

**e-ASIA Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP)**  
**Research Cooperation in the field of “Health Research”**  
**on the topics of**  
**“Infectious Diseases, Antimicrobial and Multidrug Resistance, and Cancer**  
**Research”**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Joint Call for Proposals to be submitted by 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

The e-ASIA Joint Research Program (hereinafter referred to as the “e-ASIA JRP”) aims to develop a vibrant and collaborative research community in Science and Technology, to promote innovation in the East Asian region, and to contribute to the region’s economic development. As part of the program, the following Member Organizations of the e-ASIA JRP have agreed to implement a joint call for proposals of multilateral cooperative research activities.

Participating Member Organizations (listed in alphabetical order):

- 1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- 2) Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)
- 3) Indonesia: Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (RISTEKDIKTI)
- 4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
- 5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)
- 6) New Zealand: Health Research Council (HRC)
- 7) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCHRD)
- 8) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)
- 9) Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)
- 10) Thailand: Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Sciences (TCELS)
- 11) United States of America: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

**I. Aim of Joint Call and Research Area**

The aim of this joint call is to invite applications for research proposals that will address health and medical issues in East Asia and contribute to the development of enhanced regional biomedical and public health research capacity through multilateral collaboration. The focus of this joint call, within the “Health Research” program of the e-ASIA JRP, is on the following research areas.

Applicants must choose one of the research topics below. Only in the case that your project is of interdisciplinary nature and corresponds to more than one topic, it is allowed to mark two or more of the research topics.

#### i) Infectious Diseases Research

The first topic of research in this call is infectious diseases that are prevalent or gradually spreading in East Asia region including, but not limited to, cholera, neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), dengue fever, Chikungunya fever, Zika virus, and avian and other influenza strains, as well as basic and applied immunology research related to infectious diseases. The increase of travel and trade throughout East Asia has contributed to the complexity of preventing and controlling the outbreaks of common infectious disease and those that are not necessarily prevalent in the region.

The e-ASIA JRP has previously supported 17 collaborative research projects that focused on infectious diseases including influenza, including H5N1 avian influenza, dengue fever and dengue viral genetic diversity, other emerging vector-borne viral diseases, Opisthorchiasis/liver fluke infection, malaria, tuberculosis and fever etiology. However, there is a continuing need for further biomedical research and development of different approaches to control and reduce the impact of these diseases in the region and to contribute to global understanding of infectious diseases and the human immune system.

The e-ASIA JRP therefore seeks to support research projects focused on, but not limited to, emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, which are serious impediments to the development of ASEAN countries and require urgent attention. Research may focus at any stage of the infectious disease pathway.

#### ii) Antimicrobial and Multidrug Resistance Research

The second focus topic of research is antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and multidrug resistance (MDR) research, which has become a worldwide public health threat due to the rapidly increasing rate of drug resistant microbial species. Examples include, but are not limited to, multidrug resistant of tuberculosis,

malaria, and sexually-transmitted infections. The slow pace at which novel antibiotics are being discovered whilst antibiotic use continues to rise, in addition to the increased risk of transmission due to travel and migration of people within the region has exacerbated the issue.

Data from the World Health Organisation shows a number of e-ASIA member countries have a high burden of tuberculosis (TB) including Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Russian Federation, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia. These countries have also shown evidence of MDR TB<sup>1</sup>. MDR is also occurring in malaria and HIV. Therefore, the e-ASIA JRP supports research focused on the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and management of AMR and MDR in East Asia region.

Research within this focus area is expected to be cognisant of the recently updated WHO Rapid Communication: *Key changes to treatment of multidrug and rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis<sup>2</sup>, guidance and developments on AMR* and any other key developments.

### iii) Cancer Research

The third focused area is “Cancer Research”. According to the report<sup>3</sup> of Merel Kimman et al (2012), over 700,000 new cases of cancer and 500,000 cancer deaths in ASEAN region were estimated in 2008. The most commonly diagnosed cancers were lung, breast and liver cancers. The most common causes of cancer death were lung cancer, liver cancer and colorectal cancer. The report suggested the burden of cancer was significant in Southeast Asia region and each country was strongly encouraged to put in place cancer-control health care policies.

Cancer incidence for specific cancer types across Southeast Asia varies greatly but many high incidence cancers have a relationship to health behaviours and lifestyle factors<sup>4</sup>. As more Asian countries adopt a westernized lifestyle the

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.who.int/tb/publications/global\\_report/gtbr2017\\_annex2.pdf?ua=1](https://www.who.int/tb/publications/global_report/gtbr2017_annex2.pdf?ua=1)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.who.int/tb/publications/2018/rapid\\_communications\\_MDR/en/](http://www.who.int/tb/publications/2018/rapid_communications_MDR/en/)

<sup>3</sup> Merel Kimman et al (2012). The Burden of Cancer in Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). *Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention*, Vol 13, 411-420

<sup>4</sup> Keun-Young Yoo (2010) Cancer prevention in the Asia Pacific Region. *Asian Pacific Journal of*

incidence of cancers related to this lifestyle e.g. lung cancer, breast cancer and colon cancer, have seen an increased incidence<sup>4</sup>. Overweight and obesity have reached epidemic proportions in many Asian countries<sup>5</sup> and fourteen different cancer types have been declared by the World Cancer Research Fund to be causally related to being overweight or obese including many of the cancers reported as high incidence cancers in ASEAN nations. Globally 39% of the world's adult population is overweight or obese and 23% is insufficiently active<sup>6</sup>.

Approximately one quarter of all cancer cases and deaths in Asia are infection-associated. Infection by these agents both results in loss of life and imposes a heavy economic burden on ASEAN nations. For example, hepatitis B virus, human papillomavirus and *Helicobacter pylori* are responsible for significant ratio of infection-related cancer cases and infection-related cancer deaths<sup>7</sup>. A large proportion of cancers in the Southeast Asia are therefore potentially avoidable and the incidence could be reduced significantly by the introduction of primary prevention programs accompanied by the research to ensure that these programs are effective. Prevention programs and research aimed at identifying or reducing cancer risk should be strongly encouraged including: public awareness of risk factors, tobacco control, vaccination where there is a clear link between an infectious agent and the risk of cancer, and lifestyle changes that reduce risk such as safe sexual behaviours and dietary changes including those aimed at a reduction in bodyweight. The area of Cancer Research in the e-ASIA JRP therefore supports research focused on the prevention of cancer in ASEAN countries, including infection- associated cancer and other cancers with modifiable risk-related behaviours.

