



*Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
e della Cooperazione Internazionale*

# **ITALY – VIETNAM**

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION**

### **CALL FOR THE SUBMISSION OF JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS**

#### **CLOSING DATE: 30.08.2016 17:00 CEST**

#### **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) – Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation 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 2017-2019.

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, the following funding schema is available:

Projects of “Particular Relevance”, namely joint research projects where research activities are co-funded by both Parties.

**For the Italian Party** a significant funding contribution by the applying proponent is mandatory.

## **AREAS OF COOPERATION**

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

- Agriculture and Food Science;
- Biotechnology and Medicine;
- Environment and climate change;
- Information and Communication Technologies;
- Applied Physics;
- Space and Earth Observation;
- Technologies applied to conservation and restoration of Natural and Cultural Heritage.

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

## **ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS**

Each proposal shall be submitted, by the Italian and Vietnamese Principal Investigators, to their respective Parties. Proposals submitted to only one Party, will not be considered for evaluation.

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

For the Italian Party, the call is open to:

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

Principal Investigators (PI) shall have Italian or any other EU nationality, legal residence in Italy and a permanent working contract with one of the entities described 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**

- a) Projects shall be drafted in English
- b) Projects shall have the same duration of the Executive Programme
- c) A full proposal shall 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 costs involved.

For the Vietnamese Party, projects shall 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 organisations;

b) An authorized letter signed by Leader of the Ministry in charge to the Ministry of Science and Technology

## PROCEDURES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

The Italian Principal Investigator shall submit the project proposal exclusively through the dedicated online platform: <http://web.esteri.it/pgr/sviluppo>

Any inquire concerning the present call can be sent to: [DGSP.UST2@esteri.it](mailto:DGSP.UST2@esteri.it)

The Vietnamese Principal Investigator shall **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 two steps:

STEP 1. Projects will first be evaluated at the 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;
- Exploitation and joint dissemination of results;
- 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 shall follow regulations set forth by the Circular Nr. 12/2014/TT-BKHCHN 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. In the work of the Joint Commission, defined in Article 4 of the aforementioned Agreement, the Parties will reach consensus on a short list of projects eligible for funding by both Parties. 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

Reasons for exclusion are the following:

- 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/programmiesecutivi/accordi\\_programmi\\_culturali\\_tecnologici.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecutivi/accordi_programmi_culturali_tecnologici.html). The contact person of the selected projects will be directly informed.

For the Vietnamese Party, Principle 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**, according to the Italian law Nr.401/90, at the beginning of each year of validity of the Executive Programme, the principal investigators of projects listed in the Executive Programme will be invited to submit a request for funding, in accordance with the specific call issued by the Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. 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)

The contribution of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to bilateral projects of “Particular Relevance” is intended as a **co-funding** and therefore **a significant funding participation by the coordinating Italian Institution and/or other public/private Italian or Vietnamese Institutions is mandatory.**

**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-BKHHCN 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. Nguyen Thi Van  
Department of International Cooperation  
113 Tran Duy Hung, Cau Giay, Hanoi

Tel: +(84-4) 39435376  
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