CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Franco-Thai Cooperation Programme in Higher Education and Research
(Franco-Thai Mobility Programme / PHC SIAM)
2021 - 2022

To encourage exchanges between Thai and French higher education institutions and research bodies, and to develop sustainable collaborative research activities, the Joint Franco-Thai Committee launches the present Call for Proposals

1. Objectives

- To promote mobility between Thai and French researchers
- To develop joint projects in research and/or research training
- To establish and maintain strong collaborative networks between Thai and French higher education institutions and research bodies

2. Areas of Joint Research

❖ Mathematics

- Fundamental and Applied Mathematics
- Statistics
- Actuarial Science

❖ Physics

- Classical mechanics
- Thermodynamics and statistical mechanics
- Electromagnetism and photonics
- Relativistic mechanics
- Quantum mechanics, atomic physics, and molecular physics
- Optics
- Condensed matter physics
- High-energy particle physics and nuclear physics
- Cosmology
- Nuclear and High Energy Physics
- Astronomy, Astrophysics

❖ Marine, Earth, Planet sciences

- Geography, Geology
- Environmental Sciences
- Soil and water Sciences
- Geodesy Cartography, Remote sensing
- Meteorology
- Oceanography
Aquaculture and Marine Resource Management
Climate Studies

Chemistry
- Chemistry, Biochemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Analytical Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry
- Cosmetic Science

Biology and health sciences
- Biology, Microbiology, Biotechnology
- Nanotechnology
- Molecular biology genetics, immunology, system analysis and physiology
- Re-emerging and Infectious Diseases
- Biotechnology, Natural Substances (Pharmacology, Traditional Drugs)
- Neurosciences
- Medical Science
- Genomics
- Proteomics
- Metabolomics
- Bioinformatics
- Medical technology

Humanities
- Ancient and modern languages, linguistics
- Philosophy
- History and theory of the arts
- Human geography
- Law, politics, comparative religion

Social Sciences
- Eco-tourism, tourism
- Demography, Social and cultural behaviour
- Economy, political science
- Social history
- Anthropology
- Business studies
- Gender studies
- Criminology
- Archaeology

Engineering sciences
- Mechanical Engineering
3. Project Implementation

Proposed projects should focus on the implementation of joint research activity and the involvement/training of junior researchers (master’s, doctoral and post-doctoral students), taking into consideration the development of

- A promising Franco-Thai partnership;
- Scientific and technological research in the priority fields listed above;
- Research capacity building; and
- Valorization and knowledge transfer.

The implementation of projects will be based on the 2 main operations, namely (1) the exchange of senior and junior researchers, and (2) the training periods in research laboratories, seminars, scientific meetings, workshops, etc.

4. Eligibility Criteria

- A complete joint proposal must be submitted by both Thai and French sides within the designated deadline. If one side fails to do so, the proposal from both sides will be rejected.
- Each side must appoint a principal investigator (PI) or head of project. The Thai principal investigator has to be a researcher working regularly in a university or a university lecturer who has done research works.
- A person coming from a Thai research organisation under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science Research and Innovation (MHESI) is eligible to be co-PI for the project

- Electrical Engineering (Electricity and energy)
- Chemical Engineering (Chemical and process)
- Aeronautical Engineering
- Civil engineering and construction
- Railway System Engineering
- Manufacturing Sciences
- Material Sciences
- Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning

Information and communication, science and technology
- Computing, Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence
- New technologies, digital technology
- Multimedia communication

Agronomy, Food sciences, environment, biodiversity
- Agricultural Production
- Organic Agriculture
- Plant Biotechnology
- Plant Sciences
- Food Science, Food Safety, Food Technology
- Veterinary sciences
- Biodiversity: Utilisation and Preservation
- Ecology
• The Thai principal investigators must submit their proposals in English to MHESI, while their French partners submits a similar version in English or French online. It is important that either versions have no or the least amount of differences.
• Each side is strongly recommended to form a network which includes other institutions such as partner universities, research centres, organisations under the supervision of MHESI or other ministries.
• Projects which have already been supported by the Franco-Thai Mobility Programme will not be considered.
• Principal investigators could submit new project proposals with new research topics only after they have completed their previous projects.

5. Project Evaluation (Annex A: Project Proposal Form)

The committee evaluates the submitted proposals based on the following criteria:
• Scientific and technical quality of the project
• Quality of the researchers
• Cooperation and complementarity between Thai and French teams
• Participation of junior researchers
• Necessity of Thai researchers to conduct research in France
• Project outputs/benefits (projects should aim to build the capacity of research personnel and should produce tangible outputs contributing to the countries’ development)

The project documents should include:
• a clear identification of the partners (university / training and research unit / department / school / research body / other);
• objectives of the project within the general framework of human resource development and the establishment of Franco-Thai thematic network;
• a precise description of activity to be carried out and the number of persons involved;
• an implementation timetable;
• a detailed budget; and
• an official approval from a relevant agency authorising commitment of an institution of each partner.

6. Project Duration and Assessment

Each project will take 2 years for implementation.

