



Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
and International Cooperation



सत्यमेव जयते  
Department of Science & Technology  
Government of India

**ITALY-INDIA  
JOINT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION  
CALL FOR JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR THE YEARS 2021-2023**

**CLOSING DATE: [9<sup>th</sup> April 2021]**

**For Italy: [14.00 hrs] C.E.S.T. (Central European Summer Time)**

**For India: [18.00 hrs]**

Within the framework of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Italian Republic and the Republic of India, signed in New Delhi on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2003 and entered into force on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009, the Directorate General for Economic and Cultural Promotion and Innovation – Office IX of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India (hereafter referred to as “the Parties”) initiate herewith the procedures for the drafting of the Executive Programme for Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the three-year period 2021–2023 (hereafter referred to as “the Executive Programme”).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **FUNDING SCHEMES**

With regard to the present call three funding schemes are available:

- 1 **“Mobility of Researchers”**: joint research projects where only the expenses for researchers’ mobility are funded by both Parties.
- 2 **“Significant Project”**: joint research projects where research activities are co-funded by both Parties.
- 3 **“Networks of Excellence”**, co-funded by both parties and aimed at creating long-term sustainable interactions between multiple Italian and Indian Research institutions, based on existing infrastructure, with significant impact on one priority research area

Each PI must submit **only one proposal and can apply to only one funding scheme, either (1) Mobility of Researchers, or (2) Significant Projects, or (3) Networks of Excellence**, under penalty of exclusion from the Call for multiple submissions. Further details on each funding scheme, including priority research areas, are given below.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Call is open to scientists or faculty members regularly employed in universities and research institutions, including hospitals and foundations, as well as working in private nonprofit institutions that carry on R&D activities, in Italy or in India.

Italian PIs shall hold Italian nationality or any other EU nationality provided they are permanently resident in Italy.

Indian PIs should be scientists/faculty members working in a regular capacity in universities, academic institutes and national research and development laboratories/institutes. The Indian Principal Investigator (PI) should not be retiring or leaving the parent institute during the proposed duration of the project.

**The Indian applicants who are in any way involved in the implementation of two or more projects that were previously supported by the DST (International Group) and that are not expected to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 are not eligible to be a member of the research team.**

**Italian and Indian PIs must submit the same project proposal to the respective Authorities responsible for the implementation of the Executive Programme. Proposals submitted in only one Country will not be considered for evaluation.**

**Projects must refer to activities to be completed within the period of validity of the Executive Programme and must be drafted in English.**

## 1. MOBILITY OF RESEARCHERS

### 1.1 OBJECTIVES

A Call for the submission of joint research projects by researchers of both Countries is open, with the aim of encouraging scientific and technological cooperation between Italy and India with the deadline date **9<sup>th</sup> April 2021**. As stated above, each Principal Investigator (hereafter referred to as PI) must submit one proposal only. All applicants must fulfill national eligibility rules to apply for mobility grants (see below and check national annexes for specific requirements). Proposed collaborations should build on and reinforce already existing research activities between teams in both Countries and should contribute with significant added value to these activities.

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

### 1.2 PRIORITY RESEARCH AREAS

Project proposals may be submitted in the following priority research areas:

- a. Information and Communication Technologies
- b. Physics, Astrophysics, Space sciences
- c. Ecological and environmental modeling
- d. Water management
- e. Disaster risk management

**NB: Projects submitted in other research areas will not be considered.**

### 1.3 SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

**Procedures applicable to Italian PIs.** Italian PIs shall submit their proposals exclusively online, by filling the dedicated form at the link: <http://web.esteri.it/pgr/>

The deadline for submission of proposals is 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021, at 14.00 CEST (local time in Italy). Any proposal received after the above cited deadline will not be evaluated.

