

Official Document

The e-ASIA Joint Research Program (e-ASIA JRP)



15th JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Call Guidelines

Field of Cooperation in

Health Research

On the Call Topics of

**Infectious Disease and Immunology, and
Advanced Medical Research & Enabling Technologies**

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

- 1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- 2) China: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)
- 3) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
- 4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
- 5) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHRD)
- 6) Singapore: Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)
- 7) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

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

Member Organizations	Specific Eligibility Requirements
1. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	<p>(1) NHMRC requires that collaborations under the Call Topic 1 must include a Lead PI or PI from the country of the following participating member organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia: BRIN <p>(2) Applications will only be accepted from NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions. A list of NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions is available on NHMRC’s website.</p> <p>(3) All Australian applicants must apply to NHMRC’s Grants Management System, Sapphire AND the Lead PI of each project must also submit the Common Application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat.</p>

Member Organizations	Specific Eligibility Requirements
	<p>(4) Deadline of submission to NHMRC's Grants Management System: by <u>17:00 (AEDT, UTC+11) on 1 April 2026</u></p> <p>(5) Applications to NHMRC must meet the Minimum Data and eligibility requirements as described in the 2026 NHMRC e-ASIA Grant Opportunity Guidelines.</p>
<p>2. National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)</p>	<p>(1) Chinese applicants are required to complete application submission via the NSFC Grants System: http://grants.nsfc.gov.cn/. The Lead overseas PI should be listed first in the "Overseas Cooperative Researcher" column of the NSFC application.</p> <p>(2) The Lead PI of each project must also submit the Common Application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat.</p> <p>(3) A copy of the research consortium's e-ASIA Common Application must be attached to the application to NSFC Grants System.</p> <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>

Member Organizations	Specific Eligibility Requirements
<p>3. National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)</p>	<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 whether serving as Lead PIs or National PIs are required to complete application submission via the BRIN Pendanaan System: https://pendanaan-risnov.brin.go.id. However, only the 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> <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>iii) 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>

Member Organizations	Specific Eligibility Requirements
<p>4. Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)</p>	<p>(1) AMED requires that collaborations must include a Lead PI or PI from the country of the following participating member organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) <p>(2) All Japan-based applicants must apply to the “e-Rad” system: (http://www.e-rad.go.jp/index.html) AND the Lead PI of each project must also submit the common application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat.</p> <p>(3) Deadline of submission to the “e-Rad” system: by <u>17:00 (Japanese Standard Time) on 31 March 2026.</u></p>
<p>5. Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHRD)</p>	<p>(1) 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.</p> <p>(2) Proposals must align to the specific priority topics of DOST-PCHRD as outlined in the DOST-PCHRD Annex of the Call Guidelines.</p> <p>(3) The budget should be within the specific limit.</p> <p>(4) All Filipino applicants must apply to the DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS) and the Lead PI of each project must also submit the Common Application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat.</p> <p>(5) The Filipino PI shall submit required documents online through the DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS) (http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph/) by <u>17:00 (PhST, UTC+8) on 31 March 2026.</u></p> <p>(6) Filipino researchers and implementing agencies should comply with the other local eligibility requirements, especially on Item VI, of the DOST Grants-in-Aid Guidelines.</p>

Member Organizations	Specific Eligibility Requirements
<p>6. Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) SG PI must be an independent researcher from public sector research performers, namely the Institutes of Higher Learning (universities and polytechnics), A*STAR Research Institutes, as well as other non-defence-related public sector agencies (e.g., Ministries, Statutory Boards). (2) SG PI must hold a primary appointment of at least 75% in a local publicly funded institution and salaried by the institution. (3) SG PI must first obtain endorsement from respective Host Institutions in support of the project through written approval. The approval has to be submitted to A*STAR (as e-Asia's Singapore representative) together with the application form.
<p>7. USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) NIAID is participating in Call Topic 1: Infectious Disease and Immunology only. (2) NIAID requires that collaborations must include a Lead PI or PI from the country of the following participating member organization: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) (3) 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 United States 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. (4) Scientists and other personnel working in U.S. federal government facilities whose salaries are paid using direct U.S. federal funding, or personnel working under a contract supported by the U.S. federal government, may apply for this program; however, they are not permitted to receive funding or other support (e.g., travel) under this program. U.S. government employees must apply as the U.S. PI. The

Member Organizations	Specific Eligibility Requirements
	federally funded U.S. PI and the affiliated U.S. federal agency participation must be in-kind, or funding must be received by a collaborating non-federal U.S. institution, PI, and key personnel.

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 Health Research Call is to invite applications that will address health and medical issues in East Asia and neighboring regions and contribute to enhancing regional research capacity through multilateral collaboration. The topics identified for the e-ASIA JRP 15th Health Research Call pose a considerable health threat to East Asian countries and are broadly considered global health issues.

The aim of this Health Research Call is to identify biomedical and public health research opportunities, facilitate research collaboration, encourage sharing of knowledge, expertise and resources, and expand the global base of knowledge to respond to health priorities and challenges in the region.

The Health Research stream of the e-ASIA JRP will have two topics for the 15th Call for Proposals:

Call Topic 1: Infectious Disease and Immunology

Call Topic 2: Advanced Medical Research & Enabling Technologies

Projects can be submitted under either topic from the full spectrum of health research from basic science, clinical, to applied public health research that directly relates to human health. Please refer to the National Annex for qualifying research by Member Organizations, some of which fund specific types of research, e.g., basic science research.

