



UMBI-Israel



Request for Proposals - 2007

The US-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development fund (BARD), on behalf of Israeli aquaculture & marine biology scientists and the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute (UMBI) have established the UMBI – Israel program to provide a framework for collaborative aquaculture research between UMBI and Israeli scientists. The objective of the program is to promote and competitively support mission-oriented, collaborative aquaculture research and development activities between UMBI and Israeli scientists. Projects must be of mutual benefit and provide solutions to shared aquaculture and marine biology challenges, opening new horizons to advancing the relevant fields.

A **request for proposals** is hereby issued for proposals to be prepared jointly by at least one investigator from UMBI and one from an Israeli accredited institution. Proposals should be submitted in accordance with the guidelines and procedures outlined here and available on the website (www.bard-isus.com).

Proposals can be of 1, 2, or 3 years' duration and a maximum total budget of \$100,000/year, equally divided between the UMBI and Israeli scientists. Second and third year funding of multiyear projects is contingent upon the joint approval of the annual scientific report by BARD and UMBI and upon the availability of funds.

Proposals in the following areas will be considered:

- ❖ Search and discovery of novel marine natural products and pharmaceuticals produced by marine organisms
- ❖ Development and improvement of seed production and hatchery technologies (reproduction and early life stages) in finfish and shellfish of economic interest
- ❖ Development of high efficiency and environmentally compatible aquaculture diets
- ❖ Development of environmentally compatible, recirculated aquaculture systems for species of economic interest to Israel and UMBI
- ❖ Controlling fish diseases in recirculated, dense aquaculture systems
- ❖ Development of new products for Aquaculture, including ornamental fish.

⇒ **For further information please contact:**

Mary Schweitzer, ([mary @ bard-isus.com](mailto:mary@bard-isus.com)) Tel: +97239652244)



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Guidelines for the preparation and submission Proposals

Eligibility UMBI scientists and Israeli scientists affiliated with public or private non-profit research institutions in Israel are eligible to apply for funding. Proposals must be submitted through such legally constituted institutions.

Investigators Proposals submitted to the UMBI/Israel program must be submitted by at least one scientist from UMBI and one scientist from Israel.

Principal Investigator (PI): is that person whose name appears first on the cover page of the proposal among the collaborating scientists. The PI is responsible for the submission of scientific reports, notification of changes in the work plan and maintaining contact with the UMBI/Israel program.

Co-Principal Investigator: (Co-PI) is that person whose name appears second on the cover page of the proposal. The Co-PI is the senior member of the investigating team in the other country.

Collaborating investigators are all other investigators, if any, who are listed on the cover page and are not PI or Co-PI.

Regulatory Agency Requirements Proposals and grants will adhere to policies and regulations as established by the regulatory agencies of the country and institution in which the research is to be conducted. In order to adhere to those policies and regulations, proposals and grants may require special authorization, for items such as, but not limited to, the exchange of GMO materials or exotic species between countries, the use of animal or human subjects, or the use of potential bio-hazardous material. The approval of the proposal by the authorized officer of the institution indicates to the UMBI/Israel program that these requirements have been met.

Submission Date – October 18, 2007

- ⇒ The title page, including the names and full address details of all participants and the complete abstract are to be submitted electronically to the BARD-Israel office via the on-line submission form on the BARD website (www.bard-isus.com). The proposal, in pdf format, is to be uploaded to the BARD website.
- ⇒ Five identical hard copies of the proposal are to be mailed to the BARD-Israel office, not later than October 18, 2007.



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- ⇒ No additions or amendments to the proposal are accepted after October 18.
- ⇒ Signature pages are not required. Once the proposal has been submitted on-line, the research authority of each investigator will review and confirm the validity of the application.

The Proposal (5 printed copies by mail and one PDF file via the website).

Layout : English, line spacing of 1.5, font equivalent of 12, margins that allow photocopying (~ 2.5 cm all around). Number pages. Staple the proposal, once only, in the upper left corner. Do not bind. Photographs should be of high resolution. Include the following sections, with these headings, in this order:

Cover Pages –*Title & Address Page* from the BARD website (www.bard-isus.com).

Table of Contents - include page numbers and section headings.

