



Canadian and Israeli Tech Companies Join Forces to Compete in Global Markets

The Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation (CIIRDF) Announces Eight New Bilateral R&D Projects Valued at Almost \$12 Million

OTTAWA, Ontario and TEL AVIV, Israel; May 14, 2018 – The Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation (CIIRDF) today announced eight new bilateral R&D projects valued at almost \$12 million.

The selected projects combine the R&D strengths and expertise of 20 Canadian and Israeli technology companies and research partners, with a goal to create and commercialize new products and services for global markets. Leveraging \$4.7 million from CIIRDF, these bilateral R&D teams will develop new technologies with application in the agriculture, energy, aerospace, and information and communications technologies (ICT) sectors. Once commercialized, the emerging innovations are expected to generate downstream sales for partnering firms, and deliver significant return on this investment. This will drive the creation of new high-quality jobs, spinoff products, services and applications, and long-term economic benefit to both Canada and Israel.

The CIIRDF Board of Directors approved funding for these projects in February 2018. Selected project teams will develop:

- A robot that automates fresh fruit harvesting, generating significant cost-savings and improving farm safety;
- New broadband communication technology for Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites that facilitates faster and more reliable data transmission;
- Novel processes that enable the recovery of energy and other useful agricultural by-products from goat cheese production;
- Technology that improves the security, performance and impact of online advertising, enabling content publishers to better protect, monitor and analyze revenue from different ad streams in real time;
- Software that significantly reduces herbicide use on farm fields by effectively analyzing and pinpointing weed location, enabling precise herbicides application, eliminating the need to flood the entire field;
- Four new protein-based superfood products derived from chick peas that offer healthy, nutritious, and tasty additions to the global vegetable market;

- New LED lighting systems for cannabis growing facilities combining hardware and software to improve the overall quality and yield of cannabis crops, monitoring growth in vivo and reduce energy costs by 30% when compared to traditional LED crop lighting; and
- A customized Airfoil Performance Monitor (APM) solution for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) to help prevent stalls and loss of control particularly when icing occurs in winter conditions.

With equal representation from Canada and Israel, the CIIRDF Board of Directors provides final authorization on R&D project proposals that meet key eligibility requirements, and pass the rigorous independent technical and business merit reviews performed in both countries. CIIRDF supports bilateral R&D initiatives by contributing up to 50 percent of joint project costs, to a maximum of CDN \$800,000. The Canadian funding for the bilateral R&D technology commercialization initiatives is provided through the Canadian International Innovation Program (CIIP).

“Since its inception, CIIRDF has funded 125 bilateral R&D projects that enabled collaborating firms to create new commercial products, access global markets, and generate significant revenues,” said Dr. Henri Rothschild, President of CIIRDF. “The eight projects announced today represent some of the highest quality technology partnerships funded by CIIRDF. They propose highly creative applications of advanced technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity and robotics for market application in agriculture, energy, healthcare and aerospace. The outcomes of these projects will help shape the future of these industries, and serve as an example for innovators around the world.”

“Canada, like Israel, operates highly advanced innovation systems in diverse technological and industrial sectors. The Israel Innovation Authority, through CIIRDF and our Canadian partners at the federal and the provincial levels, enables companies from both countries to collaborate and create mutually beneficial and high-quality partnerships,” said Mr. Aharon Aharon, CEO of the Israel Innovation Authority.

“Innovation ties between Israel and Canada have existed for more than 40 years. These projects are an extremely important bilateral economic lever that connect companies, researchers and entrepreneurs on both the Canadian and Israeli sides. Our technological cooperation with Canada, through all its channels, is an important strategic asset for the State of Israel and for our technological ecosystem,” said Mr. Eli Cohen, Minister of Economy and Industry.

About the Canada-Israel Industrial Foundation (CIIRDF)

The Canada-Israel Industrial R&D Foundation (CIIRDF) promotes, stimulates and invests in collaborative research and development between companies in Canada and Israel, with a focus on the commercialization of new technologies. Established in 1994 as a mechanism to implement a formal treaty between the Governments of Canada and Israel, CIIRDF is connected institutionally with the Israel Innovation Authority (the former Office of the Chief Scientist in Israel's Ministry of the Economy). CIIRDF has financed more than 125 collaborative R&D projects that have contributed to the joint development and sale of more than 60 new global products. This has generated hundreds of millions of dollars in economic value for Canadian and Israeli companies over the past decade. For additional information, please visit: www.ciirdf.ca

About the Israel Innovation Authority

The Israel Innovation Authority, formerly known as the Office of the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Economy (& MATIMOP), is an independent and impartial public entity that operates for the benefit of the

Israeli innovation ecosystem and Israeli economy as a whole. Its role is to nurture and develop Israeli innovation resources, while creating and strengthening the infrastructure and framework needed to support the entire knowledge industry. For additional information, please visit: <http://www.matimop.org.il/>

About the Canadian International Innovation Program (CIIP)

CIIP fosters and supports collaborative industrial research and development projects with high potential for commercialization between Canada and partner countries. It also stimulates bilateral science and technology networking and matchmaking activities to further new partnerships and accelerate the commercialization of research and development. CIIP is a funding program offered by Global Affairs Canada and is delivered in collaboration with the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) for Brazil, China, India and South Korea. The program is delivered by The Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation (CIIRDF) for Israel. For additional information, please visit: <http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca/funding-financement/ciip-pcii/index.aspx?lang=eng>

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