



*Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
e della Cooperazione Internazionale*

**ITALY – VIETNAM  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION  
CALL FOR THE SUBMISSION OF JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS  
CLOSING DATE: <30.05.2019>, 12:00 C.E.S.T.**

**OBJECTIVES**

In the framework of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Italy and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, signed in Hanoi on January 5th, 1992 and entered into force on May 10<sup>th</sup> 1998, the General Directorate for Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science) – Office IX of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam, 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 2020-2022.

To this end, the Parties issue the present call for the submission of joint proposals for projects of “Particular Relevance” with the aim of encouraging scientific and technological cooperation between Italy and Vietnam.

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

***FUNDING SCHEMES***

With regard to the present call research projects of “Particular Relevance” will be co-funded by both Parties.

***AREAS OF COOPERATION***

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

- Agriculture and Food Science;
- Biotechnology and Medicine;
- Environment and climate change;
- Information and Communication Technologies;
- Advanced Materials Technology;
- Industry 4.0;
- Astrophysics, Space and Earth Observation;
- Technologies applied to conservation and restoration of Natural and Cultural Heritage.

### ***ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS***

The Italian and Vietnamese Principal Investigators (PIs) must submit each proposal to their respective Parties. Proposal submitted to one of the two Parties only, or in different areas, will not be considered for evaluation.

The following eligibility conditions are taken into account, prior evaluation of proposal.

For the Italian Party, a full proposal must consist at least of:

- i. detailed description of PIs and working teams;
- ii. detailed description of the research activities that the teams intend to carry out within the project timeframe;
- iii. detailed description of involved costs,

and the call is open to

- Public or private Research Organizations;
- Enterprises (preferably SMEs) that can carry out scientific or industrial research activities.

PI must have Italian or any other EU nationality, legal residence in Italy and a working contract valid for at least the duration of the present Executive Program, with one of the entities described below in a) and b)

For the Vietnamese Party, the call is open to Public and/or private Research Organizations, Enterprises carrying out S&T activities, regulated by the Vietnamese law.

### ***PROJECT REQUIREMENTS***

For the Italian Party

- a. Projects must be written in English

- b. Projects must have the same duration of the Executive Programme
  - c. An Endorsement letter signed by legal representative of the applying Institution. This letter must be sent by the call deadline, to the following address: [progetti.st@esteri.it](mailto:progetti.st@esteri.it)
- Any other letter of support written by other institutions, (public or private), or by private companies must be submitted sent by the same deadline to the following address: [progetti.st@esteri.it](mailto:progetti.st@esteri.it)

#### For the Vietnamese Party

Projects must have duration of 2-3 years and proposals should comprise of the following documents:

- a. A project proposal written in Vietnamese (according to Annex 1 attached), signed by all relating organizations;
- b. An authorized letter signed by Leader of the Ministry in charge to the Ministry of Science and Technology

Noteworthy for both Parties, for projects involving living organisms and humans, it is the responsibility of the PIs to ensure that all facets of animal care and use meet the requirements of the International Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes. This includes a responsibility to protect and promote the welfare of animals used. Institutional ethics committee approval and informed consent are obligatory parts in all interventional studies (human or animal).

### **PROCEDURES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

The Italian PI must submit the project proposal exclusively through the dedicated online platform: <http://web.esteri.it/pgr>

The Italian PI must also submit the endorsement letter (EL) signed by the legal representative of the applying Institution.

Any inquiry concerning the present call has to be exclusively sent to [dgsp-09bandi2@esteri.it](mailto:dgsp-09bandi2@esteri.it)

The Vietnamese Principal Investigator must **submit project proposal together with the authorized letter signed by a Leader of the Ministry in charge directly or per post to the Ministry of Science and Technology.**

### PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL

At the closure of the call, all projects proposals received will be checked for eligibility. Only projects which result eligible by both Parties will be considered for evaluation.

The evaluation process consists in three steps:

- STEP 1.

