

**e-ASIA Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP)  
Research Cooperation in the fields of  
'Climate Change and Health Research'**

**12<sup>th</sup> Joint Call for Proposals to be submitted by 30 March 2023**

The e-ASIA Joint Research Program (hereinafter referred to as the “e-ASIA JRP”) aims to develop a vibrant and collaborative research community in Science and Technology, to promote innovation in the East Asian region, and to contribute to the region’s economic development. As part of the program, the Member Organizations of the e-ASIA JRP listed below have agreed to implement a joint call for proposals of multilateral cooperative research activities.

Participating Member Organizations (listed in alphabetical order)

- 1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- 2) Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)
- 3) Indonesia: Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)
- 4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
- 5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)
- 6) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)
- 7) USA: National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- 8) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

Guest Partner

Sri Lanka: National Science Foundation (NSF)

\*\*\*Sri Lanka’s additional condition: Please refer to page 7 at III-1. Applicant/  
Project Consortium\*\*\*

**I. Aim of Joint Call and Research Area**

The aim of the e-ASIA JRP 12th Call in the field of Climate Change and Health Research is to invite applications that will address the health impacts of climate change in East Asia and neighboring regions and contribute to enhancing regional research capacity through multilateral collaboration. This topic identified for the e-ASIA JRP 12th Call in Climate Change and Health Research poses a

considerable health threat to East Asian countries and is more broadly considered a global health issue.

International collaborative research is critical to address the impacts of climate change on human health across the lifespan, including through interdisciplinary research that spans across the fields of health, environment, agriculture, and disaster risk reduction research and to build health resilience in communities, the region, and around the world. Project proposals can be submitted from across any of these fields and from the full spectrum of research, including, for example, basic science, clinical research (if they can be completed within the allowed budget limits), and applied or implementation research (please refer to the appendix for qualifying research by funding agencies, some of which can only fund specific types of research). The Climate Change and Health Call also aims to facilitate research collaborations, encourage sharing of knowledge, expertise and resources, and expand the global base of knowledge to respond to the human health threats and challenges from climate change in the region and globally. Knowledge gained through these collaborative research projects could provide the data-driven and science-based evidence to inform potential interventions, policies and public health changes that may have broad implications in the region.

### Climate Change and Health

As outlined in the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change<sup>1</sup>, climate change has adversely affected the physical and mental health of people globally. Climate change and related extreme events have resulted in human mortality and morbidity, and could further contribute to increase ill health and premature deaths. The occurrence of climate-related food-borne and water-borne diseases has increased. The incidence of vector-borne diseases has increased due to expansion of the geographic range of vectors, increased population numbers of vectors, and increases in transmission of vector-borne pathogens. Animal and human diseases, including zoonoses, are emerging in new areas. Increased rain and flooding and other climate changes have

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<sup>1</sup> IPCC, 2022: Summary for Policymakers [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, M. Tignor, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Lösschke, V. Möller, A. Okem (eds.)]. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Lösschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 3–33, doi:10.1017/9781009325844.001.

increased the occurrence of diarrheal diseases and other gastrointestinal infections and co-infections, as well as other water and food-borne diseases due to climate-sensitive pathogens. Mental health challenges are associated with increasing temperatures, trauma from weather and climate extreme events and loss of livelihoods and culture. Increased exposure to wildfire smoke, atmospheric dust, and aeroallergens have been associated with climate-sensitive cardiovascular and respiratory distress. Health services have been disrupted by extreme events. Climate change impacts on health are mediated through natural and human systems, including economic and social conditions and disruptions.

Within the 12<sup>th</sup> e-ASIA JRP on Climate Change and Health Research, project proposals that focus particularly on strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability of human communities to the impacts of climate change in the East Asian region and with global health relevance, are invited.

Possible research topics include, but are not limited to:

- reducing vulnerability to the health impacts of extreme weather events and disasters (e.g., heat waves, drought, flooding, typhoons, wildfires, sea level rise, etc.) and other related impacts (e.g., air pollution), including:
  - hazard reduction and protection against exposure with a focus on understanding the co-benefits to health from prevention and mitigation measures
  - preventing or alleviating cardiovascular and respiratory distress
  - managing and better understanding of chronic conditions and other interactions and co-morbidities, such as:
    - approaches that build adaptive capacity to manage non-communicable diseases (NCD) in the context of climate change and the integration of NCD management in disaster preparedness and response plans
    - understanding and responding to the interactions between climate change and cancer (physical and psychological vulnerabilities, exposure to carcinogens, disruptions in access to care)
  - managing disruption and access to health services, including:
    - improving coordination across the health system (and with other sectors)

- building surge capacity and optimal resource allocation
- community education and communication during health emergencies
- use of advanced technology (e.g., surveillance strategies, mapping tools, etc.)
- conducting biomedical and behavioral research for prevention of, preparedness for, and response to infectious diseases that may emerge or re-emerge in the context of climate change; diseases of interest may include vector-borne diseases, water and food-borne diseases, respiratory infectious diseases, zoonotic diseases, fungal infections, as well as related issues such as antimicrobial resistance
- assessing policies and programs to control disease outbreaks and other health threats relating to climate change.
- addressing mental health challenges in the context of climate changes
- protecting or enhancing food and water security (e.g., nutritional quality and access to food, water treatment technologies) to prevent disease or improve human health
- early predictors or warning systems and other surveillance to prevent disease outbreaks and/or support health system preparedness, including impact-based forecasting (modelling and projections) and building infrastructure resilience.

### **Research Approach**

The e-ASIA JRP presents a research collaboration opportunity for researchers, as it offers access to funding and other resources to support multi-investigator research engaging scientists across multiple countries participating in this call. To effectively utilize and maximize the unique opportunities provided through the e-ASIA JRP and to synergistically address various public health issues/problems in the East Asian region, proposals that include the following integrated research approaches are strongly encouraged:

- interdisciplinary research
- approaches that focus on implementation science (adopting and integrating evidence-based health/biomedical interventions) and opportunities to share knowledge and scale-up interventions in East Asia

- implementation research to encourage adaptation, integration, and scale-up of effective interventions to mitigate the health consequences of climate change
- capacity building, such as training, mentorship, and career development of early-career (early-stage) investigators
- communication, information and data exchange, including sample/data sharing and analysis (e.g., biorepositories)
- community engagement, as appropriate
- commitment to long-term sustainability of research relationships
- establishment and maintenance of networks of collaborating institutions
- research design to support diverse populations and social and cultural contexts, and support the development of culturally appropriate solutions
- consideration of health equity issues and the needs of population groups at risk of adverse health outcomes
- pathway to impact

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, researchers are encouraged to consider how their project may be required to adapt to potential changes in environment and/or work situations. It is recommended that the applicants describe how they will mitigate these potential changes and challenges/pitfalls as part of their proposals.