Abstract - do not exceed one page. Abstracts are used throughout the review process and are the reviewer's initial contact with the proposal: take care in its preparation. The abstract page immediately follows the table of contents. Clearly state the definition of the research problem, objectives, proposed methodology and expected contribution to agriculture.

List of Abbreviations used in the proposal.

Detailed Description of the Research Plan - Limited to 15 pages, including figures, photos and any additional material. Adhere to general format requirements. Include the following items, numbered logically to suit the best presentation of your proposal.

- I. Statement of the research problem and its general background.
- II. Concise outline of specific, feasible research objectives.
- III. Hypotheses and their rationale.
- IV. Preliminary results.
- V. Research plan.
 1. Strategies, procedures and methodologies used in addressing the questions asked.
 2. Specific experiments to be conducted and a discussion of their potential pitfalls and possible alternatives.
- VI. Description of the expected results and the significance of their anticipated contributions to the agriculture/environment/aquaculture of the Maryland and Israel.



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Timetable of the Work Plan – include the division of the research tasks between participants at UMBI and Israel for each year of the project. A graphic or tabular presentation is recommended.

Details of Cooperation It is expected that the proposal preparation will reflect a joint effort by all investigators. Clearly indicate the anticipated cooperative endeavors between the partners, the work to be done in each location and the responsibility of each collaborator. Explain how the cooperating scientists contribute their expertise to the joint research and whether joint experiments and or publications are planned.

Quality of the cooperation is scored by reviewers and panels during evaluation of the proposal. Types of cooperation are defined below. The highest value is given to synergistic cooperation and lowest value to supportive:

Synergistic: Each scientist contributes a specific expertise, facility, or equipment that the other partner can not contribute and without which the final expectation of hypothesis testing could not be achieved.

Complementary: Each scientist performs essentially the same research using different (biological) systems or methods, thus, widening the scope and strengthening the validity of the results.

Supportive: Collaborators with essentially the same expertise divide the research tasks between the laboratories.

Relevant Bibliography - include all authors, full title, date, journal name, volume and page numbers. When referencing citations in the text of the proposal, use author(s) names, not the number in the list.

Curriculum Vitae Do not exceed two pages for each investigator. Include a professional biography and academic background. List recent, relevant publications.

Addenda to the proposal are not allowed.

in press articles in *reviewed* journals: attach to the hardcopies and send a pdf copy by e-mail. Relevant articles that reach '*in press*' status after the submission date should be sent by e-mail to BARD for incorporation into the review process (mary @ bard-isus.com).

Letters *specifically* confirming additional materials, facilities, know-how, etc. may be included. General letters of support for the idea or concept are *not* allowed.

Tables, figures, etc. are counted in the 15 pages of the 'Detailed Description of the Plan'.



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Budget Details The total budget must not exceed \$100,000/year and must be equally divided between the UMBI and Israeli investigators.

Budget Summary Table: The summary table is required. Use the format provided. Present separate figures for each participating institution, if relevant. Use additional columns (tables) as necessary. Round annual totals to the nearest \$1,000. Round individual budget items to the nearest \$100.

Description/Justification of the Budget - Present an overall project budget, as well as a separate budget for each institution and year of the grant period. No price increases during the course of the grant will be considered. Take into account anticipated inflationary changes in cost when preparing the budget for subsequent years of research. Include the following items in the budget description:

- 1) *Personnel services:* **Salaries:** PI's and Co-PI's who are paid a salary by their institution, are not entitled to receive salaries from the BARD grant. Support personnel can receive salaries and social benefits in proportion to the time devoted to the research project. When in doubt, please refer to the BARD office. Specify the percentage of salary that is received as salary from the employing institution and the percentage dependant upon soft money. Indicate the percentage of time to be devoted to the project by each person. List support personnel or their role in the project.
- 2) *Non-expendable equipment:* UMBI-Israel will allow the purchase of unique, specific items of equipment to be used in the supported research and without which the research project cannot be conducted. Large capital expenditures are not included in the program's obligations to recipients.
- 3) *Operating expenses:* Present operating expenses in general terms, together with a list of estimated costs.
- 4) *Foreign travel:* PI's and Co-PI's will be required to attend the UMBI-Israel Initiative Workshops, currently scheduled to be held in Baltimore, Spring 2009 (Year 1), and in Israel, Fall 2011 (Year 3). Expenses for PI/Co-PI foreign travel to these meetings should be included in the project budget (as applicable to proposed period of performance). No other foreign travel will be allowed. Per diem is allowed in accordance with the terms prevailing in the investigator's institution.
- 5) *Overhead expenses:* may not exceed 20% of total direct costs.



