

## Joint Research Advancement Programme 2025-26

### Call for Proposals

Within the framework of their enhanced/strategic partnership, Nagoya University ("Nagoya") and the University of Freiburg ("Freiburg") are seeking proposals for collaborative joint research projects.

The call has been created to provide seed funding opportunities for faculty teams to develop new ideas for joint research projects integrating students and faculty from both universities and to foster connections by combining the strengths of the two universities.

Proposals are intended to support the collaboration on a joint research project between researchers in Freiburg and Nagoya around a topic of common interest. The programme's scope includes support of research stays at the partner university, joint conferences, virtual seminars as well as activities for graduate students, doctoral candidates and early-career researchers.

**A successful proposal will (i) involve a clear collaborative effort between faculty members on both Freiburg and Nagoya sides and (ii) demonstrate a clear potential to be sustainable through external funding sources in the future.**

### The Partners

---

**Nagoya University**, established 1939, is a Japanese national university and major contributor to research and higher education in humanities and sciences, with outreach throughout the Asian continent. Leveraging its historical ties with the numerous technological manufacturing industries of the Tokai region in central Japan, Nagoya University continuously drives innovation and development throughout all domains of society.

The **University of Freiburg**, founded in 1457, is a high-performing research university with a wide variety of disciplines. It is a place where tradition meets forward thinking, the fundamental meets the extraordinary, and regional roots meet internationality: connecting quality – in studies and teaching, in research, and in all other areas of its work – with responsibility for science and research, the environment, and society, and with an openness to new questions, diversity, and equal opportunities.

### Overview

---

1. Proposals for a joint research project must identify and may include up to 4 participants respectively from the University of Freiburg and Nagoya University.
2. A one-time award with no opportunity for renewal.
3. The support per project is worth 7,200 EUR and 1 Mio. Yen in total for 12 months. The budget will be evenly allocated at both sites, i.e., successful applicants will receive the respective amount from their home institution.
4. The programme will support research stays at the partner university, workshops and conferences, activities for junior researchers and invitations of international partners. The funds cannot be used for faculty salary or stipend, indirect/administrative costs, to hire a consultant or contractor, and for general equipment expenses (laptops, printers, etc.). All expenses are subject to rules and regulations at the home institution. Please inquire with your university programme coordinator (contact see below) for clarification if an expense is allowable.
5. Up to -2- joint research projects can be funded.

---

**Proposal format, eligibility, and submission**

---

1. The call for applications is open for research teams from all disciplines. Interdisciplinary teams as well as project teams from the humanities and social sciences are especially encouraged to apply for this funding scheme.
2. Projects funded via previous funding rounds of the Freiburg-Nagoya Joint Research Advancement Programme are not eligible for application.
3. It is a prerequisite for applicant teams to contact the programme coordinator at their home institution respectively prior to submitting an application (contact see below).
4. **Applicant teams should jointly submit the completed application form (one pdf file, incl. appendix) with password to the programme coordinators** (see below) via email. Please provide the password in a separate email.
5. The appendix should include: a calculation sheet (template provided) as well as a CV (max. 1 page) per team member.
6. **Applicant teams must submit the complete application dossier by 30 November 2024.** Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
7. **Eligibility:** The call is directed at teams that contain at least one faculty member of the two universities. Faculty members (e.g., professors, principal investigators, lead researchers) must hold a position at their respective university for the duration of the research project. One faculty member each from Freiburg and Nagoya shall be named as lead applicants of the application.
8. Applications should be written in English.

---

**Proposal Evaluation**

---

1. The selection under the programme is competitive and merit based. A joint selection committee from Nagoya University and the University of Freiburg will evaluate and select the joint research project to be funded.
2. Funding priority will be given to projects that:
  - a. Are of high academic quality and will (i) either build on new, innovative project ideas or (ii) upon successful previous collaboration.
  - b. Advance creation of self-supporting, sustainable, collaborative research, and provide a funding plan beyond year 1.
  - c. Strengthen the connectivity and relationship between Nagoya University and the University of Freiburg.
  - d. Create a team with multiple faculty members at each university.
3. Evaluation criteria and weighting:
  - a. Potential and plans to create a strong integrated collaboration between the universities with multiple faculty involvement at each institution (40%)
  - b. The plan to produce a self-supporting, sustainable collaboration programme in the future (40%)
  - c. Alignment with the universities' overall enhanced/strategic partnership goals (20%)

---

**Timeline**

---

The deadline for applications is 30 November 2024 at 23:59 (CET).

Selection decisions will be announced by February 2025 at the latest.

Activities of the supported teams should start by 1 April 2025.

By the end of the funding period on 31 March 2026, at the latest by June 30, 2026, applicant teams are required to submit a joint project report (template available).

## **Contacts**

---

Please contact the programme coordinator at your home institution prior to submitting an application and please submit the joint application to the programme coordinators at both universities until 30 November 2024:

Nagoya University: Dr. Roland Berkemeier, Global Multi-Campus (berkemeier.roland@nagoya-u.jp)  
Yuriko Nishizaki, Global Multi-Campus (yuriko@nagoya-u.jp)

University of Freiburg: Kathrin Jehle, International Office / Partnerships (kathrin.jehle@zv.uni-freiburg.de)

## **Timeline and process**

### **September – November 2024**

Call for applications is open; deadline: 30 November 2024

### **December 2024 - January 2025**

Evaluation of proposals: pre-selection

Joint Selection Committee meeting in December 2024

### **January / February 2025**

Announcement of funded research project

### **April 2025**

Start of the funding phase

### **March 2026**

End of the funding phase

### **June 2026**

Submission of the joint project report

*Final version as of 12 September 2024*