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

Participating Member Organization	Topic 1	Topic 2
National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	✓	✓
National Science Foundation of China (NFSC)	✓	✓
National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)	✓	✓
Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)	✓	-
Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCHRD)	-	✓
Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)	-	✓
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	✓	-

2.1 Call Topic 1: Infectious Disease and Immunology

International collaborative research is critical to address infectious diseases that have global health impact, particularly emerging disease threats with pandemic potential and the rise of antimicrobial resistant (AMR) pathogens.

Possible research topics in infectious diseases and immunology include the following, **but are not limited to:**

1. Treatments, preventions, interventions and therapeutics for infectious disease
 - a) Development of novel prevention strategies for combatting emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, including development of vaccines and evaluation of the host immune response.
 - b) Development of interventions to prevent or reduce the emergence or spread of antimicrobial resistance or to treat/cure infections caused by resistant microbes (e.g. bacteria, fungi, parasites and viruses).
 - c) Intersections between infectious and chronic diseases, including lifestyle interventions, prevention and management strategies.
 - d) Development of interventions, treatments, preventions and therapeutics for combatting allergic and immunologic diseases.
2. Diagnostics and surveillance

- a) Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and drug resistance (e.g. Innovations in AMR surveillance, diagnostics and research related to antimicrobial stewardship).
- b) Identifying and targeting emerging health threats and emergencies, including working with partners towards a One Health research approach to climate change, health and the environment, biodiversity, and antimicrobial resistance.
- c) Pandemic preparedness and response (e.g., surveillance, public awareness and prevention).
- d) Use of artificial intelligence (AI) to improve diagnostics and surveillance of infectious disease in East Asia.

2.2 Call Topic 2: Advanced Medical Research and Enabling Technologies

Advanced medical research and enabling technologies are transforming healthcare by integrating technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), machine learning, and digital tools to improve patient care, diagnosis, treatment, and overall health outcomes. These technologies are also impacting research processes, clinical trials, and the development of new therapies and diagnostics. International collaboration in this field brings together diverse expertise, resources, and perspectives to accelerate innovation, improve global health outcomes, and ensure equitable access to cutting-edge solutions.

Possible research topics in advanced medical research and enabling technologies include the following, **but are not limited to**:

- a) Safe, ethical, equitable application of AI in healthcare and medical research.
- b) Stem cell development and therapies.
- c) Synthetic biology and genome editing technologies.
- d) Ethical and regulatory implications of integration of rapidly emerging technologies in research and health care.
- e) Development of policy and governance for emerging technologies in research and health care.

2.3 Research Approach

The e-ASIA JRP presents a research collaboration opportunity for researchers, as it offers access to funding and other resources to support multi-investigator research engaging scientists in at least three countries in this call. To effectively utilize and maximize the unique opportunities provided through the e-ASIA JRP and to synergistically address health challenges in East Asia, proposals that include the following integrated research approaches are strongly encouraged:

- (1) interdisciplinary research
- (2) training, mentorship, and career development of early-career (early-stage) investigators
- (3) communication, information, and data exchange, including sample/data sharing and a data management plan, if applicable
- (4) consideration of equity and diversity factors, as appropriate
- (5) capacity building
- (6) community and stakeholder engagement, including people with lived/living experience of disease or chronic conditions
- (7) commitment to long-term sustainability
- (8) establishment and maintenance of networks of collaborating institutions.

Collaborative research projects, supported through this program, should be pursued through mutually beneficial partnerships and shared leadership that contribute to scientific innovation, research capacity and social applicability in the region. The research findings from the e-ASIA JRP projects should be disseminated to expand scientific knowledge and facilitate the utilization of the research results to enhance evidence-based health practice in East Asia and in other parts of the world.

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: Infectious Disease and Immunology

Participating Member Organizations	Funding Modality
National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	New
National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)	New
National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)	New, In-kind (Please refer to the National Annex)
Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)	New
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	New, In-kind

Call Topic 2: Advanced Medical Research & Enabling Technologies

Participating Member Organizations	Funding Modality
National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	New
National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)	New
National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)	New, In-kind (Please refer to the National Annex)
Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHRD)	New
Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)	In-kind

DESCRIPTIONS:

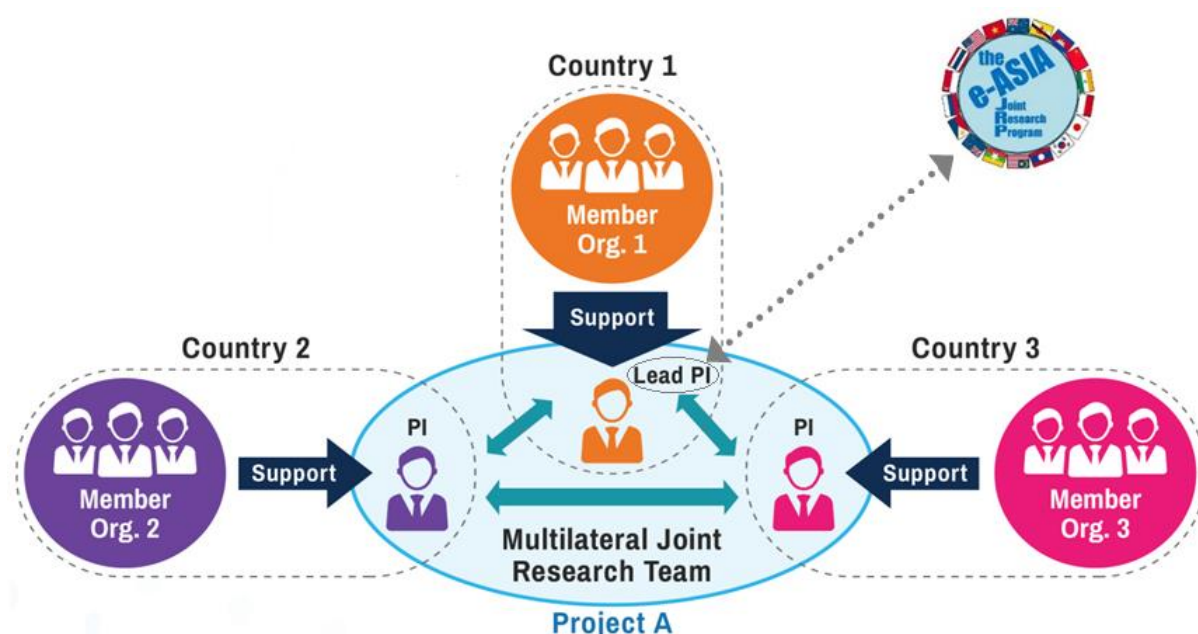
- (1) **New:** Member Organizations will provide new funding to support the selected project.
- (2) **Re-budgeting:** Funds previously allocated by each Member Organization to an existing project will be reallocated to support the e-ASIA JRP.

- (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.

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. PIs 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:*
- One-inch margins (2.54 cm) on all sides.*
 - Line spacing of 1.15.*
 - 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.*
 - 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> • <i>Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)</i> • <i>Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)</i> • <i>Philippines: Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHRD)</i> 		1 April Submission Deadline to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)</i>
				2 April Submission Deadline to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>China: 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
Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	NHMRC RESEARCH HELP CENTRE Phone: +61 1800 500 983 (+61 2 6217 9451 for international callers) E-mail: help@nhmrc.gov.au
China: 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
Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)	DIRECTORATE FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING Contact Person: Raden Arthur Ario Lelono, PhD. Director of Research and Innovation Funding Phone: +62 811-1064-6771 Email: dana-risnov@brin.go.id
Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)	DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS Department of International Strategy E-mail: e-asia@amed.go.jp
Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHRD)	Mr. Vincent John H. Tumlos Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD) E-mail: vhtumlos@pchrd.dost.gov.ph Mr. Paul Ernest N. De Leon Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD) E-mail: pndeleon@pchrd.dost.gov.ph
Singapore: Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)	Ms. Diana Adnan International Partnerships Office, A*STAR E-mail: diana_adnan@a-star.edu.sg

Country: Member Organization	Contact Information
USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	AMERICAS, CARIBBEAN, ASIA, AND PACIFIC (ACAP) TEAM Office of Global Research (OGR), National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services Email: NIAIDOGRACAP@mail.nih.gov

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

Health Research

On the Call Topics of

Infectious Disease and Immunology, and Advanced Medical Research & Enabling Technologies

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

Information about each Participating Member Organization

- 1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- 2) China: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)
- 3) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
- 4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
- 5) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHRD)
- 6) Singapore: Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)
- 7) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

- (1) NHMRC can only fund research into human health.
 - (2) NHMRC has a provisional funding allocation to support 6 applications. NHMRC's Research Committee annually reviews and recommends indicative budget amounts to be awarded across individual funding schemes.
 - (3) Key obligations are outlined below, but applicants should review in conjunction with the *2026 NHMRC e-ASIA Joint Research Program Guidelines*, available on [GrantConnect](#).
-

1. Eligibility

Eligibility for NHMRC support is dependent on the following:

- (1) Projects require support from a minimum of 3 e-ASIA Member Organizations including NHMRC, i.e. a research project must consist of an Australian research team collaborating with research teams seeking support from a minimum of 2 e-ASIA participating Member Organizations in the relevant call.
- (2) For Call Topic 1 (Infectious Disease and Immunology) NHMRC requires that collaborations must include a Lead PI or PI from the country of the following participating member organization. This requirement does not apply to Call Topic 2 (Advanced Medical and Enabling Technologies).
 - **Indonesia:** National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
- (3) Applications must be submitted to the e-ASIA Secretariat (as described in Section 4. Project Consortium and Application Requirements above) and via NHMRC's Grants Management System, Sapphire.
- (4) Applications must meet NHMRC's eligibility and Minimum Data requirements as outlined in the *2026 NHMRC e-ASIA Joint Research Program Guidelines*.
- (5) Applications will only be accepted from NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions. A list of NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions is available on [NHMRC's website](#).

The Chief Investigator A (CIA) and the Administering Institution must ensure applications meet all eligibility requirements, as set out in the *e-ASIA Joint Research Program (e-ASIA JRP) 15th Call for Proposals Guideline* and the *2026 NHMRC e-ASIA Joint Research*

Program Guidelines, at the time of submission and for the duration of peer review. Applications that do not meet eligibility requirements may be ineligible and may be excluded from further consideration.

It is the applicant's responsibility to verify the Member Organization participation in respective calls, and any additional eligibility requirements 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.

NHMRC staff will not make eligibility rulings before an application is submitted.

2. Support

NHMRC will provisionally support 6 applications, with a maximum budget of \$750,000 (AUD) per grant over three years.

