

FUNDING HORIZONS

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WELCOME NOTE

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to another edition of Funding Horizons, a compilation of useful information relating to funding opportunities at the Bangalore Life Science Cluster campus. This newsletter includes information on forthcoming funding deadlines, recent funding successes and more. We hope this will be useful for you in planning your funding applications.

As we come to a close of this year, we take this opportunity to present some highlights of outreach events which the RDO has organised or participated in 2018 (Page 3). 2018 also saw the launch of the Indian Research Management Initiative (IRMI) by the India Alliance which has spurred an active interest in this field. RDO at BLiSc has contributed and participated in the outreach events related to the field of Research management which are highlighted in page 4.

With Best Wishes,

Vineetha Raghavan (on Behalf of Team RDO)

OUTREACH EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS-2018

The RDO organizes events to facilitate interaction between funding agencies and campus researchers. Funding information relevant to campus science is disseminated to the community through a range of outreach activities. We also undertake outreach to funding agencies via participation in workshops organized by the agencies. A snapshot of some of these events in the year 2018 is presented below:



Visit of Delegates from the University of Côte d'Azur (UCA), France



Visit by Dr. Barbara Pauly, Director of fellowships, HFSP



Visit by Dr. Matthias Kieselbach, Director, DFG India Office



Visit by Dr. Jérôme Bove, Scientific and Academic Attaché - Embassy of France



Participation in "Horizon 2020 Info day", EU funding roadshow



Visit by Kris Gopalakrishnan as part of the Human Genetics and Disease Biology Meeting, organized by the ADBS team



Visit by Mr Richard Samuels, Counsellor for Industry, Innovation and Science, Australia to the campus



Visit by Mr Richard Grubb, Policy Officer, South Asia at Universities UK International and a member of the UK India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI) management team

RESEARCH MANAGEMENT EVENTS-2018

More recently, Research Management is gaining recognition as a career option and the RDO staff have contributed significantly to this endeavor by participating in workshops targeted specifically to this field. A snapshot of some of these events in the year 2018 is presented below:



Hosted the India Research Management Initiative (IRMI) sharing session conducted by the Wellcome - DBT India Alliance



Participation at International Network of Research Management Societies (INORMS) 2018 conference



Research Administrator's Day Celebrations at BLiSc



Participation in the Women in Science Administration and Research Management (SAM) workshop conducted at NCBS



INSTITUTIONAL STATUTORY COMMITTEES

NCBS and inStem are committed to maintaining the highest ethical standards and principles in the conduct of research. There are four statutory committees at NCBS and inStem, which meet periodically to ensure compliance with national requirements:

A) Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC) – Approval from the IBSC is required for research which involves the use of genetically modified organisms/ recombinant DNA (rDNA)/ transgenics/hazardous micro-organisms. Approval is to be taken prior to starting the proposed work. At the end of every calendar year, the status of approved projects is to be updated by submitting progress reports; any completed or discontinued projects are also to be reported. Any modification/change in protocol in an already approved proposal needs to be brought before the IBSC for approval.

B) Institutional Committee for Stem Cell Research (ICSCR) – The scope of this committee is to review any work involving stem cells. The committee cannot grant umbrella approvals, and any change/modification in protocol needs to be approved by ICSCR. It is mandatory to submit annual progress reports at the end of any calendar year, wherein the progress and/or status of the projects are to be reported. The validity of an approval is for three years. On expiration, the proposal needs to be brought before the ICSCR for renewal.

C) Institutional Human Ethics Committee (IECHC) – Approval from the IECHC are required when proposed research work involves the use of human subjects/cell lines/samples. Again, approval to any change/modification in protocol in an already approved proposal is required. The validity of an approval is for three years. On expiration, the proposal needs to be brought before the IECHC for renewal.

D) Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC) – The IAEC grants approvals to projects which require animal use. Please contact the animal facility for more information on the IAEC.

Please note that calls for submitting new proposals and for proposals which require modification are announced regularly. For any queries, please contact Mouna Nagaraju at mounan@instem.res.in

AWARDED GRANTS



This section provides brief details of the recent funding successes from our campus. We wish all the investigators well for their proposed programs of research. All correspondence on awarded grants should be directed to: rdohelp@ncbs.res.in

