



Japan-Israel R&D Cooperation Program

5th Call for Proposals

Launch Date: 7.2.2018

Expression of Interest Deadline: 12.4.2018

Full Application Deadline: 23.4.2018

A bilateral framework providing financial support for collaborative industrial R&D Projects between Japanese and Israeli companies

1. About the Program

With the goal of promoting industrial R&D cooperation between Japanese and Israeli companies, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed in July 2014 between the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Israeli Ministry of Economy (MOE). This agreement, together with a complimentary agreement signed between the ministries' implementation bodies – MATIMOP, the Israeli Industry Center for R&D in Israel (currently known as the "Israel Innovation Authority"), and NEDO, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization in Japan – serve as a basis for the Japan-Israel R&D Cooperation Program. The program provides Israeli and Japanese companies access to government funding for collaborative research and development (R&D) projects aimed at the development of products or processes leading to commercialization in the global market; as well as assistance in locating R&D partners.

This bilateral framework is jointly implemented and promoted by NEDO, under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) in Japan; and the Israel Innovation Authority in Israel.

These guidelines and information are specific to the Japan-Israel R&D Cooperation Program, for projects submitted under the open Call for Proposals (CFP), during which NEDO and the Innovation Authority invite Japanese and Israeli companies to submit proposals for funding for bilateral industrial research and development (R&D) projects, involving at least one company from each country, which include science and technology (S&T) development leading to commercial success, social good and benefit to both countries.



2. Common Requirements & Criteria

In order to apply to open calls for proposals, companies and projects must meet the following criteria:

- a) At least one science and technology company from each of the respective countries, fulfilling the company eligibility criteria mentioned below, should express a desire to cooperate in the research and development of a new product or a new process.
- b) The project may involve more than one company from each side; academic/research entities are eligible to join as sub-contractors only.
- c) The product should be 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.
- d) Companies and projects from almost all technology fields can apply, with preference for projects in the fields of: new energy, energy conservation, smart community, environment and resource conservation, robot technology, machinery systems technology, AI, electronics, Information and Telecommunications, materials and nanotechnology and water treatment. Projects from the Life Science, Biotech and Medical fields would be able to submit, if they are related to the fields that are under NEDO's responsibilities or scope of work which is mentioned above and can be seen in the following link: http://www.nedo.go.jp/english/introducing_tdf1.html
- e) The project partners should agree in advance on the IP rights and on the commercialization strategy of the product or process.*
 - *Note: For the submission phase, only an LOI (Letter of Intent), a preliminary agreement draft MoU is required; however the final agreement has to be presented to the funding authorities following project approval.*
- f) The project should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from both countries
- g) The project must be balanced between participants and significant to both partners.
- h) The maximum project period is two years. Israeli applicants must submit a new application for renewal of funding on a yearly basis.



Any partner whose cooperative R&D project is consistent with the aforementioned criteria can apply to the present Call for Proposals in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.

3. Eligibility

Japanese Applicants: Eligible applicants will be Japanese companies which, in principle, have their own R&D facilities in Japan.

Israeli Applicants: Eligible applicants will be R&D performing Israeli registered companies operating in Israel.

4. Funding Support

Funding support will be provided to each partner through its own implementing & funding organisation (either NEDO in Japan or the Innovation Authority in Israel) in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.

In Japan

1. Funding will be provided in the form of a conditional grant to the projects selected under the Call for Proposals.
2. The total funding from NEDO will not exceed 50% (66.6% for a small or medium size company) of the eligible and approved costs of the R&D.
3. When a project results in sales of a product, service or process, all or part of the financial support must be repaid to NEDO for 5 years after the completion of the joint R&D, in accordance with the applicable regulations. If the project does not result in sales, no repayment is required.
4. For more information on funding conditions, applicants should visit the website of NEDO: http://www.nedo.go.jp/koubo/AT092_100122.html (Japanese)

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In Israel

1. Funding will be provided in the form of a conditional grant from the R&D Fund of the Innovation Authority to the projects jointly selected under the Call for Proposals.
2. The total funding from the Israel Innovation Authority will not exceed 50% of the eligible and approved costs of the R&D for a one-year period,



in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the R&D Fund. Israeli applicants are encouraged to reapply for funding for year two project supports in line with the duration agreed between Japanese and Israeli applicants.

