



Science & Technology Development Fund



STDF

Funding Mechanisms

ABOUT STDF

Since its establishment, the Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) has stimulated the Egyptian scientific society by funding distinguished research papers, and establishing scientific partnerships with scientists from many advanced countries in order to keep track of quickly advancing technology. It also strived to be open to different societies, as well as, new economic unions, compete on the international arena, link scientific research to technological development and cooperate with civil society to activate its role in the integrated scientific research system.

Thus, it is crucial to continue executing serious, ambitious plans and programs to boost the scientific research drive. This will be positively reflected on national economy and societal development.

According to the presidential decree concerning the establishment of STDF, the following four objectives have been identified:

- Funding scientific research and technological development in accordance with the priorities defined by the Higher Council of Science and Technology (HCST);
- Supporting the full cycle of scientific research and upgrading knowledge and technology-based products;
- Promoting the dissemination of data and information on science and technology; and
- Performing a regular and thorough evaluation of science and technology indicators including research papers, patents and their impact on economy for submission to HCST.

STDF Funding Mechanisms

- Basic & Applied Research Grants
- Young Research Grants
- Reintegration Grants
- Innovation Grants (STDF – IG)
- Research Support and Technology Development Grants (STDF - RSTDG)
- Capacity Building Grants (STDF – CBG)
- Faculty for Factory Program (STDF - FFF)
- STDF Grants for Centers of Scientific Excellence (STDF – CSE)
- STDF Short Term Fellowship (STDF – STF)
- Demand Driven Project Grants (STDF – DDP)
- Support of Scientific Events (STDF – SSE)
- STDF Incubation Program (STDF – Inc)
- Joint Projects for Applied Research between the Research Centers
- EGYPT – JAPAN Cooperation
- EGYPT – FRANCE Cooperation
- EGYPT – GERMANY Cooperation
- EGYPT – United States Cooperation
- AFRICA – EUROPE Cooperation (ERAfrica Call)

Basic & Applied Research Grants

Basic and Applied Research Grants are directed towards any researcher/group of researchers at all ages and all disciplines who are willing to participate in competitive research in Egypt. This grant allows the researcher(s) to work on the re-settlement of excellent research in Egypt.

Eligibility Criteria

- Any researcher or group of researchers working in Egypt
- The Principal Investigator (PI) of the research team shall hold at least a PhD degree.

Funding

This grant provides up to LE 1,000,000 for up to three years.

Young Research Grants

Young Research Grants are directed towards young researchers working in Egypt and willing to restart or continue a research career in Egypt. This grant allows the researcher to be funded for his/her excellent research conducted in Egypt.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to apply for this grant, a team of researchers has to be built according to the following criteria:

1. A Principal Investigator who satisfies the following criteria:
 - Less than 40 years old at the date of proposal submission
 - Published at least two scientific papers in any of the most cited journals/periodicals in his/her field within the past three years
2. At least one assistant (non-PhD holder)
3. The Only PhD holder in the team is the Principal Investigator

Funding

This grant provides up to LE 750,000 for up to three years

Reintegration Grants

Reintegration grants are directed towards young Egyptian researchers who have obtained their PhD degree from one of the reputable international universities or research centers and are willing to return to continue their research career in Egypt.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to apply for this grant, it is required that the Principal Investigator satisfies the following criteria:

- Less than 40 years old at the date of proposal submission
- Obtained a PhD degree within the five years preceding proposal submission from an internationally recognized institution
- Published at least three scientific papers in any of the most cited journals in his/her field

Funding

This grant provides up to LE 1,500,000 for up to three years.

Innovation Grants (STDF – IG)

The aim of this grant is to augment the innovation cycle till and beyond prototype development, support scientists with scientifically and practically established innovation, and support potential technologies to alleviate business and market risks.

Eligibility Criteria

- Any Egyptian citizen who is affiliated to an Egyptian institution may apply as a principal investigator (PI).
- Egyptian universities, research centers, non-profit organizations (NGOs), and Joint Stock Egyptian companies (SAEs) can apply to this grant scheme.
- Research teams and individuals can both apply to this grant; teams consisting of researchers from both academia and industry are encouraged to apply.

