

THAILAND
Office of the Higher Education Commission
Thailand Research Fund
National Science and Technology
Development Agency

FRANCE
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
International Development
Ministry of Higher Education and Research

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Franco-Thai Cooperation Programme in Higher Education and Research

(Franco-Thai Mobility Programme / PHC SIAM)

2018 - 2019

To encourage exchanges between French and Thai higher education institutions and research bodies, and to develop sustainable collaborative research activities, the Joint Franco-Thai Committee launches the present Call for Proposals.

1. Objective:

To develop joint projects in research and/or research training.

2. Area

Joint Franco-Thai Committee shall examine project proposals within any of the following areas:

● **Basic Science**

- *Mathematic*
- *Physics*
- *Chemistry including Cosmetic Science*
- *Materials Science*

● **Engineering/Technology**

- *Nanotechnology*
- *Biotechnology*
- *Information and Communication Sciences and Technology*
- *Materials and Mechanics*
- *Big Data Management*

● **Energy**

- *New Technologies for Energy: Fuel Cells, Solar Cells, Nuclear Energy*
- *Alternative Energies*
- *Energy Efficiency and Saving*

● **Health Science**

- *Re-emerging and Infectious Diseases*
- *Biotechnology, Natural Substances (Pharmacology, Traditional Drugs)*
- *Neurosciences*
- *Medical Science*
- *Genomics*
- *Proteomics*
- *Metabolomics*
- *Bioinformatics*
- *Big Data Management*

● **Environment and Biodiversity**

- *Climate Change and its Impact (Health, Emerging and Neglected Diseases, Joint Monitoring)*
- *Biodiversity: Utilisation and Preservation.*

- **Agriculture/Agro-Industry**
 - *Agricultural Production*
 - *Food Safety, Products Quality (food and other products)*
 - *Food Science*
 - *Genomics*
 - *Proteomics*
 - *Metabolomics*
 - *Bioinformatics*
 - *Big Data Management*
- **Social Sciences, Humanities and Culture, Tourism**
 - *Social Sciences*
 - *Eco-tourism*
 - *Big Data Management*

****Projects involving in a multidisciplinary approach will be favorably considered.****

3. Activity

Proposed project should focus on implementation of joint research activity, and young researchers (Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral) training, taking into consideration the development of:

- promising Thai and French partnership
- scientific and technological research in the priority fields listed above,
- research capacity building,
- valorisation and knowledge transfer.

Projects implementation will be based on the following main operations: exchange of senior and junior researchers, the training periods in research laboratories, seminars and scientific meetings, workshops, etc.

4. Eligibility conditions

- **Each proposal should be jointly submitted by network formed one partner at least in France and one partner at least in Thailand.**
- **The projects which have been already supported by the Franco-Thai PHC Programme will not be eligible.**
- **Researchers are strongly encouraged to generate continuity of the project after having been supported by the Franco-Thai PHC Programme, constantly carrying on the project with a future perspective.**
- On each side, a principal investigator ‘head of the project’ should be appointed. Only researchers working regularly in the partner institutions of the proposal are eligible. The principal investigator has to be a researcher or a lecturer/researcher.
- A network can be extended to include other institutions such as research center/organization. Industrial companies could join as ‘Associate members’.
- A proposal must be submitted in English to the Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC) by the Thai principal investigator. An identical version in French will also be submitted online
- People who had already got the grant are not excluded but the project has to be clearly new. However, the head of the selected project should complete the project before submitting a new project proposal for the next round to provide more chance for projects of other lead researchers to be selected.

5. Project presentation (Annex A: Project Proposal Form)

Evaluation requirements:

- Scientific quality
- Participation of young researchers: Thai team should consist of a minimum of, but not limited to, two members e.g. a senior researcher and junior researcher(s)
- Cooperation and complementarity between French and Thai teams
- Network projects
- The necessity for Thai researchers to conduct research in France

The project documents should include:

- a clear identification of the partners (university/training and research unit/department/school/research body/other);
- objectives of the project within the general framework of human resource development and the establishment of Franco-Thai thematic network;
- a precise description of activity to be carried out and the number of persons involved;
- an implementation timetable;
- a detailed budget established according to the rules edicted in item 9.2;
- official approval from relevant agency authorizing commitment of institution of each partner.

6. Project duration and assessment

Each project will take **2 years** for implementation.

The projects coordinators will be requested to fill an annual activity report form at the end of each year in order to make sure of the project progress. The report sending will determine the financial contribution for the following year.

The projects principal investigators must send to the Joint Franco-Thai Committee a final report signed by the project's principal investigator from Thai and French side. The report must focus particularly on scientific publications and communications or events achieved within the project.