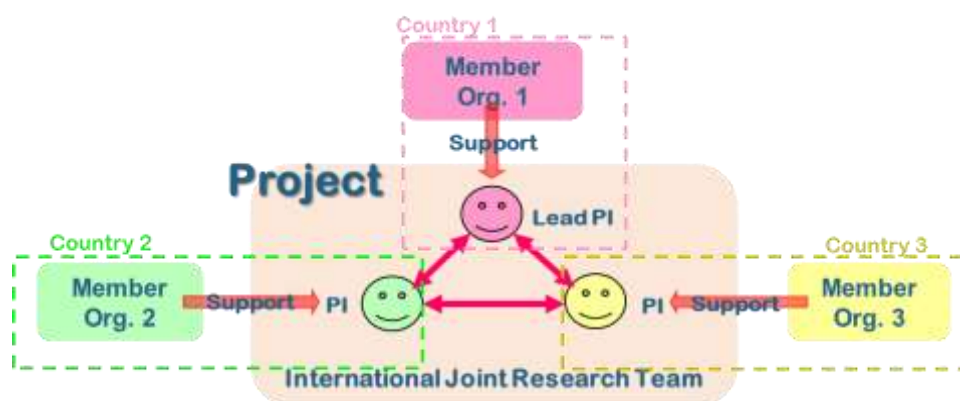
Collaborative research projects supported through the e-ASIA JRP should be pursued through mutually beneficial partnerships and shared leadership that contribute to scientific innovation and research capacity in the region. The study findings from e-ASIA JRP projects should be disseminated to expand scientific knowledge and facilitate the utilization of the research results to enhance evidence-based practice in addressing climate change-related health issues in East Asia and in other parts of the world.

Applications may utilize an array of mechanisms such as sharing of data and research materials, use of biorepositories and other research support entities and collaboration with other research partners with other sources of support. In all cases, applications should clearly specify how all relevant regulations and legal requirements will be met by the participating scientists or their institutions.

## **II. Support/ Funding Modality**

In principle, each Member Organization will support its own country's researchers

in research projects selected for funding through this joint call with the type of support available as defined under “Funding Modality” in the table below. The duration of a selected research project will be three years (36 months), in total, from the start date. Details of conditions of support will vary by Member Organization. Applicants should carefully consider information included in the Appendix for each Member Organization’s rules and regulations.



### Participating Member Organizations and Funding Modality

Participating Member Organizations and Guest Partner	Funding Modality
(1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	New
(2) Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)	In-kind
(3) Indonesia: Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)	New
(4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)	New
(5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)	In-kind
(6) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)	New
(7) USA: National Cancer Institute (NCI)	Re-budgeting/In-kind
(8) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	New, Re-budgeting, and In-kind

Participating Member Organizations and Guest Partner	Funding Modality
(9) Sri Lanka: National Science Foundation (NSF)	In-kind

New: Each Member Organization will support a selected project by new funding

Re-budgeting: Funds already allocated to an existing project by each Member Organization will be reallocated to the e-ASIA JRP

In-kind: Each Member Organization does not provide budget for a selected project. A researcher participating in a selected project will use funds that are already available, but no additional funds will be provided by each Member Organization. In principle, at least one country must participate via “new” or “re-budgeting” funding modality. In other words, proposals cannot be accepted if all the applicants intend to participate through an “in-kind” basis.

## **II. Application**

In addition to the following common requirements, there are specific rules clarified by each Member Organization. For specific rules by each Member Organization, please refer to the Appendix or consult the person noted in Section VI.

### **III-1. Applicant/ Project Consortium**

A project consortium must consist of at least three eligible research teams from at least three different participating countries listed above.

Each research team shall be led by a Principal Investigator (PI), and a consortium shall be led by a Lead Principal Investigator (Lead PI) specified among the PIs.

**A research team from Sri Lanka can join a project consortium only when this project consortium is composed of at least three other eligible research teams from at least three other different countries where the participating Member Organizations (listed above) are based.**

The Lead PI will be responsible for running and managing the project. The Lead PI will be the contact point with the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat on behalf of the whole consortium and is responsible for the administrative management of the complete project, should it be awarded supporting. In addition, the Lead PI is responsible for leading the project activities at his/her own institution. The Lead PI must be affiliated with an institution situated in the home country of one of the Member

Organizations participating in this call.

All PIs must fulfil their respective domestic eligibility rules for research application. Researchers from industry are encouraged to participate in the collaboration in accordance with domestic eligibility rules. PIs should contact the person noted in Section VI for information on their respective domestic eligibility rules.

### III-2. Proposal Submission

Proposals must be submitted from the Lead PI by e-mail to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat at the e-mail address specified below. Applications shall be written in English.

#### **Deadline for Submission:**

**17:00 (Thai Standard Time, UTC+7) 30 March 2023**

Please submit the proposal to:



**Emi Kaneko (Ms.)**

**e-ASIA JRP Secretariat**

**E-mail: [easia\\_secretariat@jst.go.jp](mailto:easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp)**

**Note1:** The e-ASIA JRP Secretariat will send a confirmation email to the Lead PI to confirm receipt of his/her proposal. In case the Lead PI does not receive a confirmation e-mail from the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat within one week, they should contact the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat at the address above. The e-ASIA JRP Secretariat does not assume any responsibility for delay or error in e-mail delivery.

**Note2:** Application forms sent by any method other than e-mail, such as post, fax or telex will be rejected.

#### **< Important Notice to ALL PIs >**

Make sure to submit all necessary application documents requested by each Member Organization of your country, in addition to the application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat (submitted by Lead PI only), because each Member Organization may request applicants of its country to submit another form of proposals with another deadline date. Proposals shall satisfy both common requirements written



in this call guideline and individual requirements requested by each Member Organization. A research team that does not satisfy individual requirements of the Member Organization of your country will not be deemed as eligible research team.

For individual requirements by each Member Organization, please refer to the Appendix or consult the person noted in Section VI.

The proposal shall include:

- a) Project description including how the collaboration will be carried out, with clear statements of what roles each country's researchers will play respectively in the project;
- b) Description of the expected outcomes of the proposed project (including how to address potential pitfalls/challenges), scientifically as well as in terms of relevance for industry and society;
- c) Description of the ongoing activities and specific advantages of each group respectively, which form the basis for the proposed joint project;
- d) Description of the expected value added from the proposed joint project, including how the competence, technology and other resources in each group complement each other;
- e) Description of how the project is expected to help strengthen multilateral research collaboration over the longer term;
- f) Description of the expected value added from the multidisciplinary approach in the proposed joint project; and
- g) Description of how the proposed joint project interacts with or impacts other comparable activities worldwide.

### III-3. Application Forms

Researchers should prepare the following application (proposal) forms in English ("E").

For further requirements by each Member Organization, researchers shall refer to the Appendix or shall consult each Member Organization of his/her country.

- Form 1E Application outline (title, acronym, general description and proposed period of cooperative research project)
- Form 2E Summary of the project
- Form 3E Research leaders' information (their CVs\*)
- Form 4E Research team (list of individuals committed to the cooperative research project in each country)

- Form 5E Description of the cooperative research project
- Form 6E Research networking plan
- Form 7E Plan to nurture early career researchers
- Form 8E Budget plan for the project
- Form 9E Research infrastructures and funds from other sources

*\* The description of Curriculum Vitae (CV) from each PI shall include basic information on education, past and present positions, membership of relevant organizations/associations and a publication list in the past 5 years.*

In addition to the documents above, all projects must comply with ethical review and requirements of each Member Organization, especially for research activities related to human and animal subjects. PIs shall refer to the Appendix for each Member Organization's ethical requirement.

#### **IV. Evaluation**

##### **IV-1. Evaluation Process**

A proposal will be evaluated at each relevant Member Organization of the project consortium, according to the evaluation criteria clarified in the following subsection.

