

# **CALL FOR PROPOSALS OF JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA FOR THE YEARS 2012-2014**

Within the framework of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Italian Republic and the Republic of India, signed in New Delhi, on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2003 and entered into force on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009, the General Directorate for Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science) – Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, (hereafter referred as to “the Parties”) initiate herewith the procedures for the drafting of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the years 2012 – 2014 (hereafter referred as to “the Executive Programme”).

## **1. EXCHANGE OF RESEARCHERS: PROCEDURES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS.**

### **1.1 PURPOSES**

From July 01, 2011 to July 31, 2011, submission of joint research projects by researchers of both Countries is open, with the aim of encouraging scientific and technological cooperation between Italy and India. Each researcher may submit one project only. All applicants must fulfill national eligibility rules to apply for research grants (see below and also national annexes for specific requirements). An important criterion of the proposed collaboration is that it should build on and reinforce the already existing research activities of each research group in the priority area pertinent to the presented project proposal and contribute significant added value to these activities.

**Financing will be granted within the limits of the available annual resources of each Party.**

### **1.2. Applicants’ Eligibility**

The Programme is open to scientists, engineers or faculty members regularly employed in universities and research institutions, including hospitals and foundations, as well as private nonprofit institutions that develop R&D activities, in Italy or in India. Applicants must be engaged in advanced research in one of the subject areas listed above. Neither Principal Investigator (PI) should be retired or planning to retire during the proposed period of the project.

### **1.3 PRIORITY RESEARCH AREAS**

Projects may be submitted in the following priority research areas:

1. Agriculture and Food Science and Technology
2. Design Engineering and Technology
3. Electronics, Information Communication Technology
4. Energy and Environment
5. Health, Biotechnology and Medicine
6. Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials
7. Space and Physics
8. Technologies applied to Cultural and Natural Heritage
9. Transport Systems including Automotive technologies

NB: Projects submitted in other research areas will not be considered.

#### **1.4 SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS**

The same project must be submitted by the Italian and Indian coordinators to the Authorities responsible for the implementation of the Executive Programme in the two Countries. Projects submitted to only one of the two Parties will not be considered. The projects, of duration of upto three years 2012 - 2014, must be submitted in English.

**Procedures applicable to Italian researchers.** The Italian applicant must submit his/her research project proposal by filling out the enclosed form (see Annex 1) and forwarding it no later than July 31, 2011, by post, with the words "Programma Italia - India" clearly written on the envelope.

One copy will be sent to:

*Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
D.G.S.P. - Unità per la Cooperazione  
Scientifica e Tecnologica  
Piazzale della Farnesina, 1  
00135 Roma*

and one copy to:

*Ambasciata d'Italia in India  
Scientific Attaché  
Chandra Gupta Marg-Chanakyapuri, 50 E  
New Delhi 110021  
INDIA*

In addition, the Italian project coordinator must e-mail one copy of the research project proposal (exclusively in *MS Word*) to the following address: [DGSP.UST1@esteri.it](mailto:DGSP.UST1@esteri.it)  
Any inquire about the Executive Programme can be sent to the above e-mail address.

#### **Procedures applicable to Indian researchers.**

The Indian applicant must submit 5 copies of his/her research project proposal by filling out the enclosed form (see Annex 1) and forwarding it no later than July 31, 2011, by post, with the words "Indo-Italian Programme of Cooperation 2012-14" clearly written on the envelope to:

*Dr. Jagdish Chander  
Scientist - F, International Cooperation  
Department of Science and Technology  
Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road  
New Delhi - 110 016*

#### **1.5 PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL**

The projects will be initially evaluated at national level. Subsequently, a joint assessment will be carried out by representatives of the two Parties (in the meeting of the Joint Committee) in order to select the projects for funding.

The projects will be assessed according to the following evaluation criteria:

- Scientific relevance of the research project
- Methodology and documentation
- Qualification of the applicants
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation
- Social and developmental added value
- Use and dissemination of results

Preference will be given to projects that involve industrial participation, benefit from third parties' funding (such as public or private research institutes and organizations) and/or take part in multilateral and/or European research programmes, with particular regard to the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Union.

#### **1.6 PUBLICATION OF RESULTS**

**For the Italian Party**, the list of the selected projects and funding procedures will be posted exclusively on the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the address: [http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica\\_Estera/Cultura/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/ElencoProgrammiEsecutivi.htm](http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica_Estera/Cultura/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/ElencoProgrammiEsecutivi.htm)

**For the Indian Party**, the result of projects and funding procedures will be intimated by email/post by the Department of science and Technology, Government of India.

