Joint Call for Proposals

La Universidad de Sonora, El Centro de Investigación en Alimentación y Desarrollo, El Colegio de Sonora, El Instituto Tecnológico de Sonora, y El Colegio de da Frontera Norte (Oficina Nogales)

In order to strengthen and expand collaboration between the public universities of Sonora and Arizona, as well as to expand opportunities for cross-border development in the region through scientific research, the above-mentioned institutions have formed with Arizona State University (ASU), University of Arizona (UA) and Northern Arizona University (NAU) Sonora-Arizona Inter-University Alliance. As a result of this agreement, the institutions have established parallel funds (Seed Grants) to stimulate research and scientific development in the region. On behalf of the Mexican institutions, the "Support Fund for the Promotion of Research in the Sonora-Arizona Region" was established.

Based on this background, the Sonoran institutions participating in the Sonora-Arizona Inter-University Alliance (AIUSA) call their academic communities interested in:

1. To deepen the knowledge of the Sonora-Arizona region, its problems and development potential;
2. Promote the formation of binational research and collaboration networks among the academics of the convening institutions;
3. Promote the interdisciplinary, multidimensional and binational analysis of cross-border problems.

To present research projects that contribute to the three previous purposes. From April 29 to June 14, 2019, the participating institutions will be accepting applications to compete for the financial support of the aforementioned fund. The institutions will support up to seven proposals with a financing of $100,000 pesos each ($5,272 USD), to be exercised for a year.

Eligibility and selection criteria:

- The professors-researchers of one or more of the constituent institutions of the Fund will be able to form work teams and present proposals in conjunction with professors-researchers from Arizona universities. The research teams may also include postgraduate students (and it is desirable that this happens) who are developing research work under the supervision of a professor-researcher on the applicant team.
• All areas of knowledge that address strategic issues for the development of the Sonora-Arizona region will be considered.
• In order to consolidate binational networks of researchers in training process, the same team can be supported up to two times, but priority will be given to the formation of new networks.
• Projects under development that already have another funding source will not be supported.
• The commitment is to structure and propose a research project to submit it to external funding sources, so the relevance of the topic and its relation to the priority lines that these institutions finance will be a criterion for the selection of projects.
• For the evaluation of the projects, the Evaluation Rubric used by the Arizona State University Cross-Border Communities Program will be used for the selection of projects of its own convocation that evaluates: the academic merit, the work plan, and the feasibility to obtain external financing for the support of the binational research group. ([https://internacionalizacion.unison.mx/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Rubrica.pdf](https://internacionalizacion.unison.mx/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Rubrica.pdf))
• The proposal must be submitted electronically in PDF format and contain the following elements:
  1. Title and summary of the project to be developed.
  2. Name of the members of the team, institutional affiliation, role of the participants and identification of the person responsible for the project, who must be a professor (a) -researcher (a) holder of any of the institutions (include CVs of the members of the teams).
  3. Project objective, description of the problem it addresses and how it will impact the well-being of the communities of the region, goals, activities and methodologies of the project, as well as its contribution to some of the central areas of this call (including bibliography).
  4. Description of how the binational work team will interact and complement during the year of the project (workshops, seminars, videoconferences, etc.)
  5. Presentation of a work calendar for the development of the proposal.
  6. General breakdown of the required budget.
  7. Identification of the agency and / or funding source to which the project will be submitted, with a brief justification that describes the possibility of being supported by said source or sources.
  8. Letter-request for support signed by the team coordinator.
  9. Letter of institutional endorsement signed by the director of the Division or by the academic authority of the institution.
• Failure to comply with the compromised deliverables will result in the disqualification of the coordinator and of all team members to receive funds from this fund again for up to 5 years.
Evaluation and Selection Process

The Coordinating Committee will check that the proposals comply with the rules of the call so they can be passed on to the Evaluation Committee.

The Evaluation Committee will be composed of two representatives from each participating institution of AIUSA, which will select the seven proposals considered of the highest quality and relevance, using the rubric, and will propose them to the Coordinating Committee of the Sonora-Arizona Interuniversity Alliance.

Supports:

- The resources will be made available to the team through the project leader, who should be responsible for carrying out the corresponding checks.
- The resources will be ministered by the participating institutions under the modalities that they determine. From the contribution made to the Fund by each member, the selected project(s) will be supported in the first instance, which will be coordinated by a researcher from their own institution, and if there is a remainder, it will be transferred to the member institution of the corresponding Alliance, according to the affiliation of the leading researcher of the corresponding winning project. The above will be determined and agreed upon by the Coordinating Committee of AIUSA, in the corresponding minutes where the projects that will be supported will settle.
- The resources can be used in activities that the team defines for the integration of the proposal (organization of binational work meetings, payment of per diems of a guest advisor, purchase of materials needed for research such as books or databases, etc.).
- The funds can not be used as payment of compensation by investigators or participating personnel.

Calendar:

- Last day to receive applications: June 14, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.
- Publication of results: June 30, 2019.
- Availability of resources: as of August 15, 2019.
- Resources must be exercised for up to 12 months as of August 15, 2019.

Evaluation, monitoring and deliverables:

- Must recognize the fund's support in publications and product presentations resulting from the project.
- The supported teams must submit the research protocol submitted to the chosen funding source no later than August 14, 2020, or if the date of the call for the chosen fund is later, they will do so no later than the week following the closing date of it.
During the semester August-December 2020, a workshop will be organized to evaluate the experience, where the members of the work teams supported by the Fund will participate.

**NOTE:** Considering that the Technological Institute of Sonora (ITSON) has already published its own call under very similar terms to the present, on this occasion the projects headed by researchers from that institution will be evaluated based on that institutional call already published.

Any matter not considered in this call must be analyzed and resolved by the Coordinating Committee of the Alliance.

**Reception of requests**

**Universidad de Sonora**
Dirección de Innovación e Internacionalización Educativa
Edificio 8C, Tercer Nivel, Hermosillo, Sonora, C.P. 83000

die@unison.mx ; lupita.cruz@unison.mx ;
with a copy to manuel.valenzuela.valenzuela@unison.mx

**Centro de Investigación en Alimentación y Desarrollo**
Coordinación de Investigación
Carretera a la Victoria Km. 0.6, Apdo. Postal: 1735, Hermosillo, Sonora, C.P. 83304

investigación@ciad.mx

**El Colegio de Sonora**
Dirección General Académica
Avenida Obregón No. 54 Colonia Centro, Hermosillo, Sonora. México, C.P. 83000

rdiaz@colson.edu.mx

**El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Sede Regional Nogales**
Calle Reforma No.528, Col. Del Rosario, Nogales, Sonora, C.P. 84020

rigo@colef.mx