

e-ASIA Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP)
Research Cooperation in the field of “Health Research”
on the topics of
“Infectious Diseases (including AMR), Cancer, and Mental Health, with a
focus on precision medicine in Cancer and Infectious Diseases”
9th Joint Call for Proposals to be submitted by 23rd April 2020

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

I. Aim of Joint Call and Research Area

The aim of the e-ASIA JRP 9th Health Research Call is to invite applications for research addressing health and medical issues in East Asia and contribute to enhancing regional research capacity through multilateral collaboration. The three call topics are:

1. Infectious diseases, including AMR

¹ NHMRC and RFBR to confirm their participation and funding modalities for the 2020 e-ASIA call in early 2020.

2. Cancer
3. Mental health

It is expected that applicants will choose one of the research topics below, except where the project is of interdisciplinary and corresponds to more than one topic.

Precision medicine is of interest to several e-ASIA member organisations. The National Institute of Health (NIH) defines precision medicine as “an emerging approach for disease treatment and prevention that takes into account individual variability in genes, environment, and lifestyle for each person.” Precision medicine creates a personalised approach to medical care that takes into consideration an individual’s unique features and needs with the goal to ensure that each patient is receiving “the right drug at the right dose at the right time”. Proposals that explore the application of precision medicine to infectious diseases and cancer are encouraged.

1) Infectious Diseases (including AMR)

Infectious diseases such as cholera and tropical diseases, including Chikungunya fever, Zika virus, and avian and other influenza strains, are prevalent and spreading in the East Asia region. Increases in travel and trade throughout East Asia has contributed to the complexity of preventing and controlling infectious outbreaks in the region. Additionally, antimicrobial resistance has become a worldwide public health threat due to the slow pace at which novel antibiotics are discovered, compared to the rising rate and widespread use of antibiotics. Current predictions suggest deaths from AMR in low-income countries will rise dramatically by 2050.

The e-ASIA JRP has previously supported 23 collaborative research projects in infectious disease and AMR research. However, there is an ongoing need for further biomedical research and the development of different approaches to control and reduce the impact of infectious diseases and combat rising AMR in the region and globally.

Advances in genomics and computing have transformed the capacity for the characterization of biological systems. Researchers are now poised to prepare and respond to infectious diseases with precision, including the use of genome-based approaches to inform molecular diagnosis and individual-level treatment regimens. The capability to track and understand pathogenic transmission due to developments in the speed and granularity of pathogen genome generation, have the potential to result in targeted population-level public health interventions to improve emergency responses to outbreaks.² Utilisation of Precision Medicine to select the 'right drug at the right dose for the right patient at the right time' will address significant AMR challenges by changing the way antibacterial agents are developed and prescribed.³

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

2) Cancer Research

Over 700,000 new cases of cancer and 500,000 cancer deaths in the ASEAN region were estimated in 2008. The incidence rates of specific cancers across Southeast Asia vary, with health behaviours and lifestyle factors directly influence incidence rates. As a westernised lifestyle is increasingly adopted by Asian countries, the incidence of lifestyle-related cancers has risen. Findings from a 2012 report⁴ suggested the burden of cancer was significant in the Southeast Asia region, and each country was strongly encouraged to put in place cancer-control health care policies.

Genomics is the main factor influencing precision medicine in oncology. However, other factors, including a patient's disease presentation, gender,

² Oliver G. Pybus & Kristian G. Andersen (2019) Precision epidemiology for infectious disease control, Jason T. Ladner, Nathan D. Grubaugh, , Nature Medicine volume 25, pages 206–211

³ Linda Federici Miller Ph. D and Marielena Mata Ph. D (2018) Precision Medicine in Infectious Diseases: Changing the treatment paradigm for bacterial infections to end the Antimicrobial Resistance Crisis, The Journal of Precision Medicine,

www.thejournalofprecisionmedicine.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/MILLER-MATA.pdf

⁴ 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

lifestyle, and exposures to potential cancer-causing agents like cigarette smoke, could be considered in precision medicine. Novel research using precision medicine, such as immunotherapy, is harnessing the power of our immune systems to identify and control diseases such as cancer.

The e-ASIA JRP is seeking to support research projects focused on cancer research for prevention, diagnosis, treatment, or monitoring. The projects may include, but not limited to, the use of precision medicine such as targeted therapy, cell therapy or engineered cell therapy, therapeutic antibody-based therapy, cancer vaccine: dendritic cell-based, peptide vaccine, or RNA vaccine.

