines that apply to employers. The Research Council must be notified immediately of any changes of significance to the implementation of the project.

Should the Research Council find a fellowship-holder's progress to be less than satisfactory, the issue must be raised with the Project Owner, who is required to implement feasible, reasonable measures as dictated by the Research Council. In the event the Project Owner finds grounds indicating that the fellowship should be discontinued or terminated, the Research Council must be notified immediately. Discontinuation or termination of the fellowship may not take place without the prior written consent of the Research Council.

For doctoral fellowships:

The Research Council's allocation is granted on the condition that the applicant is accepted into a doctoral programme prior to commencement of the fellowship.

The organised researcher education that the Research Council funds is stipulated as three man-years.

Mandatory duties, if any, will be funded by and are at the disposal of the Project Owner.

For post-doctoral grant:

In the case of a post-doctoral grant, employment may not commence until the individual's doctoral thesis has been defended successfully.

Please be advised that the "Regulations concerning terms and conditions of employment for the posts of post-doctoral research fellow, research assistant and resident" do not give permission to extend the post-doctoral fellowship period by more than six months beyond what is stipulated in the contract of employment. If an employer expects the extension of the fellowship period to exceed six months as a result of an overseas research stay and subsequent extension, stipulations allowing for this must be included in the post-doctoral candidate's original contract of employment.

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Requirements relating to professional development plans for post-doctoral fellowships:

The Research Council's allocation is granted on the condition that the doctoral thesis has been successfully defended and approved. The fellowship is granted for a period of 2 - 4 years. A candidate may not receive funding for more than one post-doctoral fellowship period. The Project Owner or the research institution where the post-doctoral research fellow is employed is required to draw up a professional development plan for the full duration of the post-doctoral period. The plan must be submitted to the Research Council at the latest three months after the post-doctoral research fellow has been formally employed, and must be signed by the post-doctoral research fellow and the project administrator. The scheme applies to all post-doctoral research fellows that have been awarded funding under a call for proposals with a deadline after 1 January 2017.

Requirements for data management plans for projects that manage research data

For projects that have applied for and been granted funding from 2018 onwards, a data management plan should have been drawn up in connection with the revision of the application. A final data management plan must be in place for the final report.

Archiving of research-generated data

The Project Owner is responsible for ensuring that research-generated data/result data generated in connection with projects, and all the necessary documentation for reuse of the data (metadata) are stored in secure archives. The data are to be transferred for storage at the earliest possible stage, and no later than three years after completion of the project.

Projects that involve animal experimentation

In projects that involve experimentation on live animals, all participants in the project are required to ensure that the experiment activities are planned and carried out in accordance with the laws, regulations and guidelines governing such tests that are in force at least one EU-/EEA member country. This obligation applies regardless of where the animal experimentation is carried out and independent of the country in which the performing party is domiciled. The Project Owner is responsible for ensuring that all parties involved in the project comply with this requirement.

Requirements relating to medical and health-related clinical trials involving human subjects
Starting in 2020, the Research Council stipulates special requirements that apply to all calls for
proposals for medical and health-related trials involving human subjects. This encompasses clinical
intervention studies, observational studies and preventive and health-promoting intervention studies.
These requirements apply to projects that require pre-approval by the Norwegian Regional
Committees for Medical and Health Research Ethics (REK), and that are funded wholly or partially
by the Research Council.

The clinical trials are to be registered in one of the following registries: ClinicalTrials.gov or another registry approved by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE). The trial must be registered before the initial intervention has been administered to the first patient/trial subject, or as soon as possible afterwards. Information about the selected registry, trial registration number and registration date is to be sent to the Research Council via "My RCN Web" as soon as possible after the trial has been registered. This requirement also applies to trials that have commenced prior to receiving funding from the Research Council. Trials that are already initiated but have not been registered are to be registered at the earliest possible date. All relevant fields in the selected registry are to be assessed and updated on an ongoing basis (at least once a year) until the trial is concluded and the results have been published or made publically accessible. If the trial is terminated before the planned completion date, the registry must be updated to indicate the new date of termination and the number of participants involved in the trial at that time.

Information that the trial is funded by the Research Council, with reference to the project number, must be included in the registration information.

All clinical trials that plan to include patients/trial subjects in Norway must in addition be registered in the list of clinical trials published on Helsenorge, the national health website: https://helsenorge.no/kliniske-studier.

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The trial's registration number is to be included in all publications resulting from the study and in the article's summary/abstract.

See the Research Council's webpages for more detailed guidelines as well as recommendations regarding registry information, costs related to registration and reporting, and the monitoring activities of the Research Council.

Projects of relevance for Svalbard:

The Project Owner is required to register and update project information in the **Research in Svalbard** (RiS) database. Enquiries about the database may be sent to the secretariat of the **Svalbard Science Forum** at *ssf@rcn.no*.

Attachments:

- Requirements and guidelines for Societal and Industry-oriented Research Centre
- General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects (valid at date of received application: 15.09.2021)
- Project description
- Copy of signed collaboration agreement

This contract has been approved and expedited electronically.

For the Research Council of Norway

Oslo, 03.01.2023

Rune Volla

Director

For the Project Owner:

Merete Vadla Madland Prorector for research

Project no.: 331644