



**UNAM - University of California
Call for Collaborative Research Proposals 2023
Climate Issues**

The Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) and the University of California Alianza MX (UC Alianza MX) are pleased to announce the first “Call for Collaborative Research Proposals in Basic and Applied Sciences between UNAM and the University of California.”

The main objective of this Call for Proposals is to enable the establishment of new collaborative research initiatives with the potential for creating permanent ties between UNAM and the UC that will grow and continue with the support of other institutional and extramural funds.

Proposals are expected to lead to the development of major, long-term collaborations among groups of researchers from both institutions and to significantly advance knowledge in the following disciplines in the context of climate change:

- a) Climate resilience
 - i. Coastal flooding
 - ii. Drought and fire ecology
- b) Urban areas and built environment
 - i. Extreme heat and health-related effects
 - ii. GHG emissions and air quality
- c) Rural areas and sustainable agriculture
 - i. Soil functions and management
 - ii. Sustainable food production and nutritional genomics
- d) Other related disciplines with a positive impact on society.

Special consideration will be given to proposals that also enhance student training and research exchanges.

Selected proposals will be funded for two (2) years.

1. Calendar

Publication of the call	Wednesday, February 1
Application deadline	Wednesday, March 15
Evaluation committee meeting	Wednesday, April 26
Publication of the results	Friday, April 28
Project start date	Tuesday, May 2



2. Eligibility

Each proposal must be co-directed by eligible Principal Investigators (PIs) from UNAM and the UC; and must support multi-disciplinary collaboration among groups of researchers.

- a) The objective of this call is to establish binational research groups, so proposals must include PIs from at least two UC campuses and at least one PI from UNAM. (*Note: Preference will be given to proposals that include more than one collaborator from UNAM.*)
 - i. UNAM PIs must be full-time researchers or professors.
 - ii. UC PIs must meet eligibility criteria for research or training contracts and grants by academic appointees in the following title groups: (1) Members of the Academic Senate, including emeriti; (2) Appointees in the Agronomist series, including emeriti; (3) Appointees at 50 percent or more of full time in the Adjunct Professor series, the Clinical Professor series, the Professional Research Series, or the Cooperative Extension Specialist series.
 - iii. Postdoctoral researchers and students are not eligible to submit proposals, though PIs are encouraged to submit proposals that include academic participants from their institutions, including postdoctoral researchers and students.
- b) PIs may submit only one original proposal to this call. The proposal submitted to this call may not be a duplicate of proposals submitted to other funding agencies, and PIs are not permitted to apply as members of multiple proposal submissions.

3. Proposal submissions

All proposals should be completed in English and include one PDF file with information for each of the following sections. (*Note: Files should be clearly named to match with each section.*)

- a) Cover sheet. This must include the name/title of the proposal and names and contact information for all PIs (including university, campus, and department).



- b) Proposal description. This must include an abstract of 500 words or fewer that includes relevant background information, a brief summary of relevant academic or scientific issues and literature, and the specific objectives of this proposal. *(Note: The abstract should be understood by a review committee of diverse academic expertise.)*
- c) Proposal plan. This must describe the work to be performed, indicating who will perform each task and the timeline governing the work; explain the significance of the work, in terms of its potential for the advancement of science, scholarships, or technology and its possible impact in regional, environmental, economic, or social development; and discuss plans for continuation of the project beyond the grant period, including plans to seek additional funding from other agencies. The meaningful participation of all PIs must be evident in the plan, and if the proposal includes student research assistants, it should describe their contributions to the project, its relevance to their studies, and plans for supervision of their participation.

The proposal plan should include the following specific components:

- i. Scientific objectives;
 - ii. Research methods;
 - iii. International context;
 - iv. Current and previous cooperation among PIs;
 - v. Detailed schedule of activities; and
 - vi. Summary of expected results.
- d) Budget request. This must specify the cost of all items (in USD) and include planned expenses, scheduled activities, and cost distribution for PIs at both UNAM and the UC. *(Note: UC budget expenses should be organized by campus, and by department if PIs come from multiple departments on the same campus.)*
- e) Curriculum vitae. This must include CVs for all PIs, including a list of most relevant recent publications. *(Note: Each individual CV should not exceed 2 pages per person.)*
- f) Institutional support. This must be included for all PIs and be signed by the relevant Unit Directors or Department Heads.



- g) Approval or exemption. This must comply with the regulations at both the UC and UNAM for any research on human or animal subjects, including surveys or interviews.

