



15th JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Call Guidelines

Field of Cooperation in

Alternative Energy

On the Call Topics of

**Sustainable and Renewable Fuels (Net-Zero Emission Policy); and
Sustainable and Renewable Fuels (Sustainable Aviation & Marine Fuels)**

Closing date for the 15th Joint Call for Proposals: 31 March 2026

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1. Introduction

The e-ASIA Joint Research Program (hereinafter referred to as the “e-ASIA JRP”) aims to foster a dynamic and collaborative research community in Science and Technology, promote regional innovation, and contribute to the sustainable economic development of the East Asian region.

As part of the program, the Member Organizations of the e-ASIA JRP, listed below, have agreed to endorse a joint call for proposals to facilitate multilateral cooperative research activities.

1.1 Participating Member Organizations

(Listed by country in alphabetical order)

- 1) China: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)
- 2) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
- 3) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD)
- 4) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)

The table below outlines the specific eligibility requirements applicable to the following Member Organizations:

| Member Organizations | Specific Eligibility Requirements |
|--|---|
| 1. National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Chinese applicants are required to complete application submission via the NSFC Grants System: http://grants.nsfc.gov.cn/. The Lead oversea PI should be listed first in the “Overseas Cooperative Researcher” column of the NSFC application. (2) The Lead PI of each project must also submit the Common Application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat. (3) A copy of the research consortium’s e-ASIA Common Application must be attached to the application to NSFC Grants System. |

| Member Organizations | Specific Eligibility Requirements |
|---|---|
| | <p>(4) Deadline of submission to NSFC Grant System: <u>16:00 (China Standard Time, UTC+8) on 2 April 2026.</u></p> <p>(5) Chinese applicants must be researchers affiliated with a higher education or research institution which registers in NSFC. Chinese PI must have a senior academic rank (title) and have/had been the PI of at least one on-going or completed NSFC research project with the duration of no less than 3 years.</p> <p>(6) Please refer to the Chinese guidelines for details on the eligibility for Chinese applicants (https://www.nsfc.gov.cn/).</p> |
| 2. National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) | <p>(1) BRIN requires that collaborations must include a Lead PI or PI from the countries of the participating Member Organisations.</p> <p>(2) Indonesian applicants are required to complete application submission via the BRIN Pendanaan System: https://pendanaan-risnov.brin.go.id and the Indonesian Lead PI of each project must also submit the common application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat via email.</p> <p>(3) Deadline of submission to BRIN Pendanaan System by <u>17:00 (Western Indonesian Time, UTC+7) on 31 March 2026</u></p> <p>(4) Applications to BRIN must meet the minimum requirements as described in the RIIM Kolaborasi Internasional e-ASIA JRP Guidelines, available on BRIN Pendanaan System: https://pendanaan-risnov.brin.go.id</p> <p>Specific Eligibility Criteria – Indonesia (BRIN)</p> <p>i) Eligible Institutions: Research institutions, universities, and R&D units in Indonesia that are officially registered under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology, or the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN).</p> <p>ii) Eligible Applicants (PI): The Indonesian Principal Investigator (PI) must:</p> |

| Member Organizations | Specific Eligibility Requirements |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hold a doctoral degree (PhD); ○ Affiliated with an eligible institution in Indonesia; ○ Have a track record of research relevant to the proposed project. <p>Team Composition: Each Indonesian team may include researchers, engineers, technical staff, and students. Participation of early-career researchers and female researchers is strongly encouraged.</p> |
| <p>3. Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD)</p> | <p>(1) Any Filipino individual or entity with proven competence and affiliated with a recognized university, college, or Research and Development Institute in the Philippines may apply for funding support, provided the proposed project is aligned with the specified research areas.</p> <p>(2) The eligibility of the Philippine Principal Investigator shall be determined by DOST-PCIEERD based on his/her readiness in terms of technical, managerial, financial, and marketing capabilities (if necessary).</p> <p>(3) Interested parties should submit their applications using the DOST-GIA proposal format through the DOST e-proposal portal, http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph before the Closing Date on 31 March 2026, 5:00PM (Philippine time).</p> <p>(4) Together with the application, DOST-PCIEERD requires submission of an endorsement from the authorized head of the organization.</p> |

| Member Organizations | Specific Eligibility Requirements |
|--|---|
| <p>4. Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)</p> | <p>(1) PMU-B requires that collaborations must include a Lead PI or PI from at least one of the countries of the following participating member organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) • Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) • The Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) <p>(2) Applicants applying as a Lead PI in Thailand must be researchers who are either Thai citizens or non-Thai citizens affiliated with a Thai organization, such as a public or non-profit research institute or university in Thailand, and the project must include <u>at least two participating institutions</u> in Thailand.</p> <p>(3) Proposal details must align with the topics specified in the PMU-B Annex of the Call Guidelines.</p> <p>(4) The budget should be within the specified limit.</p> <p>(5) Thai applicants must submit their application and endorsement letters from all research partners to PMU-B through NRIIS: https://nriis.go.th</p> <p>(6) The Thai applicant's institution must endorse the submission in the NRIIS system.</p> <p>(7) Deadline of submission to NRIIS System by <u>17:00 (ICT, UTC+7) on 31 March 2026</u></p> <p>Note: The Lead PI must also submit the common application form to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat.</p> |

IMPORTANT NOTE

Applicants are strongly advised to read the call guidelines thoroughly, as they directly affect the eligibility of the entire research team. For detailed information on eligibility criteria and additional requirements, please refer to the National Annex.