RESEARCHER	HOST INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE	FUNDING AGENCY	FUNDING SCHEME	FUNDS AWARDED (in Lakhs)
Dr. Vatsala Thirumalai	NCBS	The importance of Purkinje neuron membrane bistability for cerebellar function.	Wellcome–DBT India Alliance	Senior Fellowship	449.84
Prof. R Sowdhamini	NCBS	Transcriptome analysis and characterization of key metabolic and hormone signaling pathway genes in <i>Piper nigrum</i> in response to defense elicitors	DBT	Project Grant	23.72
Dr. Arjun Guha	inStem	Regulation of damage induced cellular plasticity in the lungs	DST-SERB	Core Research Grant (CRG)	44.45
Dr. Mousumi Ghosh (Mentor: Dr. Uma Ramakrishnan)	NCBS	Understanding the diet of critically endangered gyps vultures for conservation planning using molecular tools	Raptor Research & Conservation Foundation (RRCF)	Project Grant	8
Dr. Bharti Jaiswal (Mentor: Dr. Dasaradhi Palakodeti)	inStem	Dissecting the role of chromatin remodeling factory TIP60 in regulation of regeneration in <i>Planaria</i>	DST	Women Scientist Scheme-A	31.15
Dr. Bhaktee Dongaonkar (Mentor: Prof. Sumantra Chattarjee)	inStem	Effects of Brahmi Ghrita on cognition in mild cognitive impairment	DST	Cognitive Science Research Initiative (CSRI)- Postdoctoral Fellowship	18.92

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

Research Grants/ Fellowships

Accelerated Translational Grant for Commercialization (ATGC) (DBT)

Remit: To accelerate translational research leads beyond early stage validation and encourage academia to develop technology/product & processes in priority areas including drug discovery, regenerative medicine, clinical trials, bioinformatics and computational biology, agriculture and animal biotechnology, devices and diagnostics, clinical trials, clean energy and environmental solutions.

Applicant eligibility: The primary applicant should be the Project Coordinator with established proof-of-concept ready for validation with proven expertise in the proposed area, demonstrated through publications/patents and earlier executed research projects.

Duration: 18-24 months

Deadline: 31st Dec, 2018

Weblink: <http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/atgc/>

Early Career Fellowships for Clinicians and Public Health Researchers (Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance)

Remit: To support clinician scientists and public health researchers who are starting their independent research career but require a Fellowship supervisor to acquire skills, training and resources to complete their project in an academic institution in India.

Applicant Eligibility: upto 15 years of post-MD/post-MS/post-MPH/post- PhD research experience or equivalent clinical /public health research experience.

Budget: Salary, research expenses, total award of maximum Rs 1.9 crores

Duration: 5 years

Deadline: Next competition to be launched on 16th Jan, 2019

Weblink: <https://www.indiaalliance.org/fellowships/cph-early-career-fellowships>

Intermediate Fellowships for Clinicians and Public Health Researchers in India (Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance)

Remit: To support clinician scientists and public health researchers who have been successful in building a track record of pursuing a cutting edge clinical/public health research and wish to establish an independent research program in an academic institution in India.

Applicant Eligibility: upto 15 years of post-MD/post-MS/post-MPH/post- PhD research experience.

Budget: Salary, research expenses, total award of maximum Rs 3.8 crores

Duration: 5 years

Deadline: Next competition to be launched on 16th Jan, 2019

Weblink: <https://www.indiaalliance.org/fellowships/cph-intermediate-fellowships>

RDO HELPDESK

In Aug 2018, the RDO launched the helpdesk system (rdohelp@ncbs.res.in) to streamline our processes and gather feedback from the BLiSc community. This will help us to constantly adapt our processes to the needs of the campus researchers in order to offer the best possible services to support your fund raising requirements. Please route all your initial queries (both pre-award and post-award) to the RDO helpdesk email (rdohelp@ncbs.res.in).

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

(<https://www.ncbs.res.in/rdo/sponsor-deadlines>)

December 2018 – March 2019

All queries on new grant submissions should be directed to rdohelp@ncbs.res.in

Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before a submission deadline for RDO staff to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.

For discussions in person with a member of the RDO staff (either pre- or post-award), please book an appointment by sending an email to rdohelp@ncbs.res.in

Applicants are requested to ensure that all regulatory approvals required for sponsored research are in place. Queries in this regard should be directed to mounan@instem.res.in

Research Grants/ Fellowships

Senior Fellowships for Clinicians and Public Health Researchers in India (Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance)

Remit: To support clinician scientists and public health researchers who have demonstrated their potential to lead an independent research program and want to expand it further.

Applicant Eligibility: 7-15 years of post-MD/post-MS/post-MPH/post-PhD or equivalent health research experience.

Budget: Salary, research expenses, total award of Rs 4.7 crores.

Duration: 5 years

Deadline: Next competition to be launched on 16th Jan, 2019

Weblink: <https://www.indiaalliance.org/fellowships/cph-senior-fellowships>

Intermediate Fellowships in Biomedical Research (Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance)

Remit: To support biomedical research that is relevant to human and animal welfare.

