 

**Indo-French call for joint research and innovation project proposals in**

**“Green Hydrogen Innovations for Sustainable Energy Solutions” 2025 edition**

## Announcement of Call for Proposals: 06th March 2025

**Deadline for Submitting Proposals:** 06th May 2025 (05.30 pm IST, 05.00 pm CET)

To catalyze a stronger and rejuvenated Indo-French scientific partnership, Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, and French National Research Agency (ANR), France are launching the 1st joint call for submission of the project proposals in **“Green Hydrogen Innovations for Sustainable Energy Solutions”.** This is in pursuance of the decision taken during the second meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee of Science and Technology (JCST) which took place in Delhi NCR on January 18th, 2024.

The aim of this call is to consolidate Indo-French research networks in hydrogen and create new ones. Through bilateral funding, both organizations seek to fund innovative binational projects that demonstrate strong synergy between the teams in each country and real integration of joint work, i.e. effective cooperation between the Indo-French partners. Partners will work together as a joint team with complementary competencies in one common project, creating a joint output.

## PRIORITISED RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AREAS

**Green Hydrogen Innovations for Sustainable Energy Solutions**

The target of this Indo-French call is to enhance value creation through research and innovation for the development of new technologies, solutions, services, and business models on the following two topics, along with subtopics that can contribute:

1. Innovations for electrochemical hydrogen production or fuel cells, e.g.

* Alternatives to rare and costly electro-catalyzers for electrolyzers or fuel cells
* Bio-inspired catalyst design for green hydrogen production
* Natural enzyme-based hydrogen production

1. Research on hydrogen carriers and storage, e.g.

* Chemical hydrogen carriers like ammonia (advances in the chain, such as synthesis/ cracking processes)
* Liquid hydrogen carriers like Liquid Organic Hydrogen Carriers (LOHC)
* Materials-based hydrogen storage like hydrides

**Note**: The highly innovative ideas in the above areas, even if not specifically mentioned in the subtopic catalog, are also welcome, provided they align with the topics and offer significant impact toward advancing a hydrogen economy.

Even if at the early stages of research, all projects must consider issues of safety, deployment conditions, and life cycle (impact on the environment, use of resources available in limited quantities, etc.). In addition to the technological developments, applicants are invited to consider socio-economic issues if relevant to their research topic.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The French and Indian applicants will develop one joint Project plan and the plan will be sent to both ANR (France) and DST (India) using the forms of each organization, respectively. It should be ensured that an application with identical title has been submitted from both counterparts.

The project proposal must include the name of one Principal Investigator (PI) each in India and France. On the Indian side, it is advised to include one Co-PI in the proposal. The applications must include a statement on how the proposed collaboration brings added value for both countries.

## PROJECT PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA AND SELECTION FOR FUNDING

## Each full project proposal is evaluated on the basis of the information as completed and submitted online at the closing date and time, in accordance with the evaluation criteria (see § 3.3 'Evaluation criteria'). The evaluation will involve external peer reviewers and panel members. The scientific panel is joint for both funding organizations.

## 3.1 REVIEWERS EVALUATION

## The aim is for each project proposal to be evaluated by at least two external peer reviewers (individuals who do not take part in the joint scientific panel meetings), who the ANR and the DST call in after checking that there is no conflict of interest. Peer reviewers operate individually and confidentially without any discussion with third parties. Peer reviewers complete an individual assessment report, commenting on each evaluation criterion.

## The ANR and the DST will call on them according to their own procedures.

## 3.2 PANEL MEMBERS EVALUATION

## The full project proposals are evaluated by the members of the joint scientific panel based on the information submitted by the applicants by the closing date and time of the call for proposals and on the peer reviewers' reports. The panel members may put these assessments into perspective because, unlike the reviewers, they have a synoptic view of all the full project proposals.

## The scientific panel consists of highly qualified French, Indian, or foreign individuals from the research communities selected according to the submitted full project proposals. Panel members are appointed based on their scientific expertise, and the panel is co-chaired by two chair representatives, one appointed by the ANR and one by the DST.

**3.3 EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**Criterion 1: Scientific excellence**

* Conformity with the call for proposals aims and degree of conformity with designated research areas.
* Scientific and technical quality, innovativeness, and knowledge gain of the joint research project.
* Methodology and quality of project construction, feasibility, and appropriateness of the joint research project (timeline, work packages).

**Criterion 2: Consortium, Collaboration and Implementation**

* Quality, competence, and complementarity of the consortia to address the objectives of the project including the eventual active involvement and commitment of companies and organizations; possible contribution to the overall Indo-French cooperation in hydrogen energy research.
* Skills, expertise, and involvement of the project coordinators from both sides (French - Indian).
* Added value of the bilateral cooperation and expected benefit for both the French and the Indian side and the balance of the cooperation.
* Appropriateness of resources and funding requested.

