



TÜBİTAK – NRDIO

JOINT PROJECT PROPOSAL

CALL TEXT

2024

ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

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

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.

Consultant: An experienced individual that is trained to advise the research team in order to help making 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 act as principal investigator such as designing, conducting, or reporting on research. A consultant requires little or no guidance in providing input.

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

Research Team (RT): Composed of project members of each country's project.

Project Coordinator (PC): The person who coordinates the whole consortium. PCs are selected from among the LPIs of any project's research teams.

Consortium Agreement: An agreement that participants conclude between themselves for the implementation of the project. It allows the participants to determine the detailed administrative and management provisions necessary to carry out their project. With this agreement, parties also outline the rights and responsibilities of each member of the consortium concerning intellectual property. This agreement cannot contradict or negate the provisions established by the project contracts and regulations of TÜBİTAK and NRDIO.

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

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

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.

Service: Service is a cost category. A service provider is not involved in the design, conduct or reporting of research; a service provider assists the research team for a fee in providing services needed to carry out the research. Services may be purchased by either the awarded or the collaborative institution, and are auxiliary to the main object of the research project. Services usually cover specialized jobs that cannot be carried out by the research team or are employed because it is more efficient to use the services of a specialized organization (e.g. routine analysis, consultancy, communication/outreaching activities, data purchasing and management, statistical analysis, evaluation, auditing etc.). The purchased services shall be provided by third parties contracted by the awardee or collaborative institutions and have no rights or obligations vis-à-vis TÜBİTAK and NRDIO.

CALL SNAPSHOT

Scope	The aim of the call is to intensify cooperation between Turkish and Hungarian participants in science and industry by means of Academia-Industry Cooperation projects. The funding is intended to enable foundations to be laid for a lasting R&D innovation partnership.	
Competition opens	6 November 2024.	
Final date for online and email proposal submission	For TÜBİTAK (Online Submission): 31 January 2025, 23:59 (IST Time) For NRDIO (Online Submission) 31 January 2025, 14:00 (BUD Time)	
Deadline for e-signatures for TÜBİTAK	For TÜBİTAK: 7 February 2025, 23:59 (IST Time)	
Announcement of results	June 2025	
Eligible applicant	<p>For Turkish Team</p> <p>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. The Principal Investigator (PI) including the Lead Principal Investigator (LPI), must hold a PhD degree if he/she is from the academy and must hold a BA/BASc Degree if he/she is from public/private sector.</p>	<p>For Hungarian Team</p> <p>The Hungarian consortium has to consist of one Hungarian company/SME, based in Hungary and one non-profit research performing organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - higher education institutions, central budgetary research institutions, non-profit research institutions, members may submit an application, - enterprises with legal personality, non-profit economic associations and other economic organizations, those with GFO codes 572, 573 which have at least one closed, approved, full (365 day) business year and maintain double-entry bookkeeping, - from among the non-profit organisations those who have GFO code 551,552,559, 562,563,569,599, or 931, and according to Annex 1 of Act CCIV of 2011 on the national higher education are considered as non-state-owned higher education institutions but recognized by state and are considered as research and knowledge transfer organisations according to Article 2 (83) of Decree No. 651/2014/EU of the European Commission,

		- entities and entities operated by state budgetary rules with GFO code 311,312,322,341,342,381, or 382, and considered research-knowledge transfer organisations according to Article 2 (83) of Decree No. 651/2014/EU of the European Commission.
Award parameters	<p>TÜBİTAK funds up to 6.000.000 Turkish Liras (excl. overhead and Project Incentive Premium (PIP) approximately) per project. As a rule,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkish academia/public institution partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 3.000.000 Turkish Liras (excl. overheads and Project Incentive Premium (PIP)) of funding per proposal in total. • 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. 	<p>NRDIO funds up to 80 million HUF per project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For universities and research institutions the funding range is 100%. • Funding range for industry partners may vary, please consult with NRDIO.
How to apply	<p>For Turkish Team Proposal submission is made through the TÜBİTAK's electronic application system (http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr).</p>	<p>For Hungarian Team Proposal submission is made through the NRDIO electronic application system. (https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/palyazatok/aktualis-felhivasok?cimke=NKFI)</p>

1. Legal framework

Based on the Protocol on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and The National Office for Research and Technology (NRDIO) signed in 2005, this call is launched to enhance the cooperative activities in the field of research and development between two countries. The main objective of this call is to support research and development projects to promote the scientific and technological cooperation between two countries through the synergy between both countries' teams.

2. Objectives

TÜBİTAK and NRDIO 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. The aim of the call is to intensify cooperation between Turkish and Hungarian participants in science and industry by means of Academia-Industry Cooperation projects. The call aims to enhance Public-Private Partnership in R&D projects by involving academia, public organizations, research institutions and industrial companies.