For the Italian Party, projects will first be evaluated at national level according to the following criteria:

- Relevance with national funding policy;
- Scientific relevance;
- Competence and skill of the research teams;
- Methodology and documentation;
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation;
- Added value in addressing industrial/societal challenges;
- Appropriateness of the size and structure of the project, quality and stringency of the time schedule, work and budgetary plans and distribution of work among the partners.

For the Vietnamese Party:

The project evaluation must follow regulations set forth by the Circular Nr. 12/2014/TT-BKHHCN dated 30.May 2014 regulating procedure for management of joint research projects with foreign partners.

Eligible project proposals will be evaluated by scientific commissions established by the Ministry of Science and Technology.

If the proposals are positive evaluated, Project Investigators will be requested to submit full proposals including the following documents:

- Detailed project description
- Cooperation Agreement between Vietnamese project participating institutions
- Cooperation Agreement between Vietnamese and Italian institutions (in English and Vietnamese translations)

The minimum requirements for an Agreement should be as follow:

- Project title
- Name of participating institutions

- Description of project objectives, main research contents, cooperation plan, human resources for carrying out project, work assignment between Italian and Vietnamese project partners, anticipated results, cost estimates, main regulations for commercialization of project results.

The full proposals should be submitted together with other administrative documents according to Vietnamese regulations.

Information about the submission of full proposals will be posted on the website of the Ministry of Science and Technology: [www.most.gov.vn](http://www.most.gov.vn)

- STEP 2. Each Party will propose a short list of projects eligible for funding.
- STEP 3. During the meeting of the Joint Commission, as defined in Article 4 of the aforementioned Agreement, the two Parties will reach consensus on the final list of projects eligible for funding. Selected projects will be included in the text of the Executive Programme and will be entitled to the request of annual funding.

#### REASONS FOR EXCLUSION

- Relevance with Vietnamese national funding policy
- Lack of eligibility conditions;
- Submission of more than one proposal by the same Principal Investigator;
- Incomplete application (see section: Project Requirements).

#### PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

For the Italian Party, the list of the selected projects and funding procedures will be posted 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/programmieseecutivi/accordi\\_programmi\\_culturali\\_tecnologici.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmieseecutivi/accordi_programmi_culturali_tecnologici.html)

The contact person of the selected projects will be directly informed.

For the Vietnamese Party, Principal investigators of selected projects will be directly informed.

#### FINANCING OF PROPOSALS

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

For the Italian Party, the contribution of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to bilateral projects of “Particular Relevance” is intended as co-funding for

approximately 50% of the total costs of each selected project. Therefore, the applying Institution must commit to financing approximately half of the total costs of the project: a percentage of this part of the costs must be covered by the salary of research staff at the Institution (30 to 45% of total project costs). This approximate half of the total may also include indirect costs (e.g. maintenance of facilities and utilities) as well as funding by other public/private Institutions. The applying Institution must cover project expenses occurred in the course of each year: it will receive the Ministry's co-financing only upon presentation of the final yearly balance with due proof of all the relevant expenses covered by the same Institution during the year.

Within the frame of Italian law Nr.401/90, at the beginning of each year of activity a specific call will be issued by Office IX of Directorate General for Country Promotion of Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, inviting the Italian PIs of the projects listed in the Executive Programme to submit a request for annual funding.

Call details will be available, in due time, at the following link:

[http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica\\_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/avvisiincaricobandi.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/avvisiincaricobandi.html)

**For the Vietnamese Party**, the principal investigators of projects listed in the Executive Programme will be invited to submit a full proposal with detailed financial requirements for financial evaluation according to Circular Nr. 12/2014/TT-BKHCN dated 30 May 2014 regulating procedure for management of joint research projects with foreign partners.

#### **Address for submission of proposals:**

For the Vietnamese Party:

Proposals should be submitted directly to:  
Department of International Cooperation  
Ministry of Science and Technology:  
113 Tran Duy Hung, Cau Giay, Hanoi

Contact person:

Mrs. Hoang Hien Hau  
Department of International Cooperation  
113 Tran Duy Hung, Cau Giay, Hanoi

Tel: +(84-24) 39435376

Fax: +(84-24) 39439987

E-Mail: [hnhau@most.gov.vn](mailto:hnhau@most.gov.vn)