

## 2<sup>nd</sup> STDF-CDTI JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER THE EGYPTIAN-SPANISH INNOVATION PROGRAMME (ESIP), 2017 - 2018

The EGYPTIAN-SPANISH INNOVATION PROGRAMME (ESIP) for technological co-operation was signed by the Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) and the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, E.P.E. (CDTI) on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, 2016. The objective of the joint Egyptian-Spanish programme is to promote and fund market-driven research and technology development, as well as to encourage partnerships and business-led research. With these objectives in mind, development and innovation collaborative projects will be jointly conducted by entities from both countries.

The STDF and CDTI agreed to launch joint Calls for Proposals, with the aim of urging Egyptian and Spanish organizations to submit ambitious joint project proposals of a high international standard. Selected projects will be funded by STDF in Egypt and CDTI in Spain. A total amount of up to 1,500,000 € is dedicated by the STDF for this program, while the CDTI has a budget dedicated to this Call that allows to back up the budgetary amount expressed by STDF.

### **CALL GUIDELINES:**

#### ➤ **NODAL IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES**

The Science and Technology Development Fund, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Government of Egypt, and the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, E.P.E., Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness, Government of Spain, are the nodal implementing agencies from the Egyptian and Spanish sides, respectively.

The Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) is the nodal agency for the promotion of research, development and innovation in the valued areas of Egypt's long-term competitiveness and development strategy. STDF funds and supports affiliated Egyptian universities and research organisations (collaboration permitted with other entities).

The Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, E.P.E. (CDTI) is a Public Entity which fosters the technological development and innovation of Spanish Companies. Since 1986, it has been the entity that channels and supports applications for national and international R&D&I projects of Spanish Companies.

## ➤ THEMATIC AREAS

This Call for proposals is a generic call open to collaborative R&D projects in the following areas:

### 1. Agriculture and Sustainable Food Production

- Climatic and extra climatic factors affecting sustainable crop production, livestock, aquaculture and fisheries.
- Innovative solutions for combatting emerging infectious livestock diseases.
- Agricultural waste management and biofuel production.
- Advanced trends to improve livestock productivity.

### 2. Sustainable water management

- Water management and treatment
- Water desalination
- Water sanitation technology

### 3. Affordable & Inclusive Healthcare

- Cancer and stem cells
- Chronic diseases
- Geriatric medicine

### 4. Renewable Energy

- New trends in renewable energy
- Advances in energy storage systems
- Biofuel/biogas production

### 5. Environment sector

- Sanitation
- Waste treatment

### 6. Construction

- Advanced construction technology and materials
- Hybrid Concrete Construction (prefabrication plus in-situ)
- Energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings
- Applications of informatics to construction
- Advanced construction management and methods

## ➤ TYPE OF PROPOSALS

Industry-driven and market-oriented R&D projects, as well as joint technological co-operation projects aimed at the development or substantial improvement of new products, processes or services will be considered. The project partners should include researchers, as well as industrial partners with or without R&D units in Egypt, and industrial companies with or without R&D units in Spain who can subcontract Spanish Universities and Research Centers.

Duration of projects: up to 2 years

## ➤ TIMETABLE

- Launch of Call for Proposals: 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2018
- Deadline for Submission of completed applications: 12<sup>th</sup> of April, 2018
- Joint (Egypt-Spain) Eligibility Approval: List of projects which comply with the ESIP requirements will be announced by the 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2018
- Funding Decisions will be announced on the website by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2018.

## ➤ WHO CAN APPLY?

Minimum eligibility criteria: The project partners should include at least one qualified researcher from Egypt (PhD holder, affiliated to an Egyptian university or research institution), with an Egyptian industrial partner (with or without R&D units), and one qualified partner from Spain (1 company from Spain with or without a R&D department).

