



INDIA - SOUTH AFRICA JOINT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH COOPERATION



CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS (2010)

Department of
Science and
Technology

CLOSING DATE : 15 July 2010

Under the framework of India- South Africa inter-governmental bilateral agreement on cooperation in the fields of science and technology signed in 1995, a new programme of cooperation has been agreed for the years 2008 to 2011. Under this Programme of Cooperation we are pleased to announce the call for joint research project proposals between South African and Indian scientists / researchers, and invite all local scientists/ researchers wishing to participate to submit their proposals by the due date indicated below.

Who may apply?

South Africa : This call is open to all working researchers residing in South Africa and affiliated with a recognised higher education or research institution such as a university, university of technology or science council. An application must designate two principal investigators, one in South Africa and the other in India, who will bear the main responsibility for the project, including its technical and administrative coordination as well as scientific and financial reporting. The South African applicant must be in possession of at least a master's degree (preferably a PhD). Commercial institutions and private education institutions are not eligible to apply under this programme.

India : The Principal Investigator (PI) and other investigators in India should be Scientists/ faculty members working in regular capacity in UGC recognized Universities/ Deemed Universities, Academic Institutes and National Research & Development Laboratories/ Institutes. The Indian PI should not be retiring or leaving the parent institute during the proposed duration of the project.

How do I apply?

South Africa: Application forms for South African applicants may be downloaded electronically from the NRF website (www.nrf.ac.za). A **compulsory soft copy** and scanned signature page of the South African application must be submitted to: **Mr Raven Jimmy** (raven@nrf.ac.za)

No hard copies of the application will be accepted.

Only applications endorsed by the research office or its equivalent at higher education or research institutions will be accepted.

India : **Application forms for Indian applicants** may be downloaded from the websites www.dst.gov.in or www.stic-dst.org.

One original and five copies of project proposals may be submitted in the prescribed format to **Dr Arvind Kumar, Scientist 'D', International Division, Department of Science & Technology, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi-110016** and **one copy**

typed in MSword is to be e-mailed to arvindkumar25@rediffmail.com; **before the closing date**. The applications should be forwarded through designated authority of the Institute/University/Laboratory.

Which activities may I apply for?

During the present Call, funding will only be made available for the conducting of joint research projects, only in the following priority areas:

- **Astronomy, Astrophysics and Space Science**
- **Green Chemistry and Clean Processing, and**
- **Biomedical Products (including traditional medicine).**

Funding will be available for a maximum of three years, starting in 2010, with funds exclusively to be used for mobility of scientist/ researcher/ student associated with the project for approved project activities. Bursaries, scholarships, publication costs, project management fees, consultant fees, VAT and purchasing of equipment will not be accommodated under this programme. Consumables can be set in the budget within reasonable parameters (not more than 15% of the total requested budget). Upto three exchange visits (visit of one person at a time being counted as one visit) may be allowed per year. Each visit may be up to a maximum of two months.

The onus is on the applicant to find their own research partner. Proposals must be received in both, India and SA. Proposals received in only one of the two countries will be automatically disqualified.

How much should I apply for?

While funding levels are not fixed, a suggested maximum of **R450 000.00** per project may be used as a general indicator of available funds (**i.e. R150 000.00 per year**) in South Africa. In India, DST would provide the cost of approved exchange visits and consumables (upto 15% of total budget) based on the recommendations of the Expert Committees. Note that both scientific and financial reporting on the project is an **OBLIGATORY** condition of funding in subsequent years.

How are applications evaluated?

Following the closing date indicated below applications will be assessed separately by DST and NRF based on the following criteria:

- Track record of the applicant
- Quality of the proposal/Scientific merit
- Potential for promoting equity and redress / Capacity building
- Value addition by the collaboration/ national priority
- Possible impact of the research/national priority

(Note that proposals demonstrating strong elements of capacity building, particularly among **historically disadvantaged institutions**, will be favourably regarded by the South African side). Following these assessments, projects would be shortlisted for funding through mutual consultations between DST and NRF based on the results of the evaluations done in both countries.

Note further that funding will only become available once both funding agencies have completed their respective national procedures. The applicants should allow till March next year (2011) before the funds can be released.

When is the closing date for applications?

All applications must be submitted by **15 July 2010**.

Where can I obtain more information?

South Africa :

Programme related queries

Mr Siyabonga Kohli

Tel: 012 481 4356

Fax: 086 211 4533

Grant related & technical queries

Mr Raven Jimmy

Tel: 012 481 4069

Fax: 012 349 1179

India :

Dr Arvind Kumar

Scientist Dq

Department of Science & Technology

Tel: 26590272

Email : arvinkumar25@rediffmail.com