

14th Polish-Taiwanese/Taiwanese-Polish Joint Research Call

Call Text

I. Objectives of the call

The National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR) and the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), have established a joint research call with the purpose of developing and strengthening mutual scientific cooperation between Polish and Taiwanese research teams from laboratories and centres supported by the NCBR and the NSTC as well as private enterprises that meet the call criteria.

The aims of the cooperation are as follows:

- Enhancing Polish-Taiwanese communication and cooperation;
- Increasing and developing high quality research networking between researchers;
- Developing new partnerships and strengthening existing ones;
- Exchanging existing knowledge and creating new knowledge;
- Enhancing level of science and technology in both countries;
- Increasing impact of Polish and Taiwanese research activities;
- Strengthen the participation between academia and private business actors in Poland and Taiwan
- Increase the chances of successful commercialisation of research results,
- Improve the competitive position of Polish and Taiwanese enterprises on the world markets

II. Eligibility

Proposals may be submitted by public and/or private entities that are eligible to participate in the call according to the respective funding regulations of the funding institutions. These can be public/ private research organisations, higher education organisations and enterprises.

Potential applicants are advised that the 14th Polish-Taiwanese/Taiwanese-Polish Joint Research Call will be run in two separate paths. Path 1 is aimed at research organisations and consortia thereof and Path 2 is aimed at enterprises and teams comprised of enterprises and research organisations. The two paths will be subjected to different sets of rules and criteria, as described below.

Path 1 in Poland:

- Research organisations;
- Group of entities consisting of research organisations.

Path 2 in Poland:

- Enterprises - Micro, Small and Medium;
- Groups of entities composed of at least two enterprises;
- Groups of entities composed of at least one research organisation and at least one enterprise.

Taiwan:

Eligible Taiwanese applicants of both Path 1 and 2 must have an ongoing NSTC-funded research project, in accordance with the Guidelines of Bilateral Add-on Grants for Joint cooperation (available in Chinese only):

<https://law.nstc.gov.tw/NewsContent.aspx?id=151843>

Path 1 (Joint Research Project):

Eligible Taiwanese applicants are from academic organisations (universities or research institutions);

Path 2 (Academic-Institutional Linkage Program):

Eligible Taiwanese applicants from academic organisations are required to establish formal linkages with domestic research institutions (such as NIAR or ITRI). If the principal investigator (PI) is affiliated with a university, researchers from the participating research institutions must be included in the project as co-principal investigators (Co-PIs) or co-investigators (Co-Is).

The call is open to the following research areas.

For Path 1 and Path 2:

1. Energy efficiency technologies, including air-conditioning, refrigeration, thermal energy technologies
2. Materials science and engineering
3. Smart Vehicles (including AI and electromobility)
4. Quantum technology and Cybersecurity
5. Aviation and Space Research
6. Semiconductors

7. Marine Science and Technology
8. Biotechnology

III. Funding

Project partners will be funded by the funding institutions of the respective partner countries (Poland and Taiwan). The projects will be supported with grants of the national budget in accordance with the respective national funding regulations. The final selection shall be based upon the joint decision by the funding institutions. The applicable awarding institution will base its decision on the national evaluation procedure of proposals and within the scope of the available budget.

On the Polish side:

For Path 1: Each project may be supported with a maximum amount of 400 000 PLN for a period of up to 3 years;

For Path 2: Each project may be supported with a maximum amount of 1 200 000 PLN for a period of up to 3 years.

On the Taiwanese side:

For Path 1: Each project may be supported with a maximum amount of 120,000 NTD (around 32 000 EUR) per year for a period of up to 3 years;

For Path 2: Each project may be supported with a maximum amount of 300,000 NTD (around 80 000 EUR) per year for a period of up to 3 years.

The eligible cost in the call are the following:

- personnel,
- equipment,
- consumables (for Polish enterprises included in overheads),
- travel (for Polish enterprises included in overheads),
- subcontracting,
- other costs (for Polish enterprises other direct costs included in overheads).

The detailed information about the cost categories is included in the national regulations.

IV. Composition of the international consortia

Participation is open to applicants from the funding countries (Poland and Taiwan).

For Path 1: possible applicants include research organisations on the Polish side, and research organisations on the Taiwanese side.

For Path 2: possible applicants include obligatorily micro, small and medium enterprises and optionally research organisations on the Polish side, and obligatory research organisations and optionally enterprises on the Taiwanese side.

Necessary precondition for eligibility is involvement of Polish and Taiwanese entities. The level of contribution to the overall project costs should not be less than 30% for each country.

The funding institutions expect that the bilateral cooperation covered by the scope of this funding, will deliver significant synergy effects within the framework of projects to be funded. Proposals must therefore make clear why they should be developed cooperatively between the participating countries and what the added value will be created through this collaboration. Projects that do not indicate why this cooperation is necessary cannot be considered.

The call targets existing research contacts between Poland and Taiwan in order to prepare joint project proposals as well as new partnerships between Polish and Taiwanese researchers and entrepreneurs.

Projects have to involve at least one Polish and one Taiwanese partner. The application has to present researchers involved in the project as well as clear division of responsibilities among the consortium members. An Principal Investigator may participate in only one project proposal within each NSTC-NCBR call.

V. Submission of applications

For each proposal, project partners have to choose from among themselves one Taiwanese and one Polish Project Leader - an entity formally responsible for submitting the proposal on behalf of all project partners. The responsibilities of the Project Leaders are to keep the other project partners updated on the submission process, to ensure the internal management and coordination of the project.

There is a one-level procedure for submission of proposals. Each proposal shall comprise a project description and further formal and financial information according to the required form.

A grant application must be submitted by Polish Project Leader through the NCBR electronic system and by a Taiwanese Project Leader through the NSTC electronic system **no later than 30th June 2026**. Submissions received after the deadline will not be processed.

The timeline for the call:

Application procedure	Launch of the call/ invitation for proposals	May 5 th 2026
	Deadline for submitting of proposals	June 30 th 2026
Project	Earliest start of projects	January 1 st 2027

VI. Evaluation procedure

The proposals will be evaluated according to the national regulations of the funding institutions. The final decisions on what projects to support will be made by the funding institutions based on evaluations from the external experts, national priorities and funding criteria. The evaluation process includes three steps:

1. Eligibility check

The following general eligibility criteria will be checked:

- whether the proposal was submitted in the required manner and within the required time limit,
- inclusion of all necessary information, including attachments,
- eligibility of the Principal Investigators,
- eligibility of other project partners,
- participation of researchers from both Poland and Taiwan and division of work in accordance with the call rules,
- eligibility of project implementation period,
- eligibility of required funding,

2. Peer review

Independent scientific experts will carry out the anonymous peer review of the eligible project proposals according to evaluation criteria. Each proposal will be evaluated by two to three Taiwanese and three Polish peer reviewers.

The evaluation is done based on the following criteria:

- A. Coherence with the call topic;
- B. Scientific excellence and originality of the proposal:
 - originality of project idea,

- innovative potential,
- quality (sound concept, appropriate methods, quality of objectives).
- C. Feasibility, quality and efficiency of the project plan:
 - effectiveness of the methodology,
 - feasibility (governance, adequate budget, resources, time schedule),
 - investigators' knowledge and experience in the field of research: scientific track-record, publications in scientific journals,
 - relevance and strengths of partners (including resources and infrastructure),
 - standing of the organisation the applicants belong to.
- D. Potential impact and contribution to the scientific community, expected exploitation of the results:
 - possibility of practical application of the project results,
 - intended short-term outcomes,
 - intended long-term impacts,
 - potential commercialisation prospects and expected commercial exploitation of results.
- E. Bilateral cooperation and transnational added value:
 - cohesion of the proposed research,
 - level of the collaborative interaction between project partners,
 - sustainability of the expected collaboration.
- F. Justification of the planned costs (including compliance of the planned research with research categories – basic research, industrial research and experimental development).

All proposals are assessed whether they fit the description of the thematic research priorities. If a proposal is not coherent with the call theme it will be rejected from further evaluation.

3. Council

A council consisting of experts appointed by the NCBR and the NSTC will discuss the results of the peer review process, review problematic cases and make a final ranking list of the projects to be funded.

VII. Communication of project evaluation decisions

The outcome of the evaluation of the proposals will be communicated to applicants in accordance with the respective communication procedures of the funding institutions.

VIII. Decision process and the start of projects

The formal funding decisions will be taken jointly by the funding institutions after the proposals have been evaluated by the external experts, wherein only projects which were positively evaluated by both parties will be considered eligible for support. Each country will fund its own project partners within the available budget.

When final decisions have been conveyed to project participants, successful applicants must enter into individual contractual agreements with their national funding institutions. A consortium agreement must be concluded between the project partners and has to regulate, inter alia, duties and responsibilities, use of project results and intellectual property rights (IPR) issues. The consortium agreement and the above mentioned individual contractual agreements are prerequisites for the first payments made to the project partners from the national funding institutions. The involved funding institutions will monitor and supervise the funded projects (reporting).

IX. Contact points

Potential applicants are advised to contact the national contact points before writing proposals to carefully check the specific national application and funding conditions.

The respective contact points are:

Contact in Poland:

NCBR – The National Centre for Research and Development
Chmielna Str. 69
00-801 Warsaw

Ms. Paulina Puchalska

tel.: +48 571 226 613

e-mail: tajwan@ncbr.gov.pl

Contact in Taiwan - NSTC:

NSTC – The National Science and Technology Council
106, Sec. 2, Heping E. Rd.
106214 Taipei, Taiwan, R.O.C

Ms. Yi-Jie Chen

Tel +886-2-2737-7682

e-mail: yijiechen@nstc.gov.tw

Contact of NSTC Division in Prague:

Science and Technology Division Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Czech Republic

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160 00 Praha 6

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