



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS CALL M-ERA-NET 2022

Application Guidelines

**Deadline for submitting pre-proposal:
Noon (Brussels time), June 15, 2022**



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DOCUMENTS REQUIRED WHEN SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION FOR THE PRE-PROPOSAL STAGE:

- Duly completed PRIMA Québec application preproposal form (signed and dated). Every section in the form must be filled out.
- Signed letters of support from partners specifying the direct cost amount allocated to the project (companies and non-profit organizations (NPOs) involved in the financing package)

Please note:

- Funding will only be awarded upon proof of the following:
 - All additional funding (NSERC, NRC-IRAP or other) has been approved (a copy of the approval must be forwarded to PRIMA);
 - The full M-ERA.NET proposal has been recommended for funding;
 - The other organizations in the M-ERA.NET consortium have obtained their funding;
 - The various parties have drafted and signed an intellectual property agreement before the first grant payment.
- Once the request for additional funding has been submitted, a copy must be sent to PRIMA Québec, **confirmation that the additional funding has been obtained must be sent to PRIMA before January 15, 2023.**
- Partners in the consortium's Quebec portion must be members of PRIMA Québec.

Contacts

For any additional information, or for assistance regarding the application form, please contact Michel Lefèvre at (514) 284-0211, Ext. 227.

The PRIMA pre-proposal form must be sent before **June 15, 2022, at 6:00am Montreal time** in a single file in PDF format (Adobe Acrobat) by email to: laura.salatian@prima.ca

PRIMA's full proposal form must be sent by **November 17, 2022, at 6:00am Montreal time** as a single file in PDF (Adobe Acrobat) format by email to: laura.salatian@prima.ca



INTRODUCTION

The Québec government considers innovation as an important driver of economic growth. If Quebec is to maintain its status as an advanced society, exercise influence and open itself up to the world, it must ensure the participation of its researchers and organizations within collaborative industrial research projects that can generate future technologies. The government therefore seeks to encourage international research partnerships.

PSO-International help support the international efforts of Quebec's universities and colleges, along with institutional and industrial players working within various research and innovation markets. To this end, the *Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation* (MEI) supports PRIMA Québec's participation in the 2022 M-ERA.NET call.

The M-ERA.NET Call 2022 was launched on 15 March 2022. 33 funding agencies from 24 countries are participating with a total budget of approximately 25 million €.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

General Objective

Support and implement international research and innovation initiatives between universities, colleges, institutions and industries.

Targeted Results

1. Establish partnerships between universities, colleges, institutions and industry in Quebec, outside Quebec and internationally.
2. Increase university-business, international, intersectoral and inter-order research collaborations.
3. Increase the visibility of Québec researchers and their establishments nationally and internationally.
4. Encourage the progress, around research and development projects, of researchers capable of occupying a competitive position in the niches of the future for Québec.

The aim of M-ERA.NET is to fund ambitious transnational RTD projects addressing materials research and innovation including materials for low-carbon energy technologies and related production technologies. M-ERA.NET aims to strengthen the contribution of materials R&D to energy-related applications where applicable.

ELIGIBLE CLIENTS

QUEBEC ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applications must be submitted by Quebec research establishments. Universities, CCTTs or public research centers¹ are eligible (if the research center is not on the list, please contact a PRIMA advisor to verify its status (public or private) with MEI). They must allow the training of highly qualified personnel (HQP).

¹ The list of recognized eligible public research centers is available at the [following link](#)



QUEBEC ELIGIBLE MANUFACTURERS

It is necessary to have at least one company (primarily an SME) with a presence in Quebec (production or R&D). Businesses outside Quebec are not eligible. The participation of partners is the subject of a signed letter of support.

You cannot have related companies in the consortium. Therefore, the subsidiary or the parent company of the Quebec company cannot participate in the project with the international partner. Related meaning that "the relationship between the companies would be such that one has the ability to exercise, directly or indirectly, control or significant influence over decisions relating to the financing or operation of the other".

Companies majority controlled by a government department or agency are not eligible as industrial partners. Their contributions will be considered as a public contribution. As well contribution coming from municipalities.

Start-ups are eligible; however, the MEI may request additional information to ensure the company's involvement in the project and its R and D and production capacities and to be able to implement the benefits of the project.

