

Call for Mobility Plus Project Proposals

Identification information

Partner country:	India
Partner organisation:	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
Programme:	Mobility Plus Projects
Implementation period:	2021 – 2022

Legal framework

The call is based on MoU on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the year 2018 between the Czech Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as CAS) and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Council of the Republic of India (hereinafter referred to as CSIR), and in accordance with art. 2 par. 2 of the Act No. 283/1992 Coll., on the Czech Academy of Sciences, as amended, and art. 3 par. 2 of the Statutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

Basic definitions

Objectives

- Enhancement of scientific cooperation between both countries;
- Stimulation of involvement of young researchers and PhD students;
- Support of research teams aspiring to cooperate on large international projects in the future;
- Enabling the use of methodology, infrastructure and equipment for the mutual benefit of both institutions.

Eligibility criteria

Project proposals from **all research fields excluding Humanities and Social Sciences** are accepted.

Maximum project duration is **2 years, i.e. 24 months**; extension beyond this period is not permitted.

Project proposals can be submitted:

- On the Czech side by the CAS institutes (<http://www.avcr.cz/en/about-us/cas-structure/research-institutes/>);
- On the Indian side by the CSIR institutes (<https://www.csir.res.in/csir-labs>)

In case an applicant submits more than one project proposal within one call, only one of them can be funded.

Only two subsequent projects realized by the same research teams can be funded.

Research team

Each research team consists of:

- One principal investigator (senior or junior researcher);
- One or more co-investigators.

Research team members are divided into four categories:

- Senior researchers (5 or more years after receiving PhD);
- Junior researchers (less than 5 years after receiving PhD);
- PhD students;
- Others (e.g. engineers, technicians).

On the Czech side:

- All members must be employees of the CAS institutes.
- Out of the whole team, at least 1/3 must be junior researchers or PhD students.

On the Indian side:

- All members must be employees of the CSIR institutes.
- Out of the whole team, at least 1/3 must be junior researchers.

Financial conditions

Financial contributions must be calculated and provided in compliance with the valid national legislation and internal regulations of the partner organisations.

Up to 3 (three) projects shall be selected for funding.

On the Czech side:

- Financial contribution shall be provided by the CAS towards the costs of the Czech research team.
- The maximum financial contribution shall be **CZK 250,000** per mobility project per year.
- Min. 50% of the approved financial contribution shall be used to cover mobility costs: travel, living expenses.
- Min. 30% of the approved financial contribution shall be used to cover research costs: consumables, services, small equipment, and networking.
- Non-eligible costs are: personnel, large equipment (exceeding CZK 40,000), overheads.
- There are no eligible indirect costs.
- The ratio between mobility and research costs shall be maintained on the project level as well as yearly. Transferring financial contributions between these two categories is allowed if the minimal ratio for both categories is maintained.
- The course of project implementation will be monitored through annual and final reports including use of financial means, justification of costs and possible transfers between categories.

On the Indian side (for information only):

- Financial contribution shall be provided by the CSIR towards the costs of the Indian research team.

- The maximum financial contribution shall be INR 8,00,000/- per mobility project per year.
 - Mobility costs (travel, living expenses, insurance, visa fee) will be met by CSIR;
 - Research costs (consumables, services, equipment etc.) will be met by the concerned CSIR Institute.
- The course of project implementation will be monitored through annual and final reports.

Project proposal submission

Project proposals must be submitted in parallel to both partner organisations.

On the Czech side:

- Project proposals in English must be complete and submitted within the stated deadline exclusively via the “KIS” online application.
- You are requested to register in the KIS application using the following link <https://kis.avcr.cz/kis2/oms/register> and fill in a project proposal. After finishing your proposal, you shall forward it through your KIS account to the Director of your CAS Institute for its approval. The Director shall approve your proposal by submitting the project proposal to OMS KAV ČR (Division of International Cooperation, Head Office of the CAS) via his KIS account. **Bear in mind that all project proposals must be submitted by the CAS Institute Directors by 1 June 2020.**
- Proposals submitted in any other way may be rejected on formal grounds.

By submitting project proposal, the applicant:

- Agrees to processing of personal data contained in the project proposal pursuant to the relevant Czech legislation;
- Declares that the information he/she stated is accurate, true and complete and that he/she is aware that if otherwise they will face all the legal consequences;
- Declares that, if approved, he/she will during the realization of the project follow:
 - [The Code of Ethics of researchers at the Czech Academy of Sciences](#);
 - [The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#);
 - [Recommendations of the International Commission "Self-Control in Science" \(Recommendations of the International Commission on Professional Self-Regulation in Science\)](#)

On the Indian side (for information only):

- Project proposals must be complete and submitted within the stated deadline through email (kamlesh@csir.res.in) and by post.
- Proposals submitted in any other way may be rejected on formal grounds.

By submitting project proposal, the applicant:

- Agrees to processing of personal data;
- Declares that the information he/she stated is accurate, true and complete and that he/she is aware that if otherwise they will face all the legal consequences;
- Declares that, if approved, he/she will, during the realization of the project, follow the Code of Ethics of researchers at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (<https://www.csir.res.in/sites/default/files/OM%20Ethics%20Guidelines28-02-2020.pdf>).

Evaluation and Selection

Consists of a two-step process:

- At the national level, each partner organisation evaluates submitted proposals based on its internal rules and prepares a ranking list.
- At the international level, both partner organizations exchange their ranking lists, merge them, negotiate the final ranking and approve the proposals selected for funding. Total number of projects approved for funding is dependent on the financial possibilities of both partner organizations.

Criteria for evaluation of project proposals

- **Quality of the project:**
 - Scientific relevance (concept, innovative character in relation to the state-of-the art, quality of objectives);
 - Methodology, work plan of activities and outputs;
 - Impact of project results, their dissemination and exploitation.
- **Quality of research teams:**
 - Composition and expertise of research teams;
 - Complementarity, methodology and equipment; previous cooperation and outputs;
 - Justification of collaboration needs.
- **Active involvement of junior researchers and PhD students.**
- **Added value and broader impact of bilateral cooperation.**

Evaluation of the final report

The project results and outputs will be evaluated. For definition of results see the Methodology for Evaluating Research Organisations and R&D&I Purpose-tied Aid Programmes (2017+) (<https://www.vyzkum.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=799796>).

Schedule

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|----------------------------|---|
| • 01.04. 2020 | • Announcement of the call for project proposals |
| • 01.06. 2020 24:00 | • Deadline for submission of project proposals |
| • September 2020 | • Completion of the assessment at national level |
| • October 2020 | • Completion of the joint assessment at international level |
| • November 2020 | • Approval of the final results by both partner organisations |
| • December 2020 | • Announcement of results |

!Please be aware that due to the situation caused by COVID-19 pandemic, the date of the call and of the deadline for project submission might differ on the CSIR SIDE!

Czech/Indian principal investigators, therefore, should be sure that their counterpart submits a matching application by the relevant deadline.

Contact persons

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