



IGSTC Call for Joint Research and Development Proposals 2015: 2+2 Mode of Partnership between India and Germany

1 About IGSTC

Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC) established by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany to facilitate Indo-German R&D networking through substantive interactions among government, academia/research system and industry to foster innovation and application for the overall economic and societal developments of both the countries. The Centre envisions to:

- advance industrial research partnership with mutuality of interest and respect
- create a platform for cross fertilisation of ideas
- develop knowledge networks for industrial sectors to enhance competitiveness
- establish joint knowledge pools to address global challenges and
- serve as a Nerve Centre to promote Indo-German technology partnership

2 Partnership Model & Thematic Area

IGSTC intends to catalyse innovation-centric R&D projects by synergising the strength of research/academic institute and public/private industry from India and Germany. This call for proposals is aimed at supporting joint R&D&I projects of industrial relevance by means of “2+2 partnership”¹ in the following thematic areas of mutual interest:

New Materials for Energy Efficiency

- Nano-structures for Energy Application in buildings, transport
- Electrochemical Energy Storage: Batteries and Super Capacitors

Water and Wastewater Technologies

- Sensor Technologies for water (e.g. water borne pathogens and heavy metals)

3 Basic Principles

Project should be proposed involving both Indian and German partners. Each project will be implemented by Principal Investigators from all partners. Joint team may decide about one PI as coordinator, who will finally submit the pre-proposal in consultation with all partners. Written consent of all partners should be obtained.

Project proposal is expected to produce insight and exploitable research results leading to new technologies, products and / or services. The benefits of partnership should be clearly identifiable.

Project proposal should ensure that all the project partners contribute to and benefit from an equitable and balanced cooperation with adequate protection for intellectual property rights used in and generated during the joint efforts.

IGSTC will execute a two-step evaluation process, conducted by an international scientific review committee. Applicants have to submit a pre-proposal first and will be asked to submit the full proposal if they are evaluated positively. Each evaluation step might take up to two to

¹ “2+2 partnership” refers to projects with the participation of at least one German and one Indian research institution as well as one German and one Indian industry partner

three months. The projects which are finally selected will be supported by IGSTC for a maximum period of three years.

4 Financial Support

Funding is provided in the form of non-repayable grants amounting about € 400,000 per project from German side to the German partners, and INR 230 Lac from Indian side to the Indian partners for a period of up to three years, to cover costs for staff and other costs. The entire project funding would be provided under the umbrella of Indo-German S&T Centre (IGSTC). Financial support for the Indian component would be released by IGSTC in India directly and financial support for the German component would be released through PT-DLR in Germany.

Indian Partners: 100% of the eligible costs in the form of grant to Institutional Partner (research/academic) and up to 50% of the eligible costs in the form of grant to Industrial Partner. However, the maximum grant amount to the Indian industrial partner will be limited to INR 50 Lac.

German Partners: 100% of the eligible costs in the form of grant to Institutional Partner (research/academic) and 50% of the eligible costs in the form of grant to Industrial Partner.

Research establishments which receive joint basic funding from the Federal Government and the Lander can be granted project funding to cover additional expenditure under certain conditions only.

5 Eligible Costs

- Costs for personnel involved in the project
- Specific equipment / demonstration unit / pilot plant including software licensing for the project (equipments that are not part of the applicant's basic equipment)
- Consumables / Materials
- Mobility Costs (international/domestic Travel and hospitality cost). Longterm exchange visits of young researchers are encouraged.
- Networking Events (organising project related workshops / brain-storming meetings)
- Outsourcing / Subcontract
- Contingency
- Overhead

Indian Partners: Contingency and overhead amounts should be limited to 5% and 10% of eligible cost, respectively. In this case cost of equipment should not be included in calculating total eligible costs. Industry partner is not eligible for overhead cost.

German Partners: In accordance to German funding procedures cost based proposals will be able to ask for overhead, whereas German universities are eligible for 20 % "Projektpauschale".

6 Evaluation

The pre-proposals will be evaluated by a Joint expert committee including project management team. The evaluation process will consider

- Compliance to the thematic area of the call
- Novel innovative research within the scientific scope
- Scientific merit and feasibility of the project, taking into account state of the art
- Scientific credentials and global competitiveness of the project partners

- Level of contribution of each partner / collaborative interaction and added value of the consortium
- Innovative potential for industrial application (prospects for commercial success / commercial exploitability)
- Support of young scientists
- Appropriateness and necessity of funds asked for

7 Who can apply

Applicants from research organisations, state and non-state institutions of higher education, universities, non-university research institutions, and public or private companies having R&D bases (i.e. DSIR recognition for in-house R&D in case of Indian industry partner) are eligible to submit applications.