Funding

This grant provides up to LE 3,000,000 for up to 3 years.

Research Support and Technology Development Grants (STDF - RSTDG)

This is a fast track grant suggested to provide funding for small and short term activities which contribute to the country's scientific research and technology development culture and infrastructure, and to improve the researchers' capabilities and the quality of research. A research support grant will mainly cover activities like improving research capabilities and infrastructure, and expertise development. A technology development grant will mainly cover feasibility demonstration and/or prototype development for innovative ideas.

Eligibility Criteria

- The applicant must be an Egyptian working, studying, or affiliated to an Egyptian institution; these include universities and research institutes, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and Joint Stock Egyptian companies (SAEs).
- In projects of graduate/undergraduate students, the academic supervisor of the student shall be named as the project's Principal Investigator (PI). As for full-time junior faculty members (teaching assistants), they can apply as PIs, after obtaining the consent of their supervisors.

Funding

This grant provides up to LE 100,000 for up to twelve months.

Capacity Building Grants (STDF – CBG)

The aim of this grant is to improve the research-supporting environment by improving the research infrastructure. The capacity building grant aims to provide and repair scientific research equipment in Egyptian research institutions. The capacity building grant is further classified into two funding categories; Category A: Equipment Acquisition (IA) and Category B: Equipment Repair (IR).

Eligibility Criteria

- Any Egyptian research institution is eligible for this program.
- The coordinator of the project holds a Ph.D. degree.
- An endorsement letter from the research institution stating that the activity is part of the institution's strategic plan.
- The maximum number of projects to be awarded to one research institution is two projects
- Equipment should be repaired by their original manufacturer or one of their agents.

Funding

Projects with implementation periods of up to one year may be accepted for funding. The maximum budget for Instrument Acquisition category is LE 5,000,000, and for Equipment Repair is 20% of the original price of the equipment.

Faculty for Factory Program (STDF – FFF)

This program aims to bridge the gap between the academic community and the industry/service sectors for effective scientific and technological participation of the academic community in the implementation of Egypt’s developmental socio-economic plans.

Eligibility Criteria

- All industrial/service entities currently operating in Egypt are welcome to apply to the grant for solving any Research and Development (R&D) related problem and/or fulfilling their process development needs.
- The Principal Investigator (PI) of the research team shall hold at least a PhD degree and be affiliated to a recognized university or research institute. Only one PhD holder is allowed in the research team.
- The rest of the team members (if any) shall be graduate or senior undergraduate students only.

Funding

Grants shall cover only the honorarium and expenses for the research team for up to LE 15,000/month for up to two years.

STDF Grant for Centers of Scientific Excellence (STDF-CSE)

This is a targeted capacity building grant aiming at establishing, based on existing capabilities and competences, centers of scientific excellence that serve the development priority areas of Egypt, promoting top-level research, and improving the research quality in Egypt.

Eligibility Criteria

Any Egyptian research institute, university, non-governmental organization (NGO) or a Joint Stock Egyptian company (SAE), having well-documented scientific research and development activities.

Funding

This grant provides up to LE 10,000,000 for up to three years.

STDF Short Term Fellowship (STDF-STF)

This grant aims to help researchers in learning, gaining international exposure, establishing international scientific links, and transferring research techniques.

Eligibility Criteria

Any researcher, faculty staff, or assistant (graduate student), is in principle eligible to apply for a STDF-STF fellowship.

Funding

The fellowship should last at least 6 weeks and at most four months and the following costs shall be covered:

- Accommodation in the host country (depends on the country)
- Travel allowance (maximum: LE 15,000)
- Publication costs (maximum: LE 3,000)
- Preparatory research expenses (maximum: LE 15,000)
- Incentives (LE 5,000)

Demand Driven Project Grants (STDF - DDP)

The purpose of this program is to encourage scientists to respond to society needs and market demand, and to apply innovative or applicable solutions to urgent and pressing problems facing the society and the national market

Eligibility Criteria

- Any Egyptian affiliated to an Egyptian research institution, university, non-governmental organization (NGO) or a Joint Stock Egyptian company (SAE), having well-documented scientific research and development activities in one of the outlined priority areas.
- Collaboration between research institutions and industry is highly encouraged.

