

Interdisciplinary/Inter-Institutional Team-Based Research

Objective

The objective of the scheme is to promote research where complementary expertise is essential as to encourage collaboration between researchers within an institution, or between institutions with varied resources and capabilities. Partnership with the government, industry, business sector, NGOs or overseas partners is an integral part of the research project.

Financial Provision

The Scheme covers financial assistance up to a maximum of MRU 3.0 m over a three-year period.

Conditions/ Criteria

- The research proposal must bring together disparate disciplines and/ or institutions.
- The proposal will be assessed on:
 - quality of the proposed research;
 - expected outcomes, linkages and partnerships, as well as how the project will grow and develop;
 - composition of the interdisciplinary team (whether includes post-graduate research students/ post-doctoral research fellows);
 - ability of project to build research capacity;
 - extent of support from external partners where joint project involves external partners.

Implementation Modalities

- Applicants will be invited through call for proposals at the start of the Financial Year to submit their research proposals.
- Each research proposal must have a principal investigator from a public TEI.
- The proposal must be supported by:
 - a clear and detailed description of the research problem,
 - the methodology to be adopted,
 - a timetable/ Gantt Chart,
 - annual implementation plans including targets, budget and deliverables, performance indicators, to be able to report progress on a half-yearly basis.
- The proposal should be submitted directly to the Executive Director, TEC.

Funding Mechanism

- Seed money to fund the first year of the research as per the project plan will be disbursed at the start of the project.
- Subsequent requests for funding will only be considered upon receipt of:
 - statement of expenditure duly certified by the institution;

- satisfactory progress reports including achievements against expected outcomes/ targets set for the research at the end of each year budget forecasts for the forthcoming year.
- The last 20% instalment of the fund will be released towards the end of the project upon submission of evidence of at least one publication.

Note:

- Funds for the project will be disbursed through the institution.
- In case of poor and unsatisfactory progress, the Commission may at any point in time cease funding of the project.
- The proposed project must not currently be in receipt of significant funding from another source.
- Project funding will not cover the salaries/ stipends/ allowances of the principal and co-researchers.

Expected Output/ Outcome

- Improved linkages, partnership and collaboration within the university and with outside stakeholders.
- New capability areas.
- Dissemination of research results to the public at large.
- Leverage for the university.
- Scale-up of interdisciplinary work.
- Recognition by research community.
- Training of university students.
- At least one publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

At the End of the Research

- The Principal Researcher must submit a full report of the outcome of the research project through the Head of the Institution to the Commission.