

Catalonia - Israel 7th Call for Proposals for Joint R&D Projects

Launching of the call: 1st February 2023

Deadline for Submission: 21st June 2023

Scope

Following the signing of the bilateral cooperation agreement in joint R&D between Catalonia and Israel, the two parties are pleased to launch the seventh Call for Proposals for joint R&D projects.

This call aims at developing innovative products and applications **in all technological and application areas**. Applicants are expected to develop ready to market solutions or projects which have strong market potential for both Catalonia and Israel.

Israel Innovation Authority and the Catalan Agency for Business Competitiveness (ACCIÓ) provide access to public funding for joint projects provided by the Israel Innovation Authority in Israel and by ACCIÓ (Catalonia) respectively.

The call is announced within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement for Promotion of Industrial Research and Development between ACCIÓ: Catalan Agency for Business Competitiveness and the Authority with the objective to strengthen the existing economic relations between Catalonia and Israel, based on principles of equality and reciprocity, allowing the best use of opportunities generated by technical and scientific advances, improving the technological and industrial research and development cooperation between Catalonia and Israel and to establish a framework for such cooperation.

Call Launch and Structure

1) Project scope and funding

The strategic objectives of the call are industrial collaborative R&D projects meaning, inter alia, research and development intended to develop new products, applications or processes to be commercialized in the global market.

Funding is intended for industrial collaborative R&D projects in all technological areas.

2) Eligibility criteria (mandatory for any proposal submitted to this call)

Eligible project proposals for industrial R&D projects must fulfil the following criteria:

- The consortia must include at least 2 independent enterprises belonging to Catalonia and Israel (one from each region at least).
- Academic research groups, universities or other public/private R&D performer organizations may also participate as subcontractors in Israel and Catalonia but in the case of Catalonia can also participate as an additional partner, according to each country's funding regulations.
- There is no upper limit on consortia size. Consortia can involve as many partners as necessary to achieve the project goals, although, small medium projects with no more than 4 or 5 partners are expected.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the two countries (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).

In addition, projects must comply with these eligibility criteria:

- Strong scientific, technological and commercial synergies and that the collaboration will be fruitful for both entities participating in the project.
- Transnational collaboration with a significant degree of innovation and scientific and technical risk.
- The partners must have technological, commercial and financial capabilities to successfully bring the new product, industrial process or service to market.
- The project should demonstrate the equivalent contribution of the participants from both countries and must be equally significant to both participants that mean that the contribution of one country to the collaborative project must not exceed 70% of the total project costs.
- The project must have a civilian nature.

3) Application procedure

The call is launched on **1st February 2023**.

Submission and the approval procedures consist of one phase with the following steps:

Partners will be asked to present a **short project outline** via the following [Project Application Form](#)

In ISRAEL:

- Israeli partners will be invited to submit **in addition** and **at the same time as the short project outline** their funding applications to the Authority using the online system.
- A provisional consortium agreement among project partners is needed at the moment of proposal submission in this phase.
- Submission to the Innovation Authority:** 21st June 2023 till 12:00.

In CATALONIA:

- Catalan partners will be invited to submit **in addition** and **at the same time as the short project outline** their funding applications according to respective regional procedures: [Nuclis d'R+D empresarial 2023](#)
- Period submission: According to the date published in the DOGC for the [Nuclis d'R+D empresarial 2023](#) funding programme.
- A final signed version of the consortium agreement among project partners will have to be submitted simultaneously to ACCIÓ and IIA by date established by both funding agencies.

4) Budget and funding modalities

- Catalonia budget for this call will come from the programme **Nuclis d'R+D empresarial 2023**.
- Israel will earmark up to 1 Million Euro.

However, each country may decide to exceed this level of financing.

Projects in the frame of this announcement will be financed by the respective national authorities in Catalonia & Israel, in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations & procedures in effect.

➤ **Beneficiaries:**

Small, medium and large companies registered in Catalonia or Israel can be funded. Private research centres, universities and other public entities can participate as subcontractors or also as additional partners in the case of Catalonia.

➤ **Eligible projects:**

Project proposals must clearly demonstrate:

- Transnational, collaborative R&D projects with a significant degree of innovation and scientific and technical risk.
- Market orientation.
- Application and practical use in a specific field.
- Expertise of the project partners in their respective fields of competence.
- Added value through transnational cooperation.
- Scale of impact and the market positioning of the applicant.

Funding is intended for innovative projects in the fields of:

- Industrial research & development.
- Applied research.
- Experimental development.

➤ **Type of funding:**

Funding is provided as a grant (Catalonia), conditional grant (Israel).

Catalonia regulations

Projects submitted to the call must be aligned with the technologies and sectors mentioned in the [DOGC](#)

Eligible expenses:

Personnel costs, external collaborations for R&D activities related to the project, indirect costs, equipment, IPR activities (for SME only)

Limits of funding per project:

- Minimum amount of eligible expenses for the Catalan part of the collaborative project: **120.000 euros**.
- Maximum amount of funding for the Catalan part of the collaborative project: up to **250.000 euros**.

Project duration:

- 2 years long project with the possibility of an additional year of extension.

For information about financing of Catalan participants please visit ACCIÓ website: [Nuclis d'RD 2023](#)

Israel regulations:

An Israeli R&D performing company which initiates a single or multi-year program to provide know-how, processes or methods for the manufacture of a new product, application, technology base service or process. The product must have a sizeable potential for export sales. Research institutes or other participants may apply as a subcontractor to a company. The support is in the form of a conditional grant amounting generally up to 50% (+ regional incentives for companies located in designated "development zones") of the eligible R&D budget.

Further details regarding grants, eligible costs and payment of royalties are available at the [Innovation Authority web site](#).

5) Evaluation of the proposals

The evaluation of the projects proposals is on the basis of:

- Technological / scientific innovation aspects.
- Consortium potential and project management capabilities.
- Project results impact in the market and in the enterprises competitiveness.

6) Publicity of the Results

Project partners whose projects have been funded by its own authorities in accordance with the national regulations and procedures will be informed by means of email by the contact person mentioned below.

7) For further information and partner search requests

ACCIÓ and Authority will provide all necessary assistance to project partners during project proposal, evaluation and monitoring phase.

- **Catalonia (ACCIÓ):**

Mr Gil Oren, +972 52 889 9209, e-mail: goren@catalonia.com

Ms. Natàlia Nicolau, +34 677581113, e-mail: nnicolau@gencat.cat

- **Israel (Authority):**

Mr. Uzi Bar-Sadeh, +972-3-5118185, e-mail: uzi@innovationisrael.org.il