“Academy – Industry Cooperation Projects” are R&D projects, which require the participation of at least one university, research institution or public organization and at least one industrial partner in the Hungarian and Turkish side as well. 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.

3. 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

3.1. Definitions of Innovation:

3.1.1. 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.

3.1.2. 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)

3.1.3. 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

3.2. R&D Stages to be supported

The projects to be supported under this call are expected to include all or at least 2 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.

4. Thematic Fields

Successful projects prepared in the fields below will be supported within the scope of the program. Proposals submitted in other fields will not be accepted.

1. Supporting preventive, curative and care systems to maintain healthy living within the focus area for the following topic areas:

- a) innovation in healthy living and disease prevention,
- b) improving the quality of life in old age,
- c) innovative diagnostic and curative interventions and therapies (drug discovery, immunology, development of medical devices and instruments).

2. Supporting the green transition and the development of a circular economy within the focus area for the following topic areas:

- a) agricultural innovation and water management, efficient protection against natural disasters and extreme weather conditions,
- b) increasing energy efficiency, accelerating the transition to clean energy, exploitation of indigenous energy sources,
- c) sustainable and smart mobility.

3. Supporting the digital transition of the economy and society within the focus area for the following topic areas:

- a) artificial intelligence, quantum technology,
- b) smart grids, autonomous systems.

5. Eligibility criteria

During application, proposed duration of a project cannot exceed **24 months**. If funded, the duration of a project can be extended (**up to 12 months**) depending on its proposed duration. The total duration of international visits for bilateral cooperation from one direction to another should not exceed **60 days per year**.

- It is prerequisite that proposals include the participation of the below as submitting and collaborative institutions:
 - At least one Turkish academy partner (including public institutions or organizations/ research institutions/ universities/ training and research hospitals) and Hungarian research

institution, public organization or university and at least one Turkish and one Hungarian industrial partner for Academia-Industry Cooperation proposals.

- The proposal must be within one or more of the specific research priority areas described in **Section 4**.
- Turkish and Hungarian-based teams must each be led by a Lead Principal Investigator (LPI).
- Each proposal should have a Project Coordinator who will be selected from the LPIs of the proposal and this person is responsible for coordinating the whole consortium.

5.1 On Turkish side:

- The LPI can be either from academy, public or private sector for Turkish team. For detailed information on the eligibility for Turkish team, please visit https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071_22_surec_dokumani.pdf Turkish team will receive funding through TÜBİTAK 1071 Program. All Turkish researchers who apply for this Program should be registered to TÜBİTAK ARBIS (Researcher Information system) through the following link: <https://arbis.tubitak.gov.tr>.

5.2 On Hungarian Side:

- The LPI can be either from academy, public or private sector for the Hungarian team. For detailed information on the eligibility for the Hungarian team, please visit the Application Guide of the TUBITAK-NRDIO call on the website: (<http://nkfi.gov.hu>)
- Higher education institutions, central budgetary research institutions, non-profit research institutions, members may submit an application for support in line with the following eligibility rules:
 - Enterprises with legal personality, non-profit economic associations and other economic organizations, those with GFO codes 572, 573 which have at least one closed, approved, full (365 day) business year and maintain double-entry bookkeeping.
 - From among the non-profit organisations those who have GFO code 551,552,559, 562,563,569,599, or 931, and according to Annex 1 of Act CCIV of 2011 on the national higher education are considered as non-state-owned higher education institutions but recognized by state and are considered as research and knowledge transfer organisations according to Article 2 (83) of Decree No. 651/2014/EU of the European Commission.
 - Entities and entities operated by state budgetary rules with GFO code 311,312,322,341,342,381 or 382, and considered research-knowledge transfer organisations according to Article 2 (83) of Decree No. 651/2014/EU of the European Commission.

6. Financial conditions

Financial contributions must be calculated and provided in compliance with the valid national legislation and internal regulations of the partner organisations.

The cost of exchange of experts, scientist 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.
- The total duration of international visits in one direction should not exceed 60 days per year both Turkish and Hungarian research team of the each supported joint project.

6.1 On Turkish side:

TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant shall be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with the rules of TÜBİTAK 1071 Program. 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;

https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071_22_surec_dokumani.pdf

- TÜBİTAK funds up to 6.000.000 Turkish Liras (excl. overhead and Project Incentive Premium (PIP) approximately) per project. As a rule, Turkish academia/public institution partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 3.000.000 Turkish Liras (excl. overheads and Project Incentive Premium (PIP)) of funding per proposal in total.
- 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.

6.2 On Hungarian side:

For Hungarian Party: The total available budget for this call is 400 million HUF. The amount of funding per projects is 30-80 million HUF.

