Supplementary Instructions
for Proposals Involving Middle East Collaboration

I General Information

1 Aim and scope

Researchers working in Germany who meet the DFG’s eligibility requirements can submit a joint proposal to fund domestic (German) and international project costs with colleagues from

- Israel (bilateral projects) or
- Israel and Palestine or the following countries that neighbour Israel: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria (trilateral or multilateral projects).

If the proposal is successful, funding is only awarded to the researcher working in Germany. The latter then transfers the funds allocated for the international project components to the international project leaders.

The aim of this funding measure is to promote collaboration between researchers from Germany, Israel and the above-named Middle Eastern countries within the framework of research projects of a high scientific standard.
2 Requirements

The general rules for the individual grants programme apply to applicants in Germany, including the duty to cooperate pertaining to members of non-university institutions. Any duty of cooperation applying to DFG applicants at non-university research institutions will only be fulfilled through cooperation with a partner at a German university.

Tasks in the proposed Middle East collaboration should be planned and carried out as far as possible with the equal participation of German, Israeli and, if applicable, Palestinian or Arabic project leaders. The participation should provide demonstrable added value for all parties involved.

The DFG’s standard quality criteria apply.

3 Preparation

To facilitate the planning of the joint project, funding for travel abroad can be requested under the “Initiation of International Collaboration” Programme:

www.dfg.de/aufbau_int_kooperationen

4 Cost categories for international project components

The following details relate to cost types that can be applied for to cover Israeli, and where applicable, Palestinian or Arabic expenses. Project components in Germany must comply with the general rules and guidelines for research grants.

For the international proposal components, only direct project costs, such as personnel costs, consumables, equipment up to €10,000 per item, travel expenses and publication costs, can be requested. Other costs (for example, funds for PR work) can be requested if there is a need arising from the particular project.

Funds for major instrumentation, structures and facilities cannot be applied for.

4.1 Funding for personnel

Funding requests can be made for masters students, doctoral researchers, postdoctoral researchers and student assistants. Funding for technical personnel can only be requested in the form of time-shares and only for up to €20,000 per year.
The maximum rates per year on which personnel can be based are as follows:

- Postdoctoral researcher: €24,000
- Doctoral researcher: €16,000
- Masters student: €10,000
- Student assistants: standard local rate

4.2 Funds for equipment

Equipment (up to €10,000 per item) for project partners in Israel, Palestine or the above-named Arabic countries can be proposed for self-procurement. Unless otherwise specified in individual cases, purchased instruments become the property of the collaborating partner’s country or of the supporting institution in the foreign country. They should be inventoried according to local regulations and marked as “funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation)”. 

4.3 Funds for consumables and commodities

Non-consumable commodities purchased or produced with DFG funding become the property of the collaboration partner’s country or of the supporting institution in the foreign country and should be inventoried according to local regulations.

5 Provision of approved grants

The DFG provides the funds to the grant recipient in Germany in accordance with its standard procedures. The recipient then forwards the funds allocated for the international project component to the international project leaders. Project leaders in Germany are solely responsible to the DFG for project implementation according to plan and for the proper use of funds.

II Proposal Instructions

Please follow the Proposal Preparation Instructions – Project Proposals (DFG form 54.01).

www.dfg.de/formulare/54_01/
In addition, please observe these supplementary instructions for proposals involving Middle East collaboration.

As with other requests for research grants, proposals must be submitted via the elan portal.  

https://elan.dfg.de/en

A Proposal Data and Obligations

For each module, please enter the funds requested from the DFG. Enter the total amount of funds requested for the international partners under “direct project costs” – “(other)”. A detailed overview of the budget request for the international partners is only required in conjunction with the project description (see below at B).

Note, too, that only Germany-based applicants should be entered as “applicants”. The international partners should be entered as “other participating individuals” (in the role of cooperation partner).

B Project Description

The overall project and the project components to be carried out in the individual countries must be detailed under the project description.

Under “Other information”, please include a section “Description of previous and planned collaboration” describing your collaboration with the international partners.

When detailing the funds requested, separately list the funds proposed for the project leader in Germany and those proposed for the project leaders in Israel, Palestine or the above-named Arabic countries. Note the information provided with regard to international project components.

C Appendices

Academic CVs and lists of publications must be uploaded for all participating German and international project leaders. Note that only the ten most important publications should be listed for international project leaders as well.
III  Reports

Only the grant recipients working in Germany must submit reports to the DFG. Note, however, that for Middle East collaborations the reports must cover both the domestic (German) and international components of the funded project.