

Sincere greetings from the Arab Science and Technology Foundation ([ASTF](#))

The Arab Science and Technology Foundation (ASTF) is pleased to announce the launching of the current funding cycle (First Half of 2009) of 'Abdul Latif Jameel (ALJ) Grant to Support Scientific Research & Innovation in Technology in the Arab World'. This cycle is the eighth that has been managed so far by ASTF, under the sponsorship of Abdul Latif Jameel Community Services Programs.

The ALJ Grant program aims at enhancing civilian R&D activities inside the Arab world towards outputs that contribute to the sustained social and economic development. Emphases are placed on research proposals in medical, engineering, applied sciences, and other sciences that are meeting the following requirements:

- Provide appropriate technologies for developing the Arab world communities

- Develop affordable products through designs, materials and mechanisms whilst building a suitable business plans and strategies that benefit the Arab world communities.

- Address target markets including, but not limited to, energy, medical care, water purification, environmental hazardous, telecommunication, food safety, plant improvement and breeding, household equipment, and others.

Furthermore, one third of the ALJ Grant is to be utilized on proposals that specifically address the problems of the poor communities, as defined by one or more of the following requirements:

- Aggressively improve the affordability of technology products such that the poor can use them.

- Develop technologies that can be used by the poor to alleviate their current position.

For detailed information about the guidelines, procedures, and applications; please read the ALJ grant booklet, along with other documents and forms posted on [the ALJ funding activities web page](#)

The deadlines pertaining to the current funding cycle of 2009 (FFC09) are as shown in the Table below:

Task

Deadlines

Letter of Intent Application (LOI)

25 April 2009

Call for Full Proposal of Eligible Applications

10 May 2009

Submission of Eligible Full Proposals

10 June 2009

Announcement of Winning Proposals

25 June 2009

It is worth mentioning that over the seven previous funding cycles, 69 research projects from around the Arab countries have been funded. The allocated grant for each project was in the range of \$25,000-\$50,000 USD.

The Arab scientists residing in the Arab countries are invited to apply to this grant, bearing in mind that the process should begin with the filling out of the UPDATED "Solicitation for Letter of Intent (LOI)". As has been mentioned in the Table above, the deadline for receiving the LOI applications is 25th April 2009. Applications should be sent via email only to grants@astf.net in Word or PDF format, with no need to mail hard copies at this stage.

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