

**Research Grant
Collaboration Kick-starter Program (CKP)
Call for Proposal 2016**

1. Overview and Objectives

Collaboration Kick-starter Program (CKP) is a funding program of JICA with a goal of enhancing research collaboration between IIT Hyderabad (IITH) and Japan.

CKP aims to facilitate and accelerate active collaboration between IITH and Japanese academia and industry, through providing two kinds of intermediate research funds, **Academic Research Collaboration (ARC)** and **Academia Industrial Collaboration (AIC)**, to promising collaborative research projects for the purpose of 1) supporting quick launching of collaboration and R&D in the start-up phase, 2) supporting IITH researchers to apply for research grants of other funding schemes for large-scale and long-term R&D, and 3) promoting students' research interactions with Japanese academia and industrial collaborators.

2. Applicant Eligibility for CKP (ARC and AIC)

An applicant that satisfies all of the following requirements is eligible for CKP.

The applicant (the principal investigator, PI) must:

- 1) Be a full-time faculty member of IITH,
- 2) Involve at least one Ph.D. or master's student who dedicates himself/herself to the funded project as a registered research team member (PIs are encouraged to involve Japanese researchers in co-supervising of member students.),
- 3) Have obtained a letter of agreement from a Japanese collaborator who is to be registered as Japanese Co-PI, and
- 4) Be able to afford a dedicated or shared lab space for research activities of the funded project.

3. Field of Research

CKP covers the following five research fields of FRIENDSHIP Project, but not limited to: Energy and Environment; Next Generation Communication Technology; Design and Manufacturing; Nanotech/science; and Sustainable Development.

3. Project Type and Funding

3.1. Academic Research Collaboration (ARC)

Description

Academic Research Collaboration (ARC) is the start-up phase research between academia of India and Japan to be conducted within a period of 2 years. ARC is intended to sustain and extend the initial collaboration into a self-sustaining stage.

Therefore, research proposals must 1) present a big picture and challenges of the overall research that would take approximately 5 years or more to complete, and 2) clarify which part of the overall research is to be implemented using the funding of ARC.

Project Period

Maximum 24 months

Funding Structure (Total in the project period)

A) Research Fund : up to 32.0 Lakh INR (apprx. 5,000,000 JPY)

The research fund could be used by PI for the following expenses.

- 1) Consumables*¹ (e.g. reagents, glassware, and small equipment)
- 2) Registration fees (e.g. international conferences)
- 3) Research paper submission/publication fees for international academic journals
- 4) Purchase of books, academic papers, documents and data
- 5) Outsourcing fees*² (e.g. sample treatment)
- 6) Analytical equipment utilization fees
- 7) Research Equipment*³

B) Travel Expenses: up to 20.0 Lakh INR (apprx. 3,000,000 JPY)

Transportation and accommodation fees related to collaborative research activities of the funded project. *^{4,5}

(Remarks)

(*1) Consumables are those items that meet either of the following: 1) the purchase price is not more than JPY 50,000 and the number of usable years is less than eleven (11), 2) the purchase price is more than JPY 50,000 but the number of usable years is less than one (1). The intended purpose and

relevance to the research topic or component must be clarified in the proposal.

- (*2) Honorarium is limited to 20% of the total budget. Honorarium is not to be provided for the member from IITH or Japanese partner institute. Reasonable justification must be provided by the research team.
- (*3) The intended purpose and relevance to the research topic or component must be clarified in the proposal.

Procurement of Equipment may take long time due to the tendering process by JICA. If the unit price of equipment is more than 10 Lakh INR, the tendering process maybe further longer due to the additional process as per the JICA norms.

The following documents from the researchers will be very beneficial for shortening the tendering process: reference manufacturer/model, consolidated equipment specification, reference budgetary estimation from multiple (minimum 3) suppliers and list of potential suppliers.

- (*4) Travel Expenses for Japanese team members (including faculties and students) visiting IITH and IITH research team members visiting Japanese partner institutions are separately borne by JICA. The detail of Travel Expenses shall be consolidated only after the proposal gets selected.

- (*5) Travel Expenses include those needed for attending international conferences. The destination of travel is not restricted to Japan.

The further detail of financial guidelines will be provided after the announcement of selection results.

Selection Criteria

- 1) Quality of the research proposal (rationale, research questions, and future perspectives)
- 2) Readiness for and sustainability of collaborative research with Japanese Co-PI
- 3) Clear assignment of research tasks to graduate students and strategic planning of students' further studies in Japan
- 4) Appropriateness of budget

3.2. Academia Industrial Collaboration (AIC)

Description

Academia Industrial Collaboration (AIC) is the start-up phase research between IITH and Japanese industries in India or in Japan to be conducted within a period of 2 years. AIC is intended to sustain and extend the initial R&D collaboration into a business stage including large-scale field trials, incubation, commercialization, and advanced R&D.