Based on the results of the evaluation conducted at each Member Organization, a final decision will be made at the joint panel meeting among the participating Member Organizations, followed by approval at the e-ASIA JRP Board Meeting.

##### **IV-2. Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following common e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria, incorporated with evaluation criteria clarified by each Member Organization. For the evaluation criteria clarified by each Member Organization, please refer to the respective Appendix or consult each respective Member Organization.

##### 1) Regional Relevance of the Research

The research activity should contribute to:

- The advancement of scientific discovery;
- The development of science and technology in the region; and
- The resolution of significant relevant issues across the region.

##### 2) Mutual Benefits of the Joint Research

Activities of mutual benefit to the collaborators and their institutions are desirable. Mutually beneficial in the sense that the projects utilize unique opportunities the e-ASIA JRP will provide that could not be achieved either through bilateral or individual research but only through multilateral cooperation.

### 3) Effectiveness of Exchange

The project should:

- Contain activities to nurture early career researchers through research activities;
- Contain activities to engage female researchers where strengthening capacity is needed; and
- Enhance research capacity in the region.

#### IV-3. Notification of the Final Decision

The Lead PI will be notified the final decision by the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat as soon as the final decision is taken and approved by all Member Organizations in the e-ASIA JRP. (Approximate implementation of the notification: End of November 2023)

## **V. Project Implementation**

Project reporting will be in accordance with the respective Member Organization's rules. Please contact respective Member Organizations for more details.

In addition to the Member Organization's requirements, the consortia are expected to deliver Progress Reports and Final Reports to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat, in English, including a description of their collaboration and a publishable summary of the project status. The Progress and Final Reports will be reviewed by the Board and Scientific Advisory Council. It is also encouraged that the project proactively disseminates its achievements to the public.

#### V-1. Progress Report

In the middle of research period (i.e., after one and a half years), the lead PI shall promptly develop and submit an integrated progress report to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat on the status of the joint research.

#### V-2. Final Report

A final report shall be developed and submitted by the Lead PI to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat within two months after the completion of the joint research period.

V-3. Others

All the researchers/research institutions organizing a consortium are strongly recommended to conclude a Collaborative Research Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “CRA”) to assure optimal understanding and coordination among the collaborating scientists working on each project before project starts. CRA should, with due respect to the researchers’ institutions and the Member Organizations’ intellectual property and data handling policy, include the treatment of intellectual property rights, handling of confidential information, publication of research results, warranty and indemnification, and access to and transfer of the relevant materials. Applicants shall refer to the Appendix for each Member Organization’s requirement.

VI. Contact information

Applicants should contact the following for information on each Member Organization’s eligibility rules or support conditions:

Also please refer to the Appendix for information of each Member Organization and Guest Partner.

<b>Country: Member Organization and Guest Partner</b>	<b>Contact Point</b>
(1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	NHMRC Research Help Centre Tel: +61 1800 500 983 (+61 2 6217 9451 for international callers) E-mail: <a href="mailto:help@nhmrc.gov.au">help@nhmrc.gov.au</a>
(2) Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)	Mr. TEK Bunchhoeung Tel: (+855) 78 990 566 E-mail: <a href="mailto:bunchhoeung@yahoo.com">bunchhoeung@yahoo.com</a>
(3) Indonesia: Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)	DRTPM Telp: +62 021 57946104 Email: <a href="mailto:penelitian.drtpm@kemdikbud.go.id">penelitian.drtpm@kemdikbud.go.id</a> or <a href="mailto:drtpm@kemdikbud.go.id">drtpm@kemdikbud.go.id</a>
(4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)	Dr Naoko Kojima / Dr Sayaka Ohashi Office of International Collaboration, Division of International Strategy Department of International Strategy  Tel: +81 (0)3-6870-2216 Fax: +81 (0)3-6870-2240 E-mail: <a href="mailto:e-asia@amed.go.jp">e-asia@amed.go.jp</a>
(5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)	Dr. Nilandone SENVANPAN Tel: +856 20 5566 9111 E-mail: <a href="mailto:nilundone.lun@gmail.com">nilundone.lun@gmail.com</a>

(6) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)	Dr. Doungkamon Pihusut Tel: +66 2470 7961-4 E-mail: <a href="mailto:pmub.gp@nxpo.or.th">pmub.gp@nxpo.or.th</a>
(7) USA: National Cancer Institute (NCI)	Dr Marie D Ricciardone, Ph.D. Tel: +1 (240) 276 5151 Email: <a href="mailto:marie.ricciardone@nih.gov">marie.ricciardone@nih.gov</a> Dr Paul C. Pearlman, Ph.D. Tel: +1 (240) 276 5354 Email: <a href="mailto:paul.pearlman@nih.gov">paul.pearlman@nih.gov</a>
(8) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	Gayle Bernabe, Office of Global Research Tel: +1 301 451 1018 E-mail: <a href="mailto:gbernabe@niaid.nih.gov">gbernabe@niaid.nih.gov</a>
(9) Sri Lanka: National Science Foundation (NSF)	Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe, Director General E-mail: <a href="mailto:dg@nsf.gov.lk">dg@nsf.gov.lk</a> , <a href="mailto:sudasinghe@nsf.gov.lk">sudasinghe@nsf.gov.lk</a> Tel: +94112696771 Ext 110

Applicants should contact the following for general inquiries:



Emi Kaneko (Ms.)

e-ASIA JRP Secretariat / Japan Science and Technology Agency

Room 218 Innovation Cluster1 Building

National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

111 Thailand Science Park, Phahonyothin Road

Khlong Nueng, Khlong Luang, Pathum Thani 12120 THAILAND

Tel: +66-2-564-7713 (For urgent matter only)

E-mail: [easia\\_secretariat@jst.go.jp](mailto:easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp)

**e-ASIA Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP)  
Research Cooperation in the fields of  
'Climate Change and Health Research'  
12<sup>th</sup> Joint Call for Proposals to be submitted by 30 March 2023**

Information about each Member Organization (alphabetical order by country)

- 1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- 2) Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)
- 3) Indonesia: Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)
- 4) Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
- 5) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)
- 6) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)
- 7) USA: National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- 8) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

Guest Partner

Sri Lanka: National Science Foundation (NSF)

## 1) **Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)**

Applicants should note that NHMRC only funds applications relevant to human health. In this call, NHMRC is supporting the topic of climate change and health, with particular interest in:

- Health
- Environment, as it relates to human health.

Applicants should note that NHMRC is only offering the funding modality of New funding for this call.

### I **Eligibility**

Eligibility is dependent on the following:

1. Projects require support from a minimum of three (3) e-ASIA member organisations including NHMRC, i.e. a research project must consist of an Australian research team collaborating with research teams seeking support from a minimum of two (2) e-ASIA participating member organisations in the relevant call.
2. NHMRC requires that collaborations must include a Lead PI or PI from at least one of the following participating member organisations:
  - Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)
  - Indonesia: Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)
  - Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)
  - Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)
3. Applications will only be accepted from NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions. A list of NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions is available on [NHMRC's website](#).
4. Member organisations from other e-ASIA countries must be supporting the relevant Health Research topic in the call for applications. It is the applicant's responsibility to verify the member organisation participation in

respective calls, and any additional eligibility requirements specific to the member organisation. Partnering country applicants are required to submit their applications to their respective member organisation in line with the applicable funding organisation due dates.

