

4th Joint Call for Proposals on Joint Innovation Projects between France and Singapore

1. Scope

France and Singapore are announcing a Call for Proposals for joint innovation projects, focusing on developing innovative products and applications in any technological and application area with a civil purpose (i.e. no military-related projects).

Applicants are expected to develop ready-to-market solutions for products, technology-based services or methods which have strong potential for the French, Singaporean and/or international market.

Enterprise Singapore and Bpifrance will provide access to public funding for jointly selected projects, through Enterprise Singapore's Co-Innovation Programme funding and Bpifrance's ADI programme ("Aide pour le développement de l'innovation"). Minimum requirement concerning the project consortium is the participation of at least one company from each of the participating countries. Interested companies can apply with a short application form for their project (provided for download) and have to file their individual applications required by the national funding agencies, Bpifrance and Enterprise Singapore.

Enterprise Singapore and Bpifrance will provide all necessary assistance to project partners during the project proposal, evaluation and monitoring phases. In addition, Bpifrance and Enterprise Singapore will facilitate the application process and accompany the progress of the respective projects.

Enterprise Singapore and Bpifrance will evaluate submitted proposals and work towards communicating the results within 4 months after the final proposal submission.

2. Call structure

This call invites French and Singaporean companies to present joint proposals for technological R&D projects until 30 June 2023, according to the following procedures:

2.1. Financing

The accepted projects will be partially funded by Bpifrance on the French side and Enterprise Singapore on the Singaporean side. The remaining costs will be the responsibility of the project participants.

Participants will finance their share of the costs from their own national funds, venture capital or the applicable national, regional or international public funding schemes.

2.2. Minimum Requirements

Project results will have to contribute to the development of commercial products, applications and/or technology-based services. The project proposals have to comply with the following guidelines:

- a. The consortia should include at least two companies – one from each participating country;
- b. Research institutes/universities are welcome as additional participants or subcontractors according to each country's funding regulations;
- c. Companies and/or research institutes/universities from other countries may also participate. However, these partners will not be funded by Enterprise Singapore or Bpifrance. These partners should follow financing rules including procedures and the funding regulations of these partners' countries of origin.
- d. The project should have an obvious advantage and differentiated value proposition resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the countries (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.);
- e. The project should demonstrate an equitable contribution of the participants from the two countries;
- f. The duration of the project should not exceed 3 years.
- g. No country or partner representing more than 70% of the total budget of the project.

Any partners whose joint R&D project is consistent with the aforesaid criteria can apply to the present announcement in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.

3. Submission Guidelines

Participants should submit (1) one completed Project Application Form, signed by all organizations participating in the project, and (2) a draft consortium agreement in the English language that regulates the terms of cooperation between all partners.

The minimum requirements for the consortium agreement are:

- a. Full legal names of all project partners;
- b. Description of the project's objectives and differentiation of the subprojects of the partners (contribution by each partner) including their working plans with person month/man days (for this, the common application proposals can be declared as part of the agreement);
- c. A clause that provides for both partners to be informed if third parties are involved in the project;
- d. Regulation of intellectual property rights;
- e. Regulation of joint commercialization and apportionment of benefits;

The Project Application form should be submitted electronically to the applicants' national project management agency offices: Bpifrance in France and Enterprise Singapore in Singapore (addresses attached to the end of the document). The signatures must be scanned and sent electronically together with the application form.

Besides the project application form, participants that want to apply for funding within this call must submit their applications according to respective rules (see below). The relevant national funding organization should be contacted for details about this procedure (see below). Early-stage consultations with the respective national funding organizations (Enterprise Singapore and Bpifrance) are highly recommended.

Only projects approved by both countries will be recommended for funding.

3.1. France

ADI (Aide pour le développement de l'innovation) requirements:

- Partnerships: Two or more industrial partners (a Foreign company and a French company)
- Eligible Beneficiaries: French companies up to 2000 fulltime equivalents (FTE)
- Eligible costs: Industrial research and experimental development (industrialization and commercialization costs are not eligible)
- Funding amount: from € 50,000 up to € 3 Millions (submitted to financial analysis of the company and financial conditions)
- Duration: maximum of 3 years
- Funding: loan up to 80% of the eligible costs, or reimbursable loan in case of technical success up to 65% of the eligible costs. The funding type will depend on the project and the participant type.

3.2. Singapore

Under this programme, Enterprise Singapore will support up to 70% of the Singaporean company's total qualifying project costs. To be eligible for support, the applicant must fulfil ALL of the following:

- (a) Be a business entity that is registered and physically present in Singapore;
- (b) $\geq 30\%$ local equity held directly or indirectly by Singaporean(s) / Singapore PR(s), determined by the ultimate individual ownership; and
- (c) Be financially able to see a project through to completion.

Any payment is subject to a signed consortium agreement.

4. Summary of timelines

Launch of the Call for Proposals	3 April 2023
Deadline for joint application	30 June 2023
Deadline for national application	France: 7 July 2023
Deadline for the eligibility check	31 July 2023
Final decision for funding	31 October 2023

Contact

France	Singapore
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