## **II. Support/ Funding Modality**

In principle, each Member Organization will support its own country's

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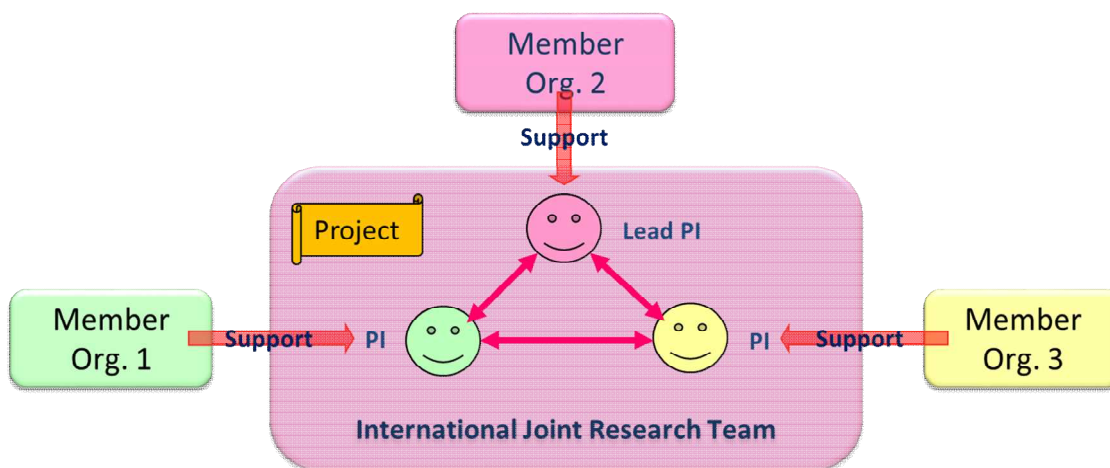
Cancer Prevention, Vol 11, 839-844

<sup>5</sup> Ambady Ramachandran et al (2010) Rising burden of obesity in Asia. *Journal of Obesity*, Vol 2010, 868573.

<sup>6</sup> Louise Wilson et al (2018) The impact of changing the prevalence of overweight/obesity and physical inactivity in Australia: an estimate of the proportion of potentially avoidable cancers 2013-2037. *International Journal of Cancer*, Oct 25. doi: 10.1002/ijc.31943.

<sup>7</sup> He Huang et al (2015). Estimation of Cancer Burden Attributable to Infection in Asia. *Journal of Epidemiology*. 25(10), 626-638

researchers in a selected research project in this joint call with the type of support defined as “Funding Modality” in the following table below. The duration of a selected research project will be three years (36 months), in total, from the start date. Details of conditions of support will vary by Member Organization. Applicants shall refer to the Appendix for each Member Organization’s rules and regulations.



**Participating Member Organizations and Funding Modality**

<b>Participating Member Organization</b>	<b>(i) Infectious Diseases Research</b>	<b>(ii) Antimicrobial and Multidrug Resistance Research</b>	<b>(iii) Cancer Research</b>
(1) NHMRC (Australia)	New	New	New
(2) MOH (Cambodia)	In-kind	In-kind	In-kind
(3) RISTEKDIKTI (Indonesia)	In-kind* Requires to apply to domestic funding program to seek “New” funding from RISTEKDIKTI		
(4) AMED	New	New	New

<b>Participating Member Organization</b>	<b>(i) Infectious Diseases Research</b>	<b>(ii) Antimicrobial and Multidrug Resistance Research</b>	<b>(iii) Cancer Research</b>
(Japan)			
(5) MOH (Lao PDR)	In-kind	In-kind	In-kind
(6) HRC (New Zealand)	New	New	New
(7) DOST-PCHRD (Philippines)	New, In-kind	New	New
(8) RFBR (Russia)	New	New	New
(9) NSTDA (Thailand)	New	New	
(10) TCELS (Thailand)			New
(11) NIAID (USA)	New, Re-budget, In-kind	New, Re-budget, In-kind	

New: Each Member Organization will support a selected project by new funding

Re-budgeting: Funds already allocated to an existing project by each Member Organization will be reallocated to the e-ASIA JRP

In-kind: Each Member Organization of his/her country does not provide budget. A researcher participating in a selected project will use funds that are already available, but no additional fund will be provided by each Member Organization from his/her country. Conditions regarding the number of countries that can participate on an “in-kind” basis in one research project will vary by country. In principle, at least one country must participate via “new” or “re-budgeting” funding modality. In other words, proposals cannot be accepted if all the applicants intend to participate through an “in-kind” basis.

### **III. Application**

In addition to the following general requirements, there are specific rules clarified

by each Member Organization (see Appendix for further information).

### III-1. Applicant/ Project Consortium

A project consortium must be consisted of at least three eligible research teams from at least three different participating countries listed above.

Each research team shall be led by a Principal Investigator (PI), and a consortium shall be led by a Lead Principal Investigator (Lead PI) specified among the PIs.

The Lead PI will be responsible for running and managing the project. The Lead PI will be the contact point with the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat on behalf of the whole consortium and is responsible for the administrative management of the complete project, should it be awarded supporting. In addition, the Lead PI is responsible for leading the project activities at his/her own institution. The Lead PI must be affiliated with an institution situated in one of the participating countries in this call.

All PIs must fulfil their respective domestic eligibility rules for research application. Researchers from industry are encouraged to participate in the joint collaboration in accordance with domestic eligibility rules. PIs should contact the person noted in Section VI for information on their respective domestic eligibility rules.

### III-2. Proposal Submission

Proposals must be submitted from the Lead PI by e-mail to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat at the e-mail address specified below. Applications shall be written in English.

