



Vetenskapsrådet

The Swedish Research Council

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Sweden



Department of Science & Technology

[www.dst.gov.in](http://www.dst.gov.in)

Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road,

New Delhi – 110016

India

*Indo Swedish Joint Research Programme*

**Joint Research Projects:**

**Call for Proposals 2014**

Opening date: 18.02.2014

Closing date: 09.04.2014

## 1. Introduction

The Indo-Swedish Joint Research Programme was initiated by the Indian and Swedish governments in order to support research of the highest scientific quality in the areas of medicine, health, natural sciences and engineering sciences. The programme supports cutting-edge research that brings together faculty and young researchers from Sweden and India. The program is financed by The Swedish Research Council in Sweden and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) in India on the principle of reciprocity, parity and activity matching funding.

## 2. Joint Research Projects (JRPs)

Grants for JRPs are meant to promote collaborative projects with clearly defined goals involving at least one Swedish and one Indian partner. Applications should describe ambitious research and propose innovative approaches. The research is to be carried out at the research facilities involved; reciprocal visits and short stays in Sweden for researchers from India and vice-versa are also possible within a JRP. Each proposal for a JRP must have at least one main applicant based in Sweden and one main applicant based in India; they are the lead scientists on the Swedish and Indian side respectively. They bear the main responsibility for the project including its technical and administrative coordination as well as timely delivery of scientific and financial reports. Further applicants based in Sweden and/or in India can also participate in the consortia but the co-applicants in India must be from the same Institute as that of the main applicant.

**Grant duration:** the duration of the grants can be from 24 to 36 months but in no case beyond 36 months.

**Size of grant:** The maximum allowed budget for a project is Rs. 40 Lac for the Indian side for the total duration of 3 years. For the Swedish side the size is 250 000 SEK/year for three years.

It may kindly be noted that applications submitted to The Swedish research council, in accordance with the Swedish act on administrative procedures, becomes a matter of public record.

## 3. Research fields

In order to make targeted use of the financial resources available, the following thematic areas were chosen for this call:

Medicine, health, natural sciences and engineering sciences.

Proposals outside of the thematic areas defined above will not be accepted.

## 4. Eligibility

### Eligibility criteria in India

Faculty, Professors, scientists/ researchers and post-doctoral researchers from Indian universities and those in permanent employment at public funded R&D research institutes are eligible to apply. Private companies are welcome to participate in the project however, **no** grant/funding is available to private companies under the scheme.

## 5. Budgets

JRP proposals contain two separate budgets: one budget in INR for the Indian applicant(s) (paid by DST according DST's rules) and one budget in SEK for the Swedish part (paid by The Swedish research Council according The Swedish research council's rules).

### Eligible costs in India

The funding categories are:

- **Minor Equipment:** (max cost Rs. 5.0 Lac) Costs of material of enduring value (indicate manufacturer, type and distributor). Quotations – if possible, from different competitors – must be enclosed.
- **Research funds:** Funds needed to carry out the project, such as chemicals & other related consumables etc.
- **Salaries:** The funding will allow supporting the salary of a PhD-student for three years or the salary of a post-doc for two years (salaries for main or co-applicants are not eligible).
- **Mobility expenses:** Generally 2 visits per year from each side shall be funded with maximum duration of each visit to be restricted to 90 days per visit.

### Visiting costs between Sweden and India

While budgeting visits between the Swedish and Indian partners, the international travel related expenses are to be charged to the budget of the visiting side and the living expenses (local hospitality etc.) to the budget of the hosting side. Health/medical overseas insurance should be included in the budget of the visiting side.

Research visits between Sweden and India should be balanced in number and duration.

Visits by scientists/researchers will be financed through the budget of individual cooperative projects.