For any inquiry concerning the present Call, please contact the following email address: [dgsp-09bandi1@esteri.it](mailto:dgsp-09bandi1@esteri.it)

**Procedures applicable to Indian PIs.** Indian applicants seeking for funding can download the proposal formats from websites [www.dst.gov.in](http://www.dst.gov.in) / [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in) and should submit completed application form and all relevant information through e-PMS portal. Proposal must be submitted to DST through the e-application system provided at [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in) by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Additionally, Indian Applicants also requested to send **two hard copies** to DST (Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Scientist E, DST) by 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 through proper channel. It should be ensured that application with identical title has been submitted by his / her Italian counterpart by due date. **Proposal not submitted through ePMS portal by due date will not be considered.**

### 1.4 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL

Proposals will be initially evaluated at national level. These evaluations are not mandatory for the final decision taken. Subsequently, during the meeting of the Joint Commission, 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.

Project proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Scientific relevance of the research project
- Methodology and documentation
- Coherent Qualification of the applicants
- Added value of the proposed staff exchanges for project activities
- Added value to the bilateral cooperation
- Involvement of early career researchers
- Contribution of the project in addressing societal challenges
- Use and dissemination of results

Preference will be given to applicants having ongoing national project on same problem and wish to connect with their counterpart through Indo-Italian joint collaboration to bridge the research gap through mobility grant in accomplishing the objectives of the ongoing national project.

### 1.5 FUNDING PROCEDURES

**Only the costs for the exchange of researchers will be financed and no other support like contingency, consumables, manpower or equipment etc should be expected or proposed under the Mobility programme.** For each project 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) and 1 long-term stay (up to 30 days) in Italy and 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) and 1 long-term stay (up to 30 days) in India may be financed yearly.

**The Italian Party** will pay the international travel expenses to researchers of the Italian team visiting India and will provide medical insurance and a contribution for allowances expenses in Italy to visiting Indian researchers under the jointly selected projects as follows:

- 93 Euro/day, from day 1 to day 10, up to a maximum of 930 Euro (short-term stay) and
- 18,50 Euro/day, from day 11 to day 30, up to a maximum amount of 1.300 Euro (long-term stay).

Changes in the composition of the two research teams during the validity of the P.E. must be notified in advance by the Italian P.I. through certified e-mail.

**The Indian Party** will pay the international travel expenses including visa fee under the jointly funded projects. Indian party will also provide local hospitality and medical insurance for the visiting Italian

researchers (fully furnished accommodation and per diem @ Rs. 2500 per day) under the jointly selected projects.

Each PI must submit only one proposal and can apply to only one funding scheme (Exchange of Researchers or Significant Projects or Network of Excellence - see following Sections 2 and 3).

## 2. SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL PROJECTS

### ("Progetti di Grande Rilevanza" ai sensi della L. 401/90)

#### 2.1 OBJECTIVES

During the time-period covered by the Executive Programme, the Italian and the Indian Parties may consider granting financial support to bilateral projects with a potential significant impact on priority research areas (Progetti di Grande Rilevanza). Only projects selected by the Joint Commission and included in the Executive Programme will be eligible for funding. Funding will be granted on a yearly basis within the limits of the available annual financial resources of each Party.

The contribution granted by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation is meant as a **co-funding** of the project and therefore a **significant financial participation by the proposing Italian Institution in terms of personnel costs is mandatory. Any other financial contribution from public or private, Italian or Indian Institutions, will be evaluated positively.**

#### 2.2 PRIORITY RESEARCH AREAS

Project proposals may be submitted in one of following priority research areas:

- a. Renewable energies; climate change and geohazards;
- b. Technologies applied to cultural and natural heritage.
- c. Biomedical Sciences leading to communicable and non-communicable diseases
- d. Sustainable agrifood.
- e. Environment: sustainable cities and circular economy, healthy and productive ocean/sea.
- f. Artificial Intelligence & Robotics
- g. Physics of Matter and New Materials

**NB: Proposals submitted in other research areas will not be considered.**

#### 2.3 SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

**Italian PIs** must submit their project exclusively online, by filling the dedicated form at the link: <http://web.esteri.it/pgr/>

The Italian PI must also send an endorsement letter, signed by the legal representative of the applying Institution. The letter must be sent by e-mail by the call deadline to the following email address: [dgsp-09.selezionepe@esteri.it](mailto:dgsp-09.selezionepe@esteri.it), and identified by including the family name of the Italian PI followed by the indication of the call (Italy-India) in the "Object" of the email composition. Any additional support letters, by other academic institutions included in the partnership or by private companies, must be sent by the call deadline to the same e-mail address ([dgsp-09.selezionepe@esteri.it](mailto:dgsp-09.selezionepe@esteri.it)).

