



## **Call for Proposals**

### **Indo-Norwegian Co-operation on Antimicrobial resistance**

#### **BACKGROUND**

During the visit of Hon'ble President Pranab Mukherjee to Norway in October, 2014 an MoU for co-operation between Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) and the Research Council of Norway (RCN) was signed by India Ambassador to Norway Norman Anil Kumar Browne and Arvid Hallen, Director General of RCN. This cooperation seeks to establish a health research relationship for encouraging research in a range of health-related areas of mutual interest, including human vaccines, infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance. The agreement shall promote direct cooperation within the field being organized through joint calls and funding for research proposals/projects as well as facilitating exchange of scientists and scientific information.

#### **DESCRIPTION**

ICMR is soliciting collaborative research projects in the field of antimicrobial resistance. ICMR will fund the Indian component of the studies and will collaborate on this initiative with RCN. Support will be for a maximum of two years. A similar Call for Proposals has been issued by RCN for Norwegian investigators under this program.

#### **RESEARCH AREAS COVERED**

The following broad areas are covered in the call:

- Surveillance systems for antimicrobial resistance and antibiotic use in humans and/or animal population
- Design, implementation and evaluation of antibiotic stewardship programs including intervention studies to promote infection control and clinical practice guidelines in hospitals, primary care and veterinary medicine
- Novel strategies for diagnosis and treatment of infections caused by multidrug-resistance bacteria
- Ecological, evolutionary and molecular properties of antimicrobial resistance

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS:**

Proposals submitted by the Indian investigators should be duly forwarded by the Head of the Institute. Research proposals must be in the ICMR format for adhoc research projects available

at [www.icmr.nic.in](http://www.icmr.nic.in) and [www.icmextramural.in](http://www.icmextramural.in) along with a copy of proposal submitted to RCN by Norwegian collaborator and should provide the following details:

- Abstract of the project that describes the research, need, and significance of the proposed study.
- Research plan that includes a description of the project, monitoring plans if required, and expected outcomes. The research described must be a new initiative.
- Research proposal should describe the research methodology in detail (limited to five pages); this limit does not include the abstract, references, collaboration plan, or the budget.

The application should be accompanied by letter from the Norwegian Scientist describing his/her activities and specific role in the project and his/her brief biodata.

### **Collaboration Plan**

Information describing any previous collaborations with the Norwegian investigator and:

- Introduction on how this proposal was stimulated as a result of the availability of this special program and how this collaboration could evolve into a long lasting collaboration or how it will aid in developing new collaborations;
- Description of the added-value synergy that the collaborative partnership aims to incur during the period of the award;
- Description of the responsibilities of the Norwegian investigator and the Indian collaborator; and
- Description of technology transfer, if appropriate.

### **BUDGET**

Research proposal Budget must include details for Staff, equipment (names), supplies (recurring), and services along with proper justification for each of them.

### **REVIEW**

All applications will undergo peer review. The project proposals will be assessed separately according to the rules of procedure in each country. The result of these procedures will be the basis for reaching mutual agreement on the ranking of the projects and a decision on funding. Projects must receive a high assessment score in both countries to be funded. The 5-6 Indian and Norwegian selected projects will receive funding from the ICMR and the RCN respectively.

At the time of the review, some applicants may also need to provide additional information or clarification, if requested by reviewers.

Applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Scientific merit and quality.
- Feasibility of the proposal.
- Relevance to the scope and intent of the India-Norway Collaborative Research Program.

- Strength of proposed collaboration.
- Impact on developing a new area for collaboration.
- Likelihood that the proposed project will achieve its proposed goal(s).
- Benefits of the project for the users and the research field.
- Benefits for society at large.
- Capacities in place for implementing research findings in practice.
- Applicant's past scientific record, as described in the Biosketch.
- Appropriateness of the total budget (i.e., research and short-term scientist exchange) in accomplishing the research collaboration.

Final decision of funding will be taken by the ICMR-RCN Joint Working Group for this program. Successful applicants will be notified by the ICMR, following that review.

Awardees will be required to submit yearly annual report for continuation of the project and a copy of the final report along with the two-page summary report of the outcomes of the proposal to the ICMR within 90 days after completion of the project.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

The applicants should submit their application through the ICMR electronic project management system (ePPMS) <http://icmrextramural.in/ICMR/>

Applicants are also requested to send 10 copies of each of the **full proposal as per ICMR format and ICMR summary sheet (available at ICMR website) along with necessary documents** by April 26, 2017 to Dr Kamini Walia, Scientist E , Division of Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases, Indian Council of Medical Research, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi 110029. The list of documents/necessary clearances to be submitted along with the details on international collaboration is available on ICMR website: <http://www.icmr.nic.in>. Also submit a soft copy as a PDF attachment to [icmr.project2015@gmail.com](mailto:icmr.project2015@gmail.com) .

## **TIME LINE:**

Full Proposal Submission Deadline:	April 26, 2017
Award Notification:	October, 2017
Earliest anticipated date of start:	December 2017

## **Contact persons**

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