2.1 Eligible Costs

Funding provided by NHMRC for a grant activity must be spent on costs directly incurred in that grant activity that satisfy the principles and requirements outlined in the [Direct Research Costs Guidelines](#).

3. How to Apply

Australian researchers must apply to NHMRC (through NHMRC's Grants Management System, Sapphire) **AND** to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat to be considered for the 2026 NHMRC e-ASIA Joint Research Program. A copy of the research consortium's e-ASIA Common Application must be attached to the Sapphire application form. The application must address one (or more) of the research topics for the Health Research call.

4. Evaluation

Applications for 2026 NHMRC e-ASIA Joint Research Program grant opportunity are assessed by peers against the weighted assessment criteria listed below.

- a) Health significance (20%)
- b) Scientific merit (20%)
- c) Design and methods (25%)

- d) Expertise of the research team (15%)
 - e) Quality of the research partnership (20%)
-

5. Reporting

Administering Institutions are required to report to NHMRC on the progress of the grant and the use of grant funds. Applicants should note that e-ASIA JRP has additional reporting requirements and conditions specific to research funded under this grant opportunity, which includes the provision of:

- (1) Progress reports
- (2) A final report

Further information is provided in the *2026 NHMRC e-ASIA Joint Research Program Grant Guidelines* available on [GrantConnect](#).

6. Contact Information



Australian Government

National Health and Medical Research Council

All enquiries should be directed to the **NHMRC RESEARCH HELP CENTRE**

Phone: +61 1800 500 983

(+61 2 6217 9451 for international callers)

E-mail: help@nhmrc.gov.au

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

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

- 1) The Chinese Principal Investigator (PI) must be researchers affiliated with a higher education or research institution which registers in NSFC.
 - 2) 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.
 - 3) Projects require support from a minimum of three (3) e-ASIA member organizations including NSFC.
 - 4) A Common Application must be submitted to the e-ASIA Secretariat (as described in Section 4. Project Consortium and Application Requirements above).
 - 5) 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:

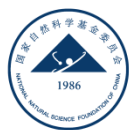
- Scientific merit.
 - Foundation of international cooperation and its complementarity.
 - Innovation aspects.
 - Social impact.
 - Feasibility of the cooperation and research plan.
 - The progress and completion status of the NSFC projects undertaken in the past.
-

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

- i) Purchase/procurement of chemicals/consumables or materials essentials for research or production components;
- ii) Honorarium is available to compensate field workers for their contributions (max IDR 80,000 per day per person);
- iii) Meals for meetings that are directly related to the research, held within the office of the respective institution and in compliance with its policy;
- iv) Capital expenditure may not exceed 10% of the entire amount funded or 50 (fifty) million Indonesian Rupiahs, whichever is reached first;
- v) Domestic travel that directly related to the research activities;
- vi) International travel in the form of joint collaboration meeting (terms and conditions applied); and
- vii) 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 Pls 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 Pls 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>

Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

- Japan-based applicants must fulfill all requirements specified by AMED.
- In addition to the requirements described in this call guidelines, Japan-based applicants must also fulfill the requirements specified in the documents and websites listed below.

Documents:

The following documents are available via the websites listed below:

- Application Guideline for Japan-based applicants (in Japanese only)
- FAQ (in Japanese only)

Websites:

- FY 2026 e-ASIA Joint Research Program (e-ASIA JRP) – Joint Call for “Health Research”
https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/20/01/2001B_00114.html (English page)
https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/20/01/2001B_00113.html (Japanese page).
- AMED can support a maximum of three (3) applications under Topic 1: Infectious Disease and Immunology.
- The following funding modality will be supported: New
- AMED requires that collaborations must include a Lead PI or PI from the country of the following participating member organization:
 - Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)

1. Eligibility

- 1) The Japan-based Principal Investigator (PI) must be personally affiliated with a domestic research institution and conduct research there. Domestic research institutions on the Japanese side are 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.

- 2) Any individual who satisfies any of the following conditions is also eligible to apply as a Japan-based PI.
 - i) Researchers holding citizenship other than Japanese, who belong to a Japanese domestic research institution.
 - ii) Researchers who are 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 a Japan-based PI.
 - 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 a Japan-based PI.
- 3) Any PI who is participating in this program at any time during FY2026 (April 2026 – March 2027), regardless of the duration or end date of the participation, is not eligible to apply as a PI in this round of the call for proposals.
- 4) Japan-based PIs must be able to take responsibility for the duties of the entire project for the full duration of the joint research project.
- 5) Japan-based researchers from industry are eligible to participate in the joint research project in the Japan-based team.

For more details, including the eligibility of Co-Investigator and other relevant requirements, please refer to the “Application Guideline for Japan-based applicants”.

2. Support

2-1. Budget for Cooperative Research Projects

(1) Direct Expenses:

- i) The total budget for the Japanese researcher must not exceed 22.5 million Japanese Yen in direct expenses over the full 3-year period (i.e. 36 months)., with a maximum of 7.5 million Japanese Yen per Japanese fiscal year (defined as April 1 through March 31). Any application that exceeds either of these limits will not be accepted.
- ii) Applicants are required to specify the amount of direct expenses on a fiscal year basis in the Japanese application form. Please ensure that your budget plan does not exceed the annual limit, as outlined in the instructions provided in the form.

- iii) According to the budgetary limitations for this program, the amounts will be adjusted each fiscal year.

