

Sichuan-Israel

R&D Cooperation Program

Sichuan-Israel R&D Cooperation Program

A bilateral framework providing financial support for collaborative technological Innovation Projects between Chinese and Israeli companies

2nd Call for Proposals – February 2019

1. ABOUT THE PROGRAM


The government of the Sichuan province of The People's Republic of China, and the government of the State of Israel signed a bilateral agreement in 2016 to form the Sichuan-Israel 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 research and development (R&D) projects, involving at least one Sichuan and one Israeli company.

The bi-lateral framework is jointly implemented by the Sichuan Science and Technology Department province and The Israel Innovation Authority (IIA).

These guidelines and information are specific to the Sichuan-Israel joint program, for projects submitted under the current Call for Proposals (CFP).





Sichuan Science and Technology Department and IIA invite Chinese and Israeli companies to submit proposals for funding for bilateral technological Innovation projects, involving at least one company from each country, which includes science and technology (S&T) development leading to commercial success, social good and benefit to both countries.

THIS CALL IS OPENED TO ALL TECHNOLOGICAL SECTORS

2. COMMON REQUIREMENTS & CRITERIA


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

- a) At least two science and **technology companies** from 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 Technological Innovation project should aim at the development of products/processes leading to commercialization in the global market.
- d) Companies and projects from the technology fields including new energy, energy conservation, smart community, environment and resource conservation, robot technology, machinery systems technology, electronics, Information and Telecommunications, materials and nanotechnology, biotechnology, agricultural machinery, medical devices and water treatment.
- 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 or draft MoU is required, however the final agreement has to be presented to the funding authorities.***

- 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 3 years.





Any partner whose cooperative Technological Innovation 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

Chinese Applicants

Eligible applicants will be Chinese companies which have R&D activities in Sichuan, China.

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 (both Sichuan Science and Technology Department in Sichuan, China, or IIA in Israel) in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.


In Sichuan, China

1. Sichuan Science and Technology Department will entrust Chinese Companies selected under the Call for Proposals to carry out the projects.
2. The total funding to a project from Sichuan Science and Technology Department shall not exceed the total approved R&D expenses of a project.

In Israel

3. Funding will be provided in the form of a conditional grant to the projects selected under the Call for Proposals.
4. The total funding from the Government of Israel via the IIA will not exceed 50% of the eligible and approved costs of the R&D, in accordance with the national laws and regulations.
5. When a project results in sales of a product, service or process, the financial support must be repaid to the Israel 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.



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6. For more information on funding conditions, applicants should visit the website of the Israel 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, Sichuan Science and Technology Department and IIA employ a joint, two-step application process for each Call for Proposals.

Phase 1: Bilateral Application Form (BAF)

A Bilateral Application Form (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. Submission of a BAF is mandatory, and is the first required document that companies must submit. The form should be filled out by both applicants together, and identical copies should be submitted to the program managers in Sichuan and Israel on or before the mutually agreed upon deadline: **June 14, 2019** to be eligible for further consideration.

The BAF must be sent in softcopy via email simultaneously to both the Implementing Organizations – Sichuan Science and Technology Department in Sichuan, China, and IIA in Israel - within the deadline of the particular call period.

The BAF must be signed by both Chinese and Israeli partners, and must include a Letter of Intent (LOI) or MOU detailing IP plans for the project. Incomplete BAF template or BAFs submitted in any other format will not be accepted.


Sichuan Science and Technology Department and IIA will acknowledge the receipt of all BAFs **within 5 working days** of receipt.

The BAF would then be referred for basic technical review to confirm that all the documents required are provided and that companies are considered eligible by both sides. Upon approval, the companies will receive notification as to whether or not they can move to Step 2 in the application process. If approved, companies will be requested to submit a full project proposal (national format) to their local implementing agency - separately but in parallel, in Sichuan, China, and Israel, based on local requirements.

Phase 2: Full Project Proposal (FPP) – National Format



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Partners meeting all eligibility criteria and whose BAFs are approved will be invited to submit the Full Project Proposal (FPP) no later than the agreed upon deadline, according to the procedures and rules that apply in their country – for Chinese companies, based on the rules and instructions of Sichuan Science and Technology Department; and for Israeli companies, based on the rules and regulations of the IIA respectively.

The deadline for the Israeli applicants for the Full Proposal Format application is **July 13, 2019**.

Sichuan companies should also apply **during July 2019** – Date to be published by Sichuan Science and Technology Department

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 Sichuan, China

The Chinese partner is required to submit the FPP to Sichuan Science and Technology Department by posting or delivery by hand to the following place of submission.

Place for submission - <http://kjt.sc.gov.cn/>

In Israel

The Israeli partner is required to submit an IIA National Application form in accordance with the IIA regulations, through an [online system](#). A signed copy of the Bilateral Application Form is required to be uploaded as well.

6. EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Sichuan Science and Technology Department in Sichuan, China, and IIA in Israel will carry out an independent evaluation of the joint Technological Innovation 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, by **October –November 2019**.



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7. TIMELINE & DEADLINES

26.02.2019	Launch of new Call for Proposals	
14.6.2019	Deadline for submission of Bilateral Cooperation Form + Letter of Intent	
20.6.2019	Notification to Companies – BCF Approval	
07.2019	Full Local Funding Application to IIA and SSTD	
	For the Israeli companies - 13.7.2019	For Sichuan companies July, 2019 - Specific date to be updated
July- October	Evaluation Period in Israel & Sichuan in parallel	
End of October– Beginning of November 2019	Joint Committee and announcements to applicants	

8. CONTACTS

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