

## USTH/Consortium cooperation program 2021

USTH was established in 2009 as a NMU (New Model University) of Vietnam, targeting international standards through a commitment to research and innovation. An Inter-Governmental Agreement was entered then renewed by the Vietnamese and French governments to collaborate in setting-up USTH, ending next in November 2025. USTH is supported by a Consortium of some 35 French universities and research operators. This Consortium received grants from the French Embassy dedicated to develop USTH Research initiatives.

For 2021, the Consortium had proposed USTH's University Council to implement 2 calls:

- a call for **collaborative S&T projects**
- a call for the **mobility of students expanded to young lecturers** : Visiting scholars program.

### Notice for: the call for **COLLABORATIVE S&T PROJECTS**

#### **OBJECTIVES**

This call invites proposals for outstanding collaborative projects jointly proposed by researchers from USTH and from French laboratories of members of the Consortium. It is intended to support exchanges between researchers in the form of short-term missions, student internships and research expenses in France in order to complement a research project already funded in Vietnam. It favors multidisciplinary approaches and is open to all fields of knowledge developed at USTH. Its method is based on the principles of balanced partnership in which the intellectual involvement of Vietnamese and French contributors must be equivalent and complementary.

**SCOPE** - All main research fields developed at USTH:

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| ✓ Life sciences | ✓ Advanced Materials Science and Nanotechnology |
| ✓ ICT           | ✓ Water, Environment & Oceanography             |
| ✓ Energies      | ✓ Space & Applications                          |
| ✓ Aeronautics   | ✓ Fundamental and Applied science               |

The selection committee will favor projects presenting a multidisciplinary approach.

Projects towards fundamental or applied research will be evaluated with equivalent interest.

**IMPLEMENTATION TIME** - Within a year of the decision selecting the proposal.

#### **GRANTED AMOUNT AND BUDGET STRUCTURE**

The funding to be allocated by the Consortium to its member will be a maximum of 10 k€ per project. A co-funding from the Vietnamese side covering at least 20% of the total budget must be in place. Hence, the Consortium shall provide up to 10k€ representing up to 80% of the Budget of the Project.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND PROPOSALS

The project must be jointly proposed by two permanent scientific staffs: 1 project leader from USTH and 1 project leader from a French member of the USTH-Consortium.

Both project leaders must have a permanent position (not be under probation).

Any project leader may only supervise one project under this Consortium cooperation program.

The Vietnamese co-funding must be documented with a certified copy of the funding decision.

## REQUIRED OUTCOMES:

A final report shall be submitted Tuesday 15 November 2022, in electronic format and a single print-out, to USTH's DRITT for transmission to the binational evaluation committee.

Each project must include at least one SCIE publication (scientific article accepted for publication by a journal of the Science Citation Index Expanded list. This article must be co-signed by the project leaders and members of their teams, and must mention: "*this co-publication is part of the USTH/Consortium cooperation program supported by the French Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs and xxx*" ("xxx": funding agency of the Vietnamese component).

If this publication cannot be completed within a year, a letter in the final report must mention the journal targeted for publication(s), with a commitment that the submission of the publication will occur within 2 years from the start-date of the project.

If the final report is not produced or no SCIE publication is published, then both project- leaders lose the possibility to submit a new project to this program until the report and publication are produced.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

The proposals will be evaluated and ranked by a binational committee of 6 experts (3 Vietnamese and 3 French) jointly nominated by USTH and the Consortium. The binational committee shall also decide the financial support granted to the selected projects, within the limits of the available budget.

The main selection criteria shall be:

- the scientific competence of both project leaders;
- the scientific and/or technological quality and relevance of the project;
- the scientific complementary and balance between the partners;
- the project's potential to initiate or support sustainable cooperation between the two research teams.

Particular attention shall be paid to proposals that:

- develop a multidisciplinary approach, and involve as much as possible socio-economic partners;
- encourage innovation and the transfer of knowledge and skills for the benefit of both countries;
- seek to create new collaborations and to connect with additional/complementary research teams ("repeat-and-expand" or "incremental advances" on existing relationships will not be preferred).

## FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS:

**Types of eligible expenditures:** the program will exclusively fund:

- Travel and living allowance for short-term missions of: (a) French and Vietnamese scientists, and (b) student internships (French and Vietnamese Master/PhD students)
- Research costs in the French laboratory: consumables, reagents, equipment fees, interns, etc...

**Budget management:** all expenses will be directly operated in France by the Consortium.

## APPLICATION

A proposal shall be written in English, on A4 paper format, Time News Roman size 12, and include:

- a cover-page, table of contents, and a list of project-members (with their signature);
- two curriculum-vitae, one for each project-leaders;
- the project description, which should not exceed ten (10) pages;
- a 1-page budget summary (additional pages as required);
- a proof of co-funding by a Vietnamese agency, showing value and timeline of the co-funding;
- a letter by the Head of the French Laboratory committing the resources needed for the budget;
- a supporting letter by the USTH Department of affiliation of the USTH project leader.

## DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION – PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE FOR DECISION:

- Proposals must absolutely reach DRITT before **2:00 p.m., Saturday 8 May 2021**
- The Committee will try to communicate its decisions on **Monday 31 May 2021**

**All application files, hard and soft versions (“soft” means: pdf file) shall be submitted to:**

Direction of Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer (DRITT)

Room 305, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, A21 Building, VAST campus on 18 Hoang Quoc Viet street, Hanoi

**For further information and support, please contact:**  
USTH Direction of Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer  
Tel.: (+ 84-24) 37.91.85.20  
Email: [dritt@usth.edu.vn](mailto:dritt@usth.edu.vn)

*Templates:*

- *C-1-S&T: Cover-page, table of contents, and list of project-members, signed*
- *C-2-S&T: (a) + (b) : curriculum vitae of the 2 project leaders*
- *C-3-S&T: full proposal*
- *C-4-S&T: budget*

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**For USTH:**



Prof. Etienne SAUR  
Principal Rector

**For the Consortium-USTH:**



Prof. Bernard LEGUBE  
President