#### **Deadline for Submission:**

**17:00 (Thai Standard Time, UTC+7) 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

Please submit the proposal to:



**Yoshihide Kobayashi (Mr.)**

**e-ASIA JRP Secretariat**

**E-mail: [easia\\_secretariat@jst.go.jp](mailto:easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp)**

**Note1:** The e-ASIA JRP Secretariat will send a confirmation email to the Lead PI to confirm receipt of his/her proposal. In case the Lead PI does not receive a confirmation e-mail from the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat within one week, they should contact the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat at the address above. The e-ASIA JRP Secretariat does not assume any responsibility for delay or error in e-mail delivery.

**Note2:** Application forms sent by any method other than e-mail, such as post, fax or telex will be rejected.

**< Important Notice to ALL PIs >**

Make sure to submit all necessary application documents requested by each Member Organization (MO) of your country, in addition to the application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat (submitted by Lead PI only), because each MO may request applicants of its country to submit another form of proposals with another deadline date.

For further requirements by each MO, please refer to the Appendix or consult the person noted in Section VI.

The proposal shall include:

- a) Project description including how the collaboration will be carried out, with clear statements of what roles each country's researchers will play respectively in the project;
- b) Description of the expected outcomes of the proposed project, scientifically as well as in terms of relevance for industry and society;
- c) Description of the ongoing activities and specific advantages of each group respectively, which form the basis for the proposed joint project;
- d) Description of the expected value added from the proposed joint project, including how the competence, technology and other resources in each group complement each other;
- e) Description of how the project is expected to help strengthen multilateral research collaboration over the longer term;
- f) Description of the expected value added from the multidisciplinary approach in the proposed joint project; and
- g) Description of how the proposed joint project interacts with or impacts



other comparable activities worldwide.

### III-3. Application Forms

Researchers should prepare the following application (proposal) forms in English (“E”).

For further requirements by each Member Organization, researchers shall refer to the Appendix or shall consult each Member Organization of his/her country.

- Form 1E Application outline (title of cooperative research project, names of PIs, cooperative research period)
- Form 2E Summary of the Project
- Form 3E Information on the PIs (their CVs\*)
- Form 4E List of individuals committed to the cooperative research project in each country
- Form 5E Description of the cooperative research project including the points stated above.
- Form 6E Research Networking Plan
- Form 7E Plan to Nurture Early Career Researchers
- Form 8E Budget plan for the project
- Form 9E Research infrastructures and funds from other sources

*\* The description of Curriculum Vitae (CV) from each PI shall include basic information on education, past and present positions, membership of relevant organizations/associations and a publication list in the past 5 years.*

In addition to the documents above, all projects must comply with ethical review and requirements of each Member Organization, especially for research activities related to human and animal subjects. PIs shall refer to the Appendix for each Member Organization’s ethical requirement.

## **IV. Evaluation**

### IV-1. Evaluation Process

A proposal will be evaluated at each relevant Member Organization of the project consortium, according to the evaluation criteria clarified in the following subsection.

Based on the results of the evaluation conducted at each Member Organization,

a final decision will be made at the joint panel meeting among the participating Member Organizations, followed by approval at the e-ASIA JRP Board Meeting.

#### IV-2. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following common e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria, incorporated with evaluation criteria clarified by each Member Organization. For the evaluation criteria clarified by each Member Organization, please refer to the respective Appendix.

##### 1) Regional Relevance of the Research

The research activity should contribute to:

- The advancement of scientific discovery;
- The development of science and technology in the region; and
- The resolution of significant relevant issues across the region.

##### 2) Mutual Benefits of the Joint Research

Activities of mutual benefit to the collaborators and their institutions are desirable. Mutually beneficial in the sense that the projects utilize unique opportunities the e-ASIA JRP will provide that could not be achieved either through bilateral or individual research but only through multilateral cooperation.

##### 3) Effectiveness of Exchange

The project should:

- Contain activities to nurture early career researchers through research activities;
- Contain activities to engage female researchers where strengthening capacity is needed; and
- Enhance research capacity in the region.

#### IV-3. Notification of the Final Decision

The Lead PI will be notified the final decision by the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat as soon as the final decision is taken and approved by all Member Organizations in the e-ASIA JRP. (Approximate implementation of the notification: End of November 2019)

### **V. Project Implementation**

Project reporting will be in accordance with the respective funding agency's rules. Please contact respective Member Organizations for more details.

In addition to the funding agency's requirements, the consortia are expected to deliver Progress reports and Final reports to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat, in English, including a description of their collaboration and a publishable summary of the project status. The progress and final reports will be reviewed by the Board and Scientific Advisory Council. It is also encouraged that the project proactively disseminates its achievements to the public.

#### V-1. Progress Report

In the middle of research period (i.e., after one and a half year), the lead PI shall promptly develop and submit an integrated progress report to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat on the status of the joint research.

#### V-2. Final Report

A final report shall be developed and submitted by the Lead PI to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat within two months after the completion of the joint research period.

#### V-3. Others

All the researchers/research institutions organizing a consortium are strongly recommended to conclude a Collaborative Research Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "CRA") to assure optimal understanding and coordination among the collaborating scientists working on each project before project starts. CRA should, with due respect to the researchers' institutions and the funding agencies' intellectual property and data handling policy, include the treatment of intellectual property rights, handling of confidential information, publication of research results, warranty and indemnification, and access to and transfer of the bio-resources. Applicants shall refer to the Appendix for each Member Organization's requirement.

### **VI. Contact information**

Applicants should contact the following for information on each Member Organization's eligibility rules or support conditions:

Also please refer to the Appendix for information of each Member Organization.