For projects involving experiments with animals, ethics approval by the competent Ethics Committee on respective side **must be provided** when submitting the proposal. The approval is mandatory to obtain formal authorization from the competent Ministry of Health to start the activities (as per prevailing GoI norms in India and according to D. Lgs 26\_04/03/2014 and Directive 2010/63 EU in Italy). Projects involving experiments with human beings must be performed in accordance with prevailing GoI norms in India and

with the Directive 536/2014/EC in Italy. The Principal Investigators should include a self-declaration of adherence to the above cited rules in the text of the proposal.

**Projects must refer to activities to be completed within the period of validity of the Executive Programme and must be drafted in English.**

The deadline for submission of both the proposal and the endorsement letter is 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021, at 14.00 CEST (local time in Italy)

For any inquiry concerning the present Call, please contact the following email address: [dgsp-09bandi1@esteri.it](mailto:dgsp-09bandi1@esteri.it)

**Any proposal and/or endorsement letter received after the above cited deadline will not be evaluated.**

**Procedures applicable to Indian PIs.** Indian applicants seeking for funding can download the proposal formats from websites [www.dst.gov.in](http://www.dst.gov.in) / [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in) and should submit completed application form and all relevant information through e-PMS portal of the DST. Proposal must be submitted to DST through the e-application system provided at [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in) by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Additionally, Indian Applicants also requested to send **two hard copies** to DST (Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Scientist 'E') by 15th April 2021 through proper channel. It should be ensured that application with identical title has been submitted by his / her Italian counterpart by due date.

**Proposal not submitted through ePMS portal by due date will not be considered.**

## **2.4 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL**

Proposals will be initially evaluated at national level. These evaluations are not mandatory for the final decision taken and subsequently, the assessment will be carried out by the Joint Commission in order to select the proposals to be included in the Executive Programme and eligible for funding. Proposals will be assessed according to the following evaluation criteria:

- Scientific relevance
- Methodology and documentation
- Coherent Qualification of the applicants
- Balanced bilateral distribution of activities
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation
- Contribution of the project in addressing societal challenges
- Involvement of early career researchers
- Use and dissemination of results
- Budget adequacy

Preference 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).

**The Indian applicants who are in any way involved in the implementation of two or more projects that were previously supported by the DST (International Group) and that are not expected to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 are not eligible to be a member of the research team.**

## **2.5 FUNDING PROCEDURES**

### **Support for research expenses**

Expenses by project members in their own country can be eligible for funding only in that same country, i.e., DST will consider supporting expenses incurred in India by the Indian project team while the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation will consider meeting expenses by the Italian team in Italy.

Funding for projects selected and listed in the Executive Programme will be provided on a yearly basis. Each annual instalment for each project will be paid after receipt of financial documents and on evaluation of

intermediate scientific reports, which will be submitted by the Indian and Italian PIs respectively to their Country's financing Ministry. Funding will be paid each year only if both reports are evaluated positively.

**For the Italian Party**, funding for projects selected and listed in the Executive Programme will be granted on a yearly basis. The Italian research team will be entitled to ask for annual funding by submitting their request according to the instructions published by Office IX, Directorate General for Cultural and Economic Promotion and Innovation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on the following webpage each year in January:

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

That above webpage also provides detailed information on all administrative procedures concerning the programme.

