

# Announcement

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vietnamese-German Call for Proposals for Joint R&D Projects in Bioeconomy 2016

### 1. Scope:

Bioeconomy is defined as an economy that uses sustainable bio-based resources for manufacturing new products and offering services by using innovative biological knowledge and processes. It provides mankind with our current lifestyle while using renewable and environmental friendly resources.

With a joint approach the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the Vietnamese Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) strive for enhancing the competitiveness of the Bioeconomy in both countries while assuming greater responsibility for the global challenges of food supply, climate change mitigation, and environmental protection.

Considering the successful achievements of the previous calls for joint research projects in the framework of "Bioeconomy International" for the years 2014-2016, during the 5th Interministerial Meeting, organized in Hanoi on the 4th December 2015, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany (BMBF) and the Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam (MoST) decided to continue funding for joint research projects in the field of Bioeconomy for the years 2017-2019.

The aim of this program is to fund high quality R&D projects with Vietnamese/German cooperation making an important contribution to at least one of the following fields of action:

- Securing global nutrition
- Ensuring sustainable agricultural production
- Producing safe and healthy food
- Using renewable resources for industry
- Developing biomass-based energy

### 2. Financing:

All proposals will be separately evaluated by both Ministries and evaluation results will be matched together. Proposals with positive evaluation results can be financed by both Ministries according to capacity and financial mechanism of each country.

Funding can be requested for:

- Employment costs for postdoc-researchers, PhD-researchers and assistants
- Consumables
- Small equipment for the research project
- Travel costs
- Costs for external R&D
- Overhead costs

### **3. Proposal and evaluation procedure:**

#### **3.1 Minimum requirements**

Funding will only be provided for Vietnamese/ German collaborative projects in which - depending on the project's orientation - companies, universities, non-university research establishments or federal institutions are involved in. The joint projects must include at least one partner of each country and have to make an important contribution to strengthen the bilateral cooperation between both countries.

Each country has to define a project coordinator who has the task to submit the joint application on behalf of the consortium simultaneously once on the German submission system and once on the Vietnamese submission system.

The project duration is expected to be up to 36 month.

The coordinators are advised to contact their national contact persons before submitting their proposals.

#### **3.2 Submission procedure**

Between the opening of the Call on August 01, 2016 and the Call Deadline on October 14, 2016 all participants file one common proposal in English language. The proposal can be generated via the German Submission System at [www.bioeconomy-international.de](http://www.bioeconomy-international.de).

#### **3.3 Submission in Vietnam**

A university, research institute or an enterprise having S&T activities applying for a joint research projects within this Call should submit the following documents:

- The common proposal in English language and its Vietnamese translation
- A Vietnamese project proposal according to Annex 1 of the Circular Nr. 12/2014/TT-BKHCHN dated 30. May 2014 regulating procedure for management of joint research projects with foreign partners.
- An authorized letter signed by a Leader of the Ministry in charge.

The Ministry of Science and Technology will carry out a two steps evaluation of all project proposals according to regulations set forth by the Circular Nr. 12/2014/TT-BKHCHN dated 30. May 2014.

Positive evaluated project proposals in the 1st step will be requested to submit full proposals including the following documents:

- Detailed description (according to Annex 3 of the Circular Nr. 12/2014/TT-BKHCHN dated 30/5/2014)
- Cooperation Agreement between Vietnamese project participating institutions
- Cooperation Agreement between Vietnamese and German institutions (in German or English and Vietnamese translations)

The minimum requirements for an Agreement between Vietnamese and German institutions should be as follow:

- Project title
- Name of participating institutions
- Description of project objectives, main research contents, cooperation plan, human resources for carrying out project, work assignment between German and Vietnamese project partners, anticipated results, cost estimates, main regulations for commercialization of project results.

The full proposals should be submitted together with further administrative documents according to Vietnamese regulations.

Information about the submission of full proposals will be posted on the website of the Ministry of Science and Technology: [www.most.gov.vn](http://www.most.gov.vn)

### **3.4 Submission in Germany**

For the proposal submission in Germany the online Submission system ([www.bioeconomy-international.de](http://www.bioeconomy-international.de)) has to be used.

A submission via email is not allowed!

In Germany, it is neither necessary to submit a signed copy nor a draft of a Cooperation Agreement.

**The German partners have to wait until the funding decision is taken. Only in this case, a national application has to be filled-in.**

### **4. Evaluation**

The evaluation of the project outlines received will be performed in Vietnam and in Germany in parallel and may involve external experts.

The evaluation is based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the national funding policy objectives
- Added value of international cooperation (increased knowledge base, training of young scientists, access to R&D infrastructure, ...)
- Relevance of the research approach, quality and originality of the solution strategy
- Chances of success and commercial exploitation of the results
- Excellence and expertise of the applicant and the partners involved (German and Vietnamese); relevant previous work of all the partners

- Appropriateness of the size and structure of the project, quality and stringency of the time schedule, work and budgetary plans and distribution of work among the partners

## **5. Timeline**

- August, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016: Launch of the joint call
- October, 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014: Deadline for submission of proposals
- October 2016 – February 2017: National and joint evaluation

## **6. Address for submission of proposals (for the Vietnamese Party):**

Proposals should be submitted per Post or directly to:

The Department of International Cooperation  
Ministry of Science and Technology  
113 an Duy Hung, Cau Giay, Hanoi

## **7. Contact**

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