



Research Program K2 Digital Mobility

2026

CONTENT

- **SETLabs Research GmbH & Virtual Vehicle Research GmbH**
- **Research Program, Structure & Goals**
- **Type of Projects**
- **Legal Basis & IPR Principles**
- **Roadmap - Project Initiation**

SETLabs & Virtual Vehicle



SETLabs Research GmbH (SETLabs/SLR)

- Research organization (Focus: Mobility & Health)
- ~10 employees
- 20+ industry partners & 10+ scientific partners

SETLabs is a 100% subsidiary of **Virtual Vehicle Research GmbH (ViF)**

- Research organization (Focus: Automotive & Rail)
- Europe's largest research center for Virtual Vehicle Development
- ~300 employees
- 100+ industry partners & 40+ scientific partners

Virtual Vehicle leads the largest COMET research Program in Austria
“**K2 Digital Mobility**” (K2DM)

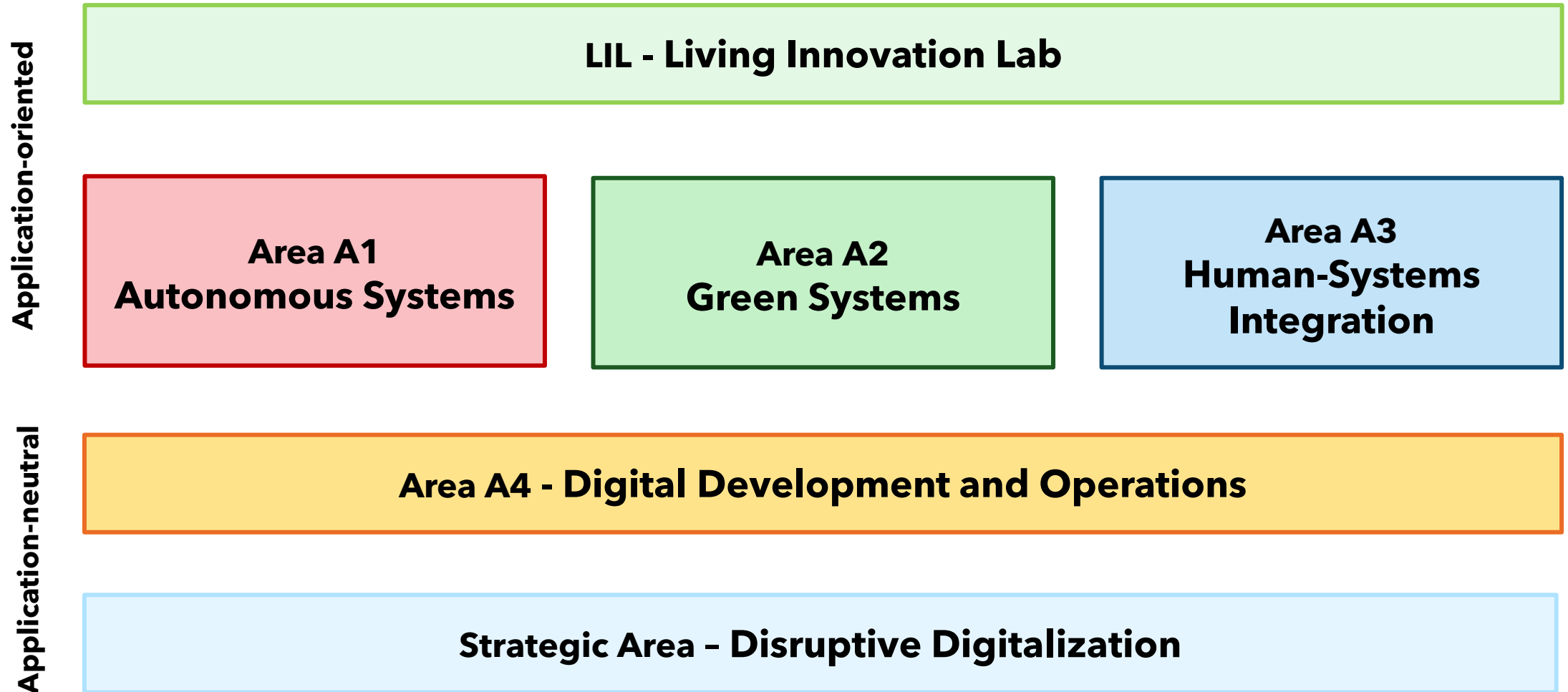
SETLabs can carry out research projects within the framework of K2DM
in cooperation with Virtual Vehicle.