Applicant Eligibility: 4-15 years post-PhD research experience

Budget: Salary, research expenses, upto 1 year collaborative travel, total award of Rs 3.6 crores

Duration: 5 years

Deadline: Next competition to be launched on 22nd Jan, 2019

Weblink: <https://www.indiaalliance.org/fellowships/intermediate-fellowships>

Senior Fellowships in Biomedical Research (Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance)

Remit: To support biomedical research that is relevant to human and animal welfare.

Applicant Eligibility: 4-15 years post-PhD research experience

Budget: Salary, research expenses total award of maximum Rs. 4.5 crores

Duration: 5 years

Deadline: Next competition to be launched on 22nd Jan, 2019

Weblink: <https://www.indiaalliance.org/fellowships/senior-fellowships>

Research Grants/ Fellowships

Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowships (DBT)

Remit: To support Indian researchers working overseas to pursue their research in Indian institutions in all areas of Life Sciences.

Applicant eligibility: Indian national, PhD/MD with at least 3 years of post-doctoral research experience. Age limit < 45 years.

Budget: Monthly fellowship of Rs. 1,00,000 per month (with additional HRA of Rs. 18,000), Research grant of Rs.10.00 lakhs for the 1st & 2nd year; Rs.7.50 lakhs for the 3rd & 4th year; Rs. 5.00 lakhs for 5th year

Duration: 5 years (extendable by 2 years)

Deadline: 31st Jan, 2019

Weblink: <http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/RLS-ADVERTISEMENT-2018-19.pdf>

International Climate Protection Fellowships (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)

Remit: To support prospective leaders in academia and industry to implement a research-based proposal in the field of climate protection or climate-related resource conservation in Germany.

Applicant eligibility: First university degree (Bachelor's or equivalent), completed less than 12 years previously. Extensive work experience (at least 48 months at the time of application) or a doctorate in the field of climate protection or climate-related resource conservation.

Budget: a monthly fellowship of between €2,150 and €2,650. Additional financial support such as for accompanying family members, travel expenses or a German language course.

Duration: 1 year

Deadline: 1st March, 2019

Weblink: <https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/icf.html>

Core Research Grant (SERB)

Remit: To support researchers to undertake research and development in frontier areas of Science and Engineering.

Applicant eligibility: PhD in Science or Engineering or M.D or M.S degree in any area of medicine, must hold a regular academic/ research position in a recognised R&D institution.

Duration: 3 years

Budget: Funds equipment, manpower, consumables, travel and contingency

Deadline: 31st March, 2019

Weblink: <http://serbonline.in/SERB/emr?HomePage=New>

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December 2018 – March 2019

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Research Grants/ Fellowships

Young Researcher Award - 2019 (Lady Tata Memorial Trust)

Remit: To provide financial support to young scientists with outstanding track record in biological sciences, a deep commitment to find innovative solutions to major problems related to human diseases.

Applicant Eligibility: Indian national, must have a regular position in a University / Institute in India and should be engaged in research and development and have publications arising from research done as an independent investigator in India. Age limit < 40 years.

Budget: Fellowship: Rs. 25,000 per month (over and above the regular salary), Contingency grant: Rs. 7.00 lakhs per annum for meeting the expenses on consumables, minor equipment, international and domestic travel, manpower and other contingent expenditure.

Duration: 3 years

Deadline: 15th Jan, 2019

Weblink: <https://www.ladytatatrust.org/StaticPageIndia/Awards/8>

Young investigators (EMBO)

Remit: To provide financial and practical support to young scientists in the life sciences in the early stages of setting up an independent laboratory to help them develop skills and connections that will help them during this career stage.

Applicant Eligibility: 1-4 years of experience as an independent group leader. Carry out research in the life sciences in an EMBC Member State, an EMBC Associate Member State (India is now an EMBC Associate Member State) or a cooperating partner country (currently Taiwan). Age limit < 40 years.

Duration: 3 years

Deadline: 1st April, 2019

Weblink: <http://www.embo.org/funding-awards/young-investigators>

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

(<https://www.ncbs.res.in/rdo/sponsor-deadlines>)

December 2018 – March 2019

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International Collaboration

Call for Collaborative Scientific Research Programme (J)DST/CEFIPRA, France

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and France on projects related to thematic areas including 2D Materials and their Heterostructures, High-throughput Computational Materials Design, Genomics approaches to problems addressing Health and Nutrition, Host-microbe-Interactions in Health and Agriculture, biological questions using or developing Mathematical, Computational or Physical approaches Marine Biology and Ecology, Modeling of Earth Materials at Extreme Conditions, Multifunctional Materials, Exotic States of Materials and Quantum Criticality, Biological Chemistry, Biopolymers, Catalysis.

Applicant eligibility: Principal and Joint Collaborators have to hold a permanent position as scientists/Faculty members in universities/ academic institutes.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, equipment, travel (international and domestic) and contingency.

Duration: Upto 3 years

Deadline: 15th Jan, 2019

Weblink: http://cefipra.org/Collaborative_Research.aspx

Indo-Australian Biotechnology Fund (DBT/DIIS, Australia)

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and Australia on projects related to thematic areas including plant genomics and Neurodegenerative diseases, including palliative care.

Applicant eligibility: Applicant should be from Indian not-for-profit research organization/education institution/ public/private research company. Have at least one Australian partner and confirmation from the implementing Australian agency that a corresponding application from that Australian partner has been received.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, International Travel to Australia, consumables, special equipment, access to facilities essential to the project and end-user expenses (including commercialization, product design and testing, initial manufacture, and other translational activities).

Duration: Upto 3 years

Deadline: 23rd Jan, 2019

Weblink: http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/Final_Indo-Australia_11th-Round_Guidelines-.pdf

International Collaboration

DBT-European Commission H2020 call (2017-18) (DBT/EU, Europe)

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and Europe on projects related to broad thematic areas including Health, biotechnology, food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy.

Applicant eligibility: Eligible Indian participants are researchers from recognized public/private funded academic or research institutions, national R&D laboratories.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, equipment, travel and for organizing conferences and workshops.

Duration: 3-5 years

Deadline: The deadlines vary for the different themes. 22nd Jan, 2019 (Biotechnology), 23rd Jan, 2019 (food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy); 5th March, 2019 (Biotechnology); 24th April, 2019 (Health)

Weblink: <http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/Call-doc-Horizon-2020-converted-1.pdf>

Call for Industry Academia Research & Development Program (DST/CEFIPRA, France)

Remit: To promote linkages between Industry and Academia of France and India by leveraging the research skills of Academia to enhance the competitiveness of the Industrial partner involved.

Applicant eligibility: At least one industrial partner and one research institute each from India & France. Principal and Joint Collaborators have to hold a permanent position as scientists/ Faculty members in universities/ academic institutes.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, equipment, travel and contingency.

Duration: Upto 3 years

Deadline: 1st Feb, 2019

Weblink: http://cefipra.org/Industry_Academia.aspx

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

(<https://www.ncbs.res.in/rdo/sponsor-deadlines>)

December 2018 – March 2019

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International Collaboration

Funding Opportunities for Indo-German Fundamental Research Projects in the Life Sciences (DBT/DFG, Germany)

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and Germany on projects of curiosity-driven research that essentially require international collaboration to achieve the defined objectives.

Applicant eligibility: Applicants must be from Government of India supported or recognised (Public or Private) academia; research organizations and urban or other local bodies.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, equipment, travel (local & international travel, and local hospitality) and contingency.

Duration: Upto 3 years

Deadline: Proposals accepted any time of the year.

Weblink: http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/DBT_Modality-of-Participation-and-Funding.pdf

Indo-Norway Joint Research Projects in S&T (DST/RCN, Norway)

Remit: To support collaborative research proposals between scientists in India and Norway on projects with thematic areas: nanotechnology, microtechnology and advanced materials

Applicant eligibility: Applicants must be from Government of India supported or recognised (Public or Private) academia; research organizations and urban or other local bodies.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, equipment, mobility (local & international travel, and local hospitality) and contingency.

Duration: Upto 3 years

Deadline: 22 Feb, 2019

Weblink: <http://www.dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/Indo-NorwayJointCall-Nano-2018%20pdf.pdf>

CRDF Global Request for Proposals (RFP)DBT/CRDF/NIH, USA)

Remit: To create single network CRDF consisting of multiple clinical and laboratory research sites and a multidisciplinary team of Indian and U.S. investigators that addresses an array of TB research questions of importance to India in the global context.

Applicant eligibility: Applicants must be from Government of India supported or recognised (Public or Private) academia; research organizations and urban or other local bodies.

Budget: Funding includes costs for manpower, consumables, research equipment, travel (local & international travel, and local hospitality) and contingency.

Duration: Upto 5 years

Deadline: 28th Feb, 2019

Weblink: <http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/RePORT-India-Renewal-RFP-Final.pdf>

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Long-term fellowship (EMBO)

Remit: To support post-doctoral research visits to laboratories throughout Europe and the world.

Applicant eligibility: 0-2 years post PhD, at least one first author publication mandatory. All fellowships must involve movement between countries. The receiving institute or the applicant's nationality must be from one of the EMBC Member or Associate States. Applicants from EMBC member or associate member states may apply for fellowship to be held in India.

Budget: Travel, stipend, dependent allowance

Duration: 2 years

Deadline: Applications open throughout the year.

Comments: Two annual evaluations: Second Friday of February and August.

Weblink: <http://www.embo.org/funding-awards/fellowships/long-term-fellowships#about>

Travel

Travelling Fellowships (Company of Biologists)

Remit: Travel grant for graduate students and post-doctoral researchers who wish to make collaborative visits.

Applicant eligibility: No restriction on nationality. The applicant should be working in the field of the journal (Development, Journal of Cell Science, The Journal of Experimental Biology, and Disease Models & Mechanisms)

Budget: up to £2,500. Funding includes travel, subsistence, accommodation, visa fees and bench fees.

Deadline: 15th March 2019 (for travel after 29 April 2019)

Weblink: <http://www.biologists.com/travelling-fellowships/>

Organizing Meetings/Workshops

Scientific Meetings grant (Company of Biologists)

Remit: To fund the organisation of meetings/ workshops.

Applicant eligibility: Organiser must have a PhD. No geographic restrictions, preference to events with feasible diversity in speakers in terms of geography, gender and age.

Budget: Funds for organizing meetings, support of young scientists and plenary or keynote speakers attending meetings.

Agency Deadline: 4th Jan, 2019 & 25th March, 2019

Weblink: <http://www.biologists.com/grants/>

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

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December 2018 – March 2019

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Rolling schemes

Hamied Visiting Fellowship (Cambridge-India)

Remit: To support faculty exchange in order to strengthen existing collaborations between India and Cambridge.

Applicant eligibility: Researchers at Indian universities with an existing academic relationship with colleagues at the University of Cambridge.

Budget: Travel, transfers and accommodation.

Duration: 1-2 weeks

Weblink: <https://www.gci.cam.ac.uk/funding/responsive-calls/hamied-visiting-fellowship>

High Risk High Reward (SERB)

Remit: To support proposals that are conceptually new and risky, and if successful, expected to have a paradigm shifting influence on science and technology.

Applicant eligibility: PhD, Indian nationals holding a regular academic appointment in India

Budget: not defined

Duration: 3-5 years

Weblink: <http://www.serb.gov.in/hrhr.php>

Industry Relevant R&D (SERB)

Remit: To utilize the expertise available in academic institutions and national laboratories to solve industry specific problems for the larger benefit of society.

Applicant eligibility: Academic partners include Indian nationals holding a regular academic appointment in India. All industries (including MSME & industrial R&D Centres) are eligible.

Budget: SERB will provide funds up to Rs.50 lakhs for supporting research costs to the academic partner. The industry partner is expected to share up to 50% of the total costs of the project.

Duration: 3-5 years

Weblink: <http://www.serb.gov.in/irrd.php>

J C Bose National Fellowships (SERB)

Remit: To recognize active scientists and engineers for their outstanding performance and contributions.

Applicant eligibility: Indian Nationals residing in India, with upper age limit of 68 years for completion of fellowship. Needs to be nominated by the institute.

Budget: Salary top-up of Rs. 25,000 per month plus research grant of Rs. 10.00 lakh.

Duration: 5 years

Weblink: <http://serb.gov.in/pdfs/guideline/jcbose-guideline.pdf>

Project grants (DBT)

Remit: To support Research and Development projects in biotechnology and life sciences.

Applicant eligibility: Ph D, Regular position in Indian research institutes/universities

Budget: upto 1 crore

Duration: 3-5 years

Comments: Submission through online web portal of DBT

Weblink: <http://dbtpromis.nic.in/Login.aspx>

Ramanujan Fellowship (SERB)

Remit: To support scientists from all over the world, who wish to return to India to take up scientific research positions.

Applicant eligibility: PhD/MD with excellent proven track-record. Age less than 45 years.

Budget: Fellowship support of Rs.1,00,000/- per month and research grant of 7 Lakhs per annum.

Duration: 5 years

Weblink: <http://serb.gov.in/pdfs/guideline/ramanujan-guideline.pdf>



RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

National Centre for Biological Sciences
GKVK Campus, Bellary Road, Bangalore-560065

Newsletter Designed by : Malini S Pillai

Image Credits: Pixabay images, Pexels.

For comments, suggestions and queries on the newsletter, please contact Vineetha Raghavan.