## 1.7 PROJECT SUPPORT

Only the cost of the exchange of researchers will be financed. For each project 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) or 1 long-term stay (30 days) in Italy and 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) or 1 long-term stay (30 days) in India may be financed yearly within the limits of the available annual resources of each Party

The Indian Party will pay the international travel expenses to Indian researchers visiting Italy and provide, in addition to paid accommodation, daily allowance of Rs.1,000 perday to Italian researchers visiting India .

The Italian Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers holding Italian nationality (or an EU nationality and resident in Italy) and will provide a contribution of 1300 Euro per month for long-term stay and of 93 Euro per day for short-term stay towards accommodation expenses in Italy to researchers holding Indian nationality.

**Each researcher may submit one project only; the application of a proposal for the exchange of researchers excludes the possibility for the project coordinator to apply for funding a significant bilateral project pursuant to point 2. of the present call for proposals.**

## 1.8 REPORTS ON THE PROJECT

At the end of each year the Italian and the Indian coordinators will report, to their respective Party, on the progress of their project. Funding for the next year will not be granted if the coordinators fail to submit their progress reports.

## 2. SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL PROJECTS: PROCEDURES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS. ("Progetti di Grande Rilevanza" ai sensi della L. 401/90)

In the course of validity of the Executive Programme, the Italian Party, in consultation with the Indian Party, may also consider granting an annual special financial contribution, within the limits of the available financial resources, to significant bilateral research projects ("Progetti di Grande Rilevanza"), which will be part of the Executive Programme.

The contribution granted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is intended as a **co-funding** of the project and therefore **a significant funding participation by the coordinating Italian Institution and/or other public/private Italian or Indian Institutions is mandatory.**

The application procedures consist of two steps:

### 2.1 FIRST STEP

#### 2.1.1 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

The Italian coordinator must submit a preliminary description of the project by filling out the enclosed form (see Annex 2) and forwarding it no later than **July 31, 2011**, in one copy, by post, with the words "Programma Italia - India /GR" clearly written on the envelope, to:

*Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
D.G.S.P. – Unità per la Cooperazione  
Scientifica e Tecnologica  
Piazzale della Farnesina, 1  
00135 Roma*

The Indian coordinator would submit a preliminary description of the project by filling out the enclosed form (see Annex 2) and forwarding it no later than **July 31, 2011**, in 4 copies, by post, with the words "Programma Italia - India /GR Significant Project" clearly written on the envelope, to:

*Dr. Jagdish Chander  
Scientist – F, International Cooperation  
Department of Science and Technology  
Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road  
New Delhi – 110 016*

The Italian project coordinator must also e-mail one copy of the significant joint project proposal (exclusively in *MSWord*) to the address [DGSP.UST1@esteri.it](mailto:DGSP.UST1@esteri.it). Any inquiry about the Executive Programme can be sent to the above e-mail address. The project, covering up to three years (2012-2014), must be prepared in English.

### 2.1.2 RESEARCH AREAS

Project proposals may be submitted in the following priority research areas:

1. Agriculture and Food Science and Technology
2. Design Engineering and Technology
3. Electronics, Information Communication Technology
4. Energy and Environment
5. Health, Biotechnology and Medicine
6. Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials
7. Space and Physics
8. Technologies applied to Cultural and Natural Heritage
9. Transport Systems including Automotive technologies

NB: Projects submitted in other research areas will not be considered.

### 2.1.3 PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL

Projects will be initially evaluated at national level. Subsequently, the assessment will be carried out by the Joint Committee of the two Parties in order to select the projects to be listed in the Executive Programme. Projects will be assessed according to the following evaluation criteria:

- Scientific relevance
- Methodology and documentation
- Qualification of the applicants
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation
- Social and developmental added value
- Use and dissemination of results
- Budget adequacy

Preference will be given to projects that involve industrial counterparts, benefit from third parties' funding (such as public or private research institutes and organizations) and/or take part in multilateral and/or European research programmes, with particular regard to the Seventh Framework Programme.

## 2.2 SECOND STEP

The significant bilateral projects selected and listed in the Executive Programme will constitute a short-list of projects entitled to apply for funding in accordance with the specific call for proposals issued by Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, Directorate General for Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science) of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The call for proposals is usually published during the last trimester of the year for the following financial year. Details on the call for proposals (in compliance with Law 401/90) will be available, in due time, at the following link:

[http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica\\_Estera/Cultura/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/Bandi.htm](http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica_Estera/Cultura/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/Bandi.htm).

**Each researcher may submit one project only; the application of a proposal as significant bilateral project excludes the possibility for the project coordinator to apply for funding for the exchange of researchers pursuant to point 1. of the present call for proposals.**