COMET Program

- The COMET Program **bundles scientific competence and technological know-how** in very specific thematic areas. In the centers, companies and research partners work closely together and thus enable **direct transfer of new knowledge into market-ready products and services**.
- COMET Program **sets research impulses and initiates new innovations for products, processes and services**. As a result, they significantly improve the capacity for innovation of companies and help to develop solutions for key issues of the future, such as **climate protection, digitalization, mobility and health**.
- COMET Program **is funded by the Republic of Austria and the participating provinces as well as the involved companies and research organizations**. Science and economy jointly define a research program with a medium to long term perspective, the implementation and success of which is evaluated.

[Link: COMET Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies – COMET-Zentren \(K2\) | FFG](#)

COMET Research Program K2DM - Structure Research Areas



COMET Research Programme K2DM - Overall Goals

- **Effectivity and efficiency:** Disruptive digitalization
- **Green and safe:** Zero fatalities - zero emissions
- **Reliability and intelligence:** Vehicle automation and electrification
- **Acceptability and trust:** Human-centered solutions

Type of K2DM Projects at ViF/SLR (up to 50% funded)

Criteria **Standard Project**

- Significant contribution to K2 Digital Mobility Program goals
- Multi-firm/single-firm
- Qualified publications, contribution to Ph.D. and master thesis
- Qualified contribution to K2 Digital Mobility performance indicators
- **Industry part up to 65%** (fully IPR with industry partners)
- Strategic part min. 35% (fully IPR with ViF/SLR)
- Scientific partner not required

→ **Approval by ViF bodies & Cooperation Contract**

Additional Criteria for **Specification Project**

- Usually single-firm
 - Up to 100% IPR for partner
 - Duration max. 6 months & project volume max. 120K€
 - Restriction period for the use of the results until 6 months after the end of the project
 - Info to ViF bodies → Goal: Standard project
- **Contractual commitment via offer and order**

Additional Criteria for **Knowledge Transfer Project**

- Usually single-firm
 - Transfer of existing knowledge
 - Up to 100% IPR for partner
- **Offer & Order**

Implementation requires K2 partnership!

How to become „K2 Partner“

- **Approval of membership** request by Strategic Board and General Assembly of Virtual Vehicle to join the K2 network (one slide company/institute profile required)
- **Joining the K2 network** by signing the **K2 Digital Mobility Agreement**

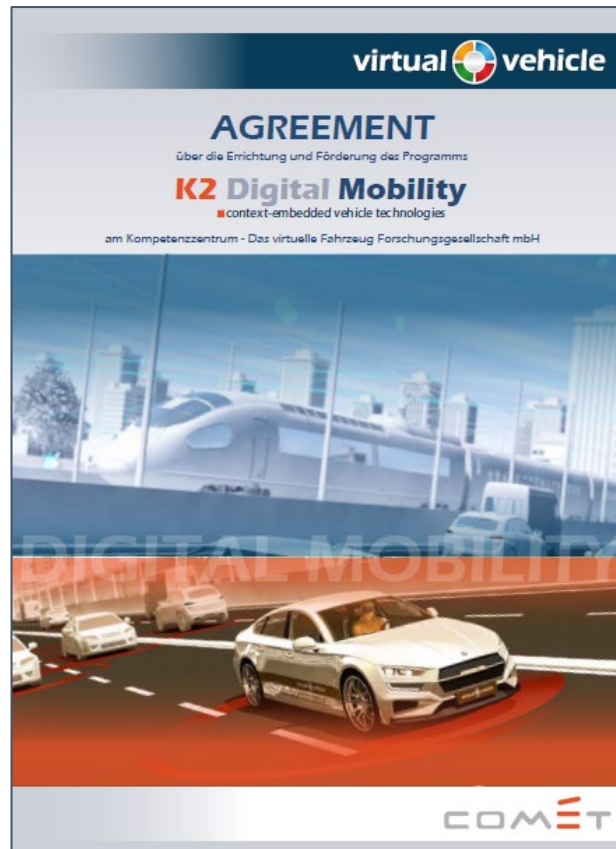
In parallel:

Set-up of a **project-specific Cooperation Contract** with all project partners of individual research project

K2DM Procedure - STANDARD PROJECT

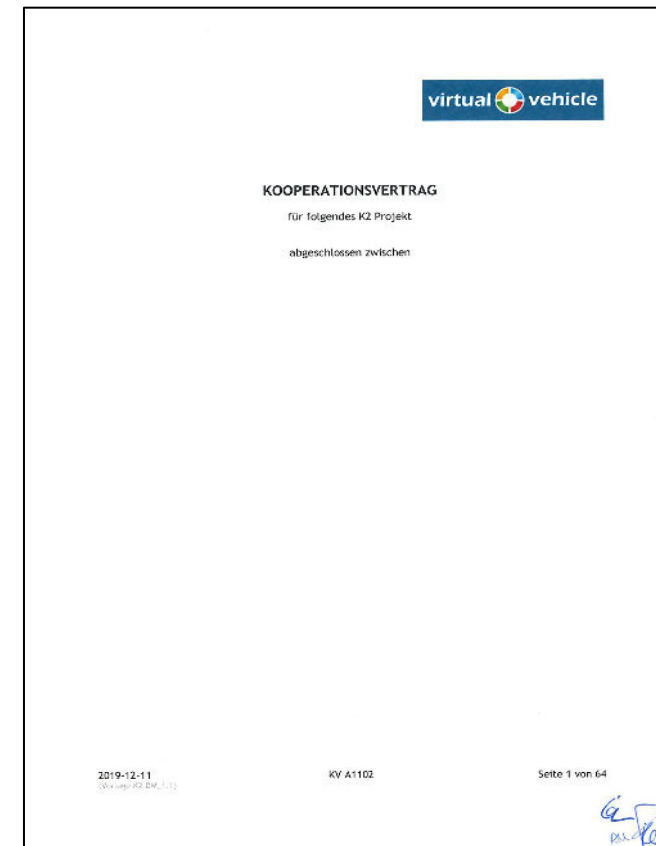
K2DM Agreement (general requirement)

NDA
in advance if
needed



Cooperation Contract (CC) (project specific)

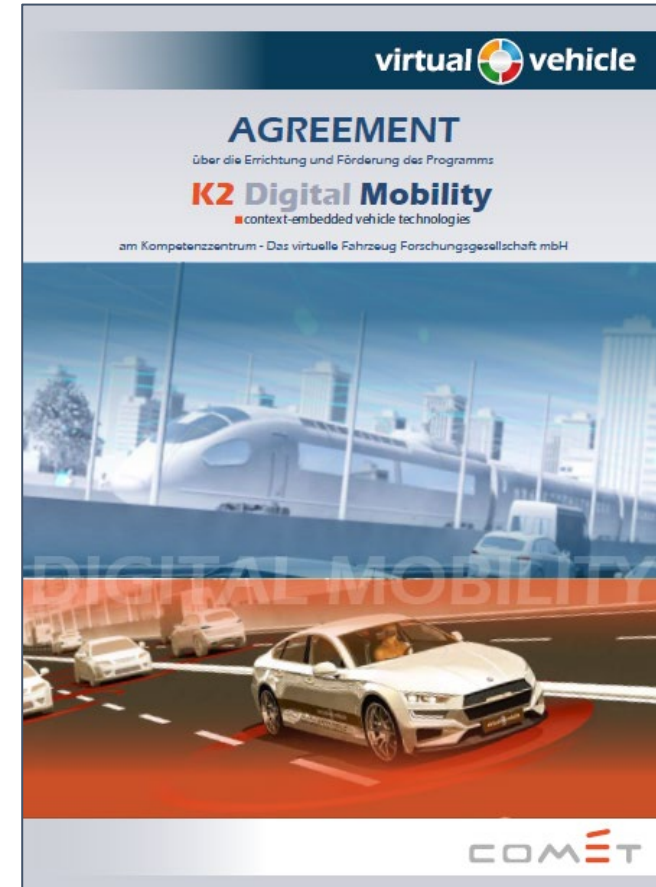
CC concluded
individually with
each partner