Hydro-Québec is considered, by default, as a public research center. However, the latter can be considered as an industrialist under certain conditions, see Annex 2 for details.

PRIMA QUEBEC MEMBERSHIP

All industrial organizations, academics or public research centers (Quebec participant) participating in a project must be members in good standing of PRIMA Quebec at the time of project submission in the full proposal phase and must remain so throughout the duration of the project if it is accepted for funding.

To become a member of PRIMA Québec: <https://www.prima.ca/en/product/prima-quebec-membership/>

0-50 employees	280.00 CAD
51-249 employees	450.00 CAD
250-499 employees	650.00 CAD
500 employees and (+)	1 000.00 CAD
Universities	2 000.00 CAD
CCTT – Public Laboratory	1 000.00 CAD



ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

All research projects with technological maturity levels (TRL 1-9) are eligible.

The projects are in collaboration with partners from the countries participating in the M-ERA.NET call, there may be partners outside M-ERA.NET consortium. However, **the following conditions must be met:**

- Minimum requirements: Project consortia must consist of at least 3 partners (all requesting funding from a funding organization listed in Annex 3 of the M-ERA.NET guide²) from at least 3 different countries (at least 2 EU member state or associated country) participating in the M-ERA.NET Call 2022. In addition to the minimum consortium the participation of further partners is possible.
- Coordinator must request funding from a funding organization listed in Annex 3 of the M-ERA.NET guide².
- The total effort of one single applicant cannot exceed 60% of the total project efforts (**measured in person months**) in the proposal.
- The total effort of applicants from one country cannot exceed 70% of the total project efforts (**measured in person months**) in the proposal
- Proposal must address appropriate TRLs for selected M-ERA.NET Call 2022 topics.
- Proposers must provide their respective PIC-numbers in the proposal; proposers without a validated PIC will be able to use a temporary PIC for submission.

National/regional funding rules apply. Therefore, in some cases only certain topics, TRLs or types of organizations are eligible (e.g., some national/regional programmes fund only industrial but no academic partners, low/high TRLs). It is highly recommended to contact the respective national/regional funding organisation before proposal submission.

The projects must demonstrate a balanced participation of the Quebec and foreign parties throughout their development; a financial contribution in cash totalling at least 20% of the eligible expenses in Quebec is required from the Quebec tenant community and a contribution in cash or in kind totalling at least 30% of the overall expenses of the M-ERA.NET consortium project is required for all the project's foreign partners.

The financial assistance from MEI will take the form of a non-repayable and non-recurring contribution of up to 50% of the eligible expenses of the Quebec part, up to \$ 500,000 (Management fees and FIR included) over three years per project. Other contributions must be demonstrated (official signed letters specifying the amounts granted for the realization of the project).

A consortium agreement between the project partners is recommended for funded projects based on national/regional funding rules. However, the principles of the agreement should already be clear when submitting the proposal. The purpose of the consortium agreement is to clarify:

- the responsibilities of the partners;
- decision processes inside the project;
- management of any change of partners;
- how to exploit and/or commercialize the results (for each partner);
- IPR issues.

Duration of Projects

The maximum duration of the project will be three years.

² <https://m-era.net/joint-calls/joint-call-2022/call2022-guideforproposers.pdf>



PRIORITY THEMES

The aim is to fund ambitious transnational RTD projects addressing materials research and innovation including materials for batteries and low-carbon energy technologies.

Horizontal objectives for the Call 2022:

- **Support the European Green Deal by increasing attention to clean energy technologies and future batteries:** M-ERA.NET aims to strengthen the contribution of materials R&D for clean energy-related applications and batteries technologies. M-ERA.NET will support the transition towards circular economy by addressing aspects like eco-design, durability of products, process efficiency with reduced energy and materials consumption.
- **Support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals:** M-ERA.NET will contribute to a wider public debate on the impact of materials research and its potential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, M-ERA.NET will support SDG 7 (“Affordable and clean energy”) through fostering research on sustainable energy storage technology and SDG 9 (“Industrial innovation and infrastructure”) by upgrading the technological capabilities of industrial sectors.
- **Socio-ecological benefits in the context of RRI:** M-ERA.NET calls will address EU areas of socio-ecological relevance, illustrating the leveraging effects materials research and innovation have on areas that reflect meaningful societal needs. M-ERA.NET will develop responsible research and innovation processes to systematically address socio-ecological, ethical and political dimensions of material research, development and use.
- **Support for the Innovation chain:** Making best use of the interdisciplinary network the calls in M-ERA.NET will facilitate the generation of knowledge along the innovation chain, from excellent science and research to innovative industrial applications.
- **Strengthen interdisciplinarity:** M-ERA.NET is the platform for an integrative approach across disciplines and across application fields, making the initiative an attractive and efficient tool for transnational joint projects that were unlikely to be realized before.