**Criterion 3: Impact and benefits of the project**

* Overall impact of the project, including scientific, technological, economic, and social aspects.
* Appropriateness of description of how socio-economic questions are incorporated and end users involved, where feasible. Consideration of safety aspects.
* Ambition of the project in terms of targeted TRL.

*External peer reviewers and panel members use* ***the same evaluation grid****.*

With regard to the sub-criterion "Appropriateness of resources and funding requested" of Criterion 2 "Consortium, Collaboration, and Implementation", the economic context of the partners' countries is taken into account. PIs are informed that under the bilateral agreement, the DST will provide Indian partners with a maximum funding of 2.25 crores or approximately 250k€ for a project for the three-year duration of the project. French applicants are invited to submit projects that justify ANR funding for indicative amounts of 200 k€ to 350 k€, depending on the project's ambition and the number of partners applying for ANR funding. The maximum amount that can be requested from the ANR to fund a project is set at 500 k€.

**3.4 SELECTION AND FUNDING DECISION**

Once the peer reviewers have completed their evaluations, the joint scientific panel meets in a plenary session (virtual meeting).

The collective discussion results in ranking the full project proposals in relation to each other. The outcome of the discussion is recorded in a final evaluation report reflecting the consensus reached by the joint scientific panel.

The list of projects selected for funding will be published on the ANR and DST websites around July 2025.

The ANR and the DST will notify the successful applicants individually when the results are published.

## KIND OF SUPPORT AVAILABLE

The successful projects will be jointly funded by India and France. For the French counterpart, funding will be disbursed by ANR, and similarly for the Indian counterpart by DST.

The French side (French National Research Agency - ANR) will allocate 1 million EUR and the Indian side (DST) will allocate 90 million INR i.e. (Rs. 9 crores) to support at least 2-4 joint research and innovation projects. The duration of the projects is expected to be up to 3 years for both sides.

Significant co-financing as well as the participation of relevant public partners and/or private enterprises other than the main applicants is encouraged.

The project budget must clearly delineate justified Indian and French costs. The costs of the Indian partner must be eligible as per the guidelines of the DST. Accordingly, the costs of the French partner must be eligible as per the guidelines of the ANR. As the joint projects are funded in bilateral mode the mobility between the two countries should be balanced. Applicants are reminded to include a sufficient budget for travel between India and France to ensure successful collaboration. The sending side will provide round-trip economy-class airfare to the relevant entry city of the host country as well as medical insurance. The receiving side will provide accommodation and living expenses, i.e., transportation for pick-up service to and from the airport, food or per diem, etc.

**4.1 SUPPORT AVAILABLE ON THE INDIAN SIDE:**

Financial support will be provided only for temporary staff salaries, equipment, consumables, international travel, and other miscellaneous items. The support will **NOT** be provided towards basic infrastructure or buildings. The investigators/ R&D Group should have adequate experience and expertise in the relevant area of the proposal. It is envisaged that the end product of development shall be transferred to industries for commercial production. Hence, it is desirable that industry/industries may be associated with the project right from the beginning with defined participation in technical terms. As far as possible the proposed prototype/device/process should have sufficient users in the country and there should be adequate demand for the product.

**4.2 SUPPORT AVAILABLE ON THE FRENCH SIDE:**

“French applicants are invited to submit projects that justify ANR funding within an indicative range of €200k to €350k, depending on the project’s ambition and the number of partners applying for ANR funding. The maximum funding that can be requested from ANR for a project is set at 500 k€. Only the eligible costs of the French partners who have applied for ANR funding will be financed. The eligible costs and other terms for granting ANR funding are specified in the 'Funding Regulations' available at <https://anr.fr/RF>

1. **PROJECT PROPOSAL ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible, detailed proposals and CVs must comply with all the eligibility conditions, whether common to both funding organizations or specific to each.

No modification of data will be possible, and no document will be accepted after the closing date and time of the call from either of the two organizations. Data entry is the direct responsibility of the applicants (French scientific coordinator for the ANR platform and Indian PI for the DST).

Project proposals **may be declared ineligible at any time** during the evaluation process. Proposals that do not meet the eligibility conditions, whether common to both organizations or specific to each, will not be evaluated a priori and will under no circumstances be eligible for funding.

**5.1 JOINT PROJECT PROPOSAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

**Completeness of the project proposal:**

The full project proposal must be finalized as requested by both organizations (DST and ANR online on the dedicated submission platform) by the communicated closing date and time.

* French Partners to the ANR:

To be complete, the full project proposal must include the following:

- The scientific document, 35 pages in a PDF file without protection submitted on the ANR’s platform.

- The CVs of the scientific coordinators and other main researchers involved in the project, combined in one PDF file without protection, submitted as an annex.

- Online data filled as requested by ANR.