5. The Chief Investigator A (CIA) and Administering Institution must ensure applications meet all eligibility requirements, as set out in these guidelines, at the time of submission and for the duration of peer review. Applications that do not meet these eligibility requirements may be ineligible and may be excluded from further consideration.

An eligibility ruling may be made by NHMRC at any stage following the close of applications, including during peer review. Where an eligibility ruling is being considered, NHMRC may request further information in order to assess whether the eligibility requirement has been met.

Decisions are made based on current policies and considerations specific to this grant opportunity. Decisions made in relation to previous grant opportunities or other NHMRC funding schemes will not be regarded as precedents and will not be considered when assessing compliance with the requirements of this grant opportunity.

Administering Institutions will be notified in writing of ineligible applications and are responsible for advising applicants.

Grant offers may be withdrawn if eligibility criteria to accept a grant are not met. Action may also be taken over the life of a grant if eligibility criteria to continue holding a grant are not met.

NHMRC staff will not make eligibility rulings before an application is submitted.

## **II Support**

NHMRC will support up to 4 applications, with a maximum budget of \$750,000(AUD) over three years.

## **III How to Apply**

Australian researchers must submit an application to NHMRC (through the Sapphire online grant management system) to be considered for the NHMRC e-



ASIA 2023 Joint Research Program. A copy of the research consortium's e-ASIA Common Application must be attached to the Sapphire application form. The application must address one (or more) of the research topics for the Health Research call.

#### **IV Evaluation**

Applications for NHMRC e-ASIA 2023 Joint Research Program grant opportunity are assessed by peers against the weighted assessment criteria listed below.

- Health significance (20%)
- Scientific merit (20%)
- Design and methods (25%)
- Expertise of the research team (15%)
- Quality of the research partnership (20%)

Applicants should refer to the *NHMRC e-ASIA 2023 Joint Research Project Peer Review Guidelines* on the [NHMRC website](#).

#### **V Reporting**

Administering Institutions are required to report to NHMRC on the progress of the grant and the use of grant funds. Applicants should note that e-ASIA JRP has additional reporting requirements and conditions specific to research funded under this grant opportunity, which includes the provision of:

- progress reports
- a final report

Further information is provided in the *NHMRC e-ASIA 2023 Joint Research Program Grant Guidelines* available on [GrantConnect](#).

#### **VI Contact Information**

All enquiries should be directed to the NHMRC Research Help Centre

- Tel: +61 1800 500 983
- (+61 2 6217 9451 for international callers)
- E-mail: [help@nhmrc.gov.au](mailto:help@nhmrc.gov.au)

Refer to the [Research Help Centre webpage](#) for further information and opening

hours



**Australian Government**

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**National Health and Medical Research Council**

## 2) **Cambodia: Ministry of Health (MOH)**

Cambodian researchers can participate in research projects only on an "in-kind" basis, as there will be no new or additional support available from the Cambodia MOH.

Please consult the person in charge directly.

### **Contact Information**



Mr. TEK Bunchhoeung  
Vice Chief of Bureau, Pharmacist  
Department of Communicable Disease Control  
Ministry of Health, Cambodia  
Tel: (+855) 78 990 566  
E-mail: [bunchhoeung@yahoo.com](mailto:bunchhoeung@yahoo.com)

### **3) Indonesia: Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (MoECRT or DIKBUDRISTEK)**

DIKBUDRISTEK in e-ASIA is supporting the following topics:

a) climate change in health

DIKBUDRISTEK in e-ASIA is supporting the following research areas:

a) Medical devices such as

- diagnostic kits,
- Wearable/portable vital sign monitoring devices
- Contactless vital sign monitoring devices
- Contactless human activity recognition
- Smart indoor localization and tracking devices
- Smart infusion pump
- Oxygen therapeutic devices
- Cardiovascular and cardiopulmonary monitoring devices

b) basic, clinical, applied biomedical, and behavioral research in the prevention of the new pandemic caused by climate change as it relates to human health.

DIKBUDRISTEK can support a maximum of 5 applications. The following funding modalities will be supported:

- New

#### Application Materials

Application submitted directly to the e-ASIA Secretariat is required and will be reviewed and evaluated according to the common e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria. Additional application materials are required to be submitted directly to DIKBUDRISTEK after the awardee list has been announced by the e-ASIA secretariat of the Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP).

### Eligibility

The Indonesian PI MUST be from Higher Education Institutions under Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK).

Other research Institutions may join the project as Co PI. Indonesia PI should contact DIKBUDRISTEK for the proposal submission process, after the awardee list has been announced by the e-ASIA JRP. DIKBUDRISTEK requires the Indonesian Principal Investigator to meet conditions by BIMA Guideline, with minimum requirements as follows:

- Applications only are accepted from PI in University. The Indonesian PI MUST be lecturers from Higher Education Institutions/ University under DIKBUDRISTEK, have a NIDN and have a SINTA account;
- obtained their PhD degree;
- Indonesian citizens and hold a permanent or fixed-term contract in an eligible university or research institute in Indonesia;
- Competent in oral and writing English skills;

The proposed budget submitted must be related to the Minister of Finance Regulation, for each unit/component have a maximum budget at year (standard of special cost, standard of output cost and standard of input cost). The awardee selected proposed funding will be subject to assessment by DIKBUDRISTEK reviewer. The amount of funds will be determined through the evaluation process by the reviewer assigned by DIKBUDRISTEK.

### Support

DIKBUDRISTEK will support up to 5 application(s) for the health topic, with a maximum budget using standard of output cost over three years.

### Specific Eligible Costs.

#### Personnel Costs

Costs for student research assistants can be covered if their work is related to the research project, by referring to the Regulation of the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia, specifically the “Standar Biaya Masukan (Standard of input cost)”.

### Mobility of Indonesian and foreign researcher and experts

For Indonesian researcher to the country of research partner:

- Flight to and from destination: economy class flight;
- Visa costs;
- Transfer to and from the airport
- Daily allowance (the amount depends on the destination, check the standard of input cost)
- Insurance fees

### For Foreign researcher:

Our research grant is restricted with Indonesian Financial regulation that limits the use for Indonesian researcher only.

### Equipment

Indonesian grant could not be used for equipment.

### Scientific events and project meetings in Indonesia or country of research partner

- Room rent
- Catering
- Other costs necessary for the implementation
- Publications
- Travel costs and accommodation for external experts based on the regulation above
- The costs for the event must be requested by the project partner in the hosting country

Please adjust the BIMA guidelines as a reference for funding from Indonesia.

### How to Apply

For an Indonesian applicant whose the team's Lead PI, you must submit a proposal using the DRTPM-provided webpage at <http://ringkas.kemdikbud.go.id/validasiEasia>. Once DRTPM has approved your proposal, you must submit it to the e-ASIA Secretariat for assessment and evaluation based on the general evaluation criteria of the e-ASIA JRP. The deadline for submitting your proposal to DRTPM is March 24th, 2023. You do not

need to submit a proposal if you are merely a team member and not the Lead PI.

Additional application materials are required to be submitted directly to DIKBUDRISTEK ([bima.kemdikbud.go.id](http://bima.kemdikbud.go.id)) after the awardee list has been announced by the e-ASIA Secretariat of the Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP).