### **Eligible Spanish Applicants**

Applicants from the industry are companies or Economic Interest Groupings (EIG) or consortia made up of at least two independent companies. Eligible companies shall be operating and registered in Spain, and holding a valid Spanish company tax code (CIF). **As per CDTI's internal regulations, the Spanish consortia should be led by a Spanish Company. Collaboration with other entities such as research centres, technological centres, universities, and other R&D-performing organisations is permitted under CDTI's regulations, as subcontractors of the Spanish companies present in the consortia.**

### **Eligible Egyptian Applicants**

Eligible Egyptian consortia should include a partner (the Egyptian applicant) who is a Ph.D. holder, affiliated to an Egyptian University or research Institution. Collaboration with other entities such as companies, other research centres, technological centres, universities, and other R&D-performing organisations is permitted under STDF's regulations.

**Only projects with an industrial or governmental partner from the Egyptian side will be funded. Consortia with industrial or governmental partners having R&D units will have a higher priority.**

Egyptian applicants should submit a business and financial plan to manage the IPR for the Egyptian side. According to Egyptian laws, the IPR belongs to the funding agency (the STDF), unless the industrial or governmental partners share in the project funding. In this case, the IPR for the Egyptian side will be shared between the STDF and the project partners according to their financial contribution.

## ➤ HOW TO APPLY?

- **Identical joint RD&I proposals must be submitted to the two nodal agencies (STDF and CDTI) starting the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2018 to the 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.** Unilaterally submitted proposals shall not be considered.
- **Egyptian and Spanish co-applicants must elaborate a single project proposal (Annex 1 – Joint Application Form).** The Joint Application Form must emphasize how the proposed collaboration adds value, the main technology highlights and innovations, as well as the activities to be developed by the Parties involved, underlining the collaborative work being carried out on each side, their expertise, etc.

Please note that this **Joint Application Form** must be stamped and signed by all co-applicants at the end of the document, explicitly indicating the name of the authorized signatory and his/her designation in the organization. Any other relevant information not explicitly mentioned on the form, and that the applicants consider relevant, may be included as Annexes.

- In addition to the Joint Application form, co-applicants have to submit the following documents to STDF and CDTI as relevant appendices:
  - **Consortium Agreement in English (Annex 2)** whereby the co-applicants should agree upon the ownership, access rights and exploitation of intellectual property generated during the co-operation. No prescribed format is provided in this joint call. The Consortium Agreement needs to be accepted by all partners and to be stamped and signed by all co-applicants at the time of contracting. The Egyptian side of this agreement is composed of the STDF and the Egyptian Research and Industrial teams. IPR Rights of the Egyptian side is shared between the aforementioned partners based on their mutual agreement and according to the Egyptian rules and regulations. Once the Project is approved by CDTI and STDF, a Consortium Agreement must be signed between all the co-applicants and the STDF in order to establish, in a single document, the sharing of the IPR outcome of the project (the Egyptian IPR to be shared among the STDF and the Egyptian Research and Industrial teams and the Spanish IPR as a result of the Spanish activities within the project).
  - **Any additional specific documents required by STDF and CDTI, as per their respective guidelines and internal rules.** Additional specific documents required by CDTI: In the case of Spanish applicants, for certain specific types of financing it will be necessary to present the documents specified in the regulations applicable to the requested aid.
- Egyptian applicants shall submit applications as per STDF guidelines. Supportive documents should be submitted from the Egyptian PI, including the Declaration Form (Annex 3) and Endorsement Letters (Annexes 4 and 5), Supportive documents should be stamped and signed by the PI's institution.

- Egyptian Applicants should upload an electronic version (soft copy) of the proposal on the STDF website before the deadline of the call (the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, 2018, at 23:59). For further details visit STDF's website (<http://www.stdf.org.eg>).
- Spanish applicants shall submit their applications following CDTI's normal guidelines and using CDTI's electronic services before the deadline of the call (the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, 2018, at 23:59). Further information on CDTI funding is available in Spanish. For further details visit CDTI's website (<https://sede.cdti.gob.es/AreaPublica/home.aspx>).

