

**EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL  
COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY  
AND  
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
FOR THE YEARS 2024 - 2026**

Within the framework of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Italy and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, signed in Hanoi on 5<sup>th</sup> January 1992, and entered into force on 10<sup>th</sup>, May 1998, the Italian-Vietnamese - Joint Commission was held in Rome on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 to examine the present state and further development of scientific and technological cooperation between the two Countries and to define the Executive Programme for the years 2024-2026.

The Italian delegation was headed by Mr. Giuseppe Pastorelli, Deputy Director General, Director for Integrated Promotion and Innovation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

The Vietnamese delegation was headed by Ms Vu Thi Tu Quyen, Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam.

Members of the two delegations are listed in **Annex I**.

The institutions in charge of the coordination of the present Executive Programme, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties", are:

**for the Italian Party:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Directorate General for Country Promotion;

**for the Vietnamese Party:** Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of International Cooperation.

The following agenda items of the Joint Commission were adopted by the Parties:

1. Review of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries
2. New Executive Programme: Joint Research Projects jointly selected for funding
3. Final provisions.

**1. Review of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries**

The Parties recognized the pivotal importance of science and technology for the economic, social and cultural relations between the two Countries. Both Parties, considering the good relationships between the two Countries, stressed the need to further promote bilateral cooperation in the field of science, technology and innovation. The Parties also emphasized the relevance of ongoing scientific collaborations between Universities and Research Centres of the

two Countries, highlighting the importance of further strengthening the partnerships between Italian and Vietnamese scientists.

In this respect, the Parties highly appreciate the outstanding results of the bilateral research projects that were jointly funded in the years 2021-2023, under the umbrella of the previous Executive Programme, and agreed to continue supporting the cooperation in the priority research areas of mutual interest indicated below.

## **2. New Executive Programme**

In the period between 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 a joint call was launched to collect bilateral project proposals within the following priority research areas:

- Agriculture and Food Science (limited to food processing and preservation; agriculture mechanization)
- Climate Change and Sustainability (limited to energy; mobility; nature based solutions; environmental management);
- Information Society (limited to artificial intelligence (AI); internet of things (IoT); ICT; Smart Cities; Big Data);
- Space Science and Earth Observation (limited to remote sensing; monitoring of natural hazards; advanced space technologies)
- Technologies for Conservation and Restoration of natural and cultural heritage

The criteria that were adopted to select the joint research projects to be funded for the years 2024-2026 were the following:

- Scientific relevance;
- Competence and skills of the research teams;
- Methodology and documentation;
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation;
- Budget adequacy

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On the basis of the above criteria, the Parties reached consensus on the selection of 6 (six) joint research projects which were considered eligible for financial support and are listed in **Annex II**.

Funding for these projects may be granted on a national basis, within the limits of the national annual budgets of the two Countries, and upon evaluation of the financial requests to be submitted by the corresponding Principal Investigators according to the guidelines provided by the relevant authorities in the two Countries.

### 3. Final provisions

The Parties agreed to jointly organize a workshop in Vietnam in the year 2025 for the mid-term review of the ongoing projects and to jointly present the cooperation opportunities within the framework of the Horizon Europe Programme (2021-2027).

The Parties agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Commission in Vietnam in the year 2026. Details of the next session of the Joint Commission, such as date and agenda, will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

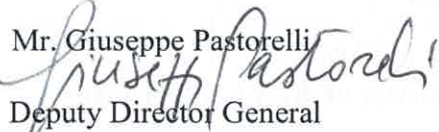

The present Executive Programme will be in force between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026, and will remain valid until the coming into force of the next Executive Programme, but no longer than one year after its expiration.

Any amendment to the text of this Executive Programme has to be authorised by the competent Ministries in both Countries and has to be discussed through diplomatic channels.

All initiatives foreseen in this Executive Programme will be carried out within budget limits and according to the rules prevailing in each Country.

