



Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale



POLISH NATIONAL AGENCY
FOR ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

ITALY – POLAND

CALL FOR JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS

PROGRAMME CANALETTO BILATERAL EXCHANGE OF SCIENTISTS

CLOSING DATE: 19 March 2021 h. 15.00 C.E.T.

1. 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 Cultural and Economic Promotion and Innovation - Office IX** - of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the **Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange – NAWA**, hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, issue the present call for the submission of joint projects proposals for the “Exchange of Scientists” in the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the **years 2022-2023**.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 FUNDING SCHEMES

Research projects will be financed under the funding scheme “**Mobility of Researchers**”, which are joint research projects where only the expenses for researchers’ mobility are funded.

Funding will be granted within the limits of the available annual resources and in accordance with the general lines of foreign policy of each Party.

2.2 AREAS OF COOPERATION

Project proposals can be submitted exclusively within one of the following priority research areas:

- Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry
- Space
- Agriculture, Food and Sustainable Environment
- Nano-sciences and Advanced Materials
- Information and Communication Technologies, including technologies applied to Cultural Heritage
- Medicine and Health.

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

For the Polish Party each application should indicate the thematic area covered therein, based on the OECD classification.

2.3 ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

Project proposals shall be jointly submitted to both Parties. Proposals submitted to only one of the two Parties will not be considered. Each project coordinator shall submit to its own Party only one project proposal.

- **For the Italian Party**, the call is open to coordinators:
 - holding the Italian or any other EU nationality, provided they are legally resident in Italy;
 - holding a permanent position, or a temporary position covering at least the time extent of the project within the applying research institution;

For the Polish Party, the call is open to coordinators

- holding at least a doctoral degree
- employed by the Applicant – an entity classified to one of the following categories: 1) HEIs; 2) scientific institutes of the Polish Academy of Sciences; 3) research institutes; 4) institutes operating with the Lukasiewicz Research Network; 5) international institutes or other entities whose core activities are scientific

2.4 PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- a. Project proposals must be drafted in Italian or Polish, depending on the country of the applicant. A short abstract in English must be included in each case to the application (for the Italian Party in the section “*Sintesi*” of the application form)
- b. Project proposals shall have the same duration of the Executive Protocol (2 years: 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2023).

- c. A full proposal consists of:
- i. description of the working teams;
 - ii. description of the research activities the teams intend to carry out within the project timeframe;

The applications for mobility from researchers may be posted according to the guidelines listed in the paragraph “**Financing of Projects**” of this call, only.

In Italy, for projects involving experiments with animals, ethics approval by the competent Ethics Committee must be provided when submitting the proposal. This approval is mandatory to obtain formal authorization from the competent Ministry of Health to start the activities (D.Lgs 26_04/03/2014 and Directive 2010/63 EU). Projects involving experiments with human beings must be performed in accordance with the Directive 536/2014/EC. The Italian coordinator should provide a self-declaration of adhesion to the above cited rules.

3. PROCEDURES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

The same proposal must be submitted by the Italian and Polish coordinators to the Authorities responsible for the implementation of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation in the two Countries. In particular:

- the Italian coordinator must submit the proposal to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) exclusively through the *ad hoc* online platform: <http://web.esteri.it/pgr>. Any inquiry about the present call can be sent to: dgsp-09bandi3@esteri.it
- the Polish coordinator must submit the proposal to the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange – NAWA exclusively through the online platform: <https://programs.nawa.gov.pl>. Detailed information is available in the web site <https://nawa.gov.pl>

For the Polish Party, the person submitting the application in the System must have a valid power of attorney to represent the Applicant granted by an authorized person (e.g. by the rector of the university or the director of the research institute) and attach it to the submitted application.

Any inquiry about the present call can be sent to the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange - Department of Programmes for Scientists - ul. Polna 40 - 00-635 Warszawa

Contact person: **Katarzyna Pietruszyńska**

Email: Katarzyna.pietruszynska@nawa.gov.pl

Phone: +48 22 390 35 56

Applications must be submitted between February 1st and March 19th, 2021 by 15:00 hr, Polish and Italian local times. Applications submitted after the expiry of the above deadline will not be considered for funding.

4. PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL

At the closure of the call, all applications received will be checked for eligibility requirements. Eligible applications will then move on to a three-step selection process.

Applications are initially subjected to separate evaluations in Poland and in Italy, pursuant to the procedure adopted by each of the parties. Once the national procedure is concluded, the Joint committee consisting in representatives of both Parties shall select the final list of projects for funding.

In Poland applications are assessed by the evaluation team, which is appointed by the Director of NAWA.

In Italy the projects are assessed by the evaluation team of MAECI.

STEP 1. Proposals will be evaluated at national level according to the following criteria:

- Scientific relevance of the project
 - Proposed research methodology and documentation
 - Competence and expertise of the research teams
 - Added value of the bilateral cooperation
 - Involvement of early career researchers
 - Added value in addressing societal challenges
 - Effective exploitation and dissemination of results
 - Perspectives of cooperation with socio-economic partners
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- **STEP 2.** Each Party will elaborate a short list of proposals eligible and recommended for funding, to be further assessed by the Joint Commission.

 - **STEP 3.** The final project selection will be carried out by the Joint Commission, composed of the representatives of both countries, as defined in Article 4 of the aforementioned Agreement. The two Parties will reach consensus on the final list of projects recommended for funding.

5. REASONS FOR EXCLUSION

- Lack of eligibility conditions
- Submission of more than one proposal by the same coordinator
- Incomplete application (see above section **2.4 Project Requirements**).

6. 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:

https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecutivi/accordo_i_programmi_culturali_tecnologici.html

For the Polish Party, the list of the selected projects and funding procedures will be posted in the website of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange – NAWA at the following address:

<https://nawa.gov.pl>

7. FINANCING OF PROJECTS

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

Only the costs for the exchange of researchers will be funded.

For each project, **either** 2 short-term stays (up to 12 days, each) **or** 1 short-term + 1 long-term stay (up to 30 days) may be funded yearly.

The sending Party will pay the travel expenses whereas the maintenance and accommodation expenses will be funded by the hosting Party.

The Italian Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers of the Italian team visiting Poland and will provide a contribution for accommodation expenses in Italy to researchers of the Polish team, as follows:

- 93 Euros/day, from day 1 to day 10
- 18,50 Euros/day, from day 11 to day 30, up to a maximum amount of 1.300 Euros/month

In Italy, applications for mobility by Polish (accommodation expenses) or Italian (travel expenses) scientists may be submitted online by granted applicants in the website reserved by the Italian MAECI, from January 15th until October 31st, only. The application must be submitted at least two months before the scheduled research visit.

For the Polish Party, the maximum grant amount assigned for a project cannot exceed PLN 24.800. This amount may be increased by the applicants by contributing their own funds.

Eligible costs include:

- travel expenses of the researchers from Poland to Italy – a maximum amount of PLN 2.000 per travel of one person,
- maintenance and accommodation expenses of the researchers coming from Italy to Poland as follows:
 - PLN 350 per day, from day 1 to day 12;
 - PLN 4.200 per month, if a stay lasts longer than 12 and no more than 30 days.

Cost of research activities and other cost related to the joint projects are ineligible.

Funding will be available for a maximum of 24 months for collaborative research projects jointly developed and completed by researchers on both sides.

Payment principles **from Polish Authorities** are as follows:

- for projects that do not last beyond 12 months – in a single tranche within 30 days from concluding the agreement;
- for projects that last beyond 12 months – in two tranches, whereby the first one shall be transferred to the Applicant's account within 30 days from concluding the agreement and the other one once the interim report is approved.

The Italian and the Polish coordinators must submit an ***annual interim report*** on the progress of their project by January 31st at latest, as indicated in the text of the Executive Programme. Funding for the second year will not be granted if the coordinators fail to submit their interim report.

DATA TREATMENT COMPLIANCE

The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation will process personal data requested for applying to this call based on the principles of lawfulness, fairness and transparency to protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of natural persons. In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (UE) 2016/679, an explicit consent to data treatment is being requested during the application procedure.