- The sending side shall provide international fare and airport taxes to the visiting scientists to the international airport nearest to the host institutions.
- The sending side would reimburse the cost of the insurance premium for this purpose. Scientists visiting under the Protocol shall take overseas medical insurance for the duration of visit before starting the journey from their country.
- The Indian side shall provide free furnished accommodation to the visiting Swedish scientists in a guest house/hotel. In addition, the Swedish scientists visiting India shall be paid a per diem of Rs 2,500 per day towards food and out of pocket expenses plus a furnished guest house accommodation to a maximum of Rs 4,000 per day.
- The Swedish side shall cover the actual occurred costs for accommodation, food, local transports and out of pocket expenses for Indian scientists visiting Sweden, together with a per diem of SEK 210 per day.
- The receiving side shall pay the registration fee for participation of visiting scientists in seminars, workshops, training courses etc. related to the topic of their visit
- The financial terms may be revised after mutual agreement between the DST and the Swedish research council.

## 6. Submission

**Proposals are to be jointly prepared by the Swedish and Indian applicants. However, they must be submitted separately to The Swedish Research Council and DST. The research plan (see Annex 1 for indications regarding the requested structure) must be identical in both applications.**

### Submission in Sweden:

The proposal must be submitted by the Swedish main applicant to The Swedish research council via its electronic submission system VR-direct (<http://vrdirect.vr.se/>). You apply for JRP as you apply for a project grant, either within Natural sciences and Engineering or within Medicine and Health, and add a specific appendix on the India-Sweden collaboration. For conditions and the full instruction see [call texts in Swedish](#) or [call texts in English](#).

Indian partners can have access to the electronic submission system through their Swedish partner.

### Submission in India:

Indian applicants are required to send only ONE original hard copy of the complete application form (including an administrative part, a joint research plan and annexed documents), along with an electronic copy in a single soft file in ms-word or pdf format as an email attachment, to:

Mr. R.K. Sharma  
Principal Scientific Officer (Scientist-D)  
International Bilateral Cooperation Division  
Dept. of Science and Technology (DST)  
New Mehrauli Road  
New Delhi - 110 016  
Email: sharma\_rk@nic.in

The original copy must be signed by the main applicant and get forwarded from the Head of Institute by the Indian (written signature) and Swedish (electronic signature) main applicants.

**Deadline for submission of applications:** 09.04.2014 (midnight CET). Incomplete applications and received after the deadline will not be considered.

**Language:** All documents submitted to The Swedish Research Council and DST must be in English.

## 7. Evaluation

The applications will be evaluated independently in Sweden (by The Swedish Research Council according to its regulations) and in India (by DST according to its regulations). The assessment of the scientific quality of an application is made using four quality components.

- Novelty and originality
- Scientific quality of the proposed research
- Merits of the applicant(s)
- Feasibility

The research proposals shall be graded in 1-7 scale (1 lowest and 7 highest) from both sides. Based on both the Indian and the Swedish evaluation results/grades, the list of proposals to be jointly supported shall be mutually decided by The Swedish Research Council and DST and submit it to the Indo-Swedish Joint Committee for final approval. The applicants shall be informed only the final joint decision by respective sides.

**The evaluation results will be communicated to the Swedish main applicant by The Swedish Research Council and to the Indian main applicant by DST sometimes during last quarter of 2014.** The Swedish main applicant will receive a standard decision letter from The Swedish Research Council.

**Likely possible starting date for the JRPs:** 01.01.2015

## 8. Reporting

Swedish and Indian project partners will report separately to The Swedish Research Council and DST respectively.

## 9. Payments

**In Sweden (The Swedish Research Council funding):**

The standard rules of The Swedish research Council apply.

**In India (DST funding):**

Standard DST (Govt. of India) rules/norms apply.

## 10. Publications and intellectual property

Applicants must consult both the Swedish and Indian guest institution concerning their internal intellectual property regulations. The PIs are obliged to jointly publish research results coming from the JRPs in appropriate form and according to the standards of DST and The Swedish Research Council. Publications and any other IPR generated out of the project should be jointly shared and published after mutual agreement between the collaborators. Researchers financed by the Swedish Research Council must publish with open access, which means that anyone using the Internet can freely read and download the research results. Researchers can archive previously published articles in openly searchable databases, or they can publish directly in Web-based journals that practice open access.

