



מדינת ישראל
Ministry of Science,
Culture and Sport



Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la
Recherche

Israeli French High Council for Scientific and Technological Research

Call for proposals 2009

Research Networks Program

In ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: Water, Photonics, Advanced Materials, IT & Telecom, and social impact

Within the framework of the Israeli-French agreement on scientific cooperation, the Ministry of Science, Culture and Sport of the State of Israel, the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and the Ministry of Higher Education and Research of France have decided to provide financial support for Research Networks Projects carried out by scientists of the two countries.

Objectives

The aim of this program is to support the development of a scientific and technological cooperation between the French and Israeli teams of research. This program would strengthen the scientific partnerships by enhancing the constitution of bilateral networks of research cooperation between Israeli and French Teams.

Projects should be proposed jointly by both, French and Israeli teams. Each research project will be coordinated by two Principal Investigators (PI), one for each country.

French and Israeli research teams are hereby invited to submit proposals for research project undertaking in the field of " **Environment & Energy: Water, Photonics, Advanced Materials, IT & Telecom and social impact.**

It is planned that the projects that have been awarded will begin in **September 2009**

Deadline to submit applications is March 15th 2009 until 12:00 AM.

General scheme

This program is jointly funded by:

- French side: *Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et Européennes* and the *Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche*.
- Israeli side: Ministry of Science, Culture and Sport (MOST).

Eligibility

Proposals must meet the following preconditions. Those which do not meet the preconditions will be automatically rejected, and will not be passed on to the scientific committee for peer review and evaluation.

1. Proposals must involve a Principal Investigator from each country.
2. The Principal Investigator on each side must be affiliated with an academic institution or a public or semi-public research institute. Researchers from industry may take part in the program as partners in teams headed by Principal Investigators from an academic institution or research institute.
3. The proposal submission must include the application form appended to this call, and the accompanying materials as defined in the Application Form.

4. Proposals which include experiments with animals must submit the approval of the relevant Committee for Animal Experimentations.

5. Proposals which involve human beings must submit the approval of the relevant Helsinki Committee.

Research Topics

The French Israeli High Council for Science and Technology Research selects every year the priorities fields for scientific cooperation. The 5th High Council Meeting held in Jerusalem 08/07/2008, decided to launch for 2009 joint projects in the field of Energy & Environment concerning the topics: Water, Photonics, Advanced Materials, IT & Telecom, and social impact.

Proposal Review

A joint Israeli-French Scientific Committee, composed of scientists from each country will discuss the proposals and formulate recommendations. The necessary procedures will be held and contracts will be signed by the relevant Ministries.

Evaluation will be based on:

1. Conformity with the definition of program research topics presented above;
2. Significance (quantitative whenever relevant) of the problem being addressed, and the potential impact of the proposed approach on solving it. (Proposals should address these issues explicitly and provide as much evidence as possible.)
3. Scientific merit, with emphasis upon the originality and novelty of the proposed research;
4. Clarity and quality of the research proposal itself – presentation of the topic, definition of research objectives, presentation of research methodology and detailed program of work;
5. Feasibility of the research program;
6. Practical applicability of expected research findings;
7. Prospects for continuation of the research collaboration within other funding frameworks, such as the EU Framework Program for Research and Technological Development;
8. Extent of genuine collaboration between the French and Israeli research teams.
9. The level of involvement of young researchers.

Funding Support

Each selected joint project may benefit for a **two-year fund**. The financial support will be granted on an annual basis.

The total fund will be granted to the principal investigators on each side.

The framework of funding is **250,000 USD for the Israeli side** and **250,000 Euro for the French side**, for the overall research cooperation, for the period of two years.

Support will be given to **maximum 6** joint projects requiring a budget of **up to 250,000 USD for the Israeli side** and **up to 250,000 Euro for the French side (20,000 USD/Euro for each side per year)**. Projects should be planned on a two year basis. Contracts will be signed accordingly.

Funding may be devoted to the costs related to the bilateral nature of the project (traveling expense of the researchers, scientific meetings, etc.) as well as to support the cost for research (disposables, publication costs, etc.). Refund of salaries on a monthly basis is conceivable only for the Israeli side.