<b>Country: Member Organization</b>	<b>Contact Point</b>
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(1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	NHMRC Research Help Centre Tel: +61 1800 500 983 (+61 2 6217 9451 for international callers) E-mail: <a href="mailto:help@nhmrc.gov.au">help@nhmrc.gov.au</a>
(2) Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)	Mr. TEK Bunchhoeung Tel: (+855) 78 990 566 E-mail: <a href="mailto:bunchhoeung@yahoo.com">bunchhoeung@yahoo.com</a>
(3) Indonesia: Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (RISTEKDIKTI)	Ms. Dinny Afifi Elfinur Tel: +62-21-3169782 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dinnyafifi@ristekdikti.go.id">dinnyafifi@ristekdikti.go.id</a>
(4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)	Dr. Naoko Kojima Tel: +81 (0)3-6870-2215 E-mail: <a href="mailto:e-asia@amed.go.jp">e-asia@amed.go.jp</a>
(5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)	Dr. Bouakham VANNACHONE Tel: +856-20- 22474516 E-mail: <a href="mailto:bkvnchone@gmail.com">bkvnchone@gmail.com</a>
(6) New Zealand: Health Research Council (HRC)	Ms. Fiona Kenning DDI: 64 9 303 5208 E-mail: <a href="mailto:fkennig@hrc.govt.nz">fkennig@hrc.govt.nz</a>
(7) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST -PCHRD)	Mr. Vincent John H. Tumlos Tel: +632-837-7537 local 102 E-mail: <a href="mailto:yhtumlos@pchr.dost.gov.ph">yhtumlos@pchr.dost.gov.ph</a>
(8) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)	Mr. Yaroslav Sorokotyaga, Mr. Denis Rudik Tel: +7 499 941 0196 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ysorokot@rfbr.ru">ysorokot@rfbr.ru</a> , <a href="mailto:rudik@rfbr.ru">rudik@rfbr.ru</a>
(9) Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)	Ms. Jirawadee Matoon Tel: +66 2117 6932 E-mail: <a href="mailto:jirawadee.matoon@nstda.or.th">jirawadee.matoon@nstda.or.th</a>
(10) Thailand: Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Sciences (TCELS)	Ms. Premruedee Lertsakvimarn Tel: (+66) 2 644 5499 ext. 131 E-mail: <a href="mailto:premruedee@tcels.or.th">premruedee@tcels.or.th</a>
(11) USA: National Institute of	Mr. Gray Handley

Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	Tel: +1 (301) 594-6128 Email: <a href="mailto:handleygr@niaid.nih.gov">handleygr@niaid.nih.gov</a>  Ms. Gayle Bernabe Tel: +1 (301) 451-1018 Email: <a href="mailto:gbernabe@niaid.nih.gov">gbernabe@niaid.nih.gov</a>
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Applicants should contact the following for general inquiries:



Yoshihide Kobayashi (Mr.)

e-ASIA JRP Secretariat / Japan Science and Technology Agency

Room 218 Innovation Cluster1 Building

National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

111 Thailand Science Park, Phahonyothin Road

Khlong Nueng, Khlong Luang, Pathum Thani 12120 THAILAND

Tel: +66-2-564-7713 H/P: +66-61-421-0316

E-mail: [easia\\_secretariat@jst.go.jp](mailto:easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp)

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Information about each Member Organization (alphabetical order by country)

1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).....	15
2) Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH).....	16
3) Indonesia: Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (RISTEKDIKTI).....	17
4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)....	18
5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH).....	25
6) New Zealand: Health Research Council (HRC).....	26
7) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST -PCHR) .....	30
8) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR) .....	33
9) Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) .....	36
10) Thailand: Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Sciences (TCELS).....	38
11) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).....	40

**1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)**

Applicants should refer to the NHMRC website for information:

<https://nhmrc.gov.au/funding/fund-collaborative-health-research>



**Australian Government**

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**National Health and Medical Research Council**

NHMRC Research Help Centre

Tel: +61 1800 500 983

(+61 2 6217 9451 for international callers)

Refer to the [Research Help Centre webpage](#) for opening hours

E-mail: [help@nhmrc.gov.au](mailto:help@nhmrc.gov.au)

## 2) **Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)**

Cambodian researchers can participate in research projects only on an "in-kind" basis, as there will be no new or additional support available from the Cambodia MOH.

Please consult the person in charge directly.

### **Contact Information**



Mr. TEK Bunchhoeung  
Vice Chief of Bureau, Pharmacist  
Department of Communicable Disease Control  
Ministry of Health, Cambodia  
Tel: (+855) 78 990 566  
E-mail: [bunchhoeung@yahoo.com](mailto:bunchhoeung@yahoo.com)



### **3) Indonesia: Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (RISTEKDIKTI)**

Indonesian researchers who seek new funds from RISTEKDIKTI need to apply for “Insentif Sinas” or “International Collaboration (KLN)”, RISTEKDIKTI’s competitive funds. It is required to clearly state on “Insentif Sinas” or “International Collaboration (KLN)” application that the proposal is for the e-ASIA JRP project. If the proposal is selected, Indonesian researchers will receive funds from RISTEKDIKTI. If Indonesian researchers would like to apply “Insentif Sinas” or “International Collaboration (KLN)”, please consult the person in charge directly.

#### **Contact Information**



Ms. Dinny Afifi Elfinur

Division for Cooperation

Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education

Tel: +62-21-3169782

E-mail: [dinnyafifi@ristekdikti.go.id](mailto:dinnyafifi@ristekdikti.go.id)

#### **4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)**

Please be advised that unless the applicant completes a research ethics program and consent of affiliated institute, his or her application will be deemed ineligible and rejected.

For project proposals which Japanese applicants intend to be funded by AMED, it is recommended that at least half of the countries participating in a project fund (either additionally or newly) their own researchers in that proposal

##### **I. Eligibility for Japan-based applicants**

- The Japan-based Principal Investigator must be personally affiliated with a domestic research institution and conduct research there. Domestic research institutions on the Japanese side refer to universities, independent administrative institutions, national/public testing and research institutions, specially authorized corporations, public-service corporations and enterprises, etc. that must satisfy predetermined requirements specified by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in Japan.
- Any individual who satisfies any of the following conditions is also eligible to apply as Japan-based Principal Investigator.
  - i) Researcher holding citizenship other than Japanese who belongs to a Japanese domestic research institution.
  - ii) Researcher who is not currently affiliated with a particular research institution, but who will be affiliated with a Japanese domestic research institution and able to conduct research there if selected as Japan-based Principal Investigator.
  - iii) Japanese researchers currently residing overseas who will be affiliated with a Japanese domestic research institution and able to conduct research there if selected as Japan-based Principal Investigator.
- Japan-based Principal Investigator must be able to take responsibility for the duties of the entire project for the full duration of the joint research project.
- Japan-based researchers from industry are eligible to participate in the joint research project in the Japan-based Team.

