

**German-Israeli Cooperation in Water Technology Research
CALL FOR JOINT PROPOSALS FOR 2008**

1. Objectives of funding and legal framework

1.1 Objectives of funding

Within the framework of the German-Israeli cooperation in Water Technology Research, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the Israeli Ministry of Science, Culture and Sport (MOST), invite proposals for bilateral research projects.

The research shall be focussed towards contributions to the solution of water problems in Israel and its direct neighbourhood and/or Germany. The research should be multidisciplinary and related to application and to the needs of the water sector. Projects should preferably include scientific and industrial partners as well as related stakeholders.

1.2 Legal framework

Projects can be funded under the terms of this call and of the agreements concluded between BMBF and MOST. In this respect, the general regulations for funding, including the consideration of intellectual property rights formulated by both ministries for all BMBF-MOST research co-operations, will be applied also to this field. In addition, for the German partners to be funded, beyond these rules the standard BMBF-guidelines for grant applications on expenditure or cost basis, respectively, have to be applied. Submitting a proposal does not entitle applicants to grants. Rather, the respective grant-awarding ministries will decide freely after a due assessment of the proposals. The funding measure is announced with the reservation that budgetary funds and commitment authorizations required for its implementation will be available.

2. Subject of research

- **Water Technology**
- **Water Research**

The following objectives shall be achieved in this bilateral activity:

- The situation in the regions shall be improved. Transferability of the results to comparable regions should preferably be ensured.
- For Israeli and German enterprises in the water and environmental sector, access to new markets shall be facilitated.
- In addition, bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the water sector as well as cooperation between science and industry shall be supported and strengthened. Thus the integration of Israeli partners in BMBF's adequate international projects is also desired.

BMBF and MOST further agreed that future projects may also deal with water problems in third countries particularly in the arid, semi-arid, and tropic regions.

Thus both countries can make a joint contribution to the goals defined by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. For that purpose, both countries want to pool their water technology expertise for developing appropriate technologies and know-how, for example, in the areas of sea water desalination, reuse of waste water, drinking water and waste water technology, irrigation, and river basin management.

Priority will be given to projects based on novel ideas. Working groups are recommended to include multiple academic and industrial partners.

3. Eligibility

Grants can be awarded to applicants from academic institutions or public research institutes with experiences in the relevant fields. Industrial partners may be included in research teams.

According to the procedures of the Water Technology Cooperation Program, Israeli scientists who serve as Principal Investigators (P.I.s) in ongoing projects within this program, are excluded from submitting a new proposal within the frame of this Call, except if their projects are in their last year. In such a case, the achieved results of their ongoing projects shall be attached to the new proposals and will be used to evaluate their abilities to accomplish the tasks and achieve the goals of their new proposals.

Joint German-Israeli Cooperation is obligatory

The suggested project **must be prepared and carried out jointly by the Israeli and the German project partners**. For this purpose, BMBF and MOST will provide on request, a grant that covers the costs of one short visit of one of the potential research partners to either Israel or Germany, aiming at accomplishing the joint proposal. Such a grant would not exceed 1,500 Euro.

The submitted project proposal must contain a description of the **joint work-plan** for both, the Israeli and the German teams. It must also include the budget calculation and justification for the Israeli and the German partners as well.

4. Regional Cooperation

Israeli partners may include in their proposals researchers from neighbouring states and areas to collaborate with the Israeli-German working groups in their projects, if thereby the relevance of the expected project results may be increased.

5. Duration of Project

The research should be planned for a period not exceeding three years.

6. Budget Requested

BMBF and MOST together will grant the selected projects within the framework of the German-Israeli Cooperation Program in Water Technology Research with a total budget of EURO 900,000 for the Israeli partners. MOST-share of this budget is EURO 200,000.

Universities and research institutions may receive grants covering up to 100% of the additional eligible research-oriented expenses caused by the project (e.g. travel personnel, equipment, expendable materials, not including salaries for permanent staff and principal investigators).

Profit-making institutions (industrial enterprises) may receive a grant, covering no more than 50 % of direct costs of their part of the project

Dependent on the approval of the mutual Israeli-German research proposal by the Joint Advisory Committee, the German partner(s) may apply for direct funding from BMBF for their part of the work-plan (electronic application system "easy").

7. Key Dates

Final Date for Submission of the proposals – May 15th, 2007

Planned Date of Initiation – January 1st, 2008

8. Guidelines for the Submission of Joint Research Proposals

Proposals should be submitted simultaneously by both principal investigators, to MOST and BMBF, in English language, on the appropriate forms, in 5 copies including one signed original, and electronic versions as e-mail attachment in pdf format to the following addresses:

The Israeli partner should submit the joint proposal to:

Mrs Nurit Topaz

Director, Department of Scientific Relations with Germany and International Organizations

Ministry of Science, Culture and Sport

P.O. Box 49100

(Bldg. 3, HaKiriya HaMizrahit)

Jerusalem 91490

e-mail: nurit@most.gov.il

Feldfunktion geändert

Formatiert: Italienisch (Italien)

The German partner should send the electronic version of the joint proposal to:

Dr. Hans Joachim Metzger

Project Management Agency Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe

Water Technology and Waste Management Division (PTKA-WTE)

Hermann-von-Helmholtz-Platz 1

76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen

Tel.: ++49-7247-822355

Fax: ++49-7247-827553

E-mail: hans-joachim.metzger@ptka.fzk.de

Internet: www.fzk.de/ptka/wte

Application forms are obtainable at the MOST website (www.most.gov.il) and the Research Authorities of the universities in Israel.

Duly signed proposals must be submitted via the Research Authorities of the universities or the management of the public research institutions in which the projects are to be carried out. In addition, the full proposal shall be submitted electronically.

9. Evaluation and Selection

Evaluation of the project proposals will be based on the following main criteria:

- Originality, novelty, multidisciplinary, and scientific quality
- Relevance to the topics and objectives mentioned above
- The soundness of the proposed approach
- The adequacy of the facilities
- The capability of the investigator(s) to carry out the proposed research
- Added value of the cooperation
- Participation of industrial partners, stakeholders, problem owners, end users

The proposals will be pre-evaluated and rated by international external reviewers. In accordance with the procedures of the Cooperation Program, all the proposals will be evaluated for final ranking by the Joint German-Israeli Program Committee.

Applicants of positive evaluated proposals complementing one another may be requested for cooperation and elaboration of a joint project proposal.

10. Contracts

Upon approval of the research grants by the official authorities in Germany and in Israel, a research contract will be signed between MOST and the institution of the Israeli principal investigator.

11. Contact Information

For additional information contact the following local offices:

in Germany:

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12. Young Scientists Exchange Program

Young scientists are encouraged to participate in the exchange program that was initiated by BMBF and MOST in the framework of the German-Israeli Water

Technology Cooperation Program. This is an open call for young Israeli and German scientists for a training period in the partner's country for up to 6 months, but not less than 1 month. Funding will be provided to cover all necessary expenses of the applicant's visit abroad.

More information is available on the following websites:

www.cogeril.de

www.most.gov.il