### Evaluation

Applications submitted to the e-ASIA Secretariat will be reviewed according to the published e-ASIA JRP evaluation process and criteria.

### Publication

Upon completion of the report, all participants are strongly encouraged to publish their research results in international journals with acknowledgement of the support received.

### Intellectual Property (IP), Material Transfer Agreement (MTA), Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge, And Traditional Cultural Expression (GRTK&TCE)

1. In the event of joint research cooperation, it is the responsibility of the respective member of the collaborating project partners to determine in advance how any exploited IP will be divided amongst the partners in accordance with the prevailing laws and regulations of the respective countries of the institutions Participants and the institutions' policies and procedures. Details of this agreement shall be included in the collaborative agreement.
2. To the fullest extent possible, all research activities using materials originating from the country of either participant or project partner shall be done in the country of origin. Should there be any transfer of material and/or sample outside the territory of the country of origin, such material and/or sample shall be transferred using a Material Transfer Agreement (MTA) concluded between the institutions' project partners or their related

collaborating project partners in accordance with the prevailing laws and regulations of the country of origin as well as the policies of the institutions' project partners.

3. The collaborating project partners shall recognize the value of genetic resources, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expression (GRTK&TCE) and recognize the rights of the holders of GRTK&TCE to effective protection against their misuse and misappropriation by the collaborating project partners.
4. Access to and utilization of the GRTK&TCE by the participants shall be regulated by specific arrangements concluded by the collaborating project partners. Details of this agreement shall be included in the collaborative agreement.

#### Reporting

Awardees will be responsible for all reporting requirements associated with both the e-ASIA JRP and DIKBUDRISTEK through [bima.kemdikbud.go.id](http://bima.kemdikbud.go.id).

#### Contact Information

Ms. Anggun Amalia Fibriyanti / Ms. Rian Afriana/Ms. Erlin Puspaputri  
Directorate of Research, Technology, and Community Services  
Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology

Tel: +62-21-57946104

Phone number: +62 857-8588-7275/ +62 813-9404-0284/ +62 87734683724

e-mail: [penelitian.drtpm@kemdikbud.go.id](mailto:penelitian.drtpm@kemdikbud.go.id) or [drtpm@kemdikbud.go.id](mailto:drtpm@kemdikbud.go.id)

website: [bima.kemdikbud.go.id](http://bima.kemdikbud.go.id)



#### 4) **Japan: Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)**

AMED is supporting the following topics: Climate Change and Health, with particular interest in:

- *Infectious diseases*
- *Cancer*

AMED can support a maximum of three (3) applications. The following funding modalities will be supported:

- New

Japan-based applicants must read and accept the following AMED-specific conditions for this program. Please refer to the information on the following website:

[https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/20/01/2001B\\_00056.html](https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/20/01/2001B_00056.html)

For project proposals in which Japan-based applicants hope to receive funding from AMED, it is encouraged that more than two countries participating in the project do so using either the “New” or “Re-budgeting” funding modality.

**Climate Change and Health:** Climate change impacts cause and increase the risk of various diseases. In this call on Climate Change and Health, AMED is interested in supporting medical research that focuses on climate change related to infectious disease or cancer. Research focused on other disease areas is not eligible for support by AMED in this call.

Priority research topics for each disease area include, but are not limited to:

##### **Infectious diseases**

- Climate-related food-borne, water-borne, vector-borne, and zoonotic diseases that are emerging and re-emerging (e.g. dengue fever, malaria, diarrheal diseases derived from deterioration of water quality such as cholera, infection by cryptosporidiosis, campylobacter, and other gastrointestinal infections, etc.)
- Pandemic preparedness and response to the above infectious disease (e.g. surveillance, interventions, public awareness and prevention, vaccine development)
- Early warning systems and other surveillance to prevent disease outbreaks

and/or support health system preparedness, including impact-based forecasting (e.g. modelling, projections, surveillance systems including pathogen detection (bacteria, parasites and viruses) from sewage water, etc.)

- Any novel technique or tool development to understand and respond to the interactions between climate change and infectious disease.

### **Cancer**

- Elucidating and responding to the interactions between climate change and cancer, such as physical and psychological vulnerabilities including genetic sensitivity, exposure to carcinogens (identifying mechanism, genetic impact over generations, etiology, etc.)
- Early warning systems and other surveillance to prevent any environmental-related cancer and/or exposure to cancer-causing substances, including impact-based forecasting (modelling and projections)

Please note that research simply targeting the environment, agriculture, and/or disaster risk reduction which is not related to human health threats and challenges will not be eligible for support from AMED. Infectious disease or cancer research not related to climate change are also not eligible in this 12th Joint Call for Proposals.

#### I. Eligibility for Japan-based applicants

The Japan-based PI must be personally affiliated with a domestic research institution and conduct research there. Domestic research institutions on the Japanese side are universities, independent administrative institutions, national/public testing and research institutions, specially authorized corporations, public-service corporations and enterprises, etc. that must satisfy predetermined requirements specified by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in Japan.

Any individual who satisfies any of the following conditions is also eligible to apply as a Japan-based PI.

- i) Researchers holding citizenship other than Japanese, who belong to a Japanese

domestic research institution.

ii) Researchers who are not currently affiliated with a particular research institution, but who will be affiliated with a Japanese domestic research institution and able to conduct research there if selected as a Japan-based PI.

iii) Japanese researchers currently residing overseas who will be affiliated with a Japanese domestic research institution and able to conduct research there if selected as a Japan-based PI.

Japan-based PIs must be able to take responsibility for the duties of the entire project for the full duration of the joint research project.

Japan-based researchers from industry are eligible to participate in the joint research project in the Japan-based Team.

## II. Support

### II-1. Budget for Cooperative Research Projects

The budget for a project may differ each year, depending on the content of activities, but the total budget for the Japanese researcher over a full 3-year period (i.e. 36 months) should be up to 22.5 million Japanese Yen as direct expenses. 30% of direct expenses will be provided as overhead expenses. According to the budgetary limitations for this program, the amounts will be adjusted each year.

### II-2. Details of Support

This program is designed to support additional expenses related to cooperation by a Japan-based researcher with their counterparts, such as expenses for travel and/or conducting seminars/symposia. A precondition for applying to this Joint Call is that the main research infrastructure is already in place for each research group. The duration of a co-operative research project shall be no longer than three (3) years (thirty-six (36) months) in total from the start date.

### II-3. Eligible costs

Research grants will be awarded in line with standard AMED policy. Funding provided within this call is intended to enhance the capacity of the applicants to collaborate. Funding will therefore be provided mainly in support of collaborative activities but may also cover some of the local research expenses that are

necessary for the collaboration.

1. Direct Expenses:

- i) Travel expenses: In principle, travel expenses should be based on the rules of the institution to which the Principal Investigator (hereinafter referred to as the PI) belongs.
- ii) Expenses for holding symposia, seminars and meetings.
- iii) Expenses for facilities, equipment and consumables.
- iv) Expenses for personnel: Stipend or salary for a PhD student, or salary for a post-doctoral fellow, or Japan-based researchers including the PI.
- v) Other: Expenses for creating software, renting or leasing equipment, transporting equipment, expenses for buyout costs, etc.

