

Italian-Israeli Joint Laboratory on Space Activities For Peaceful Purposes

First Call for Proposals for Joint Scientific and Technological Space Research Projects

Submission by 11/11/2013

Within the activities foreseen by the Italian-Israeli Joint Declaration of the Constitution of a Joint Laboratory on Space Activities for peaceful purposes (hereinafter called "Declaration") signed on December 25th, 2012 and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy and the Israeli Space Agency and between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy and the Italian Space Agency (hereinafter called "Memorandum") signed on December 25th, 2012, both of them issued to implement article 3 of the Agreement on industrial, scientific and technological cooperation between Italy and Israel signed in Bologna on June 13th, 2000, the **Italian Space Agency** for the Italian Party (referred to hereafter as "ASI"), and the **Israeli Space Agency** (referred to hereafter as "ISA) for the Israeli Party, are starting the procedures for the selection of the space projects eligible for financial support.

1. Purpose of the Call

Submission of joint space research projects by researchers of both countries is requested with the aim of encouraging scientific and technological cooperation between Italy and Israel.

2. Research areas

For this first call, joint Italian-Israeli scientific and technological space research projects can be presented in some of the following areas of the above Declaration:

- Earth Observation research and applications;**
- Space science and Exploration activities, including the utilization of the ISS;**
- Electric propulsion satellites.**

3. Mode of Cooperation

Cooperation may take the form of:

- joint research activities where interdependent subprojects of a single project are conducted in the Italian and the Israeli laboratories;
- complementary methodological approaches to a common problem;
- joint use of research facilities, materials, equipment and/or services by cooperating scientists;
- joint planning of research.

The winning projects of the present Call will be jointly financed by ASI and ISA.

4. Eligibility

The criteria to be followed in order to apply to the present Call are:

- a) Space research projects must be conducted by cooperating Israeli and Italian scientific research teams;
- b) The Italian partner may be a public or private University or a public or private research institute or an industrial entity.
- c) The Israeli partner for this first call may be chosen among the following list of potential partner: Technion Institute of Technology (for electric propulsion), Weizmann Institute of Science (for earth science, space science and exploration) and Ben-Gurion University (for earth science and space exploration).
- d) The space research project must be innovative and well balanced in the joint planning of the research.
- e) Each research team may submit only one project.
- f) Financing will be granted exclusively for projects of researchers holding Italian (or EU nationality and legally resident in Italy) and Israeli nationality.
- g) Each research team and affiliated Institution is responsible to ASI or ISA respectively, for the execution of the project.
- h) In relation to the additional requirements which Italian partners must fulfill and to the rules applicable in their dealings with ASI the proponents are asked to refer to the "*Norme integrative per la partecipazione italiana al bando per la selezione di progetti congiunti di ricerca per la cooperazione scientifica e tecnologica*" of Annex 1, which are to be considered as part and parcel of the present call.

5. Funding and project duration

The total maximum funding for each joint project is around € 60.000,00 (ASI will fund max 33.000,00 for the Italian team) for both sides for one year . It is intention of ASI and ISA to support up to 3 joint projects. However, the final number of projects to be funded as well as the final budget approved for each project will be determined based both on budgetary and scientific considerations. Research projects can span on a maximum of one year basis starting from the kick-off.

The two Agencies will grant the approved projects with financial contribution, within the limits of their available financial resources and subject to the approval of their budgets.

Contracts will be signed separately (Italian Team – ASI / Israelian Team – ISA) accordingly.

In Italy, each project that is selected can be financed after the reporting of the documented and eligible costs of research.

In relation to the additional requirements which Italian partners must fulfill and to the rules applicable to their dealings with ASI, the proponents are asked to refer to the Annex 1 "*Norme integrative per la partecipazione italiana al bando per la selezione di progetti congiunti di ricerca per la cooperazione scientifica e tecnologica*" which are to be taken as part and parcel of the present call.

6. Submission of the project proposals

The application form (Annex 2) must be submitted by the Italian and Israeli research team following the indications reported below. The projects must be drafted in english and signed by the Italian and Israeli Principal Investigator.

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Final submission, whether electronic or hard copy, including all relevant materials and attachments, **must be received, in a closed envelope, by 11/11/2013 at 12:00 am** (Italian local time).

All applications, whether electronic or hard copy, must be received by the deadline.

In order for an application to be considered valid, the Italian and Israeli research team in a joint project must submit all the electronic and hard copy applications, including all relevant materials and attachments, to ASI by the deadline.

Proposals have to be submitted using the attached application form, in **one hard copy and one electronic copy (CD-ROM)**, at the following address:

NON APRIRE

**Italian-Israeli Joint Laboratory on Space Activities For Peaceful Purposes
First Call for Proposals for Joint Scientific and Technological Space Research Projects
Agenzia Spaziale Italiana
Via del Politecnico, snc
00133 Roma**

7. Evaluation and selection of the projects

The projects will be evaluated and selected by the Joint Inter-Agency Board referred to in the above Declaration with the support of the Italian Scientific Attaché of the Italian Embassy in Israel.

The criteria of evaluation are:

- a) Novelty of the scientific proposal and possible impact on the industrial activities in terms of technological innovation.
- b) Qualifications of the applicants in performing the specific tasks and the added value of the cooperation between project partners.
- c) Expected scientific results in terms of publications or expected economic results.
- d) Relevance of the proposal to the main strategic space objectives in scientific and technological projects of the respective Italian and Israeli Space National Agencies.
- e) Economic consistency of the costs shown in the budget with regard to the proposed activities

The Joint Inter-Agency Board will draw a list of winning space projects and of those eligible. The eligible projects can be funded only in case of withdrawal by one of the winners.

8. Modalities for the financial support of the projects

Space projects in the frame of this Call will be financed by ASI and ISA in accordance with corresponding national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.

ASI will sign, with the Italian partner selected for the financial support, a contract containing the details of the terms and conditions of the financial support that will be granted as well as the rules for eligibility of costs and procedures for technical and financial reporting and the agreement on the intellectual property/royalties if relevant. ISA will sign a similar document with the Israeli partner.

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In Italy:

Advance payment (max 20% of the total) for the successful Italian applicants will be given upon presentation of bank/ insurance guarantee as detailed in the contract. The rest of the amount will be given upon presentation of a financial report of eligible expenses for each milestone.

9. Notification of the results

Project partners whose projects have been selected by the Joint Inter-Agency Board will be informed of the results by means of letter.

In Italy, the list of selected projects will be published on the website of the Italian Space Agency and in Israel, on the website of the Israeli Space Agency.

10. Reports on the projects

The projects partners whose projects have been selected must present a progress report of their projects after six months to the Joint Inter-Agency Board.

The projects partners whose projects have been selected must present to the Joint Inter-Agency Board a final scientific and financial report covering the work carried out during the entire one-year project period, which must be submitted in Italy within 45 days of the conclusion of the project as well as interim scientific reports in accordance with the contract's requirements.

The Principal Investigators will submit also a joint summary of the final report to ASI and ISA in English.

11. Additional information

Additional information and questions can be made to the following address by.....25/10/2013:

In Italy: accordo.italiaisraele@asi.it

The answers to the frequently asked questions (FAQ) will be published on the website of the Italian Space Agency.

AGENZIA SPAZIALE ITALIANA
IL DIRETTORE GENERALE


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