3) Mental Health

Across the East Asia region, mental illness is a significant health and socioeconomic burden⁵. Regional transformation through rapid economic and technological change, population growth, migration, and urbanization have affected mental well-being across the region. It is estimated that fewer than half of those affected by mental illness receive any treatment.⁴

Both natural disasters (e.g. earthquakes, tsunamis) and human-caused (e.g. mass violence, disease outbreaks, community unrest) can result in catastrophic loss of life and physical destruction resulting in long and short term mental health trauma for communities.⁶ WHO epidemiological projections show that post-disaster mental health problems range from mild distress to very severe mental health problems.

The e-ASIA JRP is seeking to support research projects in mental health to improve the life expectancy for people living with mental illness, including building resilience to natural and man-made disasters and catastrophic events, depression, and suicide prevention.

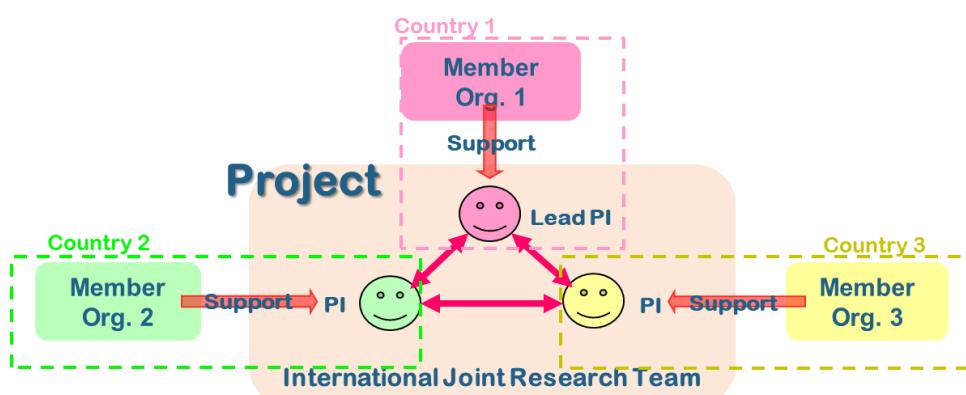
5 Chee H. Ng (2018). Mental health and integration in Asia Pacific, Vol 15(4): 76-79.

6 Types of Disasters. USA Department of Health and Human Services, 2019.

<https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/disaster-distress-helpline/disaster-types>

II. Support/ Funding Modality

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



(i) Infectious Diseases, including AMR

Participating Member Organizations	Funding Modality
(1) NHMRC (Australia) ⁷	New, In-kind
(2) MOH (Cambodia)	In-kind
(3) RISTEK/ BRIN (Indonesia)	New
(4) AMED (Japan)	New
(5) MOH (Lao PDR)	In-kind
(6) MOE (Myanmar)	In-kind
(7) HRC (New Zealand)	New
(8) DOST-PCHRD (Philippines)	New
(9) RFBR (Russia) ⁷	New
(10) TCELS (Thailand)	New
(11) NIAID (USA)	New, Re-budget, In-kind
(12) MOST (Vietnam)	New, In-kind

⁷ NHMRC and RFBR to confirm participation and funding modalities for the 2020 e-ASIA call in early 2020.

(ii) Cancer Research

Participating Member Organizations	Funding Modality
(1) NHMRC (Australia) ⁷	New, In-kind
(2) MOH (Cambodia)	In-kind
(3) RISTEK/ BRIN (Indonesia)	New
(4) AMED (Japan)	New
(5) MOH (Lao PDR)	In-kind
(6) MOE (Myanmar)	In-kind
(7) HRC (New Zealand)	New
(8) DOST-PCHRD (Philippines)	New
(9) RFBR (Russia) ⁷	New
(10) TCELS (Thailand)	New
(11) MOST (Vietnam)	New, In-kind

(iii) Mental Health

Participating Member Organizations	Funding Modality
(1) NHMRC (Australia) ⁷	New, In-kind
(2) MOH (Cambodia)	In-kind
(3) RISTEK/ BRIN (Indonesia)	New
(4) MOH (Lao PDR)	In-kind
(5) MOE (Myanmar)	In-kind
(6) HRC (New Zealand)	New
(7) DOST-PCHRD (Philippines)	New
(8) RFBR (Russia) ⁷	New
(9) MOST (Vietnam)	New, 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 for a selected project. 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. 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 common requirements, there are specific rules clarified by each Member Organization. For specific rules by each Member Organization, please refer to the Appendix or consult the person noted in Section VI.

