

ANNOUNCEMENT on the GERMAN – TAIWANESE¹
**CALL FOR JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS (2017)
IN THE FIELD OF BATTERY RESEARCH, 2017 – 2019**

The deadline for the submission of proposals² is **March 31, 2017**.

1. Objective of the funding measure

The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (henceforth BMBF) and the “Taiwanese Ministry of Science and Technology” (henceforth MoST) aim to deepen their cooperation in the field of battery research, based on a Joint Declaration of Intent between the Taipei Representative Office in the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Institute in Taipei concerning scientific and technological cooperation. Both sides emphasize the common interest in promoting scientific research and technological development as well as scientific and technological cooperation between the scientific communities of Taiwan and Germany. Within the framework of the Joint Declaration, it is intended to fund cooperation projects between German and Taiwanese scientists in the field of battery research.

This funding scheme offers higher education institutions and non-university research institutions the opportunity to engage in joint research projects with partners from Taiwan and Germany and to take advantage of the existing cooperation potential. Funding is intended to vitalize Taiwanese-German partnerships in innovative areas of research which will help to intensify relations between the partners.

A particular aim of the joint projects is the enhancement of cooperation between Taiwanese and German partners in science. It is key to the long-term effectiveness of the projects that they take into account aspects of knowledge and technology transfer in connection with the utilization of achieved research outcome. Particular attention will be paid to the involvement of young researchers on both sides.

2. Priority research areas

The funding measure is focused on collaborative projects of applied research, development and innovation in battery research which are important for Germany and Taiwan:

¹ Mentioning of „Taiwan“ and respectively „Taiwanese“ is used in this call specifically in geographical sense only and has no impact on or relevance for the German Federal Government’s policy of recognition of China.

² The German version of the proposal refers to *Projektskizze*. The Chinese version refers to 雙邊協議下國際合作研究計畫. This English-language call is for information purposes only; it is provided for prospective German and Taiwanese applicants for funding under this measure. This version is not legally binding. The respective domestic versions of the call for proposals are legally binding.

- new electrodes for high-energy density, high performance Li-ion batteries,
- electrolytes for high-energy density, high performance Li-ion batteries,
- electrode and electrolyte materials with enhanced stability,
- high-safety Li-ion batteries,
- new electrochemistry and battery architecture for post Li-ion electrochemical energy storage technologies.

3. Funding recipients / Prerequisites for funding

The funding measure is aimed at higher education institutions and non-university research institutions.

As an orientation, funding will depend on the expected scientific gain and high potential for realization and success in line with the objectives of the funding measure. Applicants must be able to furnish evidence of previous work in the field and must demonstrate considerable willingness to cooperate. The project proposals must describe in a specific way, how the research collaboration between Taiwan and Germany will be promoted.

As an orientation, funding will be provided for a collaboration consisting of at least one partner from Germany and one partner from Taiwan. Mere alliances of current respective projects are not eligible for funding. Specific prerequisites for funding exist depending on orientation of the topic area. The rules of cooperation between the partners in a collaborative project must be laid down in a written cooperation agreement.

4. Scope of funding

This funding scheme covers expenditure/costs for

- project-related personnel to execute scientific tasks specifically related to the project;
- project-related resources and equipment;
- travel and stays (meetings, workshops, status seminar, mutual visits).

Funding is provided by the respective funding providers (MoST in Taiwan and BMBF in Germany) in accordance with each side's applicable domestic laws and guidelines. During a mutual visit, the visiting researcher should be allowed to work in the laboratories and to use equipment of the cooperation partner for free.

The duration of a project is limited to a maximum of three years. After one and a half year, there must be a technical milestone. If the goals are not reached, the funding agencies are entitled to abort the project.

For German researchers:

For the German partners to be funded under this call, the standard BMBF-guidelines for grant applications on expenditure or cost basis, respectively, must be followed in addition to the general regulations. Submitting a proposal does not automatically entitle applicants to a grant. Funds for German partners will be awarded as non-repayable project grants. Grants for universities, research and science institutions and similar institutions are calculated on the basis of the eligible project-related expenditure.

