Funding Opportunities at the Ministry of Science, Research & Technology (MSRT)

Dr. Simin Karimian
Cisc@msrt.ir

September 2018
University of Tehran, I. R. Iran
Outline

- Highlights on Cooperation with Germany
- Iran Funding Organizations
- MSRT’s Policies for Conducting Research Projects
- Funding Schemes
  - Student Scholarship Scheme
  - Joint Venture Research Projects & few examples of such projects
Highlights on Cooperation with Germany

- **Recent Cooperation**
  - University Information Tours, 2016 & 2017
  - 1st Joint Steering Committee Meeting in Germany, 2017
  - German Science Day in Iran, Feb. 2018

- **Near Future Cooperation**
  - University Information Tours, 2018 & 2019
  - Joint MSRT-BMBF Call; announcement by late 2018
  - 2nd Steering Committee Meeting in Iran, 2019
  - Iran Science Day in Germany, 2019
Iran Funding Organizations

There are 5 main Funding Organization in I. R. Iran:

1- Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT)
   - Student Affair Organization (SAO)
   - Centre for International Scientific Studies and Cooperation (CISSC)

2- Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME)
   - National Institute for Medical Research Development (NIMAD)

3- Iran National Science Foundation (INSF)

4- Iran's National Elites Foundation

5- Innovation and Prosperity Fund
MSRT’s Policies for Conducting Research Projects

Macro-policies: Identifying the target country + Signing MoU

1. Identifying Research fields
2. Joint Call
3. Receive & Evaluate Proposals
4. Result Announcement, Support & Supervision
Funding Schemes

1. Student Scholarship Program

2. Joint Venture Research Project
   A. Call-based
   B. Non-Call Based

3. International Cooperation in Educational Development
Student Scholarship Scheme

• Degree scholarship: for 1500-2000 international students to study in Iran

• 1500–2000 annual PhD scholarships for Iranian students to study abroad; duration of 6-9 months

Procedure:

• Iranian universities introduce PhD students to the MSRT;
• Students receive acceptance letter from an international university
Joint Venture Research Projects

• Total of 345 joint venture projects are approved with many countries in the world, out of which:
  □ 150 are call-based joint venture projects have been defined and initiated, with countries such as:
    • Austria
    • France
    • Germany
    • India
    • Italy
    • Pakistan
    • South Africa
  □ 195 are non-call based
Joint Venture Research Projects: Non Call-based Funds

- **Procedure:**
  - **Step 1:** Make contact with an oversees faculty member;
  - **Step 2:** Define a field of cooperation;
  - **Step 3:** Define financial breakdown and cost estimate of project;
  - **Step 4:** Undertake and complete project.
Joint Venture Research Projects: Bilateral Call-based Funds

• Procedure:
  • **Step 1:** Announcing mutually agreed list of prioritised areas with the partner country;
  • **Step 2:** Faculty members making contact with an oversees faculty member;
  • **Step 3:** Making decision in the Steering committee, evaluating and confirming the selected projects;
  • **Step 4:** Providing Financial support for mobility programmes
Joint Venture Research Projects-
Call Based Funds
Example 1: Impulse Iran-Austria

- The project was defined, based on a mutual interest to considerably improve knowledge exchange on an international level, aimed to strengthen the international profile of the institutions involved.

- **Iranian Side:** Centre for International Scientific Cooperation (CISC), through Kharazmi University
Joint Venture Research Projects-
Call Based Funds
Example 2: Gundishapur Fund

• Designed to promote collaborations among Iranian and French researchers and faculty members
• Aimed to support mobility of researchers
• 15 annual projects (two years long each)

• CISSC & French Embassy in Tehran
Joint Venture Research Projects - Call Based Funds

Example 3: Pietro Della Valle

- MoU was signed between the MSRT and the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research
- Two-year long projects; co-funded by both countries

- CISSC is in charge of Pietro Della Valle in Iran
Joint Venture Research Projects -
Call Based Funds

Example 4: Invited Collaborative Research Program (ICRP)

• The prominent international researchers are invited to travel to Iran for a specific period of time, to engage in collaborative research projects with Iranian scholars.

• Concentrates on research areas, ranging from ‘Basic Sciences’ to ‘Social Sciences’ and ‘Art’.

• CISSC is in charge of ICRP in Iran
Joint Venture Research Projects-
Call Based Funds

Example 5: International Cooperation in Applied Research Development (ICARD)

- Aims to fund for brain circulation
- Facilitates international scientific collaboration between Iranian researchers all over the world
- Provides opportunities for sabbatical leaves for faculty members who want to immerse themselves in a foreign community and gain experience in international research collaborations

- CISSC is in charge of ICARD in Iran
Joint Venture Research Projects-
Call Based Funds

Example 6: International Cooperation in Educational Development (ICED)

• Aims to:

  • Financially support &
  • Foster teaching-based collaborations among Iranian scholars & researchers residing & working overseas and those in the country, through inviting those abroad to teach at Iranian universities

• Teaching duration typically lasts up to 6 weeks.

• CISSC is in charge of ICED in Iran
Joint Venture Research Projects - Call Based Funds
Example 7: Simorgh

- Provides opportunities for the faculty members and students at Iranian universities to enhance their research and training by establishing ties with foreign scholars,

- Designed to attract overseas outstanding scientists and experts in various fields to deliver scientific talks

- CISSC is in charge of Simorgh in Iran
Summary

• There are several Funding bodies in Iran, that are available for research, education and technology developments;

• Many of these funding bodies are allocated to internal bodies and organizations;

• MSRT welcomes co-funded joint venture research projects with Germany!
Contact us!

• Centre for International Scientific Cooperation (CISC)

• **Website:** msrt.ir/en

• **Tel:** +98 21 82234220

• **Email:** Cisc@msrt.ir