

1st Call for proposals for joint industrial Research and Development (R&D) projects between Germany and Argentina

Deadline for proposal submissions: 15th January 2019

1. Scope

Germany and Argentina are pleased to announce a call for proposals for **joint industrial R&D projects** focusing on developing innovative products, processes, or technology-based services in all technological and application areas which have strong market potential.

The Ministry of Science Technology and Productive Innovation (MINCyT) in Argentina and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) will provide access to public funding for joint projects through the BMWi's ZIM program (Central Innovation Program for SMEs) in Germany and through the National Agency for Scientific and Technological Promotion (ANPCyT) in Argentina

MINCyT and AiF Projekt GmbH (Project management agency for the BMWi) will provide all necessary assistance to project partners during project proposal, evaluation and monitoring phase.

2. Application process

Project partners are required to jointly present an industrial R&D project application, according to the following procedures:

2.1 Dates

Launched: 2nd July 2018

Project sketch submission deadline: 31st October 2018

Full application deadline: 15th January 2019

2.2 Financing

Eligible project participants from Germany and Argentina (project sketch approved) will finance their costs from their respective national funding schemes (in Germany ZIM, in Argentina by ANPCyT) and complementarily from their own resources. Funding proposals for ZIM and ANPCyT will follow the review and acceptance of the joint project application.

2.3 Requirements

Project results will have to contribute to the development of commercial products, processes and / or technical services. Projects must comply with the following requirements:

- The consortium has to include at least two independent enterprises (SMEs), one from Argentina and one from Germany which contribute considerably to the project. Participation of research institutes and other companies are welcome as additional participants or subcontractors according to each country's funding regulations.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the two jurisdictions (e.g. increased innovation capability, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).
- Project duration should not exceed three (3) years

Any partner whose cooperative industrial R&D project is consistent with the aforementioned requirements can apply to the present call for proposals in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect, including the European Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation. (2014/C 198/01)

2.4 Submission guidelines

IMPORTANT: Each interested partner must contact their local authority as soon as possible, before submitting the joint project application.

By the call for proposals Project Sketch Deadline, project participants must submit the following:

1. The **Proposal Application Form, prepared jointly** in English (legally signed by all partners participating in the project). The joint common proposal form is available for download at: <http://www.zim-bmwi.de/internationale-fue-kooperationen/ausschreibungen>
2. For the German Partner(s), a completed national **ZIM project proposal form** to be sent by post

AND,

3. A draft **Cooperation Agreement** (not yet signed) that regulates the terms of cooperation between all partners also in English.

The minimum requirements for the Cooperation Agreement are:

- Naming all project partners
- Description of the project aims and the differentiation of subprojects by each partner including brief work plans with effort estimated in person-months (Proposal Application Form annexed)
- Identifying and naming any 3rd party contractors required in the project
- Regulation of intellectual property rights (background and arising)
- Basic regulation of joint commercialization and apportioning of benefits
- If research organizations from either country are involved the publishing rights of each party must be agreed to by the parties

Upon request, an International Consortium Agreement Template can be provided as a guideline for preparation of the Cooperation Agreement. The above documents No. 1 and 3 are to be submitted by the deadline electronically to both international@aif-projekt-gmbh.de and ezapata@mincyt.gob.ar

2.4.1 Funding Submissions for Argentine Companies

Non-Refundable Financial Contributions of up to 80% of the Argentine companies investment in the project.

2.4.1.1 Argentine eligibility criteria:

Only SMEs (according to Argentine regulation) can apply for funding. Participation of non-SME companies is welcome, but these companies must send a letter committing to self-fund their participation in the project.

Please contact MINCYT for further information regarding the funding criteria.

- Be ready to collaborate with the German partner on an industrial R&D project;
- Be intended to grow and generate profits through the development and commercialization of innovative, technology-driven, new or improved products, services, or processes.

The application has to be in line with the MINCYT regulations, e.g. it has to be in English and Spanish language.

2.4.1.2 Argentine application process:

Argentine SMEs must contact MINCYT to discuss eligibility. MINCYT project proposal form, common guidelines and other required documents can be requested.

MINCYT can support Argentine Companies in the process of searching a Germany partner.

2.4.2 Funding Submissions for German Companies

Every German project partner files one individual ZIM application in paper form to AiF Projekt GmbH. All German SMEs, following the guidelines of the European Union definition which perform R&D to develop an innovative product, process or technological service – also in cooperation with research organizations – have the right to apply. More detailed criteria can be found on the ZIM website. The application has to be in line with the ZIM regulations, e.g. it has to be in German language.

Timeline to each project proposal application:

- Official launch of the call 2nd July 2018. Get in touch with your local funding agency at MINCYT or ZIM (AiF Projekt GmbH) before starting to fill in an application
- Submission of project sketches 31st October 2018.
- ZIM: File an optional project sketch before the full project proposal and submit it for further consultation.
- MINCYT: File the project outline before the full application deadline to allow enough time for feedback on the scope and potential feasibility of the project. Eligible applicants will be asked by 30th November 2018 to file a full application.
- Deadline for full project application proposals 15th January 2019. File the full project proposal form and all additional documents needed by the Full Application Deadline. Submit the national documents by the Full Application Deadline.
- Evaluation of applications till the end of April 2019. Within three months of the Full Application Submission you will receive an evaluation of the project and information whether the project is ready for funding in both national programs.
- Communication of all results till end of May 2019

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