* Indian Partners to the DST:

It is essential to comply with DST’s procedures and submission requests as per points no. 6 and 6.1 below.

**Composition of the consortium:**

The consortium must include at least one partner eligible for ANR funding and one partner eligible for DST funding. The participation of companies is strongly encouraged. Companies can participate as co-applicants (eligible for funding) or cooperation partners (non-funded). End users or other civil society organizations can participate as additional co-applicants or cooperation partners or as members of an advisory board.

**Scientific nature of the full project proposal:**

The full project proposal must relate to the themes expressed in point 2, "Research Areas."

**Project proposal duration**

The project’s planned duration must be the same for both countries’ partners.

**5.2 ANR’s ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

The document ‘Terms of Participation for partners applying for ANR funding’ - details how to submit an application online. It can be downloaded from the current year's call for proposals website page: <https://anr.fr/FrIn-GH2SES>

**5.3 DST’s ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Proposals must attempt to fully disclose the research ideas and approaches. It is important that proposals are well crafted and provide a substantive description of the research plan for a fair review of the scientific/technical plans and approaches. Proprietary or confidential information must be clearly indicated in the proposal. Proposals must not be duplicative or substantially similar to any previous project or proposal submission.

The project leading to the development of a device/prototype/process with **Technology Readiness Levels** (**TRL**) having potential for commercialization, must start at least at TRL 3 and will be eligible for financial support. The implementation or commercialization plan should be clearly spelled out with achievable milestones, timelines, justifiable budget requirements, and engagement with prospective technology transfer partners or technology transfer facilitating bodies.

The participation of companies is strongly encouraged. Companies can participate as co-applicants (eligible for funding) or cooperation partners (non-funded).

The applications must include a statement on how the proposed collaboration brings added value for both countries.

## PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROJECT PROPOSAL

The French and Indian applicants will develop one joint Project plan, and the plan will be sent to both France (ANR) and India (DST) using the forms of each organization, respectively. It should be ensured that applications with identical titles have been submitted from both counterparts.

The project proposal must include the name of one Principal Investigator (PI) each in India and France. On the Indian side, it is advised to include one Co-PI in the proposal.

The proposal, in English, must be submitted to DST and ANR, no later than **May 06th, 2025 (05.30 pm IST/ at 5:00 pm (CET)**.

**6.1 SUBMISSION IN INDIA:**

The Project Proposal could be submitted for financial support through **ONLINE MODE ONLY** by Scientists/ Engineers/ Technologists working in universities and other Academic institutions; R&D institutions/ laboratories having adequate infrastructure and facilities to carry out R&D work. The PI(s) should have relevant experience as evident from previous prototype commercialization or development or practical experience in the chosen area/topic with field knowledge.

On the Indian side, the Project Proposal could be submitted in the enclosed format through **ONLINE MODE ONLY** (<https://onlinedst.gov.in>**)**. NO HARD COPY of the project proposal should be submitted.

Please ensure that the following documents have been completed and uploaded along with the proposal.

1. Certificate from the investigator (in the enclosed format).
2. Endorsement from Head of the institution on Letter Head (in the enclosed format).
3. A signed certificate for the Conflict of Interest (in the enclosed format)
4. Biodata of PI/Co-PI

Applications received without the above documents with incomplete information will not be entertained. A soft copy in pdf format is also to be emailed to [ranjith.krishnapai@gov.in](mailto:ranjith.krishnapai@gov.in) on or before **May 06th, 2025 (05:30 pm IST).**

Funding will be governed by Climate, Energy, and Sustainable Technology (CEST) Division, Department of Science and Technology funding guidelines.

**6.2 SUBMISSION IN FRANCE:**

The French partner's scientific coordinator must submit his or her full project proposal (scientific document, CV, information filled in online) on the ANR submission platform before **May 6th, 2025, at 5:00 pm (CET) on the following platform:**

<https://aap.agencerecherche.fr/selection/2025/SPICE/Pages/SelFicheAAP.aspx?idaap=2260&programme=1081>

**This submission is mandatory** to participate in the selection process.

The document ‘Terms of Participation for partners applying for ANR funding’ - details how to submit an application online. It can be downloaded from the current year's call for proposals website page: <https://anr.fr/FrIn-GH2SES>

## CONTACT DETAILS:

Department of Science and Technology (DST),

Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India

## Dr. Ranjith Krishna Pai

## Senior Director / Scientist 'F'

Climate, Energy and Sustainable Technology (CEST)

Room No.-16 B, S&T Block-I,

## Department of Science and Technology (DST)

## Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road

New Delhi-110016

**Tel:** 011-26590475

## E-mail: [ranjith.krishnapai@gov.in](mailto:ranjith.krishnapai@gov.in)

## <https://www.dst.gov.in> ; <https://onlinedst.gov.in>

## 

Dr. Sapana Kaushik

Scientist ‘E’

International Cooperation Division (ICD)

## Department of Science and Technology (DST)

## Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road

## New Delhi-110016

## Tel: 011-26590606

## E-mail – [sapana.kaushik@nic.in](mailto:sapana.kaushik@nic.in)

## Contact French National Research Agency (ANR):

## Dr. Paula Kleij

## Scientific Project Officer

## Tel: +33172730681

**E-mail:** [paula.kleij@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:paula.kleij@agencerecherche.fr)

1. **APPENDIX**

DST NATIONAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

The proposal relevant to call objectives will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Novelty of the proposed work.
2. Need assessment and demand for proposed work.
3. Scientific appropriateness of deliverables of proposed approaches and technical merit.
4. Expertise and track record of individual researcher or project consortium as applicable.
5. Proposal formulation. Literature/patent review, qualified objectives, methodology and work plan, clear and well-defined deliverables.
6. Synergy effects and added value to ongoing research within the field.
7. **FUNDING REGULATIONS**

Each organization funds eligible expenses for its country's teams according to its rules.

* ANR funding regulations:

<https://anr.fr/RF>

* DST funding regulations:

The financial guidelines are outlined in the DST call templates.

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## GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE GRANT (applicable to Indian applicants):

1. Information regarding Proof of Concept and Early prototype should be provided in the project proposal.
2. The PI/Co-PI can submit only one proposal against this Call. Submission of more than one proposal from a PI/ Co-PI would be liable to be a disqualification of all the submitted proposals.
3. The Institution where the project will be implemented, will assume financial and other administrative responsibilities of the project.
4. In the case of a multi-institutional project, the Principal Investigator has to obtain formal agreement from the collaborating Institutions/Scientists.
5. As the joint projects are funded in bilateral mode the mobility between the two countries should be balanced. Applicants are required to include a sufficient budget for travel between India and France. The sending side will provide round-trip economy-class airfare to the relevant entry city of the host country as well as medical insurance. The receiving side will provide accommodation and living expenses, i.e., transportation for pick-up service to and from the airport, food or perdiem, etc. Project workshops in India and/or France can be considered for funding.
6. The manpower recruited for the project should be paid as per the rules of the institute and guidelines of the Government of India (**OM. No. DST/PCPM/Z-06/2022 dated 26.06.2023 and SR/S9/Z-05/2019 dated 10.07.2020)**. The posts which are not covered under the guidelines but permissible under projects at host institute are also permitted. The temporary staff employed for the project by the organization is not treated as employees of Government of India and the deployment of such staff at the time of termination of the project will not be the concern/responsibility of the Government of India.
7. It is the policy of DST to maximize the use of equipment. In this light, investigator shall permit the use of spare or idle capacities of equipment procured under the project by bona fide users (research workers in other DST-funded projects or other projects of the institute).
8. The Principal Investigator/ Organization will be required to furnish a progress report every six months on the progress made on all aspects of the project including expenditure incurred on various approved items during the period.
9. The Comptroller and Auditor General will have the right to access the books and accounts of the organization for Grants received from the Government.
10. The grantee organization will have to enter & upload the Utilization Certificate in the PFMS portal besides sending it in physical form to this Division. The subsequent/final installment will be released only after confirmation of the acceptance of the UC by the Division and entry of the previous Utilization Certificate in the PFMS.
11. The grantee organization will maintain a separate audited account for the project and the entire amount of the grant will be kept in an interest-bearing bank account. For Grants released during F.Y. 2017-18 and onwards, all interests and other earnings against the released Grant shall be remitted to Consolidated Fund of India (through Non-Tax Receipt Portal (NTRP), i.e. www.bharatkosh.gov.in), immediately after finalization of accounts, as it shall not be adjusted towards future release of Grant. A certificate to this effect shall have to be submitted along with a Statement of Expenditure/ Utilization Certificate for considering the subsequent release of Grant/ Closure of Project accounts.
12. The grant can be terminated by DST at any stage if it is convinced that the Grant has not been properly utilized or appropriate progress is not being made.
13. If the Principal Investigator wishes to leave the organization where the project is based, the organization/investigator will inform the same to DST and with its consultation evolve steps to ensure the successful completion of the project, before relieving the Principal Investigator. The Investigator should submit three copies of a complete and detailed report of the work done by them on the project before leaving the organization.
14. Sale proceeds, if any, of the components, prototypes, pilot plants, etc. fabricated as a result of the development of the project arising directly from funds granted by the Department of Science & Technology shall be remitted to the Government of India. The Government of India, may, at its discretion allow a portion of such receipt to be retained by the organization.
15. The know-how generated from the DST-funded activities of the project would be the property of the Government of India and any receipts by way of sale of know-how, utilization of know-how for production, royalties, etc. shall belong to the Government of India. The Government of India, may, at its discretion, allow a portion of such receipts to be retained by the organization.
16. The Principal Investigator/organization will prepare all the documents that would be required for the transfer of know-how to the production agency/agencies and submit them to DST as and when required. The organization will be responsible to transfer the know-how developed to the production agency/ agencies and supply all the needed information to the production agency/ agencies as and when required.
17. No financial support for manpower and equipment will be provided to the industry. However, the industry can hire the manpower through academic institutions. Industrial SIROs recognized by DSIR, the release is restricted to 50% of the sanctioned amount. The balance of 50% is released on the successful completion of the project as reimbursement.

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**Indo-French call for joint research and innovation project proposals in**

**“Green Hydrogen Innovations for Sustainable Energy Solutions”**

**Application Forms for Joint Research Projects 2025**

**(For Indian Scientist)**

PROJECT SUMMARY

***(Not more than 1 and half page)***

Ref No.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to be filled by DST)

**Project Title:**

**Name of Prototype/Device proposed to develop with TRL:**

**Use of proposed device and Potential User (One line):**

**Indian PI Name: Age:**

**Contact No. Mobile & Office: Email ID:**

**French PI:**

**Contact No. Mobile & Office: Email ID:**

**Total Cost:**

**Duration:**

**Manpower:**

**Equipment proposed:**

**Industry Partner (if any):**

**Industry’ financial Contribution (if any): Objectives:**

**Methodology (in brief 150 words): Deliverables:**

**Budget Details**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sr.**  **No.** | **Items** | **Budget( in Lakhs)** | | | |
|  |  | **1st Year** | **2nd Year** | **3rd Year** | **Total** |
| **1.** | Equipment’s |  |  |  |  |
| **2.** | Salaries/  Fellowships (Name & No.) |  |  |  |  |
| **3.** | Consumables |  |  |  |  |
| **4.** | Travel |  |  |  |  |
| **5.** | Exchange Visits |  |  |  |  |
| **6.** | Contingency |  |  |  |  |
| **7.** | Other Costs, if any |  |  |  |  |
| **8.** | Overhead Expenses\* |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | |  |  |  |  |

Any other relevant information including Novelty / Details of Proof of Concept/Prototype developed by Investigator/Team: - (maximum 150 words): -

## PART-A PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1. Research Field for Cooperation :
2. Sub-field of Proposed Research Field :
3. Title of Joint Research Project
4. Proposed Period of Joint Research Project : Months
5. Proposed Budget from Indian Side: Rs.
6. Proposed Budget from French Side: Euro.
7. Indian Principal Investigator (PI):

Name: Date of Birth:

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department Postal Address

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

1. French Principal Investigator (PI): Name :

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department Postal Address

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

1. Indian Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI):

Name: Date of Birth:

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department Postal Address

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

1. French Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI): Name:

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department Postal Address

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

1. Other Researchers in Indian Research Team
   1. Name: Date of Birth:

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

* 1. Name: Date of Birth:

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

* 1. Name: Date of Birth:

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

* 1. Name: Date of Birth:

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

* 1. Name: Date of Birth:

Designation:

Organization:

Division/ Department

Telephone No. : (Office) (Residence)

Fax No. E-Mail

1. Other Researchers in French Research Team
   1. Name :

Designation: Organization: Division/ Department

* 1. Name :

Designation: Organization: Division/ Department

* 1. Name :

Designation: Organization: Division/ Department

* 1. Name :

Designation: Organization: Division/ Department

* 1. Name :

Designation: Organization: Division/ Department

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

* 1. Aim / Joint Abstract of the Project: (What will you achieve with the project?)
  2. Justification for collaboration :

(Why do you want to make the project as a joint Indo-French project?)

* 1. State-of-the-art
  2. Relevance of the project
  3. Research plan:

(no more than 8 / 15 pages for individual / consortium proposals respectively), including a clear description of the planned research and research collaboration, Year-wise and country-wise distribution of work and methods of implementation, and a description of any researcher training to be carried out within the project.

* 1. Risk Management :

(Identify, assess, and prioritise the most important risks in the project with reference to the listed milestones. Briefly describe the plan to mitigate the specific risks and reduce the project's overall risk profile.)

* 1. Technology Readiness Levels (TRL)

[State the project expected start and end Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) and also provide comments, if any]

**Start TRL: [ ] End TRL:** [ ]

* 1. Legal, ethical, or regulatory demands:
  2. Value creation - growth and employment:
  3. Project outcome recipients:
  4. Implementation:
  5. Intellectual Property Rights :

(Are any of the expected results likely to have commercial value? How do you propose to share intellectual property rights?)

1. Facilities related to project activity available at the institutions where the project will be carried out:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| At the Collaborating Indian Institutions | At the Collaborating French Institutions |
|  |  |

1. Number of exchange visits required to achieve the project objectives (Year wise)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **INDIA TO FRANCE** | | **FRANCE TO INDIA** | |
| Number of persons x visits | Duration for each person’s visit | Number of persons x visits | Duration for each person’s visit |
| 1st Year |  |  |  |  |
| 2nd Year |  |  |  |  |
| 3rd Year |  |  |  |  |

1. Expected final results of Cooperation (e.g. joint publications, patents etc.)

Are any of the expected results likely to have commercial value? (Up to 100 words)

1. Bio-data of Indian and French investigators to be attached as annexures.

(Description should highlight the expertise of PI(s) and other members of the project team in the proposed field of work supported by citing relevant publications only. (To be appended in about 2 pages).

1. **Research History of both PIs. (Ongoing / Completed projects with the PIs (last 5 years) Indian PI**

**National Projects:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S. No. | Project Title | Sponsoring Agency | Budget | Status |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**International Projects:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S. No. | Project Title | Name of the Collaborating Scientist &  Institute | Sponsoring Agency | Budget | Status |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**French PI**

**National Projects:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S. No. | Project Title | Sponsoring Agency | Budget | Status |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**International Projects:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S. No. | Project Title | Name of the Collaborating  Scientist & Institute | Sponsoring Agency | Budget | Status |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. **Proposed Project Budget from the Indian Side and its justification**
   1. Summary of Budget Estimates (in Rupees)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Item | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | Total |
| 1. Equipment |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Salaries/wages |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Consumables |  |  |  |  |
| 4. Travel |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Exchange Visits |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Contingency\*\* |  |  |  |  |
| 7. Other costs, if any |  |  |  |  |
| 8. Overhead Expenses |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL |  |  |  |  |

* 1. Budget for Equipment:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sr.**  **No.** | **Equipment /**  **Accessories** | **Make & Model** | **Imported /**  **Indigenous** | **Estimated**  **Cost** | **F.E.**  **Component** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** | | | |  |  |

Justification for equipment proposed.

* 1. Details of Budget proposed for Salaries/ Wages(in Rupees)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 1st Year / (m.m.\*) | 2nd Year / (m.m.) | 3rd Year / (m.m.) | Total / (m.m.) |
| Designation | Monthly Emoluments |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |

\*m.m.: man months to be given within brackets before the budget amount (As per OM. No. DST/PCPM/Z-06/2022 dated 26.06.2023 and SR/S9/Z-05/2019 dated 10.07.2020)

* + 1. Justification for the manpower requirement.
  1. Details of Budget proposed for Consumable Materials budget (in Rupees)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S.No. | Item | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | Total |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Total |  |  |  |  |

4.1 Justification for consumable (Quantified list to be provided)

* 1. Details of Budget proposed for Internal Travel budget in India (in Rupees)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | Total |
| Number |  |  |  |  |
| Budget in Rs. |  |  |  |  |

5.1 Justification for travel:

* 1. Details of Budget proposed for exchange visits and estimated expenditure:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | Total |
| India – France |  |  |  |  |
| Number of persons x visits |  |  |  |  |
| Expenditure on Airfare, visa, transport and related expenditure in India |  |  |  |  |
| France – India |  |  |  |  |
| Number of visits and Man-days for each visit |  |  |  |  |
| Expenditure on Hospitality \*\*\* (Please check below table) |  |  |  |  |
| **Total budget** |  |  |  |  |

Expenditure on Hospitality\*\*\*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **S. no** | **Item** | **Applicable amount (INR)** |
| **For foreign faculty and researchers (Short term visit, up to 14 Days)** | | |
| 1. | Accommodation | Accommodation in institute Guest house / 3-star hotel with basic amenities on actual basis subject to the following limits.  Rs. 7,000/- per day for City under category ‘X’  Rs. 5,000/- per day for City under category ‘Y’  Rs. 4,000/- per day for City under category ‘Z’ |
| 2. | Subsistence allowance (Per-diem including local travel in India and airport transfer) | Rs. 4,000/- per day for first 14 days and Rs. 3,000/- per for subsequent days for long-term visit of faculty up to 30 days |
| **For foreign researchers / PhD Students / Post Doc for long-term visit** | | |
| Accommodation per-diem including local travel in India and airport transfers. | | Rs. 75,000/- per month |

6.1 Justification for travel:

* 1. Details of Budget proposed for Contingencies/ other costs Budget (in Rupees)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1st Year | 2nd Year | 3rd Year | Total |
|  |  |  |  |  |

* + 1. Justification for specific costs/ contingency:

\*\*\*Please note under the contingency head, the budget for only expected contingent expenditure should be projected. As per DST norms maximum Rs. 50,000 per year is allowed under the contingency head.

* 1. List of facilities being extended by parent institution(s) for the project implementation.
  2. Equipment available with the Institute/ Group/ Department/ Other Institutes for the project:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Equipment available with | Generic Name of Equipment | Model, Make & year of purchase | Remarks including accessories available and current usage of equipment |
| PI & his group |  |  |  |
| PI's Department |  |  |  |
| Other Institutes in the region |  |  |  |

* 1. Details of any other item of the budget proposed and its justification

## D OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPORT

1. **Is this research currently being supported by other sources?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| YES | NO |

If yes, please indicate the sources, amounts and periods of support.

**Indian side:**

**French side:**

1. **Has this project been submitted to other agencies for financial support?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| YES | NO |

If yes, please indicate which agencies, and when.

**Indian side:**

**French side:**

**3. Please indicate name of at least 3-4 Indian senior scientists working in this field:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NO** | **NAME** | **INSTITUTION** | **TEL & POSTAL ADDRESS** | **E-MAIL** |
| 1. |  |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |  |

**CERTIFICATE FROM THE INVESTIGATOR**

**Project Title**

1. I/We agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the R&D grant.
2. I/We did not submit the same project proposal elsewhere for financial support.
3. I/We have explored and ensured that equipment and basic facilities (enumerated in the proposal) will actually be available as and when required for the purpose of the projects. I/We shall not request financial support under this project, for procurement of these items.
4. I/We undertake that spare time on permanent equipment (listed in the proposal) will be made available to other users.
5. I/We have enclosed the Endorsement from the Head of Institution.

Name and Signature of Investigator

Date………………..

Place……………….

SIGNATURES OF THE INDIAN AND FRENCH PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

INDIAN FRENCH

DECLARATION FROM THE HEADS OF THE COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS

It is certified that:

1. The Institutions agree to participate in this joint research project;
2. The Institutions shall provide infrastructure and necessary facilities for implementing the joint project;
3. The Institutions assume to undertake financial and other management responsibilities for the part of the project work to be carried out at their institution; and
4. The backup funding for human resources, consumables, etc. is available to this project.

SIGNATURE & SEAL OF THE HEAD OF THE INSTITUTIONS

INDIAN FRENCH

**BIODATA OF PI/ Co-PIs: -**

* 1. Name
  2. Date of Birth
  3. Academic qualifications
  4. Areas of expertise
  5. Experience

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sr.**  **No.** | **Position held (Designation)** | **Place of work** | **Duration** | **Areas of work** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

* 1. Awards received, if any
  2. Publications (Nos.)
* Books
* Research papers
* Patents
  1. List of publications (Paper published during last 10years)
  2. List of projects completed indicating briefly title, sponsoring agency, duration, and outcome of the project.
  3. Details of materials/prototype/device already developed in the past.

# DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (POLICY ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST)

**FOR APPLICANT**

Issues of Conflicts of Interest and ethics in scientific research and research management have assumed greater prominence, given the larger share of Government funding in the country's R&D scenario. The following policy pertaining to general aspects of Conflicts of Interest and the code of ethics are objective measures that are intended to protect the integrity of the decision-making processes and minimize bias. The policy aims to sustain transparency, increase accountability in funding mechanisms, and provide assurance to the general public that processes followed in the award of grants are fair and non-discriminatory. The Policy aims to avoid all forms of biases by following a system that is fair, transparent, and free from all influence/ unprejudiced dealings, prior to, during, and subsequent to the currency of the program to be entered into with a view to enabling the public to abstain from bribing or any corrupt practice in order to secure the award by providing assurance to them that their competitors will also refrain from bribing and other corrupt practice and the decision makers will commit to prevent corruption, in any form, by their officials by following transparent procedures. This will also ensure a global acceptance of the decision-making process adopted by DST.

# Definition of Conflict of Interest:

Conflict of Interest means "any interest which could significantly prejudice an individual's objectivity in the decision-making process, thereby creating an unfair competitive advantage for the individual or to the organization which he/she represents". The Conflict of Interest also encompasses situations where an individual, in contravention to the accepted norms and ethics, could exploit his/her obligatory duties for personal benefits.

# Coverage of the Policy:

1. The provisions of the policy shall be followed by persons applying for and receiving funding from DST, Reviewers of the proposal, and Members of Expert Committees and Programme Advisory Committees. The provisions of the policy will also be applicable to all individuals including Officers of DST connected directly or indirectly or through intermediaries and Committees involved in the evaluation of proposals and subsequent decision-making process.
2. This policy aims to minimize aspects that may constitute actual Conflict of Interest, apparent Conflict of Interest, and potential Conflict of Interest in the funding mechanisms that are presently being operated by DST. The policy also aims to cover, although not limited to, Conflicts of interest that are Financial (gains from the outcomes of the proposal or award), Personal (association of relative / Family members) and Institutional (Colleagues, Collaborators, Employer, persons associated in a professional career of an individual such as Ph.D. supervisor etc.)