The following six topics are defined for the Call 2022:

- Topic 1: Materials for energy
- Topic 2: Innovative surfaces, coatings and interfaces
- Topic 3: High performance composites
- Topic 4: Functional materials
- Topic 5: New strategies for advanced material-based technologies in health applications
- Topic 6: Materials for electronics



General considerations

- In general, a special focus on materials science, processing, and engineering that contributes to the implementation of the SDGs and the Green Deal is strongly recommended.
- Unless expressly justified, proposals should comply with the open data science directive from the EC.
- Issues of societal concerns should be addressed in a systematic way, and following the new M-ERA.NET RRI guidelines
- Measures to ensure gender balance in the project consortia should also be considered

In keeping with its strategic plan, PRIMA Québec recommends the submission of applications concerning the development of advanced materials applied to Québec's key sectors, such as transportation and infrastructure, energy, the environment, electronics, health and chemistry.

Technologies targeted by this call for projects include primarily:

- **New materials:** Polymers, elastomers, biomaterials, metals, innovative fillers, cellulosic filaments, natural and synthetic fibers, nanomaterials, quantum material, etc.
- **Formulated materials or high-performance finished or semi-finished products:** Composites (TD or TP), rubbers, alloys, ceramics, smart textiles, flexible materials, membranes, thin layers, coatings, biocompatible materials, encapsulation, sensors, quantum technologies, etc.
- **Implementation processes, scaling and new characterization techniques:** Additive manufacturing and 3D printing, modification and surface treatment, micro/nanofabrication, tools, new characterization tools, modeling and simulation, shaping processes, quantum calculus, etc.
- **Use of artificial intelligence with advanced materials for production, integration or implementation processes or characterization technique.**



FINANCING PLAN OF THE PROJECT

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES - DIRECT PROJECT COSTS

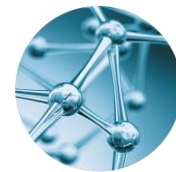
Eligible expenses are those that involve the Quebec team's research activities and include project-related costs in Quebec. No additional financial assistance will be granted for any cost overrun regarding an approved project.

The following expenses will be eligible when justified and directly attributable to the project.

The following expenses will be eligible if deemed reasonable, justifiable and directly attributable to the project:

- Salary expenditures for the R&D personnel hired to complete the project (by organization type):
 - **For universities and institutions in the health and social services network where research activities are conducted:** Salary expenditures for graduate students, research assistants, research professionals and technicians.
 - **For College Technology Transfer Centres (CTTCs), NPOs and public research institutions:** Salary expenditures paid out to researchers and R&D personnel hired to complete the project without any other financial support from the MEI.
 - **For federal public research institutions,** 50 % of the salary of researchers participating in the project are not eligible
- Student scholarships;
- The purchase or leasing of project-related equipment;³
- Research-related consumables and supplies;
- Animal facilities and platform-related costs;
- Travel and living expenses for Quebec researchers and students (airfare, local transportation, accommodations, meal expenses and visa costs). Travel and living expenses in Quebec and abroad for Quebec researchers and students must not exceed **15%** of all eligible expenses (up to a maximum of 5% of all eligible expenses in Quebec). When calculating the grant, only amounts that correspond to current Government of Quebec rates will be considered (see Appendix 1 herein for details).
- Consulting fees and subcontracting costs;
- Management costs for the use of intellectual property;
- Knowledge dissemination costs;
- Costs related to the use of research and innovation results and intellectual property protection (publication costs, scientific and technological dissemination costs, workshop and seminar administration costs, international patent fees, etc.);
- Legal document translation and design costs for partnership consolidations (maximum \$10,000).

³ Expenditures involving the purchase or leasing of equipment and materials, consumables and supplies, including costs related to animal facilities and platforms dedicated to the project, must not exceed **25%** of all eligible expenses. The purchase price for each piece of equipment must not exceed \$15,000 before taxes.