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 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) 23rd April 2020

Please submit the proposal to:



Yoshihide Kobayashi (Mr.)
e-ASIA JRP Secretariat
E-mail: 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 Member Organizations of your country, in addition to the application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat (submitted by Lead PI only). Each Member Organization may request applicants of its country to submit supplementary documentation for the research proposals with different deadline date.

Proposals must meet the common requirements (outlined in this call guideline) **AND** individual requirements requested by each Member Organization.

A research team that does not meet the individual requirements of their Member Organization will be deemed ineligible. For individual requirements of each Member Organization, 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, acronym, general description and proposed period of cooperative research project)
- Form 2E Summary of the project
- Form 3E Research leaders' information (their CVs*)
- Form 4E Research team (list of individuals committed to the cooperative research project in each country)
- Form 5E Description of the cooperative research project
- 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 or consult each Member Organization of his/her country.

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 2020)

V. Project Implementation

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

In addition to the Member Organization'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 Member Organizations’ 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 relevant materials. 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.

Country: Member Organization	Contact Point
(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: help@nhmrc.gov.au
(2) Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)	Mr. TEK Bunchhoeung Tel: (+855) 78 990 566 E-mail: bunchhoeung@yahoo.com
(3) Indonesia: Ministry of Research and Technology/ National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)	Ms. Anggun Amalia Fibriyanti/ Mr. Adhi Indra Hermanu Tel: +62-21-3169119 e-mail: anggunamalia11@gmail.com / manoe@ristekdikti.go.id
(4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)	Dr. Naoko Kojima, Ms. Naoko Okino Tel:+81 (0)3-6870-2215 E-mail: e-asia@amed.go.jp
(5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)	Dr. Bouakham VANNACHONE Tel: +856-20- 22474516 E-mail: bkvynchone@gmail.com
(6) Myanmar: Ministry of Education	Ms. Phyu Phyu Win

(MOE)	Tel: +95-9-441220027 E-mail: driphyuwin@gmail.com
(7) New Zealand: Health Research Council (HRC)	Ms. Fiona Kenning DDI: 64 9 303 5208 E-mail: fkenning@hrc.govt.nz
(8) 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: vhtumlos@pchrd.dost.gov.ph
(9) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)	Mr. Yaroslav Sorokotyaga, Mr. Denis Rudik Tel: +7 499 941 0196 E-mail: ysorokot@rfbr.ru , rudik@rfbr.ru
(10) Thailand: Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Sciences (TCELS)	Ms. Premruedee Lertsakvimarn Tel: (+66) 2 644 5499 ext. 131 E-mail: premruedee@tcels.or.th
(11) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	Mr. Gray Handley Tel: +1 (301) 594-6128 Email: handleygr@niaid.nih.gov Ms. Gayle Bernabe Tel: +1 (301) 451-1018 Email: gbernabe@niaid.nih.gov
(12) Vietnam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	Ms. Bui Thi Thu Lan Tel: (+84 4) 3943 9192 Email: btlan@most.gov.vn

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

e-ASIA Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP)
Research Cooperation in the field of “Health Research”
on the topics of
“Infectious Diseases (including AMR), Cancer, and Mental Health, with a
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Information about each Member Organization (alphabetical order by country)

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4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED) ..	20
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6) Myanmar: Ministry of Education (MOE)	28
7) New Zealand: Health Research Council (HRC)	29
8) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST -PCHRD)	33
9) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR).....	36
10) Thailand: Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Sciences (TCELS)	37
11) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	39
12) Vietnam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	42

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

NHMRC will confirm participation in the 2020 e-ASIA Research Call in early 2020. Details will be published via Tracker, RAO alerts and on the NHMRC website.

Applicants should refer to the NHMRC website for information:

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



Australian Government

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

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

3) Indonesia: Ministry of Research and Technology/ National Research and Innovation Agency (RISTEK/BRIN)

Indonesian researchers who seek new funds from RISTEK/BRIN need to apply for "International Collaboration (KLN)", RISTEK/BRIN's competitive funds. The Indonesian PI MUST be from Higher Education Institutions/University. Other research Institutions may join the project as Co PI. After the awardee list has been announced by the e-ASIA secretariat of the Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP), Indonesia PI should contact RISTEK/BRIN for the proposal submission process.

