

Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies (CONFAP)
and Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI)
Call for joint research & innovation projects

The Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies (CONFAP), and Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI), announce the call for joint research & innovation projects in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by CONFAP and WBI on Academic and Scientific Cooperation between Wallonia-Brussels and Brazil.

The call aims at supporting scientific exchanges between research groups in Brazil, and from the French Community of Belgium, primarily in the following areas:

- Circular materials;
- Innovation for better health;
- Innovations for agile and safe design and production;
- Sustainable energy systems and habitat;
- Innovative Environmental Management and future Agro-Food Chains;
- Aeronautics and space;
- Digitalization.

1. GENERAL AND COMMON PROVISIONS

1.1. The program has the scope of supporting joint research projects, mainly in the fields of life sciences (health and medical technologies), agricultural sciences and agro-food production technologies, engineering sciences (mechanical and physical, chemistry and energy, transport and logistics, aeronautics and space, materials), environmental and digital technologies in order to promote exchanges between the two territories.

1.2. In Brazil, the entity responsible for the program is the Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies (CONFAP), together with the State Funding Agencies, FAPs which confirmed their participation.

1.3. In Belgium, the entity responsible for the program is Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI) for the governments of Wallonia and Federation Wallonie-Bruxelles.

1.4. The selection of research projects will be performed by CONFAP, through the involved FAPs and by WBI.

1.5. The program aims to select joint research projects whose activities may start from August 1st 2022 for a maximum of two years.

1.6. Each joint research project proposal must plan its activities taking into account the expected maximum duration of 2 (two) years.

Calendar

Schedule	Phases
January 25 th 2022	Call opening
March 25 th 2022	Deadline for projects submission
March 28 th to May 15 th	Evaluations
Mid of June 2022	Joint Committee and final selection of projects
End of June 2022	Communication of the final selection of projects to the candidates
From August 2022	Beginning of activities / projects

2. CONDITIONS AND INCENTIVES OF APPLICATION FOR TEAMS OF WALLONIE-BRUXELLES

2.1 Conditions: In addition to satisfying the general provisions described under point 1, the following conditions must be observed by proponents based in Wallonia-Brussels:

2.1.1 The research must be innovative and justify an added value for the team concerned and the scientific community as a whole;

2.1.2 The project must provide joint publication of scientific articles;

2.1.3 Applicants must come from universities, colleges, public research institutes, technology centres, private non-profit institutions and other similar entities in Wallonia-Brussels (recognised by Wallonia or the Wallonia-Brussels Federation) that develop research and development activities.

2.2 Means support that can be provided by WBI:

2.2.1 Short-term missions to Brazil (maximum 14 days) up to a maximum of 2 people per year and per project.

WBI may support these missions under the following conditions:

- Plane ticket (economy class, maximum 1.300€);

- Accommodation costs (in accordance with the regulations in force);
- Daily subsistence costs (according to the regulations in force - on 06.07.18: 51,00 euros).

2.2.2. Grants for Belgian researchers going to Brazil in the context of PhD (duration from 1 to 3 months revolving once), co-supervision PhD (duration from 1 to 6 months revolving once), or postdoctoral research (duration from 1 to 3 months revolving once).

Grants that may be supported by WBI:

- Monthly amount covering living expenses: from € 1,200 / month or € 1,300 / month for postdoctoral research;
- Only one return air ticket per researcher (maximum 1.300€);
- Insurance according to WBI to the “Health Care” policy;
- Insurance according to WBI to “Repatriation” policy;
- Possible registration fees up to a maximum amount to justify of € 835 (doctorate) or administrative costs of 500€ (post doctorate).

The candidate may have any other source of public or private funding, whether during the call procedure or at the agreement stage (additional funding is authorized). WBI decides sovereignly on the compatibility of complementary funding to the WBI grant.

3. APPLICATION CONDITIONS AND INCENTIVES FOR BRAZILIAN TEAMS

3.1 CONFAP: project proponents from Brazil must fulfil the following conditions:

3.1.1 The research must be innovative and justify the added value for the Brazilian State involved in the proposal, so as the relevance at Brazilian National / Federal level.

3.1.2 Eligible Institutions: public or private (non-profit) Higher Education and Research Institutions, Scientific Institutions, Technology and Innovation Institutions, based in Brazilian States participating to the call through their respective State Funding Agencies (FAPs), namely:

- Fundação Araucaria (Paraná)
- FAPAC (Acre)
- FAPEAM (Amazonas)
- FAPEG (Goiás)
- FAPEMA (Maranhão)
- FAPEMAT (Mato Grosso)
- FAPEMIG (Minas Gerais)
- FAPERGS (Rio Grande do Sul)
- FAPERJ (Rio de Janeiro)
- FAPES (Espírito Santo)
- FAPESB (Bahia)
- FAPESC (Santa Catarina)
- FAPESPA (Pará)
- FAPESQ (Paraíba)

- FAPT (Tocantins)
- FUNCAP (Ceará – Fortaleza)
- FUNDECT (Mato Grosso do Sul)
- FAPERO (Roraima)

4. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

In Wallonia-Brussels, applicants must have a PhD or equivalent degree, and be linked to a research institution or a higher education institution located in Wallonia-Brussels.

As general rule, applicants from Brazil must be PhD candidates or have a doctoral or equivalent degree, and be linked to a Research Institution located in Brazilian States participating in the call, through their Respective State Funding Agencies; have scientific or technological production evaluated by Curriculum (*Súmula Curricular*). Specific eligibility criteria must be always verified directly with the participating FAPs.

5. EVALUATION AND FUNDING

5.1. Assessment procedure:

The proposals will be assessed according to the evaluation procedures put in place by the two parties: CONFAP, through its FAPs and Wallonie-Bruxelles International.

After the submission deadline, the proposals will be verified on the basis of the eligibility criteria and budgetary rules of WBI and of the involved FAPs.

Eligible proposals shall be evaluated respectively by the participating Brazilian State Funding Agencies – FAPs, on the Brazilian side, and by WBI (with the assistance of the DGO6 of the SPW and/or the FNRS), on the Belgian side, according to their respective rules and procedures.

A joint committee, composed by representatives from WBI and CONFAP/FAPs, shall be held in order to consolidate the respective evaluations and deliberate on the projects to be approved.

5.2. Evaluation criteria:

5.2.1. Scientific quality

5.2.1.1. Objectives

- ✓ The scientific importance of the project
- ✓ Originality and innovative character
- ✓ Clarity of the research objectives

5.2.1.2. Methodology

- ✓ Relevance of the methodology with regard to the objectives
- ✓ Originality and innovative nature of the proposed methodology
- ✓ Feasibility

- Relevance of the work plan

5.2.2. Consortium and research Team

- Quality of the institutions involved
- Quality of the project managers (background, experience, ...)
- Previous results obtained in the field of the project
- Composition of the research team
- Added value of the collaboration
- Feasibility in terms of team experience

5.2.3. Quality and feasibility of the project management and implementation

5.2.4. Added value for the Brazilian States involved in the proposals (for the Brazilian side)

5.2.5. Added value for Wallonia

5.2.6. Coherence, coordination and balance between the teams from Brazil and Wallonia Brussels, jointly involved in the submitted proposals.

Evaluation criteria should guide the elaboration of the proposals, following the application form template provided in Annex I.

5.3 Funding:

Research teams from Brazil and from Wallonia-Brussels shall be respectively funded by the participating FAPs, and by WBI, according to their respective budgets, rules and procedures.

6. SUBMISSION PROCEDURE OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

Project proposals must use the application form (Annex I of the present call), including the additional documents requested, to be presented in the same document, as annexes.

The Wallonia-Brussels applicants must send by email and by post the project proposals to:

Alexandre Gofflot a.gofflot@wbi.be
Wallonie Bruxelles International (WBI)
Place Saintelette 2
1080 Bruxelles

Brazilian applicants must send to CONFAP, using the call platform: <https://wbi.confap.org.br/>

Some FAPs may request that proposals are also submitted directly to the involved State Funding Agency; this must be verified directly with the involved FAP.

In order to be eligible, the same proposal needs to be presented by Brazilian and Wallonia-Brussels project partners.

7. CONTACT DETAILS

CONFAP: Elisa Natola

Advisor for International Cooperation

Email : elisa.confap@gmail.com

Tel : 0055 61 996138850

WBI: Alexandre Gofflot

Head of desk Latin America & Caribbean

Email : a.gofflot@wbi.be

Tel : 0032 (0)2/421.86.25

Homeworking : 0474.74.52.96

Anoula Kinnen (grants aspects)

Assistant – International grants

Email : a.kinnen@wbi.be

Tel. : 02/421.82.03

Homeworking : 0470.20.89.53