

CoWERC exchange program call for proposals

CoWERC is pleased to announce a new exchange program to support research and training activities between Consortium Member Institutions. This program provides funds to support exchanges for purposes of research collaboration and/or training activities between CoWERC institutions. The primary intent of the program is to support medium-term exchanges of personnel between CoWERC universities, national laboratories, and companies in the U.S. and Israel. All CoWERC-related activities and initiatives are eligible for support. Proposed work must link activity between at least two CoWERC Consortium Member institutions and foster training and/or research activities that leverage ongoing CoWERC projects.

Funding:

Funding is available to support collaborative research, exchange, and training activities between CoWERC institutions. Priority will be given to early-career personnel, including graduate students, postdocs, and junior staff scientists and engineers. All projects must propose CoWERC-related research, training, or other activities involving two or more CoWERC institutions. Individuals can all apply directly for funding, but must obtain explicit approval from the applicant's supervisor at their home Institution and a senior investigator at the proposed host institution. Funds may only be used to support travel costs. Proposals must explain the significance of the proposed work, how the proposed work is linked to ongoing CoWERC activities, and how the proposed work facilitates collaboration between CoWERC institutions.

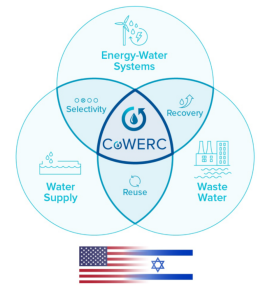
Types of supported Activities and anticipated costs:

This program supports medium-term exchanges for periods between 3 weeks and 6 months. The proposed exchange must contribute to existing CoWERC research or support development of new collaboration between CoWERC institutions. Examples of activities that can be supported include: research on an existing CoWERC project, training activities to learn laboratory methods or other skills, or exploratory work for pilot testing or other new activity within the overall scope of CoWERC. Activities that are already included in project budgets, such as scale up and piloting of current CoWERC technologies, should not be supported through the exchange mechanism – exchanges are intended to support supplemental research, training, and collaboration activities, and should not be used to support mission-critical project activities. Proposals may also request funds to cover costs of travel between Israel and the U.S. in support of applications for non-CoWERC research funding programs that typically do not include travel costs (e.g., summer research internship programs that provide salary but do not cover the cost of international travel).

Anticipated Costs: The CoWERC exchange program will cover direct travel costs (airfare etc.) plus \$2,000 per month subsistence allowance, up to a maximum of \$12,000 total per exchange.

Application Process:

- 1. Proposals are due by August 1, 2022.**
- 2. Proposals are limited to two pages and must use the CoWERC Exchange Program Application Template.** The template includes one page of text and one optional page of figures, tables, and references.
- 3. Collaboration with another CoWERC partner must be identified.** Proposals should identify the specific collaborators who will be involved and explain how the proposed work will contribute to CoWERC objectives and/or foster new collaboration between CoWERC Institutions. Applicants must also explain how the proposed exchange will contribute significantly to training of project personnel, development of research methods, or other activities that facilitate personal career development and/or research collaboration.
- 4. Applicants should submit a two-page biographical sketch or resume, including relevant work experience and publications.**
- 5. Proposals should be submitted in a single pdf file by email to both Sanaiya Khatwani at Northwestern (sanaiya.khatwani@northwestern.edu) and Diana Ferrando at Ben-Gurion University (diana.fch30@gmail.com).**



Award Process and Timeline:

Proposals will be evaluated by a committee appointed by CoWERC leadership. The committee will include representatives of both Israeli and US universities, national laboratories, and companies. Primary criteria for project selection are:

1. Impact of the proposed work on CoWERC research.
 2. Training/education value for the participants.
 3. Potential to initiate new collaborations.
- Awards will be made by August 31, 2022.
 - Travel should be completed within 1 year.
 - A short report will be required at the end of the project to summarize activities and document outcomes.