Funding

This grant provides up to LE 3,000,000 for up to three years.

Support of Scientific Events (STDF - SSE)

This grant aims to provide universities and scientific research institutions with financial support for holding seminars, forums, workshops, training courses & conferences, to support both the human resources capacity building and the dissemination of information on science and technology in Egypt.

Eligibility Criteria

- Any Egyptian research institution, university or nongovernmental organization (NGO), is eligible for receiving STDF funding
- The institution holding the proposed event and receiving the funds will be represented by a researcher having well-documented scientific research and development activities, who will act as the "Event Coordinator/Organizer".
- Preference will be given to applicants who do not have funding other than that provided by STDF.

Funding

- First Category: Up to 10,000 LE
- Second Category: 10,000 to 20,000 LE
- Third Category: 20,000 to 30,000 LE
- Fourth Category: 30,000 to 50,000 LE (this applies only to scientific events of which STDF is a main co-organizer)

STDF Incubation Program (STDF - Inc)

The new STDF Incubation Program is a mechanism for commercialization of Research and Development (R&D) results. It is an integrated support program designed to assist entrepreneurs in the development of new technology-based firms, both start-ups and fledglings. It seeks to effectively link talent, technology, capital and know-how to leverage entrepreneurial talent in order to accelerate development of new companies and speedy commercialization of R&D and innovation. It also helps in value reorientation by creating an environment for changing the attitude towards personal initiative and creativity.

Scope

- Manufacturing of simple and scientific equipment and machineries; upgrading of traditional technologies; Hand crafts, etc.
- Manufacturing of electrical and electronic components and equipment
- Biotechnology and Chemical processes and products
- Information & Communication Technology, software and hardware
- Robotics and Artificial intelligence
- Advanced materials and Nanotechnologies
- Laser Technologies and others

Who Can Apply

- Entrepreneurs having an innovative idea or business plan based on using a technology or system and ready for commercial development
- Technology companies wanting to outsource spin-off initiatives
- Research institutes and universities interested in encouraging their staff and students to set up their own companies

Joint Projects for Applied Research between the Research Centers

The purpose of this program is to provide an opportunity for cooperation between the Egyptian research centers, and to link them with third-party implementation bodies in order to reach applicable results during a limited period of time.

Eligibility Criteria

- Egyptian research centers and institutes, as well as R&D departments of industrial establishments) and implementing bodies (public and private sector industrial establishments, ministries, as well as any other Egyptian beneficiaries) are eligible to apply for this program.
- The project's coordinator must be an Egyptian citizen, holding a PhD degree, and must have at least one published scientific paper addressing an industrial problem that is closely related to the proposed research.

Funding

The duration of the project must not exceed 24 months, and the applying bodies will cover 60% of the project budget and STDF will cover the remaining 40%.

EGYPT – JAPAN Cooperation

“Joint Egyptian-Japanese Scientific Cooperation (JEJSC)”

The purpose of this program is to further advance cooperation in scientific areas of mutual interest. In addition, the program promotes exchange visits between Egyptian and Japanese scientists and supports the coordination of joint seminars.

A. Joint research projects:

Eligibility Criteria

- Teams of researchers consisting of at least one Egyptian and one Japanese researcher
- Teams have to be based at Egyptian and Japanese research organizations/commercial enterprises and be working in their home countries.

Funding

This activity supports bilateral mobility of scientist within the framework of a jointly submitted research project of a period of 2 years

STDF provides funding of up to LE 145,000 per project per year to the Egyptian team, and JSPS provides annual funding of up to JPY 2,500,000 per project to the Japanese team. Allowed Per Diem is \$ 250 per day.

B. Seminars:

This activity supports seminars and workshops submitted to both STDF and JSPS within the framework of cooperation.

