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**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**by**

**The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)**

**and**

**Science Development Foundation (SDF)**

**under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

**The Call is open between 21st October 2018 and 31st January 2019**

1. Preamble

In the framework of the Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology between The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and Science Development Foundation (SDF) under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan invite Universities, Research Centers/Institutes and Private Sector to submit joint proposals for Research, Development and Innovation (R&D&I) projects.

**There must be at least one industrial enterprise in a joint project, excluding joint projects on Humanity and Social Sciences (Turkic Studies).**

**2. Objectives of the Call**

The aim of the call is to allow partners to collaborate internationally, and gain access to new research environments, facilities, knowledge, and expertise, in order to enhance the quality of their research and enable them to translate research and innovation into economic and societal benefit.

The funding will be provided jointly by TÜBITAK and SDF in the form of non-repayable project grants.

1. Main Thematic Areas:
	* Aerospace and Astronomy;
	* Information and Communication Technologies;
	* Physics and Mathematics;
	* Energy;
	* Oil and Gas Industry;
	* Bio-medicine;
	* Humanity and Social Sciences (Regarding Turkic Studies).
2. Financial Issues

As a rule, **Turkish partner** that is eligible for funding can receive **up to 1.000.000 Turkish Liras (TL).** In this scope:

* + Universities and Academic Research Centers/Institutes can receive **%100** of the total budget for a project;
	+ Turkish small and medium sized enterprises can receive **up to %75 of the total project budget;**
	+ Turkish large scale enterprises can receive **up to %60 of the total project budget**.

Also, **Azerbaijani partner** that is eligible for funding can receive the following budget:

* + Azerbaijani partners can receive **up to 400.000 Azerbaijani Manat (AZN)** per project.

TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with its funding guidelines and procedures:

(<https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tr/destekler/akademik/ulusal-destek-programlari/icerik-1001-bilimsel-ve-teknolojik-arastirma-projelerini-destekleme-pr>).

Similarly, SDF-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by SDF according to its funding guidelines and procedures ([www.sdf.gov.az](http://www.sdf.gov.az)).

Please, liaise closely with prospective partners to ensure that both TÜBİTAK and SDF-supported elements of the proposal abide by all regulations for both funders.

The costs of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists will be covered on the following basis:

* The sending Party will meet all related costs connected with travel, lodging and allowances according to their own regulations.
* The sending Party shall be responsible for the emergency health insurance of its scientists.
1. Duration of the Projects

The duration of the projects should not exceed two years and the total duration of international visits should not exceed two months per year, with a total quota of four months a year for the each supported joint research project.

The projects will be monitored once in every six months and the final report by both SDF and TÜBİTAK for its content and progress.

1. Proposal Submission

The Joint Call will be opened between 21st October 2018 and 31st January 2019 for the applicants on both sides for the online applications. Turkish partners will make their joint online application via TUBITAK’s online system reachable from uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr, while Azerbaijani partners will make their online application by http://e-grant.sdf.gov.az.

* The partners should come to an agreement with each other using their own means of communication and jointly develop and complete their project proposal before submitting it to TÜBİTAK and SDF. **TÜBİTAK and SDF do not match the collaborating partners.**
* The proposals should be prepared in **English**. In addition, Azerbaijani partners should submit their project proposal in Azerbaijani Language.
* Project proposals must provide detailed information on the objectives and justification of the planned joint research work, the methodology to be followed, the composition of each research team and the intended time schedule.
* After completion of the online application procedure, **until 15th February 2019**,
	+ **Turkish coordinator must submit the required signed documents to:**

 **The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)**

 **International Cooperation Department**

 Address: Atatürk Bulvarı No: 221, 06100 Kavaklıdere, Ankara/Turkey

 Phone: + 90 312 298 17 94

 Fax: + 90 312 427 40 24

 E-mail: uidb@tubitak.gov.tr

* + **The Azerbaijani coordinator must submit one hard copy to:**

**The Science Development Foundation (SDF) under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

Address: AZ-1025, Baku, Yusif Safarov Street-27, 9th Floor

 Phone: +994 12 489 08 94

 E-mail: qrant@elmfondu.az   or grant@elmfondu.az

* Submission of proposals by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
1. The Evaluation Procedure

**7.1. Eligibility Criteria**

Printed and originally signed documents that do not include required supporting documents will not be considered for funding. The list of essential and supporting documents for Turkish partners can be found at <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tr/kurumsal/uluslararasi/ikili-proje-destekleri/2554/icerik-basvuru-belgeleri-0>

TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with its funding guidelines and procedures: <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tr/kurumsal/uluslararasi/ikili-proje-destekleri/2554/icerik-1001-yonetmelik-ve-esaslari>

Azerbaijani partners should follow the relevant rules and requirements of SDF.

**7.2. Evaluation Method**

* The proposals that are deemed eligible will be evaluated by TÜBİTAK and SDF in line with their own rules and regulations.
* Following the scientific evaluation, TÜBİTAK and SDF will inform each other the Project Proposal Evaluation Forms after review.
* After the review of the Project Proposal Evaluation Forms and scores, TÜBİTAK and SDF will jointly select the project proposals to be supported through a joint meeting.
* Only the project proposals which are jointly approved by TÜBİTAK and SDF will be supported.

**7.3. Evaluation Criteria**

The project proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

* Scientific and Technological Excellence;
* Methodology;
* Project Management, Team and Infrastructure;
* Impact of the Project and Importance of Bilateral Cooperation.
1. Key Dates

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| **ACTIONS** | **PERIODS** |
| Application Announcement | 21st October 2018 |
| Deadline for Applications | 31st January 2019 |
| Submission of Required Signed Documents | 15th February 2019 |
| Eligibility Check | 15th February 2019 – 15th April 2019 |
| Sharing of the Project Proposal List that will be evaluated | 16th April 2019 |
| First Evaluation Period | 16th April 2019 – 17th May 2019 |
| Sharing of the Evaluation Results | 23rd May 2019 |
| Matching the Evaluation Results  | 23rd May 2019 – 11th July 2019 |
| Joint Committee Meeting | 17th July 2019 – 19th July 2019 |
| Approval of the Joint Committee Meeting Results | 19th July 2019 – 28th August 2019 |
| Sharing of the Final Evaluation Results | 29th August 2019 |
| Announcement of the Results | 3th September2019 |

9. Contact Persons on TUBITAK and SDF:

For Turkish Side:

Mr. Müslüm GÜZEL

Scientific Programs Expert

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)
International Cooperation Department
Bilateral and Multilateral Relations Division
Phone : +90 312 298 17 94

Address : TUBITAK, Tunus Caddesi No: 80 Kavaklıdere – Ankara/Turkey

Fax : +90 312 427 74 83

E-mail : uidb@tubitak.gov.tr

For Azerbaijani Side:

Ms. Mulayim GULİYEVA

Chief Consultant on Expertise Work

The Science Development Foundation (SDF) under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Phone : +994 12 489 08 94

Address : AZ 1025, Baku, Yusif Safarov Street-27, 9th Floor

Fax : +994 12 489 08 92

E-mail : mulayim.quliyeva@elmfondu.az