Eligible costs of the project are included in the Application Guide document. In general:

- personnel costs
- consumables
- subcontracting (services)
- equipment costs
- costs related to communication and dissemination activities
- coordination costs
- indirect costs
- market access costs

7. Project proposal submission

- Project proposals must be submitted to both partner organisations in parallel.
- The partners should come to an agreement with each other using their own means of communication and jointly develop and complete their project proposals before submitting it to TÜBİTAK and NRDIO. TÜBİTAK and NRDIO do not match the collaborating partners.
- 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.

7.1 On Turkish side:

- Turkish partners will make their joint online application via TÜBİTAK's online application system: <http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>
- Turkish partners will use e-signature for their applications. Detailed information can be achieved via http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/281/ardeb_e-imza_yardim_dokumani.pdf.
- Submission of proposals by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.

7.2 On Hungarian side:

Hungarian partners will make their joint online application via NRDIO online application system: (<https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/palyazatok/aktualis-felhivasok?cimke=NKFI>)

8. Evaluation and Selection

Consists of a two-step process:

- At the national level, each partner organisation evaluates submitted proposals based on its internal rules and regulations and prepares a ranking list.
- At the international level, both partner organizations exchange their ranking lists, merge them, negotiate the final ranking and approve the proposals selected for funding. Total number of projects approved for funding is dependent on the financial possibilities of both partner organizations.
- Only the project proposals, which will be approved by TÜBİTAK and NRDIO will be supported.
- The Project Coordinator of each project needs to provide the Consortium Agreement to NRDIO and TÜBİTAK once the project is awarded and within the first six months of the project start date.
- **Maximum 7 projects will be supported within the scope of the Call.**

8.1 On Turkish Side:

Criteria for evaluation of project proposals

- The proposals will be reviewed according to a certain set of evaluation criteria.
 - Scientific/Technological Excellence
 - Methodology
 - Project Management
 - Importance of International Collaboration
 - Impact
- Awarded proposals will go through a pre-award stage, which starts after the announcement of results, and continues for approximately eight weeks. During pre-award period, the awarded institution will be notified about the requirements (possible budget reduction, budget details, timeline changes, etc.).

Evaluation of the progress and final reports

- For Turkish team, - The Lead Principal/Principal Investigator of each project has to prepare financial and scientific/technical progress reports at determined dates in the project contract to be submitted TÜBİTAK.

8.2 On Hungarian Side:

Criteria for evaluation of project proposals

The proposals will be reviewed according to a certain set of evaluation criteria:

- Excellence of the project leader and key participants

- Market potential of the company (ies) involved in the project
- Excellence of foreign partners
- Working plan and financial plan of the project, justification of the costs
- The scientific-technological value of the project
- Impact of the project proposal, potential socio-economic benefits
- Added value of the international cooperation

For detailed information please refer to the Application Guide of this call on the NRDIO website.

Evaluation of the progress and final reports

The Lead Principal/Principal Investigator of each project has to prepare financial and scientific/technical progress reports at determined dates in the project contract to be submitted to the NRDIO Office. Payments will be allocated following the approval of the progress reports.

9. Research Ethics and Regulatory Requirements

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 LPs involved. It is the responsibility of the LPs 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.

9.1 On Turkish Side:

For the Turkish team, please refer to the Ethics Committee Approval Document, Official Permission Document and Research and Publication Ethics Committee Regulation as you can find on the link: https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071_22_surec_dokumani.pdf

10. Schedule

The following table shows important dates for the call.

Timeline for TÜBİTAK - NRDIO Call for Proposals	
Description	Dates
Opening of submission	6 November 2024
Deadline for the online submission of the project proposal for Turkish Applicants	31 January 2025 23:59 (IST time)
Deadline for the online submission of the project proposal for Hungarian Applicants	31 January 2025, 1:00 (BUD time)
Deadline for e-signature (For Turkish Applicants)	7 February 2025 23:59 (IST time)
Completion of the assessment at national level	May, 2025
Joint Committee Meeting	May, 2025
Announcements of Results	June, 2025

11. Contact

On Turkish side:

Gözde YURTTAGÜL (Mrs.)
Directorate for International Cooperation
TÜBİTAK
Address: Tunus Caddesi
No:80 Kavaklıdere, Ankara
Turkey
Tel: +90 312 298 17 58
E-mail: uidb@tubitak.gov.tr
gozde.yurttagul@tubitak.gov.tr
URL: <https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/>

On Hungarian side:

Kitti Teveli (Mr.)
Department for International Affairs
NRDIO
Address: Kethly Anna ter 1.
H-1077 Budapest
Hungary
Tel: +36 1 795 9500
E-mail: bilateral@nkfih.gov.hu
URL: www.nkfih.gov.hu