

13th CALL: BILATERAL TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES (UNILATERAL projects)

Purpose of the call

This call for proposals will cover R&D international cooperation through bilateral technological projects with unilateral monitoring and certification (unilateral projects). It will be open from the date of its publication, and throughout 2026; there are two cut-off dates for the proposal's submission and evaluation.

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First cut-off date: **Friday, 20 March 2026**, until 24.00 CET.

Second cut-off date: **Friday, 25 September 2026**, until 24.00 CET.

The projects will be carried out by appropriately constituted international consortia with the participation of one or more Spanish companies, and one or more foreign partners from the following countries:

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil(*), Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Ivory Coast (*), Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore(*), South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand (*), Tunisia, United Arab Emirates (*), United States of America(*), Uruguay and Vietnam.

CDTI may recommend to the foreign partner to submit the project to the local financial agency, particularly in those countries marked with (*) where there is a prior agreement or commitment to collaborate between CDTI and the following agencies: Brazilian National Council for the State Funding Agencies, CONFAP (Brazil); FONSTI (Costa de Marfil); Advanced Technology and Research Council-ATRC (EAU); Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust (Puerto Rico); Program Management Unit for National Competitiveness Enhancement, PMU-C (Thailand); and Enterprise Singapore (Singapore).

This call will remain open all year round in order to process those proposals, arising from multilateral and bilateral programs, with positive the pre-assessment but without bilateral or multilateral international certification.

In relation to the projects, it should be demonstrated:

- That the participating Spanish company or companies are carrying out the R&D activities outlined in the project covering the minimum requirements to be eligible for CDTI's financial support.
- That an effective technological cooperation with at least one foreign private company (all partners must ensure a balanced add-value to the project) does exist, and/or
- That, when the proposed collaboration is settled with a Technology Center or Public Research Organization (and no foreign private company), the cooperation offers a crucial advantage in a foreign market for the Spanish company.

- In any case, the formalization of a consortium agreement between all the participating entities (Consortium Agreement) will be compulsory both to ensure the project's efficient implementation, and to set up the conditions agreed for the exploitation rights. This Agreement must be duly signed by all the participant's legal representatives and submitted together with the Application Form.

The project's classification within this UNILATERAL category should be endorsed by the International Dimension's Report. This report will consider all terms and conditions established in the Consortium Cooperation Agreement and the results of a verification visit to the foreign partner's premises carried out by representatives of CDTI's Foreign Network.

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Beneficiaries

Spanish companies on an individual basis, or consortia constituted by - at least - two independent Spanish companies with a maximum of six, whose aim is the development of a R&D project in collaboration with foreign entities in the above-mentioned countries.

Duration of the projects

The duration of these projects may be from 12 to 36 months.

Budget of the projects

The minimum eligible budget per company will be 175,000€.

Type and amount of CDTI funding

The R&D projects could be funded through a Partially Reimbursable Grant according to the stated CDTI's conditions for the [R&D International Cooperation Projects](#) or a Grant according to [Innoglobal FEDER call](#) (if applicable)

The Partially Reimbursable Grant presents a financial coverage of up to 85% of the approved total budget consisting in two different parts:

A reimbursable part to pay off over a period of 10 to 15 years starting from the center of gravity of the project - calculated in function of the duration and the budget of the project activities. The first reimbursement payment has to be done 3 years after the project's centre of gravity, with a minimum of 2 years after the project's completion date. This reimbursable part will have a fixed interest rate equal to one year Euribor¹ to be established at the moment of the project approval.

And a non-reimbursable part of up to 30%² of the grant approved by CDTI, according to the international nature of the project. To take advantage of this part the proposal must be in

¹ In the event that Euribor reaches negative values, CDTI will consider its value as 0.

² The non-refundable part is subject to the availability of funds and is calculated based on a maximum coverage of 75% of the total budget approved by the Board of Directors. Increasing financial coverage to 85% of the total approved budget does not generate an additional non-refundable part.

possession of the corresponding seal that certifies the existence of cooperation between entities and its international status (Unilateral Certification).