INDIRECT PROJECT COSTS

Additional operating expenses will be eligible for **universities and affiliated hospitals**. A maximum rate of **27% prorated to the MEI contribution** will be applied to the following five eligible cost items included in the direct project-related costs:

- Salaries and fringe benefits;
- Student scholarships;
- Materials, consumables and supplies, including animal facility and platform-related fees;
- Equipment purchases or leasing (maximum \$15,000 before taxes per purchased equipment);
- Travel and living expenses.

Indirect research fees (IRF) will be included in the MEI's financial support. Every financial partner involved must match this contribution.

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Ineligible expenses will include, among others:

- Salaries for university professor-researchers, college professors and 50% of the salaries of researchers from participating federal research centres;
- Salaries for administrative support staff;
- Travel expenses for the Quebec team's researchers and students attending events not directly related to the project;
- Accommodations, travel and living expenses for foreign researchers and students;
- Support expenditures for the programming of activities;
- Equipment purchases priced above \$15,000 before taxes;
- Expenses for project planning activities, or any commercial, economic or technology transfer activity, including:
 - Detailed market research;
 - Detailed financial studies;
 - Technological demonstrations;
 - Product or process testing and validation;
 - Product certification;
 - Market expansion;
 - Marketing plans;
 - Promotional activities;
 - Regulatory issues beyond the scope of intellectual property management and use, etc.;
 - The sale of samples, products, equipment and technology;
 - Any building purchase, sale or construction;
 - Licensing;
 - Joint ventures, mergers, acquisitions, etc.
- Any expense not directly related to the project;
- The cost of establishing an on-line presence or web hosting;
- Support expenditures for the programming of activities;
- Grant funds already received from the following:



- Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), excluding the Infrastructure Operating Fund (IOF);
- Other MEI financial assistance programs.

CO-FINANCING FUNDING

PSO-International will accept a public co-financing for eligible cash expenses from multiple sources (please contact a PRIMA advisor to ensure the eligibility of additional funding), including but not limited to:

- Federal departments and agencies, including federal granting councils.
- Provincial and municipal departments and agencies, along with Quebec research funds.

Financial assistance under the PSO-international will not be combined with contributions from any other MEI program, including MITACS grants, which will not be accepted as co-funding for the financing package.

Co-funding sources must be included in the financing package; a copy of the additional funding request must be provided upon submission.

The sources of co-financing must be presented in the financial package, a copy of the request for additional financing must be provided when it is submitted. The copy of acceptance of the additional financing must be sent to PRIMA before January 15, 2022.

It is necessary to specify in the request for additional funding that an application to PRIMA has been submitted and the supplementary financing budget must include funding from PRIMA.

Complementary funding already obtained that does not specify PRIMA Quebec and the current project cannot be used.

Combined assistance from municipal, provincial and federal governments, as well as from partners with intervention funds financed by these levels of government, will not exceed **80%** of all project-related expenses. The assistance considered in this calculation will involve project-related grants, loans and tax incentives.

Companies must provide a minimum **cash** contribution equal to **20%** of eligible expenses. Only new industrial contributions for new projects will be recognized as consideration, MEI aid must be granted in return for new industrial inputs (not already committed as co-financing in other programs or projects).

MANAGEMENT COSTS

PRIMA's management costs are shared between the manufacturers and the MEI. It is the responsibility of the funding applicant to inform industrial partners of PRIMA Quebec's management fees. The combined management fees (5%) of the MEI and the industrialist are a maximum of \$50,000.

- The industrialists involved in the project must contribute to the management fees of PRIMA Québec for a total amount of 3% of the amount of research mandate or 30 000\$ max.
- The management fees of the MEI are 2% or 20 000\$ max.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

An agreement governing conditions for the management of intellectual property must be concluded among all partners (companies, universities, research centres) before financing is awarded.

Application files will be accepted for evaluation even if an intellectual property agreement is not available at the time the proposal is submitted. Nonetheless, the application file must present a broad outline of the sharing of intellectual property under consideration.

COMMUNICATIONS

Please note that the information given in the identification sheet section as well as the amount of the subsidy are public data and can be used by the MEI and PRIMA Québec for promotional purposes.