Therefore, research proposals must 1) present a big picture and challenges of the R&D and its roadmap for future business and/or advanced R&D, and 2) clarify which part of the roadmap is to be implemented using the funding of AIC.

To conduct AIC, a financial commitment from Japanese industry (including Japanese-affiliated enterprises in India) is mandated as a part of matching funds. Applicants must obtain a letter of agreement from the industrial partner regarding the content of collaboration and commitment.

Project Period

Maximum 24 months

Funding Structure (Total in the project period)

A) Research Fund : up to 32.0 Lakh INR (apprx. 5,000,000 JPY)

The research fund could be used by PI for the following expenses:

- 1) Consumables*³ (e.g. reagents, glassware, and small equipment)
- 2) Registration fees (e.g. international conferences)
- 3) Research paper submission/publication fees for international academic journals
- 4) Purchase of books, academic papers, documents, and data
- 5) Outsourcing fees*⁴ (e.g. sample treatment)
- 6) Analytical equipment utilization fees
- 7) Research Equipment*⁵

B) Travel Expenses: up to 20.0 Lakh INR (apprx. 3,000,000 JPY)

Transportation and accommodation fees related to collaborative research activities of the funded project. *^{4, 5}

(Remarks)

(*1) Consumables are those items that meet either of the following: 1) the purchase price is not more than JPY 50,000 and the number of usable years is less than eleven (11), 2) the purchase price is more than JPY 50,000 but the number of usable years is less than one (1).

(*2) Honorarium is limited to 20 % of the total budget.

(*3) The intended purpose and relevance to the research topic or component must be clarified in the proposal.

Procurement of Equipment may take long time due to the tendering process by JICA. If the unit price of equipment is more than 10 Lakh INR, the tendering process maybe further longer due to the additional process as per the JICA norms.

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(*4) Travel Expenses for Japanese team members (including faculties and students) visiting IITH and IITH research team members visiting Japanese partner institutions are separately borne by JICA. The detail of Travel Expenses shall be consolidated only after the proposal gets selected.

(*5) Travel Expenses include those needed for attending international conferences. The destination of travel is not restricted to Japan.

Financial guidelines will be provided after the announcement of selection results.

A) Fund: Contribution from Japanese Industry to IITH

Minimum 1,000,000 JPY, principally in cash

Selection Criteria

- 1) Quality of the research proposal (rationale, research questions, and future perspectives)
- 2) Readiness for and potential of continuous R&D with the Co-PI in industry
- 3) Clear assignment of tasks to academic and industrial research members including graduate students

4) Appropriateness of budget

3.3 Number of Grants and Selection Procedure

CKP will fund a few grants in 2016 in total.

Research fund grantees are selected through document screening and interviews. The CKP Office will invite PIs who have passed the document screening to the interview in November. Grantees may be requested to adjust the research plan and budget according to the description of the fund.

4. Fund Execution

PI is requested to implement the research according to the final research plan and budget.

Fund execution is conducted by the CKP Office based on the request by PI. PI may submit request forms for necessary expenditures each quarter (four times) a year in principle. Detailed procedures and the request form will be provided in the financial guidelines for the selected proposals.

Note that there is no reimbursement of expenses directly made by PI.

In the case where any major change of budget is needed, PI is requested to submit a letter, presenting the reason and revised budget.

5. Reports and Duties

CKP requests PIs to submit reports to the CKP Office and contribute to the enhancement of partnership between India and Japan.

(1) Submission of Progress Report by the end of 12th month in the first year.

Progress Report must include the status of 1) graduate students' thesis preparation and 2) application for third-party research funding, in addition to the progress of research (A table of contents will be provided).

Any changes of team members and/or research plan must be reported.

(2) Submission of Final Report by the end of 24th month in the second year.

Final Report must include the research achievement according to the research plan, list of publications, patent applications, travels, and third-party research funding

obtained/applied for (A table of contents will be provided).

- (3) Contribution to the events of India-Japan collaboration in a form of demonstration, poster presentation, attendance as a speaker and so forth.

6. Intellectual Property Rights

CKP supports creation of value through the collaborative research between IITH and Japan and therefore encourages PIs to apply for a patent in India before publishing academic papers.

In this regard, it is strongly suggested that PIs make ex ante agreement with research partners in India and/or Japan on the intellectual property rights that are to be produced through the collaboration.

7. Submitting Proposals

Fill in and send the following documents to the CKP Office.

1. Application Form (DOC: Research Proposal) of either ARC or AIC
2. Attachment (XLS: Schedule, Members and Budget) of either ARC or AIC
3. Attachment (Specification and budgetary quotations of equipment)

Application Forms: Available via http://friendship.iith.ac.in/?page_id=506

Deadline: 11:59 AM IST, November 1st, 2016 (Sharp & Hard)

Mode of Submission: E-mail the filled form and attachments to CKP Office

8. CKP Office

Contact Person: Ms. Miki Matsuo

E-mail (Inquiry and Submission): ckp@friendship.iith.ac.in