

1st JORDAN-SPANISH JOINT TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION CALL 2018

JOINT HCST-CDTI CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER THE JORDAN-SPAIN INNOVATION PROGRAMME (JORDESP)

Joint Programme for Cooperation signed by the Higher Council for Science & Technology (HCST) and the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, E.P.E. (CDTI), on the 3rd Dec. 2017. The objective of the joint Jordan-Spain Innovation Programme is to promote and fund market - driven research and technology development as well as to encourage partnerships and business-led RDI collaborative projects between entities from both countries. The Parties agreed to launch joint Calls for Proposals.

The joint call for proposals aims to launch ambitious joint projects of high international standards between Jordanian and Spanish organizations. Potential projects will be funded by HCST in Jordan and CDTI in Spain.

CALL GUIDELINES:

➤ NODAL IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The Higher Council for Science & Technology (HCST) of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, E.P.E. (CDTI), of the Spanish Kingdom, are the nodal implementing agencies from the Jordanian and Spanish sides, respectively.

HCST is a public independent institution attempts to achieving international standards and recognition in frontier sciences and technologies and maximizing benefits of their applications for sustainable socio-economic development of Jordan.

The CDTI, E.P.E. is a Public Entity under the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness, Government of Spain, 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 all areas but a bigger weight will be to:

Technology-Trend Areas: Renewable Energies, Energy Efficiency, Energy Storage, Nanotechnology, ICT Applications, Smart Grids, Agriculture + Water, Agriculture & Sustainable Food Production, Sustainable Water Management, Environment Sector, Infrastructures and Industrial Manufacturing.

➤ TYPE OF PROPOSALS

Industry-driven and market-oriented R&D projects, joint technological co-operation projects between research institutions and private sector in Jordan and private companies in Spain consisting in the development or substantial improvement of new products, processes or services will be considered.

Duration of projects: from 1 year up to 3 years.

➤ TIMETABLE

- Launch of Call for Proposals: 1st of February, 2018
- Deadline for Submission of completed applications: 30th of April, 2018
- Eligibility Approval and Funding Decisions will be announced on the website (1 week for eligibility check)

➤ WHO CAN APPLY?

Minimum eligibility criteria: one Jordanian research institution, one Jordanian industrial partner and one Spanish private company.

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). No minimum Spanish capital percentage ownership is required. Spanish subsidiaries of companies headquartered outside of Spain may also be eligible for support.

As per CDTI's internal regulations, the Spanish consortia should be led by Spanish Company. Collaboration with other entities such as research centres, technological centres, universities, hospitals and other R&D-performing organisations is permitted under CDTI's regulations, as subcontractors of the Spanish companies present in the consortia.

Eligible Jordanian Applicants

HCST Eligibility criteria for Jordanian research institutions and private sector are:

SMEs and established industries are eligible to apply along with a university and/or research center.

Other requirements to accomplish are:

1. The industrial firm should be registered at Ministry of Industry and Trade.
2. The establishment has started production at least one year ago. Start-ups cannot benefit from IRDF grants.
3. The project should be implemented in cooperation with a research / advisory body.
4. The research / advisory body should submit a diagnostic report on the problem to be solved and a proposal for the solution.

➤ **HOW TO APPLY?**

- **Joint RDI proposals must be submitted to CDTI and HCST, by the 30th of April, 2018.** Unilaterally submitted proposals shall not be considered.
- **Jordanian and Spanish co-applicants must elaborate a single project proposal application (Annex 1 – JORDESP Application Form).** The Bilateral Co-operation Form must emphasize how the proposed collaboration adds value, main technology highlights and innovations, activities to be developed by the Parties involved underlining the collaborative work being carried out on each side, their expertise, etc. This document template will be posted in HCST and CDTI websites available for applicants in order to be completed for applying.

Please note that this JORDESP Application Form must be sealed and signed by all co-applicants at the end of the document, expressly indicating name and designation of the authorized signatory in the organisation. Any other relevant information not expressly mentioned on the form and that the applicants consider relevant may be included as Annexes.