**For the Indian Party:**

- Participating Indian institutions are responsible for expenses regarding equipment.
- A maximum of 40 % of the Indian side's budget may be allowed for consumables.
- Participation of Research students would be encouraged. On the Indian side Fellowship to one student (JRF/SRF/RA) can be supported.

**Given the bilateral nature of joint research projects, applicants are advised to budget sufficient provision for exchange visits.** The sending side will pay the international travel expenses including visa fee under the jointly funded projects. The receiving side will provide local hospitality for the visiting researchers (fully furnished accommodation including food) under the jointly selected projects.

**Each PI may submit one project only; the application for projects of Particular Relevance excludes the possibility for the same PI to apply for projects of Mobility of Researchers or for the Network of Excellence (see Section 1 and 3).**

## 2.6 PROGRESS REPORTS

At the end of each year, the Italian and the Indian PIs shall jointly report on the progress of their project. Funding for the following year will not be granted if the PIs do not submit their progress reports.

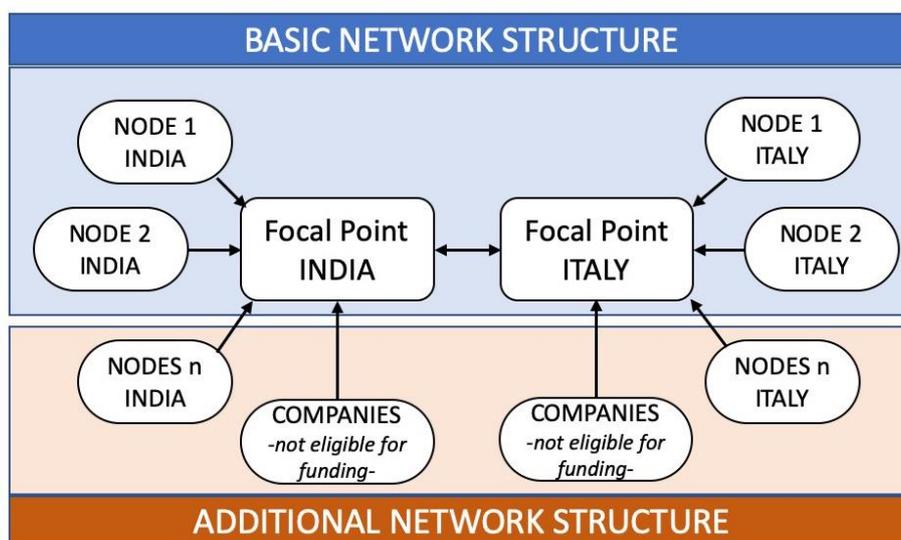
For the Indian party, the progress report, signed by both coordinators, shall be submitted to [rajivarc@nic.in](mailto:rajivarc@nic.in) immediately after completion of the financial year, i.e., 31<sup>st</sup> March of every year.

For the Italian party, the PIs of the selected projects will be informed of the full details for reporting within the official communication of funding.

### 3. SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL PROJECTS DEDICATED TO THE CREATION OF “NETWORKS OF EXCELLENCE”

#### 3.1. OBJECTIVES

The projects for the **Network of Excellence (NE)** funding scheme aim to promote joint research activities by Indian and Italian scientists from academia and laboratories, which would rely on already existing infrastructure and funding available to the partners on both sides. By establishing bilateral links between research teams, these projects aim to encourage joint research implementation on focal thematic research areas. Networking would create sustainable interactions by promoting excellence and developing long-term relationship based on synergy. Activities must necessarily be focused on a specific topic and implemented through a clear programme of activities. Applied research topics and the participation of private companies are positively evaluated and strongly encouraged.



*Structure of the Network of Excellence. The "basic network structure" is the minimum (mandatory) requirement for submitting a proposal. The "additional network structure" consists of a) nodes, without any limitation in number, which are also eligible to receive the funds provided by the Ministry to the national focal point (there is no distinction with the nodes of the basic structure) and b) private companies that can freely participate to the activities but cannot receive any share of the funds provided to the focal points.*

#### 3.2 AREAS OF COOPERATION

For the time-period covered by the Executive Programme, the Italian and the Indian Party may consider supporting the creation of a maximum of two Networks of excellence, submitted within one of the priority areas (a), (b) and (c) listed in Section **2.2 Research Areas** of the present call.

