

SDU-IITD Collaborative Project Proposal Scheme

Introduction

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) and University of Southern Denmark (SDU) have signed an agreement to establish the "IITD-SDU Collaborative Platform" for initiating wider ranging collaborations involving academics, research, product, process, and human resource development which will have profound social and economic impacts for both countries.

About the Scheme and its Objectives

IITD & SDU are contributing matching funds to support collaborative and interdisciplinary education and research initiatives, through a joint call for proposals, for the development of collaborative activities that will lead to research outcomes with high impact.

This will be executed through the Multi Institutional Faculty Interdisciplinary Projects (MFIRP) scheme at IITD. At SDU it will be executed on the level of the participating institutes the principal investigators (PIs) belong to.

Faculty members of IITD and SDU will have the possibility to jointly prepare project proposals for the seed grant of Rs. 5 Lakh (around 45 kDKK) for 1 year. It is expected that these interdisciplinary research groups will attract strong support from external funding agencies and catalyze cross disciplinary activities between the two institutions, leading to additional joint research publications, patents, technology developments, public outreach activities, etc. These first joint projects are to be considered as one-time grants and the success of these projects will be evaluated based on how the projects have contributed to joint research activities between the two institutions leading to, e.g., joint high-level publications and additional external joint grants. Supervision of joint M. Sc. and Ph.D. theses is strongly encouraged and is counting in here, including possible exchange of final year bachelor students as interns.

Project Areas

The SDU & IITD call jointly invites research proposals from faculty members in areas of mutual interest and complementarity that have the potential to strengthen the partnership between SDU and IITD. Proposals are invited for joint basic/applied/translational research projects in interdisciplinary areas such as, but not limited to, Nanotechnology, Advanced Materials, Waste Management, Food Science & Engineering, Imaging, Sustainable Technology, Electronics, Green Energy Technologies, Environmental Research, Biotechnology and Circular Economy.

Eligibility

- The call is open to faculty members at IITD and SDU

Value and Duration

- Up to five successful project proposals will be chosen in the first round for joint funding from IITD and SDU.
- Funding from IITD will be Rs. 5 Lakh (around 45 kDKK) per year for participating faculty of IITD and a matching in-kind contribution for SDU faculty members from SDU for the first year.
- The total project duration is up to **one year** with earliest starting January 2022.

- The funds can be used for contingency, consumables and salary for the support staff, e.g., technicians and student assistants.
- The funds can also be used for traveling to partner institutes as exchange visits for short term as per mutual agreement with respect to available budget (no extra-budget will be allocated).

Identifying Academics at IITD and SDU

- 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.sdu.dk/en>
- If further help is required, then IITD applicants should contact Professor Sunil Kumar Khare at deanrnd@admin.iitd.ac.in whilst SDU applicants should touch base with Professor Yogendra Kumar Mishra (mishra@mci.sdu.dk) to seek help.

How to apply and important timelines

- Faculty members of IITD and SDU will jointly prepare suitable project proposals.
- Faculty PI from IITD will submit the joint project proposal online in IRIS under MFIRP with the collaborating institute as SDU. Faculty PI from SDU should submit the softcopy (preferably a single PDF file) of the same proposal to head of the institute and Cc to Professor Yogendra Kumar Mishra (mishra@mci.sdu.dk).
- A copy of the MFIRP online form can be found in the link given below.
https://ird.iitd.ac.in/sites/default/files/ird_circulars/MFIRP.pdf
- It is crucial that there is full agreement on all aspects of the proposal between IITD and SDU applicants prior to submission.

Timeline

Call for proposals	22 nd October 2021 (Friday)
Deadline for submission of proposal	29 th November (Monday)
Communication of results to applicants	Week commencing 20 th December 2021
Start date of Awards	3 rd January 2022 (Monday)

Collaboration Activities

Collaboration activities may be based on joint projects set up by faculty members of both institutions, including:

- The project work can be part of the thesis/dissertation work of MD/MS/MCh/DM/MTech etc. However, the supporting staff should not receive funding from two sources at a time (the student will have a joint supervisor as co-guide).
- 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 SDU MoU.
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- It is expected that the joint research team will submit at least one research project to an external funding agency, such as Indio-Danish, European Union (EU) or others on completion of the first project year.
- 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/projects submitted to an external agency will be submitted within 3 months after completion of joint project tenure.
- At the end of the project period, all the partners from both institutions are encouraged to organize a joint workshop to jointly discuss project outcomes and future open challenges.

Evaluation Methodologies

- A joint committee from India and Denmark will convene to select final project proposals.
- Project proposal shall be majorly assessed on following aspects:
 - Novelty & Originality
 - Impact, Significance, and Real-world Applications of the Proposed Work
 - The competences of PIs & Co-PIs in the Proposed Area
 - Interdisciplinarity
 - Capacity for Future Collaboration

Contacts

For any clarification points or questions on the joint call, please do not hesitate to contact the colleagues listed below.

IITD, India	SDU, Denmark
<p>Professor Sunil Kumar Khare Dean Research and Development Email: deanrnd@admin.iitd.ac.in</p> <p>Dr. Archana H Trivedi Research Development Co-ordinator Email: rnd_coordinator_aht@ird.iitd.ac.in</p>	<p>Prof. Yogendra Kumar Mishra Email: mishra@mci.sdu.dk</p> <p>Prof. Horst-Günter Rubahn email: rubahn@mci.sdu.dk</p>