

**China - Israel Cooperation Program for Industrial R&D**

**A bilateral framework providing financial support for collaborative industrial R&D ventures between Israeli & Chinese companies**

# 7th Call for Proposals for Joint Industrial R&D projects

The government of The People's Republic of China (PRC) and the government of the State of Israel signed a bilateral agreement in 2010 to form the China – Israel Cooperation Program for Industrial R&D, with the primary aim of supporting joint industrial R&D projects aimed at the development of products or processes leading to commercialization in the global market.

Within the context of the bilateral framework, funding mechanisms have been created, through which industry may seek support for joint bilateral industrial research and development (R&D) projects and product adaptation projects, involving at least one Chinese company and one Israeli company.

The bi-lateral framework is jointly implemented by the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) on behalf of the Chinese government and by the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA) in Israel.

**This call is open to joint projects in all technological sectors, based on merit that includes science and technology (S&T) development leading to commercial success, social good and benefit to both countries.**

This call is also providing support for **pilot projects** for companies who wish to **pilot, scale-up** and **adapt** their new **innovative technologies** and solutions to the Chinese market and entities’ specific needs.

**We welcome proposals of projects concerned with confronting COVID-19 virus and pandemics at large, in the research fields such as vaccination, public health, medicine, infectious diseases control, etc.**

**1. Requirements**

**The criteria to be followed in order to apply to the program are:**

a) At least two science and technology companies from the respective countries should express a desire to cooperate in the research and development of a new product or a new process, or the piloting of a product/process in the foreign market.

b) The project may involve more than one company from each side; academic /research entities are eligible to join as sub-contractors only.

c) R&D under the joint project should focus on either:

* Developing Products that are highly innovative with significant commercial potential. The joint industrial R&D project should aim at the development of products/processes leading to commercialization in the global market;

**OR**

* Piloting product/process, belonging to the Israeli Company partner, to the needs and conditions of the Chinese market

d) The project partners should agree in advance on the IP rights and the commercialization strategy of the product or process.\*

e) The project should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from both countries

f) The project must be balanced between participants and strategically significant to both partners.

Any partner whose cooperative R&D project is consistent with the aforesaid criteria can apply to the present Call for Proposal in accordance with the national Laws, Rules, Regulations and Procedures in effect.

**\*Note:** **For the submission phase, only a Letter of Intent (LOI), a preliminary agreement or draft MoU is required; however, the final agreement has to be presented to the funding authorities only after the project is jointly approved.**

**2. Eligibility**

**In China**

* Eligible applicants will be R&D performing Chinese registered companies operating in the People's Republic of China (PRC).
* A company cannot apply for funding simultaneously for the same project to this bi-lateral program and to other bi-lateral program Israel has with other Chinese Province/City
* Each Chinese participant shall not lead more than one project or participate in more than two projects under the national research and development programs in the same period of time.

**In Israel -** Eligible applicants will be R&D performing Israeli registered companies operating in Israel.

**3. Size of Investments and Matching Funds**

1. Funding support will be given to each partner by its own Implementing Organisation; Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology Department (MOST), the People's Republic of China (PRC), and the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA) in Israel in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.
2. The total grant from the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC), via the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) under the financial support of the China-Israel R&D Program, will not exceed 2 Million RMB(around 330,000$) per project, 50% of the eligible and approved costs of the R&D, in accordance with the national laws and regulations.
3. The total funding from the Government of Israel via the IIA, under the financial support of the China-Israel R&D program, will not exceed 50% of the eligible and approved costs of the R&D, in accordance with the national laws and regulations.
4. Maximum of 10 projects could be jointly funded.
5. **Submission of the project proposals**

To ensure the effective delivery of the CFP and reinforce the principles of bilateral partnership, MOST and IIA employ a joint application process for each Call for Proposals.

Applicants are required to follow the local requirements and use the provided application format and instructions to **submit their applications:**

**For Chinese companies**, a pre-application proposal must be submitted to MOST **by November 20th, 2020**, and a full application **by January 2021**.

**For Israeli companies**, a full proposal must be submitted to the IIA **by December 9th, 2020**.

In addition to the local application, an LOI/MOU and a Bilateral Application Form (BAF) must be submitted to both entities. The BAF provides a summary of the proposed project with enough detail for the reviewers to make an initial assessment of the merits of the project.

**The BAF and Letter of Intent (LOI) / MOU must be filled and signed by both Chinese and Israeli partners and must include a detailing IP plans for the project.**

Please note that the submission procedure is different between the entities and each side requires different documents. Each partner should approach the relevant contact person for more details.

***Israeli Applicants:***

The Israeli partneris required to submit the full IIA application, in accordance with Israel Innovation Authority regulations, through an [online system](https://my.innovationisrael.org.il/company) following the instructions on the relevant incentive program on the [IIA’s website](https://innovationisrael.org.il/node/2763/maslulim). In addition to the local application, an LOI/MOU and a Bilateral Application Form (BAF) must be submitted.

***Chinese Applicants:***

**The Chinese partner** will be required to submit the National Application Form in accordance with MOST regulations upon further notice and guidelines published by the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST).

**5. Evaluation and Selection**

The Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA) will carry out an independent evaluation of the joint R&D application and will select the eligible projects to be financially supported in accordance with their criteria, national laws and regulations.

The successful projects will be jointly selected by the two implementing organizations at a Joint Committee meeting. Companies whose projects have been selected will be informed of the result and the amount of funding for the successful projects by their respective implementing organization in a timely manner, **by May 2020**.

**6. Repayments**

**In Israel**

When a project results in sales of a product, service or process, the financial support must be repaid to the IIA according to its rules and regulations.

**In China**

Applicants shall abide by the existing rules and practices of MOST on the management of research and development programs.

**7. Publication of the Results**

The Israeli and Chinese partners whose projects have been selected will be informed of the result and the amount of funding for the successful projects by their respective implementing organization.

**8. Pre-Implementation Requirements**

After the award of the project, project leaders on both sides would be advised by their respective Implementation Organizations to complete necessary administrative and legal instruments before the fund release.

**9. Suggested Timeframe & Deadlines**

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|  | **China (MOST)** | **Israel** |
| **Launch** | **End of September 2020** | **06/07/2020** |
| **1st Phase Submission Deadline (only in China)**  Pre-Application Proposals | **27/11/2020** | **N/A** |
| **1st Phase Exchange and Approval (only in China)**  Submission confirmation and approval by MOST | **December 2020** | **N/A** |
| **National Application Forms Submission Deadline**  2nd phase for Chinese companies to MOST | **Mid of January 2021** | **20/12/2020** |
| **Joint Committee**  (Share results, joint decisions and budget evaluation) | **April 2021** | |
| **Final Notification to Companies** | **May 2021** | |

**For further information contact:**

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