- a. Renewable energies; climate change and geohazards.
- b. Technologies applied to cultural and natural heritage.
- c. Biomedical Sciences: communicable and non-communicable diseases

Each Network of excellence must be made up of a minimum of 3 Italian and 3 Indian Research institutions working together on a plan of activities with a potential significant impact on one priority research area. The participation of private companies is strongly encouraged, although they are not eligible as focal points of the network or to receive funding from the national focal points.

NEs will be eligible for funding only if selected by the Joint Commission and listed in the Executive Programme.

The contribution granted by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation is meant as a **co-funding** of the project and therefore a **significant financial participation by the proposing Italian Institution in terms of personnel costs is mandatory. Any other financial contribution from public or private, Italian or Indian Institutions, will be evaluated positively.**

### 3.3 ACTIVITIES OF THE NE

The Network of excellence proposals submitted for the present Call may include the following activities:

- Exchange of Researchers, Research students and Post-Doctoral scholars
- Joint Seminar/Workshop
- Joint Research

In the proposal, as part of the outcome of the project, the Focal Coordinator may indicate the following targets as deliverables:

- Publication of joint papers
- Development of Prototypes/Processes
- Promotion of pre-commercial R&D activities

### 3.4 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- One Focal Coordinator each from India and Italy.
- A minimum of two Indian and two Italian separate institutional Node Partners in addition to the focal point institute (3+3 partnership mode). Additional Node Partners are also allowed.
- The Focal Coordinator and Node Partners should be either scientists, researchers, or faculty members employed by government-recognized universities, academic institutes, or national research and development laboratories or institutes. The Focal Coordinator and the Node Partners must have proven high scientific reputation.
- Proposals must be submitted by each scientific Focal Coordinator, who will be wholly responsible for the project and in charge of distributing financial resources among partners according to the established plan of activities.
- The project must be clearly centered on a well-defined research activity with wide perspectives and potential applications.
- The Networks of Excellence do not imply the creation of new physical infrastructures (e.g. buildings) but are network-based projects whose purpose is to join forces to face common scientific and technological challenges as well as to stimulate fresh interaction for the transfer of new technologies to the market.
- If interested, industries can also participate with their own funds, but they cannot be counted as either Focal Coordinators or Node Partners.
- All partners must have an intellectual and financial stake in the activities.
- Proof of existing financial resources available to cover the costs of infrastructure and equipment has to be provided with the proposal.

### 3.5 PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

- Focal Coordinators are responsible for submitting annual scientific and financial reports in order to be eligible for continued funding.
- Focal Coordinators are also responsible for the technical and administrative coordination of the Network.
- Neither Focal Coordinator nor Node Partner coordinator should be retired or planning to retire during the period of the proposed project.

### 3.6 SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Project proposals must be jointly prepared by the Italian and Indian Focal Point Coordinators using the submission forms that can be downloaded from the MAECI and DST websites. Each of the two Coordinators will submit an identical copy of the application form, duly filled-in and signed, to their respective funders (MAECI and DST) as specified below. In both countries, the forms shall be signed by the two Focal Point Coordinators, as well as by the legal representatives of both applying Research Institutions to which they belong. Project proposals submitted to only one of the two Parties will not be accepted.

**Italian applicants** shall send their application by certified e-mail (PEC) to the following address: [dgsp09.pec@cert.esteri.it](mailto:dgsp09.pec@cert.esteri.it), including the family name of the Italian Focal Point Coordinator, followed by the indication of the call (Italy-India) in the Object of the e-mail. In addition to the signed pdf copy of the proposal, Italian Focal Point Coordinators must send an identical copy without signatures in .doc/.docx format. Italian applicants must also submit an endorsement letter, signed by the legal representative of the applying Institution. The endorsement letter shall be sent by regular e-mail by the call deadline to the following email address: [dgsp-09.selezionepe@esteri.it](mailto:dgsp-09.selezionepe@esteri.it), and identified in the "Object" of the email composition by including the family name of the Italian Focal Point Coordinator, followed by the indication of the call (Italy-India).

