Egypt-Korea

Cooperation Program for Scientific Research

Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF), Egypt

www.stdf.org.eg

&

National Research Foundation (NRF), Korea

www.nrf.re.kr

Call for joint proposals

Cycle I (May, 2013)
**I. Background:**

National Research Foundation (NRF) of Korea and Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) of Egypt agreed to co-finance collaborative research projects. The common commitment in promoting collaborative scientific research laid its foundation in 19 April, 2013 by signing the MoU on the Establishment of Egyptian-Korean Cooperation Program for Scientific Research. The indicative average funding per country is USD 30,000 per project for each year. Each project will be funded for a period of two years. Based on the evaluations of the joint research proposals and consensus discussion between the Parties (ranking of the projects), STDF will fund Egyptian researchers and NRF will fund Korean researchers according to the regulations of each organization. The areas of this Joint Research will cover the entire spectrum of science and engineering.

Projects are conducted under the direction of an Egyptian and Korea Principal Investigator (PI) and therefore, **must** have partner institutions from Egypt and the Korea. Apart from being the Principal Investigators, each PI is responsible for coordinating the activities of the research project and his/her research team and is responsible for the submission of annual and final technical and fiscal reports. Work on joint projects may be performed at institutions in either or both countries, depending on the type of activity.

**II. Application:**

NRF and STDF will open a call for proposals in accordance with their respective rules and conditions. The frame, submission, eligibility rules, evaluation process and period of the projects shall be decided by mutual consent of the NRF and STDF. All applicants must fulfill national eligibility rules for their research grant application. After the closure date of the call, NRF and STDF will exchange the result of application to each party by the official document. The co-applicants will designate one national principal investigator for every proposal. All applications must be uploaded on the STDF/NRF websites (www.stdf.org.eg & www.nrf.re.kr) to which registration is required. Please note that proposals submitted as hard copies or sent via email will not be considered. Please download the templates by clicking the following link: Common Form, Proposal Application Form & Budget Format). Each application shall include at least the following appendices (in English):

1. Joint abstract (no more than one page in length)
2. Joint research plan (no more than fifteen pages), which shall include:
a. A clear description of the planned research collaboration (distribution of work and methods of implementation)
b. Responsibilities of both partners
c. Joint budget of the joint research project including separate budgets for both partners
d. Expected outcomes in accordance to the added value of this collaboration and its relevance for the industry and society, taking in consideration the ongoing activities between the Korean and Egyptian groups.
e. A discussion on how the proposed joint project compares with other comparable activities worldwide
f. A discussion on how the intellectual property and know how arising from the accomplishment of the joint research projects will be handled
3. Curricula vitae of the principal investigators of both partners (basic information of education, past and present position, and membership of relevant organizations/associations and a list of five relevant papers and other publications or patents of the principal investigators. Each CV should not be more than one page.

III. Peer reviewing:

NRF and STDF will implement evaluation of the proposals according to their own evaluation rules, and will rank the proposals based on quality and interest. The evaluation criteria will be based on the following:

a. Relevance of the proposal to the call
b. Quality of the proposal
c. Quality of the project management and methodology
d. Global impact of the proposal
e. Quality of the consortium and good synergies between the partners
f. Mobilization of resources
g. Added value to be expected from the Egyptian-Korean research collaboration
h. Balanced scientific and financial contributions

Based on the evaluation, national ranking, and consensus reached through discussions, the Parties will exchange of ranked result and consult to select the joint projects. Then parties will agree on the joint projects to be funded. If a party does not agree to fund a project, the project will be rejected.
IV. Eligibility:

- A jointly prepared proposal submitted by Egyptian and Korean investigators working at public universities or research centers.
- The applicants will act as the project’s Principal Investigators (PIs).
- The PIs must be a PhD degree holder.
- Any other sources of funding for the project should be clearly stated and explained in the proposal.

V. Important Dates:

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<tr>
<th>Action</th>
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<tr>
<td>Announcement of the call</td>
<td>27/5/2013</td>
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<td>Deadline for proposal submittal</td>
<td>26/6/2013</td>
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<td>Exchange the evaluation result and discussion for final selection</td>
<td>25/8/2013</td>
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<td>Date of announcement of the accepted proposals</td>
<td>05/9/2013</td>
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<td>Date for grant contract agreement and start of implementation</td>
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