For Taiwanese researchers:

For the Taiwanese partners to be funded under this call, the standard MoST-guidelines for grant applications on expenditure or cost basis, respectively, must be followed in addition to the general regulations. Submitting a proposal does not automatically entitle applicants to a grant. Awarded projects are categorized as international cooperation projects and will not be counted in the quota of general research projects.

5. Application procedure

The applications must contain a joint project description in English in addition to the formal and financial information required by BMBF and MoST.

Information on the formal and financial guidelines

for Taiwanese applicants is available here: <https://www.most.gov.tw/en/public>

for German applicants is available here: <https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/>

For German researcher teams:

Joint applications must be submitted in electronic form (<https://foerderportal.bund.de/easyonline/>) **and** in written form (3 hard copies) by **March 31, 2017** to the following address:

Project Management Agency Jülich

Dr. Jenna Moorkamp

New Materials and Chemistry, Materials Technologies for Energy and Mobility

Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH

52425 Jülich, Germany

In addition to the English proposal, German partners have to submit a proposal in German. Further information will be found in the official German announcement “Neue Materialien für Batteriesysteme – Förderung deutsch-taiwanesischer Forschungskooperationen (Batterie DE-TWN)“.

For Taiwanese researcher teams:

Joint applications must be submitted through the online application system for general research project of MoST in Taiwan. An official document with a list of applications should be submitted, in paper or electronic form, by the affiliation institute of applicant by **March 31, 2017** to the MoST.

A statement for the application of Germany – Taiwan Battery Research Project has been announced on the website of MoST in title of “臺德電池研究計畫(MoST-BMBF)”. Research teams must follow the instruction in the statement to make the submission in both Chinese and English.

Additional written supporting documents may be requested if needed by either side according to the respective requirements of BMBF and MoST.

Prior to submission of an application prospective applicants should contact the appropriate central agencies for detailed information about respective requirements pertaining to applications and funding if necessary. The joint project description should not exceed 10 pages (font: Arial 11, single-spaced).

The proposal must include the following aspects of the project:

1. Name, address and institute of the project coordinator and the Taiwanese and German project partners,
2. description of the partners (key competencies, capabilities, infrastructure, etc.),
3. motivation (objectives, research priorities, utilization of results),
4. scientific scope of the project (planned activities to implement the objectives of the funding measure, information on the state of the art, description of the scientific objective of the project),
5. international cooperation in the framework of the project (value added of the international cooperation, contributions made by the Taiwanese and German partners, if applicable previous collaborations),
6. detailed description of work plan, timeline, distribution of work packages, cooperation between project partners, cooperation with third parties,
7. exploitation plan (expected scientific results, consolidation of cooperation with the partners, planned measures for transfer of results to industry, planned cooperation in follow-up projects (compatibility),
8. estimated expenditure/costs.

A legal claim to funding cannot be derived from the submission of a project proposal.

6. Evaluation of proposals

BMBF and MoST each carry out an evaluation of the joint proposals received according to the following criteria:

- Fulfilment of the formal prerequisites for funding,
- relevance to the objectives of the funding measure,
- scientific criteria (scientific quality and originality of the project, expertise of the applicant and the participating Taiwanese and German partners, scientific benefit, prospects for the use and commercialization of the expected results),
- criteria of international cooperation (preparation/development of new international partnerships, consolidation of international partnerships, quality of the cooperation and value added for the partner institutions),
- plausibility and viability of the project (funding; work steps; time frame).

Following a final evaluation on both sides, a joint Taiwanese-German committee will identify suitable proposals on the basis of the above criteria and evaluation. BMBF and MoST will decide which and how many projects will be funded and in what amounts based on the results of the evaluation process and ranking and in view of budget requirements and other constraints. On the German side the authors of a selected proposal will be invited, in a second step, to submit a formal application for funding. More detailed information is provided in the German guidelines.

7. Contact persons:

Additional information can be obtained from the following contact persons:

In Germany:

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