



APORTA

Supporting EU Access to Brazilian National
Research Programmes

A Guide for European researchers:
How to participate in Brazilian funding programmes?

ACCESS4.EU





In APORTA, a European-Brazilian team works at providing information about access opportunities in the national research and innovation programmes of Brazil. After collecting, we aim at widely disseminating this information to researchers and other stakeholders in the EU. Thereby, the project contributes to the overall goal of strengthening Brazilian-European cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I).

News and background information on opportunities for Europeans in Brazilian ST&I funding programmes can be found on the project website www.aporta4.eu, in a biannual newsletter and information days in Europe.

With this brochure, we wish to brief European researchers who want to cooperate with Brazilian colleagues within Brazilian funding programmes.

We hope to contribute to fruitful future Brazilian-European cooperation in ST&I!



Why should I cooperate with Brazilian colleagues?

Brazil is on the rise in economic terms: It is Latin America's most important economy, and it is the eighth largest economy worldwide measured by gross domestic product. Brazil's government is aware of the importance of science, technology and innovation (ST&I) for the country's economy and society. Innovation is considered as a crosscutting issue for research policy and therefore given special attention. The scientific production of the country has grown fast in the last years and Brazil now is responsible for about 2% of the scientific production worldwide.

Brazil is a strong actor in technology-intensive areas, such as Biofuels, Agricultural Research, ICT, Biotechnology, Oil and Gas Exploration and Refinery, Aeronautics and Earth Observation. In several highly internationalized universities and research centers, such as the University of São Paulo, the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation EMBRAPA, or the FIOCRUZ Foundation for research on Health, world class research is carried out.

Who are the main providers of research funding in Brazil?

> CNPq

the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development, is a public organization from the MCTI (Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation). CNPq's mission is to promote and stimulate the scientific and technological development of Brazil and to contribute to the formulation of national ST&I policy through funding capacity building in ST&I (at undergraduate studies, master, doctoral and specialization level) and financing research projects in key areas. Through its programmes, CNPq supports the development of research, strengthens research groups and institutions, and encourages international cooperation of Brazilian researchers.

www.cnpq.br

> FINEP

the Brazilian Studies and Projects Finance Organization, is the Brazilian innovation agency, also related to MCTI. FINEP is a public company, which promotes economic and social development by fostering innovation in public companies, universities, and research institutes. FINEP issues loans and grants to public and private institutions.

www.finep.gov.br

> CAPES

the Federal Agency for Support and Evaluation of Higher Education, supports the Ministry of Education (MEC) in formulating policies in the context of higher education and coordinates the Brazilian evaluation system of postgraduation. CAPES is dedicated to fostering Brazil's human capacities in S&T through offering support for training activities. CAPES is also funding international research cooperation at federal level. Several international cooperation agreements between Brazil and partner countries are operated through CAPES.

www.capes.gov.br

> CONFAP

Next to the big federal funding agencies, the Brazilian ST&I system counts with 25 Research Support Foundations (FAPs) at state level, located in each federal state (except Rondonia and Roraima) and in the Federal District of Brasilia. These Research Support Foundations aim to support the research and innovation community of their respective state. All the FAPs are organized in one umbrella organization: CONFAP. While all FAPs financially support research and innovation activities, the individual budgets of the FAPs vary greatly. The actions of the FAPs include a broad range of funding instruments in support of research, innovation and teaching.

www.confap.org.br/asfaps.php (CONFAP, association of FAPs)

Which cooperation possibilities exist within Brazilian national funding programmes?

Many calls for research projects issued by Brazilian funding agencies allow foreign participation, if two essential requirements are met: The coordinator has to be a Brazilian researcher (or a foreigner one resident in Brazil) linked to a Brazilian national institution, and the necessity of international cooperation has to be mentioned in the project proposal already.

If you are a European researcher interested in participating in a Brazilian call, the crucial first step to initiate collaboration is to identify a Brazilian researcher likely to be the coordinator of the project proposed. Furthermore, if the call is published by a State Foundation, the applying institution must be headquartered in that State.

What kind of international cooperation activities can be funded?

Brazilian funding agencies cannot support any research activities of foreigners outside of Brazil. As a general rule: Brazilian public funds cannot cross borders. So in general, the access opportunities for European researchers in Brazilian national programmes are restricted to mobility resources. International cooperation activities through Brazilian funding can include research stays of foreigners in Brazil, or research stays of Brazilians abroad in the frame of the project. Some calls give the possibility to have a visiting specialist grant to support the stay of European/foreign researchers in Brazil.

Where can I find information on Brazilian funding programmes?

On the Access4EU web portal, a database provides European researchers with information about Research, Technology Development and Innovation (RTDI) programmes around the world that are open to European participation. The information is updated continuously.

At www.access4.eu/brazil/328.php, in the section for Brazilian calls, APORTA presents a selection of Brazilian calls which meet the following criteria:

- Open currently or at least periodically recurrent;
- Political will of international openness, or at least indication of that interest;
- Appropriate funding of individual proposals to arouse interest of participation by the European scientific community;
- Sufficient overall financial resources of the call.

How do I find a Brazilian partner?

Several search options exist to find partners for Brazilian-European cooperation in ST&I:

- The “Brazilian Bureau for Enhancing the International Cooperation with the European Union” offers a partner search tool at <http://balcao.bbice.unb.br>
- CORDIS, the European Commission’s official Research and Development Information Service, offers an interactive Partners Service at <http://cordis.europa.eu/partners>
- The Lattes Platform is the Brazilian database of researchers, institutions and research groups in S&T. It includes 1.8 million CVs of Brazilian ST&I actors, 27,000 research groups in 400 Brazilian institutions (in Portuguese, automatic English translation): <http://lattes.cnpq.br/english/index.htm>

If you are rather looking for research institutions, the following source might be of interest:

- The “Brazilian Bureau for Enhancing the International Cooperation with the European Union” offers a map of competencies, an interactive database that gathers information from research institutions and companies active in the fields of Science, Technology and Innovation throughout Brazil: <http://mapa.bbice.unb.br/>

Which further funding possibilities exist for Brazilian-European cooperation?

There is a variety of other funding opportunities which support Brazilian-European cooperation. Most European countries have bilateral ST&I agreements with Brazil. In this framework, co-funded programmes support joint research or innovation through funding cooperative projects, international research mobility, staff exchange or other forms of collaboration. In most cases, information about open bi-national programmes between Brazil and individual states is accessible through the respective ministries responsible for ST&I and through the major national funding agencies.

On the European Union level, international cooperation can be funded through FP7, the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. FP7 (2007–2013) is the EU's main instrument for funding research in Europe. The EU has opened FP7 to the participation of Brazilian researchers. Information on access conditions and open calls can be found at

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>

and

http://cordis.europa.eu/home_en.html

Where do I find general information about living and working in Brazil?

The Brazilian government has established a web portal offering a variety of information concerning Brazil, ranging from general information about the country's history, economy, Brazilian culture and practical information on language, working visa or health care.

www.brasil.gov.br



APORTA project partners

 <p>International Bureau of the BMBF</p>	<p>International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) at the German Aerospace Centre (Germany) www.internationales-buero.de</p>
 <p>praxi » help-forward network</p>	<p>FORTH Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas (Greece) www.forth.gr</p>
 <p>IRD Institut de recherche pour le développement</p>	<p>IRD – Institute for Development Research (France) www.ird.fr</p>
 <p>CNPq Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico</p>	<p>CNPq National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (Brazil) www.cnpq.br</p>

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