2. Aim of Joint Call and Research Area

The aim of the e-ASIA JRP 15th Call in the field of “Alternative Energy” is to strengthen multilateral collaboration among researchers of the participating countries to address shared challenges in sustainable energy transition. This Call focuses on Sustainable and Renewable Fuels, which encompasses key areas such as Net-Zero Emission Policy and Sustainable Aviation & Marine Fuels, both aligned with regional strategies for achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

Member Organizations (MOs) are participating in the topics as follows:

| Participating Member Organization | Topic 1 | Topic 2 |
|---|---------|---------|
| National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) | ✓ | ✓ |
| National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B) | ✓ | ✓ |

2.1 Call Topic 1: Sustainable and Renewable Fuels (Net-Zero Emission Policy)

This Call Topic aims to support research that strengthens regional policy coherence, accelerates the Net Zero transition, and deepens the understanding of economic and socio-economic implications across ASEAN. Proposals should address key policy, regulatory, technological, and market challenges that hinder the adoption of clean energy systems—particularly biofuels, renewable energy, sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), and

hydrogen—and generate evidence-based insights that can guide regional harmonization and strategic decision-making.

The central objective of this Call Topic is to overcome fragmented policy frameworks, inconsistent standards, and limited cross-border coordination, which collectively constrain investment flows, technology deployment, and the development of an integrated Net Zero market. In addition, proposals should respond to the growing need for analytical foundations that explain the economic transition pathways, labor and industry impacts, and supply-chain requirements associated with large-scale decarbonization.

Research may include (but is not limited to):

- Comparative analysis of regional policy instruments, governance models, and regulatory gaps affecting biofuels, renewable energy, SAF, and hydrogen.
- Development of ASEAN-wide safety and certification standards, especially for hydrogen, to support future cross-border deployment and trade.
- Economic modelling of energy transition costs and market dynamics, including CAPEX/OPEX trends, tariff implications, and global energy risks (e.g., OPEC volatility).
- Socio-economic assessments of the employment impacts, industry readiness, skills transition, and vulnerabilities in critical material supply chains.
- Identification of conditions required to foster a competitive and integrated Net Zero market, including policy recommendations and regional coordination mechanisms.

Expected research outputs include actionable policy recommendations, harmonized standardization frameworks, decision-support tools, economic and socio-economic impact analyses, and strategic insights that can be used by governments, industry, and regional bodies to accelerate the ASEAN Net Zero transition.

2.2 Call Topic 2: Sustainable and Renewable Fuels (Sustainable Aviation & Marine Fuels)

This Call Topic aims to advance the technical readiness, infrastructure capability, and market ecosystem required for large-scale deployment of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), carbon-neutral marine fuels, and other low-carbon drop-in fuels in Southeast Asia. Proposals should address critical technological, logistical, and socio-economic

challenges that currently limit production scalability, certification, market adoption, and regional trade integration.

A key objective is to accelerate the development and demonstration of fuel production pathways—particularly those using tropical feedstocks—and ensure their compliance with international sustainability and certification standards. Equally important is the need to strengthen refinery and biorefinery infrastructure, optimize logistics for storage and distribution, and evaluate new collaborative models (e.g., PPPs, multinational cost-sharing) that support regional market expansion.

This seeks to overcome persistent barriers such as high production costs, limited demonstration facilities, insufficient supply-chain integration, challenges in fuel certification, lack of regional market frameworks, and low availability of skilled human capital. Research should therefore provide multi-dimensional insights that integrate engineering, economic, and policy perspectives.

Research may include (but is not limited to):

Technical & Production

- Development and optimization of thermochemical, biochemical, or catalytic processes for SAF and drop-in fuels.
- Assessment of SAF pathways from tropical feedstocks, including feedstock availability, lifecycle emissions, and certification readiness.
- Pilot-scale demonstration and scale-up of HEFA and other production pathways in national or regional contexts.
- Feasibility and demonstration studies for alternative marine fuels, including production methods, blending performance, and environmental impact.
- Engineering strategies for carbon-neutral marine fuel production and scale-up, including process intensification and co-product valorization.

Infrastructure & Logistics

- System-level studies on SAF storage, transport, and fuel integration into existing aviation and marine fuel systems.
- Technical and economic evaluation for retrofitting existing refineries and biorefineries to accommodate SAF and low-carbon marine fuels.
- Supply-chain modelling to identify bottlenecks, cost drivers, and opportunities for regional logistics integration.

Social/Economic Opportunities

- Research on knowledge transfer and human capital development, particularly in advanced bioprocessing and fuel quality certification.
- Frameworks for Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs) to support co-investment, risk-sharing, and technology adoption.
- Market analyses of the economic viability of SAF and marine fuels, including cost-sharing models, scaling strategies, and competitiveness in global markets.
- Studies to support regional SAF trade agreements, cross-border harmonization, and long-term market design.

The expected outcomes of this Call Topic include the establishment of certified or certification-ready SAF and marine fuel pathways suited to tropical feedstock conditions, supported by demonstration-level evidence that enables the scalable production of low-carbon fuels across ASEAN. Research should deliver engineering and economic models that inform refinery retrofits, logistics integration, and overall cost optimization, alongside policy and market frameworks that facilitate public–private partnerships, multinational collaboration, and emerging regional SAF trade mechanisms. Ultimately, this aims to generate strategic knowledge that enhances regional energy security and strengthens ASEAN’s position as a competitive supplier of low-carbon aviation and marine fuels.

3. Support/Funding Modality

In principle, each Member Organization will provide support exclusively to researchers from its own country who are involved in projects selected for funding through this joint call, in accordance with the support types outlined under “Funding Modality” in the table below.

The duration of each selected research project shall be three years (36 months) from the official starting date. Specific conditions of support may vary between Member Organizations. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully review the National Annex for detailed rules and regulations applicable to each Member Organization.

