

PRESS - INFO - PRESS

THE NATO SCIENCE PROGRAMME BRINGING SCIENTISTS TOGETHER FOR PROGRESS AND PEACE

The aim of the NATO Science Programme is to bring together the scientists of the Euro-Atlantic area in a common endeavour for the advancement of science, progress and peace. Support is channelled through collaborative activities designed to create enduring links between researchers in Partner and NATO countries and to stimulate the cooperation essential to progress in science, with the purpose of protecting the human resources of the scientific community in Partner countries and contributing to overall security. Awards are made following consideration of applications received from individual scientists in EAPC countries. Structured in different sub-programmes, the NATO Science Programme provides the following types of support.

Science Fellowships are available to provide training for young researchers in preparation for their future careers.

Cooperative Science and Technology grants initiate research cooperation and establish enduring links between scientists of NATO and Partner countries. Types of support available are **Collaborative Linkage Grants** to fund collaboration on research projects, or funding to organise high-level tutorial Advanced Study Institutes and Advanced Research Workshops.

Research Infrastructure Support offers help to Partner countries in structuring the organisation of their research and creating the required basic infrastructure for computer networking. **The Computer Networking Infrastructure Grant** is one activity supported under this sub-programme.

Science for Peace offers support to Partner countries in applying Research and Development to industry in cooperation with NATO countries. Information and application forms are available on the NATO Science web site at <http://www.int/science>.

From January 1999 the NATO Science Programme has been restructured to fund collaboration between Partner-country and NATO-country scientists only. The Programme in fact no longer supports projects involving collaboration exclusively between scientists in NATO countries and any application for support must include scientists from Partner countries of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) to qualify.

A FEW FIGURES :

- Each year about 13,000 scientists from countries of the EAPC are involved in the NATO Science Programme.
- In 1998 more than 6,000 scientists took part in 104 NATO scientific meetings.
- Almost 1,000 scientists from Russia alone have received grants to carry out work with scientists in NATO countries.
- About 500 Partner scientists have visited the United States with NATO support for scientific collaboration or training.

SOME EXAMPLES OF COOPERATION

- A **linkage grant** to pursue research into an ultraviolet laser that can tune over the entire 280-340 nanometre spectral range is under way between research teams from Kazan State University, Russia, and the USAF Wright Laboratory, Ohio, in the United States. The results of this work could have a wide range of applications to jet and internal combustion engines for example with direct relevance to problems of the ozone layer and global climate formation.
- An **expert visit** enabled a German and a Polish researcher to come together and achieve a breakthrough in the technology of the destruction of chemical weapons. In what is known as the Bilger process, sodium technology is used to destroy the chemical weapon Adamsite.