



**We  
shape  
future**

Beauftragt durch:



Bundesministerium  
für Forschung, Technologie  
und Raumfahrt

**VDI**<sup>1</sup>  
Technologiezentrum

## **Bilateral Call on Quantum Technologies**

### **Canada and Germany**



09.02.2026

# Outline - 19.01.2026

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- Introduction Claudius Klein, VDI Technologiezentrum
- German bilateral call specifics Claudius Klein, VDI Technologiezentrum
- Canadian bilateral call specifics Andrew Bauder and Lydiane Gaborieau, NRC
- Frequently asked questions Claudius Klein, VDI Technologiezentrum

# Bilateral call - context and objectives

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- Motivation: Support R&D in quantum technologies
- Create stronger common value chains
- Application-oriented projects in quantum computing, quantum sensing and enabling technologies

Link to BMFTR call text →



# Consortium composition

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- Typical TRL 4-7 as goal of the project
- Partners with **complementary competencies**
- Efficient consortium: typically, **2-6 partners** from academia and industry (for two countries)
- Industrial partner mandatory



Bild: © panthermedia.net/Anna Patalova

# Eligibility criteria

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- duration: 2 – 3 years
- Minimum 100.000 € **funding** per partner
- no more than 70% funding may be allocated to partners of one participating country
- Max. Funding rate:
  - Private companies: 50% (plus bonus 10% medium-sized, 20% small companies)
  - Universities, research institutions and similar organizations: 100 %
- **Specific national criteria apply!**



source pixabay

# Evaluation criteria

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- Scientific/ technical **relevance**
- Level of **innovation and the quality** of the scientific-technical approach
- Quality and robustness of the **pathway towards commercialization**
- Contribution to the **technological sovereignty** and a resilient supply chain
- The consortia's **effectiveness** in achieving its objectives and goals

*Evaluation process: national evaluation followed by a common selection meeting*

# Submission process

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- Deadline 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024
- Submission templates available through VDI TZ contact points  
[hiltscher@vdi.de](mailto:hiltscher@vdi.de) [klein\\_c@vdi.de](mailto:klein_c@vdi.de)
- followed by national evaluation processes and then bilateral selection
- German applicants need to hand-in the project proposal via Email  
[hiltscher@vdi.de](mailto:hiltscher@vdi.de) [klein\\_c@vdi.de](mailto:klein_c@vdi.de)

**National Research Council Canada**  
**Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)**

**Canada – Germany 2026 Quantum  
Collaborative Industrial R&D  
Call for Proposals**

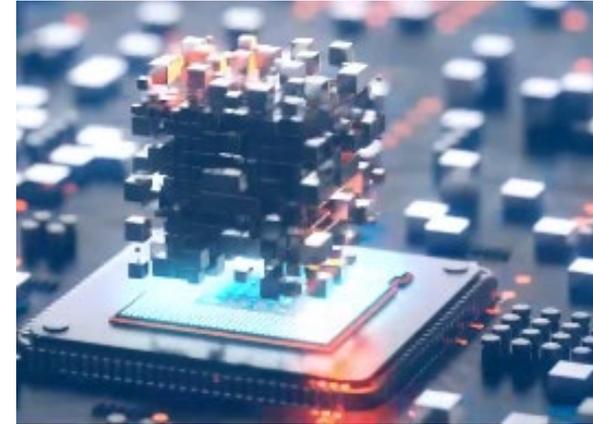
**January 2026**



# Canada–Germany 2026 Quantum Collaborative Industrial R&D Call for Proposals



- Building on the [Kananaskis Common Vision for the Future of Quantum Technologies](#) and the G7 Leaders' Statement from June 2025
- Canada and Germany agreed to launch a joint call for proposals to advance the commercialization of quantum technologies
- In Canada, the [call for proposals](#) is offered through the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) and the NRC Collaborative Science and Technology Innovation Program (NRC CSTIP)
- In Germany, the [call for proposals](#) is offered through the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR) and administered by VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH (VDITZ)



# The NRC delivers value to Canada in two ways

**National network of  
researchers and facilities**  
performing research and technical  
services with partners

**Delivers national  
funding program**  
The Industrial Research  
Assistance Program

# Industrial Research Assistance Program • NRC IRAP

# Industrial Research Assistance Program • NRC IRAP

**75+ Year**

Proven track record  
(Since 1947)

**\$468M**

Annual contribution  
funding invested in SMEs

**9,410**

Firms receiving  
advisory services,  
funding or referrals

Data from FY 2023-2024



- IRAP offices
- Research facilities
- Research facilities and IRAP offices

## Located across Canada in 106 communities

(Data from FY 2023-2024)

# IRAP advantage





# Grow global

## International co-innovation opportunities for Canadian SMEs

- Connect to programs and expertise
- Improve competitiveness
- Tap into emerging markets and innovative developed markets

# Collaborative Science, Technology et Innovation Program • NRC National Program Office

# Collaborative Science, Technology & Innovation Program

*NRC's Collaborative platform uses science excellence to tackle Canada's most pressing challenges*

## OBJECTIVES

- Catalyze collaborative research excellence and fuel early and creative R&D ideas that result in game-changing scientific discoveries and technological breakthroughs
- Bring together the best minds from academia, industry and government to deliver breakthroughs across the innovation continuum that matter to Canadians

## KEY FEATURES



**Outcome-focused, mission-oriented** program and project design



**Advances projects spanning innovation continuum** - from transformative, high-risk, high-reward research that address Canadian priorities and foundational research to knowledge mobilization and pre-commercialization



**Enables strategic partnerships and crowds in funding** to enable needed infrastructure development in Canada for success



**Supports capacity building** to enable sustained impact



**Highly-dynamic multi-disciplinary R&D program teams**, including a **diverse mix of university, college, industry and government researchers**, led by key research leaders delivering program results



**Brings together researchers and facilities** from across the NRC's 14 research centres, with private and public sector, academic and other research organizations **in Canada and internationally**



**Collaborative by design.** Programs are developed in consultation with stakeholders and strengthened through peer review



**Brings together global leaders**, enabling collaborative projects and joint funding calls (e.g., UK, Germany, Japan) strengthening global ties, value chain and impact



# Consortium eligibility



- **Project consortium must include a minimum of 1 incorporated Canadian SME and 1 eligible German commercial enterprise**
- **Canadian SMEs may include any of the following organizations as Canadian collaborators:**
  - ❖ National Research Council of Canada (NRC) researchers (eligible for funding)
  - ❖ Universities (eligible for funding)
  - ❖ Research technology organizations (RTO) (eligible for funding)
  - ❖ Not-for-profit organizations (eligible for funding)
  - ❖ Large enterprises and industries (self-funding)
- **German research institutions** may also be part of the consortium
- **Parties must be unrelated**
- The project partners, as well as any individuals or organizations involved in the project activities, **must have no affiliation** of any form with entities listed on the [Named Research Organization list](#).

# Canadian SME eligibility



- **Incorporated, profit-oriented small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) in Canada** ( $\leq 500$  full-time equivalent employees)
- **In operation for a minimum of 12 months** prior to the Canadian registration deadline
- **Minimum of 5 full-time** equivalent employees located in Canada
- Pursue **growth and profit by developing and commercializing innovative, technology-driven** new or improved products, services or processes in Canada
- **Differentiated and protectable technology** with commercial potential in global markets
- **Financial and operational capacity to** undertake an international multi-year R&D collaboration
- **Committed to significant growth** through international market expansion
- **Canadian SME applicants must be eligible for funding as NRC IRAP clients** before they can be considered for funding through this call for proposals. For more information on NRC IRAP eligibility and becoming an NRC IRAP client, please contact NRC IRAP at **1-877-994-4727**.

# Project eligibility



- Project must **focus on co-development, adaptation, and/or validation** of an innovative product, process, or technology-based service that has **commercial potential and outcomes that can be realized within 2 to 3 years** of completion of the project
- **Project must demonstrate:**
  - ❖ **complementary technological contribution** from each partner
  - ❖ obvious **advantage and added value** resulting from the cooperation between the participants
  - ❖ **balanced contribution between project partners and countries** (i.e., no more than **70%** of the effort contributed or projects costs borne by any one partner or country)
  - ❖ **benefits to Canada** commensurate with funding requested
- **Note:** Organizations engaged by a project partner under **a fee-for-service, consulting, subcontracting, sales, or other similar contractual arrangement cannot** themselves be considered a project partner.

# Canadian SME funding



- **Total funding an individual Canadian SME may request is limited to \$700,000 CAD up to 24 months**
- **Funding is restricted to specific categories**, each with its own conditions and maximum rates:
  - ❖ **80% for salaries costs**
  - ❖ **50% for contractor fees, and**
  - ❖ **75% for international travel costs for employees**
- **Other Canadian collaborators are not permitted to request more funding than Canadian SMEs.** This restriction is in place to prioritize and encourage the growth and development of SMEs within the consortium project.

# NPO - CSTIP eligibility criteria



## Organizations eligible to receive grants and contribution funding:

- Academic institutions
- Research Technology organization
- Nation Research Council of Canada researchers
- Not-for-profit organizations

## Eligible costs

- Salaries for high quality personnel (HQP) working on the project activities
- Research support
- Travel
- Indirect costs to a max of 10% of total eligible costs
- Equipment costs (limited)

# Canadian application process



The Canadian application process has four phases:

- Registration deadline: **February 19, 2026**
  - ❖ Canadian SME lead applicant of the project consortium must register to receive an EOI form <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/irap/about/international/index.html?action=view&id=273>
- Expression of interest (EOI) submission deadline: **February 27, 2026**
- International consortium project proposal submission deadline: **April 24, 2026**
- National funding body proposal and funding agreement: **Expected start by December 2026**

# Contacts



## Canadian contacts

### Small and medium-sized enterprises

#### **Andrew Bauder**

NRC IRAP Germany National Program Lead  
National Research Council of Canada IRAP

[Andrew.Bauder@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Bauder@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca)

### Other Canadian collaborators

#### **Dr. Rebecca Trueman**

Lead Innovation Investment Advisor  
National Program Office  
National Research Council of Canada

[Rebecca.Trueman@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Trueman@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca)

## German contacts

#### **Dr. Claudius Klein**

Senior Technology Consultant  
VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH

[klein\\_c@vdi.de](mailto:klein_c@vdi.de)

#### **Dr. Bastian Hiltcher**

Coordinator Quantum Technologies  
Quantum Systems Project Management  
VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH

[hiltcher@vdi.de](mailto:hiltcher@vdi.de)