



*Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale*

**ITALY – POLAND
JOINT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION
CALL FOR JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS**

CLOSING DATE: 10/06/2015

BACKGROUND

In the framework of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Italy and the Government of the Republic of Poland, signed in Warsaw on November 27th, 1960, which came into force on July 31st, 1961, the Directorate General for Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science) – Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Department of Strategy of the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education, hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, initiate herewith the procedures for the drafting of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the years 2016-2018.

To this end, the Parties issue the present call for the submission of joint projects proposals for the “Exchange of Researchers”.

GENERAL INFORMATION

A. FUNDING SCHEMES

Projects for the “Exchange of Researchers” are joint research projects where only the expenses for researchers’ mobility are funded.

B. AREAS OF COOPERATION

Projects may be submitted in one of the following priority research areas:

1. Basic Sciences
2. Space
3. Agriculture, Food, and Sustainable Environment
4. Nano-Sciences and Advanced Materials
5. Information and Communication Technologies, including technologies applied to Cultural Heritage
6. Medicine and Health

Projects submitted in other research areas will not be considered for evaluation.

C. ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

- For the Italian Party, the call is open to coordinators having the Italian nationality or any other EU nationality provided they are legally resident in Italy.
- For the Polish Party the call is open to coordinators holding the Polish nationality or any other EU nationality provided they are legally resident in Poland.
- Each project coordinator shall submit only one project proposal.
- Projects for the Exchange of Researchers shall be jointly submitted to both Parties. Proposals submitted to only one of the two Parties will not be considered.

D. PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- a. Project shall be drafted in English.
- b. Projects shall have the same duration of the Executive Protocol.
- c. A full proposal shall consists of:
 - i. a description of the working teams;
 - ii. a description of the research activities the teams intend to carry out within the project timeframe;

PROCEDURES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS.

EXCHANGE OF RESEARCHERS

The proposal shall be jointly submitted to both Parties. In particular, the Italian coordinator shall submit it to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Polish coordinator shall submit it to the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

Proposals submitted to only one of the two Parties will not be considered.

The Italian coordinator shall submit the proposal exclusively through the ad hoc online platform: <http://web.esteri.it/pgr/sviluppo>

Any inquire about the present call can be sent to: DGSP.UST2@esteri.it

The Polish coordinator shall submit the project proposal by sending it in two copies to:

Ministry of Science and Higher Education

Department of International Cooperation

ul. Wspólna 1/3

00-529 Warszawa

Any inquire about the present call might be sent to: anna.majda@nauka.gov.pl

PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL

After the expiration of the call, all applications received will be checked for eligibility requirements. Eligible applications will then move on to a two-step selection process:

- STEP 1. Projects will first be evaluated at the national level according to the following criteria:
 - Scientific relevance
 - Methodology and documentation
 - Qualification of the applicants
 - Added value of the bilateral cooperation
 - Added value in addressing societal challenges
 - Exploitation and dissemination of results

For the Italian Party additional value will be given to projects that involve industrial counterparts and/or benefit from third parties' funding (such as public or private research institutes and organizations). Preference will also be given to proposals that take part in multilateral and/or European research programmes such as H2020 and related actions.

- STEP 2. In the work of the Joint Commission, defined in Article 4 of the aforementioned Agreement, the Parties will reach consensus on a short list of projects eligible for funding.

REASONS FOR EXCLUSION

- Lack of eligibility conditions;
- Submission of more than one proposal by the same coordinator;
- Incomplete application (see section D. Project Requirements).

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

For the Italian Party, the list of the selected projects and funding procedures will be posted exclusively on the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at the following address:

http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica_Estera/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/ElencoProgrammiEsecutivi.htm

For the Polish Party, the list of the selected projects and funding procedures will be posted exclusively on the website of the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education at the following address: <http://www.nauka.gov.pl/komunikaty/>

FINANCING OF PROJECTS

Financing will be granted within the limits of the available annual resources of each Party.

EXCHANGE OF RESEARCHERS

Only the cost of the exchange of researchers will be financed.

For each project 1 short-term (up to 10 days) or 1 long-term stay (30 days) in Italy and 1 short-term (up to 10 days) or 1 long-term stay (30 days) in Poland may be financed yearly within the limits of the available annual resources of each Party.

The Italian Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers with Italian nationality (or any other EU nationality who are legally resident in Italy) and will provide a contribution of 93 Euro per day for short-term stay (up to 10 days) or 1.300 euro for long-term stay (30 days) for accommodation expenses in Italy to researchers with Polish nationality (or any other EU nationality who are legally resident in Poland).

The Polish Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers holding Polish nationality (or any other EU nationality who are legally resident in Poland) and will provide a contribution of 3500 PLN for long-term stay (30 days) or 330 PLN per day for short-term stay (up to 10 days) for accommodation expenses in Poland to researchers with Italian nationality (or any other EU nationality who are legally resident in Italy).

Starting from the second year of activity, the Italian and the Polish coordinators shall submit an annual report on the progress of their project by January 31st, as indicated in the text of the Executive Programme.

Funding for the next year will not be granted if the coordinators fail to submit their progress reports.