MIT-Spain INDITEX Sustainability Seed Fund

Through an annual call for proposals, the MIT-Spain INDITEX Sustainability Seed Fund promotes new, cutting-edge research collaborations and deepens partnerships between MIT faculty and researchers and their counterparts in Spain.

The MIT-Spain INDITEX Sustainability Seed Fund is a part of MISTI Global Seed Funds. The maximum award is $30,000. All general MISTI Global Seed Funds criteria, application and evaluation procedures apply. Proposals will fit within INDITEX's Global Sustainability Strategy in order to find innovative solutions within areas focused on but not limited to:

- Upcycling initiatives
- Ecological fabrics
- Recycling
- Sustainable raw materials

- Energy
- Eco-efficient stores
- Responsible manufacturing
- Sustainable logistics

Priority will be given to projects that:

- are likely to make an important contribution to the field
- include a balanced exchange and demonstrate complementarity between participating teams

- are new or are entering a new phase
- involve undergraduate and/or graduate students in a meaningful way
- are likely to be sustainable beyond the grant period

Finding an MIT Collaborator

MISTI strongly encourages interested international partners to contact MIT professors and researchers directly to discuss any ideas about collaboration and potential projects. If you already have faculty connections, that is great! If not, the following links will help you find faculty connections:

web.mit.edu/research   global.mit.edu/research

Clear and concise emails are best, and please be aware that professors might not respond immediately.

Applicant eligibility

The MISTI Global Seed Funds (GSF) program is open to all MIT faculty members and research staff with principal investigator privileges (principal research scientists and senior research scientists). If you have questions about your PI status, please consult your department. Proposals must be submitted jointly with a foreign colleague working in a university or research institute. Participants working in companies are not eligible to apply.

Student involvement

Applicants are encouraged to involve MIT undergraduate and graduate students in their projects. MIT students participating in projects will be expected to attend country-specific training through MISTI. MIT students interested in conducting longer-term research abroad in conjunction with (or independent of) a GSF project are encouraged to apply for the MISTI internship program.

Use of funds

Funding may be used to cover travel and meeting costs to facilitate international projects and collaboration. Funds will be made available to the MIT applicant and must be administered by his or her department.

Funds may not be used to cover:

- salaries or materials
- MIT Visiting Student fees
- graduate students' dissertation field work
- long-term stays over 2 months abroad or at MIT

Travel expense guidelines

Awards may cover up to 75% of the US Department of State maximum per diem rate for the proposed travel abroad plus a reasonable estimate of the economy-class airfare. For travel to MIT, applicants are eligible for up to $250 per day in expenses, plus economy-class airfare.

Confidentiality

Patentable ideas, copyrightable software, or any confidential information, disclosure of which may harm the proposer, should not generally be included in proposals. If such information is necessary to convey an understanding of the proposed project it must be clearly marked in the proposal.

Intellectual Property

Funds are intended to be used during the initial phase of developing an international collaboration. Funds are not considered sponsored research and cannot cover salaries or materials. As such, no intellectual property should be derived from these funds, nor should they be cited in technology disclosure forms.

Process and timelines

Applicants must submit their proposals using the online application portal. Grantees will be required to complete a short activity report at the end of the grant period.

May 22 - September 17, 2018
Global Seed Funds 2018-19 grant cycle call for proposals

Mid-December, 2018
Applicants are informed of the selection results

January 2019 - August 2020
Funds are available for use by GSF grantees

Links and resources

GSF online application portal

Activity report template

MISTI internship program

US Dept. of State per diem rates

MIT's Intellectual Property Policy

MIT Technology Licensing Office