##### **II. Support**

## II-1. Budget for Cooperative Research Projects

The budget for a project may differ each year, depending on the content of activities, but the total budget for the Japanese researcher over a full 3-year period (i.e. 36 months) should be 24 million Japanese Yen as direct expenses. 30% of direct expenses will be provided as overhead expenses. According to the budgetary limitations for this program, the amounts will be adjusted each year.

## II-2. Details of Support

This program is designed to support additional expenses related to cooperation by a Japanese researcher with their counterparts, such as expenses for travel and/or conducting seminars/symposia. A precondition for applying to this Joint Call is that the main research infrastructure is already ensured by each research group. The duration of a co-operative research project shall be no longer than three (3) years (thirty-six (36) months) in total from the start date.

## II-3. Funded expenses

Funding provided within this call is intended to enhance the capacity of the applicants to collaborate. Funding will therefore be provided mainly in support of collaborative activities but may also cover some of the local research costs that are necessary for the collaboration.

### 1. Direct Expenses:

- i) Travel expenses: In principle, travel expenses should be based on the rules of the institution to which the Principal Investigator (hereinafter referred to as the PI) belongs.
- ii) Expenses for holding symposia, seminars and meetings
- iii) Expenses for facilities, equipment and consumables
- iv) Expenses for personnel: Stipend or salary for a PhD student, or salary for a post-doctoral fellow.
- v) Others: Expenses for creating software, renting or leasing equipment, transporting equipment, etc.

### 2. Overhead expenses shall be 30% of direct expenses.

### 3. Expenses not covered/funded by the program:

- i) Expenses relating to the acquisition of or rental of real estate or constructing buildings or other facilities.
- ii) Expenses related to the procurement of major equipment.
- iii) Expenses related to dealing with accidents or disasters occurring during the co-operative research periods.
- iv) Expenses unrelated to the implementation of this co-operative research project.

#### II-4. Contract between Applicant and AMED

Support will be implemented according to a contract for commissioned research entered into between AMED and a university, research institute, or similar organisation (hereinafter referred to as the “institution”). The contract for commissioned research will be renewed each year over the cooperative research period. Since the contract is agreed on condition that all administrative procedures related to this project will be handled within the institution, the PI should consult with the department in charge at his/her institution.

As for the contract between the Japanese institution and AMED, it stipulates that Article 19 of the Industrial Technology Enhancement ACT (Japanese version of the Bayh-Dole Act) and Article 25 of the ACT on Protection of the Creation, Protection and Exploitation of Content (tentative translation) will be applied to all intellectual property rights belonging to the Japanese institution generated as a result of this project, and that these can be the properties of the institution with which the PI is affiliated.

#### II-5. Contract among Researchers

A contract for cooperative research MUST be entered into among institutions with which collaborating researchers are affiliated for implementing actual research collaboration. The contract for cooperative research shall include conclusions of discussions among Parties which are entitled to intellectual property arising as a result of research collaboration, and Institutions concerned, on issues regarding treatment of research information brought by researchers involved for the implementation of research collaboration, of research achievements as a result of research collaboration and of intellectual properties among the concerned parties. The agreement so concluded shall be reported to

the Parties.

### **III. Application**

Please note that Japanese applicants are required to complete both e-mail submission to the e-ASIA Secretariat and “e-Rad” submission. Applications which do not include both a submission to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat by e-mail and through e-Rad will be considered ineligible.

#### **III-1. Application Forms**

Only for Japanese applicants, Forms J should be prepared in Japanese (“J”) in addition to the common application form in English.

Form J is available from the AMED website:

[https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/03/01/0301B\\_00042.html](https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/03/01/0301B_00042.html)

(in Japanese only)

#### **III-2 Submission of Application Forms by Applicants**

Proposals must be submitted by e-mail to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat.

Japanese applicants also must submit a project title, a summary of the project, and detailed budget information in Japanese with their application forms through the online application system, “e-Rad” (<http://www.e-rad.go.jp/index.html>) by **17:00 (Japanese Standard Time) on 14th May 2019.**

Application to the program is not complete at the point that the PI submits the application to their affiliated research institute via e-Rad. Be sure to undergo procedures to obtain approval of the submission of the R&D project from your affiliated research institute.

### **IV. Evaluation of Project Proposals**

Independent Committees consisting of experts will evaluate all proposals. Based

on the results of the evaluation, a common decision will be decided jointly among Parties regarding funding of the selected proposals.

#### IV-1. Evaluation Criteria

The following general evaluation criteria will apply to each application:

1. Compatibility with the program's purpose
  - Is the project compatible with the program's purpose and objectives, etc.?
2. Scientific/technological significance and advantage
  - Is the current technological level and previous performance sufficient?
  - Does the project proposal have originality, novelty, and innovativeness?
  - Does the project contribute to the advancement of the field of medicine?
  - Does the project contribute to the generation of new technologies?
  - Does the project respond to social needs?
  - Is the project compatible with national policies regarding R&D in the field of medicine?
3. Appropriateness of the plan
  - Are the overall content and objectives of the plan clear?
  - Are the plans for each fiscal year detailed and realizable?
  - Is the project plan in compliance with laws and ordinances related to bioethics or safety measures?
4. Implementation system
  - Has an R&D system centered on the applicant been organized appropriately?
  - Has a sufficient collaboration network been constructed?
  - Are the efforts of the applicant appropriate?
  - Is there unreasonable duplication/excessive concentration?
5. Costs
  - Are the breakdown of costs and spending plan appropriate?
6. Items prescribed under the program and items that should be considered comprehensively
  - Contribute to the development of science and technology in the East Asian region? [Regional Relevance of the Research]
  - Contribute to solving significant relevant issues across the East Asian region? [Regional Relevance of the Research]

- Is there a unique opportunity set provide that could not be achieved either through bilateral or individual research but only through multilateral cooperation? [Mutual Benefits of the Joint Research]
- Does it contain activities to nurture early career researchers through research activities? [Effectiveness of Exchange]
- Does it enhance research capacity in the East Asian region? [Effectiveness of Exchange]

## **V. Responsibilities of PIs after Proposals are Approved**

### **V-1. Progress Report to AMED**

At the end of each fiscal year, the Japanese PI shall promptly submit an annual progress report on the status of research exchange, and the institution with which the PI is affiliated shall promptly submit a financial report on research expenses to AMED.