If your project is approved for funding, the ministry may reserve the right to a first communication. Please communicate with PRIMA before any first communication about the project.

PROJECT SELECTION

For the pre-proposal stage, the projects will be assessed by the funding agencies involved in the project for the eligibility criteria, some agencies may also make relevance or technical-scientific assessments.

Full proposals will be evaluated by a jury selected by M-ERA.NET following the rule specified in the guide of M-ERA.NET. At the Call 2022 Coordination Meeting, all full proposals will be discussed and unanimously recommended or not recommended for financing following the evaluation results and the available budget of all financing agencies.

Representatives from the MEI will act as observers during the regional selection committee meeting.

PRIMA Québec will issue funding recommendations for a list of projects prioritized by its Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors will approve the list and indicate the cut-off threshold. It will then issue recommendations that include, among other points, the title of each approved project, along with the relevant financial commitment.

PROJECT APPROVAL

Funding recommendations and assessment reports will be forwarded to the MINISTER, in accordance with the agreement. The MINISTER may then approve projects and award co-funding according to the established parameters or refuse the co-funding of certain projects while specifying the problematic components that led to the refusal.

Project funding approval will be confirmed through an award letter that specifies the terms and conditions surrounding accountability.



PROJECT TRACKING

The annual activity report must include a progress report containing updated information on every active project.

CONTACT PERSON

For further information or assistance in the drafting of the application file, do not hesitate to contact an advisor:

- Michel Lefèvre: 514 284-0211, ext. 227, michel.lefevre@prima.ca
- Sébastien Garbarino: 514 284-0211, ext. 226, sebastien.garbarino@prima.ca
- Stéphane Ruggeri : 514 284-0211, ext. 231, stephane.ruggeri@prima.ca

Applications must be sent in one file in PDF format (Adobe Acrobat) by email to: laura.salatian@prima.ca, 514 284-0211, ext. 225.

CALL FOR PROJECTS CALENDAR

Dates	Steps
March 15, 2022	Call launch
April 4, 2022, From 11:00 – 12h30, Brussels times	M-ERA.NET webinar Link to the event page on the M-ERA.NET website https://m-era.net/events/call-2022-information-webinar Registration link Register to the information webinar
April 12, 2022 from 10:30 – 11:30, Montréal time	PRIMA – Webinar Register to the information webinar.
June 15, 2022, at noon Brussels time	Deadline for submission of pre-proposals
End of September 2022	Coordination meeting and feedback to candidates
November 17, 2022, at noon Brussels time	Deadline for submission of full proposals
Mid-February 2023	Sending results to applicants
March – May 2023	Start of funded projects



APPENDIX 1 - TRAVEL EXPENSES

TRAVEL EXPENSES IN QUEBEC

Travel expenses refer to costs incurred by a person travelling outside of his or her usual work territory.

This appendix will cover travel expenses regarding certain modes of transportation, hotel accommodations and restaurant expenses. Other travel expenses, or reimbursements in excess of those established, may be authorized if necessary, but only when documented. Barring exceptional circumstances, the methods chosen must demonstrate due regard for cost saving.

The BENEFICIARY must comply with the "Directive sur les frais remboursables lors d'un déplacement et autres frais inhérents", available on the *Conseil du trésor* website at the following address: <http://www.tresor.gouv.qc.ca/publications/secretariat/>.

On the agreement signature date, these guidelines prescribed the following rates:

Transportation

More economical forms of public transportation must be prioritized over personal vehicles.

With regard to personal vehicles, the following rates will be eligible according to the applicable kilometrage during the BENEFICIARY's fiscal year:

Annual Kilometrage	Rates
1 st instalment: 1 to 8,000 km	\$0.52/km
2 nd instalment: More than 8,000 km	\$0.465/km

If the appropriate public transportation is available but the BENEFICIARY opts for a personal vehicle, the eligible rate will be reduced to \$0.145 per kilometre travelled.



Hotel Accommodations

The following maximum daily allowance for hotel accommodations will apply:

City	Maximum Allowance	
	Low Season ⁴	High Season ⁵
City of Montreal territory	\$126	\$138
Quebec City territory	\$106	
The cities of Laval, Gatineau, Longueuil, Lac-Beauport and Lac-Delage	\$102	\$110
Establishments located elsewhere in Quebec	\$83	\$87
All other establishments	\$79	

These rates are based on the *Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor* guidelines and may vary.