Project investigators will be requested to fill out an annual progress report form at the end of each year for assessment.

A final report signed by both Thai and French principal investigators must be submitted to the Joint Franco-Thai Committee. The report must focus particularly on scientific publications and communication or events achieved within the project.

7. Budget

The project should be co-financed by partner institutions.

The principle of project co-financing excluding salary is a condition for complementary support from the public agencies.

The budget must show, as realistically as possible, the share of financial contributions expected from each partner (researchers, home institutions, host institutions, companies, communities, French and Thai ministries),
broken down according to the type of expenditures: travel costs between the two countries, transport costs in the host country, living costs, educational fees (of the institution excluding costs covered by government subsidy), laboratory costs, tutoring, language learning and support, documents, etc.

**Work sheet provided in Annex B** with the project proposal form should be filled in and submitted to MHESI through the principal investigator’s university.

Rates given in Euro for the French side, in Baht for the Thai side, are to be used as a guideline and could be subject to adjustment.

### 8. Financial support from the French and Thai ministries

#### 8.1 Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France

The French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs will support expenses with the maximum of **12,000 Euro per year for each project**. Details of financial support from the French side are as follows:

1) International transportation for the mobility of French professors/lecturers/researchers from France to Thailand, including, if necessary, domestic transportation in France and Thailand. The maximum rate of a round trip air ticket is 1,200 Euro.

2) Living allowances of Thai professors/lecturers/senior or junior researchers (master’s, doctoral and post-doctoral students) in France:
   - 110 Euro/day for a short visit (less than 10 days)
   - 45 Euro/day for a long stay (more than 10 days)

3) Health insurance

The mentioned support is managed by EGIDE. This financial contribution is based on a yearly budget. It must be used between the 1st of January and the 31st of December of the fiscal year and cannot be postponed in any case.

**Junior researchers** are master’s, doctoral and post-doctoral students as well as young researchers. **Senior researchers** are research directors, heads, and should bear some higher responsibility in their position.

#### 8.2 Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESI), Thailand

MHESI will support expenses with a maximum of **150,000 Baht per year for each project**. The expenses cover international transportation (air ticket Bangkok-Paris-Bangkok: economy class, and, if necessary, domestic transportation in Thailand and France) for the mobility of Thai professors/lecturers/researchers who will travel to France under approved collaborative projects. The maximum rate of the travel expenses for each person is 50,000 Baht.

The budget for travel expenses can be averaged among team members. In case there is money remaining from the travel expenses, the principal investigator is allowed to change the Item of Expense from travel expenses to supply expenses, for example, research materials.

### 9. Financial contribution of institutions

The host institutions will be required to provide appropriate facilities and equipments and to meet associated research costs.
9.1 French institutions (universities/research organisations/units)

French institutions will provide appropriate facilities to conduct the proposed research activities for the mobility of Thai professors, lecturers, senior or junior researchers (master’s, doctoral and post-doctoral students).

9.2 Thai institutions (universities/research organisations)

Thai institutions will provide expenses in Thailand for the mobility of French professors, lecturers, senior or junior researchers (master’s, doctoral and post-doctoral students) as follows:

1) Accommodation costs
2) Living allowances
   2.1) Short stay (less than 1 month)
       • Senior: 1,200 THB/day
       • Junior: 700 THB/day
   2.2) Long stay (1 - 3 months)
       • Senior: 40,000 THB/month
       • Junior: 25,000 THB/month

Amounts will be fixed according to the position of beneficiaries.

3) Laboratory fees/documentation/bench fees

9.3 Contribution from other Thai research agencies

Additional research funding can be sought from other Thai research agencies such as the Thailand Science, Research and Innovation (TSRI) and the National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA).

10. Intellectual property

Principal investigators are responsible for their projects’ intellectual property and must take all necessary measures to protect it. The attached document on good practices including the rules of intellectual property must be read carefully. The project deposit includes, de facto, the adhesion, by all parties, to those rules.

11. Credit for funding agencies

To be approved as scientific production, publications (articles in specialised review or journals and communication at conferences or seminars), as well as reports, the researchers must explicitly mention the support provided by the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (MESRI) and the the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESI).

12. Time frame and selection process


- Projects proposals will be evaluated by a committee of experts in the respective countries.
- On each side, French and Thai Committees will rank priority.
- French and Thai members of the Joint Franco-Thai Committee will compare the results of their evaluations and make necessary adjustments to reach agreement on the final list of approved projects.
• The Franco-Thai Selection Committee shall publish its decision on projects to be financed by December 2020.

Implementation of selected projects will start in January 2021.

13. Visa for Thai researchers going to France

Convention d’accueil (an official document issued by the Prefecture) is a crucial document for researchers from non-European Union countries, as it is imperative for obtaining a “scientist” visa to allow the researchers to enter France. It also allows them to obtain a “scientist” residence permit once they are in France. The signed and stamped convention d’accueil is part of the visa application.

Master’s students travelling to France must apply for a “training” visa instead of a scientist visa mentioned above.

14. Contact persons

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