3.1 Participating Member Organizations and Funding Modality

Call Topic 1: Sustainable and Renewable Fuels (Net-Zero Emission Policy)

| Participating Member Organizations | Funding Modality |
|---|--|
| National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) | New |
| National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) | New and In-kind <i>(Please refer to the National Annex)</i> |
| Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) | New |
| Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B) | New |

Call Topic 2: Sustainable and Renewable Fuels (Sustainable Aviation & Marine Fuels)

| Participating Member Organizations | Funding Modality |
|---|--|
| National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) | New |
| National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) | New and In-kind <i>(Please refer to the National Annex)</i> |
| Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) | New |
| Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B) | New |

DESCRIPTIONS:

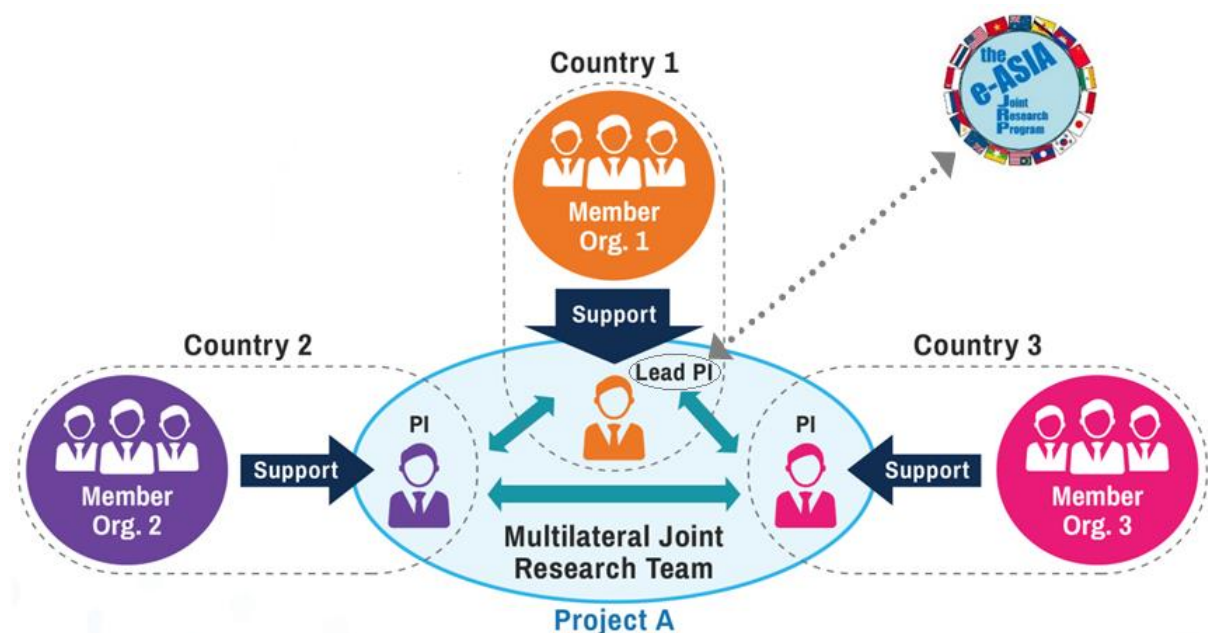
- (1) **New:** Member Organizations will provide new funding to support the selected project.
- (2) **Re-budgeting:** Funds previously allocated by each Member Organization to an existing project will be reallocated to support the e-ASIA JRP.

- (3) **In-kind:** Member Organization from the researcher’s country does not provide additional budget for the selected project. Instead, the researcher will utilize existing funds without any new financial contribution from their Member Organization.

In principle, at least one participating country must contribute through either the “New” or “Re-budgeting” funding modality. Proposals will not be accepted if all applicants intend to participate solely on an “In-kind” basis.

4. Project Consortium and Application Requirements

The application must consist of a minimum of three countries forming a consortium. Within this consortium, each research team in a country shall be led by a Principal Investigator (PI), also referred to as a national PI, and a consortium of a minimum of three countries shall be led by a Lead PI specified among the PIs who is tasked to oversee the entire project.



4.1 Roles and Responsibilities

4.1.1 Roles and Responsibilities of Lead Principal Investigator (Lead PI)

- a) Responsible for the overall management of the project, including ensuring that all eligibility and national submission requirements are met for all countries involved.
- b) Serves as the primary contact with the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat on behalf of the entire consortium.
- c) Manages the administrative aspects of the project if funding is granted.
- d) Leads project activities at their own institution.
- e) Must be affiliated with an institution located in the home country of one of the Member Organizations participating in this call.

4.1.2 Roles and Responsibilities of National Principal Investigators (National PIs)

- a) Lead their respective research teams within their countries.
- b) Collaborate with the Lead PI in project activities.
- c) National PIs must ensure that all required application documents requested by their respective Member Organization are submitted.
- d) Should demonstrate progress and/or accomplishments from previous research projects, including those related to prior e-ASIA projects, relevant to the current application.

4.2 Common Eligibility Criteria

This section describes common e-ASIA eligibility criteria; however, applicants should be aware that some Member Organizations have additional requirements as outlined in the National Annex.

- Only collaborative projects will be funded. A project consortium must consist of at least three eligible research teams from a minimum of three different participating countries specified in Section 1.1.
- All PIs must meet their respective national eligibility and application rules for research applications. If Lead PIs do not meet eligibility criteria, the application will be considered ineligible and will not be supported.
- Applications must be submitted using the e-ASIA Common Application Form template as stipulated in Section 4.3 and adhere to the formatting and content requirements. Some Member Organizations may have additional application requirements. Please refer to the National Annex for more information.

Fostering communication among researchers throughout the application process is encouraged to support the Lead PI in proposal preparation. Effective coordination

between the Lead PI and the national PIs (co-PIs) will strengthen the proposal and ensure a smoother handling of eligibility requirements and technical evaluations.

Researchers from industry are encouraged to participate in the collaboration, in accordance with national eligibility rules. Accordingly, PIs should contact the individual noted in Section 7 for more information on their specific national eligibility requirements.

4.3 Common Application Form

The Common Application (proposal) Form consists of nine sections and must be completed in English only. For additional requirements specific to each Member Organization, Principal Investigators (PIs) are advised to refer to the National Annex or consult their respective Member Organization within their country.

