



*IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment
and
CCRF (Committee on Chemistry Research Funding)
International Call in the Chemical Sciences*

A showcase program for a cooperation between international funding organizations and International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry as represented by its “Division of Chemistry and the Environment”.

AGREEMENT between

Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP), Scientific Directorate, R. Pio XI, 1500 - Alto da Lapa, CEP 05468-901 - São Paulo/SP, Brasil, represented by its President, Prof. Dr. Celso Lafer,

And

National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), Department of Chemical Sciences, 83 Shuangqing Road, Haidian District, Beijing 100085, China, represented by its Executive Deputy Director, Prof. Dr. Wenping Liang,

And

National Science Foundation (NSF), Division of Chemistry, US National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA, 22230, United States of America, represented the by its Chair of the Division, Prof. Dr. Matthew S. Platz,

And

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V. (DFG), German Research Foundation – Division of Chemistry and Process Engineering, Kennedyallee 40, D-53175 Bonn, Germany, represented by its Head of the Division, Dr. Johanna Kowol-Santen,

And

the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), 104 T.W. Alexander Drive, Building 19, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, United States of America, represented by Dr. John D. Petersen, Executive Director of IUPAC, and Dr. Laura L. McConnell, President of the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment,

Any other organization wanting to join will be added by an amendment to the present agreement hereinafter referred as “the Agreement”, at the latest on November 12, 2012. It will have the same status as the listed organizations.

referred to hereinafter as ‘the Partners’ and

on an international joint call for proposals.



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Preamble

The overall aim of the IUPAC Committee on Chemistry Research Funding (CCRF) is to explore ways by which research organizations and agencies responsible for funding chemical research in various countries might exchange information on international trends in funding and develop partnerships for projects of mutual interest.

IUPAC as a world wide transnational organization will serve as a neutral umbrella being the most appropriate organization to provide the framework for such a long-term program and could provide continuing leadership for this activity.

Among actions of transnational partnership, multilateral calls for proposals are a desirable goal with respect to the international cooperation of funding agencies and research organizations. As a start the Partners aim at a three-year thematic program with joint proposals of three(3) principal investigators from three(3) different countries funded by their respective funding organizations.

The motivation of this project is to foster networking between excellent scientists on topics in chemistry exemplified by a program on sustainable chemistry. The topics for this program will be topics of high priority basic science.

The participating researchers are encouraged to build research and education links between the developing and developed world. An option would be to encourage the involvement of PhD students outside the host laboratory's country, e.g., from developing countries.

It is emphasized that early career researchers who have established an autonomous or independent research area are also among the applicants addressed with this call.

The central coordination of the call will be carried out by a Call Secretariat to be established by the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment by the end of 2012.

The Partners therefore agree as follow:

Article 1. Purpose of the Agreement

The purpose of this Agreement is to organize the launch, review and funding of a transnational/transcontinental multilateral call for proposals supported by a consortium of funding agencies and research organisations, and scientifically monitored by IUPAC.

Article 2. Duration



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This Agreement shall come into force on November 19, 2012 and shall terminate on December 31, 2016.

Article 3. Description of the call

1. General philosophy of the call

- Administrative simplicity and flexibility.
- Establishment of international best practice rules for joint funding programs.
- Rapid process: less than twelve (12) months between announcement of the call and final funding decision.
- Written commitment of participating organizations (Call agreement).
- Identical procedures for all participating researchers.
- All Principal Investigators (PIs) must come from different countries selected from those that are participating in the call.
- A PI may only participate in one letter of intent.
- One joint proposal for each project.
- Two-step evaluation with letter of intent and full proposals.
- The names of reviewers will remain anonymous.
- Procedures and eligibility cost items will follow the national programs of the participating organizations.
- Each Partner agency funds its own country part of a successful proposal as well as the related administrative cost.
- An award could only be made if all the Partners involved in the proposal agree to do so.
- The overall process will be at no cost for IUPAC.