Research proposals must be submitted to the following email address: alianzaucmx@ucr.edu and proyectos.sid@cic.unam.mx

Proposal submissions must be received by **Wednesday, March 15, 11:59 pm (Pacific Time)** to be eligible for consideration.

4. Evaluation and selection

UNAM and the UC are committed to the principles of peer review and parity in the selection processes. Each proposal will be reviewed, evaluated, and rated by a committee comprised of researchers based at both institutions. Efforts will be made to secure the participation of committee members with experience in the disciplines covered by this call, but all proposal submissions should be written for an audience with broad expertise.

The following criteria will be applied to the evaluation:

- a) Fit with the objectives of the Call for Proposals, including the potential for the research to establish a foundation for continued binational collaboration;
- b) Qualifications of the applicants, as well as complementarity between PIs from both institutions (and specific units or departments);
- c) Significance of the proposed research contributions to the advancement of knowledge, its applications, or development of technological, educational, or social innovations;
- d) Clarity in the proposal submission, including presentation of the research problem, methods, objectives, and expected findings;
- e) Ability to execute on time and within budget, including congruence between the proposed objectives and expected findings;
- f) Research experience and mobility opportunities for students; and
- g) Probability of securing additional funding support from other institutional and extramural funds.

Proposals will be selected for funding jointly by UNAM and the University of California, taking into consideration the evaluations obtained from both Parties.



PIs will be contacted directly if their proposals have been selected for funding. The full list of proposals selected for funding will also be published on the UC Alianza MX and UNAM websites.

Decisions on funding will be final.

5. Funding

The following funds will be provided to support the Call for Proposals over a two-year period:

Institution	Research Contribution	Travel Contribution
UNAM	USD \$150,000 <i>(or the equivalent in MXN)</i>	An additional sum of up to USD \$5,000 (or the equivalent in MXN) will be made available for expenses to participate in research workshops hosted by the UC as well as an in-kind contribution for workshops hosted by UNAM.
University of California	USD \$150,000	An additional sum of up to USD \$25,000 per proposal will be made available for travel expenses to participate in research workshops hosted by UNAM.

- a) The agreement between UNAM and the University of California Alianza MX for the 2023 Call for Collaborative Research Proposals provides maximum funding for three (3) proposals total over a two-year period. Each proposal selected for funding will receive up to USD \$50,000 over two years to support research activities (USD \$25,000 per institution).
 - i. An additional sum of up to USD \$5,000 from UNAM for expenses to participate in research workshops hosted by the UC as well as an in-kind contribution for workshops hosted by UNAM.
 - ii. An additional sum of up to USD \$25,000 from UC for researchers for travel to participate in research workshops hosted by UNAM.

- b) All funds will be administered in accordance with UNAM and UC policies and procedures. The portion of the grant awarded to UC PIs will be administered in coordination with their respective UC campus(es) and



department(s), and the portion of the grant awarded to the UNAM PIs will be administered in coordination with their respective department(s).

- c) No indirect costs or institutional overhead may be charged against funds awarded through this call.
- d) PIs will be responsible for administration, accounting, and timely completion of financial reports.
- e) Final scientific and financial reports are to be submitted jointly by all PIs to UNAM and UC Alianza MX. PIs should also retain copies for their records. Financial reports will be audited.
- f) UNAM and UC support must be acknowledged in all publications and products resulting from this financial support.

Allowable expenses include the following:

- Domestic and international travel—including transportation, lodging, and meal expenses—for planning, research, and training; field, laboratory, and archival research; and data collection. *(Note: Conference attendance is given lower priority in the review process.)*
- Laboratory services
- Research materials and supplies
- *Only for UC applicants: Salaries or stipends for student research assistants that are not eligible to serve as PIs. (These may be Postdoctoral Fellows/Scholars, Graduate Students, and/or Undergraduate Students.)*

Non-allowable expenses include the following:

- Salary payments to PIs or other academic collaborators
- Student tuition or fees for research assistants
- Indirect costs or institutional overhead assessments
- *Only for UNAM applicants: Purchase of equipment, including computers, tablets, and other electronic devices.*
- *Only for UC applicants: Purchase of equipment, including computers, tablets, and other electronic devices in excess of \$1,000 USD per item.*

6. Additional information

For additional information on the Call for Proposals, please use the following contact information:



- UNAM: Edgar Leyva, Secretaría de Investigación y Desarrollo
edgar@cic.unam.mx
- UC Alianza MX: Anaid Linares, Research Engagement Coordinator
(anaid.linaresrojas@ucr.edu)