### **V-2. Final Report to AMED**

Final reports should be submitted within four months (4) before completion of the research period. The final report shall include a general summary (maximum five A4 pages) compiled jointly by all members of the Japanese research group. If papers describing results of the research exchange are presented to academic journals, societies etc., which is expected by the Parties, copies of such papers should be attached to the final report.

The institution with which the PI is affiliated shall submit a financial report on research expenses to AMED within two months after termination of contract.

## **VI. Contact Information**



国立研究開発法人日本医療研究開発機構  
Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development

Dr. Naoko Kojima  
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Division of International Collaboration

Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development

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E-mail [e-asia@amed.go.jp](mailto:e-asia@amed.go.jp)



## 5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)

Laotian researchers can participate in research projects only on an "in-kind" basis, as there will be no new or additional support available from the Lao MOH.

Please consult the person in charge directly.

### Contact Information



Dr. Bouakham VANNACHONE  
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Department of Communicable Disease Control,  
Ministry of Health, Lao PDR  
Tel: +856-20- 22474516  
E-mail: [bkvnchone@gmail.com](mailto:bkvnchone@gmail.com)

## **6) New Zealand: Health Research Council (HRC)**

Please note that these guidelines have been specifically tailored for the e-ASIA JRP Joint Call for Proposals.

### **Statistical Purposes**

The information requested in an application will be used for the purpose of assessing that application and, in a non-identifiable form, some information will be used for HRC statistical purposes. The HRC undertakes to store all applications in a secure place and to destroy declined applications after due process to preserve confidentiality, unless applications are required to be kept by the National Archives.

### **Peer Review**

Personal information contained in the application may be made available to external reviewers and members of the HRC Committees relevant to the review of the application. This includes electronic and paper copies of the application. The HRC may seek reports from reviewers, where appropriate, to assess the scientific merit, health importance and cultural appropriateness of the application.

### **Media Release**

In the event that an application is successful, the HRC reserves the right to release applicants' names, details of the host institution, contact details (work phone or email), contract title, lay summaries and funding awarded for public interest purposes and to meet the statutory requirements of the Health Research Council of New Zealand Act 1990.

### **Official Information Act**

Should the HRC receive requests for information in an application via the Official Information Act then we will consult with the host institution in handling the request. Where appropriate, or in certain circumstances the request may be transferred by the HRC to the host institution.

### **Enquiries**

All enquiries related to NZ proposals for this fund should be directed in the first instance to the Research Office of the applicant's host institution.

Where the research office cannot assist, or if you do not have a research office, contact the HRC (see contact details below)

## **I. Eligibility for NZ-based applicants**

Researchers named on a proposal to the HRC will usually be required to have New Zealand as their principal domicile and place of employment and, for the NZ lead researcher, be employees of the Contractor.

## **II. Support**

### **II-1. Budget for Cooperative Research Projects**

The HRC Rules, available from the HRC website [www.hrc.govt.nz](http://www.hrc.govt.nz) set out the permissible use of HRC Funding. These Rules are applicable to all Proposals, Contracts or Contract Extensions where funding has been offered on or after 1 May 2016 and should also be read carefully by all Contractors and Applicants seeking HRC funding. Further budget details may be requested at contracting.

### **II-2. Details of Support**

The HRC has \$450,000 over three years available for allocation to one research project. It is acceptable for the proposed research to be an 'add on' to an existing collaborative activity or a new research project.

### **II-4. Contract between Applicant and HRC**

The HRC's Standard Contract for Research Funding will be utilised for the successful e-ASIA JRP proposal. There may be a customised reporting schedule for the purposes of the e-ASIA JRP. The HRC will provide details of this to the successful provider.

Applicants should note that all ethical and other approvals must be in place to allow the Contract to start no later than the date set down in the HRC Funding Outcome Letter or the date set down in the Proposal.

## **III. Application**

### **III-1. Application Forms and Submission**

Applicants applying for New Zealand funding must register on HRC Gateway by 1pm (NZT), Tuesday 7 May 2019.

Please note that New Zealand applicants are required to complete both an email

submission to the e-Asia Secretariat and a submission on HRC Gateway. Applications which do not complete both submissions will be considered ineligible.

#### **IV. Evaluation of Project Proposals**

HRC funding recommendations will be determined by the results of peer review, which includes independent referees, and review by an Assessing Committee.

##### **IV-1. Evaluation Criteria**

Independent experts engaged by the HRC to review e-ASIA JRP project proposals will consider:

- The **health significance** of the proposed research
- The **scientific merit** of the proposal
- The **design and methods** proposed
- The research **team's expertise and track record** as a basis for meeting the requirements of the proposed research, and
- The **quality of the research partnership**.

The above criteria incorporates the common e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria. Anchor point descriptors are available on HRC Gateway. Applicants are encouraged to consider the criteria when creating their application.

#### **V. Responsibilities of PIs After Proposals are Approved**

##### **V-1. Progress Reports to HRC**

Principal Investigators should note that regular contract progress reports will be required under the HRC's contract, via HRC Gateway. These reports should be meaningful and provide detailed information on the progress of the project and highlight any risks to the project.

The HRC Research Partnerships team will contact the PI, via their research office, to confirm the reporting due dates.

The HRC will also contact the PI, via their research office, should there be any further requests for information from an HRC Assessing Committee and/or the HRC requires additional information to meet reporting and information obligations. This may include brief update reports. All such requests will be discussed with the Contractor to ensure reasonable timeframes and workload associated with such requests.