Annexes I, and II are attached hereto and represent integral parts of the present document.

Signed in Rome, on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024, in two originals written in English language, each text being equally authoritative.

For the Italian Party	For the Vietnamese Party
 Mr. Giuseppe Pastorelli Deputy Director General Director for Integrated Promotion and Innovation Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	Ms Vu Thi Tu Quyen  Deputy Director General Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology 



## Annex I

### Members of the Delegations

ITALIAN DELEGATION	VIETNAMESE DELEGATION
Mr. Giuseppe Pastorelli, Deputy Director, General, Director for Integrated Promotion and Innovation, MAECI	Ms Vu Thi Tú Quyen, Deputy Director General, DIC, MOST
Ms Alessandra Tognonato, Head of bilateral Scientific Cooperation Office, Directorate General for Country Promotion, MAECI	Mr. Hoang Anh Tu, Deputy Director General, Department of High Technology, MOST
Mr Federico Scanzi, Officer, Directorate General for Global Affairs, MAECI	Mr Dinh Quy Cuong, Desk Officer for S&T cooperation with Italy, DIC, MOST
Mr. Alessandro Boero, Officer, Directorate General for Internationalization and Communication, Ministry of University and Research (MUR)	Ms. Pham Thi Phuong Dung, Officer, The Office of National Programmes on Science and Technology Ministry of Science and Technology
Mr Marco Abbiati, Science Attaché, Embassy of Italy to Vietnam	Mr. Nguyen Van Ha, Officer, The Civil-Economic Legislation Department, Ministry of Justice
Ms Giuditta Perozzi, Science Expert, Directorate General for Country Promotion, MAECI	Ms. Nguyen Thu Ha, First Secretary, Embassy of the S.R. of Vietnam

## Annex II

<b>Joint research projects selected within the frame of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Republic of Italy and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the years 2024-2026</b>
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No	Research Area	Project title	Italian partner	Vietnamese partner
1	Agriculture and Food Science	Research on production of single-cell protein, omega-3- 6-7-9 fatty acids from microalgae species of Schizochytrium/Thraustochytrium, Chlorella and Spirulina genera grown by photoautotrophic, heterotrophic, mixed modes for human food and animals feed	Dr. Zanolli Raffaele  Università Politecnica delle Marche	Dr. Hong Dang Diem  Algal Biotechnology Laboratory, Institute of Biotechnology, VAST Hanoi
2	Agriculture and Food Science	Development of integrated membrane process for the production of high quality red dragon juice concentrate	Dr. Cassano Alfredo  Istituto per la Tecnologia delle Membrane. CNR, Rende (CS)	Dr. Nguyen Van Tuyen  MOST National Center for Technological Progress Hanoi
3	Climate Change and Sustainability	Cellulose-Based Aerogel Materials as nature-based solutions for the environmental management and mitigation of oil spills	Dr. Pretti Carlo  University of Pisa	Dr. Mai Thi Thu Trang  Institute of Materials Science, VAST, Hanoi
4	Climate Change and Sustainability	Development of Comprehensive Solutions for Environmental Management in the Northeast Coastal Waters of Vietnam in an age of global changes	Dr. Bavestrello Giorgio  University of Genoa	Dr. Nguyen Van Thao  Institute of Marine Environment and Resources, VAST, Hai Phong City
5	Space Science and Earth Observation	Analysis of Local Climate Zones and Urban Heat Island using geomatic techniques (GIS and Earth Observation)	Dr. Brovelli Maria Antonia Politecnico di Milano	Dr. Pham Thi Mai Thy Vietnam National Space Center, VAST, HCMC

6	Technologies for Conservation and Restoration of Natural and Cultural Heritage	Integrative approaches to monitor biodiversity changes for the conservation of urbanized areas along the South- Central Vietnam coasts	Dr. Costantini Federica  University of Bologna	Dr. Nguyen Huu Huan  Institute of Oceanography, VAST, Nha Trang
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