

Prima Prova scritta – Istruzioni per i candidati

Il/La candidato/a legga con attenzione il bando allegato, individui le categorie di soggetti potenzialmente interessati e scriva un riassunto in italiano da pubblicare nel sito web dell'Università di Padova per illustrare agli interessati le principali caratteristiche del bando, i requisiti di partecipazione e le modalità di presentazione della domanda. La lunghezza indicativa del riassunto è di circa 20 righe.

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*Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale*



صندوق العلوم والتنمية التكنولوجية

Science and Technology Development Fund

**ITALY – EGYPT
JOINT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION
CALL FOR JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS**

CLOSING DATE: 31st May, 2019 Time: 12:00 CEST

BACKGROUND

Within the framework of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Italy and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, signed in Cairo on April 29, 1975, the Directorate General for Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science) – Office IX of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Ministry of Scientific Research of Egypt, hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, initiate herewith the procedures for the drafting of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the years 2019-2021.

To this purpose, the Parties issue the present call for the submission of joint project proposals for the “Exchange of Researchers” and for the submission of joint project proposals of “Particular Relevance”.

GENERAL INFORMATION

A. FUNDING SCHEMES

With regard to the present call two funding schemes are available:

- a. “Exchange of Researchers” are joint research projects where only the expenses for researchers’ mobility are funded.
- b. “Particular Relevance” are joint research projects where research activities are co-funded by both Parties. This scheme requires a mandatory significant funding contribution on the part of the applicant’s Institution.

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B. AREAS OF COOPERATION

Projects may be submitted in one of the following priority research areas:

1. Science and Technologies applied to Cultural and Natural Heritage (Advances in non-destructive testing and investigations; Indoor environmental monitoring; 3D survey; exploitation and valorization; Innovative conservation and restoration techniques; Geophysical investigations; Interdisciplinary approaches; Disaster prevention)
2. Energy from renewable resources (New trends in renewable energy; Advances in energy storage systems; Biofuel/biogas production; Energy efficiency in production and in end uses - industrial, civil and residential, transportation -).
3. Smart Cities & Smart Mediterranean (Waste management and biofuel production; Blue economy; Sustainable mobility; Urban revitalization, de-urbanization and smart future villages).
4. Affordable & Inclusive Healthcare (Telemedicine; Cancer; Translational medicine; Chronic diseases; Geriatric medicine).
5. Drinking and Waste Water management (Sanitation technology; Advances in desalination technology; Saltwater intrusion into freshwater aquifers: monitoring and mitigation).
6. Sustainable agriculture and food production (Climatic and extra climatic factors affecting livestock, aqua fisheries and sustainable crop production; innovative solutions for combatting emerging infectious livestock diseases; advanced trends to improve livestock productivity; innovation to reduce loss of soil fertility, desertification, soil erosion and salization);
7. Basic Sciences (Aquaculture; Biochemistry; Biology; Chemistry; Geology; Mathematics; Microbiology; Mineral Resources; Oceanography; Physics).
8. Material sciences and nanotechnologies.
9. Space and related applications (Ground and infrastructure deformation monitoring; Radar interferometry; Climate change; Land, marine and atmospheric monitoring).

Projects submitted in other research areas will not be considered for evaluation.

C. ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

- For the Italian Party, the call is open to coordinators with Italian nationality or with any other EU nationality provided they are legally resident in Italy.
- For the Egyptian Party, the call is open to coordinators with Egyptian nationality.
- Each project coordinator shall submit only one project proposal.
- Projects must be jointly submitted to both Parties. Proposals submitted to only one of the two Parties will not be considered.

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D. PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- a. Projects must be drafted in English.
- b. Projects must have the same duration of the Executive Programme.
- c. A full proposal consists of:
 - i. a description of the working teams;
 - ii. a description of the research activities the teams intend to carry out within the project timeframe;
 - iii. a detailed description of the costs of the project (only for projects of Particular Relevance).
- d. Regarding projects of Particular Relevance: for the Italian Party, an endorsement letter signed by the legal representative of the applying Institution shall be provided by email to the following address: progetti.st@esteri.it
- e. For projects involving living organisms and humans, it is the responsibility of the coordinator to ensure that all facets of animal care and use meet the requirements of the International Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes. This includes a responsibility to protect and promote the welfare of animals used. Institutional ethics committee approval and informed consent are mandatory parts in all interventional studies (human or animal).

E. DATA TREATMENT COMPLIANCE

The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation will process personal data requested for applying to this call based on the principles of lawfulness, fairness and transparency to protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of natural persons. In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (UE) 2016/679, an explicit consent to data treatment is being requested during the application procedure.

PROCEDURES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

A. EXCHANGE OF RESEARCHERS

The proposal shall be jointly submitted to both Parties. In particular, the Italian coordinator shall submit it to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Egyptian coordinator shall submit it to the Egyptian Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF).

Proposals submitted to only one of the two Parties will not be considered.



The Italian coordinator shall submit the proposal exclusively through the *ad hoc* online platform:
<http://web.esteri.it/pgr/>

Any inquiry about the present call can be sent to: dgsp-09bandi2@esteri.it

The Egyptian coordinator shall submit the proposal exclusively through the *ad hoc* online platform:
www.stdf.org.eg. In case of any inquiries, please check the STDF website for the e-mail address of the program STDF coordinator.

B. *PROJECTS OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE*

The Italian coordinator shall submit the project proposal exclusively through the dedicated online platform:
<http://web.esteri.it/pgr/>

Any inquiry about the present call can be sent to: dgsp-09bandi2@esteri.it

The Egyptian coordinator shall submit the proposal exclusively through the *ad hoc* online platform:
www.stdf.org.eg. In case of any inquiries, please check the STDF website for the e-mail address of the program STDF coordinator.

PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION AT NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL

At the closure of the call, all applications will be checked for eligibility requirements. Eligible applications will then move on to a two-step selection process:

- STEP 1. Projects will be evaluated at the national level according to the following criteria:
 - Scientific relevance
 - Methodology and documentation
 - Qualification of the applicants
 - Added value of the bilateral cooperation
 - Added value in addressing societal challenges
 - Exploitation and dissemination of results
 - Budget adequacy (for projects of Particular Relevance only)

Preference will be given to projects involving industrial counterparts and/or benefiting from third parties' funding (such as public or private research institutes and organizations). Preference will also be given to proposals taking part in multilateral and/or European research programmes, such as *Horizon 2020* and related actions.

- STEP 2. The two Parties will reach consensus on a shortlist of projects eligible for funding.



REASONS FOR EXCLUSION FROM THE EVALUATION PROCESS

- Lack of eligibility conditions;
- Submission of more than one proposal by the same coordinator;
- Incomplete application (see above, General information, section D. Project Requirements).

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

For the Italian Party, the list of the selected projects and information on funding procedures will be posted exclusively on the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at the following address:

https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecutivi/accordi_programmi_culturali_tecnologici.html

For the Egyptian Party, the list of the selected projects and funding procedures will be posted exclusively on the website of the Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF), www.stdf.org.eg

FINANCING OF PROJECTS

Financing will be granted within the limits of the available annual resources of each Party.

A. EXCHANGE OF RESEARCHERS

Only the cost of the exchange of researchers will be financed.

For each project 1 short-term (up to 10 days) or 1 long-term stay (up to 30 days) in Italy and 1 short-term (up to 10 days) or 1 long-term stay (up to 30 days) in Egypt may be financed yearly within the limits of the available annual resources of each Party.

The Italian Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers with Italian nationality (or any other EU nationality who are legally resident in Italy) visiting Egypt and will provide a contribution for accommodation expenses in Italy to researchers with Egyptian nationality as follows:

- 93 Euros/day, from day 1 to day 10
- 18,50 Euros/day, from day 11 to day 30, up to a maximum amount of 1.300 Euros/month

In Italy, applications for mobility from Egyptian (accommodation expenses) or Italian (travel expenses) scientists may be submitted online by granted applicants in the website reserved by the Italian MAECI, from January 15th until October 31st, only. The application must be submitted at least two months before



the scheduled research visit. For administrative reasons research visits can take place only after March 10th and must end by December 31st.

The researcher must send a report about the activity carried out within 15 days after the end of the research visit. The report, as a pdf file, must be sent by e-mail to ricercatori.stranieri@esteri.it

Failure to send the report will bar any further application, within the same project, during the following year.

The Egyptian Party will pay international travel expenses to researchers with Egyptian nationality and will provide a contribution of 10,000 EGP for long-term stay (30 days) or 800 EGP per day for short-term stay (up to 10 days), for accommodation expenses in Egypt to researchers with Italian nationality (or with any other EU nationality who are legally resident in Italy).

Starting with the second year of activity, the Italian and the Egyptian coordinators shall submit an annual report on the progress of their project by January 31st, written according to the guidelines indicated in the text of the Executive Programme.

Funding for the following years will not be granted if coordinators fail to submit their progress reports.

B. PROJECTS OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE

For the Italian Party, the contribution of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to bilateral projects of "Particular Relevance" is intended as a co-funding to the projects' costs. Therefore the applicant's Institution must finance the remaining part on the basis of in kind contribution (i.e. salary of personnel working for the project and indirect costs of the project). The applicant's Institution must finance in advance the project expenses.

According to the Italian law Nr.401/90, at the beginning of each year of activity, the coordinators of the projects listed in the Executive Programme will be invited to submit a request for funding, in accordance with the specific call issued by Office IX of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Call details will be available, in due time, at the following link:

http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/avvisiincaricobandi.html

The Egyptian Party will also consider granting an annual special financial contribution, within the limits of the available financial resources for these projects.



ISARP

Italy-South Africa joint Research Programme

Call for applications for joint research and mobility projects: 2018-2020
CLOSING DATE: 07 SEPTEMBER 2017 h. 17.00 C.E.S.T.

A Maximum of 14 Joint Projects (4 research and 10 mobility) will be funded for this call

South Africa and Italy have a long lasting bilateral partnership in science and technology. The first agreement was signed, as far back as, January 1998 in Pretoria, and implemented through this joint Programme in 2000. The success of this partnership has led to the establishment of the NEW Programme, now known as ISARP, between the Directorate General for Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science) – Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (herein after MAECI) and the South African Department of Science and Technology (herein after DST) and the National Research Foundation (herein after NRF), hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, launching this renewed simultaneous joint calls.

STRUCTURE AND AIMS OF ISARP

ISARP offers two different funding schemes supporting different cohorts of researchers (i.e. young, emerging and well-established researchers). These two funding schemes are implemented on a co-funding model between Italy and South Africa. The two schemes to apply for are:

1. **Joint Research Scheme** – joint research projects where research activities between researchers are co-funded by the two Parties. Grants for joint research projects within this Programme are aimed at promoting collaborative projects with clearly defined goals involving at least one partner based in Italy and one based in South Africa. Applications should describe *ambitious applied* research and propose innovative approaches. The research is to be carried out at the research facilities involved.
2. **Joint Mobility Scheme** – joint research projects where only the expenses for researchers' mobility are co-funded by the two Parties. This scheme aims to support reciprocal visits and short stays in Italy for young and emerging researchers from South Africa and vice versa.

With this phase of funding, both Italy and South Africa have agreed to make fewer awards but with increased levels of support in order to facilitate the development of sustainable institutional links between the two countries. The overall aim of this Programme, therefore, is not only to build on existing, outstanding and established research partnerships but to also foster new linkages and engagements with small cohorts of young researchers for new links between South Africa and Italy. Please note that the basis of selection from both countries will be excellence. However, from the South African side, excellent joint projects with a clear intention to address diversity, will be favorably considered. Likewise, environmental sustainability will be favorably considered. The specific aims of this Programme is:

- to support the advancement of basic, applied and innovative research;
- to contribute to scientific advancement in both countries through the funding of joint research activities in specified research fields;
- to provide an opportunity for young researchers in the two countries to meet and interact through the funding of researchers' mobility in the frame of joint research projects in specified research fields; and
- to contribute meaningfully to research capacity development.

AREAS OF COOPERATION

Different areas of cooperation have been identified and prioritised for the two funding schemes as outlined below.

Joint Research Projects may be submitted in the priority research areas of cooperation listed below. Only a maximum of four joint research projects will be funded in this scheme, preferably one project per thematic area.

- Biotechnologies, with focus on Pharmacological Research in the field of the Transmissible Diseases and vaccination
- Integrated and Sustainable Water Management, promoting measures and techniques aimed to enhance the sustainability and the efficiency of the water resources
- Blue Economy
- Space, Astrophysics and Radio-astronomy

Joint Mobility Projects may only be submitted in the priority areas indicated below. A maximum of ten joint projects will be funded in this category.

- New Technologies for Social Science
- Aerospace
- Blue Economy
- Information and Communication Technology
- Green and Renewable Energy

Proposals outside the above-mentioned broad thematic area of focus will not be accepted.

Please Note:

- Cooperation projects with the potential to lead to future bilateral and multilateral cooperation within the South African, Italian and European research programmes will be favourably considered.
- Cooperation projects aiming at strengthening the efforts to combat global climate change and address its adverse effects, reducing climate change vulnerability, enhancing risk assessment, protecting the environment and natural resources and stimulating the transition towards a low-carbon economy will be favourably considered;
- In terms of human capital development, joint projects that involve young scientists (i.e. doctoral students) and pay attention to gender equality (a balanced involvement of female and male researchers) will be positively considered and will receive a higher rating.
- In terms of the South African transformation agenda, South African applications from previously disadvantaged individuals and the involvement of historically disadvantaged higher education and research institutions will be prioritised.

DURATION OF PROJECTS

The projects will be supported for a period of three years (projects starting beginning of 2018 and ending December 2020).

WHO MAY APPLY?

Each proposal under this Programme must have one main applicant based in Italy and one main applicant based in South Africa; they are the **Principal Investigators** on the Italian and South African sides respectively. They bear the main responsibility for the project including its technical and administrative coordination as well as timely delivery of scientific and financial reports. Additional partners (including postdoctoral researchers) based in Italy and/or in South Africa can also participate in the consortia. Applicants are allowed to collaborate with other partners such as NGOs or companies, but no funding can be applied to these. Former PIs are welcome to participate in the call; however, the project should not only be a continuation of the current/past project.



South Africa:

This call is open to working researchers residing in South Africa and affiliated with a recognised higher education or research institution such as a university, university of technology or science council. Commercial institutions (i.e. industry e.g. SMEs) are also eligible as part of the research team and have to fund their own activities within a project. Private higher education institutions are not eligible to apply under this programme. The South African applicant must be in possession of a PhD.

Italy:

This call is open to public or private research organisations. Principal Investigators shall have Italian or any other EU nationality and legal residence in Italy.

Please note:

- The Principal Investigators for the Joint Mobility Scheme should only be young emerging researchers (i.e. researchers who are not older than 45-years on time of application and who have received their PhDs within the past 7-years).
- Each Principal Investigator shall submit only one project proposal. Also, Principal Investigators cannot submit the same proposal for both Schemes.

WHICH ACTIVITIES MAY I APPLY FOR?

Support will be provided for collaborative basic, applied and innovation research projects.

Funds for the Joint Research Scheme can be used to cover the following costs:

- **Research-related costs** - activities to be supported may include expenses relating to field work such as conducting interviews, research-related trips, and research equipment (small equipment). The funds can also be used for consumables, accessories, publication related costs, and any others expenses listed in the specific calls for each Countries;
- **Exchange programmes** - short term mobility or travel expenses (i.e. transport and accommodation costs) of the research teams between the two partnering countries.
- **Doctoral and Post-doctoral Research Placements** - The placements should enable young researchers to (1) learn valuable new skills or techniques; (2) access facilities or resources not readily available at home; (3) build relationships with potential new collaborators; and (4) advance complementary collaborative research. The duration of each placement is expected to be 3-6 months; with flexibility to split the placement into several shorter visits. Longer placements may be undertaken where this would add value and these should be justified within the application. Placements must enhance, not replace, the standard training and study support that both the doctoral and postdoctoral researchers receive.
- **Knowledge sharing costs** – Only for the South African applicants, in support of activities organised by the consortium, such as joint workshops, seminars, conferences, symposia, lecture presentations, capacity building sessions, meetings, local/regional dissemination of results aimed at involving stakeholders, and/or end users from outside the consortium with a minimum of 10% of the grant budget. For the Italian counterparts, please refer to the expenses listed in the specific call.

The PhD placements must be managed to fit within the original funded period of the studentship. Additional funding will not be made available through this call or by the funders to support studentship extensions for those undertaking international placements. Applicants should include information about how these exchanges will be managed within their proposal.

South African researchers are urged to encourage their PhD students (who have been selected as members of the project team under this scheme) to apply for Bursaries through the NRF's "Scholarship and Fellowship Funding Programmes" which are usually launched June/July of every year and close 2 months following the opening date. Actual opening and closing dates of these student support funding programmes should be verified with Dr Mbulelo Ncango, Director: Human Infrastructure Capacity Development (HICD) at either +27 12 481 4390 or e-mail address: Mbulelo.ncango@nrf.ac.za. This is a very central component to this call as both funders need to ensure the development of research capacity in identified research fields through the support of PhD students within each project.



Funds for the Joint Mobility Scheme can be used to cover the following costs:

The purpose of this Scheme is to support the networking research activities and mobility of young researchers (and their postgraduate students) between the two countries. The funding of the bilateral networking activities is based on the **principle of reciprocity**. Research activities as such **will not be supported in this Scheme**.

Therefore, the funds for this Scheme can only be used to finance the cost of the exchange of researchers. For each project 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) and 1 long-term stay (up to 30 days) in Italy and 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) and 1 long-term stay (up to 30 days) in South Africa may be financed yearly.

The South African Part will cover:

- International travel, accommodation, subsistence and local travel of researchers.
- Short-term stay of up to 10 days and long term stay of up to 30 days.
- Other networking activities as defined and motivated by the partnering researchers (e.g. joint workshops, seminars, conferences, symposia, lecturer presentations, meetings, regional conferences, etc.).

The Italian Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers with Italian nationality (or any other EU nationality, who are legally resident in Italy) and will provide a contribution for the accommodation expenses in Italy to researchers with South African nationality.

The receiving Party shall provide medical insurance coverage, on the basis of the rules in force in each Country, against work accidents and illnesses, excluding already existing and chronic diseases.

Please Note:

- The funders will also organise **launching and closing workshops** for the Programme (maximum of 2-days per workshop) and Principal Investigators (for both Schemes) should include, in their budget plans, the costs of attending these two workshops (i.e. travel and accommodation costs). The launching workshop will be held in Italy (date will be communicated during the awarding process) and the closing workshop in South Africa (preferably before end March 2021).

FUNDING MODALITIES

South Africa:

- **Joint Research Scheme:** The total amount requested from the NRF should not exceed **R3mil** per project. Funding will be made available for a maximum of 3-years, to be paid in annual installments (**R1mil** per year) and exclusively for research activities commencing in 2018.
- **Joint Mobility Scheme:** The total amount requested from the NRF should not exceed **R300 000** per project. Funding will be made available for a maximum of 3-years, to be paid in annual instalments (**R100 000** per year) and exclusively for visits commencing in 2018.

Italy:

- **Joint Research Scheme:** Total amount requested from the Italian side should not exceed **100 000 Euro** per year. Funding will be made available for a maximum of 3-years, to be paid in annual installments and exclusively for research activities commencing in 2018.
- According to the Italian law Nr. 401/90, at the beginning of each year of activity, the principal investigators of projects listed in the Executive Programme will be invited to submit a request for funding, in accordance with the specific call issued by MAECI. Call details will be available, in due time, at the following link:
http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/avvisiincaricobandi.html
- Financing will be granted within the limits of the available annual resources.
- **Joint Mobility Scheme:** 93 Euro/day, from day 1 to day 10, up to a maximum of **930 Euro** (short-term stay) and 18, 50 Euro/day, from day 11 to day 30, up to a maximum amount of **1, 300 Euro** (long-term stay). **From the Italian side, the financing for this Scheme will be granted within the limits of the available annual resources.**

HOW DO I APPLY?

It is up to the applicants to find their own research partners. **Proposals must be received in both South Africa (NRF) and Italy, Directorate-General for Country Promotion (DGSP) - Economy, Culture and Science – Unit IX of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI).** Proposals which have not been received in both countries will not be considered for funding. The call process is highly competitive therefore application does not guarantee funding. The evaluation of applications from both countries should have positive ratings before consideration for funding. Both the NRF and the DGSP – Unit IX MAECI will not be held responsible for non-submission, administration or evaluation of the application in the partner country.

South Africa:

Applicants can apply by following the steps below:

- Applications must be submitted through an online application process to the NRF by accessing the link: <https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/>
- Register/Login using your ID number and password.
- Go to "My applications" and select "create new application".
- Select the call for which you are applying for: **ISARP 2017 Joint Call for Proposals**.
- Remember to complete all sections of the application as indicated on the online application form.
- Please attach the necessary documents in PDF file in the following order: CV of partner, budget of partner and the signed page of the partner.
- Remember to submit your application on completion.
- Completed applications will go to the host University for Verification before being forwarded to the NRF for further processing.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be considered.
- Applications submitted outside the NRF Online Submission system will not be accepted.
- No hard copies will be accepted and will automatically be disqualified by the NRF.
- Only applications endorsed by the research office or its equivalent at higher education or research institutions will be accepted.
- Please contact your research office if you have any queries.

Italy:

The Italian Principal Investigators must submit their proposals exclusively through the *ad-hoc* online platform: <http://web.esteri.it/pgr/sviluppo>. Any enquiries about the present call can be sent to: DGSP-09bandi2@esteri.it

HOW ARE APPLICATIONS EVALUATED?

Following the closing date indicated below, applications will be submitted to recognised national experts in the various fields of research represented by the proposals received. Both the South African and the Italian activities will be assessed against the same criteria but additional, country-specific application requirements may also apply. Proposals for the **Joint Research Scheme** will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Scientific relevance of the intended joint research project
- Feasibility of the joint research plan and adequacy of the scientific method
- Competence and expertise of the scientists/research teams concerned
- Relevance to the call, added value expected from the bilateral research collaboration
- Environmental sustainability
- Potential for further or future international cooperation
- Student involvement through exchange programmes and short-term placements (for Human Capital Development)
- Participation of industry (SMEs) in the joint projects
- Budget fitting to the work plan (value for money)

The following will also be taken into consideration during the review process:

- **Training Excellence:** PhD exchanges and additional training activities are integrated appropriately into the student research projects to ensure that the student's research project and broader skills training is enhanced through engagement within this programme.
- **Management and Welfare:** There should be a clear, fair and transparent process for selecting PhD students who will undertake exchanges through this programme, with a robust mechanism for managing PhD exchanges in both partner institutions to ensure student welfare is managed appropriately.
- **Strategic Links:** An indication of how the proposed exchange activities will benefit both partnering institutions over the lifetime of the programme. There should be suggestions of how this funding will facilitate new strategic links between the partners that will continue to exist and strengthen beyond the lifetime of this opportunity.

Therefore, the integration of young researchers and students, and the exchange of doctoral and post-doctoral researchers are encouraged, as is the involvement of students and researchers from previously-disadvantaged communities in South Africa.

Proposals for the **Joint Mobility Scheme** will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Scientific relevance of the intended joint research project
- Competence and expertise of the scientists/research teams concerned
- Relevance to the call, added value expected from the bilateral research collaboration
- Environmental sustainability
- Potential of the networking activities leading to long-lasting sustained partnerships
- Suitability and feasibility of the work plan
- Budget fitting to the work plan (value for money)
- From the South African side emphasis will also be placed on the participation of postgraduate students

Please Note:

- Following national evaluation, a shortlist of projects to be funded will be constituted through consultations between the NRF and MAECI based on the results of the evaluations done in both countries.
- The project selection will be carried out by both funders through a Joint Technical Committee (JTC) Meeting. The results of this selection meeting will be announced presumably before December 2017.
- Please note that, although the two Parties undertake to execute the evaluation and selection process as quickly as possible so as to notify applicants of the results as soon as possible, the nature of the bilateral process requires the alignment of the commencement of each phase of the process with the partnering country, whose schedules may differ significantly.

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

For the Italian Party, the list of the selected projects and funding procedures will be posted on the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at the following address:

http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecutivi/accordi_programmi_culturali_tecnologici.html

PROJECTS FOLLOW-UP AND REPORTING

- A final scientific and financial report has to be submitted in English by both the South African and the Italian Principal Investigators no more than 3 months after the end of the project.
- The report has to mention outputs of the projects compared with the objectives and aims of the proposal.
- The joint publications have to mention the support from all Organizations financing the present call.

Please Note:

The funders are planning to produce a small "**coffee-table publication**" highlighting the success of the programme and the impact of all funded projects. Principal Investigators will therefore be requested to submit a contribution (an article) for this publication at the end of the funding phase. PhD students who were involved in the programme will also be requested to submit articles indicating how they have benefited from the short-term exchange placements they undertook as part of this programme. The articles will also include



anecdotes by the SMEs that were involved in the joint projects. The intention is to have the publication launched at the closing workshop.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

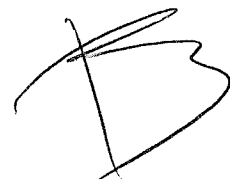
The researchers of each country, particularly the Principal Investigators, must take adequate steps to ensure protection and sharing of the intellectual property that could result from the joint project.

WHEN IS THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS?

Applications for both South Africa and Italy must be submitted by **07 September 2017 h. 17.00 C.E.S.T.** Applications received after this date will not be considered. Please note that neither the NRF nor the MAECI, will be responsible for applications that were not received. Principal Investigators are also advised to ensure submission of their proposals by their counterparts in the partner Country.

WHERE CAN I OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION?

National Research Foundation (NRF)	
For programme-content related queries	For technical & grant related queries
<p>Mr Teuns Phahlamohlaka Professional Officer: Overseas Cooperation International Relations and Cooperation Tel: +27 12 481 4385 Email: teuns.phahlam@nrf.ac.za</p>	<p>Mr Stephen Dlamini Professional Officer: Grants Management and Systems Administration (GMSA) Tel: +27 12 481 4037 Email: stephen.dlamini@nrf.ac.za</p>
Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)	
<p>MAECI HELP DESK DGSP-09bandi2@esteri.it</p>	





*Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale*

**GRANTS FOR FOREIGN CITIZENS AND ITALIAN CITIZENS LIVING ABROAD AWARDED BY THE
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT.
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-2019.**

DEADLINE 30th APRIL 2018

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)** offers **grants** in favor of **foreign citizens not residing in Italy and Italian citizens living abroad (IRE)*** for the **academic year 2018-2019** in order to foster international cultural, scientific and technological cooperation, to promote Italian language and culture and to support Italy's economic system in the world (According to Law 288/55 and its subsequent changes and additions).

Grants are offered to pursue study, training, and/or research programs at Italian Higher Education Institutes, both public and legally recognised. The list of these institutions is available on the following website:

<https://studyinitaly.esteri.it>

The list of **eligible** foreign countries can be found on the website Study in Italy: <https://studyinitaly.esteri.it/en/call-for-procedure>.

Art. 1

GRANTS OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 Master's Degree (Laurea Magistrale 2° ciclo)

Grants for Master's Degree courses are awarded for a **period of study of 6 (six) or 9 (nine) months**.

Admission to the first year of a Master's Degree course in Italy requires the completion of a Bachelor's degree in the applicants' country of origin; admission to the second year is granted to applicants upon evidence to be on track with their first year studies.

1.2 Courses of Higher Education in Arts, Music, and Dance (AFAM)

Grants for Courses of Higher Education in Arts, Music, and Dance (AFAM) are awarded for a **period of study of 6 (six) or 9 (nine) months**.

To be admitted to an Italian AFAM Institute, applicants need to meet the entry requirements and academic qualifications established by the relevant University/Institute.

1.3 PhD program

Grants for a PhD program are awarded for a **period of study of 6 (six) or 9 (nine) months**.

To be admitted to a PhD in Italy, applicants need to meet the entry requirements and academic qualifications established by the University; they are also required to provide a letter of acceptance on behalf of the relevant Italian University.

1.4 Research under academic supervision (Progetti in co-tutela)

Grants for a research under academic supervision are awarded for a **period of study of 6 (six) or 9 (nine) months**.

This type of grants can be awarded to research projects carried out at the Italian Research Institutions (i.e. Italian Research Council - CNR, Italian National Institute of Health – ISS, Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics – INFN, Italian National Institute for Astrophysics – INAF, The Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research - ISPRA) under the academic supervision of public Universities or Museums and Archives.

Applicants must submit a research project and the letter of admission on behalf of the host University/Institute; they are also required to provide the name and contacts (e-mail address) of their supervisors.

Admission to some Master's Degree courses or AFAM Institutes requires an admission test. Please refer to the relevant University/AFAM Institute to check whether an admission test is required.

1.5 Italian Language and Culture Courses

Grants for Italian language and culture courses are awarded exclusively to students attending an Italian course at a University for a period of **3 (three) months**.

Applicants must provide a certificate of their proficiency in Italian language. The minimum level required is A2 within the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): (https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella_certificazioni.pdf).

Art. 2 ELIGIBILITY

Applicants who will meet the following requirements by the deadline of this call (April 30th, 2018) may apply for a grant.

2.1 Academic qualifications

Applications must only be submitted by foreign students not residing in Italy and by Italian citizens living abroad (IRE)* holding an **appropriate academic qualification required to enroll to the Italian University/Institute**. <https://studyinitaly.esteri.it/en/Recognition-of-qualification>



2.2 Age requirements

Applicants for Master's Degree/Higher Education in Arts, Music, and Dance (AFAM) Programmes/ Italian Language and Culture Courses should not be over 28 years old by the deadline of this call, with the sole exception of renewals.

Applicants for **PhD Programmes** should not be over 30 years old by the deadline of this call, with the sole exception of renewals.

Applicants for **Research Projects under academic supervision** should not be over 40 years old by the deadline of this call.

2.3 Language proficiency

Applicants must provide a certificate of their proficiency in Italian language. **The minimum level required is B2 within the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR):** (https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella_certificazioni.pdf).

Proof of proficiency in Italian is not required for courses entirely taught in English.

In this case applicants must provide a language certificate of their proficiency in English Language. **The minimum level required is B2 within the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).**

For Italian language and culture courses, applicants must provide a certificate of their proficiency in Italian language. **The minimum level required is A2 within the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR):** (https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella_certificazioni.pdf).

Art. 3 **RENEWALS**

3.1 Applicants who have received a MAECI grant in the **Academic Year 2017-2018** may apply to continue or complete a multi-year degree course. Renewals are granted only to applicants who prove satisfactory academic progress.

3.2 Only applicants who have received a MAECI grant for Academic Year 2017-2018 are eligible to attend a Single Cycle Degree Program (*Corso di Laurea a Ciclo Unico*) for the academic year 2018-2019. Renewals are granted only to applicants who prove satisfactory academic progress.

Art. 4 **FUNDING PERIOD**

Grants are awarded for a period of study from **October 1st, 2018 to September 30th, 2019.**



Art. 5
INELIGIBILITY

Italian Public Administration employees and their first-degree descendants can not apply for grants.

Grants cannot be awarded to attend Bachelor's Degree courses (first cycle) or Single Cycle Degree Programs **with the sole exception of renewals** (cf. Art. 3.2). Besides, they cannot be awarded to attend courses in foreign Institutions based in Italy or abroad, nor in private Institutes, Research Centres or Labs not recognised by the Italian Ministry of Education, University, and Research (MIUR). <https://studyinitaly.esteri.it/en/research>

Applications not meeting the eligibility criteria will not be considered.

Art. 6
SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applicants must complete and submit the online application form available upon registration at the following link:

<https://studyinitaly.esteri.it>

[Click here to access the registration form](#)
<https://studyinitaly.esteri.it/registrazione>

Applications must be submitted by 2 pm (Central European Time) April 30th, 2018.

Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Art. 7
SELECTION AND AWARDING OF GRANTS

7.1 Selection

Applications will be evaluated by a Committee set up by the Italian Diplomatic Mission accredited in the applicant's country of origin.

Syrian applicants will be selected by a Committee established by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (DGSP – Office VII).

7.2 Awarding

Grants will be awarded on the basis of a comparative assessment of applications according to the entry requirements and other criteria related to applicant's cv.



7.3 Ranking

The relevant Diplomatic Mission will publish the list of grantees as well as a list of the best excluded, if any.

Art. 8

TUITION FEES

Grantees may be exempted from the payment of enrollment and tuition fees depending on the policy of each University.

Exemption is not granted for courses in Italian language and culture, for which enrollment fees are due.

Art. 9

HEALTH AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

Grantees will be covered by a health and medical/accident insurance contracted by MAECI for the entire duration of the grant.

Insurance coverage will not apply to events derived from pre-existing physical and pathological conditions.

Art. 10

TERMS OF GRANT

Grantees will receive a **900 Euros monthly allowance** on a quarterly basis, which will be paid on their Italian bank account.

The first installment of the grant can be received only after the completion of University enrollment and the submission of all the documents requested according to the necessary administrative procedures.

The last installment of the grant will be paid only upon verification of satisfactory academic progress.

The grant will cover courses attended in Italy only.

Art. 11

INCOMPATIBILITY

The grant is incompatible with any other grant offered by the Italian Government or any other Italian public institution.

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NOTES

* IRE grants are offered for the following countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ethiopia, Peru, South Africa, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

