

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS
FOR BILATERAL JOINT PROJECTS
BETWEEN TURKEY AND SYRIA
FOR THE YEARS 2011-2012**

Within the framework of the Protocol for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and the Supreme Council of the Higher Commission for Scientific Research (SCHCSR) in the Syrian Arab Republic signed in Damascus on 23 December 2009.

TÜBİTAK and SCHCSR initiated the bilateral S & T Co-operation Programme for the years 2011-2012 and invite Universities, Research Centers and Institutes.

Priority Research Areas

- Agriculture and related technologies
- Biotechnology and genetics
- Energy and renewable energy
- Environment
- Metrology
- Space
- Electronics/Information and Communication Technologies
- Earthquake

Other areas may be added.

Evaluation criteria

The proposals should be clear in scope and based upon mutual interests of the co-operating teams.

The criteria, on which the evaluation of the proposals is based, are the following:

- A) The scientific quality and the research experience of the team submitting the proposal.
- B) The innovative character, originality and the comprehensive description of the proposal.
- C) The suitability of the proposed methodology.
- D) The scope of the co-operation with the cooperating country and the specific scientific team.
- E) The impact of the project.

The final selection of the proposals will be made by the Joint Committee, which will take into consideration the evaluation of both sides.

Applicable costs

- 1- Besides the financial support towards the exchange of project researchers, the Parties may provide additional research funds to their respective project teams whenever they consider it appropriate. It is desirable but not essential to fund the two sides equally.

2- The cost of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists, within the framework of the joint projects will be covered on the following basis:

- A) The sending Party will meet the cost of international travel to the place where the joint work will be executed. The sending Party shall be responsible for the emergency health insurance for its scientists.
- B) The receiving Party will meet the cost of trips within its territory, boarding and lodging. The daily allowances are listed below.

In Turkey:

- Free accommodation in a university guest house or equivalent
- Daily allowance : 20 Euro per day (Equivalent Turkish currency)

In Syria:

- Free accommodation and free meals.

Guidelines for the submission of proposals

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 timetable and the proposed budget of the projects.

Project proposals prepared in English using the special "Project Proposal Form" distributed by the Parties, shall be submitted for evaluation and approval simultaneously to TÜBİTAK and to SCHCSR.

Applications submitted by one side only will not be accepted. Turkish/Syrian project leaders should, therefore, be sure that their counterpart submits a matching application.

Proposals shall be independently evaluated and approved by each of the two Parties, following their own rules and regulations.

The Parties will make joint decisions in the next Joint Committee Meeting or via correspondence based on the review results wherein only projects, which were positively evaluated by both TÜBİTAK and SCHCSR reviews, will be considered.

The execution period of a joint research project should not exceed two years. The total duration of visits in one direction of a specific project should not be more than two months a year, with a total quota of six months a year for all the joint research projects supported under this Protocol.

Each scientific visit has to be reported by the Turkish scientists to TÜBİTAK and by the Syrian scientists to SCHCSR one month in advance. The application must include a brief description of the work to be performed during the planned visit.

Within a month after completion of a scientific visit, a progress report outlining the work performed during the visit will be submitted to TÜBİTAK and to SCHCSR. The following visit will not be permitted, unless the progress report for the preceding visit has been evaluated and approved.

Within two months after completion of the execution period, a final report, presenting the work carried out and the results obtained, will be prepared in English jointly by the two research teams and submitted to both TÜBİTAK and SCHCSR.

The Deadline for Applications: September 01, 2010. Project funding is expected to start on 1 January 2011.

On the Turkish side, 2 hard copies and 1 CD of the applications need to be submitted to the International Cooperation Department of TÜBİTAK. All Cv's of both project teams must be attached to the proposal.

On the Syrian side, 2 hard copies and 1 CD of the applications need to be submitted to the HCSR. All Cv's of both project teams must be attached to the proposal.

For further information and application forms:

- **Turkey:** TÜBİTAK, Department of International Cooperation
Atatürk Bulv., 221, Kavaklıdere
06100 Ankara, TURKEY
 - ◇ Coordinator: Mr. Oğuz Özkan,
Tel: + 90 312 427 50 39 Fax. + 90 312 427 74 83
(e-mail: uidb@tubitak.gov.tr)

- **Syria:** Damascus, Sabea Bahrat Former HQ of the Prime Minister
P.O. Box: 30151
Tel: + 963 11 3341864 Fax: + 963 11 3342998
 - ◇ Coordinator: Dr. Fawaz Youssef
(e-mail:youssef@hcsr.gov.sy)

Submission of proposals by fax or e-mail is not allowed.

The present call for proposals and the application forms for Turkish side are retrievable from the TUBİTAK web site at the address <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/uidb/ikili>

The present call for proposals and the application forms for the Syrian side are retrievable from the SCHCSR web site at the address <http://www.hcsr.gov.sy>