Applicants should be in regular positions only.

An Indian / German company is defined as one which is registered in the respected country with 51% or more ownership held by the respective countries citizens.

8 Other requirement

8.1 German applicants:

In their own interest, applicants should familiarise themselves with the EU's Research Framework Program in the context of the envisaged project. They should check whether the planned project includes specific European components which make it eligible for exclusive EU funding. Furthermore, they should check whether an additional application for supplementary funding can be submitted to the EU for the proposed national project. The results of these enquiries should be described briefly in the national project application.

The "Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen auf Kostenbasis des BMBF an Unternehmen der gewerblichen Wirtschaft für Forschungs- und Entwicklungsvorhaben" (Auxiliary Terms and Conditions for Funds Provided by the BMBF to Commercial Companies for Research and Development Projects on a Cost Basis – NKBF 98) will be part of the funding contract for grants on a cost basis. The "Allgemeine Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen zur Projektförderung" (General Auxiliary Conditions for Grants Provided for Projects on an Expenditure Basis – ANBest-P) and the "Besondere Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen des BMBF zur Projektförderung auf Ausgabenbasis" (Special Auxiliary Terms and Conditions for Funds Provided by the BMBF for the Promotion of Projects on Expenditure Basis – BNBest-BMBF 98) will form part of funding contract of grants on an expenditure basis.

Grants for commercial companies are calculated on the basis of the project-related costs eligible for funding, up to 50% of which can as a rule be covered by grants, depending on the project's orientation towards application. The BMBF's policy requires the applicants to make an appropriate contribution – at least 50%, as a rule – towards the eligible costs incurred. Grants for universities, research establishments and similar institutions are calculated on the basis of the eligible project-related expenditure or, in the case of the Helmholtz centres and the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft (FhG), on the basis of the eligible project-related costs which can be funded by a maximum of 100%.

The European Commission's Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development must be taken into account when determining the rates of funding from German side.

8.2 Indian applicants:

The private company is required to make an appropriate contribution – at least 50%, as a rule – towards the eligible project costs. Remaining funding up to 50% of the projected cost (with a

limit of INR 50 Lac) can be supported as a grant (on prevailing terms and conditions), depending on the project's orientation towards application. Grants for universities, research establishments and similar institutions are calculated on the basis of the eligible project-related expenditure which can be funded by a maximum of 100%.

9 Procedure

It is recommended that applicants contact IGSTC Secretariat in India or Germany prior to submitting the application.

The contact addresses are:

INDIA

Dr. P.V. Lalitha
Indo-German Science and Technology Centre (IGSTC)
Phone: + 91 124 492 9407
Email: lalitha@igstc.org

GERMANY

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PT-DLR
German Aerospace Centre
European and International Collaboration
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IGSTC will execute a two-step evaluation process. All eligible pre-proposals will be evaluated and shortlisted (successful) applicants will be requested to submit full proposals. Full proposal will be evaluated by the Scientific Council for final recommendation. The Governing Body of IGSTC finally decides and selects the projects for funding.

10 Submission of Proposals

The project proposal should be submitted online using PT-Outline:

<https://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/application/IGSTC15>

The detailed Project Description should be as per the format. You can download the format as a word document from the IGSTC website (www.igstc.org).

Applications submitted not in the specified format and / or specified number of pages will not be accepted.

Application (via pt-outline) must be submitted no later than **03.07.2015** (12:00 MEZ / 4:30 pm IST)

The submission deadline is not a cut-off deadline. However, it may prove impossible to consider project proposals received after this date. No legal claims can be derived from the submission of a proposal.

A hard copy of each application with the signatures of all PI's has to be sent to:

Dr P. V. Lalitha
Indo-German Science and Technology Centre (IGSTC)
Plot No. 102, Institutional Area
Sector 44, Gurgaon – 122003
INDIA

11 Entry into force

These funding regulations will enter into force on the day of their publication in the Federal Gazette (Bundesanzeiger) and the IGSTC website.