2. Specific principles for this call

- Coordination of application and review process by a Call Secretariat nominated by and in close interaction with IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment Committee members.
- The Panel is composed of about ten(10) reviewers nominated by both the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment committee and the Partners.
- The Panel recommendations are reviewed by the Partners who make the final funding decision.
- Funding period for each collaborative project: three(3) years.
- Three(3) Principal Investigators from three(3) different countries are submitting a joint proposal.
- Funding level supports a minimum of PhD student or post-doc position(s) per successful applicant. Successful projects must involve meaningful participation of the investigator (including students and postdoctoral fellows) through extended research visits in collaborators' laboratories abroad. Travel and subsistence expenses are covered by the funding organization of the country of origin. Each organization supports consumables and minor equipment in accordance with the organization guidelines.



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- Representatives involved (committee members) of the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment and researchers from their own research team are not eligible to apply for funding within this program.

3. Call text

Announcing the Call:

International Call for Proposals on

“Novel Molecular and Supramolecular Theory and Synthesis Approaches for Sustainable Catalysis”

The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and participating national funding agencies are pleased to issue an international call for proposals in sustainable chemistry.

This call is intended to foster multi-national cooperation in sustainable chemistry. All researchers working in the field of sustainable chemistry and eligible to apply for financial support from their respective participating national research councils are cordially invited to apply. This program is designed for small teams of three or four principal investigators, encompassing three countries. While larger teams may be considered, it is incumbent upon the team to articulate a clear and strong plan that optimizes both scientific coherence and effective management of resources. Each team will submit a single, joint proposal.

Grants will support basic experimental and theoretical research. A successful proposal will have to:

1. Introduce novel approaches to develop a new generation of catalysts in which rare elements are replaced with earth abundant elements;
2. Successfully address a significant environmental problem.

This grant program does not support: (i) basic research that focuses on biological techniques, cellular processes, or biomedical problems; (ii) applied research that focuses on extended solids and bulk materials, (iii) design, optimization, or other engineering aspects of devices; (iv) engineering aspects of chemistry, such as scale-up, processing, transport dynamics, and long-term stability.

Research teams interested in this opportunity should be aware of the following important dates:

- Letters of intent are due January 14, 2013.
- Full proposals for eligible projects are due March 29, 2013.
- Final results of this call will be communicated to applicants by September 30, 2013.
- Funding of all awards will start no later than January 2014.



4. Letter of Intent stage

Content of the letter of intent

- One(1) joint letter of intent per project by a group of three(3) Principal Investigators (PIs) from three(3) different countries.
- The letter of intent includes detailed information on the PIs and it describes the proposed research in brief. (see Annex A).
- The CV for each PI includes a list of the five(5) most relevant publications, names and affiliation of doctoral and postdoctoral mentors and a list of collaborators in the last four years (maximum of 2 pages).
- The letter is submitted by a Project Coordinator (PC), representing the single point of contact for all three(3) investigators (PIs) of the joint project.

Scope of letter of intent stage

This process is designed to assess the maximum number of proposals and to help identify the research areas to be needed for the review process. At this early stage, it helps the Partners to:

- check on national eligibility criteria.
- identify possible areas of conflicts of interest (see Annex C)

Eligibility check based on the letters of intent

- The Call Secretariat does a first eligibility check on administrative details.
- The detailed full list of projects is provided to the Partners to let them check on the national eligibility of the applicants.
- After agreement on eligibility by the Partners, the Call Secretariat informs the Project Coordinators on the status and further steps to be taken.

5. Full proposal stage

Each eligible joint team submits a single full proposal for this call.

Content of the full proposal:

- The full proposal consists of ten(10) pages maximum for scientific content (figures, diagrams, tables and equations included).
- Additional page(s) for relevant references.
- Application form covering administrative details and a detailed cost table (Annex B).
- Additional individual partner agency requirements to be added on request.

Review at full proposal stage



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- Involves external written reviews organized by the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment Committee (monitored by the Call Secretariat) and it requires at least three(3) written reviews per submission.
- Reviews are from external reviewers. These reviewers are different from the panel members, who will discuss the results at the panel meeting.
- The Panel is composed of about ten(10) reviewers nominated by both the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment Committee and the Partners.
- Each written review provides an overall score.
- Each proposal is finally reviewed and presented by at least two(2) Panel members (speakers) at the panel meeting.
- The Panel proposes the scientific evaluation and ranking; the Partners consider the evaluation and takes the final funding decision (can be done by email or video conference).
- Scientific officers of the Partners are encouraged to attend the Panel meeting (as observers only).