## 11. Further information and contacts

**In Sweden**

Johan Dixelius                    [Johan.Dixelius@vr.se](mailto:Johan.Dixelius@vr.se)                    +46 8 546 44 327  
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SE-10138 Stockholm  
website: [www.vr.se](http://www.vr.se)

**In India**

Mr. R.K. Sharma  
Principal Scientific Officer (Scientist-D)  
International Bilateral Cooperation Division  
Dept. of Science and Technology (DST)  
New Mehrauli Road  
New Delhi - 110 016  
Email: [sharma\\_rk@nic.in](mailto:sharma_rk@nic.in)  
website- [www.dst.gov.in](http://www.dst.gov.in)

## **Annex 1: Guidelines for writing the research plan (scientific part of the proposal)**

Proposals are to be jointly prepared by the Swedish and Indian applicants. However, they must be submitted separately to The Swedish Research Council and DST. The research plan must be identical in both applications.

### **Swedish proposal**

Swedish applicants apply according to instructions for project grant within the area of Medicine and Health or Natural Sciences and engineering. The proposal must be submitted by the Swedish main applicant to The Swedish research council via its electronic submission system VR-direct (<http://vrdirect.vr.se/>).

### **Indian proposal**

We kindly ask you to use the section headings indicated below. The proposals will be sent out for external review. In order to ensure that the scientific content of your proposal can be adequately assessed, please provide a detailed research plan which sets out clearly the aims, objects and methods of the project you are planning.

### **Grant period**

The Grant is awarded for a maximum of three years, beginning with the 2015 calendar year.

### **Font, size and pictures**

Submit the appendices in A4 format, using a 25 mm margin and Calibri or Arial size 11 font. When we print out the application, we use a resolution of 200-300 dpi, and usually grey scale. Please adapt your images accordingly.

### **Content of the application**

The application should contain the following:

- Summary
- Research programme
- CV
- Publication list

### **Summary**

The summary of the research programme should contain a short description of

- what will be undertaken
- how the research will be conducted and which scientific methods will be used
- the significance of the proposed research.

The text should provide a brief orientation of the purpose and proposed implementation of the research. Write in a style that can be understood by those from other research backgrounds.

### **Research programme**

The research program should consist of a brief but complete description of the research objective on no more than ten A4 pages, including references. The focus of the research program should be forward-looking, describing planned activities. Please note that any pages in excess of the number allowed will not be considered in the evaluation.

The research programme must include the following information under separate headings:

- **Purpose and aims.** Present the overall purpose and specific goals of the research project (or equivalent)
- **Survey of the field.** Summarise your own and others' research, as well as previous findings in the research field. Provide key references.

- **Project description.** Summarise the project. Describe theories, methods, timetable, implementation and project organisation.
- **Significance.** Describe the project's significance to the research area, in particular regarding novelty and originality.
- **Preliminary results.** Describe your own experiments and pre-studies in the research area.

**Present the following under a separate heading if you or your Swedish partner considers it relevant to your joint project:**

- **Equipment.** Describe the basic equipment for the project that you and your group have at your disposal.
- **Need for infrastructure.** Specify the project's need for national and international infrastructure. Also specify the need for local infrastructure if depreciation costs for this are included in the application. [Read more about research infrastructures supported by the Swedish Research Council.](#)
- **National and international collaboration.** A description of your and your group's cooperation with National and foreign researchers and research groups. Describe any international collaboration or associations you may have through your research. You may use Grants to co-fund related EU projects within the Horizon 2020. Indicate in your research programme if you are planning collaboration of this kind.
- **Ethical considerations.** Specify any ethical issues that the project (or equivalent) raises, and describe how they will be addressed in your research.
- **Other grants.** If the Swedish partner intends to apply for, or have been approved for, additional grants from the Swedish Research Council, you must clarify the relations between the projects. Also include the reasons why you are submitting one or more additional applications.
- **Independent line of research.** If you are working, or will be working, in a large group, clarify how your project relates to the others. If you are continuing with a project that was begun in whole or in part during your doctoral or postdoctoral studies, you are required to describe the relationship between your project and the research done by your former advisor.
- **Clinical application/relevance.** If proposal is in the area of Medicine and Health, explain how the results of the project will be of practical and clinical use in the area of Medicine and Health.

## CV

You must submit a CV of no more than two A4 pages for yourself and for each co-worker. List your publications separately in Appendix C.

**Specify the following (items that do not apply to you should be left blank):**

1. **Higher education degree(s)** (year, subject area, HEI that awarded degree)
2. **Doctoral degree** (year, discipline/subject area, dissertation title and supervisor, HEI that awarded degree).
3. **Postdoctoral positions** (year and placement).
4. **Docent/Associate Professor level** (year)
5. **Specialist certification or equivalent** (year, discipline/subject area)
6. **Present position**, period of appointment, percentage of research in the position.
7. **Previous positions and periods of appointment** (indicate the type of employment).
8. **Interruptions in research.** Indicate interruptions in your active research career that affected your opportunities to acquire credentials, such as parental leave, illness, residency and specialist training for clinically active professional groups, positions of trust in trade union organisations and student organisations, or other equivalent considerations. Specify the reason(s), dates and length of the interruption.
9. **Supervision** Name, year of disputation of those who have completed their doctoral degree or postdoctoral work under your supervision (as main advisor).
10. **Other information that is relevant to your application.**

## Publication list

Attach your publication list for the last eight years, indicating the five publications that are most relevant to the project, using an asterisk (\*).

**Categorise the publications in the following order:**

1. Peer-reviewed original articles
2. Peer-reviewed conference contributions
3. Review articles,
4. Books and book chapters
5. Patents (indicate registration date)
6. Open-access computer programs that you have developed
7. Popular science articles/presentations

Note: Include only articles (or the equivalent) that have been published or accepted for publication.

## Planned visits

Describe in no more than 2 A4 pages

### 1.1 (India to Sweden)

(only 2 visits per year from each side with up to 30 days duration for Senior Scientists and up to 90 days for PhD students)

	Visiting scientist(s)	Period & duration of visit	Purpose of visit
1st year			
2nd year			
3rd year			

### 1.2 (Sweden to India)

(only 2 visits per year from each side with up to 30 days duration for Senior Scientists and up to 60 days for PhD students)

	Visiting scientist(s)	Period & duration of visit	Purpose of visit
1st year			
2nd year			
3rd year			

Insert additional rows into the table if required.



Swedish applicants should include these tables in appendix d1.

## 2. Requested funds

Describe in no more than 2 A4 pages.

### 2.1 Swedish applicant

Year	Mobility expenses for Visits from Sweden to India i.e. International Air-fare and Overseas Insurance only)	Mobility expenses for visits from India to Sweden ie accommodation, per-diem and etc.)	Scientific Man-power Ph.d students or post-doc	Minor Equip-ment's/ ac-cessories etc	Chemicals and Consumables, if any	Total
1st year						
2nd year						
3rd year						
TOTAL						

### 2.2 Indian applicant

Year	Mobility expenses for Visits from India to Sweden i.e. Interna-tional Air-fare and Overseas Insurance only)	Mobility expenses for visits from Sweden to India ie accommoda-tion, per-diem and etc.)	Man-power JRF/SRF or post-doc	Minor Equip-ment's/ ac-cessories etc	Chemicals and Consumables, if any	Total
1st year						
2nd year						
3rd year						
TOTAL						

- i. Either one Ph.D. student (3 years) or one postdoctoral fellow (2 years)
- ii. Only 2 visits per year from each side are allowed.
- iii. Please indicate per-diem and accommodation charges (budget) separately according to the duration of the visits and norms specified above.
- iv. Indicate complete details of chemicals and consumables required along with its cost/budget analysis.