Eligibility Criteria

- Teams of participants consisting of both Egyptian and Japanese scientists and stakeholders
- Teams have to be based at Egyptian or Japanese research organizations/ commercial enterprises and be working in their home countries.

Funding

STDF provides funding of up to LE 85,000 per seminar/workshop to the Egyptian team, and JSPS provides up to JPY 1,500,000 per seminar/workshop to the Japanese team. Allowed Per Diem is \$ 250 per day.

EGYPT – FRANCE Cooperation

“Joint Innovative Projects”

The aim of this agreement is to support innovative and application-oriented joint projects through the following cooperation mechanisms:

1. Joint research projects:

Funding

- Type (A): up to 100,000 EUROS per project
- Type (B): up to 300,000 EUROS per project

The duration of the project is up to 36 months

2. Chairs of excellence:

Funding

- The duration of the chair of excellence is up to four years and could only be extended upon consent from both the Egyptian side (STDF) and the French side (IRD)

3. Scientific mobility grants:

- Support for the preparation of research projects
- Support for Chairs of Excellence

Funding

- The visit should not exceed three months, and the total number of visits should not exceed four visits for total of six months for the whole duration of the project.
- The total funding requested from the Egyptian and the French side must not exceed 10,000 EUROS per grant per year.

EGYPT – GERMANY Cooperation

“German Egyptian Scientific Projects (GESP)”

GESP aims to support bilateral mobility between Egyptian and German scientific teams with special emphasis on young scientists (Master and PhD students).

Eligibility Criteria

- The program is open for public and private universities and research centers.
- The Principal Investigator should be a PhD holder & has a permanent position in his/her institution.
- Each team should not exceed five persons.
- On the Egyptian side, only Egyptian researchers are eligible for a mobility grant to Germany.

Funding

- Mobility grants are awarded within the framework of a running research project for a duration of up to two years.
- Grants are offered only towards travel and living expenses.
- The total funding requested from the Egyptian and the German side respectively should not exceed 10,000 EUROS per project per year.

EGYPT - GERMANY Cooperation

“German- Egyptian Research Fund (GERF)”

The aim of this program is to fund and support joint innovative, application-oriented research projects in all fields of science, including social sciences.

Eligibility Criteria

- Teams of researchers consisting of at least one Egyptian and one German researcher
- The teams have to be based at Egyptian and German research organizations, state or non-state institutions of higher education, non-university research institutions or commercial companies, particularly Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs).

Funding

The maximum allowed total budget is 200,000 EUROS for up to 24 months

EGYPT – United States Cooperation

“Joint Research Grants”

The objective of this program is to expand the scope of the U.S.-Egypt Science and Technology Fund to include a full range of scientific innovation, technology development, and technology commercialization activities that address the current needs and priorities in the bilateral relationship.

Eligibility Criteria

Researchers from U.S. and Egyptian scientific institutions, scientific societies, private sector research, and governmental agencies are eligible to apply.

Funding

1. Junior Scientist Grants:

Up to 20,000 USD for up to nine months

2. Research Planning and Development Grants:

Up to 60,000 USD for up to one year

3. Collaborative Research Grants:

Up to 200,000 USD for up to three years

4. Integrated Science Grants:

Up to a maximum of \$500,000 for up to three years

5. Science and Technology Innovation Grants:

Up to a maximum of \$250,000 for up to two years.

AFRICA – EUROPE Cooperation

“ERAfrica Call”

The goal of this Joint Call is to create long-term research collaboration between EU Member States and/or Associated Countries and Africa. Research collaboration of a high standard between teams from EU Member States and/or Associated Countries and Africa will be supported through open competition. A project consortium must comprise project partners from at least 4 different countries, of which at least two from an EU Member State/Associated Country and two from Africa.

Eligible Thematic Fields

Proposals regarding one of the following thematic fields can be submitted:

- Renewable Energies
- Interfacing Challenges

Funding and Duration

The total amount funding available for project consortia will depend on the Funding Parties upon which the consortium partners depend for financing. The duration of a project can be up to 36 months (national regulations of individual Funding Parties apply).