Egypt-Russia

Cooperation Program for Scientific Research

Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF), Egypt

www.stdf.org.eg

&

Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR), Russia

www.rfbr.ru

Call for joint proposals

Cycle I (April 15, 2014)
I. Background:

The Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR) and the Egyptian Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) agreed to co-finance collaborative research projects. The common commitment in promoting collaborative scientific research laid its foundation on 13th May, 2013 by signing the MoU on the Establishment of an Egyptian-Russian Cooperation Program for Scientific Research. The indicative average funding is USD 20,000 from the Egyptian side and 700,000 RUR from the Russian side per project per 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 RFBR will fund Russian researchers according to the regulations of each organization. The areas of this Joint Research will cover the topics identified under “II”.

Projects are conducted under the direction of an Egyptian and Russian Principal Investigator (PI) and therefore, must have partner institutions from Egypt and Russia. 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 progress reports. Work on joint projects may be performed at institutions in either or both countries, depending on the type of activity.

II. Mutually Identified Priority Topics:

The Egyptian and Russian sides, STDF and RFBR, respectively, identified the topics for their mutual cooperation and they agreed on the following areas:

Mathematics
1. Partial and ordinary differential equations
2. Probability and statistics
3. Numerical methods
4. Complex and functional analysis
5. Algebra and Geometry
6. Mathematical physics and mathematical Modeling
Material Science
1. Materials for alternative energy (composite materials for WT blades – materials for PV)
2. Construction materials
3. Biomaterials
4. Materials for water purification
5. Polymers in the oil and gas industry
6. Environment-friendly materials

Fundamental Problems in Nuclear Science
1. Theoretical physics
2. Nuclear Structure and Reactions
3. Nuclear medicine
4. Instrumentation for fundamental nuclear and particle physics.
5. Nuclear Astrophysics

Fundamental Problems in Mechatronics
1. Novel robot designs and robot components
2. Service robot and humanoid robots
3. Bio robotics, micro and nano robots
4. Sensor systems for robot, perception

Fundamentals of Cancer Diagnosis and Therapy
1. Targeted delivery
2. Novel models for pre-clinical studies
3. Theranostics
4. Laser science in medical application

III. Application:

RFBR 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 RFBR and STDF. All applicants must fulfill national eligibility rules for their research grant application. The co-applicants will designate one national principal investigator for every proposal. All applications must be uploaded on the STDF/RFBR websites (www.stdf.org.eg & www.rfbr.ru) to which registration is required. Please note that proposals submitted as hard
copies or sent via email will not be considered. Please download the Application Form. Each application shall include 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 with added value of this collaboration and its relevance for the industry and society, taking in consideration the ongoing activities between the Russian and Egyptian groups.
   e. A discussion on how the proposed joint project is in accord with other comparable up-to-date 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 shall include 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. Each CV should not be more than one page (for guidance, please see Part A of the relevant application form).

After the closure date of the call, RFBR and STDF will exchange the application results to each party by official documents.

IV. Peer reviewing:

RFBR and STDF will evaluate 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 and methodology
c. Quality of the consortium and good synergies between the partners
d. Added value to be expected from the Egyptian-Russian research collaboration
e. Mobilization of resources
f. Balanced scientific and financial contributions
g. Quality of the project management

Based on the evaluation, national ranking, and consensus through discussions, the Parties will exchange ranked results and consult to select the joint projects. Only mutually accepted proposals will be funded.

V. Eligibility:

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

VI. Important Dates:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Announcement of the call</td>
<td>15/4/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for proposal submission</td>
<td>15/9/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eligibility check and exchange of data</td>
<td>30/9/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exchange of evaluation results</td>
<td>1/12/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint decision on accepted projects</td>
<td>30/1/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date for grant contract agreement and start of implementation</td>
<td>15/2/2015</td>
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</tbody>
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