



## **TUBITAK-CAS Joint Call for Proposals on Advanced Materials and Energy**

### **CALL TEXT**

**2024**

**IMPORTANT:** This Call Text is published for both Turkish and Chinese researchers to present and explain the objective, scope and course of the “TUBITAK-CAS Call on Materials and Energy” that aims partnerships between two countries.

Before preparing an application, applicants are responsible to carefully read the national regulations documents to submit a complete application.

## CALL SNAPSHOT

<p><b>Scope</b></p>	<p>The aim of the call is to intensify cooperation between Turkish and Chinese researchers.</p> <p>For the Turkish side, applications can be submitted <u>either</u> by universities, public institutions or organizations, research institutions, training and research hospitals <b>OR</b> by Turkish industry/private sector.</p> <p>For the Chinese side, applications must be submitted by the <u>institutes or universities affiliated to CAS</u>. Private sectors can jointly participate in the application but should not be the main applicants of Chinese side. In the case that private sector takes part in the project, it should be responsible for the project funding itself.</p>	
<p><b>Competition opens</b></p>	<p>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024</p>	
<p><b>Final date for proposal submission</b></p>	<p>For TÜBİTAK (Online Submission): Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2024, 23:59 (IST Time)</p> <p>For CAS (Online Submission): Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2024, 23:59 (Beijing Time). CAS accepts applications submitted through ARP (CAS’s electronic application system).</p>	
<p><b>Deadline for e-signatures for TÜBİTAK</b></p>	<p>For TÜBİTAK: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2024, 23:59 (IST Time)</p> <p><b>Important Note:</b> National applications to TÜBİTAK can only be made by using electronic signature. The persons who are included in the project team and all executive / participant institutions should have qualified electronic certificate (e-signature).</p>	
<p><b>Announcement of results</b></p>	<p>December 2024</p>	
<p><b>Eligible applicant</b></p>	<p><b>For Turkish Team</b></p> <p>Applications can be submitted <u>either</u> by universities, public institutions or organizations, research institutions,</p>	<p><b>For Chinese Team</b></p> <p>The Chinese main applicant has to be researchers at an institution affiliated to CAS as its employees.</p>

	<p>training and research hospitals <b>OR</b> by Turkish industry/private sector.</p> <p>The Principal Investigator (PI) must hold a PhD degree if he/she is from the academy <b>OR</b> must hold a BA/BASc Degree if he/she is from public/private sector.</p> <p>If the PI is from the private sector, he/she must be working there full-time for at least minimum 6 months.</p>	<p>They should have research experience in their research areas and be competent to conduct research.</p> <p>Private sectors can jointly participate in the application but should not be the main applicants of Chinese side. In the case that private sector takes part in the project, it should be responsible for the project funding itself.</p>
<b>Award parameters</b>	TÜBİTAK funds up to 2.000.000 Turkish Liras (excl. overhead and Project Incentive Premium (PIP) approximately) per project.	CAS funds up to RMB 900,000 yuan (3 years in total) per project.
<b>How to apply</b>	<p><b>For Turkish Team</b></p> <p>Proposal submission is made through the TÜBİTAK's electronic application system</p> <p><a href="http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr">http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr</a></p>	<p><b>For Chinese Team</b></p> <p>Proposal submission is made through ARP (CAS's electronic application system).</p>

## 1. Objectives

Based on the Protocol on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) and The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) signed in 2019, this call is launched to enhance cooperative activities between two countries via research projects on the topics of this call.

A research project should focus on producing new knowledge; making new scientific interpretations or solving technological problems based on scientific principles.

## 2. Thematic Fields

Research projects are supported within the scope of this call. Successful projects prepared in the fields below will be supported within the scope of the program. Proposals submitted in other fields will not be accepted.

- Advanced Materials:
  - Advanced Functional Surfaces and Coatings
  - Advanced Functional Surfaces and Coatings for Composites
  - Advanced Functional Surfaces and Coatings for Polymers
  - Advanced Surfaces and Coatings for Ceramics
  - Advanced Ceramic Materials with Improved Properties and Functionality
  - Innovative Ceramic Composite Materials
  - Innovative and Functional Ceramic Powder Materials
  - Innovative Polymeric Composites
  - Modeling/Analysis/Simulation and Similar Software for Design and Development of Materials/Material Compositions
- Energy:
  - New Generation Battery Technologies
    - Critical Raw Materials
    - Materials for Battery Technologies
    - New Generation Batteries
  - Solar Energy
    - Photovoltaic Cells, Panels and Systems
    - Highly Efficient Concentrated Thermal Solar Energy Systems
  - Hydrogen Technologies
    - Pioneering Technologies for the Use of Hydrogen as an Energy Carrier, Fuel and Raw Material to Obtain Valuable Chemicals
    - Materials for Hydrogen Energy Systems and Fuel Cells

## 3. Eligibility criteria

- Maximum project duration is **3 years (36 months)**.
- It is prerequisite that proposals include the participation of the below as submitting and collaborative institutions:

- Turkish side: Applications can be submitted either by universities, public institutions or organizations, research institutions, training and research hospitals **OR** by Turkish industry/private sector.
- Chinese side: Application can be made by a partner at an institution or university affiliated to CAS as its employees. Private sectors can jointly participate in the application but should not be the main applicants of Chinese side. In the case that private sector takes part in the project, it should be responsible for the project funding itself.
- The proposal must be within the scope of fields described in **Section 2**.
- Turkish and Chinese-based teams must each be led by a Principal Investigator (PI).
- Turkish and Chinese partners shall prepare a joint scientific project and projects should be submitted respective funding agencies by each national scientific coordinator.
- All applicants must adhere to national eligibility rules for research proposals and any queries concerning eligibility should be addressed to the contact persons of the respective funding agencies.
- Applications involving any ineligible applicants (from China or Türkiye) will result in the whole application being rejected.