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Section 1 | Overview of the Cooperative Research Project |
| Section 2 | Cooperative Research Project Summary |
| Section 3 | Curriculum Vitae of Principal Investigators |
| Section 4 | Research Teams |
| Section 5 | Cooperative Research Project Description |
| Section 6 | Research Networking Plan |
| Section 7 | Development Plan for Early Career Researchers |
| Section 8 | Project Budget Overview |
| Section 9 | Research Infrastructures and funds from Other Sources |

The contents in Common Application Form must include:

- 1) 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.
- 2) Description of the expected outcomes of the proposed project, scientifically as well as in terms of relevance for industry and society.
- 3) Description of the ongoing activities and specific advantages of each group respectively, which form the basis for the proposed joint project.
- 4) 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.
- 5) Description of how the project is expected to help strengthen multilateral

research collaboration over the longer term.

- 6) Description of the expected value added from the interdisciplinary approach in the proposed joint project, if applicable.
- 7) Description of how the proposed joint project interacts with or impacts other comparable activities worldwide.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- (1) **Curriculum Vitae (CV) Requirements:** *In Section 3, the Curriculum Vitae of Principal Investigators must include basic information such as education, past and current positions, membership in relevant organizations or associations, and a list of publications from the past five years related to the proposed project. *No additional CVs are required or should be attached to the Common Application Form.*
- (2) **Ethical Review Compliance:** *In addition to the documents mentioned above, all projects must adhere to the ethical review and requirements set forth by each Member Organization, particularly for research activities involving human and animal subjects. Pls should verify from the National Annex for the specific ethical requirements of each Member Organization.*
- (3) **Use of the Application Form:** *The Common Application Form must be used exactly as provided and completed solely within the designated sections intended for applicant input. Any alterations, additions, attachments, or other modifications outside these specified sections are strictly prohibited and may result in the application being rejected.*
- (4) **Standardized Formatting Requirements:** *The text within the Common Application Form must adhere to the following formatting guidelines:*
 - a. One-inch margins (2.54 cm) on all sides.
 - b. Line spacing of 1.15.
 - c. Use Aptos, 12 pt as the standard font type and size; however, Calibri 12 pt is acceptable for Microsoft Word versions 2013, 2016, and 2019.
 - d. Exceptions to the font type and size are allowed only for formulas, figure and table captions, and symbols, provided that the text remains readable.

4.4 Common Application Form Submission

Applications must be submitted using the e-ASIA Common Application Form template, available for download from the e-ASIA website at <https://www.the-easia.org/jrp/>. The Common Application Form must be written in English and submitted to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat at the e-mail address specified below by Lead PIs.

Apart from submitting the Common Application Form, each national applicant may also be required to submit an additional application form to their respective Member Organization by a separate deadline. Therefore, it is essential to comply with both the common requirements outlined in this call guideline and the specific requirements established by each Member Organization to maintain eligibility. Member Organizations have full discretion to determine whether the additional applications meet their specific eligibility criteria, and their decisions regarding these criteria will be considered final.

Submission Deadlines

| 2025 | 2026 | | | |
|--|---------|---|-------|--|
| December | January | February | March | April |
| Opening of the 15 th Call from 17 December – 31 March | | | | |
| | | 31 March Submission Deadline to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>e-ASIA JRP Secretariat (Common Application Form)</i> • Indonesia: <i>National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)</i> • Philippines: <i>Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD)</i> • Thailand: <i>Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)</i> | | 2 April Submission Deadline to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China: <i>National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)</i> |

Deadline for Submission:

17:00 (Thailand Standard Time, ICT, UTC+7) 31 March 2026

Please submit the Common Application Form to:

Hideyuki Asano (Mr.)

e-ASIA JRP Secretariat

E-mail: easia-opencall@jst.go.jp

IMPORTANT NOTES ON SUBMISSION

- (1) **Submission Scope:** *The Secretariat will accept only the Common Application Forms. Any supporting documents beyond these forms, even if specifically required by individual Member Organizations, will not be collected or forwarded to the respective MOs. Additionally, submissions made by national PIs will also not be considered or accepted by the Secretariat.*
- (2) **Submission Method:** *Applications must be submitted exclusively via email to easia-opencall@jst.go.jp. Submissions sent through any other email address will not be considered.*
- (3) **Confirmation of Receipt:** *Upon receipt of the application, the Secretariat will send a confirmation email to the Lead PI to acknowledge submission, based on the date and timestamp of the received email (ICT, UTC+7). If the Lead PI does not receive a confirmation email from the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat within one week, they may contact the Secretariat using the contact information provided above. The e-ASIA JRP Secretariat does not assume responsibility for any delays or errors in email delivery that may result in a late submission.*

5. Evaluation

5.1 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.

5.2 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 Annex or consult each respective Member Organization.

5.2.1 Regional Relevance of Joint Research

The research activity should contribute to:

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

5.2.2 Mutual Benefits of Joint Research

- a) Activities that provide mutual benefits to all collaborators and their institutions are highly encouraged. The projects should capitalize on the unique opportunities offered by the e-ASIA JRP, which cannot be realized through bilateral or individual research efforts but only through multilateral cooperation.

5.2.3 Effectiveness of Exchange

The project should:

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

5.3 Notification of the Final Decision

The Lead PI will be notified of the final decision by the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat as soon as it has been made and approved by all Member Organizations involved in the e-ASIA JRP. The estimated timeframe for this notification is between November and December 2026.

6. Project Implementation

Project reporting will adhere to the rules established by each respective Member Organization. For more details, please contact the relevant Member Organizations directly.

In addition to the requirements of the Member Organizations, consortia are expected to submit Progress Reports and Final Reports to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat in English. These reports should include a description of their collaboration and a publishable summary of the project's status. The Progress and Final Reports will be reviewed by the Board and related experts. Furthermore, it is encouraged that the project actively disseminates its achievements to the public.

6.1 Progress Report

At the midpoint of the research period (i.e., after one and a half years), the Lead PI shall prepare and submit an integrated progress report to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat detailing the status of the joint research. The report template will be made available at:

<https://www.the-easia.org/jrp/documents.html>

6.2 Final Report

A final report shall be prepared and submitted by the Lead PI to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat within two months following the completion of the joint research period. The report template will be made available at: <https://www.the-easia.org/jrp/documents.html>

6.3 Other Reports

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 the 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 Annex for each Member Organization’s requirement.