7. Budget

Project should be co-financed by partner institutions.

The principle of project co-financing excluding salaries is a condition for complementary support from the public agencies.

The budget must show as realistically as possible the share of financial contributions expected from each partner (researchers, home institutions, host institutions, companies, communities, French and Thai Ministries), broken down according to the type of expenditures: travel costs between the two countries, transport costs in the host country, living costs, educational fees (of the institution excluding costs covered by government subsidy), laboratory costs, tutoring, language learning and support, documents etc.

Work sheet provided in Annex B with the project proposal form, should be filled in returned to the Office of the Higher Education Commission, through the principal investigator's university. (*) *Rates given in Euros for the French side, in Baht for the Thai side, are to be used as a guide and could be subject to some adjustment.*

8. Financial support requested from the French and Thai institutions

8.1 French Ministry of Foreign Affairs

French Ministry of Foreign Affairs will support expenses with the maximum of **12,000 Euros per year** for each project. Details of Financial support from French side are as follows:

- 1) International transportation for exchange French professors/lecturers/researchers from France to Thailand, including, if necessary, domestic transportation in France and Thailand. The maximum rate of a round trip air ticket is 1,200 Euros.
- 2) Living allowances in France, of Thai professors/lecturers/senior or junior researchers (Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral) for:
 - 2.1) Short visit (less than 10 days)
 - 110 Euros/day
 - 2.2) Long stay (more than 10 days)
 - 45 Euros/day

Health insurance will be also provided. The mentioned support is managed by EGIDE. This financial contribution is based on a yearly budget. It must be used between the 1st of January and the 31st of December of the fiscal year and cannot be postponed in any case.

Considered **junior researchers** are Ph.D. or Post-Doctoral students as well as young researchers. **Senior researchers** are research directors, heads, and should bear some higher responsibility in their position.

8.2 Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC)

OHEC will support expenses with the maximum of **150,000 Baht per year** for each project. The expenses cover international transportation (air ticket Bangkok-Paris-Bangkok: economy class, and if necessary, domestic transportation in Thailand and France) for exchange Thai professors/lecturers/researchers who will travel to France under approved collaborative projects. The maximum rate of the travel expenses for each person is 50,000 Baht.

The budget for travel expenses can be averaged among team members. In case there is money remaining from the travel expenses, the head of the project is capable of changing Item of Expense from travel expenses to supplies expenses, for example, research materials.

9. Intellectual property

The head of the projects are responsible and must take, by their own, all necessary measures to protect intellectual property. Read carefully the attached document on good practices including on the rules of intellectual property. The project deposit includes, de facto, the adhesion, by all parties, to those rules.

10. Publication

To be approved as scientific production, publications (articles in specialized review or journals and communications at conferences or seminars) , as well as reports should explicitly mention the support provided by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (MAEDI) and Higher Education and Research (MESR) and by the Office of the Higher Education Commission, Thailand (OHEC).

11. Financial contribution of institutions

The host institutions will be required to provide appropriate facilities and equipments and to meet associated research costs.

11.1 French institutions (universities/research organisations/units)

French institutions will provide expenses in France for exchange Thai professors, senior or junior researchers (Ph.D. and Post. Doctoral), lecturers by providing appropriate facilities to conduct the proposed research activities.

11.2 Thai institutions

Thai institutions will provide expenses in Thailand for exchange French professors, senior or junior researchers (Ph.D. and Post Doctoral), lecturers as follows:

- 1) Accommodation
- 2) Living allowances for,
 - 2.1) Short stay (less than one month)
 - Senior: 1,200 THB/day
 - Junior: 700 THB/day
 - 2.2) Long stay (1-3 months)
 - Senior: 40,000 THB/month
 - Junior: 25,000 THB/month

Amounts will be fixed according to the position of beneficiaries.

- 3) Laboratory fees/documentation/bench fees

11.3 Contribution from other Thai research agencies

Additional research funding can be sought from other Thai research agencies such as the Thailand Research Fund and the National Science and Technology Development Agency.

12. Time frame and selection process

Project proposal (paper version for Thai side and electronic version for French side) must be submitted from Friday 21 April to Thursday 20 July 2017

- Projects proposals will be evaluated by a committee of experts in respective countries.
- On each side, French and Thai Committee will rank priority.
- French and Thai members of the Joint Franco-Thai Committee will compare the results of their evaluations and make necessary adjustments to reach agreement on the final list of approved projects.
- The Franco-Thai Selection Committee shall publish its decision on projects to be financed by December 2017.

Implementation of selected projects will start in January 2018.

13. For more information, please contact:

Thai Side:

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