(2) Overhead expenses:

- i) As a general rule, overhead expenses shall be set at 30% of direct expenses, calculated separately from direct expenses.

2-2. Details of Support

This program is designed to support additional expenses related to cooperation by a Japan-based 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 in place for 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.

2-3. Eligible Costs

Research grants will be awarded in line with standard AMED policy. 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 expenses that are necessary for the collaboration.

(1) Direct Expenses:

- i) Expenses for facilities, equipment and consumables: research equipment/prototypes, software (ready-made goods), book purchasing costs, purchasing costs for reagents/materials/consumables for use in research.
- ii) Travel costs: travel costs of research participants, travel costs for invited participants such as external experts, travel costs for clinical research subjects and caregivers.
- iii) Personnel costs / services costs: Personnel costs: personnel costs for researchers, etc., employed to conduct the relevant R&D (including the System for Improving Research Capability (PI Personnel Costs).

Service costs: expenditure for services such as lecture requests, guidance/advice, test subjects, interpretation/translation, and unskilled labor.
- iv) Others: costs for implementing the relevant R&D other than the above. Examples: R&D results publication costs (academic paper contribution

costs, academic paper offprint costs, website production costs, etc.), conference costs, transportation costs, equipment leasing costs, Equipment repair costs, printing costs, subcontract costs (costs involved in the work implemented on an outsourced basis for tests and inspections, and rearing animals, etc.), licensing fee, expenses for entrusting other persons with Pls' work other than research and development ordinarily performed by Pls at their affiliated institutions (buyout expenses), amount equivalent to consumption tax related to untaxed transactions, etc.

- (2) Overhead expenses shall be 30% of direct expenses. (Allocated separately from direct expenses.)

Please refer to following link for the provisions regarding overhead expenses:
https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/compefund/kansetsu_sikkou.pdf (in Japanese only)

- (3) Expenses not covered/funded by the program:

- i) Expenses relating to the acquisition or rental of real estate or construction of buildings or other facilities.
- ii) Expenses unrelated to the implementation of this co-operative research project.

For more details about salaries for Japan-based Pls and buyout costs, please visit the following website: <https://www.amed.go.jp/keiri/youshiki.html> (in Japanese only)

2-4. Conclusion of Contracted R&D Agreement

For each funded R&D project, a one-fiscal-year contracted R&D agreement shall be concluded between the research institution implementing the R&D project and AMED, in accordance with the principles of the accounting period of the national government. Successful applicants shall receive detailed information from AMED following project selection.

2-5. Collaborative Research Agreement

For each funded R&D project, a Collaborative Research Agreement (CRA) MUST be concluded among the institutions with which the collaborating researchers are affiliated. The CRA should include conclusions of discussions among Parties which are entitled to intellectual property arising as a result of the research collaboration, and Institutions concerned, on issues regarding treatment of research information brought by researchers involved for the implementation of the research collaboration, research achievements resulting from the research collaboration, and handling of intellectual

properties. The CRA so concluded shall be shared among the Parties. Furthermore, the Japan-based PI must submit the CRA to AMED within six months from the date of award notification. A sample CRA is available on the following website: <https://www.the-easia.org/jrp/documents.html>

3. How to Apply

Japan-based applicants are required to submit their proposals via the “e-Rad” system in accordance with Japanese procedures.

In cases where the Japan-based researcher serves as the Lead Principal Investigator (Lead PI), they are also required to submit the e-ASIA Common Application Form by email to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat. Applications will be considered ineligible if the proposal documents are not submitted by the deadline through both submission methods.

3-1. Application Forms

- Application Form 1J2J (hereinafter “Form 1J2J”) is only for Japan-based applicants and should be prepared in Japanese in addition to the Common Application Form in English.
- Form 1J2J is available on the AMED website at the following URLs:
https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/20/01/2001B_00114.html (English page)
https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/20/01/2001B_00113.html (Japanese page)

3-2. Submission of Application Forms by Applicants

Lead PI must submit the Common Application Form by e-mail to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat by **17:00 (Thailand Standard Time)/19:00 (Japanese Standard Time) on 31 March 2026**.

Japan-based applicants must submit the following documents through the “e-Rad” online application system (<http://www.e-rad.go.jp/index.html>) by **17:00 (Japanese Standard Time) on 31 March 2026**:

- A single PDF file that combines:
 - The Common Application Form submitted by Lead PI, and
 - Form 1J2J
- Any additional documents required, as specified in the Application Guideline for Japan-based applicants

Application to the program is not completed at the point when 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.

4. Evaluation

The program evaluation committee consisting of relevant experts will evaluate all proposals. Following the document review, the program evaluation committees may, if deemed necessary, conduct a hearing review. Based on the results of their evaluations, a common decision will be made jointly by the participating Member Organizations regarding selection of proposals for funding.