2. Overhead expenses shall be 30% of direct expenses.

3. Expenses not covered/funded by the program:

- i) Expenses relating to the acquisition or rental of real estate or construction of buildings or other facilities.
- ii) Expenses related to the procurement of major equipment.
- iii) Expenses related to dealing with accidents or disasters occurring during the co-operative research period.
- iv) Expenses unrelated to the implementation of this co-operative research project.

For more details about salaries for Japan-based PIs and buyout costs, please visit the following website: [https://www.amed.go.jp/keiri/youshiki\\_itaku.html](https://www.amed.go.jp/keiri/youshiki_itaku.html)  
(in Japanese only)

#### II-4. Conclusion of contracted R&D agreement

For each funded R&D project, a one-fiscal-year contracted R&D agreement shall be concluded between the research institution implementing the R&D project and AMED, in accordance with the principles of the accounting period of the national government. Successful applicants shall receive detailed information from AMED following project selection.

#### II-5. Collaborative Research Agreement

For each funded R&D project, a Collaborative Research Agreement (CRA) MUST be concluded among the institutions with which the collaborating researchers are affiliated. The CRA should include conclusions of discussions among Parties which are entitled to intellectual property arising as a result of the research collaboration, and Institutions concerned, on issues regarding treatment of research information brought by researchers involved for the implementation of the research collaboration, research achievements resulting from the research collaboration, and handling of intellectual properties. The CRA so concluded shall be shared among the Parties. A sample CRA can be found on the following website:  
<https://www.the-easia.org/jrp/documents.html>

### III. How to Apply

Please note that Japan-based applicants are required to complete both e-mail submission to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat and submission via the “e-Rad” system. Applications will be considered ineligible if the proposal documents are not submitted by the deadline through both submission systems.

#### III-1. Application Forms

Form J is only for Japan-based applicants and should be prepared in Japanese (“J”) in addition to the common application form in English.

Form J is available from the AMED website:

[https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/20/01/2001B\\_00056.html](https://www.amed.go.jp/koubo/20/01/2001B_00056.html)

(in Japanese only)

#### III-2 Submission of Application Forms by Applicants

Proposals must be submitted by e-mail to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat.

Japan-based applicants must also submit a project title, a summary of the project, and detailed budget information in Japanese with their application forms through the “e-Rad” online application system (<http://www.e-rad.go.jp/index.html>) by 17:00 (Japanese Standard Time) on 30th March 2023.

Application to the program is not complete at the point when the PI submits the

application to their affiliated research institute via e-Rad. Be sure to undergo procedures to obtain approval of the submission of the application from your affiliated research institute.

#### IV. Evaluation

The program evaluation committees consisting of relevant experts will evaluate all proposals. Based on the results of their evaluations, a common decision will be made jointly by the participating Member Organizations regarding selection of proposals for funding.

##### IV-1. Evaluation Criteria

###### 1. Compatibility with the program's purpose

- Is the project compatible with the program's purpose and objectives, etc.?

###### 2. Scientific/technological significance and advantage

- Are the current technological level and previous performance of applicants sufficient?
- Does the project proposal have originality, novelty, and innovativeness?
- Does the project contribute to the advancement of the field of medicine?
- Does the project contribute to the development of new technologies?
- Does the project respond to a societal need?
- Is the project compatible with national policies regarding R&D in the field of medicine?

###### 3. Appropriateness of the plan

- Are the overall content and objectives of the plan clear?
- Are the plans for each fiscal year detailed and feasible?
- Is the project plan in compliance with laws and ordinances related to bioethics and safety measures?

###### 4. Implementation system

- Has an appropriate R&D system centered on each applicant been organized?
- Has a sufficient collaboration network been constructed?
- Are the comparative efforts of the applicants appropriate?
- Is there any unreasonable duplication/excessive concentration of effort?

## 5. Costs

- Are the breakdown of costs and spending plan appropriate?

## 6. Items prescribed under the program and items that should be considered comprehensively

- Does the project contribute to the development of science and technology in the ASEAN region? [Regional Relevance of the Research]
- Does the project contribute to solving significant and relevant issues across the ASEAN region? [Regional Relevance of the Research]
- Is there a unique opportunity for research/outcomes that could not be achieved either through bilateral or individual research but only through multilateral cooperation? [Mutual Benefits of the Joint Research]
- Does the project contain activities to nurture early career researchers through research activities? [Effectiveness of Exchange]
- Does the project enhance research capacities in the ASEAN region? [Effectiveness of Exchange]

## V. Reporting

### V-1. Progress Report to AMED

At the end of each fiscal year, the Japan-based PI shall promptly submit to AMED an annual progress report on the status of research activities and exchange, and the institution with which the PI is affiliated shall promptly submit to AMED a financial report on research expenses.

### V-2. Final Report to AMED

Final reports should be submitted within four (4) months of completion of the research period.

The institution with which the PI is affiliated shall submit a financial report on research expenses to AMED within two months after termination of contract.

## VI. Contact Information



Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development

Dr. Naoko Kojima / Dr. Sayaka Ohashi

Office of International Collaboration, Division of International Strategy

Department of International Strategy  
Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

TEL: +81 (0)3-6870-2216    FAX: +81 (0)3-6870-2240

E-mail [e-asia@amed.go.jp](mailto:e-asia@amed.go.jp)



5) **Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)**

**Funding Modality**

In-kind

**Contact Information**

Dr. Nilandone SENVANPAN  
Parasitology Control Division;  
Department of Communicable Disease Control;  
Ministry of Health, Lao PDR  
P/M: +856 20 5566 9111  
E-mail: nilundone.lun@gmail.com

## **6) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)**

### **Eligibility for Thai applicants**

The applicants must be researchers and/or university professors/instructors who work in public/non-profit organization research institute or university in Thailand and are competent in conducting research with international partners.

PMU-B has interests in the following areas:

- Reducing vulnerability to the health impacts of extreme weather events and disasters (e.g., heat waves, drought, flooding, typhoons, wildfires, sea level rise, etc.) and other related impacts (e.g., air pollution), including:
  - hazard reduction and protection against exposure with a focus on understanding the co-benefits to health from prevention and mitigation measures
  - preventing or alleviating cardiovascular and respiratory distress
  - use of advanced technology (e.g., surveillance strategies, mapping tools, etc.)
- Assessing policies and programs to control disease outbreaks and other health threats relating to climate change
- Protecting or enhancing food and water security (e.g., nutritional quality and access to food, water treatment technologies) to prevent disease or improve human health
- Early predictors or warning systems and other surveillance to prevent disease outbreaks and/or support health system preparedness, including impact-based forecasting (modelling and projections) and building infrastructure resilience.

### **II. Support**

The total budget for the Thai researcher over a full 3-year period is up to 5,000,000 THB per project. The budget for a project may differ each year, depending on the content of activities and compliance with PMU-B financial guideline (please find details via PMU-B website: <https://www.nxpo.or.th/B/>).

### **III. Evaluation of Project Proposals**

Proposals will be peer-reviewed and evaluated by a committee. The final selection

will be done by the international selection committee of e-ASIA.

### III.I Evaluation Criteria

To be funded, proposals must be internationally competitive. It should lead to the advancement of the research field, or novel applications or increase of research capacity.