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Evaluation of proposals Proposals submitted to the UMBI/Israel program will be evaluated simultaneously and independently by parallel panels in Maryland and Israel. Panel members (2-4 per panel) are scientists competent in the relevant area of research. Panel members in Maryland will be appointed by UMBI in consultation with Joint Advisory Committee members. Panel members in Israel will be appointed BARD's Executive Director. Panel members in both locations will participate in the identification of ad-hoc reviewers to evaluate each proposal. Both the Maryland and Israel panels will receive all the reviews.

Both panels discuss each proposal and, based on the ad-hoc reviews and their own professional opinion, grade and prepare a written summary (strengths, weaknesses, and any recommendation) for each proposal. The final step of the panel evaluation is to prioritize all the proposals in the panel. Panels and ad-hoc reviewers consider the following criteria:

Scientific and technological merit of the proposal.

Feasibility of the objectives.

Anticipated benefits to agriculture (aquaculture) and/or the environment.

Quality of the cooperation between the investigators.

Suitability of the investigators and their facilities to carry out the proposed research plan.

Requested budget in relation to the research plan.

Following the panel evaluation, summaries and priority ranking of all proposals in the panels, this material is referred to the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) for discussions and recommendations based upon the evaluations and funding recommendations of both panels in Maryland and Israel. The JAC suggests a prioritized list of proposals for funding to the Directors of the program.

Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) consists of four members, two from each party. UMBI members of this committee are appointed by the UMBI's Vice President (VP), Office of Research and Development (ORD). The Israeli members of this committee are appointed by the Executive Director of BARD. The Executive Director of BARD and the Vice President are *ex officio* members of the committee. Appointments will be for the single call of proposals, and will in any case not exceed three years.



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Final approval of proposals The Executive Director of BARD and the UMBI's Vice President of ORD will present the final recommendation of the JAC to at least one member of BARD's Board of Directors and to the UMBI's VP of ORD for consideration and final approval.

Notification of Awards The Executive Director of BARD and the UMBI VP of ORD will (jointly) advise all applicants and their affiliated research authorities, in writing, of their decisions. Favorable decisions will indicate the amount and duration of the grant and any conditions of support.

All grant related communications from the awarded investigators and institutions to UMBI/Israel shall be either to the Executive Director of BARD, (with a copy to UMBI VP of ORD) or to the UMBI VP (with a copy to the Executive Director of BARD) in accordance with the institutional affiliation of the PI. (Israeli scientists communicate with the Executive Director of BARD and UMBI scientists with the VP of ORD. The Executive Director of BARD and the UMBI VP of ORD will confer on all grant-related matters, and issue notices to all investigators and institutions involved.



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Date of Submission: October 18, 2007

Proposal Title:

Investigator Names:

Position in Proposal	Name	affiliated institution
1) Principal Investigator (PI)		
2) co-PI		
3) Collaborating		
4) Collaborating		
5) Collaborating		
6) Collaborating		

Investigator Contact Information:

Position in Proposal	mailing address	e-mail	telephone
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

Budget Summary

Principal Investigator (PI): _____

Affiliated Institution: _____

Budget Item	First Year		Second Year		Third Year	
	Israel	UMBI	Israel	UMBI	Israel	UMBI
1. Salaries and Social Benefits						
2. Non-expendable Equipment						
3. Operating Expenses						
4. Foreign Travel						
Total Direct Costs						
5. Overhead Expenses						
Annual Totals	,000	,000	,000	50,000	,000	,000

If more than one institution in Israel is to be budgeted in the project, provide either a *separate* table or additional columns with the same format for those institutions.

Project Totals			
Budget Item	Israel	UMBI	Project
1. Salaries and Social Benefits			
2. Non-expendable Equipment			
3. Operating Expenses			
4. Foreign Travel			
Total Direct Costs			
5. Overhead Expenses			
Project Totals	,000	,000	,000