

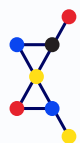


**German Israeli Foundation
for Scientific Research & Development**

GIFnews

From the desk of
Dr. Eric Zimmerman

GIF Director
14 September 2021



Funding collaborative research since 1986



Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased and excited to share with you today the results of our recent RFP (current submission cycle) and information about two new GIF programs to fund scientific excellence.



Sustainability RFP for Young Scientists Results We published this request for proposals (RFP) in December with a closing date in March. A total of 137 proposals in two tracks were sent for international peer review. At its meeting on Monday 30 August, the GIF Board of Governors approved 37 grants for a cumulative budget of EURO 1,751,155. Grantees and research institutions are being notified.



Nexus (details subject to change) **Empowering. Engaging. Excelling.**

This is the new flagship grants program launched by GIF. The first call for proposals in this program opens soon (in early October). The goal of Nexus is to promote scientific excellence through collaboration between German and Israeli teams of scientists. This new program replaces GIF's two previous grant programs, the GIF Regular Program and the GIF Young Scientists' Program. We now offer a single unified program to fund young scientists and established researchers in parallel tracks. Submitting a full proposal will be possible only after the approval of a pre-proposal. (See new submission guidelines below). The new flagship grants program of GIF has the following characteristics:

Focal topics replace the current recurring three-year cycles by research area.

In the **first cycle (2021)** we are accepting proposals in:

Life Sciences Interfaces; it is up to the proposing investigators to determine what the interface is (e.g., Big Data, AI, physics, chemistry, engineering, computing, ethics ...)

Social Justice and Human Rights



Budget

- Collaborative track: An annual budget of 200k Euro is the ceiling for each proposal (i.e., the total requested budget per proposal for all PIs together can be 800k Euro for up to 4 years).
- Young track: For the one-year solo-investigator young track, a maximum budget of 25k Euro may be requested.
- The total annual budget for this 2021 RFP is 2M Euro.

Eligibility

- Investigators from GIF-eligible institutions

Collaboration

- Collaborative track: There must be at least one principal investigator from each country.
- Young track: In the track for young researchers, no collaborator is necessary; we intend to fund few grants in this track.

Duration

- Collaborative track: The collaborative projects may be up to 4 years in duration.
- Young track: The track for young solo investigators is a one-year program.

Timetable

- The RFP will be published shortly. Guidelines will be forthcoming.
- Pre-proposal submission will be via email sent to submission@gif.org.il by 1 December 2021
- Decisions on full-proposal eligibility by 31 December 2021
- Submission deadline for the full proposals by 14 March 2022
- Notification of new grants following the Board of Governors meeting in early September 2022
- Starting date for grants is expected to be January 2023.



Procedure

There is an initial pre-proposal stage whereby a brief (7-page maximum) proposal must be submitted. If approved for full submission, the title and abstract may not be changed. At this initial stage, only submissions of the highest scientific excellence will be passed through to the 2nd stage. Evaluation of pre-proposals will be performed by Scientific Advisory Panels and decisions for submission of full proposals by the GIF Board of Governors. Detailed program description and application guidelines will be available shortly. If you are familiar with GIF guidelines from past years, you will note many changes; we, therefore, suggest that you study it carefully.



Sustainable Impact Program (SIP) Replacing the GSCP (GIF Sustainability Cooperation Program), we now launch the SIP (Sustainable Impact Program) program, awarding top-up funding for former grantees to strengthen potential project impact. The scope of collaborative activities supported by this program includes publishing articles in (open-access) journals, producing educational and promotional videos, developing academic courses, and travel to meetings (to Europe and to Israel) to exchange ideas for future scientific cooperation. Eligibility to participate in the program is up to 4 years after the grant has concluded. A one-time grant of up to 5k Euro may be awarded, through an application and review process. Initially, we expect to fund no more than 10 grants a year under this new program. A complete RFP will be forthcoming soon.

We anticipate strong interest in these programs. You are encouraged to contact us with questions on the upcoming calls and programs at science@gif.org.il.





GIF at 35 In 35 years, we have accomplished much together. Here is a brief snapshot. Together with you, our partners, we look forward to an even brighter tomorrow.



Information days In the coming months, we will convene a few information sessions throughout Israel, and we will visit multiple locations in Germany, to promote the new GIF programs. Stand by for details.



Meet the GIF team Emma Link, Grants Manager

Originally from Australia, Emma has lived in Israel for over 20 years. Her experience includes working in Human Resources for a leading Australian law firm in graduate recruitment and programs promoting work/life balance. Prior to joining the GIF team in 2014, Emma worked in the Israeli non-profit sector in resource development and grant writing. Emma enjoys spending time with family, travel (in non-COVID days) and volunteering with the elderly community.

As our GIF Grants Manager, Emma is the point of contact for Grantees and Research Authorities throughout the lifetime of a grant from pre-grant set up, budgeting, financial reporting and payments, up to closing at the end of the research project. Please contact Emma regarding our guidelines and processes and for any assistance to enhance your GIF Grant experience. e.link@gif.org.il or finance@gif.org.il





Website and branding The all-new GIF website (www.gif.org.il) will be launched on 1 October 2021; all information will be found there. In the coming months we will begin to roll-out additional interactive features, including a password-controlled institutional dashboard.

As you see in this newsletter, we have a new fresh logo. We hope you agree that it reflects our renewed sense of forward-looking positive energy, stressing the connections between us.



Simplified Rules and Procedures Over the course of 2021 we have rewritten our application and grant guidelines and have substantially edited our grant agreement. We have worked hard to simplify matters. Should you have questions or suggestions, feel free to contact us.



Our Jerusalem office In June, we closed our premises on King George Street, after three decades. We may now be found a few meters up the street at WeWork. If you are in town, feel free to drop by.

I want to meet you Please write me at e.zimmerman@gif.org.il to schedule a meeting, in person (Israel **and** Germany) or remotely. I want to meet you.



Finally, we will appreciate it if you forward our announcement to all your colleagues in the relevant lines of research. We look forward to receiving interesting research proposals.

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year, Shanah Tovah. Also, best wishes for a successful start to the academic year, *Eric*

on behalf of Mina, Stephanie, Cellina, Emma and Dorit and the Board of Governors

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