7. Contact information

To ensure clarity and accuracy in all communications, we strongly encourage national PIs to be the primary points of contact with their respective national Member Organizations regarding eligibility rules and support conditions.

| Country: Member Organization | Contact Information |
|--|---|
| National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) | Division of Asia, Africa and International Organization, Bureau of International Cooperation Phone: +86-10-62327368 E-mail: zhangyw@nsfc.gov.cn |
| National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) | Dr. Raden Arthur Ario Lelono Director of Research and Innovation Funding Email: dana-risnov@brin.go.id Phone: +62 811-1064-6771 |
| Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) | DR. ENRICO C. PARINGIT Executive Director e-mail: oed@pcieerd.dost.gov.ph MS. GRACE F. ESTILLORE Chief Science Research Specialist e-mail: gfestillore@pcieerd.dost.gov.ph |
| Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B) | SMITH LEKNETTIP, PhD (Mr.) Senior Project Analyst Tel: +66 8 7566 0103 E-mail: smith.lek@nxpo.or.th |

For General Inquiries:



HIDEYUKI ASANO (Mr.)

Program Coordinator

Address: e-ASIA JRP Secretariat
111 Thailand Science Park,
Innovation Cluster1 Building (INC1), Room 218
Phahonyothin Road, Khlong Nueng, Khlong Luang,
Pathum Thani 12120, Thailand

E-mail: easia-opencall@jst.go.jp



NATIONAL ANNEX

Field of Cooperation in

Alternative Energy

On the Call Topics of

**Sustainable and Renewable Fuels (Net-Zero Emission Policy); and
Sustainable and Renewable Fuels (Sustainable Aviation & Marine
Fuels)**

Closing date for the 15th Joint Call for Proposals: 31 March 2026

Information about each Participating Member Organization

(Alphabetical order by country)

- 1) China: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)
- 2) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
- 3) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD)
- 4) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)

China: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)

- 1) NSFC can support three (3) applications.
 - 2) Funding modality: New
 - 3) Chinese applicants must read and accept the following conditions for this program.
 - 4) Please refer to the Chinese guidelines for further details at:
<https://www.nsfc.gov.cn/>.
-

1. Eligibility

- The Chinese Principal Investigator (PI) must be researchers affiliated with a higher education or research institution which registers in NSFC.
 - The Chinese PI must have a senior academic rank (title) and have/had been the PI of at least one on-going or completed NSFC research project with the duration of no less than 3 years.
 - Projects require support from a minimum of three (3) e-ASIA member organizations including NSFC.
 - A Common Application must be submitted to the e-ASIA Secretariat (as described in Section 4. Project Consortium and Application Requirements above).
 - Chinese PIs must submit a completed online application to the NSFC's Grants System (<http://grants.nsfc.gov.cn>) and submit the final version of Common Application proposal submitted to e-ASIA as attachments to the NSFC Grant system. The Lead oversea PI should be listed first in the "Overseas Cooperative Researcher" column of the NSFC application.
-

2. Support

NSFC will support three (3) applications, with a maximum budget of CNY 2,000,000 Yuan per grant over three (3) years.

The funding covers all the expense of research cost (including Equipment expenses, Purchase cost, Experimental and Operating expenses, Labor costs), seminar/workshop costs, international cooperation and exchange and others.

3. How to apply

- 1) All Chinese applicants must apply to NSFC through NSFC's Grants System (<http://grants.nsfc.gov.cn>), AND the Lead PI of each project must also submit the common application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat.
 - 2) A copy of the research consortium's e-ASIA Common Application must be attached to the application when submit to the NSFC Grants System.
 - 3) Deadline of submission to NSFC's Grants System: 16:00 (China Standard Time, UTC+8) on 2 April 2026.
-

4. Evaluation

All applications that meet the eligibility requirements will be reviewed by reviewer with relevant disciplinary expertise, based on the e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria (as described in Section 5. Evaluation above) and NSFC assessment criteria as listed below:

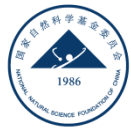
- Scientific merit.
 - Foundation of international cooperation and its complementarity.
 - Innovation aspects.
 - Social impact.
 - Feasibility of the cooperation and research plan.
 - The progress and completion status of the NSFC projects undertaken in the past.
-

5. Reporting

At the end of each fiscal year, Chinese PIs shall submit progress report to NSFC on the status of joint research, output, research expenses, and research plan for the next year.

After completion of the period of joint research, Chinese PI shall submit a final report on the results of the joint research, which shall include a description of the research activities, outputs and outcomes, and financial report.

6. Contact Information



国家自然科学基金委员会
National Natural Science Foundation of China

**DIVISION OF ASIA, AFRICA AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION,
BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Phone: +86-10-62327368

E-mail: zhangyw@nsfc.gov.cn

Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)

1. Eligibility

- 1) The Principal Investigator (PI) submitting proposal to BRIN must be an Indonesian citizen and must hold a doctoral degree (S3).
- 2) The Principal Investigator (PI) and team members are researcher from BRIN or other Indonesian research entity with appropriate legal registration for example, university, civil society organizations, and industry/company/business entity;
- 3) Other research institutions legally registered in Indonesia, excluding BRIN, are encourage to register to the Sistem Informasi Registrasi Lembaga Riset (SEBARIS): <https://sebaris.brin.go.id/daftar>, and comply with its requirement to meet the required administrative and legal obligations;
- 4) The Principal Investigator and team members must have a research track record and expertise relevant to the proposed research or clearly defined roles in the research project where their skill sets provide added value as stated in their Curriculum Vitae, with their research track record detailed in the research experience section.
- 5) The Principal Investigator and team members are allowed to be involved in up to 2 (two) proposals for the RIIM Kolaborasi Internasional e-ASIA JRP funding, either as Principal Investigator on 1 (one) proposal and a team member on 1 (one) proposal, or as a team member on 2 (two) proposals.