### **3.1 On Turkish side:**

- For detailed information on the eligibility for Turkish team, please visit [National Rules Document](#)
- Turkish team will receive funding through TÜBİTAK 1071 Program. All Turkish researchers who apply for this Program should be registered to TÜBİTAK ARBIS (Researcher Information system) through the following link: <https://arbis.tubitak.gov.tr>

### **3.2 On Chinese Side:**

- The PI can be from either an institute or university affiliated to CAS.

## **4. Financial conditions**

Financial contributions must be calculated and provided in compliance with the valid national legislation and internal regulations of the partner organisations.

The cost of exchange of experts, scientist and other specialists will be covered on the following basis:

- The Sending Party will cover all related costs connected with travel, accommodation and daily allowances according to their own regulations and allowances.
- The Sending Party shall be responsible for the emergency health insurance of its scientists, including medical care.

- The total duration of international visits in one direction should not exceed 60 days per year both Turkish and Chinese research team of the each supported joint project.

#### **4.1 On Turkish side:**

- TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant shall be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with the rules of TÜBİTAK 1071 Program. TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK according to its funding guidelines and procedures (For detailed information please visit [National Rules Document](#))
- TÜBİTAK funds up to 2.000.000 Turkish Liras (excl. overhead and Project Incentive Premium (PIP) approximately) per project.

#### **4.2 On Chinese side:**

- The Chinese team which is eligible for funding can receive up to RMB 900,000 of funding per proposal in total.

### **5. Project proposal submission**

- Project proposals must be submitted to both partner organisations on time.
- The partners should jointly develop and complete their project proposals before submitting it to TÜBİTAK and CAS.
- TÜBİTAK and CAS do not match collaborating partners.
- Project proposals must provide detailed information on the objectives and justification of the planned joint research work, the methodology to be followed, the composition of each research team and the intended time schedule.
- Because projects are bilateral, they must demonstrate equivalence in effort from the Chinese and Turkish partners. The project must have a work plan with contribution of the Chinese and Turkish partners having main roles and responsibilities, equating to the equivalent time and costs accrued in both countries.
- The size of the grant may vary depending on the needs of each project and must be fully justified. Applicants need to ensure that supported elements of the proposal abide by all regulations for both funding agencies.

#### **5.1 On Turkish side**

- Turkish partners will make their online application via TÜBİTAK's online application system: <http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>

- Turkish partners will use e-signature for their applications. Detailed information can be achieved via [http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/281/ardeb\\_e-imza\\_yardim\\_dokumani.pdf](http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/281/ardeb_e-imza_yardim_dokumani.pdf)
- Submission of proposals by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
- To complete the application process TÜBİTAK may need supporting documents. For those, please check [National Rules Document](#)

## 5.2 On Chinese side:

Chinese partners will make their online application via CAS's online application system. Proposal documents sent via e-mails will not be accepted.

## 6. Evaluation and Selection

Projects are evaluated by TÜBİTAK and CAS independently by their own evaluation procedures. Only the proposals which are accepted by two sides will be funded.

**A total of no more than four (4) projects will be funded within this call.**

The proposals will be reviewed according to a certain set of evaluation criteria.

- Scientific/Technological Excellence
- Methodology
- Project Management
- Importance of International Collaboration
- Impact

**Info for the Turkish Side:** Awarded proposals will go through a pre-award stage, which starts after the announcement of results, and continues for approximately eight weeks. During pre-award period, the awarded institution will be notified about the requirements (possible budget reduction, budget details, timeline changes, etc.).

### **Evaluation of the progress and final reports**

- **For Turkish team,** The Principal Investigator of each project has to prepare financial and scientific/technical progress reports at determined dates in the project contract to be submitted to TÜBİTAK.
- **For Chinese team,** The Principal Investigator of each project has to prepare financial and scientific/technical progress reports at determined dates in the project contract to be submitted to CAS.

## 7. Research Ethics and Regulatory Requirements

The Principal Investigator of each project needs to provide **Consortium Agreement** to CAS and TÜBİTAK once the project is awarded.

As the research projects will be carried out by multiple project partners, the basis of collaboration between the project partners, including ownership of intellectual property (IP) generated during the project and rights to exploitation, and IP management is expected to be set out in an Intellectual Property Management Agreement between the PIs involved. It is the responsibility of the PIs to put such an agreement in place and to be provided when requested by funding agencies. The terms of collaboration must not conflict with the funding agencies terms and conditions and national law.

### 7.1 On Turkish Side:

For the Turkish team, please refer to the Ethics Committee Approval Document, Official Permission Document and Research and Publication Ethics Committee Regulation as you can find in [National Rules Document](#)

### 7.2 On Chinese Side:

For the Chinese team shall comply with the principles and practices as stated in the Chinese Code of Responsible Conduct in Research.

## 8. Schedule

The following table shows important dates for the call.

### Timeline for TÜBİTAK - CAS Call for Proposals

Description	Dates
Opening of submission	31 <sup>st</sup> of July 2024
Deadline for the online submission of the project proposal for Turkish Applicants	4 <sup>th</sup> of October 2024, 23:59 (IST time)
Deadline for the online submission of the project proposal for Chinese Applicants	4 <sup>th</sup> of October 2024, 23:59 (Beijing time)
Deadline for e-signature (For Turkish Applicants)	11 <sup>th</sup> of October 2024, 23:59 (IST time)



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Eligibility check separately by the funders	21 <sup>st</sup> of October 2024
Completion of the assessment at national level	December 2024
Exchange of review scores and reports	December 2024
Announcements of Results	December 2024

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## 9. Contact

On Turkish side:

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