RISTEK/BRIN requires the Indonesian Principal Investigator to meet conditions by Simlitabmas Guideline, with minimum requirements as follows:

- Applications only are accepted from PI in University. The Indonesian PI MUST be from Higher Education Institutions / University.
- Indonesian citizens and hold a permanent or fixed-term contract in an eligible university or research institute in Indonesia;
- Competent in oral and writing English skills;

The proposed budget submitted must be related to the Minister of Finance Regulation, for each unit/component have a maximum budget at year (standard of special cost and standard of input cost). The awardee selected proposed funding will be subject to assessment by RISTEK/BRIN reviewer. The amount of funds will be determined through the evaluation process by the reviewer assigned by RISTEK/BRIN

Personnel Costs

Costs for student research assistants can be covered if their work is related to the research project, by referring to the Regulation of the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia, specifically the "Standar Biaya Masukan (Standard of input cost)".

Mobility of Indonesian and foreign researcher and experts

For Indonesian researcher to the country of research partner:

- Flight to and from destination: economy class flight
- Visa costs
- Transfer to and from the airport
- Daily allowance (the amount depends on the destination, check the standard of input cost)

- Insurance fees

For Foreign researcher:

Our research grant is restricted with Indonesian Financial regulation that limits the use for Indonesian researcher only.

Equipment

Indonesian grant could not be used for equipment.

Scientific events and project meetings in Indonesia or country of research partner

- Room rent
- Catering
- Other costs necessary for the implementation
- Publications
- Travel costs and accommodation for external experts based on the regulation above
- The costs for the event have to be requested by the project partner in the hosting country

Please adjust the simlitabmas guidelines as a reference for funding from Indonesia.

Contact Information

Ms. Anggun Amalia Fibriyanti/ Mr. Adhi Indra Hermanu

DIRECTORATE RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MINISTRY OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY / NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
AGENCY (RISTEK/BRIN)

Tel: +62-21-3169119

e-mail: anggunamalia11@gmail.com, manoe@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 (MEXT) 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 17 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://wwwAMED.go.jp/koubo/03/01/0301B_00058.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 23rd April 2020.**

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 application 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 the participating Member Organizations 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 / Ms. Naoko Okino

Department of International Affairs

Division of International Collaboration
Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development
TEL: +81 (0)3-6870-2215 FAX: +81 (0)3-6870-2240
E-mail 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
Prevention Division,
Department of Communicable Disease Control,
Ministry of Health, Lao PDR
Tel: +856-20- 22474516
E-mail: bkvnchone@gmail.com

6) Myanmar: Ministry of Education (MOE)

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

Please consult the person in charge directly.

Contact Information



Ms. Phy Phyu Win
Deputy Director General
Department of Research and Innovation
Ministry of Education, Myanmar
Tel: +95-9-441220027 Fax: +95-1-668033
E-mail: driphyuwin@gmail.com

7) 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 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), Thursday 16 April 2020.

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, applicant rebuttal and review by an Assessing Committee.

Applicants will have the opportunity to undertake applicant rebuttal, this process will be on HRC Gateway. Refer to HRC Gateway for key dates.

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



Health Research Council
of New Zealand

Te Kaunihera Rangahau Hauora o Aotearoa

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

8) 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 01 May 2020** (Philippine Standard Time). **Note:** Application with incomplete documents will not be accepted.

IV. Funding Support Available

DOST-PCHRD will allocate up to **300,000 USD** 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

9) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)

RFBR will confirm participation in the 2020 e-ASIA Research Call in early 2020. Details will be published on the e-ASIA JRP website and the RFBR website.

Contact Information



RUSSIAN
FOUNDATION
FOR BASIC
RESEARCH

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

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
Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Sciences
Tel: (+66) 2 644 5499 ext. 131
E-mail: premruedee@tcels.or.th

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

No additional application materials are required to be submitted directly to NIAID. Only the e-ASIA JRP application submitted directly to the e-ASIA Secretariat is required and will be reviewed. Please see below for more 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, including those from foreign institutions) may request indirect costs/ overhead expenses on all direct costs except for equipment (over \$5,000), capital expenditures, rent, student tuition, participant support costs^[1] 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

^[1] 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.

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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Ms. Gayle Bernabe, MPH
Regional Program Officer-East/SE Asia and the Pacific
Office of Global Research (OGR)
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12) Vietnam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)

Please kindly visit the website to get further information in details relating to the internal procedures of Viet Nam as followings: <http://www.most.gov.vn/>

The Vietnamese PI must finish the application form in Vietnamese template and send to MOST. For the “in-kind” projects, the Vietnamese applicants must send information to MOST for further internal procedures and notation.

Or please consult the person in charge directly:

Contact Information



Ms. Bui Thi Thu Lan
Head of Division
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General inquiries



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