- In addition to the Application Form, co-applicants have to submit the following documents as relevant appendices:
 - **Consortium Agreement in English** whereby the co-applicants should agree upon the ownership, access rights and exploitation of intellectual property generated during the co-operation, to be submitted to CDTI and HCST. The Consortium Agreement needs to be sealed and signed by all co-applicants. This document template will be posted in HCST and CDTI websites available for applicants in order to be completed for applying.

Additional specific documents required by HCST: Documents related to the applicants regarding registration and agreement among partners regarding roles, distribution of duties, and intellectual property exploitation rights.

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.

Consortia (Spanish applicants) shall submit the common application and all the required documents mentioned above following CDTI's normal guidelines and using CDTI's electronic services at <https://sede.cdti.gob.es/AreaPublica/home.aspx>

Consortia (Jordanian applicants) shall submit the common application and all the required documents mentioned above following HCST's normal guidelines and using HCST's electronic services at <http://hcst.gov.jo>

The complete details of the Call are available on HCST's and CDTI's websites: <http://www.hcst.gov.jo> and <http://www.cdti.es>

Further information on HCST funding is available in English. For further details visit HCST's website <http://www.hcst.gov.jo>

Further information on CDTI funding is available in Spanish. For further details visit CDTI's website <http://www.cdti.es>

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

Jordanian side (HCST)

Ms. Rasha Smadi
International Cooperation Department
Researcher
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Website: www.hcst.gov.jo

Spanish side (CDTI)

Mr. José Manuel Durán
Unit of Foreign Technological Action
Centre for the Development of
Industrial Technology, E.P.E. - CDTI
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Phone: +34 91 581 56 07
E-mail: josemanuel.duran@cdti.es
Website: www.cdti.es

➤ ELIGIBLE COSTS AND FUNDING

The project must clearly specify the costs of each and all the activities pertaining to the project and delineate the costs to be respectively borne by the Spanish and Jordanian partners. The cost of the Jordanian and Spanish partners must be eligible under the laws that may be applicable in each country and under internal regulations of HCST and CDTI, respectively.

The funding conditions from HCST are set in Jordan JOD Dinar and the ones from CDTI in €. Budgets must be expressed in the local currency of each applicant. All figures and budgetary conditions in this Call refer to the value of both currencies on the date of the launch of the Call (1st of February).

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.

The Spanish company will be funded according to the International Technological Cooperation Projects' conditions identified on the CDTI's website.

HCST funding conditions are explained in HCST Financial Guide. HCST financial Guide exists already at IRDF.

CDTI can only provide funding to Spanish companies subject to budget availability.

- As per CDTI's regulations, project expenditure eligible costs will include amortisation of assets, outsourced technical collaborations, material costs, technical personnel and other costs (indirect costs, audit costs).

HCST can only provide funding to research institutions and industry private subject to the amounts indicated in Industrial Scientific Research and Development Fund financial Guidelines

➤ REVIEW PROCESS AND EVALUATION

All applications will be treated as strictly confidential. All received proposals are peer reviewed and processed independently by both sides. After having received the recommendations of the respective evaluation panels, HCST and CDTI will jointly arrive at mutual understanding 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 are 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 (among partners from different countries and between Jordanian partners (through technology transfer))
 - Technology Capacity of all Partners
 - Managerial Capacity of all Partners
 - Project Structure
 - Methodology and Planning Approach
 - Milestones and deliverables
 - Cost and financing structure
 - Financing commitment of each Partner
- Technology and Innovation
 - Technological Advance
 - Degree of technological maturity and risk
 - Technological Achievements
 - Consistency with the national Jordanian priorities
 - Innovation
 - Degree of innovation
 - Geographical / sector impact
- Market and Competitiveness
 - Market and profitability
 - Market size
 - Market access and risk
 - Return on investment
 - Competitive advantages
 - Strategic importance of the project
 - Enhanced capabilities and visibility
 - Potential to increase exports
 - Potential to expand the industry and increase employment

➤ FUNDING DECISIONS

HCST 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.

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

➤ **ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUNDED PROJECTS**

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

➤ **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Valuable contact information for partner identification or any further clarification regarding this Call:

Jordanian side (HCST)

Ms. Rasha Smadi
International Cooperation Department
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11941, Jordan
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E-mail: rasha.s@hcst.gov.jo
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Spanish side (CDTI)

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