# Specifications as to what constitutes Conflict of Interest.

Any of the following specifications (non-exhaustive list) imply Conflict of Interest if,

1. Due to any reason by which the Reviewer/Committee Member cannot deliver fair and objective assessment of the proposal.
2. The applicant is a directly relative# or family member (including but not limited to spouse, child, sibling, parent) or personal friend of the individual involved in the decision making process or alternatively, if any relative of an Officer directly involved in any decision making process / has influenced interest/ stake in the applicant’s form etc.
3. The applicant for the grant/award is an employee or employer of an individual involved

in the process as a Reviewer or Committee Member; or if the applicant to the grant/award has had an employer-employee relationship in the past three years with that individual.

1. The applicant to the grant/award belongs to the same Department as that of the Reviewer/Committee Member.
2. The Reviewer/Committee Member is a Head of an Organization from where the applicant is employed.
3. The Reviewer /Committee Member is or was, associated in the professional career of the applicant (such as Ph.D. supervisor, Mentor, present Collaborator etc.)
4. The Reviewer/Committee Member is involved in the preparation of the research proposal submitted by the applicant.
5. The applicant has joint research publications with the Reviewer/Committee Member in the last three years.
6. The applicant/Reviewer/Committee Member, in contravention to the accepted norms and ethics followed in scientific research has a direct/indirect financial interest in the outcomes of the proposal.
7. The Reviewer/Committee Member stands to gain personally should the submitted proposal be accepted or rejected.
8. The Term “Relative” for this purpose would be referred in section 6 of Companies Act, 1956.

# Regulation:

The DST shall strive to avoid conflict of interest in its funding mechanisms to the maximum extent possible. Self-regulatory mode is however recommended for stake holders involved in scientific research and research management, on issues pertaining to Conflict of Interest and Scientific Ethics. Any disclosure pertaining to the same must be made voluntarily by the applicant/Reviewer/Committee Member.

# Confidentiality:

The Reviewers and the Members of the Committee shall safeguard the confidentiality of all discussions and decisions taken during the process and shall refrain from discussing the same with any applicant or a third party, unless the Committee recommends otherwise and records for doing so.

# Code of Conduct

* 1. **To be followed by Reviewers/Committee Members**:

1. All reviewers shall submit a conflict of interest statement, declaring the presence or absence of any form of conflict of interest.
2. The reviewers shall refrain from evaluating the proposals if the conflict of interest is established or if it is apparent.
3. All discussions and decisions pertaining to conflict of interest shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
4. The Chairman of the Committee shall decide on all aspects pertaining to conflict of interests.
5. The Chairman of the Committee shall request that all members disclose if they have any conflict of interest in the items of the agenda scheduled for discussion.
6. The Committee Members shall refrain from participating in the decision making process and leave the room with respect to the specific item where the conflict of interest is

established or is apparent.

1. If the Chairman himself/herself has conflict of interest, the Committee may choose a Chairman from among the remaining members, and the decision shall be made in consultation with Member Secretary of the Committee.
2. It is expected that a Committee member including the Chair-person will not seek funding from a Committee in which he/she is a member. If any member applies for grant, such proposals will be evaluated separately outside the Committee in which he/she is a member.

# To be followed by the Applicant to the Grant/Award:

1. The applicant must refrain from suggesting referees with potential Conflict of Interest that may arise due to the factors mentioned in the specifications described above in Point No.2.
2. The applicant may mention the names of individuals to whom the submitted proposal should not be sent for refereeing, clearly indicating the reasons for the same.

# To be followed by the Officers dealing with Programs in DST:

While it is mandatory for the program officers to maintain confidentiality as detailed in point no. 6 above, they should declare, in advance, if they are dealing with grant applications of a relative or family member (including but not limited to spouse, child, sibling, parent) or thesis/ post-doctoral mentor or stands to benefit financially if the applicant proposal is funded. In such cases, DST will allot the grant applications to the other program officer.

# Sanction for violation

* 1. **For a) Reviewers / Committee Members and b) Applicant**

Any breach of the code of conduct will invite action as decided by the Committee.

# For Officers dealing with Program in DST

Any breach of the code of conduct will invite action under the present provision of CCS (Conduct Rules), 1964.

1. **Final Appellate authority**:

Secretary, DST shall be the appellate authority in issues pertaining to conflict of interest and issues concerning the decision-making process. The decision of the Secretary, DST in these issues shall be final and binding.

# Declaration

**I have read the above “Policy on Conflict of Interest” of the DST applicable to the ~~Reviewer/ Committee Member/~~ Applicant/ ~~DST Scheme or Program Officer~~# and agree to abide by provisions thereof.**

I hereby declare that I have no conflict of interest of any form pertaining to the proposed grant\*

I hereby declare that I have conflict of interest of any form pertaining to the proposed grant\*

\* & # (Tick whichever is applicable)

# Name of the Applicant

*(****Strike out whichever is not applicable****)*

# (Signature with date)

**\*\*\*\*\*\***