Two status seminars financed from the budget project research, will be held alternatively in Israel and in France **at the end of the first and the second year**, in order to examine the progress of the research networks program. During the status seminar every Israeli-French research group will present its research results in a way which clarifies each of the sides' contribution to the research, the overall result, and will specify the cooperation between the two research groups.

The financial implementation of the approved projects depends on the approval of the 2009 state's budget.

Mutual Visits

Participating scientists are encouraged to spend an extended period of time visiting their counterparts' institutions. So long as the visits are an integral part of research collaboration, international travel and in-country living expenses of visiting scientists should be included in the project's budget. International travel costs should be included in the budget of the visiting side, while in-country living expenses should be included in the budget of the host side. The visits must take place in France or in Israel only, while visits to third countries are not to be integrated in the budget of the project.

Important: Post-doctoral grants are not available in this program. However, on the French side, such grants could be supplied through the Chateaubriand program (Israeli fellow to a French lab), through the Lavoisier program (French fellow to an Israeli lab) or through the fellowships provided by the French Ministry of Higher Education & Research to the French organisms of research (CNRS, etc.)

Guidelines for the submission of network research project proposals

1. This call for proposals and application forms are available at the following internet addresses:

<http://www.most.gov.il/>

<http://fitscience.wordpress.com/>

http://www.cnous.fr/_cnous_98.htm

<http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/pid20233/afrique-maghreb-moyen-orient.html>

2. In addition to the electronic submission (see below), proposal (application form and accompanying material) should be submitted in English in **6 copies** on each side.

In France to :

Ivan Rakocevic

Adjoint au chef de département

CNOUS - SDAI 2

6 rue Jean Calvin

75005 Paris

Tel : + 33 (0)1 55 43 58 07

Fax : + 33 (0)1 55 43 57 39

In Israel to:

Avi Anati

Deputy Director General for Planning & Control

Ministry of Science, Culture And Sport

P.O. Box 49100

Jerusalem 91490

Tel: 02-5411170/3

Fax: 02-5823030

In addition: The application forms in **Israel** should be submitted electronically to the following e-mail: french@most.gov.il (in 'pdf' or 'doc' format) and in **France** to the following e-mail: ivan.rakocevic@cnous.fr

3. Applications must provide all the information required and must include all documents, as indicated in the instructions found within the application form.

Important: French and Israeli sides must send identical applications, i.e. the application form must be filled out similarly, and an identical full description of the project (on separate sheets) must be provided by both sides. However, each side's principal investigator (PI) is requested to provide the signatures of her/his own country's partners and official authorities only. Moreover, only the detailed budget description (on separate sheets) of the country of PI is requested.

4. Projects should be planned for implementation during a period of two years. The total yearly budget requested must not exceed per year the limit given in the funding support section.

5. Deadline: All application submissions including the electronic version must be received not later than March, 15th 2009 until 12:00 AM

Contracts

1. Upon approval of a particular project, separate contracts will be signed in Israel and France, respectively, between the responsible agency and the institution of the Principal Investigator.
2. Contracts will cover a one-year period of work, despite the fact that projects may be planned for a two-year period. Continuation of the project for a second year is dependent upon the positive recommendation of the Joint Scientific Committee and final approval by the responsible agencies in both countries.
3. While projects are to be authorized for a period of two years, the responsible agencies reserve the right not to fund a second year of work for scientific-professional, administrative or budgetary reasons.

Information for France

Additional **scientific information** may be obtained from the following:

Prof. Eric SEBOUN

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Israel
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Fax: +972 (0)3 796 80 45
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Additional **administrative information** may be obtained from the following:

Mme Danièle FRAGER

Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et Européennes
Direction de la Coopération scientifique universitaire et de recherche (DGCID)
Sous-Direction de la Recherche
244, boulevard Saint-Germain
75303 Paris 07 SP

Tel: 01 43 17 90 46
Fax: 01 43 17 88 38
E-mail: daniele.frager@diplomatie.gouv.fr

M. Benoit DESLANDES

Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la recherche
Direction des relations européennes, internationales et de coopération
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Information in Israel

Additional **administrative information** may be obtained from the following:

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Jerusalem 91490

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E-mail: avi@most.gov.il

Mrs. Claire LEVATON

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Additional **scientific information** may be obtained from the following:

IN ENERGY:

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IN ENVIRONMENT:

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