Please note that the Indonesian applicants shall comply with the research ethical clearance from the Ethics Committee before the research commences. This application is done through the Research Ethical Clearance Information System:

<https://klirensetik.brin.go.id/>.

2. Support

This funding support is under the RIIM Kolaborasi Scheme, funded by the investment gains of the Research Endowment Fund managed by the Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education Agency (LPDP) under the Ministry of Finance. BRIN will support up to 5 applications with a maximum amount of IDR 1,000,000,000 per project/year (including researcher mobility and infrastructure sharing). The duration of the project shall be no

longer than 3 (three) years in total from the start date. The amounts will be adjusted according to the evaluations and budgetary limitations. Funding might be allocated based on Standard Costs of Research and Innovation Outputs.

2-1. Eligible Costs

- Purchase/procurement of chemicals/consumables or materials essentials for research or production components;
- Honorarium is available to compensate field workers for their contributions (max IDR 80,000 per day per person);
- Meals for meetings that are directly related to the research, held within the office of the respective institution and in compliance with its policy;
- Capital expenditure may not exceed 10% of the entire amount funded or 50 (fifty) million Indonesian Rupiahs, whichever is reached first;
- Domestic travel that directly related to the research activities;
- International travel in the form of joint collaboration meeting (terms and conditions applied); and
- International travel in the form of Visiting Professor or joint research visits will be covered only if researcher applies for the researcher mobility scheme managed by the Directorate of Talent Management.

Please note that the researcher mobility scheme is exclusively for BRIN researchers only. However, Indonesian researchers from other institutions may apply for researcher mobility funding only if they collaborate with BRIN research group. Further information about the researcher mobility scheme, including its provisions and access to the BRIN research group database, can be found at: <https://manajementalenta.brin.go.id>.

In addition to the above, please note that Indonesian grants cannot cover these following:

- Equipment/software purchases;
- Capital expenditure for land purchase, building purchase, or asset acquisition;
- Indirect/overhead expenses including but not limited to communication costs; and
- Other expenses that are not approved.

2-2. Fund Disbursement

- 1) Research funding is disbursed through a transfer from the LPDP operational

account to the grantee institution's account;

- 2) The disbursement of research funding as mentioned in point 1) is done per proposal title;
- 3) The disbursement of research funding is carried out under the following conditions:
 - 1 (one) stage per period with the funding amount for the first period not exceeding or equal to IDR 250,000,000 (two hundred fifty million Indonesian Rupiahs) after the PIs meets the requirement for fund disbursement.
 - 2 (two) stages per period with the funding amount for the first period exceeding IDR 250,000,000 (two hundred fifty million Indonesian Rupiahs) after the PIs meets the requirement for fund disbursement.
- 4) The disbursement stages in subsequent periods follow the disbursement stages of the first period as mentioned in point 3);
- 5) If there is a remaining balance of research funding at the end of the period, the disbursement of research funding in the following period can only be done after the grantee institution returns the entire remaining balance;
- 6) The requirements for disbursing 1 (one) stage research funding after meeting the disbursement conditions are as follows:

| No | Application Requirements | First Year | Advanced years |
|----|--|------------|----------------|
| 1 | Letter of request for disbursement of funds from funding recipient | ✓ | ✓ |
| 2 | Agreements/other similar documents | ✓ | x |
| 3 | Research proposal from the funding recipient | ✓ | x |
| 4 | Planned use of funds from funding recipients | ✓ | ✓ |
| 5 | Tax Invoice specifically for funding recipients with taxable for VAT purposes (PKP) status | ✓ | ✓ |
| 6 | Absolute Accountability Letter (SPTJM) from funding recipients | ✓ | x |
| 7 | Evaluation results of funding recipients | x | ✓ |
| 8 | Report on realization of use of funding from the previous year | x | ✓ |
| 9 | Report on the performance achievements of funding recipients from the previous year | x | ✓ |

Description: ✓: Required; x : Not required

- 7) The distribution of research funds in 2 (two) stages of disbursement with the following requirements:

a. First Stage Fund Distribution

- (1) The first stage of fund disbursement is 50% (fifty percent) of the total amount.
- (2) The distribution of the first stage of funds is based on the compliance with the requirements for the distribution of the first stage of funds as follows:
 - a) letter of request for disbursement of first stage funds;
 - b) agreements/other similar documents;
 - c) research proposal;
 - d) plan for use of first stage funds from funding recipients;
 - e) tax invoices specifically for funding recipients who have taxable for VAT purposes (PKP) status; and
 - f) letter of absolute responsibility (SPTJM) from the funding recipient.

b. Second Phase Fund Distribution

- 1) The second stage of fund disbursement is a maximum of 50% (fifty percent) of the funding amount.
 - 2) The distribution of the second stage of funds is based on the completeness and compliance with the requirements for the distribution of the second stage of funds as follows:
 - a) letter of request for disbursement of second phase funds;
 - b) a financial report showing at least 80% (eighty percent) of the first stage funding amount has been used;
 - c) monitoring report on progress towards achievement of research activity performance indicators;
 - d) statement of responsibility for purchases (SPTJB);
 - e) plan for use of second phase funds from funding recipients; and
 - f) tax invoices are specifically for funding recipients who have taxable for VAT purposes (PKP) status.
- 8) Disbursement requirement documents are uploaded through Rispro application system (<https://risprolpdp.kemenkeu.go.id/>);
- 9) For researcher mobility activities, proposals should be submitted and follow the procedures of the BRIN Talent Management Directorate.