**Indian applicants** seeking for funding can download the proposal formats from websites [www.dst.gov.in](http://www.dst.gov.in) / [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in) and should submit completed application form and all relevant information through e-PMS portal of the DST.

The Proposal must be submitted to DST through the e-application system provided at [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in) by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Additionally, Indian Applicants are also requested to send **two hard copies** to DST (Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Scientist E, DST) by 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 through proper channel. It should be ensured that application with identical title has been submitted by his / her Italian counterpart by due date. **Proposal not submitted through ePMS portal by due date will not be considered.**

For projects involving experiments with animals, ethics approval by the competent Ethics Committee on respective side **must be provided** when submitting the proposal. The approval is mandatory to obtain formal authorization from the competent Ministry of Health to start the activities (as per prevailing GoI norms in India and according to D. Lgs 26\_04/03/2014 and Directive 2010/63 EU in Italy). Projects involving experiments with human beings must be performed in accordance with prevailing GoI norms in India and with the Directive 536/2014/EC in Italy. The Principal Investigators should include a self-declaration of adherence to the above cited rules in the text of the proposal.

Projects must refer to activities to be completed within the period of validity of the Executive Programme and must be drafted in English.

### 3.8 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL

Proposals will be initially evaluated at national level. These evaluations are not mandatory for the final decision taken and subsequently, the assessment will be carried out by the Joint Commission in order to select the proposals to be included in the Executive Programme and eligible for funding. Projects will be assessed according to the following evaluation criteria:

- Scientific excellence of the proposal
- Qualification of the applicants (network)
- Synergy/Complementarity of partner Nodes and potential for knowledge transfer
- Expected research outputs and capacity to meet the final deliverables
- Involvement of private companies and possible industrial outputs
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation and balanced distribution of research activities in the two countries
- Budget adequacy

- Capacity of the network to self-sustain at the end of the funding period.

Preference will be given to projects that involve industrial counterparts and benefit from third parties' funding (such as public or private research institutes and organizations). Only applying Institutions with a proven record of research excellence will be considered for selection and support; in alternative, funds intended for the NE Programme may be transferred to the Projects of Particular Relevance Programme.

### 3.6 FUNDING PROCEDURES

A maximum of two proposals may be selected for funding. Each selected Network of Excellence may be funded, within the limits of the available resources, for a period of up to three years, provided both sides pass the annual evaluation for continuation of funding.

Expenditure by NE teams in their own Country would be borne by the respective country, i.e., DST would support expenditure in India by the Indian side of the NE whereas the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation would meet expenses by the Italian side in Italy.

**Given the bilateral nature of the programme, applicants are advised to budget sufficient provision for exchange visits.** Support for Exchange visit component: Two visits from each side each year for each node of the NE can be funded. The sending side will pay the international travel expenses including visa fee under the jointly funded projects. The receiving side will provide local hospitality for the visiting researchers (fully furnished accommodation including food) under the jointly selected projects.

Within the limits of available resources, **the Italian and the Indian Party** may consider the possibility of granting a financial contribution of up to 90000 EUR per year to the Italian and Indian components of each Network of excellence.

On the Italian side, funding will be provided to the Focal Point Coordinator Institution on a yearly basis. Italian Focal Point and Node Partner Institutions should form an officially recognized Consortium by Italian laws (ATS/ATI) to facilitate distribution of funds by the Focal Point Coordinator and financial reporting. The contribution granted by MAECI is meant as a co-funding and it will cover maximum 50% of project costs, up to (90.000 EUR/year). The remaining 50% is expected to be co-funded by the participating institutions in terms of personnel costs and indirect costs.

