



# Information workshop on cooperation between Taiwan and French speaking Belgium

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# 1. HIGHER EDUCATION IN WALLONIA-BRUSSELS

**Wallonia-Brussels (W-B)** (French-speaking Community)

⇒ ~4.5 millions population

⇒ **6 research-based universities** (PhD training); basic and applied research



**LIÈGE**  
université

**UMONS**  
Université de Mons



⇒ 1 funding agency for basic and strategic research:  
**F.R.S.-FNRS**

## 2. F.R.S-FNRS : Major Facts and Figures

- Private foundation of public interest (1928)
- Freedom to research (basic and strategic)
- Fellowships: researchers under FNRS employment contract, hosted in universities



# 3. Background of F.R.S.-FNRS – Taiwan cooperation

- **Historical Agreement with the National Science Council since 1985**
  - Continuous submission (application 3 months before the stay) – agreement of the foreign partner required
- **New Agreement with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST Taiwan) signed in 2019**
  - Aim: Stimulate the research collaboration between Taiwan and French speaking Belgium in all scientific domains by financing joint exchange projects
  - Need for more visibility : organize joint calls for 2-year exchange projects
  - First call launched in 2020 :
    - 7 eligible submissions – 4 projects funded

## 4. Second call in 2022 – Type of Projects

- **Joint exchange projects that aim to**
  - Improve scientific cooperation between Taiwan and French speaking Belgium
  - Stimulate the involvement of young researchers and PhD Students
  - Support of research teams aspiring to cooperate on large international projects in the future
  - Enabling the use of methodology, infrastructure and equipment for the mutual benefit of institutions funded by MOST and the F.R.S.-FNRS
- **Duration of the projects: 2 years (equal duration on both sides)**
- **Fundamental research in all scientific domains**

## 4. Second call in 2022 – Type of Projects

- **Joint exchange projects where the following activities can be funded:**
  - **MOST bears full costs for Taiwanese researchers / F.R.S.-FNRS bears full costs for Belgian French speaking researchers**



- Budget of € 15,000 for 2-year project
- Financing of the following costs:
  - Travel and living costs
  - Running costs (15% max)
  - Organisation of scientific meetings
- Universities claim expenses to F.R.S.-FNRS on a yearly basis

- Budget of NT\$ 240,000 per project per year
- Financing of Mobility costs:
  - Living allowance
  - Transportation
  - Insurance

## 4. Second call in 2022 – Eligibility and submission

- Proposals must be submitted simultaneously at F.R.S.-FNRS by the PI in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and at MOST by the PI in Taiwan
- Proposals must be written in English
- The title, names of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and Taiwanese PIs, project description, methodology, work packages, etc. in the research proposal submitted by the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and Taiwanese PI should be identical



- All eligibility rules can be found in the [PINT-Bilat-M regulations](#)
- In the Wallonia-Brussels Federation: proposals must be submitted on [e-space](#)
- Applicants must conform to the Principal Investigator qualifications of General Research Projects of the MOST (for additional information, please [visit the MOST website](#))
- The Taiwanese PI needs to log in to [the MOST website](#) to apply

# 4. Second call in 2022 – Evaluation procedure

2 step procedure:

- **Step 1: separate evaluations by each funding agency**



- External Peer review procedure by at least 2 International Experts based on criteria described in [the modalities of the call](#)
  - Ranking of proposals during consensus meeting with scientific officers of the F.R.S.-
- PI's competence in research performance and project execution; significance and innovative characteristics project topic; feasibility of research content, methodology, project outcome, budget, required labour, ...

- **Step 2: joint selection of proposals**

- Based on the evaluation, proposals are classified and ranked by MOST and F.R.S.-FNRS in order to jointly select the projects recommended for funding. Only projects evaluated positively by both Parties can be funded.



## 4. Second call in 2022 – Timeline of the call

- **Opening of the Call: 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2022**
- **Deadline of the Call: 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2022**
  - At F.R.S.-FNRS: 2 pm Belgian time
  - At MoST: 12 am Taiwanese time
- **Joint funding decision: October-November 2022**
- **Publication of the results: December 2022**
- **Start of projects: January 2023**

## 4. Second call in 2022 – More information

- Website of the F.R.S.-FNRS:
  - [PINT-Bilat-M regulations](#)
  - [News on call MOST – FNRS](#)
  - [Practical modalities for submission](#)
  - [Modalities of MOST – FNRS call](#)
- Website of MOST:
  - <https://www.most.gov.tw/folksonomy/rfpDetail/c34e6db0-165f-43c3-bc59-63f3882f869e?l=ch>
- F.R.S.-FNRS/MoST Guidelines for Applicants
  - [F.R.S.-FNRS/MoST Call 2022 Guidelines](#)

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