Call for TUD-IITD Collaborative Project Proposals

Introduction

Delft University of Technology (TUD) and Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) are contributing matching funds to support collaborative and interdisciplinary education and research initiatives, through a joint call for proposals, for the development of collaborative research initiatives and activities that will lead to impactful research outcomes.

This is similar to the Multi Institutional Faculty Interdisciplinary Projects (MFIRP) programme at IIT Delhi. It is expected that the faculty members of IITD and TUD, will jointly prepare a suitable full proposal for further, possibly external, funding post completion of the successful project tenure of one year. This is in addition to research output(s) such as publications, and is an important measure of success for the project in order to ensure its viability and sustainability.

1. Project Areas

i) This call invites research proposals in areas of mutual interest and complementarity that strengthen partnership between TUD and IITD.
ii) Proposals must include participants from both institutions, and we would encourage projects of an interdisciplinary nature, where relevant.
iii) Proposals from all fields are welcome including areas of AI/machine learning, computer science, energy, environment (for example climate, circularity, sustainability), food and agriculture technology, health technology, infrastructure, materials, nanotechnology, policy, and water.
iv) Proposals will be assessed by a committee composed of members from both the institutes.

2. Eligibility for participants within the scope of this call

i) Call is open to faculty members of IITD.
ii) TUD applicant must be an academic staff at Delft University of technology with a contract of employment for the full length of the proposed project.
iii) One application per applicant only.
iv) Previous recipients of the TUD-IITD collaborative grants may not apply again for a grant until two years after the completion of their first TUD-IITD grant.

3. Collaboration Activities

Collaboration activities may be based on joint projects set up by faculty/staff members of both institutions, including:
- Joint research projects
- Webinars/Seminars
- Any other form of partnerships, to be promoted and implemented jointly when both TUD and IITD find it mutually beneficial.

- Collaborative Research Agreement, Intellectual Property Right and joint supervision issues will be addressed as per the guidelines of the two institutions described in detail in the IITD and TUD MoU.

4. Value and Duration of Award

Up to **four joint projects** will be selected for funding each year. Each successful proposal will receive up to Rs 5 lakh from IITD and up to EUR 5,000 from TUD for the maximum **one year** project duration. Funding will be jointly provided by IITD and TUD, with TUD covering the costs from its own PI(s) and IITD covering the costs from its own PI(s).

The funding is provided on the basis that it will be used as catalytic funding for the establishment of an international research collaboration that has the potential to develop further, beyond the lifetime of the grant, and ideally leverage external funding.

Funds may not be used for website development, course fee for international students, entertainment cost, buying computers including laptop, iPad, etc.. Out of the total project fund of Rs. 5 Lakh, an amount of Rs. 1.5 Lakh may be allocated for travel to TUD.

The budget provided by IITD and TUD should be spent as per norms and regulations followed in each institute.

5. Timeline

Call for proposals	January 16, 2023
Deadline for submission of proposal	April 24, 2023
Communication of Results to applicants	May 29, 2023
Start date of Awards	June 1, 2023

6. Identifying Academics at IITD and TUD

i) In order to identify academics at either institution, please refer to the institutional websites in the first instance. These are http://www.iitd.ac.in/ and https://www.tudelft.nl/.

ii) If further help is required, then IIT Delhi applicants should contact Professor Sunil Kumar Khare at deanrnd@admin.iitd.ac.in whilst TUD applicants should touch base with TUD Coordinator External Relations India Ms Marie Kummerlowe at a.m.kummerlowe@tudelft.nl to seek help.

7. Submission of Proposals

i) Proposals are to be prepared in English and submitted jointly.

ii) The proposal should be no longer than 5 pages scientific content. The CV of each researcher should be no longer than 2 pages.

iii) Faculty PI from IITD will submit the joint project proposal online in IRIS under MFIRP tab with the collaborating institute as TUD. Faculty PI from TUD should submit the softcopy of the same proposal application form (preferably a single PDF file) to india@tudelft.nl.

iv) Compilation of the proposal will be handled by IITD through a MFIRP on-line form. It is therefore crucial that TUD academics, in particular the lead Principal Investigator, liaise closely with their IITD counterparts as they will be responsible for filling an on-line form.

v) Format of MFIRP online form can be found in the link given below:
   TUD-IITD Proposal link.

vi) It is vital that both the IITD and TUD counterparts are in full agreement on all aspects of the proposal prior to formal submission.

vii) The IITD counterpart will be responsible for submitting the final proposal on/before April 17, 2023.

8. Adjudication

i) Proposals received by IITD and TUD will be evaluated by a separate review at each institution.

ii) Selection Criteria: Both internal review committees will assess each proposal according to the following criteria:
   - **Project design and rationale** (how clearly presented and justified is the design and basis for the collaboration)
   - **Pathway for Project impact** (how clearly linked are the outcomes to the planned activities and performance indicators, such as joint papers, external funding applications, joint research with industry and proposal for policy recommendations.
   - **Interdisciplinary nature of the project** (the aim of the funding is to encourage academics to collaborate in a project that will require a range of disciplines for successful delivery of the project)
   - **Impact of collaboration** (is there a distinct advantage provided by this collaboration that is not possible by the two institutions working individually?)
   - **Capacity for future collaboration** (what is the extent to which future collaborations are possible as a result of the proposed activities.)

iii) A joint committee will convene to select final project proposals.

9. Reporting After Project Completion

All awardees must, as a condition of receiving an award under this call, submit a final technical report highlighting the achievements vis-à-vis proposed objectives, outcome in terms of publications, patents, conference proceedings, etc. and details on project(s) submitted to an external agency within 3 months after completion of joint project tenure.

10. Contacts

For any clarification points or questions on the joint call, please contact:

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