ENERGY CENTER

Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
www.energy.gov.il

רשות החדשנות
Israel Innovation Authority

BIRD
Israel-U.S.
Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation

U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY

U.S.- Israel Energy Center
New Call for Proposals - 2026

U.S.-Israel Energy Center

U.S.-Israel Center of Excellence in Energy, Engineering and Water Technology
(the "Energy Center")
https://us-isr-energycenter.org/

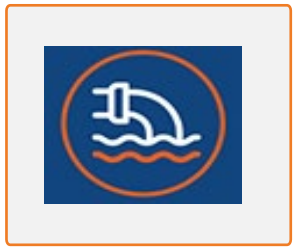
Energy Center - Background

U.S.-Israel Energy Center

- **Authorized by Congress (2014):** the U.S.-Israel Strategic Partnership Act established the joint Energy Center
- **Built on BIRD Energy (2009) Success:** a proven model for U.S.-Israel collaboration in innovative energy R&D
- **Jointly sponsored** by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Israel Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MOE), and the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA) and managed by the BIRD Foundation
- **In the first call for proposals**, issued in 2019, four consortia were selected under the focus areas of Fossil Energy, Energy Storage, the Energy-Water Nexus and Cyber protection of Energy infrastructure

Areas of Cooperation

The Energy Center will facilitate joint R&D on energy areas by teams of scientists and engineers from the U.S. and Israel to advance joint research initiatives with industrial applications.
The submission will address three topic areas, from which two consortia will be selected



Energy-Water Nexus

Energy Storage

Fossil Fuels

Further details on each of the areas is provided in https://us-isr-energycenter.org/

Consortia Structure

Consortium Composition

- Each consortium must include at least one industry partner and one academic or research institution from each participating country

Founding Members (Steering Committee)

- Each consortium defines **Founding Members** to lead planning and submission
- At least two Founding Members must be corporations (one from each country)
- Industry involvement should be embedded from the outset in the work plan
- Work plans must reflect meaningful engagement of all consortium members
- Each partner's work plan must clearly outline an R&D program that demonstrates future contribution to the industry

Selection Criteria

- **Technological Innovation:** the consortium should present solutions that are both original and practical, demonstrating potential to advance the energy sector while fostering meaningful cross-border collaboration.
- **Consortium Collaboration:** cross-border members actively engage throughout the full development process, ensuring robust knowledge exchange and optimized use of resources across the consortium.
- **Industry Relevance:** technologies should address significant, widely recognized challenges in the energy sector, supporting future market growth and generating long-term economic value.
- **AI-Driven Innovation:** projects should strategically harness AI to accelerate research, enhance solution development, and improve overall program impact.
- **TRL Progression:** projects are expected to progress from TRL 3 to at least TRL 6 within three years, establishing a clear trajectory toward practical, deployable solutions.
- **Commercial Potential:** demonstrate the ability to translate technological advances into viable products, services, or market outcomes with measurable impact.

Complete information is provided in https://us-isr-energycenter.org/guidelines-forms

Funding Structure

U.S.-Israel Energy Center

Funding and Cost Share

- Both the U.S. and Israeli budgets must include a minimum 50% cost share, to be provided in aggregate by their respective Consortium Members (CMs)
- The grant is paid in six-month segments, based on progress and approval of the technical and financial reports

Funding may be approved in two phases:

- Phase 1: **Three Years**, award of $6M - total budget of $12M (including cost share)
- Phase 2: **Optional two years extension:** Consortia may apply for an additional two years which will be considered pending review of consortium performance and objectives, the merit of the extension's proposal and availability of funds. Two additional years may be awarded, with a maximum of $3.2M, for a total budget of $6.4M (including cost share)

The expected workshare and budget allocation between Israeli and U.S. awardees is 50%/50%
Exceptions may be considered if well justified, but deviations cannot exceed a 60%-40% split

Call for Proposals

U.S.-Israel Energy Center

Energy Storage

Seeking consortia to advance energy storage using metal economy principles-circular metals, critical material reduction and durable, cost-effective systems.

- Alternative Chemistries & Material Efficiency
- Recycling & Closed-Loop Systems
- Standalone Storage for Remote/Grid-Constrained Areas
- Thermal Energy Storage
- Integration & AI Applications
- Long-Duration Storage
- Safety, Reliability & Cost Reduction

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Fossil Energy

Seeking consortia to advance innovation, efficiency, and sustainability in fossil energy systems

- Efficiency in Gas-Based Energy Systems
- Artificial Intelligence Applications
- Deep drilling technology for geothermal energy
- Ultra-Deep Drilling
- Subsurface storage of natural gas
- Pipeline Integrity and Infrastructure Resilience

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Energy–Water Nexus

Seeking consortia to advance sustainable, energy-efficient solutions at the water–energy interface

- Mineral Recovery from Brines
- PFAS Removal
- Water treatment based on electrochemistry
- AI and Digital Twins for Water–Energy Optimization
- Resilient Water–Energy Systems under Climate Stress
- Coupled Water–Energy Storage and Operations

Important Dates

Executive Summaries	June 30, 2026
Final Proposals	September 15, 2026
Awardees Selection	December 2026