#### V-2. Final Report to HRC

A final progress report covering the entire term of the e-ASIA contract including the project's aims and objectives should also be submitted to the HRC. Where there is no information available on all or parts of the research project, reasons should be given for this.

#### IV. Contact Information



For all enquiries:

Fiona Kenning  
Research Investment Manager, International  
Health Research Council of New Zealand  
DDI: 64 9 303 5208  
E-mail: [fkenning@hrc.govt.nz](mailto:fkenning@hrc.govt.nz)

## **7) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST -PCHRD)**

### **I. Review Procedures**

Approval of proposals for research grants will be based on a multi-level review process.

1. In-house screening in terms of alignment to the research priorities, duplication, and completeness of requirements.
2. Technical review by external consultants based on the following criteria:
  - Technical merit
  - Data management
  - Relevance/significance
  - Marketability potential (for product-based proposals)
  - Feasibility (practicality, cost, time)
  - Proponent's/ Institution's capacity
3. Final approval by the PCHRD Governing Council or the PCHRD Executive Director depending on the recommended total budgetary requirement of the proposal.
4. In each stage of the review process, the proponent may need to revise the proposal on the basis of the recommendations of the reviewers. The review process will take 75 working days provided that all the requirements had been submitted.

### **II. Who may apply**

Filipinos with at least a Master's Degree in a relevant field, have proven research competence / track record, and employed in universities/colleges, research agencies/institutes, hospitals, and other health related agencies are eligible to apply for the research grant.

### **III. How to apply**

The proponent should submit the following requirements online through the PCHRD Project Management System (<http://www.projects.pchrd.dost.gov.ph/>):

- Project Proposal following the PCHRD Detailed Proposal Form (downloadable from the DOST-PCHRD website)
- Work plan Schedule (Gantt Chart of Activities)
- Proposed Line-Item Budget (LIB) (DOST-GIA LIB Form)
- Counterpart Funding of Implementing Agency
- Informed Consent Form
- Case Report Form, if applicable
- Endorsement of Agency Head
- Curriculum Vitae of Proponent(s)
- Duties and Responsibilities of each Project Personnel
- letter of request addressed to:
  - The Executive Director
  - Philippine Council for Health Research and Development
  - Department of Science and Technology
  - 3/F DOST Main Bldg. Gen. Santos Avenue
  - Bicutan, Taguig City, Metro Manila

DOST-PCHRD will also require the proponent to submit the following documents before the start of project implementation:

- Biosafety Clearance, if applicable
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Clearance, if applicable
- Bureau of Animal Industry Clearance, if applicable
- Ethics Clearance (for studies involving human subjects)

Deadline for online submission will be **on or before 15 April 2019** (Philippine Standard Time). **Note:** *Application with incomplete documents will not be accepted.*

#### **IV. Funding Support Available**

DOST-PCHRD will allocate up to **350,000USD** for each research project for a duration of three years. DOST Grants in Aid guidelines shall be applied.

#### **V. Contact Information**



Mr. Vincent John H. Tumlos

Department of Science and Technology (DOST)

Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD)

Tel: +632-837-7537 local 102

E-mail: [vhtumlos@pchrd.dost.gov.ph](mailto:vhtumlos@pchrd.dost.gov.ph)



## **8) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)**

The official national call announcement for Russia (RFBR) is published on the RFBR website:

[http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/n\\_812/o\\_2082176](http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/n_812/o_2082176)

### **I. Eligibility for Russian applicants**

Who can apply:

- Any Russian citizen(s);
  - Foreign citizen(s) or apatride(s) holding a status of Russian Federation resident for tax purposes.
- thereafter - Russian researchers.

RFBR will fund only one Russian research team per each selected project. Russian research team may consist from 2 to 10 Russian researchers. Despite Russian researchers may have different affiliation, in case the project will be among selected for funding, RFBR grant award to Russian research team should be managed through only one Russian research performing legal entity. Therefore Russian researchers participating in a single project should agree beforehand through which legal entity they will manage grant award and appoint a person (Russian research team Leader) to be responsible for acting on behalf of Russian research team in communication with RFBR including management of grant award.

### **II. Support**

Within each selected international consortium, funding of the participating researchers is provided by their respective national funding organization in accordance with their standard award terms and conditions. RFBR provides funding only for Russian research teams.

RFBR funding within this call will cover a three year period. The funding of each Russian research team may be expected between 2 500 000 – 4 000 000 roubles per each project implementation year. The number of supported projects will strongly depend on number of applications, quality of proposals, and

available budgets of RFBR and other e-Asia JRP Participating Member Organizations.

The participants of research projects should aim towards equal international collaboration, both in terms of workload and funds requested, involvement of early-career researchers in project implementation is encouraged.

Detailed list of eligible costs is stated in official national call announcement.

### **III. Application**

Russian applicants should submit a national proposals to RFBR through KIAS system (<http://kias.rfbr.ru>) no later than 23:59 (Moscow time) 20 May 2019. Please refer to national call announcement at [http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/n\\_812/o\\_2082176](http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/n_812/o_2082176) for more details and instructions on procedure.

### **IV. Evaluation of Project Proposals**

All proposals will undergo evaluation by RFBR experts according to RFBR internal rules and procedures (published on [www.rfbr.ru](http://www.rfbr.ru)). After national evaluation is completed an international independent committee represented by e-Asia JRP Participating Member Organizations will review outcomes of national evaluations. Based on the results of the national evaluations, a common decision on list of selected projects will be jointly taken by e-Asia JRP Participating Member Organizations.

### **V. Contact Information**

More details on application and funding procedures and on respecting deadlines are published in RFBR national call announcement at [http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/n\\_812/o\\_2082176](http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/n_812/o_2082176). If any issues are still have to be clarified, please address National Contact Points below for further details:



RUSSIAN  
FOUNDATION  
FOR BASIC  
RESEARCH

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Denis Rudik  
Russian Foundation for Basic Research  
+74999410196 (ext.1625)  
rudik@rfbr.ru

## **9) Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)**

### **I. Eligibility for Thai applicants**

The applicants must be researchers and/or university professors/instructors who work in public research institute or university in Thailand, and are competent in conducting a research with international partners.

