Government of India
Ministry of Science & Technology
Department of Biotechnology

सत्यमेव जयते

Rolling Advertisement: Letter of Intent (LoI) invited for Translational Biotechnology Research Networks

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Researchers/investigator teams with promising, innovative, and high-impact research ideas in Biotechnology are invited to submit a Letter of Intent (LoI) for mission-mode proposals for Translational Biotechnology Research Networks for further consideration by the Department.

1. Scope of the Call

Proposals may address a broad range of biotechnology domains, including, but not limited to:

i. Health and life sciences
ii. Agriculture, food and bioresources
iii. Environment, climate and sustainability
iv. Industrial, manufacturing and materials biotechnology
v. Emerging, frontier and interdisciplinary areas, including computational biology, synthetic biology, engineering biology, genomics, and other advanced biotechnological approaches

2. Focus of the Call: The call seeks proposals demonstrating scientific excellence, originality, and the potential to advance biotechnology through either a clear pathway towards application or the generation of transformative scientific discoveries and innovative concepts.

A. Proposals **bridging the gap between discovery and application** and demonstrate the following:

- A clearly defined pathway from research to application
- A documented proof of concept, where applicable
- Evidence of technical feasibility
- Potential for scale-up and deployment
- A clearly identified unmet need or well-defined problem to be addressed

B. **Discovery-driven and frontier research proposals** that demonstrate originality, ingenuity, and the potential to generate novel and significant scientific knowledge, with direct relevance to finding solutions to important biological challenges, generating new biological insights, addressing critical unanswered scientific questions, or challenging existing paradigms.

3. Funding modalities: There is no pre-defined limit. The guidelines of Department of Expenditure (DoE), Government of India as applicable will be followed depending on the overall cost and nature of the project.

4. Eligibility: A concept note may be submitted by interested applicants engaged in research activities at various Institutions/Universities/Societies/ Trusts/ NGOs/ Foundations/ Voluntary Organizations, recognized as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO).

5. Details for submission of the Concept note

A concept note, strictly not exceeding 500 words, may be submitted anytime through Department's e-ProMIS portal (www.dbtepromis.nic.in), briefly covering the following aspects:

i. Name, designation and contact details (Email & phone no.) of the Principal Investigator/details of Investigator team
ii. Background and problem proposed to be addressed
iii. Concept proposed
iv. Proof-of-concept achieved so far
v. Proposed path for translation
vi. Expected outcome and relevance
vii. Team expertise and institutional strength
viii. Quantum of support sought from DBT

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6. **Review Mechanism**

The concept notes will be screened through DBT's internal review mechanism. The shortlisted proposals will be invited to submit full-length proposals. DBT may provide guidance and handholding to the PIs during the development of full-length proposals, including expert mentoring and, where required, restructuring of the proposed research plan.

Based on scientific merit, thematic relevance, technological requirements, and complementarity of expertise, DBT may recommend modifications to the proposed consortium or research plan, including:

- Integration of complementary or synergistic projects;
- Reconstitution or expansion of the consortium to bring in relevant expertise and capabilities; and
- Integration of individual projects into larger collaborative research networks, wherever considered necessary to achieve the objectives of the programme.

7. **Funding commitment disclaimer**

Submission of a concept note does not constitute a funding commitment