

BRICS STI Framework Programme
7th coordinated call for BRICS multilateral projects 2026
Science, Technology & Innovation Funding Authority (STDF)
National Annex

1. Name of the Funding Agency:

Science, Technology & Innovation Funding Authority (STDF)

Address: New Administrative Capital, Government District, The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Building L1, Cluster C3A, First Floor

2. National Contact Point:

Name: Ms. Hoda Yassien

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3. Submission deadline:

20 June 2026

4. Thematic Areas of Cooperation

Projects must fall within at least one of the following priority areas:

1. Water Resources
 - 1.1. Monitoring and Data for Water Systems
 - 1.2. Water Treatment, Reuse, and Resource Circularity
 - 1.3. Resilience to Water Hazards and Extreme Events through Data-Driven Approaches
2. High Performance Computing and Artificial Intelligence
 - 2.1. High Performance Computing and AI Infrastructure Co-Design
 - 2.2. Artificial Intelligence and Large Language Models
 - 2.3. Quantum Computing, Sensing, and Secure Information Technologies
3. Energy
 - 3.1. Solar Energy Technologies and Applications
 - 3.2. Integrated Smart and Renewable Energy Systems for Resilient Power Networks
 - 3.3. Low-Carbon Energy Pathways, Sector Coupling, and Energy Efficiency
4. Health, Biotechnology and Biomedicine
 - 4.1. Advanced Biotechnology, Genomics, and AI-Assisted Discovery
 - 4.2. Personalized Medicine, Diagnostics, and Cell-Based Therapies
 - 4.3. Digital Health, Telemedicine, and AI-Enabled Healthcare Systems
5. Food
 - 5.1. Climate-Resilient Crops and Advanced Plant Biotechnology
 - 5.2. Digital and Precision Agriculture for Sustainable Production

5.3. Sustainable Fisheries, Aquaculture, and Food Quality Monitoring

6. Materials Science

6.1. Advanced Functional and Smart Materials

6.2. Materials for Energy Conversion, Storage, and Sustainability

6.3. Advanced Functional Materials: Nanomaterials, Biomaterials, and Resilient Systems

5. Participation & Eligibility Criteria:

General eligibility criteria:

The PI Requirements:

- Principal Investigator (PI) must be an Egyptian PhD holder affiliated with an Egyptian university or research centre.
- PI may not participate in more than two ongoing STDF projects (as PI) or three ongoing projects (as team member).
- The PI & Co-PI should be affiliated to the same institution.
- The PI & Co-PI must dedicate at least 40% of their time; individual team members cannot exceed 80% total commitment across projects (in all the submitted/running projects).
- PI cannot apply for more than one project under this call.

Financial Eligibility Criteria:

The PI should consider the following:

Eligible Costs:

| Category | Details |
|------------------------|---|
| Personnel / Incentives | Max 25% of budget; subject to STDF incentive scheme which takes into consideration each team member's academic credentials and the percentage of time spent on performing the project's activities. |
| Equipment & Materials | Procurement of necessary equipment, parts, and consumables is permitted |
| Services | Prototype manufacturing, IP registration, software, publication, facility fees, etc. |
| Events | Workshops, conferences, training directly related to the project |
| Travel | Max 20% of total budget; economy class only |
| Per Diem | Based on Mission Directorate rules and institutional regulations and depending on the visited country. Sometimes it's limited by the internal regulations of the PI's institution |
| Indirect Costs | Up to 10% of direct cost (excluding equipment), capped at EGP 150,000 |

6. Scientific and Technical Requirement

Proposals must:

- Align with BRICS STI Framework Programme evaluation principles
- Clarify the added value and balance of the research collaboration
- Clarify the expected impacts (scientific, technological, economic, societal)
- Ensure Competence, expertise, and complementarity of the consortium
- Ensure Appropriateness of requested resources and funding
- Give Opportunities for early-career researchers
- Encourage engaging business sector in joint research
- Ensure Scientific quality and innovation of the joint research plan
- Achieve sound project management, methodology and feasibility

7. Funding Regulations:

- Maximum funding per project: L.E. 3 million..
- The amount of funding is divided into instalments, to be disbursed upon the acceptance of periodic technical and financial progress reports.
- The fund is allocated to both the host institution and the PI, administered by the host institution's financial department, and managed by the PI of the project. Non-governmental host institutions are requested to either submit a Letter of Guarantee against the amount of fund, or follow a post-activity milestone payment schedule.

8. Required Documents (STDF submission)

Applicants must submit **a single PDF file** including:

- Identical version of JAF to be submitted on STDF website, it is a must in order to pass the eligibility stage.
- Application form submitted as readable pdf (not scanned). Applications not prepared according to the application template will not be considered.
- Egyptian Research team table with live signatures.
- CVs of all Egyptian team members.
- Budget table: A detailed budget table in Egyptian Pound must be included, and prepared in accordance with the STDF template. The Budget must be signed & stamped by the Institution's President.

9. Additional National Provisions

- Proposals undergo originality checks for plagiarism. STDF takes issues of Infringement of Academic Integrity, plagiarism, similarity or other breaches very seriously. To verify originality, your Proposal may be checked by the originality detection service and Similarity Check. Accordingly, the proposal must be submitted in a readable PDF format (i.e., not scanned) to facilitate the plagiarism checks. By submitting your proposal to STDF, you are agreeing to originality checks.

- Consortium agreement is optional but must not contradict STDF rules.
- Upon proposal acceptance, project contracts are made between three parties: STDF, the legal representative of the host institution, and the PI of the project (each project is expected to be managed by only one PI and his affiliation).
- Private sector is welcomed to participate with its own fund.
- Contracting of projects are pending finalizing administrative approvals and permits from relevant authorities.
- The consortium may include multiple Egyptian institutions, but they will be treated as a single partner. There will be one responsible Principal Investigator (PI)
- Conflict of interest should be avoided.