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**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**by**

**The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)**

**and**

**The Shota Rustaveli Georgian National Science Foundation (SRGNSF)**

 **The Call is open between 15th November 2017 and 1stMarch 2018**

1. Preamble

In the framework of the Protocol on Cooperation in Science and Technology between The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and The Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (SRGNSF), TÜBİTAK and SRGNSF invite Universities, Research Centers and Institutes to submit joint proposals for R&D projects.

**2.Objectives of the the Call**

The aim of the call is to allow partners to collaborate internationally, and gain access to new research environments, facilities, knowledge, and expertise, in order to enhance the quality of their research and enable them to translate research and innovation into economic and societal benefit.

The funding will be provided jointly by TÜBITAK and SRGNSF in the form of non-repayable project grants.

1. Financial Issues

As a rule, Turkish partner that are eligible for funding can receive up to 360.000 Turkish Liras (about 245.000 Georgian Laris of funding in total. The Georgian partner that are eligible for funding can receive up to 30.000 Georgian Laris (about 45.000 Turkish Liras) per project. Also, SRGNSF can provide supplementary budget to Georgian scientists in line with its internal rules and regulations.

TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with its funding guidelines and procedures(<http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/263_sayili_bk_islenmis_hali.pdf>

Similarly, SRGNSF-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by SRGNSF according to its funding guidelines and procedures.

Please liaise closely with prospective partners to ensure that both TÜBİTAK and SRGNSF-supported elements of the proposal abide by all regulations for both funders. The costs of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists will be covered on the following basis:

* The costs of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists will be covered on the following basis:
* The sending Party will meet all related costs connected with travel, lodging and allowances according to their own regulations.
* The sending Party shall be responsible for the emergency health insurance of its scientists.
* Funding of Joint Research and Development Projects may cover expenses for exchange and research and will be made in compliance with the internal rules and regulations of the Parties. It is desirable but not essential to fund the two sides equally.
1. Duration of the Projects

The duration of the projects should not exceed **two years** and the total duration of visits in one direction of a project should not be more than **two months** a year, with a total quota of four months a year for all the supported joint research projects.

The projects will be monitored through progress reports and the final report by both SRGNSF and TUBITAK for its content and progress.

1. Proposal Submission
* The Joint Call will be opened between 15th November 2017 and 1st March 2018 for the applicants on both sides for the online applications. Turkish and Georgian partners will make their joint online application via TUBITAK’s online system reachable from uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr.
* The partners should come to an agreement with each other using their own means of communication and jointly develop and complete their project proposal before submitting it to TÜBİTAK and SRGNSF. **TÜBİTAK and SRGNSF do not match the collaborating partners.**
* The proposals should be prepared in **English**.
* 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 time schedule.
* After completion of the online application procedure, **until 15th March 2018**,
	+ **Turkish coordinator must submit the required signed documents to:**

**The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)**

**International Cooperation Department**

Address: Atatürk Bulvarı No: 221, 06100 Kavaklıdere, Ankara/Turkey

Tel: + 90 312 298 17 94

Fax: + 90 312 427 40 24

E-mail: uidb@tubitak.gov.tr

* + **The Georgian coordinator must submit one hard copy to:**

 **The Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (SRGNSF)**

Address : 1 Aleksidze Str. Tbilisi, 0193, Georgia

 Tel: +995 32 2 200 220

 E-mail: SRGNSF-tubitak@rustaveli.org.ge

* Submission of proposals by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
1. The Evaluation Procedure

**6.1. Eligibility Criteria**

Projects that are submitted online but that do not include supporting documents and the required documents with original signature will not be considered for funding. The list of essential and supporting documents can be found at <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tr/kurumsal/uluslararasi/ikili-proje-destekleri/2555/icerik-basvuru-belgeleri>

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**6.2. Evaluation Method**

* The proposals that are deemed eligible will be evaluated by two Turkish and two Georgian external reviewers who are selected by TUBITAK and SRGNSF.
* Following the scientific evaluation by external reviewers, TÜBİTAK and SRGNSF will inform each other the Project Proposal Evaluation Forms for perusal.
* After the perusal of the Project Proposal Evaluation Forms, TÜBİTAK and SRGNSF will select the project proposals to be supported through a joint meeting.
* Only the project proposals which are approved by TÜBİTAK and SRGNSF will be supported.

**6.3. Evaluation Criteria**

The project proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the following criterias:

* Scientific and Technological Excellence
* Methodology
* Project Management, Team and Infrastructure
* Impact of the Project and Importance of Bilateral Cooperation
1. Key Dates

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| **ACTIONS** | **PERIODS** |
| Application Announcement | 15th November 2017 |
| Deadline for Applications (TUBITAK E-base / SRGNSFG hard copies) | 15thFebruary 2018 / 1st March 2018 |
| Eligibility Check | 7th March 2018 – 4th April 2018 |
| Sharing of the Project Proposal List that will be evaluated | 4th April 2018 – 10th April 2018 |
| First Evaluation Period | 10th April 2017 – 5th June 2018 |
| Sharing of the Evaluation Results | 6th June 2018 |
| Matching the Evaluation Results | 7th June 2018 – 14th June 2018 |
| Joint Committee Meeting | 15st June 2018– 22nd June 2018 |
| Approval of the Joint Committee Meeting Results | 23rd June 2018 – 30th June 2018 |
| Sharing of the Final Evaluation Results | 1st July 2018 |

8. Contact Persons on TUBITAK and SRGNSF:

For Turkish Side:

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Scientific Programs Expert

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E-mail: uidb@tubitak.gov.tr

For Georgian Side:

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