The complete details of the Call are available on STDF's and CDTI's websites:  
<http://www.stdf.org.eg> and  
<http://www.cdti.es/index.asp?MP=7&MS=563&MN=3&TR=C&IDR=2525>

Applicants are recommended to contact the nodal persons at their national funding organisations, whose contact details are given below:

#### Egyptian side (STDF)

Mrs. Nesreen Rady  
National Manager (ESIP),  
Science & Technology Development  
Fund - STDF  
101 Kasr Al-Ainy St., Cairo, Egypt  
Tel: +202 279 25 519  
E-mail: [nesrin.rady@stdf.org.eg](mailto:nesrin.rady@stdf.org.eg)  
Website: <http://www.stdf.org.eg>

#### Spanish side (CDTI)

Mr. José Manuel Durán  
Unit of Foreign Technological Action  
Directorate of International  
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E-mail: [egypt@cdti.es](mailto:egypt@cdti.es)  
[josemanuel.duran@cdti.es](mailto:josemanuel.duran@cdti.es)  
Website: [www.cdti.es](http://www.cdti.es)

#### ➤ **ELIGIBLE COSTS**

The project must clearly specify the costs of each and all activities pertaining to the project, and delineate the costs to be respectively borne by the Spanish and Egyptian partners. The cost of the Egyptian and Spanish partners must be eligible under the laws that may be applicable in each country and under the internal regulations of STDF and CDTI, respectively. The maximum imbalance between countries (namely its partner's budget) cannot exceed the general agreement from the European Union imposition regarding participation in R&D International Projects. This information will be provided by CDTI and it will be also included in the point 1.6 of the Application Form document.

- CDTI can only provide funding to Spanish companies subject to budget availability. As per CDTI's regulations, eligible project expenditures will include amortisation of assets, outsourced technical collaborations, material costs, technical personnel and other costs (indirect costs, audit costs). The Spanish company will be funded according to the International Technological Cooperation Projects'-PCTIs conditions identified on the CDTI's website.

- STDF will fund each project with 75,000 Euros – 150,000 Euros, to be disbursed in the local currency (Egyptian Pounds) according to the exchange rate at the time of contracting. As per STDF's regulations, eligible project expenditures will include: salaries for the team (not to exceed 12,500 €/project), equipment, expendable supplies and materials, travel (not to exceed 10,000 €/project 200,000 LE/project), publication costs, workshops and indirect **costs** [not to exceed 20% of the (Total Direct Cost – Total Equipment Cost)].

## ➤ REVIEW PROCESS AND EVALUATION

All applications will be treated as strictly confidential. All received proposals will be peer reviewed and processed independently by the two sides. After having received the evaluation results of the two sides, STDF and CDTI will jointly arrive at a mutual agreement on the projects to be funded.

## ➤ EVALUATION CRITERIA

The joint projects must meet the general requirements of the funding organisations. The projects to be funded will be chosen by evaluating them as a whole. The evaluation is based on the points listed in the guidelines for writing the project plan. Special emphasis will be on:

- **Crucial Criteria**
  - Financial capacity of Partner
  - Formal Agreement between Partners
- **Basic Assessment Criteria**
  - Partnership and Partners
    - Well balanced partnership
    - Added Value through co-operation
    - Technology Capacity of all Partners
    - Managerial Capacity of all Partners
  - Project Structure
    - Methodology and Planning Approach
    - Milestones and deliverables
    - Cost, financing structure and Financing commitment of each Partner
- **Technology and Innovation**
  - Technological Advances
    - Degree of technological maturity and risk
    - Technological Achievements
  - Innovation
    - Degree of innovation
    - Geographical / sector impact
- **Market and Competitiveness**
  - Market and profitability
    - Market size
    - Market access and risk
    - Return on investment

- Competitive advantages
  - o Strategic importance of the project
  - o Enhanced capabilities and visibility

### ➤ FUNDING DECISIONS

STDF and CDTI will, after having formed their mutual understanding on the projects to be funded, make their funding decisions according to their normal procedures and rules and on a non-exchange of funds basis.

STDF and CDTI will inform the grantees about the funding decisions according to their normal practices.

### ➤ ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUNDED PROJECTS

Funding granted by STDF and CDTI will be governed by the general terms and conditions of each funding organisation, respectively.

### ➤ FURTHER INFORMATION

Valuable contact information for further clarification regarding this Call:

#### Egyptian side (STDF)

Mrs. Nesreen Rady  
National Manager (ESIP),  
Science and Technology Development  
Fund - STDF  
101 Kasr Al-Ainy St., Cairo, Egypt  
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