



## **System funds for scientific collaboration between Costa Rica and Germany for funding 2025 and 2026**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Within the scope of the Memorandum of Understanding between El Consejo Nacional de Rectores de Costa Rica (CONARE) and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation), which was signed on 19.10.2023, a first joint call for proposals to the System Funds for scientific collaboration between the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) and the Consejo Nacional de Rectores de Costa Rica (CONARE) with two submission deadlines for German-Costa Rican research projects is launched.

This initiative aims to bring together relevant and competitive researchers from Costa Rica and Germany to design and carry out jointly organised research projects of outstanding scientific quality. Funding within this initiative will be available for collaborative research projects consisting of researchers from Costa Rica and Germany. Within these research teams, each national funding organisation will generally only fund those project components that are carried out within its own country (CONARE in Costa Rica and DFG in Germany). The collaborative research projects should involve active communication and cooperation between the participating researchers. There are no separate funds available for these efforts.

Funding of the joint research projects is contingent upon positive assessment by both funding organisations. Joint Costa Rican-German projects will be co-funded by CONARE; unilateral funding of only one part of the project is not possible. The collaborative projects selected to take part in this initiative will receive research funding for a period of up to three years. The term of execution of the proposal will be a maximum of 36 months. In order to access this financing modality, prior alliances between potential counterparts must be established. Indicate any publications or joint work.

During this year, the call is open with two consecutive submission deadlines to fulfill the allocation of resources to the selected projects in 2025 and 2026.

- Within the first deadline for submission, proposals must be submitted by 30.04.2024.
- Within the second deadline for submission, proposals must be submitted by 30.09.2024.



This is the proposed calendar for both calls:

Call period 1:

- Opening for submission: 01.02.2024
- Closure for submission: 30.04.2024
- Assessment of results: May 2024 – February 2025
- Communication of results: February 2025
- Approximate beginning of funding: March 2025

Call period 2:

- Opening for submission: 02.05.2024
- Closure for submission: 30.09.2024
- Assessment of results: October 2024 – December 2025
- Communication of results: December 2025
- Approximate beginning of funding: January 2026

#### **A. General Guidelines:**

1. Proposals should be formulated jointly by the parties (German and Costa Rican). In all cases, proposals should be written in English and sent to both organizations in parallel according to the proposal preparation requirements of each party and the CVs should have to be written in English according the format.
2. The Costa Rican counterpart must formulate the proposals in the formats established for this purpose (see forms). The German party should be considered in the DFG elan system according to the guidelines for the Research Grants Programme.
3. The CV format is required to be written in English according to the model document found on the CONARE web site.
4. Researchers from the Costa Rican side who have pending proposals at CONARE or at a university ascribed to CONARE must abstain from submitting proposals.

5. Joint participation is possible among several CONARE-affiliated institutions (the five public universities and CONARE programs).
6. The present initiative is open to joint research projects in all fields of research, including social sciences and humanities.
7. In the case of Costa Rica, proposals must be submitted to CONARE through the Research Vice-Rectorry of the participating university or through the CONARE Program Direction, in the corresponding format as the case may be. If the project involves more than one public university or any CONARE program, it must be endorsed by all participating institutions. The research team must follow the corresponding internal regulations in their university to enter the contest. The German party must submit it to the DFG.
8. The Vice-rectories of Research and the Directorates of the CONARE Programs will be in charge of reviewing the fulfilment of the requirements of the submitted proposals. In addition, they must submit the proposal to the Commission of Vice-Rectors for Research.
9. For this call, the proposals will be reviewed separately in both organizations. The results of the evaluation process will be exchanged and only those proposals that both organizations approve will be financed. Unilateral funding by one party is not possible.
10. Funding is available for bilateral collaborative research projects comprising researchers from Costa Rica and Germany. Applicants are required to fulfil the national requirements for funding and follow the general regulations of their respective funding. Proposals arriving late and/or are not fulfilling the national requirements will not be considered. No legal entitlement may be derived from the submission of a project description.
11. Please note that doctoral or postdoctoral researchers can be incorporated in these modalities of joint cooperation (if special research qualifications, experience and independence are necessary to meet the project's objectives).
12. Researchers, who are at an early stage of their cooperation with German partners must contact us (Paola González Vargas, mail: [paola.gonzalez.vargas@una.cr](mailto:paola.gonzalez.vargas@una.cr) and Sharlín Sánchez Espinoza, mail: [ssanchez@conare.ac.cr](mailto:ssanchez@conare.ac.cr)).
13. Evaluation procedure and criteria for project selection. The assessment of all proposals will be based on a peer review process at both the DFG and CONARE. The results of these review processes will be shared between the DFG and CONARE. Support will be granted for those proposals where both



DFG and CONARE recommend funding. The usual review criteria for proposals submitted to the DFG apply.

## B. Budget

1. CONARE will only finance the budget associated with the participation of Costa Rican academics, the DFG assumes the financing of the costs associated with the German counterpart(s). In the case of joint workshops, directly associated costs can be shared.
2. For the elaboration of the budget of the Costa Rican part, the items defined by the Ministry of Finance must be used, available at the following link: <https://apps.hacienda.go.cr/apppad/Archivos/Clasificador%20Objeto%20del%20Gasto.pdf> The maximum amount granted by CONARE to finance is ¢30,000,000 (thirty million colones). The DFG has no predefined maximum amounts per project for the German counterpart. **For the Costa Rican side the budget must be in colones.**

## C. Implementation And Closure of Approved Initiatives

Initiatives should be implemented according to the terms under which they were approved. Changes in objectives shall be reported to the Commission of Research Vice-rectors for their respective approval, following the mechanism established by each Research Vice-rectorate or CONARE Program. For the proper closure of the project, the institution responsible for it must submit a final report to the Commission of Research Vice-rectors, according to the established format. In addition, the approval of this report will be required by all participating institutions (Research Vice Rectors or CONARE Program) as appropriate.

### Contact:

If you have general questions about research cooperation between Germany and Costa Rica, please do not hesitate to contact DFG and CONARE.

Link to "Information for Researchers" in the DFG:

<https://www.dfg.de/en/news/news-topics/announcements-proposals/2024/ifr-24-11>

### Contact in Germany

Contact person at the DFG in Bonn, Germany:



Dr. Dietrich Halm, phone +49 228 885-2347,  
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Dr. Christina Peters, phone +49 228 885-4550  
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Contact person at the DFG Office Latin  
America in São Paulo, Brazil:

### **Contact in Costa Rica**

CONARE- Commission of Vice-rectors of  
Research

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