



**Royaume du Maroc**  
Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur,  
de la Recherche Scientifique et de l'Innovation



MINISTRY OF  
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY



NEMZETI KUTATÁSI, FEJLESZTÉSI  
ÉS INNOVÁCIÓS HIVATAL

# Terms of Reference

## Call for proposals 2021 Morocco- Hungary



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## I. General context of the call for projects

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific Research and Technology between the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Ministry of Innovation and Technology of Hungary signed in Rabat 09 June 2021, the Moroccan Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research / Department of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MNEVTHESR/DHESR) and the Ministry of Innovation and Technology of Hungary (MIT) decide to launch jointly a new call for proposals to finance Research and Development and Innovation projects. The Hungarian implementing agency being responsible for the overall management of this call for proposals is the National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NRDIO).

## II. Objectives of the call for projects

The aim of this programme is to build up and intensify bilateral application oriented scientific cooperation between Moroccan and Hungarian institutions. Under this call for proposals, funding can be provided for joint projects involving at least a research team one Moroccan and one Hungarian as well as one Moroccan and Hungarian enterprise.

Furthermore, the projects should contribute to achieving the following cooperation objectives:

- Strengthening the collaboration between scientific partners and industry, SMEs in particular in order to enhance research results into application in both countries,
- Support young researchers,
- Encourage networking between Moroccan and Hungarian researchers to participate in international calls for projects.

## III. Fields and topics

This call for projects mainly targets the priority areas of scientific research and development of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Government of the Republic of Hungary.

The call will cover the following topics:

- Green transition (interdisciplinary area covering energy, transport, climate change related research)
- Agriculture and food production
- Digitalization
- Water technologies
- Health industry

## IV. Call schedule

Date	Action
29/10/2021	Launching the call
31/01/2022	Deadline for submission proposal
01/02/2022 - 14/02/2022	Eligibility check - call management
15/02/2022 - 29/04/2022	Scientific peer review
09/05/2021 - 20/05/2021	Comparison of Hungarian and Moroccan evaluation results
First week of June/2022	Steering Committee Meeting
Last week of June/2022	Call results publication
September 2022	Start of projects



## V. Call management

The Call will be managed in a synchronized way by the national bodies responsible for the implementation of the joint programme following their national procedures.

### Contacts:

#### ✓ Moroccan side (Direction of Scientific Research and Innovation)

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#### ✓ Hungarian side (NRDI Office)

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## VI. Joint committee

The Joint Committee will be responsible for finalizing the evaluation and selection procedures for submitted projects and drawing up the final joint decision based on the recommendations and ranking list of the Scientific Evaluation Committee. All decisions concerning the call for projects are the responsibility of the Joint Committee.

## VII. Overall budget allocated to this call for projects

The budget allocated to this call is 2.000.000,00 euros The MNEVTHESR/DHESR contribution is 1.000.000,00 euros and the MIT/NRDIO contribution is 1.000.000,00 euros.

Note that the funding granted by each party will benefit to fund the part of their teams involved in the projects selected for funding.

## VIII. Eligibility criteria

### 1. Eligible institutions

#### ✓ On the Moroccan side:

This call for proposals is open to research teams from:

- Public universities ;
- Universities from the Public-private partnership in collaboration with public universities;
- Non-university institutions in partnership with public universities;
- Public research institutions in partnership with public universities.

#### ✓ On the Hungarian side:

- Universities (public or private)
- Research institutions



- Non-profit organizations with research and/or knowledge transfer functions;
- For-profit companies based in Hungary

**Cooperation between universities/research organizations and for-profit companies within the Hungarian consortia is encouraged under this programme.**

## 2. Eligible consortium

The consortium must include at least one Moroccan research team, one Hungarian company/SME and one Hungarian research team.

## 3. Coordinator

Each Consortium need to appoint a Coordinator on both side, who will have the following role:

- Be the single point of contact between the national funding organizations from proposal submission to project end;
- Compile and submit reports/deliverables to the national funding organizations on behalf of the Consortium;
- Submit the Application Form on behalf of the Consortium.

The Coordinator **will not be responsible for the financial management of** research funding, which will be handled directly between national researchers and their national funding organisations.

The Coordinator shall inform each of the national funding organisations of any event that might affect the implementation of the project.

## 4. Project online submission

### ✓ On the Moroccan side:

The coordinator must sent the proposal with the required scanned signatures no later than 31/01/2022 by email to: [moroccohungarycall@gmail.com](mailto:moroccohungarycall@gmail.com).

### ✓ On the Hungarian side:

Proposal submission is made through the NRDIO electronic application system by the Hungarian Coordinator no later than 31/01/2022.

<https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/magyar-marokkoi-alkalmazott-kf-egyuttmukodes-2021-126-tet-ipari-ma/palyazati-felhivas>

The proposal submitted by the Hungarian researchers at NRDIO electronic application system must be in line with the joint application submitted in English by the Moroccan researchers. The jointly prepared application (in English) need to submitted as an Annex to the national application in Hungary.

## IX. Funding modalities

Applicants have to obey comply with Call Board indication and respective National Regulations.

The budget allocated by:

- The maximum budget granted for each Moroccan partner is 100.000 € with a ceiling of 200.000 € per project;



- The maximum budget granted by MIT/NRDI Office for a single Hungarian applicant is 100.000 EUR if they apply in consortia (more than one Hungarian partners participating in the project) the maximum available budget is 200.000 EUR.

The following headings can be financed under this program:

- ✓ **On the Moroccan side:**
  - Remuneration of non-statutory staff participating in the project (doctors, engineers, technicians, ...);
  - Mobility costs (transport costs and mission)
  - Participation and organization scientific events;
  
  - Equipment;
  - Data acquisition costs, raw materials, products, licenses, etc.;
  - Subcontracting;
  - Consumables and other general expenses.

- ✓ **On the Hungarian side:**

Eligible costs of the project are included in the Hungarian Application Guide document. In general:

- Personnel and travel costs
- Consumables
- Subcontracting (services)
- Equipment costs
- Costs related to communication activities
- Coordination costs
- Indirect costs
- Market access costs

**NB:**

- All outputs and publications of funded projects (articles in journals or specialized journals, communications and posters in conferences and symposiums, reports, oral presentations, etc.) must explicitly mention the support of MNEVTHESR/DHESR - Morocco and the MIT - Hungary.

## X. Projects duration

The maximum duration of the project is 36 months.

## XI. Projects evaluations

Each proposal is evaluated by experts from each of the two sides. The experts have to evaluate the proposal by scoring the 3 criteria (see below) on the scale 0-5 and by justifying their score with a short comment (each criteria has the same weight):

- ✓ **Criteria 1:** Excellence.
- ✓ **Criteria 2:** Impact.
- ✓ **Criteria 3:** Quality and efficiency of the implementation.



## XII. Monitoring of selected projects

Project coordinators will be asked to submit a mid-term report summarizing the status of their projects. These mid-term reports will be evaluated by independent experts. As part of this evaluation, the steering committee will issue recommendations on the follow-up to be given to the project in question (Continue the project, Reorient the project, Stop the project).

## XIII. Intellectual property

The intellectual property of the results of the projects funded under this call will be dealt in the agreements between the teams involved in the project.