Review criteria at the full proposal stage

The written reviews of the full proposal stage are finally discussed at the Panel meeting:

1. Scientific merit and significance (broader impact) of the project.
2. The scientific and collaborative added value.
3. The track record of the applicants.
4. Feasibility of the project taking into account the costs.

Each written review provides a single overall score as a starting point for further discussions at the panel meeting. Details are given in the guidelines for reviewers.

6. Time schedule and actions to be taken

The Partners and the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment Committee agree on the following time schedule and the specified actions to be undertaken:

Preparing the call

- 1 August 2011: The CCRF members suggest a second call for proposals in 2013 at their annual meeting (San Juan, Puerto Rico).
- October 2011: The CCRF members have a first draft for a second call in hands. Preliminary title "International Call for Proposals in Sustainable Chemistry."
- 13 April 2012: The IUPAC Division Chairs Committee is introduced to the CCRF activities. The IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment expresses interest to take the lead for this second call. It is suggested to adapt the established and proven procedures of the first call.



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- 28 August 2012: CCRF meeting in Prague, Czech Republic. The Partners suggest a stronger focus for this call for proposals in the broad field of sustainable chemistry. In total six Partners express their interest in this call.
- 19 November 2012: The Call Agreement is submitted for signature to all Partners, and to IUPAC representatives.

The call procedure

- 16 November 2012: Final version of call text and guidelines for applicants will be completed and agreed to.
- 19 November 2012: Call is announced on websites and in print media (IUPAC and Partners).
- 14 January 2013: Deadline for submission of letters of intent to the Call Secretariat (electronic mail, pdf) using template in Annex A.

Letters of intent are made available by Call Secretariat for eligibility check by the Partners.

- 1 February 2013: Call Secretariat received results of eligibility check and suggestions for Panel members by each Partner. The applicants are informed on the next steps to be taken.
- Meanwhile, the Call Secretariat works in collaboration with the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment Committee to work out a list of reviewers and panel members.
- 29 March 2013: Closing of the call for full proposals.
- 12 April 2013: Full proposals are made available by Call Secretariat to the Partners.
- 26 April 2013: Administrative work of Partners is finished, additional documents are completed by applicants, where necessary.
- Meanwhile, the Call Secretariat and representatives of IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment Committee collect at least three(3) written reviews for each full proposal, the list of panel members is modified if necessary, two(2) speakers are appointed from the Panel members, panel members are invited.
- 19 July 2013: All reviews completed and collected.
- 11-16 August 2013: Panel meets at the 44th World Chemistry Congress in Istanbul, Turkey. The final recommendations are produced and conveyed



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to the IUPAC Chemistry and the Environment Division Committee and the Call Secretariat.

- 16 August 2013: The Partners meet at the 44th World Chemistry Congress in Istanbul, Turkey. The IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment Committee and the Call Secretariat provide all the supporting documents (the proposals, reviews, panel summaries and rankings) recommended for awards. The Partners decide whether to accept or reject the Panel recommendation. An award could only be made, if all the Partners involved in the proposal agree to do so. Each Partner has a right of refusal. The proposal is declined by all the Partners if only one of them decides to reject.
- 30 September 2013: Last date for notification of results to applicants (rejection/funding and reviewer's comments). Notification is prepared by Call Secretariat and submitted to the applicants by the Call Secretariat following review by the Partners. The PIs receive anonymous copies of the reviews and panel recommendations. In any communication with the PI following notification, IUPAC will keep the confidentiality of the review process.

Funding procedure

- Funding for all joint proposals no later to start than January 2014.
- Successful applicants to speak at a special session of the Pacifichem Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, December 15 - 20, 2015.

7. Reporting and follow up

According to national rules each Partner may request his PI(s) to provide progress and/or final reports on the status and outcome of research activities.

