

- Collaboration with an international partner within a STEREO project is done on the basis of co-financing. Maximum 50% of the budget required for the contribution of the international partner is borne by the STEREO programme. The remainder is borne by the international partner. The STEREO share only covers **personnel and functioning costs** of the international partner. Neither overheads, or equipment or subcontracting are refundable expenses.
- A Belgian project partner is the **sole financial intermediary** between the international partner and BELSPO, the funding agency of STEREO. This Belgian partner receives from BELSPO a budget dedicated for "international collaboration" as part of his total budget.
- The proof of expenditure required by BELSPO for the STEREO budget but also for the in-kind contribution by the international partner is a statement of expenditure on official paper with the letterhead of the institution of the international partner and signed by its administrative authority. This statement lists the expenses in detail and also includes a statement of expenditure on their own budget earmarked for the project. However, BELSPO does not require additional supporting documents. These are to be sent to the Belgian partner responsible for the international collaboration.
- The Belgian partner who is responsible for the budget of the international partner vouches for the correctness of this statement of expenditure and must archive an original copy of the proof of expenditure.
- The international partner is a fully-fledged partner of the project with specific scientific and technical tasks outlined in the technical annex of the contract. The international partner must contribute to the reports and his work is also evaluated during the project's Steering Committees.