



6th Joint Call for Proposals of TÜBİTAK - NARD Bilateral Cooperation Projects

1. Preamble

This announcement set out the rules for the submission, selection and implementation of bilateral cooperation projects financed under the 6th Joint Call for Proposals of TÜBİTAK – NARD.

TÜBİTAK - The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye, is the leading agency for management, funding and conduct of research in Türkiye. It was established in 1963 with a mission to advance science and technology, conduct research and support Turkish researchers.

NARD - National Agency for Research and Development is a central administrative authority under the Government of Republic of Moldova. It was established in 2018 with a mission to implement the national policy in the fields of research and innovation, and ensure the excellence in achieving national priorities in research, development and innovation.

2. The objectives of the Call

The objectives of the call are:

- 1. To encourage international collaboration between research entities, universities, and research institutes (inclusion of private sector entities from Türkiye and Moldova is considered an asset)
- 2. To facilitate the access to new research environments, facilities, knowledge and expertise and to raise young scientists;
- 3. To enhance the quality of research and enable the translation of research and innovation results into economic and societal benefits, considering sustainable development.

2.1 Call Topics

- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Biomaterials

- Polymers
- Metals and Alloys
- Nanomaterials
- Water and Wastewater Treatment Technologies
- Environmental Sciences and Biodiversity
- Technology Driven Socio-Economic Impacts
- -Green Transition and Sustainability (Renewable energy, green hydrogen, circular economy impacts)
- -Socially Impactful Technologies (Health technologies, smart cities, social innovation)
- -Digitalization and Socio-Technological Effects (AI, IoT, and big data driving societal and economic transformation)

2.2 Joint research and development projects

Joint research and development project proposals are foreseen to be submitted to this Call. Within this Call, the project proposals, which contribute to the current state of the art by producing new knowledge, making new scientific interpretations or solving technological problems are aimed to be funded.

Project proposals have to 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, the intended time schedule, the estimated results and dissemination strategy.

The results should be focused on innovative insights, exploitable research results and the creation of foundations for a well-founded and sustainable partnership between Moldova and Türkiye, as well as to the call's objectives.

2.2. Funding Available

As a rule, Turkish partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 3000000 TL (excl. overhead and Project Incentive Premium (PIP)) of funding in total per project. The Moldovan partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 1000000 MDL of funding in total per project. The funding will be provided simultaneously by TÜBİTAK and NARD in the form of non-repayable project grants.

For the Turkish side – funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with its funding guidelines and procedures (please visit <u>national</u> regulations document).

For the Moldovan side – funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by NARD

according to its funding guidelines and procedures.

Please liaise closely with prospective partners to ensure that both TÜBİTAK and NARD-supported elements of the proposal comply with all regulations for both funders.

2.3. Duration of the Projects and Reporting

The duration of the projects will be up to **24 months**. The total duration of international visits in one direction should not exceed **60 days per year** for the each supported joint research project. (For Turkish side daily allowance will be provided within the scope of the provisions of per diem Law numbered 6245). The projects will be monitored for its content and progress by both TÜBİTAK and NARD through progress/final and financial reports according to funding contracts provisions.

During the implementation period of the projects, the continuation of funding will be decided on the basis of intermediate evaluations with reference to the results proposed in the application form and funding contracts.

A final report, presenting the work carried out and the results obtained, will be submitted to TÜBİTAK and NARD within two months after the completion of the project.

3. Call Schedule, Eligibility and Submission

The 6th Joint Call will be **opened from 12 August 2025 to 27 October 2025 (until 23:59)**. The organizations in the fields of research and innovation from the Republic of Moldova and Türkiye will jointly develop the project proposal.

The project proposal form shall be completed and submitted online by the organizations from Türkiye on the following website: http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr/. The organizations from the Republic of Moldova shall download and complete the standard documents indicated in p. 9 of the Call announcement. The signed and scanned documents must be sent in PDF format in a single email to: international@ancd.gov.md.

3.1. Eligibility

It is a prerequisite that projects include the participation of one public research entity (eligible to funding from NARD) independently or in partnership with other research public/private organisation or enterprise from Moldova covering their own costs and research entity, university, research institute or private sector's representative from Türkiye (eligible to TÜBİTAK).

All Turkish researchers who apply for this Programme should be registered to TÜBİTAK <u>ARBİS</u> (Researcher Information system). Further information relevant to national applicants/regulations is here.

Moldovan partners will have to submit signed supporting documents in electronic version according to the Call announcement.

3.2. Proposal Submission

For the Turkish side

The Turkish applicants are expected to submit the online application and supported documents published by TÜBİTAK through UIDB-PBS system by **27 October 2025** (until 23:59) and sign with e-signatures by 3 November 2025 (until 23:59), otherwise they will be rejected from evaluation and could not apply to this call in the same call period. **Project proposals will be prepared in English.**

For the Moldovan side

The Moldovan applicants are expected to submit applications to NARD according to the call text, by **27 October 2025 (until 23:59). Proposals should be prepared in Romanian.**

Note: The applicants may submit their applications throughout the entire period of the call for proposals, until the afore-mentioned deadline.

Applications sent to e-mail after the deadline will not be examined.

3.3. Partnership Agreement:

Scientific and technological results and any other information derived from the cooperation activities under this Call, will be shared, published or commercially exploited with the written consent of both cooperating partners and according to the international agreements concerning intellectual property rights to which states of the both Parties are signatories.

The partnership agreement about ownership of intellectual property rights and other duties is a supporting document and has to be signed between the winner partners. The partnership agreement shall be concluded in compliance with national legal framework of the Parties.

4. The Evaluation Procedure

Projects that are submitted online without the supporting documents and original or esignature(s) will not be evaluated and thus will be not considered for funding.

Only projects eligible for both sides, TÜBİTAK and NARD, will be evaluated.

4.1. Evaluation Method

The proposals that are considered eligible will be reviewed by external reviewers selected according to internal procedures by TÜBİTAK and NARD, and only those proposals that are approved by both Parties will be supported.

The projects to be recommended for funding will be selected together by TÜBITAK and NARD. The selection of projects to be recommended for funding will be agreed by TÜBITAK and NARD bilaterally.

On Moldovan side, the final decision about financing of recommended project proposals is made by NARD and on Turkish side by TÜBITAK.

4.2. Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation and selection process starts after the deadline of the call for proposal. The criteria for evaluating project proposals are established based on the current legislation and will include:

- Scientific / Technological Excellence
- Methodology
- Project Management
- Structure and Added Value of the International Collaboration
- Impact

4.3. Publication of results

The publication of results will be done in the agreed mode simultaneously by TÜBİTAK and NARD.

5. Indicative Timeline

ACTIONS	DATES
Call Announcement	12 August 2025
Deadline for Applications	27 October 2025
Deadline for E-Signature (TÜBİTAK applicants only)	3 November 2025
Projects evaluation	Mid-November 2025 to end of February
Final list of projects recommended for funding	End of February
Final funding decision by TÜBİTAK and NARD authorities	Mid March 2026
Feedback sent to applicants	April 2026
Tentative projects start	May 2026

6. Contacts

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