2-3. Return of Remaining Funds and Misused Funds

- 1) During each evaluation, the Directorate for Research and Innovation Funding, under the Deputy for Facilitation of Research and Innovation (hereinafter refer to as DFRI BRIN) verifies the remaining unused funds and/or funds that have been used for unintended purposes;
 - 2) If there are remaining funds and/or funds used for unintended purposes, they must be returned by the grantee to LPDP;
 - 3) If there are remaining funds and/or funds used for unintended purposes that must be returned by the grantee, DFRI BRIN will request the return of funds from the beneficiary;
 - 4) DFRI BRIN ensures that the return of funds is made by the grantee to LPDP no later than 60 (sixty) calendar days after the notification letter is received by the grantee; and
 - 5) The return of funds by the grantee is done through a transfer via the account or virtual account specified by LPDP.
-

3. How to Apply

Please note that applicants are required to complete both email submission to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat (only if the Indonesian applicant is the Lead PI) and submission via the BRIN Pendanaan System. Applications will be considered ineligible if the proposal documents are not submitted by the deadline through both submission systems.

- Applications must be written in English and must comply with the Call Guideline and instruction in the form (as described in Section 4. Project Consortium and Application Requirements above).
- The Indonesian PI must register the email addresses of all Indonesian researchers in the research consortium. Each member must confirm their participation in the project on the BRIN Pendanaan System: <https://pendanaan-risnov.brin.go.id/>.
- Applications (identical copies of the proposal of the consortium) must be submitted to the BRIN Pendanaan System: <https://pendanaan-risnov.brin.go.id/>.
- Applications submitted to the BRIN Pendanaan System must be accompanied by additional documents such as: a signed approval sheet from an authorized

official of the institution, the Curriculum Vitae of the Indonesian PI and all team members, and the proposed budget details (RAB)

- Indonesian PI who becomes Lead PI of the consortium of three countries must submit the applications of the consortium to the e-ASIA Secretariat (as described in Section 4. Project Consortium and Application Requirements above)

It is the Lead PI's responsibility to verify the member organization participation in respective calls, and any additional eligibility requirement specific to the member organization. Partnering country applicants are required to submit their applications to their respective member organization in line with the applicable funding organization due dates. Submission will be considered ineligible if the proposal documents are not submitted by the deadline through both submission systems.

4. Evaluation

The Secretariat of the Directorate for Research and Innovation Funding will ensure that applications meet all eligibility requirements outlined in the Call Guideline, at the time of submission. Applications that do not meet eligibility requirements may be ineligible and may be excluded from further review.

All applications that meet the eligibility requirements will be reviewed by reviewer with relevant disciplinary expertise, based on the e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria (as described in Section 5 Evaluation above) and BRIN assessment criteria listed below:

4-1 Significance and Advantage

- Roadmap and strategic value
- Relevant track record/expertise of the research team
- Collaboration network
- Budget
- Research methods
- Expected output:
 - a. *Publications:*
 - For funding with a duration of 1-2 years: the PI must have at least 1 (one) publication in an international journal with a medium or high reputation that is currently being reviewed.

- For funding with a duration of 3 years: the PI must have at least 2 (two) publications accepted in international journals with medium or high reputation

b. Joint Publications with Partners:

- For 1 year funding: the PI must have 1 (one) co-authored publication in an international journal with medium or high reputation.
- For 2-3 years funding: the PI must have co-authored 2 (two) papers/publications with research partners and submitted to an international journal with medium or high reputation.

c. Intellectual Property:

- Minimum registered intellectual property status, with a principle of equity noted as a collaborative agreement
- Grantees must comply with intellectual property rules

After completing the projects, final evaluation will be performed based on the final reports by the program evaluation committees in BRIN.

4-2. Conclusion of Contracted R&D Agreement

For each funded R&D project, a R&D agreement shall be concluded between the research institution implementing the R&D project and the Directorate for Research and Innovation Funding BRIN, in accordance with the principle of the accounting period of the national government, Contracting R&D agreement might be based on Standard Costs of Research and Innovation Outputs. Successful applicants shall receive detailed information from BRIN following project selection.

5. Reporting

- 1) At the end of each fiscal year, the Indonesian PI shall promptly submit to BRIN an annual progress report on the status of joint research activities, output achievements, financial report on research expenses, and a research plan for the year ahead. A financial report showing that at least 80% of the grant has been used is required for requesting a second term disbursement.
- 2) At the end of the period of funding and after completion of the joint research, the Indonesian PI shall submit a final report on the results of the joint research which shall include a general summary of the activities both the consortium

and the Indonesian research teams, a description of the research activities, outputs and outcomes, and financial report to BRIN;

- 3) If papers describing results of the research activities are presented to academic journals, societies, etc., a list of those papers and other related information should be attached to the final report.
- 4) The final report shall be submitted within one month after the project finished, through Rispro application system (<https://risprolpdp.kemenkeu.go.id>)
- 5) Each report must include an acknowledgement narrative that clearly recognizes the contributions of those who supported the research project, such as BRIN, LPDP, and e-ASIA JRP.

Evaluation will be performed based on the final reports by the program evaluation committees in BRIN.

5-1. Mandatory Submission

1) Data Management:

- Grantees are required to provide a data management plan for handling primary data and research outputs.
- Data and information resulting from the joint research activities shall be reported and preserved at the Indonesian National Scientific Repository (Repositori Ilmiah Nasional) through the website <https://rin.brin.go.id> / in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

2) Submission of Physical Data:

- Material or specimen resulting from the joint research activities shall be submitted and stored at the Indonesia National Scientific Collection managed by the Directorate for Scientific Collection Management BRIN.

5-2. Acknowledgement

All publication resulting from the research activities under the RIIM Kolaborasi funded by the investment gains of the Research Endowment Fund managed by the Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education Agency (LPDP), must include formal acknowledgement of both BRIN and LPDP as funding institutions and e-ASIA Joint Research Program.

Here is an example of how to write.

Acknowledgements.

This research was supported by the RIIM BRIN and LPDP Grants, grant number (please fill in with contract number). We also express our gratitude to e-ASIA Joint Research Program (please fill in with Organization/Work Unit) and (please mention the research partner institutions).