These maximum amounts do not include the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the Quebec Sales Tax (QST), or the accommodation tax, which will be reimbursed where applicable.

Restaurant Expenses

The following maximum daily allowance for restaurant expenses will be applied:

	Applicable Rate
Breakfast	\$10.40
Lunch	\$14.30
Dinner	\$21.55
Total	\$46.25

These rates are based on the *Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor* guidelines and may vary.

The rates shown above including taxes and service.

⁴ From November 1 to May 31

⁵ From June 1 to October 31



TRAVEL EXPENSES OUTSIDE QUEBEC

This section covers expenses incurred outside Quebec for programs that include these costs.

City/Country	Maximum Allowance	
	Accommodations Per Day In CAD	Meals Per Day In CAD
CANADA (OUTSIDE QUEBEC)		
Calgary	\$166	\$50
Charlottetown	\$148	\$50
Edmonton	\$115	\$50
Halifax	\$136	\$50
Moncton	\$148	\$50
Ottawa	\$148	\$50
Regina	\$108	\$50
Saskatoon	\$102	\$50
St. John's (Newfoundland and Labrador)	\$159	\$50
Toronto	\$184	\$60
Vancouver	\$184	\$55
Victoria	\$184	\$50
Winnipeg	\$102	\$50
Other cities	\$102	\$50
AMERICA		
	In USD	In USD
Atlanta	\$120	\$50
Boston	\$192	\$50
Chicago	\$130	\$50
Dallas	\$120	\$50
Detroit	\$120	\$50
Los Angeles	\$120	\$50
Miami	\$120	\$50
New York	\$192	\$60
Philadelphia	\$120	\$50
San Francisco	\$160	\$50
Seattle	\$120	\$50
Washington, D.C.	\$120	\$50
Other cities	\$120	\$50
Brazil	\$123	\$40
Mexico	\$177	\$43
EUROPE		
	Local currency	Local currency
Germany	€137	€60
Belgium	€137	€54
Spain	€161	€59
France	€174	€62
Italy	€218	€52
Luxembourg	€125	€52
Netherlands	€111	€61
United Kingdom	£139	£51
Switzerland	209 Francs	92 Francs



City/Country	Maximum Allowances	
	Accommodation Per Day	Meals Per Day
SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES	In USD	In USD
Denmark	\$105	\$65
Iceland	\$153	\$69
Norway	\$114	\$78
Sweden	\$127	\$55
Finland	Local currency €125	Local currency €71
NEAR EAST		
Israel	In USD \$219	In USD \$80
ASIA	In USD	In USD
China	\$145	\$48
South Korea	\$159	\$57
India	\$190	\$38
Japan	\$164	\$89

These rates are based on the *Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor* guidelines and may vary.

These maximum amounts do not include the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the Quebec Sales Tax (QST), the accommodation tax, or any other tax in effect within the relevant countries, which will be reimbursed where applicable.

Stated amounts are based on the US dollar, notwithstanding Canada and countries that use the Euro. Local currencies are used for information purposes only.

Please contact us for any other destination.

Support documents, including receipts and proof of payment, will be required and must be kept by the applicant for possible auditing purposes.



APPENDIX 2 - HYDRO-QUÉBEC

Hydro-Québec is considered by default to be a public research center.

However, Hydro-Québec plays an extremely structuring role in the innovation ecosystem in electricity production and distribution, a sector where it is a major client in a context of monopoly. Because of this unique situation, the MEI authorizes Hydro-Québec to be considered as an industrial partner in research projects in partnership with InnovÉÉ, PRIMA and PROMPT if the following criteria are met.

