



Call for INGENIUM Joint Research Group Proposals.

Faculty and research staff of the INGENIUM universities (UNIOVI – ES, MUS - BG, UoC - EL, HKA - DE, XAMK - FI, Ud'A - IT, HiS - SE, MTU - IE, URN – FR and TUIASI - RO) are invited to submit proposals for (i) the creation and early development of INGENIUM joint research groups or (ii) proposals for new collaborative research projects. The aim of the initiative is to support innovative research and encourage new cooperation between INGENIUM's universities. Faculty and research staff from INGENIUM universities can utilize CONNECT, a specialized research matching platform developed at Ud'A, to identify and connect with potential partners. CONNECT is available here: <https://connect.unich.it/>

Deadline for manifestation of interest (mandatory): **31 January 2024**

Deadline for application: **15 March 2024**

For more information about the registration and submission procedure, please visit:

<https://ingenium-university.eu/submissions/>

Please note that in order to upload your application, you must first complete the registration process. The approval of your registration may take up to 48 hours.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Each proposal should be developed by a research team consisting of members from a minimum of three INGENIUM universities. Faculty and research staff from INGENIUM universities are eligible to apply. A lead Principal Investigator (PI) will submit the proposal. Both the lead PI and the PIs at other universities must have a contract with an INGENIUM university at the time of application, submission and throughout the entire project duration. This requirement does not apply to other team members at each university.

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible, the research groups must demonstrate their intention of building a long-standing research cooperation, with a clear definition of the research lines they intend to develop, the research resources they will be pooling and a well-defined strategy for attracting additional resources from other funding sources (local, national or international). Applicants are encouraged to integrate strategic approaches that ensure the sustainability of their research. All types of collaborative and innovative research projects are eligible.

HOW WILL THE PROPOSALS BE EVALUATED?

Submitted applications will be evaluated by a panel composed of members from the INGENIUM Research School Board (IRSB) and expert advisors from the INGENIUM universities. In cases where members of the evaluation panel are directly involved in an application, either in their individual or institutional roles, the member in question will abstain from the evaluation of the relevant proposal. Each application will be evaluated by two members of the evaluation panel. Evaluation criteria will be based on the quality of the proposal (excellence, impact* and cooperation arrangements), the interdisciplinary character of the group, the potential involvement of social and industrial partners and the impact of the research program on societal challenges.

HOW MUCH MONEY IS AVAILABLE?

INGENIUM partner universities have different capabilities in the extent of financing research projects under this call. To find out more on available funding, contact the local grant coordinating unit at each university involved (see the CONTACT LIST and TIMELINE below). The total grant budget should generally not exceed 20,000 euros. The payment is lump sum.

WHAT TYPES OF EXPENSES ARE ELIGIBLE?

The grants will be mostly dedicated to support the mobility of group researchers for group meetings or short research stays, but groups may propose alternative use of the resources (for example, as seed funding to prepare applications for larger grants or any other, upon justification of its relevance). The overall budget amount and the proposed allocation of funds should receive approval from the local grant coordinating unit at each university involved in the proposal (refer to TIMELINE for details).

HOW LONG SHOULD PROJECTS LAST?

Projects can officially start on 1 May 2024, but no later than 31 May 2024. The spending deadline is 31 May 2025, at the latest. After this date, the groups can mobilize other funds to continue their work.

WHAT ARE THE DELIVERABLES FOR WINNING PROJECTS?

Throughout the funding period, the PIs and their teams should provide two reports in video format: one within the third month from the project start and another within one month of its completion. These reports will be published on the INGENIUM website. They should not delve into the details of research activities but rather showcase the effectiveness of the collaboration between INGENIUM partners. The first report should

* The assessment of impact will be conducted in accordance with the CoARA vision.

address the following questions: (i) what is the problem being addressed and why is it important, (ii) what is the approach to solving the problem, (iii) how our research generates impact, (iv) in which ways our team is multidisciplinary. The second report should cover: (i) achievements and results to date, (ii) the reasons behind the success of collaboration among INGENIUM partners, (iii) the strategy to continue the research collaboration beyond the funding period.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND MORE INFORMATION

All applicants should apply following the instructions available at:

<https://ingenium-university.eu/submissions/>

Applications should be submitted by the set deadline: **12:00 pm (CEST) – 15 MARCH 2024.**

TIMELINE (see Annex 1):

5 December 2023 – Call for Proposals announced

31 January 2024 - Expression of interest deadline

10 February 2024 – Funding information release

15 March 2024 – Application deadline

20 April 2024 – Review Process completed

30 April 2024 – Announcement of winners on the INGENIUM website

1 May 2024 (but no later than 31 May 2024) – Projects can start

31 May 2025 – Spending deadline

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Step 1 – Members of the applying research team must send their expression of interest to their respective grant coordinating units by email no later than **31 January 2024**.

List of contact persons at each INGENIUM partner:

UNIOVI – ES: Santiago Folgueras and Maria Luisa Sánchez (ingenium@uniovi.es)

MUS – BG: Valentina Petkova (vpetkova@pharmfac.mu-sofia.bg)

UoC – EL: Agapi Vathianaki (agapi.vathianaki@uoc.gr), Dimitrios Papazoglou (dpapa@materials.uoc.gr)

HKA – DE: Franz Quint (franz.quint@h-ka.de; franz.quint@extern-h-ka.de), Martin Knapp (martin.knapp@h-ka.de; car@extern-h-ka.de address)

XAMK – FI: Mika Ruponen (mika.ruponen@xamk.fi) Eeva Kuoppala (eeva.kuoppala@xamk.fi)

Ud'A – IT: Francesca Ferri (francesca.ferri@unich.it)

HiS – SE: Sara Johansson (sara.m.johansson@his.se) Sunith Bandaru (sunith.bandaru@his.se) Birgitta Lindström (birgitta.lindstrom@his.se)

MTU – IE: Kathryn Burguin (kathryn.burguin@mtu.ie)

URN – FR: Milos Borozan (ingenium@univ-rouen.fr)

TUIASI – RO: Alina Adriana MINEA (alina-adriana.minea@academic.tuiasi.ro)

Step 2 – Applying researchers will receive information from the local grant coordinating units regarding the funds available for INGENIUM partners at each university, as well as the formal requirements and eligible expenses. This information will be provided no later than **February 10, 2024**. Applying researchers will also be asked to submit cost calculations separated by INGENIUM partners with their applications.

Step 3 – Research teams must submit a single joint application, which includes the separate cost calculations, no later than **15 March 2024**. An acronym must be assigned to the project. The application can be submitted following the instructions available at <https://ingenium-university.eu/submissions/>

Through a single Review Process, the evaluation panel, composed of members from the IRSB and expert advisors, will select projects based on merit and inform the grant units at the respective universities. Prior to that, the evaluation panel will check whether the application meets the formal criteria outlined in the application guidelines. The Review process will be concluded by **20 April 2024**.

Step 4 – After the evaluation panel's report, local grant coordinating units at partner universities will formally decide on the financial aspects, in line with the decision of the evaluation panel and within the limits of their available INGENIUM funds.

Step 5 – Grant units of INGENIUM partners inform the IRSB. The IRSB announces the successful proposals (**30 April 2024**). Members of winning consortia contract with their respective universities for funding.