

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS  
FOR JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS AS PART OF THE  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION BETWEEN  
ITALY AND THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN  
FOR THE YEARS 2014 - 2016**

*Within the framework of the Agreement on Cultural, Educational, Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Republic of Italy and the Kingdom of Sweden, signed in Rome on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2001 and came into force on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007, the procedures for the drafting of the Executive Programme on Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the years 2014 – 2016 are hereby initiated.*

**SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL PROJECTS: PROCEDURES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

In the validity period of the Executive Programme on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between Italian Republic and the Kingdom of Sweden for the years 2014-2016 (hereafter referred as to the “Executive Programme”), the two Parties may consider granting an annual financial contribution, within the limits of the available financial resources, to significant bilateral research projects which will be part of the Executive Programme.

The contribution is intended as a **co-funding** of the project and therefore **a significant funding participation by the proposing Institutions and/or other public/private Italian or Swedish Institutions is mandatory**. The contribution will be awarded by the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research only to the selected Italian Institutions and by the Swedish Research Council only to the selected Swedish Institutions.

**FIRST STAGE: PROPOSALS SUBMISSION, EVALUATION AND SELECTION**

1. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals must be submitted **only by the Italian Coordinator** who will submit a preliminary description of the project **ONLY** through the online platform <http://web.esteri.it/pgr/sviluppo> . Coordinators must register to the website and fill the project description forms available online.

The deadline for submission of proposals is **June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014**, at 17.00 (CET), when the online submission system will be deactivated.

Proposals, covering up to three years activity (2014-2016), must be drafted in English.

The Italian Coordinator must send a letter of support to the project proposal signed by the Head of Department or similar. The letter should be sent (in PDF format) to [DGSP.UST1@esteri.it](mailto:DGSP.UST1@esteri.it).

Any enquiry about the Italy/Sweden Executive Programme can be sent to the e-mail address [DGSP.UST1@esteri.it](mailto:DGSP.UST1@esteri.it).

2. RESEARCH AREAS

Project proposals may be submitted in the following priority research areas:

- Technology and Research applied to nano science
- Technology and Research applied to neuroscience;
- Technology and Research applied to Cultural Heritage;
- Technology and Research applied to Ageing society.

**NB: Projects submitted in other research areas will not be considered.**

### 3. PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION AT THE NATIONAL AND BILATERAL LEVEL

Projects will be initially evaluated at the national level in both Countries. Subsequently, the assessment will be carried out by the Joint Commission in order to select the projects to be listed in the Executive Programme.

Projects will be assessed according to the following evaluation criteria:

- *Scientific relevance and quality*
- *Methodology and documentation*
- *Qualification of the applicants*
- *Added value of the bilateral cooperation*
- *Social and developmental added value for Italy and Sweden*
- *Use and dissemination of results*
- *Budget adequacy*

Preference will be given to projects that: 1) will favour the mobility of young scientists; 2) involve industrial counterparts, benefit from third parties' funding (such as public or private research institutes and organizations) and/or take part in multilateral and/or European research programmes, with particular regard to the Horizon 2020 Programme of the European Union.

The project coordinator for the Italian side shall be Italian citizen or European citizen resident in Italy, and working for an Italian public/private Research Institution.

The proposal shall address one of the research priority areas as listed in this Section. Proposals dealing with other areas will not be considered for evaluation.

Italian and Swedish coordinators may submit only one proposal. Failure to comply will result in exclusion from the evaluation.

### 4. PUBLICATION OF RESULTS.

The significant bilateral projects selected and listed in the Executive Programme will constitute a short-list of projects entitled to receive a financial contribution in accordance with the guidelines of the relevant authorities of the two Countries.

The list of the selected projects and funding procedures will be posted exclusively on the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the following address:

[http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica\\_Estera/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/Accordi\\_programmi\\_culturali\\_tecnologici.htm](http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica_Estera/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/Accordi_programmi_culturali_tecnologici.htm)

## **SECOND STAGE: FINANCING OF PROJECTS**

The significant joint research projects selected and listed in the Executive Programme will constitute a short-list of projects entitled to apply for funding in accordance with the specific call for proposals issued by the Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the Directorate General for Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science) of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and published on the web every year. The call for proposals is usually released in fall, for the following funding year.

Details on such projects (in compliance with Law 401/90) are available on the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the following link:

[http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica\\_Estera/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/ProgettiGrandeRilevanza/](http://www.esteri.it/MAE/IT/Politica_Estera/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/ProgettiGrandeRilevanza/)