



Request for Information (RFI) From interested companies - 2024

The Agricultural Research Organization (hereinafter: the A.R.O) is a sub-unit of the Israel Ministry of Agriculture and serves as a Research Institute in Agriculture.

A.R.O performs R&D with scientific achievements and potential applications in various stages of development, among other matters listed below. Among its various research activities, A.R.O leads Breeding programs of different crops such as wheat, potato, melon, squash, tomato, olive, strawberry, avocado, sweet sorghum, litchi, papaya, mango, guava, almond, fig, chickpea, grapes, citrus fruit, stone fruits and passion fruit, flowers and herbs. A.R.O. is also the owner of different varieties that were bred under these programs by A.R.O and for which Plant Breeder's Rights were registered in Israel.

ARO hereby appeals to public and/or private corporations and/or individuals and/or any other party interested in applying for research collaboration with A.R.O (including projects partially publicly funded as MAGNETON, NOFAR, NITZAN ect.) and/or for obtaining exclusive/non- exclusive licenses for commercialization of research products and/or receiving research testing services and/or professional consultants in public industrial funds ("Kamin" ect.) and/or for any other communication or activity which relates to one or more of the topics listed below:

- 1) Plant Sciences, improvement of plant species (including genetic modifications, and genetic identification systems), technology for coping with stress conditions (including water stress in plants), parthenocarpic methods, Breeding programs, production and/or marketing of cultivars including export of wheat, new genetic traits, CRISPR technology, Cannabis Varieties and Technologies, cellulose fermentation, methods of enhancing biomass, agricultural protocols etc.
- 2) Plants Protection, pests and nematodes control, environmentally friendly technologies, including funguses, yeast, pheromones, macro-organisms, microorganisms, insecticides, greening technology, grow enhancement.
- 3) Technologies to extend shelf life, storage and/or packaging of agricultural produce.
- 4) Functional food technologies including phytochemicals used for prevention/amelioration of diseases, sweeteners, biofilm prevention.
- 5) Soil and water – Innovative methods of economizing irrigation, control of agro chemicals, etc.
- 6) Animals - Methods and technologies for improving yield and quality in farm animals including breeding, innovative treatment/inoculants of disease in farm animals and/or humans, animal welfare, animal genetics, microbiome.
- 7) Mariculture –Algae, fish cultivation and life cycle, hatching- egg production, fingerling production.
- 8) Novel forage crops to be used for an animal feed.
- 9) Agricultural Engineering, machinery, equipment, instruments, energy saving solutions, climate control systems, greenhouse equipment, precision agriculture, pathogen identification systems, precision agriculture systems technology (including breeding) etc.
- 10) Aquaculture- Captive breeding management and larval rearing protocols for high quality fish and fingerling production of marine fish species, novel food additives to nutritionally program fish, during early development, techniques for rapid identification and treatment of pathogenic viruses, bacteria and parasites, protocols to farm a range of marine organisms including algae, seaweeds and herbivorous fish and shellfish, an environmentally friendly land-based recirculating aquaculture system, for intensive culture of marine fish.
- 11) Plant Extracts – Natural extracts derived from plants that can have a beneficial effect on humans, for example to combat different diseases, as food additives, as food supplements, and for green control of pathogens. Breeding plants and developing agro technical protocols for the above, Pharmaceuticals, isolated molecules.
- 12) Entrepreneurs/Companies working on behalf of the ARO for enhancement of International Commercial Collaborations: promoting, creating, and supporting long term business collaborations between the ARO and leading companies abroad. Responsibilities include: identifying suitable reliable partners, networking, and establishing contacts, partaking in the forming of the agreements, assuming liability for the business and legal aspects of the collaboration, controlling and enforcing ARO's IP rights, monitoring and collecting fees, and partnering in the collaboration, all as will be agreed and authorized at the ARO specifically in each project.

The applicant must comply with the following criteria:

1. Applicant must be a company specializing in relevant field, have a permanent base of operations in the country as the company with which the collaboration is intended to form, and preferably operating in said country for a minimum of 3 (three) years.
2. Applicant must be a reputable company in good standing and with a good track record.
3. Applicant must have relevant experience in signing definitive agreements, dealing with IP issues, and in business collaboration that deal with the transferring of technologies into the relevant country, while maintaining the owner's IP Rights.
4. Applicant who is interested in commercialization of A.R.O's cultivars must be knowledgeable and experienced in the field of fruit plants, including growing, propagating and commercializing registered cultivars, importing plant material, registering and protecting and enforcing plant breeders' rights (at least 3 years commercial and business experience preferably in each country of operation).
5. Priority will be given to economically stable companies who have proven themselves in the relevant field,
6. Applicant who is interested in commercialization of A.R.O's agricultural machinery and /or systems for agricultural use must be knowledgeable and experienced in the field of production and marketing of agricultural machinery/systems (at least 3 years' experience in the relevant territory).

A.R.O is under no obligation to enter into any future commercial agreements with any applicant/s, even if the applicant complies with all the above identified requirements. A.R.O's decision to contract with any applicant is entirely at its discretion and subject to all required procedures, approvals and authorizations at A.R.O., and shall be under no obligation to provide any reasoning or justification for its decision. Applications received will be examined by Kidum R&D Applications Unit and a professional committee at the A.R.O, which may refer back to the applicant for further clarifications.

Applications should be forwarded to "Kidum, R&D Applications" Unit.

Address: Agricultural Research Organization, P.O.B 15159, Rishon Lezion 7505101

Best by 31.12.2024

A.R.O reserves the right to consider/accept applications submitted after the abovementioned date.

For additional details, please contact: Mrs. Olga Tarnopolski – Kidum Unit, Tel: +972-3-9683298, olgat@agri.gov.il