

Annex to the PROJECT AGREEMENT (TANDEM INDUSTRY ACADEMIA POSTDOC)

General terms of Tandem Industry Academia Postdoc (TIA Postdoc) funding. March 2024

1. The background and purpose of the funding

The Finnish Research Impact Foundation (hereinafter “the Foundation”) funds precompetitive joint research projects of universities/higher education institutions/research institutes (hereinafter “the Academic Partner”) and companies (hereinafter “the Industrial Partner”) via the Tandem Industry Academia Postdoc (TIA Postdoc) funding programme. The aim is that during the project, the postdoc researcher shall spend around 12 months working closely with the organization of the Academic Partner and around 12 months with the organization of the Industrial Partner. The objective of the TIA Postdoc funding is to strengthen the connections between research and industry life with the help of high-quality precompetitive research that benefits both the Academic Partner and the Industrial Partner.

Funding shall be granted to an Academic Partner acting as the employer of the postdoc researcher working in the project for the duration of the project.

2. The responsibilities and duties of the funding recipient

2.1 The principal investigator of the project (hereinafter “the PI”) represents the Academic Partner in the project. The authorized representative of the Academic Partner and the PI commit to the project by approving the present terms of funding. The terms of funding are approved by the authorized representative of the Academic Partner signing the Project Agreement (Tandem Industry Academy).

2.2 The Academic Partner designates the PI who acts as the supervisor of the postdoc researcher and is in charge of the project being executed in accordance with the research plan annexed to the funding application submitted to the Foundation.

2.3 Funding granted to the project can only be used for the cost types mentioned in the research plan and in the budget annexed to the application during the period defined in the Agreement.

2.4 The Academic Partner is obliged to ensure before approving the present Agreement that the Industrial Partner commits to the project as well as to the duties that these general terms impose on the Industrial Partner.

2.5 The names of the organization of the Academic Partner, of the postdoc researcher active in the project, and of the PI may be made public in the communications of the Foundation.



2.6 The postdoc researcher working in the project must be under an employment contract with the organization of the Academic Partner for the entire duration of the project. Should the need arise during the project to hire another person on the project as a substitute for the person named in the Agreement, the change must first be submitted for the Foundation for approval.

2.7 The duration of the project may only be extended by a written application submitted to the Foundation and only for a specific reason such as maternity leave, paternity leave, parental leave, obligatory military service, civil alternative service, or long-term disease. An extension of a maximum of 12 months may be applied for the duration of the project, and extending the project does not alter the overall budget of the project.

2.8 The scientific and other results of the project shall be made available in accordance with the recommendations of open science. The results shall be made available for as open public distribution as possible. However, the results shall be published in such a way that their publication does not jeopardize any intellectual property rights or secrecy provisions related to the project, including the Industrial Partner's business secrets and other confidential information.

Unless otherwise agreed between the Academic Partner and the Industrial Partner, the following terms and conditions shall be applied to the rights of ownership and use of the project's results:

All results from the project shall be the property of the Academic Partner whose employee has produced, created, invented or achieved them.

If the Academic Partner and Industrial Partner have achieved the results together and if it is impossible to separate their respective contributions, the right of ownership shall be shared in proportion to the two partners' contributions to achieving the results. The conditions of joint ownership shall be agreed upon separately by the joint owners.

If the Academic Partner and the Industrial Partner transfer rights of ownership to one another, the terms and conditions and the compensation payable shall be agreed upon separately in connection with the transfer of rights of ownership.

Upon the transfer of rights of ownership and use, the Academic Partner shall receive from the Industrial Partner compensation equivalent to the market price. That compensation shall be specified in a transparent and objective manner and shall take account of the Industrial Partner's financial and other investments in the project. The Academic Partner shall ensure that transfer agreements do not conflict with regulations applicable to the funding recipient or with European Union legislation on state aid.

2.9 All equipment and all materials acquired for the project with the funding from the Foundation shall be the property of the Academic Partner.



2.10 The PI, the postdoc researcher, and the Industrial Partner shall, in all communications on the project and on the results thereof (including publications, seminary presentations, lectures, releases, invitations, etc.) mention that the project has been executed with Tandem Industry Academia funding from the Finnish Research Impact Foundation.

2.11 The PI, the postdoc researcher, and the Industrial Partner engage to support the Foundation in communications related to the project. The Foundation may, for example, request the project team to produce short project-related texts for publication on the Foundation's website during the project. The Foundation shall assist in content production.

2.12 The PI shall notify the Foundation within 30 days in case the project materially differs from the plan. This may be the case for example if the Industrial Partner pulls out from the project. At the same time, the PI shall submit a proposition for the continuation.

2.13 The PI shall commit to submitting a final project report to the Foundation. The final report must be submitted to the Foundation via the electronic grant management system within three months as of the end of the project.

3. The responsibilities and duties of a participating company (Industrial Partner)

3.1 The Industrial Partner is expected to provide the postdoc researcher with the workspace, materials, and research infrastructure required for a period of 12 months.

3.2 The Industrial Partner is expected to engage actively in the project and in the supervision thereof together with the Academic Partner for the entire duration of the project. The terms and conditions of the Industrial Partner's involvement in the project are defined in these funding terms, and project-specific conditions are defined in the funding application and in the agreement between the Industrial Partner and the Academic Partner.

3.3 The Industrial Partner is expected to support project communications.

4. Payment of the funding

4.1 The Foundation pays the funds for funding the project to the Academic Partner in two instalments based on the amount granted. The first instalment covers 70% of the approved overall budget of the project and is paid within 30 days as of the start of the employment relationship of the postdoc researcher working in the project and as of the electronic request for payment submitted by the PI to the Foundation via the grant management system. If the details of the postdoc researcher have changed from those indicated in the application or if the postdoc researcher has not been selected as yet in the application stage, the PI provides the details of the postdoc researcher with a form available for download for this effect when submitting the electronic payment request. The second instalment of 30% of the approved overall budget of the project is paid within 30 days as of submitting the 1-year interim report to the Foundation via the



electronic grant management system and as of approval thereof by the Foundation. The interim report must be submitted no later than by the end of the first year of the project.

4.2 The Academic Partner is obligated to promptly notify the Foundation if the hiring of the postdoc researcher for the project is delayed and the project cannot commence as planned. The Foundation may, at its discretion, grant additional time for the hiring of the postdoc researcher.

However, the Foundation reserves the right to withdraw the funding in its entirety if the Academic Partner has not hired the postdoc researcher for the implementation of the project within 12 months from the grant of funding.

4.3 The Academic Partner shall return any funding or any portion of funding received in error, in excess or on apparently erroneous grounds. The Academic Partner shall contact the Foundation before returning the funds.

4.4. The Foundation is entitled to terminate funding in case the Academic Partner is in breach of the present terms of funding or in case the project has not proceeded in accordance with the project plan annexed to the application.

