



Science and Technology Resource Centre

Gondwana University, Gadchiroli (M.S.)

Conceived & Funded by Rajiv Gandhi Science and Technology Commission, Mumbai, Govt. of Maharashtra

No. GUG/ STRC/ 096/ 2020

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Scheme: Assistance for Short-Term S & T Applications

Template for funding short-term applicable R&D projects of relevance to STRC -GUG, henceforth referred to as "Scheme".

A. NATURE OF PROJECTS UNDER THE SCHEME

STRC seeks innovative applications, well thought-out training program, on-field interventions of local/regional significance and so on.

(i) S&T Studies & Surveys:

To support S&T studies/surveys including techno-economic analysis, technology assessment etc; databases on S&T resources; status reports on technology gaps etc. The activities under this head should lead to specific action plan for generation of field projects.

(ii) Location specific research & innovative technology development/application:

Identify and formulate projects linked to specific local needs, material resources, skills and potential for development with S&T inputs/applications. ***Utility in the local conditions should be the primary focus.***

(iii) Pilot scale demonstration projects:

Pilot scale demonstration projects, including field trials, based on technologies developed by S&T Agencies/Labs/Institutions etc. relevant to the needs of the State/region. These may involve appropriate collaborations within institutions.

(iv) Replication of successful models:

Replication of innovative S&T projects/programs based on successful experiences elsewhere. These could be linked to their relevance to local situation.

(v) Joint Programs:

To evolve joint programs for rural/regional development in cooperation with multiple State & Central Institutions, NGOs and other field agencies. These locations should be

so identified that S&T intervention could significantly impact existing socio-economic conditions.

(vi) Awareness and Training:

Awareness and Training on innovative technologies, scientific information and skill development requiring specific S&T inputs and also on specific topics/themes of wider community interests.

(vii) Projects with Students participation:

For example, during summer and other lean months, a group of students (with a faculty guide or a reputed NGO) could form a workable initiative.

Examples of short-term projects: Energy conservation and renewable/ sustainable resource; Monitoring water/ soil quality; Biodiversity; NTFP related; Local innovations, skills and trades; Web-based marketing; Data collection streams; Campaigns on health/ hygiene; formation of science clubs and STEM initiatives; and so on.

B. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. **The scheme is for short proposals, say, of up to six months duration and with funding not to exceed Rs. 1.00 Lakh. An annual budget of Rs. 10.00 Lakhs is proposed.**
2. Proposal should clearly establish linkage of S&T application to STRC-GUG mandate.
3. Proposal may be formulated through consultative process with potential users to improve viability. Actual participation of users with substantive contribution would be a welcome feature.
4. Proposal should have specific quantifiable objectives.
5. Scientific and technical details should be clearly spelt out.
6. Proposal should specify time targets for specific outputs/deliverables.

C. SCHEME MANAGEMENT BY STRC-GUG

Adopt the following mechanism for generating, implementing, review and monitoring of the projects.

1. **Inviting Pre-Proposals (project ideas/ concepts, maximum of two sheets, *in a specified format* (Format enclosed) no institutional approval necessary at this stage)** in the prescribed format, from the institutions affiliated to GUG as well as other institutions in the vicinity, reputed NGOs, etc.; scheme is open throughout the year.

Scrutinizing Sub-Committee (SS-C) would meet periodically to assess the pre-proposals. At this stage, PIs may be invited to present and interact with SS-C.

Shortlisted pre-proposals which meet the objectives of the Scheme are to be recommended for further processing. **SS-C** is to be reconstituted every two years.

2. Inviting Detailed Project Proposals: The pre-proposals approved by the **SS-C** would be pursued further by inviting Detailed Project Proposals from the concerned PI ***in a specified format within two weeks***. The Coordinator of **SS-C** would take following actions on the received proposals.

- i. Obtain comments of at least one domain expert on proposals.
- ii. Explore user linkage including possible financial support.

3. Detailed Project Proposals following the scrutiny as above would be placed before **Project Appraisal Committee (PAC)** to be constituted for the Scheme in consultation with Chairman – GB, STRC. Detailed Project Proposals are considered for approval/rejection by the **PAC**. The Committee may further seek expert opinion, wherever required. The **Chairman – GB at his discretion may decide if a defense of the proposal is required**. **PAC** will be reconstituted every two years.

4. Monitoring the Progress of Approved Projects is the responsibility of SS-C: STRC-GUG would follow the following review mechanism for the projects supported under the scheme.

- i. Institution of the PI implementing the project should, in consultation with Coordinator from STRC, set up a small Internal Monitoring Group (**IMG**) chaired by the head of the institution or a senior member with principal investigator, a representative from the potential user group, and/ or a nominee of STRC as members and submit a mid-term progress report duly vetted by the **IMG** to **SS-C**, STRC and also Utilization Certificate and Statement of Expenditure at the end of the project/ Financial Year.
- ii. **The CPO would ensure release of subsequent funds** to the Institution in installments (as applicable) on the basis of **IMG** report.
- iii. On completion, the institution should submit detailed Project Completion Report to **SS-C** highlighting the impact of the project. The **SS-C** may at its discretion ask for a brief presentation of the completed projects.

5. All correspondence, including proposals, is to be sent to the CPO- STRC and/ or Coordinator of the Scheme.

D. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The Principal Investigator assumes financial and other administrative responsibilities of the project. Funds would be released to the Head of the Institution undertaking the project.
2. In case of multi-institutional project, formal agreement between the collaborating institutions/ scientists should be submitted with the detailed proposal.
3. The manpower recruited for the project should be paid as per the rules of the Institute and guidelines of the Government, as applicable.
4. The institute concerned is expected to have/ provide core facilities for the project.
5. STRC has the right, at its discretion, to continuation of the work/ output post-completion as it may deem fit.

E. DOCUMENTS/ ENCLOSURES required with the Detailed Proposal:

1. Endorsement from the Head of the Institution (on letter head)
2. Certificate from Investigator(s)
3. Detailed proposal (e-copy and five hard copies)
4. Names and addresses of Experts/ Institutions who may be interested in the subject/ outcome of the project (optional; up to three).
5. **For NGOs:** Registration Certificate, Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations of the Institutions & Balance Sheet, Audited Statement of accounts and annual report (pertaining to the last two financial years).

Pre Proposal/ Concept Note Format

- 1. Problem Statement**
- 2. Rationale/ Background**
- 3. Objectives**
- 4. Proposed Outcomes**
- 5. Relevance to STRC mandate**
- 6. Scale of potential**
- 7. S & T Components**
- 8. Methodologies**
- 9. Approximate Budget**

Note: Concept note should not be more than three pages

All correspondence, including the submission of pre-proposals, is to be sent to the CPO- STRC and/ or Coordinator of the Scheme via email to cpostrc@gmail.com