

3rd EGYPTIAN-SPANISH JOINT CALL FOR IT TECHNOLOGICAL CO-OPERATION 2018 - 2019

JOINT ITIDA-CDTI CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER THE EGYPTIAN-SPANISH IT INNOVATION PROGRAMME (ESITIP).

Joint Programme for Co-operation signed by the Information Technology Industry Development Agency (ITIDA), and the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, E.P.E. (CDTI), on the 4th July, 2016. The objective of the joint Egyptian-Spanish programme is to promote and fund market - driven research and technology development as well as to encourage partnerships and business-led R&D&I collaborative projects between entities from both countries. The Parties agreed to launch joint Calls for Proposals.

The joint call for proposals aims to launch ambitious joint projects of a high international standard between Egyptian and Spanish organizations. Potential projects will be funded by ITIDA in Egypt and CDTI in Spain.

CALL GUIDELINES:

➤ NODAL IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The Information Technology Industry Development Agency, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Government of Egypt and the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, E.P.E., Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, Government of Spain, are the nodal implementing agencies from the Egyptian and Spanish sides, respectively.

The Information Technology Industry Development Agency (ITIDA) is the nodal agency under the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Government of Egypt, for the promotion of research, development and innovation in the field of Information Technology (IT). ITIDA funds and supports Egyptian industry working in the area of IT.

The Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, E.P.E. (CDTI) is a Public Entity under the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, Government of Spain, which fosters the technological development and innovation of Spanish Companies. Since 1977, it has been the entity that channels and supports applications for national and international R&D&I projects of Spanish Companies.

➤ **THEMATIC AREAS**

This Call for proposals is a generic call open to collaborative R&D projects in all areas of Information Technology (IT) but a bigger weight will be to:

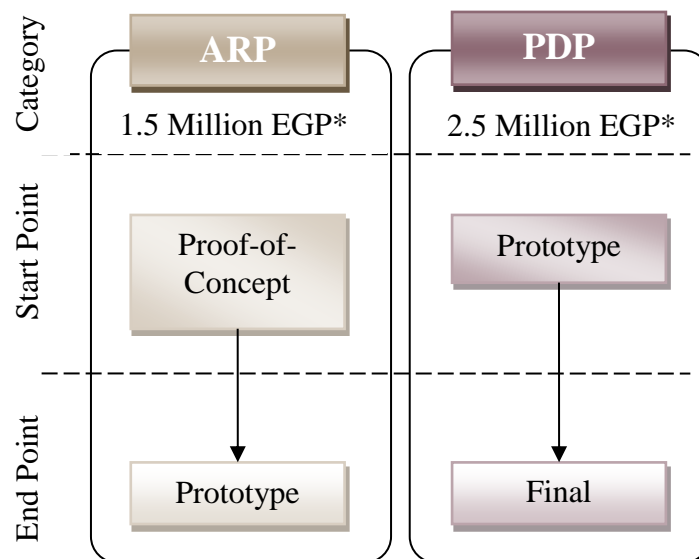
Strategic Areas: Wireless and Cyber Security, Electronics and Embedded Systems for ICT Applications , ICT for Homeland Security, ICT for Transportation, ICT for Health, ICT for Agriculture, ICT for the Disabled, ICT for Education, ICT for Energy.

Technology-Trend Areas: Mobile Applications and Computing, Cloud Computing, Data Analytics and Big Data, Internet of Things, Gamification, Cognitive Computing, Smart Machines, Blockchain and Virtual and Augmented Reality.

➤ **TYPE OF PROPOSALS**

Industry-driven and market-oriented R&D projects, joint technological co-operation projects between companies and researches in Egypt and companies in Spain consisting in the development or substantial improvement of new products, processes or services will be considered.

ITIDA will fund Product Development Projects (PDP) and the Advanced Research Projects (ARP). Each of these projects has its conditions on the entry point and the final output as summarized in the figure below:



Duration of projects: from 1 year up to 2 years.

**The funding conditions from ITIDA are set in EGP and explained in ITIDA Financial Guide. They refer to the value of both currencies on the date of the launch of the Call (15th of November). ITIDA will fund Egyptian entities with the maximum amount expressed (EGP 1.5 million for ARPs projects and EGP 2.5 million for PDPs projects) and any extra amount should be funded by the Egyptian company.*

Additional fund of EGP 250,000 will be offered to IC Fabrication and Circuit Prototyping.

➤ TIMETABLE

- Launch of Call for Proposals: 15th of November, 2018
- Deadline for Submission of completed applications: 31st of January 24:00, 2019 Spain local time.
- Eligibility Approval and Funding Decisions will be announced on the website.

➤ WHO CAN APPLY?

Minimum eligibility criteria: one Egyptian ICT academic institution, one Egyptian ICT industrial partner and one Spanish private company.

Eligible Spanish Applicants

Applicants from the industry are companies or Economic Interest Groupings (EIG) or consortia made up of at least two independent companies. Eligible companies shall be operating and registered in Spain and holding a valid Spanish company tax code (CIF). No minimum Spanish capital percentage ownership is required. Spanish subsidiaries of companies headquartered outside of Spain may also be eligible for support.

As per CDTI's internal regulations, the Spanish consortia should be led by a Spanish Company. Collaboration with other entities such as research centres, technological centres, universities, hospitals and other R&D-performing organisations is permitted under CDTI's regulations, as subcontractors of the Spanish companies present in the consortia.

Eligible Egyptian Applicants

ITIDA Eligibility criteria for Egyptian companies and ICT academic institutes are:

1. Egyptian companies have to be an established company with at least one successful Product:
 - Operating and registered in Egypt.
 - Registered in ITIDA Database.
 - More than 50% of its share is owned by Egyptians.
2. Research team must be:
 - Working in an Egyptian university or research institute.
 - PI holds PhD.
 - PI should have publication/patent in the proposal topic.

➤ HOW TO APPLY?

- **Joint R&D&I proposals must be submitted to CDTI, by the 31st of January, 2019.** Unilaterally submitted proposals shall not be considered.

- **Egyptian and Spanish co-applicants must elaborate a single project proposal application (Annex 1 – ESITIP Application Form)**. The Bilateral Co-operation Form must emphasize how the proposed collaboration adds value, main technology highlights and innovations, activities to be developed by the Parties involved underlining the collaborative work being carried out on each side, their expertise, etc.

Please note that this ESITIP Application Form must be sealed and signed by all co-applicants at the end of the document, expressly indicating name and designation of the authorized signatory in the organisation. Any other relevant information not expressly mentioned on the form and that the applicants consider relevant may be included as Annexes.

- In addition to the Application Form, co-applicants have to submit the following documents as relevant appendices:
 - **Consortium Agreement in English** whereby the co-applicants should agree upon the ownership, access rights and exploitation of intellectual property generated during the co-operation, to be submitted to CDTI. The Consortium Agreement needs to be sealed and signed by all co-applicants.
 - **Additional specific documents required by ITIDA:** In the case of the Egyptian applicants: **Team profile, Company profile and Key Success Indicators, signed and stamped cover page and Disclosure statement**. These documents must be submitted to CDTI.
 - **Additional specific documents required by CDTI:** In the case of Spanish applicants, for certain specific types of financing it will be necessary to present the documents specified in the regulations applicable to the requested aid.

Consortia (Spanish and Egyptian applicants) shall submit the common application and all the required documents mentioned above following CDTI's normal guidelines and using CDTI's electronic services at <http://www.cdti.es>

The complete details of the Call are available on ITIDA's and CDTI's websites: <http://www.itida.gov.eg> and <http://www.cdti.es>

Further information on ITIDA funding is available in English and Arabic. For further details visit ITIDA's website <http://www.itida.gov.eg>

Further information on CDTI funding is available in Spanish. For further details visit CDTI's website <http://www.cdti.es>

➤ **ELIGIBLE COSTS AND FUNDING**

The project must clearly specify the costs of each and all the activities pertaining to the project and delineate the costs to be respectively borne by the Spanish and Egyptian partners. The cost of the Egyptian and Spanish partners must be eligible under the laws that may be applicable in each country and under internal regulations of CDTI and ITIDA, respectively.

The funding conditions from ITIDA are set in EGP and the ones from CDTI in €. Budgets must be expressed in the local currency of each applicant. All figures and budgetary conditions in this Call refer to the value of both currencies on the date of the launch of the Call (15th of November).

The maximum imbalance between countries (namely its partner's budget) cannot exceed the general agreement from the European Union imposition regarding participation in R&D International Projects. None of the countries' budget (namely the budget of its entities participating in the proposal) can have more than 70% of the global budget.

The Spanish company will be funded according to the International Technological Cooperation Projects' conditions identified on the CDTI's website. ITIDA funding conditions are explained in ITIDA Financial Guide.

CDTI can only provide funding to Spanish companies subject to budget availability.

- As per CDTI's regulations, project expenditure eligible costs will include amortisation of assets, outsourced technical collaborations, material costs, technical personnel and other costs (indirect costs, audit costs).

ITIDA can only provide funding to Egyptian Researchers or Egyptian Companies subject to the amounts indicated in the table below.

Project Category	ITAC Fund Limit (EGP)	Additional Fund to IC Fabrication and Circuit Prototyping (EGP)
PDP	2,500,000	250,000
ARP	1,500,000	250,000

- ITIDA support may be used towards eligible budget items as explained in ITIDA Financial Guide. Extra project budget that apply to the maximum imbalance from the European Union imposition regarding participation in R&D International Projects must be provided by the Egyptian company.

- The budget covers only ICT components. Securing separate fund for non-ICT components is a prerequisite (for e.g. components related to agriculture, health... etc.)
- As per ITIDA's regulations project expenditure eligible costs will include: Equipment costs (capital assets), salary cost towards research manpower employed for the project, consumables, contingency, travel and overheads (for universities up to 20% only of the total budget). That does NOT include:
 - Rental
 - Furniture
 - Electricity bills
 - Stationary
 - Salaries for administration jobs (accountant or legal departments within the company)

➤ **REVIEW PROCESS AND EVALUATION**

All applications will be treated as strictly confidential. All received proposals are peer reviewed and processed independently by both sides. After having received the recommendations of the respective evaluation panels, ITIDA and CDTI will jointly arrive at mutual understanding on the projects to be funded.

➤ **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The joint projects must meet the general requirements of the funding organisations.

The projects to be funded are chosen by evaluating them as a whole. The evaluation is based on the points listed in the guidelines for writing the project plan. Special emphasis will be on:

- **Crucial Criteria**
 - Financial capacity of Partner
 - Formal Agreement between Partners
- **Basic Assessment Criteria**
 - Partnership and Partners
 - Well balanced partnership
 - Added Value through co-operation
 - Technology Capacity of all Partners
 - Managerial Capacity of all Partners
 - Project Structure
 - Methodology and Planning Approach
 - Milestones and deliverables
 - Cost and financing structure
 - Financing commitment of each Partner
- **Technology and Innovation**
 - Technological Advance

- Degree of technological maturity and risk
- Technological Achievements
- Innovation
 - Degree of innovation
 - Geographical / sector impact
- Market and Competitiveness
 - Market and profitability
 - Market size
 - Market access and risk
 - Return on investment
 - Competitive advantages
 - Strategic importance of the project
 - Enhanced capabilities and visibility

➤ FUNDING DECISIONS

ITIDA and CDTI will, after having formed their mutual understanding on the projects to be funded, make their funding decisions according to their normal procedures and rules and on a non-exchange of funds basis.

CDTI and ITIDA will inform the grantees about the funding decisions according to their normal practices.

➤ ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUNDED PROJECTS

Funding granted by ITIDA and CDTI will be governed by the general terms and conditions of each funding organisation, respectively.

➤ FURTHER INFORMATION

Valuable contact information for partner identification or any further clarification regarding this Call:

Egyptian side (ITIDA)

ITAC Department
ESITIP
Information Technology Industry
Development Agency - ITIDA
Smart Village, B121, Cairo – Alexandria
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Website: <http://www.itida.gov.eg>

Spanish side (CDTI)

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