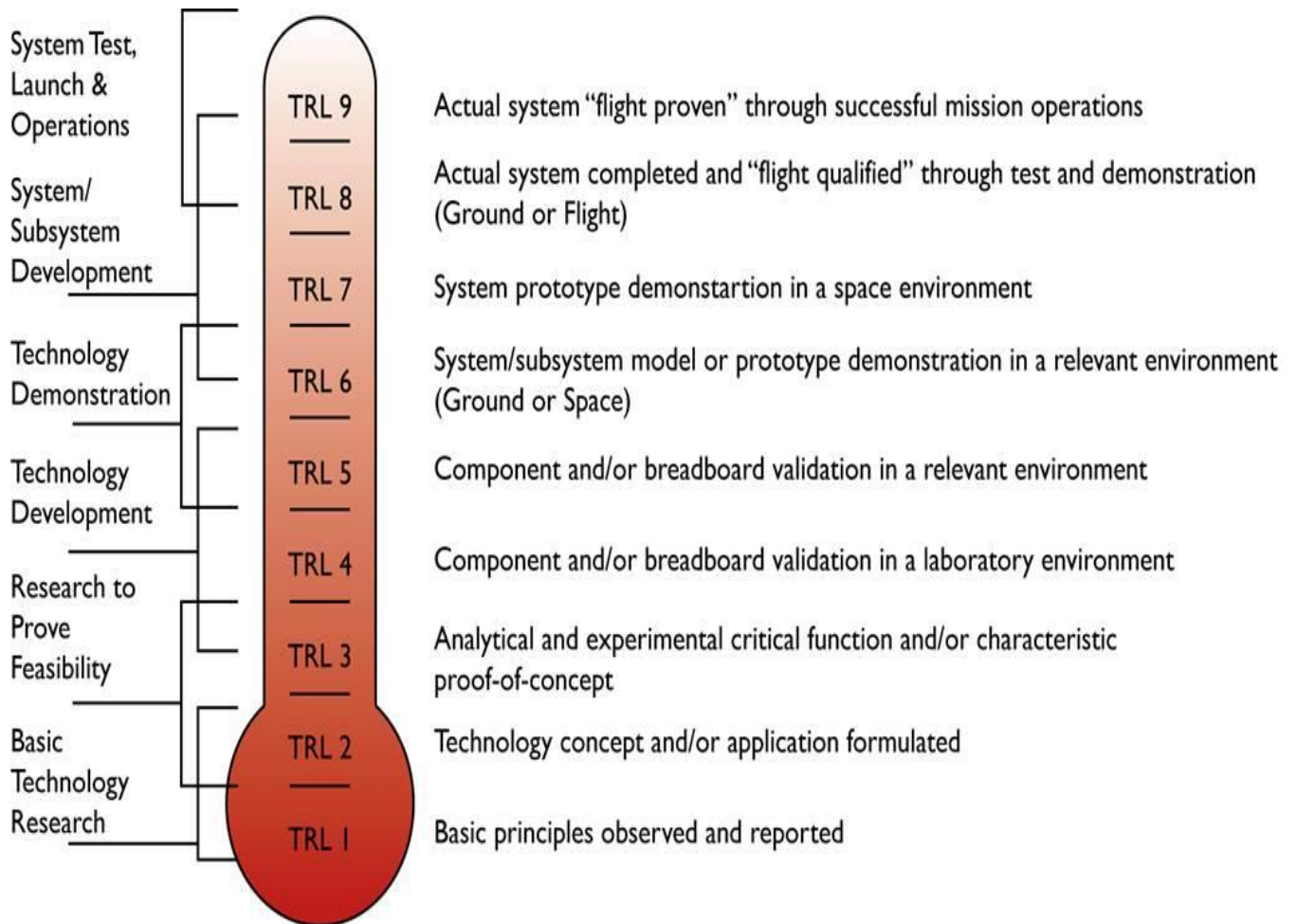
1. Themes:
 - Field of production, transport and distribution of electricity.
2. Partnership:
 - At least one Quebec company other than Hydro-Quebec must be involved in the project.
 - The Quebec company must derive significant benefits from the partnership, notably an equitable sharing of the IP.
3. Structuring and strategic nature of the projects:
 - To be eligible, projects involving Hydro-Québec must be “structuring” and aim at “solving problems of a strategic nature for Québec”. In this sense, projects whose spin-offs will allow above all the continuous improvement of Hydro-Québec operations are not eligible.

These project eligibility criteria must be analyzed by the evaluation committee and appear in the report submitted to MEI.

Apart from this exception, all other PSO-International standards must be respected.



APPENDIX 3 - DEFINITION OF DIFFERENT TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVELS (TRL)



Graphic inspired by the document: Space Systems - Definition of Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) and their criteria of assessment, ISO 16,290.

The ISO16290 standard is available for consultation at the offices of PRIMA Québec.