

INDO-ITALIAN PROGRAM OF COOPERATION IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 2005–2007

(Call for Proposal)

Within the framework of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement between Government of Italy and Government of India, signed at Delhi on 28 November 2003, the Indian Department of Science & Technology (DST) and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MAE), DGPCC Office V intends to initiate the procedures for the preparation of the Executive Programme of Cooperation (POC) in Science and Technology for the period 2005–2007.

1. Purpose

Researchers from India and Italy are requested to submit proposals for joint research projects with the aim of creating new knowledge, products, and services for enhancing socio-economic development and industrial competitiveness of the two countries.

2. Eligible Research Areas

Projects may be submitted in the following research areas:

- Electronics and robotics (including information technology, computer science, microelectronics and nanoscience and technology)
- Biomedical Sciences (including medical radiology and medical biotechnology, agricultural biotechnology, food science and technology)
- Design Engineering and Technology
- Materials Science and Technology (including Organic Semiconductors, Nanomaterials)
- Physics, Technology and Application of Accelerated Particles
- Transport, Energy and Environment
- Cultural Heritage, Conservation and Restoration Technologies

Projects presented in other research areas will not be considered.

3. Presentation of Joint Research Projects

The joint projects, valid over three years (2005–2007), must be written in English and signed by both Indian and Italian Project Coordinator. The joint projects must include the following:

- The title of the Joint Project, the Research Area (out of the Eligible Research Areas listed in Para 2), Keywords qualifying the joint project.
- Name of Indian and Italian Coordinators and Data concerning their post, place of work-institution, contact address, telephone, fax and email address.
- Composition and description of other research staff from each side to be engaged in the project.
- Short curriculum vitae of the Indian and Italian Coordinator including significant recent research publications related to the proposed project.
- Description of the Project: objectives, international scenario of research in the proposed area of work, grounds for collaboration, project implementation methodology, including annual planning of activities and schedule of visits from Indian side/Italian side, expected results and its sharing (joint publications, patents, etc.).
- The joint project proposal should also include 'No Objection' from concerned administrative authority for implementing the project in the event of its selection.

4. Joint Project Evaluation and Selection Procedures

The projects must be submitted by the Indian and Italian Coordinator to Indian DST and the Italian MAE-DGPCC Office V at the addresses given below. Projects submitted to only one of the two Parties shall not be considered. The joint projects will be initially evaluated at national level in accordance with following criteria:

- Scientific relevance
- Potential impact on building scientific and technological capacity and on bilateral relations
- Potential social and economic impact
- Quality of project content and methodology
- Quality of collaborating partners

Special consideration will be given to joint projects involving research partners from the industrial sectors.

Subsequently, a joint assessment will be carried out in the Joint S&T Committee Meeting to select the projects admitted in the POC (2005–2007) for co-funding.

5. Financing of Joint Projects

Joint project based exchange of visits will be co-financed by Indian DST and the Italian Ministry of Foreign affairs DGPCC Office V as follows:

- Short-term Visits (STV) (up to 10 days)
- Long-term Visits (LTV) (1 month/2 months/3 months, i.e. 30 days per month)

For project based exchange of visits, the travel expenses from place of work in home country to the nearest airport to the place of work in foreign country shall be borne by the Sending Party. Local hospitality expenses will be borne by the Receiving Party as per amounts agreed in the financial terms of POC 2005–2007.

While project based mobility of researchers will be co-funded under POC, the Project Coordinators are expected to mobilize research funds, if required from their respective national research funding sources.

6. Submission of Joint Projects and Closing Date

The Indian Project Coordinator is expected to submit one hard copy of the signed joint project proposal, no later than **30 November 2004** by post as well as one electronic version (MS Word format) to the **Indian Department of Science and Technology (Mrs Sadhana Relia, Director, International Division, Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi 110 016; Tel: +91-11-26602189; Fax: +91-11-26862418; Email: srelia@alpha.nic.in).**

The Italian Project Coordinator is expected to submit two hard copies of signed joint project proposal *by post* no later than **30 November 2004**, with words "*Programme tra Italia e India*" on the envelope to this address: **Ministero degli Affari Esteri, DGPC, Uff.V, Piazzale della Farnesina 1, 00194, Roma**, and another copy to this address: **Embassy of Italy, Scientific Counsellor, 50-E, Chandragupta Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110 021, India.**

Copies of the same joint project proposal in electronic version (MS Word format) must also be e-mailed to: carlo.molina@esteri.it; addscien@italembdelhi.com

7. Announcement of selected joint projects

The list of the selected joint projects and the rules for using the funds will be posted on the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the following address: <http://www.esteri.it> and on the website of the Indian DST at the address: <http://dst.gov.in>