"NSTDA will provide support only for Infectious Diseases and AMR while cancer research will be supported by TCELS".

### **II. Support**

The total budget for the Thai researcher over a full 3-year period is up to 5,000,000 THB. The budget for a project may differ each year, depending on the content of activities.

### **III. Evaluation of Project Proposals**

Proposals will be peer-reviewed, and evaluated by a committee. The final selection will be done by the international selection committee of e-ASIA.

#### **III.I Evaluation Criteria**

To be funded, proposals must be internationally competitive. It should lead to the advancement of the research field, or novel applications or increase of research capacity.

Key evaluation criteria are:

- Significance and impact of the research
- Scientific Rationale: novelty, importance and timeliness of the research
- Design and feasibility of the project plan
- Partnership: including strength and clarity of collaborations and opportunities provided, quality of the project management structure proposed;
- Quality and suitability of the research environment and of the facilities;
- Ethical considerations and governance arrangements

**Contact Information**



Ms. Jirawadee Matoon  
International Relation Officer  
International Collaboration  
National Science and Technology Development Agency  
Tel: +66 2117 6932  
E-mail: [jirawadee.matoon@nstda.or.th](mailto:jirawadee.matoon@nstda.or.th)

## **10) Thailand: Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Sciences (TCELS)**

### **I. Eligibility for Thai applicants**

Research proposals may be submitted by:

- Research institutions
- Universities
- Startups
- SMEs'

with a branch in the territory of Thailand.

Specify the share/amount of funding for the eligible types of entities, e.g.:

- **Public research institutes:** 100% of the eligible project related costs can be funded.
- **Private research entities:** 80% of the project related costs are eligible.

### **II. Support**

The maximum amount allocated for the project is 75,000 USD with a maximum duration of 36 months. The funding is limited to:

- Personnel costs: Personnel costs can be covered for up to 30% of the project cost.
- Travel costs cover economy class flights to and from destination, appropriate accommodation and other related expenses.
- Instrument and material costs:
  - equipment and small equipment (no basics) if its project related need is clearly demonstrated.
  - consumables can be covered if their project related need is clearly demonstrated
- Overhead costs are eligible only for public institutes and can apply for a lump sum up to 5% of the project cost.

### **III. Evaluation Criteria**

The project will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Scientific/technological excellence
- Innovativeness of the project idea: capacity of a project to contribute to

the development of a new technology, service or product

- Good balance between the technology/knowledge available at each participating team
- Potential impact and expected outcomes of the project
- Social and/or market related impact
- Prospects for establishing efficient and sustainable partnership within the network, including transfer of know-how and experience
- Management, Transnationality and Cooperation
- Quality and effectiveness of the management structure and distribution of tasks
- Added value of transnational cooperation
- Appropriate allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment)

### **Contact Information**



Ms. Premruedee Lertsakvimarn  
Senior Manager, International Cooperation  
Ministry of Health, Cambodia  
Tel: (+66) 2 644 5499 ext. 131  
E-mail: [premruedee@tcels.or.th](mailto:premruedee@tcels.or.th)

## **11) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)**

Please see below for additional information.

In addition to other infectious diseases, joint research projects focused on HIV and TB co-infection are encouraged.

### **Eligibility**

The U.S. PI and participants on the U.S. team may be foreign nationals (U.S. permanent residents or visa holders), but must reside in the U.S. for at least 50% of the award period. Graduate students on the U.S. team may be foreign nationals, but they must be enrolled in an accredited degree program at a U.S. institution during the period of their participation in the project.

Scientists employed by the U.S. federal government may apply for this program, however the U.S. PI and affiliated federal agency are **not permitted** to receive funding under this program.

### Budget and Allowable Costs

The maximum total award is up to **\$100,000** U.S. Dollars (USD) disbursed over three years. Utilizing funds from NIAID, the U.S. institution will receive a fixed obligation award from CRDF Global, pending the submission and acceptance of all necessary approvals and documentation (e.g., IRB approval, award agreement, animal subject review, etc...).

CRDF Global will support expenses for the U.S. teams from universities and non-profits with the exception of large-scale equipment purchases. U.S. federal government agencies and U.S. teams from for-profit companies **are not permitted** to receive funding under this program.

- i. Funding may be requested for the following expenses:
  - (1) Labor
  - (2) Equipment, Supplies and Services
  - (3) Travel
  - (4) Indirect Costs. Applicants (Primary and Secondary collaborators) may request indirect costs/ overhead expenses on all direct costs



except for equipment (over \$5,000), capital expenditures, rent, student tuition, participant support costs<sup>[1]</sup> and sub-awardees expenses (after the first \$25,000). Total direct costs minus these items is considered the modified total direct cost (MTDC) amount for which the IDC rate should be applied. IDCs combined with the total direct costs cannot exceed the funding total allowed to request. Below are helpful calculations:

- **IDC \$** = IDC% x MTDC = \$
- **Maximum Total Sub-Team budget** = total direct costs \$ (including MTDC) + IDCs \$

Foreign Institutions may **not request more than 8%** in IDCs. U.S. institutions with a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rates Agreement (NICRA) may request up to their approved NICRA rate. Documentation for these rates should be provided in the budget narrative if the institution requires this payment. U.S. institutions without a NICRA may **not request more than 10%** in IDCs.

### Contact Information



Mr. Gray Handley, MSPH  
Associate Director for International Research Affairs  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
National Institutes of Health  
Department of Health and Human Services  
5601 Fishers Ln Rm 1E MSC 9802  
Bethesda, MD 20892-9802 [For courier deliveries: 20852]  
Phone: +1 (301) 594-6128

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<sup>[1]</sup> Participant Support costs include stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with meetings, conferences, symposia or training projects, scholarships/fellowships.

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Ms. Gayle Bernabe, MPH  
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National Institutes of Health  
Department of Health and Human Services  
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## **General inquiries**



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