3. When a project results in sales of a product, service or process, the financial support must be repaid to the Innovation Authority according to its regulations (in general, royalties are paid at rates beginning at 3% of sales, depending on various criteria. Royalties are payable until 100% of the amount of the grant has been repaid with interest as provided in the applicable regulations). If the project does not result in sales, no repayment is required.
4. For more information on funding conditions, applicants should visit the website of the Innovation Authority: <https://innovationisrael.org.il/program/2851>

5. The Application Process

To ensure the effective delivery of the CFP and reinforce the principles of bilateral partnership, NEDO and the Innovation Authority employ a joint, two-step application process for each Call for Proposals.

Step 1: Expression of Interest (EOI) Form – Deadline: 12.4.2018

Applicants that intend to submit a full application for funding are requested to inform the program managers by filling out an Expression of Interest (EOI) form at least one week prior to **full application submission – by 23rd of April, 2018**. The EOI provides a brief summary of the proposed project and introduction to the project applicants, allowing program managers to confirm that the applicants meet the basic program criteria and are eligible to submit a full application by the CFP deadline. It is preferred that applicants submit this form as soon as possible, even prior to the deadline.

The EOI Form must be sent in softcopy via email simultaneously to both the Implementing Organisations – NEDO in Japan and the Innovation Authority in Israel - within the deadline of the particular call period. Both project partners should be cc'd on the email and agree to the EOI content.

[Download the EOI](#)



Step 2: Full Application - Deadline: 23.4.2018

Partners meeting all eligibility criteria and whose EOI's are approved will be invited to submit the Full Application (Bilateral Application Form (BAF) + Letter of Intent (LOI) + National Project Proposal (NPP) by the Full Application Deadline – **23rd of April, 2018.**

1. **The Bilateral Application Form (BAF)** should be filled out by BOTH the Japanese and Israeli project partners together in English. The form includes information on both project partners and their contribution to the collaborative project. Both companies are required to sign the form, in order to indicate their mutual agreement on the project content and goals.

[Download the BAF](#)

2. **The Letter of Intent (LOI)** is a letter or MoU signed between the two project partners, briefly noting their plans for the joint project and specifically noting their plans for IP sharing.
3. **The National Project Proposal (NPP)** is to be prepared separately by the Japanese and Israeli partners, according to the procedures, forms and rules that apply in their country – for Japanese companies, based on the rules and instructions of NEDO; and for Israeli companies, based on the rules and regulations of the R&D Fund of the Innovation Authority respectively. Applicants are required to follow the local requirements and use the provided application format with instructions and submit their proposal. Proposals that are not in the approved format will not be accepted.

In Japan: The Japanese partner is required to submit the NPP to NEDO by posting or delivery by hand to the following place of submission:

International Affairs Department, New Energy and Industrial
Technology Development Organization
18F MUZA Kawasaki Central Tower, 1310 Omiya-cho, Saiwai-ku
Kawasaki City,
Kanagawa 212-8854 Japan



(Please contact the reception on 16F if you deliver the FPP by hand.)

In Israel: The Israeli partner is required to submit the application forms of the Innovation Authority's R&D Fund, in accordance with the Innovation Authority's regulations and via an online system. A signed copy of the Bilateral Application Form should be uploaded as well.

[Download Israel's R&D Fund Instructions & Forms](#)

The BAF & LOI should be sent in softcopy via email simultaneously to both the Implementing Organisations – NEDO in Japan and the Innovation Authority in Israel – by **23rd of April, 2018**. In that email, the partners should also confirm that they have submitted their NPP separately to NEDO and the Israel Innovation Authority.

NEDO and the Innovation Authority will acknowledge the receipt of all applications **within five working days** of receipt.

6. Evaluation and Selection

NEDO in Japan and the Innovation Authority in Israel will carry out an independent evaluation of the joint R&D application and will select the eligible project to be financially supported in accordance with their State Laws and Regulations. The successful projects will be jointly selected by the two funding organizations at a "Joint Committee Meeting" based on the project criteria and requirements specified in the application form. Companies who receive joint approval will be notified by their local implementing or funding agency.

Parties 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.



7. Timeline

CFP Launch	February 7, 2018
Expression of Interest Period	Till April 12, 2018
Deadline for Full Application (BAF + LOI + NPP):	April 23, 2018
Evaluation Period:	April 23 - by or around July, 2018
Joint Committee	End of July 2018

8. Contact Info

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