Key evaluation criteria are:

- Significance and impact of the research
- Scientific Rationale: novelty, importance and timeliness of the research
- Capabilities of the research team
- Design and feasibility of the project plan
- Partnership: including strength and clarity of collaborations and opportunities provided, quality of the project management structure proposed
- Quality and suitability of the research environment and of the facilities
- Ethical considerations and governance arrangements

### IV. Reporting

- Every six months, the Thailand PI shall promptly submit a progress report on the status of joint research to PMU-B
- After completion of the period of joint research, the Thailand PI shall submit within three months a final report on the results of the joint research to PMU-B.

### Contact Information



Dr. Doungkamon Phihusut  
Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development,  
Research and Innovation (PMU-B)  
Tel: +66 2470 7961-4  
E-mail: [pmub.gp@nxpo.or.th](mailto:pmub.gp@nxpo.or.th)

## 7) USA: National Cancer Institute (NCI)

The **National Cancer Institute (NCI)** is supporting the following topics:

**Climate Change and Cancer:** Climate change poses substantial threats to human health across a wide range of illnesses, including noncommunicable diseases such as cancer. NCI is interested in supporting research that advances understanding of the effects of climate change on cancer risk, control, and survivorship, with consideration for communities that experience cancer health disparities and likely disproportionate burden of climate change. NCI is particularly interested in implementation research to encourage the adoption and integration of effective interventions that enhance prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer and mitigate the health consequences of climate change.

Priorities include:

- **Cancers Associated with Chronic Infections:** Within Southeast Asia, approximately one quarter of all cancer cases and deaths are associated with chronic infections that result in premature death and economic costs. The burden of infection-attributable cancers is driven mainly by *H. pylori*, hepatitis B virus, human papilloma virus, hepatitis C virus, and Epstein-Barr virus. Many carcinogenic infections have modifiable risk factors, for which prevention tools (HPV and HBV vaccines) and effective treatments already exist. NCI is interested in research that aims to improve the adoption, integration, and scale-up of these evidence-based interventions.
- **Cancers with Regional Prevalence in Southeast Asia:** The most diagnosed cancers in Southeast Asia are lung, breast, and liver cancers. The most common causes of cancer death are lung cancer, liver cancer and colorectal cancer. NCI is interested in research across the cancer control spectrum for these cancers, in particular the prevention of liver and lung cancer and the early detection and down staging of breast and colorectal cancers.

The National Cancer Institute can support approximately three to four meritorious applications. The following funding modalities will be supported:

- In-kind
- Re-budgeting

## VI Eligibility

The U.S. Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators on the U.S. team may be foreign nationals (U.S. permanent residents or visa holders), but they must reside in the United States for at least 50% of the award period. Graduate students on the U.S. team may be foreign nationals, but they must be enrolled in an accredited degree program at a U.S. institution during the period of their participation in the project.

## VII Support

The National Cancer Institute will support approximately three to four meritorious applications using the following funding modalities:

- **In-kind support:** Researcher in a selected project will use funds already available. NCI will **not** award any new funds for selected projects.
- **Re-budgeting support:** Funds already allocated to an existing NCI project will be reallocated to e-ASIA JRP. The U.S. PI must receive approval from the NCI Program Officer, as well as the NCI contact for the e-ASIA JRP (contact information below). NCI will **not** award any new funds for selected projects.

## VIII How to Apply

Only the e-ASIA JRP application materials submitted directly to the e-ASIA Secretariat are required and will be reviewed. No additional application materials are required by NCI.

## IX Evaluation

Applications submitted to the e-ASIA Secretariat will be reviewed according to the published e-ASIA JRP evaluation process and criteria.

## X Reporting

Awardees will be responsible for all reporting requirements associated with both the e-ASIA JRP and, for those applications using the re-budgeting mechanism, the existing NCI grant.

### VII Contact Information

#### **Dr. Marie D Ricciardone, Ph.D.**

Program Director  
Center for Global Health  
National Cancer Institute  
National Institutes of Health  
Department of Health and Human Services  
9609 Medical Center Drive  
Rockville, MD 20892  
Phone: +1 (240) 276 5151  
Email: [marie.ricciardone@nih.gov](mailto:marie.ricciardone@nih.gov)

#### **Dr. Paul C. Pearlman, Ph.D.**

Program Director  
Center for Global Health  
National Cancer Institute  
National Institutes of Health  
Department of Health and Human Services  
9609 Medical Center Drive  
Rockville, MD 20892  
Phone: +1 (240) 276 5354  
Email: [paul.pearlman@nih.gov](mailto:paul.pearlman@nih.gov)

## 8) USA: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

The NIAID mission is to conduct and support basic and applied research to better understand, treat, and ultimately prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases, including the research response to emerging public health threats.

For the e-ASIA JRP 12<sup>th</sup> Call on Climate Change and Health, NIAID funding may be requested to support basic, clinical, and applied biomedical and behavioral research focused on climate change and infectious or allergic diseases, including:

- vector-borne, waterborne, foodborne, zoonotic, respiratory, and fungal infections (including diseases caused by bacteria, viruses, animals, fungi, protozoa, and helminths) that may be associated with or aggravated by climate-related changes/extreme events and evolving climate conditions
- allergic and/or immunologic hypersensitivity diseases associated with changes in climate change-related exposure to environmental allergens (e.g., pollen) or related conditions (e.g., alpha-gal syndrome (AGS) due to exposure to tick saliva)
- immunology-based and mechanism studies of diseases (including skin and respiratory allergic conditions or infections, and co-infections/co-morbidities)
- understanding the impact of climate change (e.g., climate hazards) on how and where pathogens emerge from wildlife and spillover to cause human infection/disease
- role of climate change on vector biology and infectious disease dynamics (e.g., climate change patterns, interaction with the environment and ecological niches, and the intersection of thermal tolerances and transmission suitability of vectors and potential for evolution and adaptation)
- climate change effects/impact on antimicrobial resistance
- research response and preparedness for pandemics and other climate related extreme events, including early predictors of emerging diseases where they occur and preparedness for future infectious disease outbreaks; consideration of multiple/interdisciplinary research approaches is encouraged, including pathogen-specific work (particularly those in the region), platform-based technologies, and prototype-pathogen efforts (working on solutions within viral families and genera).

Applications requesting NIAID funding to support research that falls outside these

areas will not be considered eligible for NIAID funding. For example, applications focused on health care quality assurance or similar issues would not be eligible for NIAID funding.

### **Application Materials**

No additional application materials are required to be submitted directly to NIAID. Only the e-ASIA JRP application submitted directly to the e-ASIA Secretariat is required and will be reviewed and evaluated according to the common e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria (refer to Section IV-2) and the additional evaluation criteria listed below. Please see below for more information.

### **Eligibility**

The U.S. PI and participants on the U.S. team may be foreign nationals (U.S. permanent residents or visa holders) but must reside in the United States for at least 50% of the award period. Graduate students on the U.S. team may be foreign nationals, but they must be enrolled in an accredited degree program at a U.S. institution during the period of their participation in the project.

Scientists, and other personnel working in U.S. federal government facilities, whose salaries are paid using direct U.S. federal funding, or personnel working under a contract supported by the U.S. federal government, may apply for this program; however, they are **not permitted** to receive funding or other support (e.g., travel) under this program. The federally funded U.S. PI and the affiliated U.S. federal agency participation must be in-kind or funding must be received by a collaborating non-federal U.S. institution, PI, and key personnel.

