**FORNY2020 – Proof-of-Concept funding**

Researchers in Bergen have the opportunity to apply for millions in funding for research projects with a commercial potential from The Norwegian Research Council. Proof-of-Concept funding is a golden opportunity to obtain the funds needed to conduct testing, upscaling and continuation of your research project – regardless of the research field. BTO will coordinate the application process, project management and business development. In the last years, 30 – 50 % for our applications has been successful. The six active projects we have in 2015 will receive approximately 34 million NOK from the Norwegian Research Council. Seize this opportunity and collaborate with us to get funding from FORNY2020.

**FORNY2020 announced on February 23rd 2015 that they will implement an additional application date for Proof-of-Concept funding spring 2015. The deadline for applying for funding is set to April 15th 2015.**

**ABOUT BTO**

Bergen Teknologioverføring (BTO) works on behalf of the research community in Bergen. We contribute to realize research findings and ideas that potentially can benefit individuals, the market and society at large. We assists with evaluating the innovative and commercial potential, acquire research funds, evaluate patenting, give legal assistance by negotiating licence agreements and signing contracts with existing businesses, find partners and establish new companies.

**ABOUT FORNY2020**

The FORNY2020-program enables innovation and commercialization of research from the public financed research institutes, and will fund selected projects that have a high expected social economic return. More information about FORNY2020 is available at [www.forskningsradet.no](http://www.forskningsradet.no)

Every year, FORNY2020 is looking for projects to fund. Together with owners and partners, BTO has the opportunity to apply for funding of projects that can be expected to have a high degree of commercial or socially beneficial potential. Projects from every research field can apply for funding, and the final goals for these projects are either licence agreements or establishing a business.

**SPESIFICATIONS**

* 10 page application
* Budget frame: 2 - 6 million NOK
* Duration: 1 - 3 years
* 80 % funding and at least 20 % of own contribution from the institution or industry partner
* Only new projects are allowed to apply. Projects that applied FORNY funds in 2014 are not allowed to apply this time.

*The announcement can be subject to change.*

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

To start the project discussions, please contact the person responsible for your field. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to hear from you!

**Health, biomedicine and molecular biology:** Katinka Tofte, katinka.tofte@bergento.no, 980 26 926

**Marine disciplines:** Steffen Boga, steffen.boga@bergento.no, 414 59 203

**Natural science, energy, technology, ICT, social science, etc.:** Dag Einar Finne, dag.finne@bergento.no, 920 16 360

**General inquiries:** post@bergento.no / 55 58 30 50

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

* **Get in touch as soon as possible and before March 9th to start the preliminary discussions**
* We will continually evaluate the project proposition and work with the application preparations for the qualified projects
* The process of establishing a project and writing the application should start as soon as possible. mature projects will be prioritized
* **Application deadline: April 15th 2015**
* Ideas that reach us after March 9th will also be considered, but please note that the chance of us writing a good and full application within the short deadline is small. We would like to emphasise that there will be a new opportunity for applying for FORNY funding in the autumn. We do not yet know how much funds will be made available

**HISTORY**

BTO has a very good success rate from the previous years, with an average success rate of 30-50 %. In 2015, BTO has six active Proof-of-Concept projects, with a combined budget of approximately 50 million NOK. Of these, approximately 34 million NOK is funding from the Norwegian Research Council. A large portion of this money is used in the research community in order to develop research projects with potential for innovation. Some examples of Proof-of-Concept projects from Bergen that have been successful are listed below:

## Catch Control

## Catch Control is a project aiming to improve sustainability and efficiency in purse seine fishing through innovative solutions. The project will solve problems related to release of fish, identification of economically optimal shoals, fishing in the dark, fish overflowing the top line, and identification of the position of the seine. This is done through four products. The products are being commercialized through a new startup company. Catch Control is a project from IMR.

## IEOR

## The IEOR project aims to increase the utilization of oil-wet heterogeneous reservoirs by adding CO2. The method applied will result in up to 20% more oil recovered, operational time will be reduced by 90% and CO2 input can be reduced by more than 90%. IEOR is a project from the Institute of Physics and Technology, University of Bergen.

## Nano Lace

## The Nano Lace project aims to produce microchips in a new way so that they can store more data, works faster while requiring less energy. The technique used today have clear limitations if you make microchips which are finer than 20 nanometers. The project is described as a potential game-changer. Nano Lace is a project from the Institute of Physics and Technology, University of Bergen.