K2DM AGREEMENT

- **Framework contract**
- **Precondition for being able to carry out K2 projects**
- **Actual duration 2022 - 2026 → Follow-up**
- **Current Partners**
 - ~ 90 Industry Partners
 - ~ 50 Scientific Partners
- **Joining the agreement**
 - New partner signs "Supplementary sheet"

K2 Digital Mobility

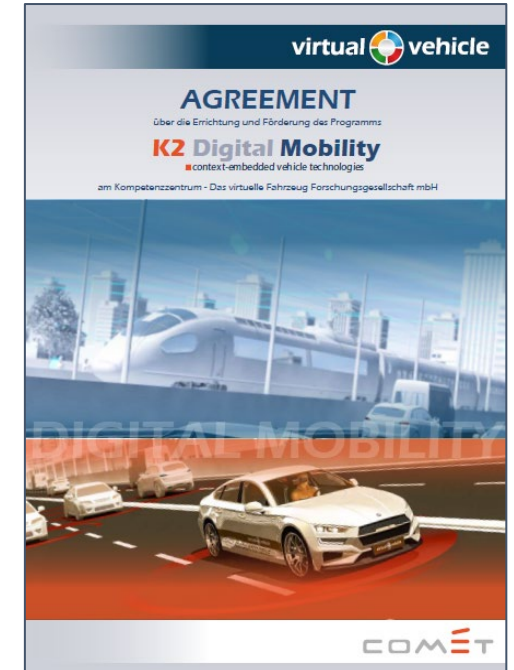


K2DM AGREEMENT

CONTENT

- **Cooperation in principle**
- **Overview K2 Digital Mobility Research Program**
- **Structure of the Research Program**
- **Legal aspects** (IPR, NDA, Publications ...)
- **Annexes**
 - Center plan
 - Partner list

confidential



Joining the agreement means:

- ✓ Acceptance of the funding principles and principles of cooperations
- ✓ No financial or any other obligations
- ✓ Basic condition for participation in a K2 project

Project-specific cooperation contract comprises:

Cooperation Contract with Virtual Vehicle and SETLabs subcontracting

Project partners (roles, contributions, ...)

Project budget (payment plan, allowances In-Kind)

Technical project description

Standard K2 IPR provisions, general legal provisions etc.

- based on K2-Agreement
- defines the roles and contributions of all partners (industry partners, scientific partners, Virtual Vehicle/SETLabs)
- defines rights to project results
- commitment to cash contributions only by signing project-specific cooperation contract

Benefits of Project Partnership for Industry Partners

- **Full ownership rights to results of the industrial part of individual research project**
 - Standard Project: ~ 2/3 of the results with Industry Partners (67%)
 - Knowledge Transfer Project: 85% - 100%
 - Specification Project: 100% (results belong to the Industry Partner and to Virtual Vehicle)
- **Rights of utilization to all results of individual research project**
- **Attractive funding**
- **Access to all project information**
- **Contact to scientific and other industry partners of individual research project**

Benefits of Project Partnership for Scientific Partners

- **Rights of utilization to results of the strategic part of individual research project result:** ~ 1/3 (33%)
- **Contact to the Industry Partners** of individual research project
- **Full partnership** in the research project
- **Only 5% in-kind**
- Eligible for **subcontracting orders**
- Possibility of participation in **projects of the strategic area**

K2DM - Standard Project

ROADMAP - PROJECT INITIATION



- Coordinate research objective, project content and budget with partners
- Presentation of project to Program Committee (content review)
- Recommendation for Board by Program Committee (PC)
- Presentation to Strategy Board (2 weeks after PC)
- Approval by Strategy Board
- Preparation of cooperation agreement
- **Project start**

K2DM - Specification Project

ROADMAP - PROJECT INITIATION



- Project content requires a more precise specification by the partners
→ **Specification Project**
- Info to Program Committee and Strategy Board (no approval necessary)
- Preparation of offer(s) (usually single firm)
- Order by the partner(s)
- **Project start**

K2DM - Knowledge Project

ROADMAP - PROJECT INITIATION



- Project with a small research content → **Knowledge Project**
- General approval for knowledge transfer already given by Program Committee and Strategy Board
- Preparation of offer(s) (usually single firm)
- Order by the partner(s)
- **Project start**

Contact us

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