### **Additional Evaluation Criteria**

**Research Plan:** How well the individual elements of the project plan fit with the overall project goals.

**Technical Merit:** The technical soundness of the proposed work, the project's management plan, and adequacy of the resources available, both technical and financial.



**Research Impact:** The probability that the project will result in new knowledge in one or more research fields or have a positive impact on health of the population in the East Asia region or/and all over the world.

### **Budget and Allowable Costs**

The maximum total award is up to **\$100,000** U.S. Dollars (USD) disbursed over three years. Utilizing funds from NIAID, the U.S. institution will receive a cost-reimbursable grant (fixed obligation award) from CRDF Global, pending the submission and acceptance of all necessary approvals and documentation (e.g., IRB approval, award agreement, animal subject review, etc.).

CRDF Global will communicate directly with the U.S. PIs and support expenses for the U.S. teams from universities and non-profits with the exception of large-scale equipment purchases that cost over \$10,000 USD. U.S. team applications may propose utilizing some of the requested funding to support foreign partners, but the allowed maximum budget still cannot exceed the amount described in the preceding paragraph. U.S. federal government agencies and U.S. teams from for-profit companies may apply in partnership with other U.S. or regional scientists but are not permitted to receive funding under this program.

- i. Funding may be requested for the following expenses:
  - (1) Labor
  - (2) Equipment, Supplies and Services
  - (3) Travel
  - (4) Indirect Costs (IDC). Applicants (primary and secondary collaborators, including those from foreign institutions) may request indirect costs/overhead expenses on all direct costs except for equipment (over \$5,000), capital expenditures, rent, student tuition, participant support costs<sup>[1]</sup> and sub-awardees expenses (after the first \$25,000). Total direct costs minus these items are considered the modified total direct cost (MTDC) amount for which the IDC rate should be applied. IDCs combined with the total direct costs cannot

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<sup>[1]</sup> Participant Support costs include stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with meetings, conferences, symposia or training projects, scholarships/fellowships.

exceed the funding total allowed to request. Below are helpful calculations:

- **IDC \$** = IDC% x MTDC = \$
- **Maximum Total Sub-Team budget** = total direct costs \$ (including MTDC) + IDCs \$

Foreign Institutions may **not request more than 8%** of the modified total direct costs in IDCs. U.S. institutions with a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rates Agreement (NICRA) may request up to their approved NICRA rate. Documentation for these rates should be provided in the budget narrative if the institution requires this payment. U.S. institutions without a NICRA may **not request more than 10%** in IDCs.

Recognizing the limited funding available for these small projects and the goal to achieve maximum scientific outcomes, applicants are encouraged to provide cost shares. Awardees with a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) from a U.S. federal cognizant agency may claim their NICRA, however, they are encouraged to provide a cost share to cover the difference in cost rate, so that the applied Indirect Cost rate does not exceed 8% of the award's modified total direct costs. Eligible cost shares must be verifiable through appropriate documentation provided by the awardee and should be described within the budget narrative. Cost shares should be:

- Verifiable through appropriate documentation provided by the awardee
- Necessary and reasonable for the accomplishment of project objectives
- Allowable costs under this program

Not paid by the U.S. government under another award, except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such a program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other U.S. government-funded programs.

Examples of cost shares that may be included in the proposal:

- **Salary:** (including fringe benefits) of any team member essential to the project. Salary and fringe rates should be listed separately for each team member in the cost share budget.
- **Consultant services:** Labor and fringe rates for third parties providing

volunteer services towards the project may be counted as cost sharing or matching if the service is an integral and necessary part of the project. Rates for third-party volunteer services must be consistent with those paid for similar work by the non-Federal entity. In those instances, where the required skills are not found with the awardee, rates must be consistent with those paid for similar work in the labor market.

- **Equipment/Supplies:** Donated equipment, office supplies, or laboratory supplies. Value for these items must be assessed at fair market value of the property at the time of donation.
- **Travel:** For travel deemed necessary and reasonable to the project, the awardee may cost share appropriate travel expenses, including:
  - **Airfare:** Lowest cost economy airfare and compliant with the Fly American Act Guidelines.
  - **Lodging:** Not to exceed applicable domestic or international U.S. government per diem rates
  - **Meals and Incidentals:** Not to exceed applicable domestic or international U.S. government per diem rates
  - **Ground Transportation:** Necessary local travel, such as taxis, rental cars, or mileage reimbursement on use of personal vehicles in accordance with the U.S. government allowance for Privately Owned Vehicles (POV)

### Contact Information



Gayle Bernabe  
Regional Officer-Asia and the Pacific  
Office of Global Research (OGR)  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
Department of Health and Human Services  
5601 Fishers Ln MSC 9802  
Bethesda, MD 20892-9802 [For courier deliveries: 20852]

Phone: +1 (301) 451-1018

Email: [gbernabe@niaid.nih.gov](mailto:gbernabe@niaid.nih.gov)

## **9) Sri Lanka: National Science Foundation (NSF)**

NSF, Sri Lanka is supporting the following topics: Climate Change and Health with particular interest in:

- Any topics in the intersection of Climate Change and Health

NSF, Sri Lanka can support a maximum of 1-2 applications. The following funding modality will be supported:

- In-kind

### **I. Eligibility**

- Principal Investigator (PI) has to be permanently affiliated to a public sector institution in Sri Lanka
- PI should have a PhD with sufficient past experience (Need to attach a detailed CV)
- Should provide evidence on having existing funds to link with this programme
- Research topics in the intersection of Climate Change and Health should address high priority national concerns
- Project team should consist relevant capacity and experience to carry out the proposed project
- Substantiality of the scientific merit of the proposal/s  
(An Annexure will be added separately).

### **II. How to Apply**

- We would use the same e-ASIA JRP application in this regard with a deadline to submit same.
- A web notice on call for applications will be posted in the NSF official website. Message will also be disseminated widely through NSF links.
- All application submissions should address to the Director General of the NSF, Sri Lanka.
- An e version and a completed hard copy with all due signatures have to be submitted on or before the given deadline.

### **III. Evaluation**

Evaluation will be done in two phases

Phase 1: Initial scrutiny by the Research Division of the NSF, Sri Lanka

Phase 2 Detail evaluation by independent expert panel and selection of qualified applications. Final approval of the Board of Management of NSF, Sri Lanka will be obtained to endorse the selected projects to the e-ASIA secretariat.

### **IV. Reporting**

Six monthly progress reports and a final report will have to be submitted to the NSF, Sri Lanka. Progress monitoring field visits will be arranged six monthly and when necessary.

### **V. Contact Information**

Contact Point:

Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe

Director General

National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka

E-mail: dg@nsf.gov.lk, sudasinghe@nsf.gov.lk

Contact number: +94112696771 Ext 110

Copy to:

Dr. Shantha Siri

Head of the International Affairs Division

National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka

E-mail: shantha@nsf.gov.lk

Contact number: +94112696771 Ext 155

## **General inquiries**



Emi Kaneko (Ms.)

e-ASIA JRP Secretariat / Japan Science and Technology Agency

Room 218 Innovation Cluster1 Building

National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

111 Thailand Science Park, Phahonyothin Road

Khlong Nueng, Khlong Luang, Pathum Thani 12120 THAILAND

Tel: +66-2-564-7713 (For urgent matters only)

E-mail: [easia\\_secretariat@jst.go.jp](mailto:easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp)