



Research Development Office
Grants and Research Collaborations

August 2026 Funding Horizons

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Research Grants/Fellowships

Scheme: ANRF | Impact Centres of Excellence (ACE) Programme

Details: The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) invites proposals under the Impact Centres of Excellence (ACE) programme to establish high-impact research centres in institutions aspiring to function at the forefront of global excellence in Science and Engineering. The programme seeks to strengthen research and innovation capacity, develop world-class infrastructure, attract outstanding researchers, and create vibrant ecosystems for cutting-edge research, innovation and collaboration.

Scope and Objectives of the Programme:

- Deliver world-class research excellence and impact through Impact Centres of Excellence
- Strengthen and modernize the research and innovation capacity of top-tier institutions in selected areas
- Consolidate human capital and infrastructure for world-class research in critical STEM areas
- Promote national and international collaborations in areas where institutions can achieve global excellence
- Strengthen research innovation and entrepreneurship for world-class impact
- Scale research and innovation into sustainable ecosystems and contribute to inclusive growth.
- Accelerate the emergence of Indian institutions as leading global destinations for research excellence and support significant improvement in world institutional rankings

Eligibility: The programme is institutional in nature and does not support individual-centric or small-team projects. Only one proposal per institution per call may be submitted across Categories

Key Requirement: Proposals must present a clear and compelling roadmap demonstrating how the proposed ACE Centre will achieve internationally benchmarked research excellence, generate high-impact outcomes, strengthen institutional research capacity, and contribute to an accelerated rise in global institutional rankings. A credible plan for mobilizing the required matching funds is also essential.

Funding: The programme requires mandatory co-funding from governmental and non-governmental sources.

Deadline: Application portal yet to be opened

Weblink: https://anrfonline.in/ANRF/ace_anrf



Scheme: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-Centres for Advanced Research (CAR)

Details: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) invites proposals under its Extramural Research Program to establish **Centres for Advanced Research (CAR) 2026**. This initiative supports experienced research teams conducting decisive, multidisciplinary research to tackle critical public health challenges.

Scope of this Call: Focused areas for collaborative projects under the current call are:

- Communicable Diseases: TB, malaria, HIV, AMR, pandemic potential.
- Non-Communicable Diseases: Cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular, chronic respiratory, & neurological disorders.
- Reproductive & Maternal Health: Preconception, antenatal, child health, nutrition, anaemia, adolescent health.

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*

- Over-arching Areas: Climate change & health, ageing, disability, nursing & medical education

Budget: Funding: ₹8 Crores to ₹15 Crores per CAR.

Duration: Up to 5 Years.

Eligibility Criteria: Principal Investigator (PI) must have an h-index ≥ 20 Or multiple granted patents. At least one Co-PI from the PI's institute is mandatory.

Concept Note Deadline: 31 August 2026, 5:00 PM

Submission Link: <https://epms.icmr.org.in/>



Scheme: National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) – 1st Call for Demand-Driven Action Research Projects 2026–27

Details: The National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) invites proposals for Demand-Driven Action Research Projects 2026–27 from professionals associated with reputed institutions, universities and organisations with adequate resources and a proven track record in demand-driven action research and development. Proposals should address identified thrust areas within the NMHS Broad Thematic Areas (BTAs), with emphasis on scalability, community adoption, policy integration and measurable outcomes. Projects should also consider the cross-cutting themes of gender equality and climate change and contribute to national initiatives such as LiFE, Self-Reliant Bharat and Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, as well as the SDGs and India's NDCs.

Broad Thematic Areas & Thrust Areas:

- Water Resource Management (WRM)
- Biodiversity Conservation and Management (BCM)
- Physical Connectivity (PC)
- Livelihood Options and Employment Generation (LOEG)
- Skill Development and Capacity Building (SDCB)
- Handling of Waste (HW)

Deadline: 31st August 2026, 5:30 PM

Application Portal: <https://www.newprojectsubmission.nmhs-himal.res.in/>
https://nmhs.org.in/PDF/Advertisement/Project_Call/Advertisement_1st_Call_2026-27_NMHS_Project%20Grant_15.07.2026.pdf

Indo-International Grants

Scheme: CEFIPRA | Collaborative Scientific Research Programme (CSRP) – Project / Seminar

Details: CSRP scheme provides funding support to academic collaborative (between India and France) research projects in the areas of fundamental and applied science. Inclusion of only one Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) on the Indian side and one Co-PI on the French side is permitted, each from the same institution as the respective Principal Investigator (PI). This modification shall apply to new proposals submitted under subsequent calls. Based on project requirements, additional Co-PIs (more than 1) from other institution(s) may be included; however, such inclusion shall not entail any additional financial support from CEFIPRA.

Scope of this Call: Focused areas for collaborative projects under the current call are

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*

- Pure and Applied Mathematics
- Computational sciences
- Life & Health sciences
- Pure and Applied Physics
- Pure and Applied Chemistry
- Earth & Planetary Science
- Materials Science
- Environmental Sciences
- Biotechnology & Water

Budget: Total budget of the project should be within EUR 220,000 which includes support for manpower (JRF/SRF/RA/Master students for Indian Partners), recurring expenses: includes consumables, domestic travel & miscellaneous expenses/contingencies, international travel and equipment

Submission deadline extended: 5th Sept 2026 (Apply on <https://www.cefipraonline.in/CEFIPRA/>)

Weblink: https://www.cefipra.org/Docs/CSRP_Guidelines_deadline_31072026.pdf



Scheme: CEFIPRA | Industry-Academia Research & Development Programme (IARDP)

Details: To support collaborative research programme involving Industry & Academia of France and India. To promote the development of new processes or products or the improvement of existing processes or products, through industry centric proposal focusing its need for society benefit. It's expected that the proposed ideas should have deliverables like demonstration of proof concept & prototype building up to Technology Readiness Level (TRL 4-5). The proposals must be innovative and industry-driven towards the development or substantial improvement of new products, processes, etc. The project proposals submitted in the framework of this programme should preferably involve at least one industrial partner and one research institute each from India & France preferably (2+2 Model).

Scope: Thrust areas as below:

- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (Supercomputing, Cloud Computing, Artificial Intelligence, Digital Health)
- Renewable & Clean Energy (Hydrogen, Renewable Energy Technologies Solar & Wind Power, Decarbonization)
- Smart Mobility (Energy Efficient Transport and Logistics)
- Agricultural Science and Technology (Food Safety Climate Change, Agro-Ecological Farming)
- Sustainable Nutrition
- Health Care (Cancer Studies, Neurosciences, Biotechnology, Biomedical Engineering, Public Health, Medical Waste Treatment Technology, One Health)
- Technology for the SDGs (Sustainable Buildings, Plastic Pollution, Marine Science and Ecological Science)
- Waste Management & Circular Economy

Budget: The total funding for project for all partners will be maximum Euro 220.000 (Equivalent amount in Indian INR) for duration of three years.

Submission deadline extended: 5th Sept 2026 (Apply on <https://www.cefipraonline.in/CEFIPRA/>)

Weblink: https://www.cefipra.org/Docs/IARDP_Guidelines_deadline_31072026.pdf

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*



Scheme: DST/JSPS | Bilateral Joint Research Projects/Seminars

Details: The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) carries out bilateral cooperative programs between Japan and counterpart countries based on agreements concluded with academies, research councils and other science-promotion institutions in those countries. The aim of these programs is to form sustained networks of bilateral research teams (etc.) evolved from individual scientist exchanges. JSPS provides financial support to excellent Japanese scientists, including young scientists, implementing such bilateral joint research projects and seminars with research teams from counterpart countries.

There are **two types of Bilateral Joint Research Projects/Seminars:**

- A. Bilateral Joint Research Projects/Seminars with JSPS's Counterpart Agencies
- B. Open Partnership Joint Research Projects/Seminars.

The latter provides Japanese researchers an opportunity to conduct research or hold a seminar with researchers who reside in any country that has diplomatic relations with Japan.

Eligibility: As per the scheme guidelines, the application from Indian and Japanese PIs must submit the same project proposal to the respective authorities responsible for the implementation of the Executive Programme. Proposals from Indian PI must be submitted to DST.

Submission Deadline: 3rd Sept 2026

Weblink: <https://onlinedst.gov.in/LoginPage.aspx>

International Grants

Scheme: Wellcome Leap- Resistance Networks

Details: Resistance Networks offers a 3-year program from Wellcome Leap, aims to understand and control the transmission of plasmid-associated antibiotic resistance genes (pARGs) in Enterobacterales. The central goal of this program is to develop an epidemiological model that can predict whether a pARG has epidemic-like transmission potential within and between human bacterial networks during and after antibiotic exposure.

Scope: The program has three coordinated thrust areas:

- Thrust 1 – Transmission & Epidemiological Modelling
- Thrust 2 – Single-Cell Sequencing Technologies
- Thrust 3 – Model-Guided Interventions

Application Open: The proposal submission portal will open on **28th August 2026**.

Weblink: <https://wellcomeleap.org/programs/resistance-networks/>
<https://wellcomeleap.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/ResistanceNetworks-PA.pdf>



Scheme: RNID Discovery Research Grants 2026

Details: The Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID) invites applications for its Discovery Research Grants 2026 scheme to support research that generates knowledge underpinning the discovery and development of treatments for hearing loss and tinnitus, improves how treatments are developed and tested, or improves existing treatments such as hearing aids and cochlear implants.

Scope of this Call: Research proposals are invited in the following areas:

- Development of treatments for hearing disorders

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*

- Hearing loss, tinnitus and dementia
- Ototoxicity from aminoglycoside antibiotics
- Disease models

Budget: Funding of up to £75,000 per year.

Duration: Up to 3 years.

Eligibility Criteria: Applicants can be based at any university or research institute in any country. Applicants may submit only one preliminary application as the lead applicant, although they may participate as a co-applicant or collaborator on other applications.

Application Process: The scheme follows a two-stage application process. Applicants must first submit a preliminary application. Successful applicants will subsequently be invited to submit a full application, which will undergo external peer review.

Preliminary Application Deadline: 10th September 2026 (5:00 PM UK time)

Submission Link: <https://rnid.flexigrant.com/>



Scheme: Hypersensory Intelligence: Olfactory Perception with specific focus on **Open Olfactory Resource (OOR)**

Details: The programme by ARIA UK R&D funding agency aims to build the next generation of general-purpose olfactory perception systems (sensors + AI), that can be informed by representations learnt from large cross-domain, multi-instrument datasets. The idea is to explore the connection between inherent structure within volatile chemical space and machine learning. This first call focuses on TA1: The Open Olfactory Resource (OOR), which will create that data foundation for the programme. Through TA1 Stage 1, the Sprint, six teams will be funded to develop a detailed plan and pilot dataset for the OOR.

Budget: Up to £500k

Submission Deadline: 30th Sept 2026

Weblink: <https://aria.org.uk/funding-opportunities>

https://aria.org.uk/media/2quarjkd/hypersensory-intelligence_olfactory-perception-programme-solicitation.pdf



Scheme: Healthy Ageing: A Complex Systems Approach to Healthy Ageing

Details: This call invites the research proposals that advance an integrated understanding of how modifiable environmental and contextual factors interact to shape functional ability in later life. The call seeks to move beyond single-cause or single-domain approaches and encourages systems thinking, interdisciplinary research, and the translation of findings into scalable, context-sensitive solutions. Proposals should examine interactions between factors, pathways of risk and resilience, and modifiable environmental features. Applicants are encouraged to use established research designs such as longitudinal, life-course, qualitative or mixed-methods approaches, or complex-systems methods such as systems mapping, agent-based modelling and network analysis.

Scope of the Call: Changing the narrative of age and ageing – Research examining how media, policy, family/community and technological environments shape perceptions of ageing, older adults' agency, contribution and wellbeing. Research quantifying the economic costs of ageism alongside the social and economic contributions of older adults is particularly encouraged.

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*

Heat and out-of-home mobility and activity in later life – Research on how older adults can maintain mobility and everyday activities outside the home under increasing heat exposure due to climate change, including the interaction of environmental and contextual factors that support independence and participation.

Funding & Duration: Up to CHF 75,000 per year for Project duration of 1–4 years

Submission Deadline: 24 November 2026 (23:59 CEST)

Weblink: <https://veluxstiftung.ch/funding-areas/healthy-ageing/>
<https://veluxstiftung.ch/wp-content/uploads/HealthyAgeing-Call-for-proposals.pdf>



Scheme: Velux Stiftung | Ophthalmology call for Proposals 2026

Details: The long-term vision of the program is to contribute to reducing visual impairments and blindness in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) by developing and strengthening research capacity, with a focus on research institutions. It aims to reinforce biomedical/clinical ophthalmology research locally in a sustainable manner and to strengthen research ownership. In this way, research institutions in LMICs can build scientific reputation, enabling them to retain and attract excellent researchers.

Scope of the Call: Institutional research capacity strengthening (IRCS) projects: projects aiming at sustainably building, developing, or strengthening institutional structures that enable biomedical/clinical ophthalmology research in LMICs. Note that IRCS aspects need to be at the core of your proposal.

Eligibility: Open to researchers and research teams globally (subject to Velux Stiftung eligibility criteria). Projects must adopt an interdisciplinary approach, ideally combining disciplines that rarely collaborate. Applicants should demonstrate the ability to translate research into real-world impact. Consortia of research groups with at least one partner based in a LMIC are invited to apply. The involvement of a high-income country (HIC) partner in the consortium is welcome but not mandatory. Most of the research should take place in one or several LMICs.

Duration & Budget: Up to max. USD 75000 per year for a total of USD 300000, with at least 50 % of the funding to be used in LMICs, and at least 40 % of the funding to be used for IRCS activities.

Submission Deadline: 1st October 2026, (23:59 CEST)

Weblink: <https://veluxstiftung.ch>
<https://veluxstiftung.ch/wp-content/uploads/Ophthalmology-Call-for-Proposal.pdf>

Travel Fellowships

Scheme: EMBO – Scientific Exchange Grants

Details: This program funds research exchanges between laboratories in EMBC Member States, EMBC/EMBO global partners (Chile, India, Singapore, Taiwan). The grants facilitate collaborations with research groups with expertise, techniques, or infrastructure that is unavailable in the applicant's laboratory.

Budget: It contribute towards travel costs and subsistence of the fellow but not of any dependents. (The duration of the project is up to 3 months)

Submission deadline: Application is accepted throughout the year. However, it is recommended to apply three months before the proposed starting date.

Weblink: <https://www.embo.org/funding/fellowships-grants-and-career-support/scientific-exchange-grants/>

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*

Grant Management System-Fibi

To facilitate a smooth grant submission process, applications to RDO will now only be routed through the new **Grant Management System-Fibi**. The Fibi portal can be accessed with the link - <https://fibi.ncbs.res.in/fibi> using the NCBS email login credentials. Please choose the relevant "Grant call " under the "Grant call" module to initiate the submission to RDO.

If you face any difficulty or need guidance, please don't hesitate to contact the RDO team at rdo@ncbs.res.in

Schemes Open Throughout Year

Scheme	Area	Weblink
(National) Research Grants/Fellowships		
The Habitats Trust – THT Seed Grant	To fill an urgent and critical gap in conservation action, focussing mostly on lesser-known species and critical habitat	https://www.thehabitatstrust.org/tht-seed-grant.php
Ministry of Food Processing Industries – Application for Research & Development	To undertake demand driven R&D work for the benefit food processing industry in terms of product and process development, efficient technologies, improved packaging, value addition etc. with commercial value along with standardization of various factors viz. additives, colouring agents, preservatives, pesticide residues, chemical contaminants, microbiological contaminants and naturally occurring toxic substances within permissible limits.	https://www.mofpi.gov.in/Schemes/human-resources-and-institutions/research-development-food-processing-sector
DST – Abdul Kalam Technology Innovation National Fellowship	Fellowships to outstanding engineers to recognize, encourage and support translational research by individuals to achieve excellence in engineering, innovation and technology development	https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/Guidelines%20for%20Abdul%20KalamTechnology%20Innovation%20National%20Fellowship.pdf

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BIRAC-Early Translation Accelerator (ETA)	Catalyzing transformation of young academic discoveries (publications/patents) with possible commercial and societal impact into economically viable ventures and technologies	https://www.birac.nic.in/cfp_view.php?id=81&scheme_type=14
DST – Innovation & STEM Demonstration	To consider and recommend new proposals and communication initiatives in Innovation and STEM	https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/stem.pdf
DST – Women In Science and Engineering (WISE) - Societal Challenges with Opportunities (SCOPE) Fellowship Program	To provide opportunity to Women Scientists and Technologists who have completed Ph.D. and want to utilize their S&T knowledge and expertise for the benefit of society	https://dst.gov.in/callforproposals/call-proposals-under-wise-scope-fellowship
(International) Research Grants/Fellowships		
Humboldt Research Fellowship	Own research topic in collaboration with a German host researcher	https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/en/apply/sponsorship-programmes/humboldt-research-fellowship#hl268
Humboldt Research Fellowship for postdocs and experienced researchers	Researchers from abroad to spend extended periods of research in Germany. Scientists and postdocs from all disciplines and countries may apply	https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/en/apply/sponsorship-programmes/humboldt-research-fellowship#hl268
Waitt Foundation – Rapid Ocean-Conservation Grants	ROC Grants provide small grants with a quick turnaround time for solutions to emerging conservation issues and ocean protection in support of island nations	https://www.waittfoundation.org/roc-grants
Amphibian Survival Alliance - Emergency Grants Program	To provide rapid financial support for on-the-ground conservation efforts for the survival of amphibian species or populations	https://www.amphibians.org/what-we-do/funding/emergency-grants-program/
Amphibian Survival Alliance – Disease Mitigation Grants	To support projects that aim to develop effective strategies against amphibian diseases	https://www.amphibians.org/what-we-do/funding/asa-disease-mitigation-grants/
Amphibian Survival Alliance – Conservation Start-up Grants Program	To support projects aiming to improve the survival rates of amphibians, particularly those that are globally Threatened or Data Deficient	https://www.amphibians.org/what-we-do/funding/conservation-grants/
CEPI- Innovations CfP_Focus Area 2: Vaccine candidates for priority pathogens and viral families	Broad range of vaccine innovations for pathogens with Epidemic or pandemic potential	https://cepi.my.site.com/call-for-proposal?id=a1zP3000001Dz3VIAS
Collaborative/ Exchange Research Grants/Fellowships		
DST – ASEAN-India Science & Technology Cooperation program	To support collaborative Research & Development related to AI & HPC Marine Science and Technology Materials Science	http://aistic.gov.in/ASEAN/aistdfCollaborative

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*

DST – ASEAN-India Research Training Fellowships	To promote mobility of scientists and researchers from the ASEAN-Member Countries to India and provide them opportunity to work at Indian R&D/ academic institutions to upgrade their research skills and expertise	http://aistic.gov.in/ASEAN/aistdfellowship
DST – Technologies /Innovation/ Idea for support under ASEAN-India S&T Development Fund	Projects leading to Inclusive Innovation	https://aistic.gov.in/ASEAN/aistdfInnovatPltm
IGSTC- Small Immediate Need Grants	Innovation, applied research, technology development, and entrepreneurship with a focus on Indo-German industrial R&D	https://www.igstc.org/home/sing
Organizing Workshop/Meeting Grants		
DHR – Workshops Funding Grant in Biomedical Research	Support will be provided to scientific/professionals/association bodies engaged in the field of medical research for undertaking various activities/events	https://schemes.dhr.gov.in/statiweb/pdf/DHR/Downloads/HRD/amended%20HRD%20Guidelines%20merged.pdf
ANRF Seminar/Symposia Grants	All STEM areas	https://anrfonline.in/ANRF/seminar_symposia
Indo-German Bilateral Workshops	Proposals for organising Indo-German workshops on areas of mutual interest with an aim towards creating platforms for substantive interactions between scientists / researchers from academia and industry	https://www.igstc.org/home/open_call
Travel		
DHR – International Travel Grant Support for Non-DHR/ICMR Scientists & Researchers	Support will be provided to scientific/professionals/association bodies engaged in the field of medical research for undertaking various activities/events.	https://schemes.dhr.gov.in/statiweb/pdf/DHR/Downloads/HRD/amended%20HRD%20Guidelines%20merged.pdf
ANRF International Travel Support (ITS)	All STEM areas	https://anrfonline.in/ANRF/its
The Company of Biologists – Travelling Fellowships	Travelling Fellowships of up to £3,000 to graduate students and post-doctoral researchers wishing to make collaborative visits to other laboratories. These are designed to offset the cost of travel/accommodation and other related expenses	https://www.biologists.com/grants/travelling-fellowships/
CSIR – Travel Grant Scheme	Scheme is aimed at providing financial assistance to Young Indian Researchers (Ph.D. Students, Research Associates, resident Doctors, etc.) and Emeritus Scientists / other non-regular researchers for participation / presenting their research papers in international Scientific Events such as conferences/ Seminars/ Symposia/ Workshops/ Short-term School/ courses/ training programs	https://csirhrdg.res.in/Home/In dex/1/InPage/51/14
Others		

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*

EMBO – Women in Science Lectures	Funding to cover travel and accommodation costs of the speaker	https://www.embo.org/funding/lecture-travel-and-childcare-grants/women-in-science-lectures/
Department of Scientific & Industrial Research – Technology Development and Utilization Programme for Women	The program is aimed to meet specific needs of women and to enhance their contribution towards technology capability building	https://www.dsir.gov.in/technology-development-and-utilization-programme-women-tdupw
BIRAC – Product Commercialization Program Fund	To hasten the market launching and large-scale commercialization process of BIRAC supported products/ technologies from Start-ups having high commercial potential or societal impact by providing financial assistance by way of Grant-in-Aid assistance	https://www.birac.nic.in/cfp_view.php?id=39&scheme_type=29

** Applicants are requested to allow at least 2 weeks before submission deadline for RDO to carry out necessary due diligence on outgoing applications.*