A final scientific workshop of all successful applicants will be held during the third year of funding on the occasion of one of the IUPAC conferences. The expenses will be supported by the relevant Partners.

As part of a "lessons learnt analysis" for this call and in addition to the usual reports for national projects, the collaborating researchers should provide an insight to the synergy effects and their experiences in the trans-national collaborations.

8. Provisional budget

Since a reasonable key for the calculation of suitable national contingents could not yet be negotiated, the Partners agree on the following principles:

- IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment provides only the scientific monitoring, in connection with the funding agencies/research organizations,



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- Each Partner supports its own expenses generated by the program (local secretariat, relevant personnel, videoconference, administrator travel costs, etc.). In case of meeting, the Partner of the hosting country provides the room and facilities.
- Each Partner will be responsible for the issuance and management of awards to their PIs in accordance with the Partner's agency issuance and post-award guidelines. (A reasonable estimation for this call might be about 9 to 12 successful applications, with an average of 2 to 3 per Partner)".
- Each Partner supports the travel/local expenses of its national reviewer(s) and of the IUPAC Division of Chemistry and the Environment Committee member(s) from its country.
- For reviewers or IUPAC members not affiliated with a participating country, expenses will be covered by the Partners involved in the program to be decided on case by case basis.
- No extra fee will be provided to the reviewers.
- If extra meetings are required, the travel/local expenses of the participating scientists (laureate applicants and granted PhDs/Post-docs), administrators, reviewers and involved IUPAC members should be covered by their relevant Partners.

9. Further aspects

- **Possibility of extension of funding**

The funding period for this call is limited to 3 years. Extensions may occasionally be granted by the relevant Partners.

- **Intellectual property rights**

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) should be handled according to special agreements to be negotiated between the relevant funding Partners and involved scientists following the national rules.

- **Non-Disclosure**

It is expected that all Partners and involved reviewers will keep all information confidential with respect to the review procedure and content.

Article 4. Disputes

It is agreed that, in the event one of the above provisions raises a problem of construction, or if the Partners identify new problems which are not provided for in



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this Agreement, the latter shall start amicable negotiations to solve these problems. The results of these negotiations shall be amended in this Agreement.

Any dispute between the Partners relating to the terms of this Agreement shall be settled out of court and as soon as possible.

If no settlement out of court is possible, the applicant shall ask for the settlement of the dispute before an arbitrary court, which shall rule in accordance with the rules of international law. Unless the Partners decide otherwise in writing, the arbitration regulation of the Committee of the United Nations for International Business Law (CNUDCI) shall apply.

Article 5. Counterparts

We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to the terms and conditions specified in this agreement for an international joint call for proposals including annexes A, B, and C.

Done in in original copy(ies) in English



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Signed on behalf of

Country:.....

Name:.....

Date:

Signature:



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Country:.....

Name:.....

Date:

Signature:



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Annex A: Application form for letters of intent

<i>Project title</i>

<i>Project reference (to be completed by the call secretariat)</i>

Administrative details and project summary

First applicant (Project Coordinator)						
Family name						
<i>First name(s)</i>						
<i>Gender</i>	<i>Female</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Male</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Date of birth</i>	<i>(DD/MM/YYYY)</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	
<i>Applicant's position title</i>						
Address at the university/research institute						
<i>University/research institute</i>						
<i>Street name and number</i>						
<i>PO Box</i>		<i>Postal code</i>		<i>Cedex</i>		
<i>Town</i>				<i>Country</i>		
<i>Phone</i>				<i>Fax</i>		
<i>E-mail</i>						
<i>Web site</i>						
Qualifications						
<i>University degree</i>			<i>Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)</i>			
<i>Doctorate</i>			<i>Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)</i>			

Second applicant						
Family name						
<i>First name(s)</i>						
<i>Gender</i>	<i>Female</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Male</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Date of birth</i>	<i>(DD/MM/YYYY)</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	
<i>Applicant's position title</i>						



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Address at the university/research institute					
University/research institute					
Street name and number					
PO Box		Postal code		Cedex	
Town			Country		
Phone			Fax		
E-mail					
Web site					
Qualifications					
University degree		Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)			
Doctorate		Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)			
Third applicant					
Family name					
First name(s)					
Gender	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	Nationality	
Applicant's position title					
Address at the university/research institute					
University/research institute					
Street name and number					
PO Box		Postal code		Cedex	
Town			Country		
Phone			Fax		
E-mail					
Web site					
Qualifications					
University degree		Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)			
Doctorate		Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)			
Project summary (Maximum 300 words)					



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Annex B: Application form for full proposals

<i>Project title</i>

<i>Project reference (to be completed by the call secretariat)</i>

Administrative details and project summary

First applicant (Project Coordinator)					
Family name					
First name(s)					
Nationality					
Applicant's position title					
Address at the university/research institute					
University/research institute					
Street name and number					
PO Box		Postal code		Cedex	
Town			Country		
Phone			Fax		
E-mail					
Web site					
Qualifications					
University degree			Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)		
Doctorate			Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)		

Second applicant					
Family name					
First name(s)					
Nationality					
Applicant's position title					
Address at the university/research institute					
University/research institute					
Street name and number					
PO Box		Postal code		Cedex	
Town			Country		
Phone			Fax		
E-mail					
Web site					



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Qualifications					
<i>University degree</i>		<i>Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)</i>			
<i>Doctorate</i>		<i>Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)</i>			
Third applicant					
Family name					
<i>First name(s)</i>					
<i>Nationality</i>					
<i>Applicant's position title</i>					
Address at the university/research institute					
<i>University/research institute</i>					
<i>Street name and number</i>					
<i>PO Box</i>		<i>Postal code</i>		<i>Cedex</i>	
<i>Town</i>			<i>Country</i>		
<i>Phone</i>			<i>Fax</i>		
<i>E-mail</i>					
<i>Web site</i>					
Qualifications					
<i>University degree</i>		<i>Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)</i>			
<i>Doctorate</i>		<i>Date of award (DD/MM/YYYY)</i>			

Project summary (Maximum 300 words)



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Requested budget (one sheet for each applicant)

Project title

Year	Personnel (please check max. one box per year)		Travel & subsistence [€]	Consumables [€]	Minor equipment [€]
	Ph D student	Post doc			
1					
2					
3					



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Signatures

Project title

Applicants' heads of institution (where appropriate):

I agree with the herewith submitted application and I guarantee access to equipment, facilities and resources to conduct the project in my institution.

Signature of the authorized institutional representative the first applicant **Date**

Signature of the authorized institutional representative of the second applicant **Date**

Signature of the authorized institutional representative of the third applicant **Date**

Applicants:

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief, the information given in the application is correct.

Signature of the Project Coordinator **Date**

Signature of the second applicant **Date**

Signature of the third applicant **Date**



Annex C: Good practice and conflicts of interest

An important aspect of this code is the avoidance of any conflicts between personal interests and the interests of the applicants. In the context of peer review of research proposals and final reports, a conflict of interest might arise, for example, if a reviewer has, or has had in the past, a close working relationship, financial or personal connections with any individual(s) in the academic department(s) or organization (or any collaborating company or body) from which a proposal originates. Such interests may be indirect and relate to immediate family members or any other persons living in the same household as the reviewer.

Such circumstances may include the following:

- Relatives, personal ties or conflicts;
- Close scientific collaboration, e.g., implementation of joint projects or joint publications within the past 4 years;
- Direct scientific competition with personal projects or plans;
- Close proximity, e.g., member of the same scientific institution or impending change of the reviewer to the institution of the applicant or vice versa;
- Teacher/student relationship, as for PhD and Postdoctoral advisors of a PI;
- Dependent relationship in employment during the past 3 years;
- Participation in ongoing or just previously concluded professorial appointment proceedings;
- Current or prior activity in advisory bodies of the applicant's institution, e.g., scientific advisory boards;
- Personal economic interests in the funding decision;
- Competitive relationship or common economic interests, e.g., common business management.

The acid test is whether a member of the public, knowing the facts of the situation, might reasonably think the judgment could be influenced by the potential conflict of interest.