If after the project starts and the international cooperation couldn't be certified, the right of the non-reimbursable part shall be lost unless the lack of cooperation is produced by causes non-attributable to the Spanish party. Should this be the case, the Spanish company shall demonstrate its attempts to maintain the international cooperation through documentary evidence. In addition, and given that CDTI corroborates that the activities conducted by the Spanish company are sufficiently solid to be funded as an independent R&D project, the non-reimbursable part can be adjusted to that corresponding to a national R&D project at the moment of the approval of the project.

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The projects between a parent company and its foreign affiliates or invested companies, will not be eligible for this category of international cooperation. Therefore, in that case, the national funding will be considered as an ordinary national R&D project.

International monitoring

To ensure the non-reimbursable part as an international project, it will be required to verify the preservation of its status as international until its full completion.

For that purpose, representatives from CDTI will be involved in the final meetings of the projects to be held in the premises of the foreign partners, where an International Final Report would be issued.

Nevertheless, the beneficiary must inform to CDTI in writing about any unforeseen issue that occurs during the execution of the project, as soon as the issue may arise. Additionally, the beneficiary must propose some mitigation measures to successfully carry out the project.

Application process

R&D Project application forms of International Technology Cooperation/Unilateral Project, should be submitted by the participating company willing to obtain the international seal (Unilateral Certification), through [CDTI's online platform](#).

Even if there are more than one Spanish institution within the project, only one registration should be submitted by the company that will be in charge of representing the consortium before CDTI.

The applicant shall provide the following relevant documentation:

- **Diagram of activities (Gantt)**, where all the tasks to be performed by the international consortium are described for each participant.
- **Application Form:** in this report - submitted in English (except for those projects in which only Spanish and Iberoamerican entities are involved) - the project must be regarded in its entirety, considering the activities of all participants and their relevance for each of

them. All parties of the international consortium shall acknowledge, agree and sign such form.

- **Consortium agreement:** this report - submitted in English (except for those projects in which only Spanish and Iberoamerican companies are involved)- shall ensure the execution of the project and describe the agreed conditions for the exploitation of results. The document must be signed by legal representatives of each participant, prior to CDTI's final approval of the project. Moreover, it shall include:
 - A section with the stated commitment of each party to conduct the following meetings where CDTI would be involved and to be held at the foreign partner's premises:
 - i. Project's presentation meeting: to verify that there is an effective cooperation between the parties which guarantees the achievement of the objectives.
 - ii. Final meeting: in order to present the final results of the project.
 - Another section which reflects the financial commitments that arise from the project, specifying the sources of funding for each country.
- **Telematics registration of the proposal at CDTI's online platform:** the submission of this application includes, besides the preparation of documents, a questionnaire to be filled out with all the technical, economic and administrative details of each Spanish entity, associated with their funding.
- **Other documents that might be required (where applicable):** justification of additional external funding application, aid declarations, type and category of the company and any other relevant documentation.

Model of Collaboration Agreement of the Consortium

The collaboration agreement between the Spanish company or companies and their foreign partner shall include:

- a) Identification and definition of contractual parties.
- b) Preamble (context, objectives and scope of the cooperation).
- c) Definitions.
- d) Project description (general terms, outline the activities to be developed by each partner, structure and attribution of responsibilities...).
- e) Project Management (managing procedures of the consortium and the project)
- f) Financial aspects (budgeting, reporting documents, sources of funding in both countries).
- g) Management of intellectual property rights.
- h) Market share.
- i) Confidentiality requirements.
- j) Publications.
- k) Legal aspects.
- l) The stated commitment of each party to conduct the following meetings where CDTI would be involved and to be held at the foreign partner's premises:

- i. Project's presentation meeting: to verify that there is an effective cooperation between the parties which guarantees the attainment of the objectives.
 - ii. Final meeting: in order to present the final results of the project.
- m) Anexes