4-1. Evaluation Criteria

- 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
 - *Are the current technological level and previous performance of applicants 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 development of new technologies?*
 - *Does the project respond to a societal need?*
 - *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 feasible?*
 - *Is the project plan in compliance with laws and ordinances related to bioethics and safety measures?*
- 4) Implementation system
 - *Has an appropriate R&D system centered on each applicant been organized?*
 - *Has a sufficient collaboration network been constructed?*
 - *Are the comparative efforts of the applicants appropriate?*
 - *Is there any unreasonable duplication/excessive concentration of effort?*

5) Costs

- *Are the breakdown of costs and spending plan appropriate?*

6) Items prescribed under the program and items that should be considered comprehensively

- *Does the project contribute to the development of science and technology in the ASEAN region? (Regional Relevance of the Research)*
- *Does the project contribute to solving significant and relevant issues across the ASEAN region? (Regional Relevance of the Research)*
- *Is there a unique opportunity for research/outcomes that could not be achieved either through bilateral or individual research but only through multilateral cooperation? (Mutual Benefits of the Joint Research)*
- *Does the project contain activities to nurture early career researchers through research activities? (Effectiveness of Exchange)*
- *Does the project enhance research capacities in the ASEAN region? (Effectiveness of Exchange)*

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

5. Reporting

5-1. Progress Report to AMED

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

5-2. Final Report to AMED

Final reports should be submitted within four (4) months of completion of the research period.

The institution with which the PI is affiliated shall submit a financial report on research expenses to AMED within two (2) months after termination of contract.

6. Contact Information



Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development

DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Department of International Strategy

Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

E-mail: e-asia@amed.go.jp

Philippines: Department of Science and Technology, The Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST/PCHRD)

For this 15th Call, DOST-PCHRD will only fund proposals that will fall under research topic 2:

Advanced Medical Research & Enabling Technologies:

- Ethical and regulatory implications of integration of rapidly emerging technologies in research and health care
- Development of policy and governance for emerging technologies in research and health care

DOST/PCHRD can support a maximum of two (2) new applications.

1. Eligibility

Lead Proponent should be:

- 1) Must be a Filipino citizen, subject to applicable laws
- 2) Must hold a plantilla/permanent position in his/her primary institution of employment and is not due for retirement during the project implementation
- 3) With at least a Master's Degree in a relevant field, have proven research competence / track record
- 4) Must not hold accountability with DOST and its funding agencies
- 5) Must not have been found guilty of any administrative or criminal case, including those under appeal

Implementing Agencies can be:

- 1) Public and private universities and colleges
- 2) Research and Development Institutes (RDIs) including hospitals conducting R&D
- 3) Government agencies and its instrumentalities
- 4) DOST-certified science foundations
 - Other public or private non- profit S&T institutions/organizations that are located in the Philippines.
 - Operated primarily for scientific, educational, service, or similar purposes in the public interest
 - With proven competence, and provided that projects align to DOST/PCHRD priorities. Non-profit organizations engaged in lobbying

activities are not eligible to apply.

2. Support

2-1. Eligible Costs

DOST/PCHRD will support two (2) projects under this Call and allocate up to PhP 15,000,000.00 (approx. USD 255,000) per project for a maximum duration of three (3) years.

Budget requests may cover full or partial costs for project implementation, both direct and indirect costs for personnel services, maintenance and other operating expenses, and capital outlay. For capital outlay, this cannot include construction of new buildings and other types of major infrastructure.

3. How to Apply

- 1) The proponent should ensure with their collaborators that the Common Application is submitted to the e-ASIA Secretariat on or before 17:00 (Thailand Standard Time, ICT, UTC+7) 31 March 2026.
- 2) For the Philippines, the following country specific requirements should be submitted by the Filipino Lead Proponent online through the DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS) (<http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph/>) or before 17:00 (PhST, UTC+8) on 31 March 2026:
 - a. Project Proposal following the DOST Detailed Proposal Form (downloadable from the DOST DPMIS website)
 - b. Work plan Schedule (Gantt Chart of Activities)
 - c. Proposed Line-Item Budget (DOST-GIA LIB Form)
 - d. Counterpart Funding of Implementing Agency (at least 15% of requested budget for public institutions, 20% for private institutions)
 - e. Curriculum Vitae of Proponent(s)
 - f. Duties and Responsibilities of each Project Personnel
 - g. Gender and Development Scoresheet
 - h. For proposals with human subjects:
 - Informed Consent Form
 - Case Report Form, if applicable
 - i. Endorsement Letter from Agency Head addressed to:

The Executive Director

Philippine Council for Health Research and Development
 Department of Science and Technology
 Bicutan, Taguig City

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

- Biosafety Clearance, if applicable
- Animal research permit, if applicable
- Bureau of Animal Industry Clearance, if applicable
- Ethics Clearance (for studies involving human subjects)

Important Notes:

1. Application and funding will be governed by the [DOST Grants-in-Aid Guidelines](https://dpmis.dost.gov.ph/index.php/transparency/downloads/category/6-dost-administrative-order) (<https://dpmis.dost.gov.ph/index.php/transparency/downloads/category/6-dost-administrative-order>) and its amendments for Filipino researchers.
2. Specific requirements will be further detailed on a separate local call to be issued and published by the DOST-PCHRD. Filipino researchers are advised to anticipate this local call for their guidance.

4. Evaluation

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 and call-specific requirements, duplication, and completeness of requirements.
- 2) Technical review and scoring by external consultants (Technical Panel) based on the following criteria:

Relevance & Sensitivity	Alignment to national S&T priorities, strategic relevance to national development and sensitivity to Philippine political context, culture, tradition and gender and development.
Technical/Scientific Merit	Merit Sound scientific basis to generate new knowledge or apply existing knowledge in an innovative manner.
Financial Feasibility	Financial viability of the undertaking with

	proponent's and institutional capacity to manage R&D funds vis-à-vis the proposed work plan and budget.
Proponent's/Institutional Capacity	Good track record or CV with proven competence to implement and complete the R&D program / project within the approved duration and budget.
Program Contribution	Good track record or CV with proven competence to implement and complete the R&D program / project within the approved duration and budget.

- 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 40 working days provided that all the requirements had been submitted.

5. Reporting

In addition to standard e-ASIA JRP reporting requirements, DOST-PCHRD will require technical progress and final reports, financial reports and other supporting requirements for grant liquidation in accordance with the DOST Grant-in-Aid Guidelines. Details on the guidelines are available in the DOST DPMIS website:

(<https://dpmis.dost.gov.ph/index.php/transparency/downloads/category/6-dost-administrative-order>).

6. Contact Information



Mr. Vincent John H. Tumlos

Department of Science and Technology (DOST)

Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD)

E-mail: vhtumlos@pchrd.dost.gov.ph

Mr. Paul Ernest N. De Leon

Department of Science and Technology (DOST)

Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD)

E-mail: pndeleon@pchrd.dost.gov.ph

Singapore: Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)

Singapore-based applicants must submit the application form **both** to e-Asia Secretariat and A*STAR by the stipulated deadline.

1. Eligibility

- 1) Singapore PIs are only eligible to apply under Research Topic 2: Advanced Medical Research & Enabling Technologies.
 - 2) Eligibility conditions for Singapore-based applicants are described as follows:
 - Lead PI/PI must be an independent researcher from public sector research performers, namely the Institutes of Higher Learning (universities and polytechnics), A*STAR Research Institutes, as well as other non-defence-related public sector agencies (e.g., Ministries, Statutory Boards).
 - Lead PI/PI must hold a primary appointment of at least 75% in a local publicly funded institution and salaried by the institution.
 - Lead PI/PI must first obtain endorsement from their respective Host Institutions in support of the project through written approval. The approval has to be submitted to A*STAR (as e-Asia's Singapore representative) together with the application form by the stipulated deadline.
-

2. Support

SG Lead PI/PIs will only be able to contribute to projects via own in-kind support. Hence, they must first obtain endorsement from their respective Host Institutions in support of the project through written approval.

3. How to Apply

Interested applicants are required to submit their proposals and written endorsement by Host Institutions to the e-Asia JRP Secretariat, copying the Point of Contact from A*STAR identified below, before the stipulated deadline.

Applicants will be considered ineligible if the proposal documents and endorsement by the Host Institution are not submitted to both e-Asia and A*STAR by the stipulated deadline.

4. Evaluation

Projects will be evaluated based on the novelty of research, synergy effects of international collaboration, expected scientific results as well as economic and social impact.

Projects should also be consistent with the grant call theme and feasible to implement, supported by PIs demonstrated capabilities to contribute to the project.

5. Reporting

A*STAR has no additional reporting requirements for this call for proposals. Please refer to Section 6. Program Implementation of the call text for e-ASIA reporting requirements

6. Contact Information



Ms Diana Adnan

Senior Manager, International Partnerships Office

A*STAR

Email: Diana_Adnan@a-star.edu.sg

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

The NIAID mission is to conduct and support basic and applied research to better understand, treat, and ultimately prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases, including the research response to emerging public health threats.

For the e-ASIA JRP 15th Call on Infectious Disease and Immunology, NIAID funding may be requested to support basic and applied biomedical research to better understand, treat, and ultimately prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases. This includes biological properties of pathogens, the immune system's responses to them, and causes and mechanisms that lead to the development of allergic and immunologic diseases. Disciplines that cut across and beyond individual diseases or conditions form an important part of our research agenda.

NIAID is only supporting applications for research under Topic 1: Infectious Disease and Immunology. Applications requesting NIAID funding to support research that falls outside these areas will not be considered eligible for NIAID funding. For example, applications focused on health care quality assurance or similar issues would not be eligible for NIAID funding.

All applications must comply with current U.S. Government policies, including current U.S. Government policies related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and climate change, and must focus on current scientific priorities.

NIAID can support two to three (2-3) applications. The following funding modalities will be supported:

- New
- In-kind

NIAID has limitations on support of research in the areas listed below:

- *Intersections between infectious and chronic disease, including lifestyle interventions, prevention, and management strategies.*
 - Applications should include a study question or hypothesis focused on an infectious disease as part of the etiology or otherwise relevant factor to the proposed study.
- *Identifying and targeting emerging health threats and emergencies, including working with partners towards a One Health research approach to climate change, health and the environment, biodiversity, and antimicrobial resistance.*

- Applications should include a study question or hypothesis focused on the health effects due to extreme weather, but generally cannot fund climate change research. For reference, the NIH Program on Health and Extreme Weather (HEW) has released the [strategic framework](#) which presents the mission, goals, and objectives of the HEW Program, as well as the high priority scientific approaches.
 - *Pandemic preparedness and response (e.g., surveillance, public awareness and prevention).*
 - Applications should include a study question or hypothesis that is responsive to NIAID's basic and applied research mandate.
 - *Use of artificial intelligence (AI) to improve diagnostics and surveillance of infectious disease in East Asia.*
 - Applicants should reach out to NIAID POC to determine if eligible for funding.
-

1. Eligibility for U.S.-based Applicants

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 United States for at least 50% of the award period. This residency requirement does not apply to U.S. government employees. U.S. government employees must apply as the U.S. PI. 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, and other personnel working in U.S. federal government facilities, whose salaries are paid using direct U.S. federal funding, or personnel working under a contract supported by the U.S. federal government, may apply for this program; however, they are **not permitted** to receive funding or other support (e.g., travel, supplies, equipment) under this program. The federally funded U.S. PI and the affiliated U.S. federal agency participation must be in-kind. U.S. PIs providing in-kind participation will be required to submit semi-annual progress and final reports.

Collaborations must include at least 3 collaborating countries from this call including a Lead PI or PI from the country of the following participating member organization:

- **Indonesia:** National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
-

2. Support

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 cost-reimbursable grant (fixed obligation award) from NIAID's implementing partner, pending the submission and acceptance of all necessary approvals and documentation (e.g., IRB approval, award agreement, animal subject review, etc.). Approximately 5% of the total budgeted costs will need to be reserved for currency exchange fees incurred by NIAID's implementing partner.

NIAID's implementing partner will communicate directly with the U.S. PIs and support expenses for the U.S. teams from universities and non-profits except for large-scale equipment purchases that cost over \$10,000 USD. U.S. team applications may propose utilizing some or all the requested funding to support foreign partners, but the allowed maximum budget still cannot exceed the amount described in the preceding paragraph. U.S. federal government agencies (including scientists and other personnel working in U.S. federal government facilities, whose salaries are paid using direct U.S. federal funding, or personnel working under a contract supported by the U.S. federal government) and U.S. applicants from for-profit companies may apply in partnership with other U.S. or regional scientists but are not permitted to receive funding under this program.

2-1. Eligible Costs

Funding may be requested for the following expenses:

- (1) Stipend
- (2) Equipment, Supplies and Services
- (3) Travel
- (4) Indirect Costs (IDC): 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 are 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 = \$
- **Fee \$** = 5% * (total direct costs + IDC \$)
- **Maximum Total Sub-Team budget** = total direct costs
\$ (including MTDC) + IDCs \$ + Fee \$

Foreign Institutions may **not request more than 8%** of the modified total direct costs 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 15%** in IDCs.

Recognizing the limited funding available for these small projects and the goal to achieve maximum scientific outcomes, applicants are encouraged to provide cost shares. Awardees with a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) from a U.S. federal cognizant agency may claim their NICRA, however, they are encouraged to provide a cost share to cover the difference in cost rate, so that the applied Indirect Cost rate does not exceed 8% of the award's modified total direct costs. Eligible cost shares must be verifiable through appropriate documentation provided by the awardee and should be described within the budget narrative. Cost shares should be:

- Verifiable through appropriate documentation provided by the awardee
- Necessary and reasonable for the accomplishment of project objectives

Allowable costs under this program not paid by the U.S. government under another award, except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such a program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other U.S. government-funded programs.

Examples of cost shares that may be included in the proposal:

- **Stipend:** (including fringe benefits) of any team member essential to the project. Stipend and fringe rates should be listed separately for each team member in the cost share budget.
- **Consultant services:** Stipend and fringe rates for third parties providing volunteer services towards the project may be counted as cost sharing or matching if the service is an integral and necessary part of the project. Rates for third-party volunteer services must be consistent with those paid for similar work by the non-Federal entity. In those instances, where the required skills are not found with the awardee, rates must be consistent with those paid for similar work in the labor market.
- **Equipment/Supplies:** Donated equipment, office supplies, or laboratory supplies. Value for these items must be assessed at fair market value of the property at the time of donation.
- **Travel:** For travel deemed necessary and reasonable to the project, the awardee may cost share appropriate travel expenses, including:

- **Airfare:** Lowest cost economy airfare and compliant with the Fly American Act Guidelines.
- **Lodging:** Not to exceed applicable domestic or international U.S. government per diem rates
- **Meals and Incidentals:** Not to exceed applicable domestic or international U.S. government per diem rates
- **Ground Transportation:** Necessary local travel, such as taxis, rental cars, or mileage reimbursement on use of personal vehicles in accordance with the U.S. government allowance for Privately Owned Vehicles (POV)

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.

3. How to Apply

No additional application materials are required to be submitted directly to NIAID. Only the e-ASIA JRP Common Application submitted directly to the e-ASIA Secretariat is required and will be reviewed and evaluated according to the common e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria (refer to 4. Evaluation in the main guidelines) and the additional evaluation criteria listed in 4. Evaluation below.

4. Evaluation

Please note that NIAID's priority is to fund the most meritorious science, address urgent health needs, and sustain a robust biomedical research workforce. NIAID cannot evaluate applications based on any criteria that are not in line with U.S. government policy. However, NIAID will evaluate based on the common e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria to the extent that it does not conflict with U.S. government policy. NIAID will also evaluate applications on the following criteria during scientific peer review.

- **Research Plan:** The inclusion of a well-formulated hypothesis as well as how well the individual elements of the project plan fit with the overall project goals and research question(s).
- **Technical Merit:** The technical soundness of the proposed work, the project's management plan, and adequacy of the resources available, both technical and

financial

- **Research Impact:** The probability that the project will result in new knowledge in one or more research fields or have a positive impact on health of the population in the East Asia region or/and all over the world.
-

5. Reporting

Administering Institutions are required to report to NIAID's implementing partner on the progress of the grant and the use of grant funds. Applicants should note that e-ASIA JRP has additional reporting requirements and conditions specific to research funded under this grant opportunity, which includes the provision of:

- Progress reports
 - A final report
-

6. Contact Information



AMERICAS, CARIBBEAN, ASIA, AND PACIFIC (ACAP) TEAM

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