On the Indian side, DST will provide funding support to the Focal Coordinating Indian institute. Funds to other Indian nodes of the NE would be provided through the Focal Coordinating Indian Institute of the NE. DST can provide the following financial support for each NE:

- **Research Manpower:** Maximum One JRF / SRF/ Research Associate for each Node. In addition, one suitable staff unit can be provided to the Focal Coordinator for coordination of the activities.
- **Research Expenses:** Up to Rs. 5 lakh to each Indian Node towards consumables.
- **Institutional Overhead:** Institutional Overhead and contingency support will be determined in accordance with the specific norms of DST.
- **Participating Indian institutions are responsible for expenses regarding equipment.**

## 4. PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

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

[http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica\\_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecutivi/accordi\\_programmi\\_culturali\\_tecnologici.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecutivi/accordi_programmi_culturali_tecnologici.html)

**For the Indian Party**, the list of selected projects will be uploaded on the DST website [www.dst.gov.in](http://www.dst.gov.in)

## 5. CONTACT INFORMATION

For modetails, applicants may contact:

### For India

Dr. Rajiv Kumar  
Scientist `E', International Division  
Department of Science & Technology,  
Ministry of Science & Technology,  
Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road,  
New Delhi – 110 016., India

Fax: +91-11-26862418

E-mail: [rajivarc@nic.in](mailto:rajivarc@nic.in)

URL: [www.dst.gov.in](http://www.dst.gov.in) / [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in)

### For Italy

Office IX Directorate General for Cultural and  
Economic Promotion and Innovation  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International  
Cooperation

E-mail: [dgsp-09bandi1@esteri.it](mailto:dgsp-09bandi1@esteri.it)

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

### **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)**

The IPR agreement shall include the following:

- (i) The Italian and Indian project partner/s (each the "Party" and collectively the "Parties") will ensure appropriate protection of Intellectual Property Rights generated from their cooperation, consistent with their respective laws, rules and regulations and multilateral agreements to which both Parties are party to.
- (ii) Each Party is and shall remain owner of its Background IP. For the purpose of these guidelines "Background IP" shall mean (a) the intellectual property rights of a Party that is owned or controlled by that Party prior to the execution of the cooperation agreement, or (b) created by a Party outside the scope of cooperation agreement or without use or reliance on the confidential information or intellectual property rights of the other Party, as evidenced by written records.
- (iii) Access rights to background IP of one Party may be granted to the other Party only to the extent necessary for the execution and during term of the joint project.
- (iv) Ownership and rights to Foreground IP will be agreed upon by the Parties mutually. For the purpose of these guidelines, "Foreground IP" shall mean any invention conceived and reduced to practice, or know-how generated, solely by employees, agents, or independent contractors of a Party as a result of performing the activities under the cooperation agreement.
- (v) The IPR agreement should expressly reflect the contribution of each Party in the creation of the Foreground IP.
- (vi) Joint IP rights will be applicable only when both Parties have an inventive contribution to Foreground IP. The Parties shall not assign any rights and obligations arising out of the joint IPR generated to inventions/activities carried out under the cooperation project to any third Party without consent of the other Party, unless such joint IPR is in a different field than the field of the other Party and as further elaborated in the relevant cooperation agreement.

**Confidential Information:**

The IPR agreement shall include the following:

- (i) All information and documents to be exchanged pursuant to the cooperation agreement will be kept confidential by the Parties and will be used subject to such terms as each Party may specify. The Parties will not use the information for purposes other than that specified without the prior written consent of the other Party. The Parties shall set forth the exact terms and conditions for the protection of confidential Information under the cooperation agreement.
- (ii) All Confidential Information shall remain the exclusive property of the disclosing Party. The Parties agree that this agreement and the disclosure of the Confidential Information do not grant or imply any license, interest or right to the Recipient in respect to any intellectual property right of the other Party.
- (iii) Unpublished information, whether oral, in writing or otherwise, discovered or conceived by the scientists or technicians and exchanged under the provisions of this MOU will not be transmitted to a third party, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties.