



## **Academia - Industry Cooperation**

### **TÜBİTAK –PSF Joint Funding Program**

#### **Call for Proposals (CFP)**

**March 2024**

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## Section 1. Acronym List

|     |                             |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| IP  | Intellectual Property       |
| LPI | Lead Principal Investigator |
| PI  | Principal Investigator      |
| R&D | Research and Development    |
| RO  | Research Office             |
| HEC | Higher Education Commission |



## Section 2. Definitions

**Consultant:** An experienced individual who is trained to advise the research team in order to help them make the best possible choices during execution of the research project. Consultants are generally considered as service providers and offer only advice or propose solutions to problems, but they do not take on roles of the principal investigators such as designing, conducting, or reporting on research.

**Grant:** Term used to describe the funding instrument used by PSF/TÜBİTAK for the execution of material support after signing the Grant Agreement/Master Research Funding Agreement.

**Intellectual Property (IP):** All intellectual property rights, of any kind or nature throughout the world, whether existing now or in the future, including without limitation the rights with respect to (i) inventions (whether or not patentable and whether or not reduced to practice), designs, patents and patent applications; (ii) trademarks and service marks together with all goodwill associated therewith and worldwide registrations, applications, and renewals related thereto; (iii) copyrights, copyrightable works (in whatever form or medium), and all registrations, applications, and renewals for any of the foregoing; (iv) trade secrets, data, database rights, and confidential information; and (v) all claims, causes of action, and remedies of any kind related to the foregoing.

**Lead Principal Investigator (LPI):** The Principal Investigator who is identified in the research proposal as the leader and manager of the research team in each country and who has the ultimate responsibility for all administrative and programmatic aspects of the proposed project, in addition to their research role.

**Principal Investigator (PI):** The person designated on the research proposal as a principal individual involved in the scientific development and execution of a project.

**Project Incentive Premium (PIP):** Payments made by TÜBİTAK to principal investigators, researchers, and consultants of the accepted projects, according to the amount determined in the project contract. These payments can only be made to permanent staff of public institutions.

**Researcher:** The person who carries out scientific research as a part of the project research team.

**Research End-User:** Any entity (including industry, public bodies, service providers, non-profit organizations) that does not have research and development activities as part of its main mission and that can benefit from the research outcome of the project.

**Research Team (RT):** It is composed of project members from each country's project.

### PSF Specific Definitions

**Awardee:** A "Submitting Institution" that is awarded grant(s) from PSF. The awardee must be a party to the Contract Agreement.

**Capital Equipment:** Items which have a useful life of more than one year and a unit acquisition cost of greater than Rs. 50,000 and are part of the approved budget.

**Collaborating Institution:** Research Institution inside Pakistan collaborating with the submitting institution in conducting the research proposal.



**Consultant:** A consultant cannot have any claim on intellectual property related to the project and requires little or no guidance in providing input.

**Consumables and Materials:** Items that are necessary to carry out the project with unit acquisition cost of less than Rs. 50,000.

**Direct Cost:** Expenses related directly to the performance of the project research activities. Direct cost includes the “Personnel” cost, the “Equipment” cost, the “Travel” cost, and the “Miscellaneous” cost.

**Graduate Student (GS):** A student enrolled for a graduate degree in a university and engaged in research that is in direct fulfilment of a requirement for that degree.

**Investigator:** Anyone responsible for the design, conduct, or reporting of funded or proposed research project.

**Post-doctoral Scholar:** An individual who has received a doctoral degree (or equivalent) and is engaged in a temporary and defined period of mentored advanced training to enhance the professional skills and research independence needed to pursue his or her chosen career path. PSF will not provide any stipend to the Post-doctoral scholar.

**Research Office (RO):** A department within the submitting institution responsible for vetting submitted research proposals and administrating awarded research projects i.e ORIC or other administrative institutions.

**Research Fellows/PSF Fellows:** Research Associates (RAs) enrolled in MS/M.Phil and PhD. Will be called as “PSF Fellows”. The un-enrolled individuals cannot be hired as PSF Fellows/Research Associates under the project.

**Signatures and Stamp of the Head of Institute:** Administrative procedure required from the Awardee’s RO prior to submitting any proposal, reports or requests to PSF, through which the RO confirms the accuracy of submitted information and confirms its compliance with the Awardee’s policies and procedures and those of the relevant program/call.

**Submitting Institution (SI):** Research institution registered inside Pakistan that is responsible for submitting research proposals to PSF. Once awarded, such an entity will be termed as the Awardee. For the Pakistani side, SI has to have appropriate research resources specialized in area(s).



### Section 3. Call Snapshot

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Submission Opens</b>                                 | March 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2024   |  |
| <b>Submission Deadline</b>                              | <b>For PSF</b><br>June 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2024 – 23:59   | <b>For TÜBİTAK</b><br>June 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2024 – 23:59  |
| <b>E-signature Deadline</b>                             | <b>For TÜBİTAK</b><br>June 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 – 23:59  |  |
| <b>Announcement of Results</b>                          | October, 2024   |  |
| <b>Anticipated Project Start Date</b>                   | After signing the Grant Agreement with the relevant parties, which might take up to 60 days.  |  |
| <b>Academia-Industry Cooperation Program Objectives</b> | The aim of the call is to intensify cooperation between Turkish and Pakistani participants in science and industry by means of Academia-Industry Cooperation projects.  |  |
| <b>Specific Research Priority Areas</b>                 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Artificial Intelligence (AI)</li> <li>2. Internet of things (IoT)</li> <li>3. Electric Vehicles</li> <li>4. Oceanography</li> </ol>   |  |
| <b>Eligible Applicants</b>                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least one Pakistani Public Sector research institution/ HEC Chartered University and one Pakistani commercial company/relevant industry partner.</li> <li>• The Turkish consortium has to consist of at least one Turkish academy partner (including public institutions or organizations/ research institutions/ universities/ training and research hospitals) and one Turkish commercial company.</li> </ul> <p>* Eligibility criteria for project teams and LPIs can be found at Section 8.</p> |  |
| <b>Project Budget</b>                                   | <b>For Pakistani side</b><br><br>Up to Rs.20 million<br><br>Industry participants would need to bring their own resources (in-kind/in-cash) for participation in the call.  | <b>For Turkish side</b><br><br>Requested funding from TÜBİTAK is upto 4 million TL –and academic partners are specifically limited to receiving a maximum of 2 million TL.<br><br>For details; please visit Section 7.1. |



|                            |  |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Project Duration</b>    | Up to 2 years (24 months)  |  |
| <b>Funding Rates</b>       | <b>For Pakistani side</b><br><br>PSF encourages co-funding (in-kind) from industry.  | <b>For Turkish side</b><br><br>SMEs 75%<br>Large-scale enterprises 60%<br>Universities, public organizations 100 %<br>For details; please visit Section 7.   |
| <b>How to Apply</b>        | <b>For Pakistani side</b><br><br>Proposal submission through online portal of PSF<br>i.e. RGMS having following link<br><br><a href="https://rgms.psf.gov.pk/rgms/login.aspx">https://rgms.psf.gov.pk/rgms/login.aspx</a>  | <b>For Turkish side</b><br><br>Proposal submission is made through TÜBİTAK's Project Application System ( <a href="http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr">http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr</a> ).<br>Turkish partners will use E-Signature for their applications. Detailed information can be achieved via <a href="https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/uidb_e-imza_yardim_dokumani.pdf">https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/uidb_e-imza_yardim_dokumani.pdf</a><br><br>*All Turkish researchers applying to this call should be registered at TÜBİTAK ARBİS (Researcher Information System) through the following link: <a href="https://arbis.tubitak.gov.tr">https://arbis.tubitak.gov.tr</a> |
| <b>Reference Documents</b> | <b>For Pakistani side</b><br><br>Guide lines for the Research Projects, please visit <a href="http://www.psf.gov.pk">www.psf.gov.pk</a>  | <b>For Turkish side</b><br><br>1071-Programı 2+2 Proje Çağrılarını Ulusal Başvuru Kuralları: Please visit the following <a href="#">link</a> .   |
| <b>Contact Person</b>      | <b>PSF</b><br><br><b>Dr. Ahsan Feroze</b><br><br>Director International Linkages<br>Pakistan Science Foundation<br>1-Constitution Avenue, G-5/2,<br>Islamabad<br>T: 051-92040033 (Ext. 243, 109)<br><br><a href="mailto:director.psf@gmail.com">director.psf@gmail.com</a><br><br><a href="http://www.psf.gov.pk">www.psf.gov.pk</a> | <b>TÜBİTAK</b><br><br><b>Nazlı ÖZ-YILDIRIM</b><br><br>Program Coordinator<br>International Cooperation Department<br>Tunus Cad. No:80 Kavaklıdere<br>06680 ANKARA<br>T: +90 312 2981651<br><br><a href="mailto:nazli.oz@tubitak.gov.tr">nazli.oz@tubitak.gov.tr</a><br><br><a href="http://www.tubitak.gov.tr">www.tubitak.gov.tr</a>  |



## Section 4. Background and Objectives of the Call

PSF and TÜBİTAK are jointly launching the Academia-Industry Cooperation call with the aim of supporting joint research projects in the areas of application-oriented research and development. Thus, this call focuses on emerging areas of technologies.

The call aims to enhance Public-Private Partnership in R&D projects by involving academia, research institutions, industrial companies and research end users with the aim to help both countries to become more efficient and sustainable. The minimum criteria is 2+2 partners in the consortia. The funding is intended to enable foundations to be laid for a lasting R&D innovation partnership.

## Section 5. Scope of the Call

The acquired technological knowledge and experience is an accelerating and guiding factor in the development of original technologies by internalizing the private institutions and to contribute to the participation of private organizations in international markets. Basic research projects are not supported within the scope of this call. Instead, the projects, focusing to research and experimental development (R&D), technologically new or improved product and technological process innovation, are expected. Within the framework of this call, projects with the following objectives are planned to be supported:

- Producing a new product
- Raising the product quality of standards
- Developing new techniques to reduce costs and increase standards
- Developing new production technologies

### 5.1. Definitions of Innovation

**Innovation:** Innovation expresses that a series of scientific, technological, technical, financial and commercial activities including transforming an idea into a salable, new or improved / recovered product or a new or improved method used in the production of goods and services, the process of making or creating technological innovation; except for changes in color or decoration and changes in the purely aesthetic field and appearance differences that do not change the structure, quality or performance of the product in technical terms.

**Innovation in product:** This term refers to technologically new product that shows technological differences regarding the essence in terms of its material parts and functions when compared with the previous product generation. The classification of product innovation is stated below:

- a. Development of New Models of an Existing Product in the Company (adaptation studies carried out to develop new products with changes made in a basic product or to apply an existing product to a new area)
- b. Development of a New Product for the Company (development of a product similar to which is available in the market or in the sector but is not in the company's product range)
- c. Development of a New Product Platform for the Company (development of a fundamental product from which new models can be derived)
- d. Development of a New Product for the Country
- e. Development of a New Product for the World (development of a product that is not in the world markets focusing a new idea)

**Innovation in production methods/process:** It refers to the method used in the production of new or improved products that cannot be produced in traditional production facilities or in the production of products currently produced with new techniques.





- a. The classification of process innovation is stated below: Development and application of new techniques to achieve cost reducing or standard / quality enhancing results
- b. Development of a new method or technology related to production

## 5.2. R&D Stages to be Supported

The projects to be supported under this call are expected to include all or some of the following R&D stages:

- Concept development,
- Technological/technical and economic feasibility etude,
- Laboratories and similar studies that take place in the transition from the developed concept to design,
- Design, design application and design verification studies,
- Prototype production,
- Establishment of pilot facility,
- Trial production and type tests,
- After sales, problem solving activities arising from product design

Investment-oriented projects for production or production infrastructure (including plant and machine purchase) and projects that include activities without R&D are not supported as they are not suitable for the objectives of the program.

## Section 6. Research Priority Areas of this Call

The call's research priority areas are aligned with the national strategies of both countries. We are seeking proposals in the below priority areas. Proposals submitted in other fields will not be accepted.

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI)
2. Internet of Things (IoT)
3. Electric Vehicles
4. Oceanography

## Section 7. Funding of the Call

### 7.1. Funding Available

Pakistani side is eligible for funding of upto Rs.20 million for a period of two years. Industry participants would need to bring their own resources (in-kind/in-cash) for participation in the call. The size of the grant may vary depending of the needs of each project and must be fully justified. PSF-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by PSF in accordance with its funding guidelines and procedures. The funds allocated under this grant must be spent within Pakistan, no cross border transaction is allowed. The funds will be provided through the PSF PSDP "Competitive Reseach Program (CRP)".

As a rule, Requested funding from TÜBİTAK is up to 4 million TL, with academic partners specifically limited to receiving a maximum of 2 million TL. Turkish small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) can receive 75% of the approved budget; Turkish large-scale enterprises can receive 60% of the approved budget. Higher education institutions, their institutes, public R&D centers can receive 100% of the approved budget. Requested funding from TÜBİTAK is obtained by multiplying the project budget with the support rate. In projects involving more than one executive institution, requested funding from TÜBİTAK is the sum of the amounts obtained by multiplying the project budget of each executive institution with the support rate. TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be



issued and managed by TÜBİTAK according to its funding guidelines and procedures (For detailed information please visit the following [link](#).)

The cost of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists will be covered on the following basis:

- The Sending Party will cover all related costs connected with travel, accommodation and daily allowances according to their own regulations and allowances.
- The Sending Party shall be responsible for the emergency health insurance of its scientists, including medical care.

Maximum **9 joint projects** will be funded in the scope of this call.

## **7.2. Duration of the Project**

The duration of the project will be up to 2 years (24 months). The total duration of international visits for bilateral cooperation from one direction to another should not exceed 60 days per year.

## **Section 8. Eligibility**

### **8.1. Eligibility of Proposal**

**8.1.1** It is a prerequisite that proposals include the participation of the below as submitting and collaborative institutions:

- At least one Pakistani public sector research institution/ HEC Chartered/recognized University and one Pakistani commercial company/relevant industrial partner.
- The Turkish consortium has to consist of at least one Turkish academy partner (including public institutions or organizations/ research institutions/ universities/ training and research hospitals) and one Turkish commercial company.

**8.1.2** The proposal must be within one or more of the specific research priority areas described in **Section 6**.

**8.1.3** Pakistan and Turkish based teams must each be led by a Lead Principal Investigator (LPI).

### **8.2. Eligibility for Turkish Team**

The Turkish team will receive funding through TÜBİTAK 1071 Program.

All Turkish researchers applying to this call should be registered at TÜBİTAK ARBİS (Researcher Information System) through the following link: <https://arbis.tubitak.gov.tr>.

For more information about the eligible applicants, please visit the following [link](#).

### **8.3. Eligibility for Pakistan-based Team:**

#### **8.3.1 Eligibility of Submitting Institution**

Regular full time faculty members of HEC recognized universities and full time/regular employees of government owned R&D organizations are eligible to apply.

#### **8.3.2 Eligibility of Lead Principal Investigators (LPIs)**

**8.3.2.1** The LPI must be from regular full time faculty members of HEC recognized universities and full time/regular employee of government owned R&D organizations working inside Pakistan.

**8.3.2.2** The LPI should have approved terminal degrees with established research experience.

#### **8.3.3 Eligibility of Principal Investigators (PIs)**

A PI must be affiliated with a submitting institution in Pakistan or a collaborating institution in Pakistan.



#### 8.4. Number of Roles

For Pakistani side, only one LPI, P.I and graduate students will be paid stipend under this call. However, there is no bar on team members working on volunteer basis in the project.

### Section 9. Submission Process

The following table shows important dates for the call.

| Timeline For Academia-Industry Cooperation   |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Description                                  | Dates                                |
| Open proposal submission to PSF and TÜBİTAK  | March 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2024        |
| Close proposal submission to PSF and TÜBİTAK | June 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2024 – 23:59  |
| Deadline for e-signatures for TÜBİTAK        | June 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 – 23:59 |
| Notifying ineligible proposals               | July, 2024                           |
| Announcement of the call results             | 7 <sup>th</sup> October, 2024        |
| Anticipated starting date                    | November, 2024                       |

### Section 10. Online Submission Procedures

Each LPI will submit the joint application form to their respective funding agencies.

The Pakistan team will submit proposal through online portal i.e. <https://rgms.psf.gov.pk/rgms/login.aspx>

Türkiye-based LPI needs to submit the joint application to TÜBİTAK through <http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>

To complete the application process, PSF and TÜBİTAK shall need supporting documents.

**10.1. The supporting documents for Turkish applicants** are available at the following [link](#).

**10.2. The Pakistan-based LPI is required to provide the below:**

**10.2.1** The LPI may indicate persons they would prefer not to review the proposal and should indicate why. The decision to follow the suggestions or not, however, remains with PSF.

**10.2.2** During the “Proposal Preparation” the LPI has to submit the information according to the online sections listed below as well as upload documents as required. The LPI must ensure to enter and upload the same information submitted by the Turkish LPI to TÜBİTAK submission system.

**10.2.2.1 Proposal Summary:** This should be the same as the proposal abstract/summary used in the application form.

**10.2.2.2 Submitting Institution’s Information:** A public sector research institution registered inside Pakistan that has appropriate research resources specialized in areas and is responsible for submitting research proposals to PSF.



The LPI's institution in Pakistan will be considered as the submitting institution and will be responsible for vetting the proposal.

**10.2.2.3 Collaborative Institutions' Information:** Institutions inside Pakistan, collaborating with the submitting institution in conducting the research proposal. If collaborative institutions are involved in the proposal, the LPI should enter the required information for each institution, including uploading an official support letter at Link. Collaborative Institution must include at least one PI.

**10.2.2.4 Personnel:**

- **Research Team:** The LPI can nominate research team members from the submitting and collaborating institutions. PIs are required to be registered in order to be added to the proposal submission.

**10.2.2.5 Turkish Collaborator:** Insert the information about the Turkish LPI and PI(s).

**10.2.2.6 Co-Funding:** In case of co-funding, the LPI is required to provide justification, the total amount of co-funding, including the expected structure of contributions and upload a commitment letter from the co-funder(s) signed by a dean or equivalent. The template is available at [link](#).

**10.2.2.7 Ethical Compliance:** For research involving human subject(s), stem cells in human subject(s), research with laboratory animals, DNA research and biohazards materials, the LPI is required to comply with the regulations and policies set out by the government of Pakistan.

**10.2.2.8 IP/Market:** In this section, there are some questions related to Intellectual Property that need to be addressed by the LPI.

**10.2.2.9 Miscellaneous Documents:** This section may contain any supporting documents such as tables, appendices, etc. Documents wrongly uploaded under this section will not be considered. All the information required for the evaluation process should be included in the Research Plan.

**10.2.2.10 Declarations:** The LPI should declare electronically that the proposal is their own work and is not plagiarized.

## Section 11. Proposal Screening

All submitted proposals are subject to screening for the Pakistan based team by PSF according to the screening process.

All submitted proposals are subject to screening for the Turkish team by TÜBİTAK according to its national rules.

## Section 12. Proposal Evaluation

At the national level, each partner organisation evaluates submitted proposals based on its internal rules and regulations. Only projects eligible for both sides, TÜBİTAK and PSF, will go forward for assessment. TÜBİTAK and PSF will evaluate the project proposals according to their scientific evaluation criteria. Both organizations will exchange their scientific evaluation results, and only the overlapping projects that are found acceptable for both parties will be funded.

## Section 13. Research Ethics and Regulatory Requirements

**13.1.** Pakistani team has to comply with the Research Ethics and Regulatory Requirements outlined by the Government of Pakistan.

**13.2.** Turkish applicants should refer to the Ethics Committee Approval Document, Legal Permission Document and Research and Intellectual Property Right Ownership Protocol available at the following [link](#).

## Section 14. Intellectual Property Policy

As the research projects will be carried out by multiple project partners, the basis of collaboration between the project partners, including ownership of intellectual property (IP) generated during the project and rights to exploitation, and IP management is expected to be set out in an Intellectual Property Management Agreement



between the LPIs involved. It is the responsibility of the LPIs to put such an agreement in place and to be provided when requested by funding agencies. The terms of collaboration must not conflict with the funding agencies terms and conditions and national law.

## **Section 15. Inquiries**

For any inquiry regarding Turkish team and the electronic proposal submission process, please send an email to [uidb@tubitak.gov.tr](mailto:uidb@tubitak.gov.tr).

For any inquiry regarding the Pakistani-based team, please drop an email on [director.psf@gmail.com](mailto:director.psf@gmail.com)