6. Contact Information



RADEN ARTHUR ARIO LELONO, PhD

Director of Research and Innovation Funding

National Research and Innovation Agency

Phone: +62 811-1064-6771

Email: dana-risnov@brin.go.id

website: <https://pendanaan-risnov.brin.go.id>

Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD)

1. Eligibility Criteria

Any Filipino individual or entity with proven competence may apply for funding support, provided the proposed project aligns with the specified research areas and the applicant is affiliated with a recognized university, college, or Research and Development Institute in the Philippines.

The eligibility of the Philippine Principal Investigator shall be determined by DOST-PCIEERD based on his/her readiness in terms of technical, managerial, financial, and marketing capabilities (if necessary). As such, the proponent shall submit documents/proof of the following: credentials/proof of capability, track record, and endorsement of his/her institution, must not have any existing accountability with DOST (Department of Science and Technology) and its agencies particularly technical and financial reports, and must not have pending administrative or criminal case involving financial transactions. The Philippine Principal Investigator must possess at least a master's degree in a relevant field

2. Support

Two (2) new projects will be supported under the DOST-Grants in Aid with a budget of PhP 15,000,000.00 each for a maximum duration of three (3) years.

3. How to Apply

Interested researchers should submit their proposals using the DOST-GIA proposal format through the DOST e-proposal portal, <http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph> before the Closing Date on **31 March 2026, 5:00PM**. Together with the proposal, DOST-PCIEERD requires submission of a formal letter of intent from the applicant and an endorsement from the authorized head of organization. The authorized head of the organization will also be the principal signatory of their organization for the research agreement award.

It will not be possible to submit an application to the call after the time mentioned above. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be considered. Applicants are

encouraged to leave enough time for proposal inputting in the DPMIS before this date.

When submitting your application, **please follow these steps:**

- (1) Register and create an account in the DPMIS
- (2) Log in to your DPMIS account
- (3) Select Type of Proposal: Alternative Energy – 15th e-ASIA Call for Proposals for Alternative Energy
- (4) Select Classification: New Proposal

The following will **automatically be disapproved:**

- (1) Proposals from organizations that are not qualified to submit during this Call;
 - (2) Proposals outside the priority areas of the Call; and
 - (3) Proposals submitted to any other call route/Council/s.
 - (4) Proposals not submitted through DPMIS.
 - (5) Proposals without two eligible e-ASIA counterpart partners from different participating countries will not be considered.
-

4. Evaluation

- (1) Review teams (Project Managers, Technical Experts Team, or Technical Panel, and DOST-PCIEERD Management Team) will evaluate each proposal based on the following criteria:
 - a. Alignment to the Call, no duplication with previous or existing researches, scientific merit, technical feasibility, soundness of methodology, financial viability (commensurate to intended output and potential impact), potential socio-economic merits, environmental impact (e.g. does not pose significant adverse to the environment or will/can improve environmental conditions), timeframe, sustainability, and marketability (e.g. potential adoption/use of the industry (manufacturer) and other partners), and plans for Research/Project Results Utilization.
 - (2) Each proposal will be given a numerical score and will be ranked accordingly.
 - (3) Endorsed proposals will be subject for the Joint Review Meeting (JRM) during the e-ASIA's Annual Board Meeting. Proposals who have matched in the JRM will be elevated to DOST Executive Committee (ExeCom) for final approval.
-

5. Reporting

Semi-annual progress reports and a detailed final report will be required. Semi-annual progress reports summarize technical progress, planned activities for next semester and summary of expenditures. The final report shall be submitted within 90 calendar days after the performance period is completed. Required DOST Forms are downloadable from the <http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph> and may be provided by the DOST-PCIEERD upon the awarding of the agreement to eligible applicants.

6. Contact Information



DR. ENRICO C. PARINGIT

Executive Director

Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST- PCIEERD)
4th and 5th Levels, Science Heritage Building, DOST Compound,
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MS. GRACE F. ESTILLORE

Chief Science Research Specialist

Policy Coordination & Monitoring Division (PCMD)
Department of Science and Technology- Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST- PCIEERD)
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Bicutan, Taguig City
E-mail: gfestillore@pcieerd.dost.gov.ph

Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)

1. Eligibility for Thai Applicants

- 1) The applicants must be researchers and/or university professors/instructors who work in public/non-profit organization research institute or university in Thailand and are competent in conducting research with international partners.
- 2) The proposal must have the researchers from Thailand at least 2 institutes/universities to cooperate with.

Note: For more information on qualified researchers, please visit the PMU-B website and download [the manual](#).

2. Support

The total budget for the Thai researcher over a **full 3-year period** is up to **5,000,000 THB** per project. This amount may be adjusted downwardly to the consideration and approval of the PMU-B Executive Committee. The budget for a project may differ each year, depending on the content of activities and compliance with PMU-B financial guideline (please find details via PMU-B website: www.pmu-hr.or.th)

3. How to Apply

- 1) Thai applicants must submit the proposal to PMU-B through NRIIS: <https://nriis.go.th> and;
 - 2) Lead PI must also submit proposal to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat's E-mail: easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp.
-

4. Evaluation

Proposals will be peer-reviewed and evaluated by Thai external experts. The final selection will be done by the international selection committee of e-ASIA. To be funded, proposals must be internationally competitive. It should lead to the advancement of the research field, or novel applications or an increase of research capacity.

Key evaluation criteria are:

- (1) Significance and impact of the research
 - (2) Scientific Rationale: novelty, importance and timeliness of the research
 - (3) Capabilities of the research team
 - (4) Design and feasibility of the project plan
 - (5) Partnership: including strength and clarity of collaborations and opportunities provided, quality of the project management structure proposed
 - (6) Quality and suitability of the research environment and of the facilities
 - (7) Ethical considerations and governance arrangements
-

5. Reporting

- (1) Every six months, the Thailand PI shall promptly submit a progress report on the status of joint research to PMU-B
 - (2) After completion of the period of joint research, the Thailand PI shall submit within three months a final report on the results of the joint research to PMU-B.
-

6. Contact Information



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