

e-ASIA Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP)
Research Cooperation in the field of
“Alternative Energy”
On the topic of
“Bioenergy”
7th Joint Call for Proposals to be submitted by 26th April 2018

The e-ASIA Joint Research Program (hereinafter referred to as the “e-ASIA JRP”) aims to develop a vibrant and collaborative research community in Science and Technology, to promote innovation in the East Asian region, and to contribute to the region’s economic development. As part of the program, the following Member Organizations of the e-ASIA JRP have agreed to implement a joint call for proposals of multilateral cooperative research activities.

Participating Member Organizations (listed in alphabetical order):

- 1) Indonesia: Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (RISTEKDIKTI)
- 2) JST: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
- 3) Lao PDR: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)
- 4) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCIEERD)
- 5) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)
- 6) Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)
- 7) Vietnam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)

I. Aim of Joint Call and Research Area

Through multilateral collaboration for development on the topic of “Biomass Energy”, the aim of the joint call is to pursue state-of-the-art technologies and solutions to issues common across the region and required from society, such as the climate change, environmental pollution, energy security in East Asia, and SDGs adopted by the United Nations.

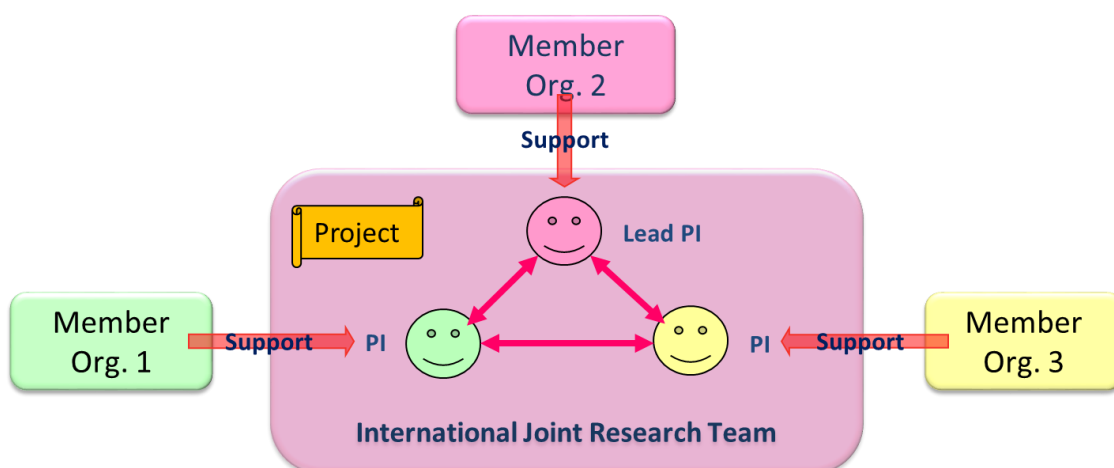
Especially, the utilization of underused biomass resources for production of biofuels, commodity chemicals, biomaterials, and energy represents a sustainable alternative to the current fossil-based platform with advantages on mitigating the release of greenhouse gases, and thus can significantly reduce carbon emissions by closing the carbon cycle --- the carbon released by the consumption of biomass fuel is reused to grow new biomass.

The field of “Alternative Energy” in the e-ASIA JRP, therefore, selected “Biomass Energy” as a call topic in 2017, and focuses here on research on advanced technologies aiming effective utilization of biomass resources for energy and chemicals. We would like to invite comprehensive research proposals including, but not limited to:

- a) Biomass production and management;
(Biomass feedstocks, Biofuels, Biomass and biodiversity monitoring, Low-cost homogeneous feedstocks),
- b) Biomass energy technology;
(Biogas, Bioethanol (e.g. from sugar and starch crops, Cellulosic ethanol), Bio-Diesel Fuels (e.g. Bio-hydrogenated diesel, by transesterification), Bio-hydrogen),
- c) Biomass refinery;
(Pretreatment and fractionation process, Biochemical conversion process, Optimization and economical evaluation of integrated process, Improving effectiveness of pretreatment stage, Decreasing the cost of enzymatic hydrolysis stage, Improving overall process efficiencies),
- d) Social Implementation for biofuel production and quality control.
- e) Co-firing biomass with coal;
(Combustion characteristics, Grindability, Ash behaviour, Flue gas behaviour, Pre-processing systems to reduce transportation cost, etc.)

II. Support/ Funding Modality

In principle, each Member Organization will support expenses for its own country’s researchers. The duration of a cooperative research project will be three years (36 months), in total, from the start date. Details of conditions of support will vary by Member Organization. Applicants shall refer to the Appendix for each Member Organization’s rules and regulations.



Participating Member Organizations and Funding Modality

Participating Member Organization	Funding Modality
Indonesia: Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (RISTEKDIKTI)	In-kind* Required to apply domestic funds
Japan: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)	New
Lao PDR: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	In-kind
Philippines: Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD)	New, In-kind
Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)	New
Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)	New
Vietnam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	In-kind

New: to support a project by new funding

Re-budgeting: Funds allocated to an existing project from the Member Organization will be reallocated to the e-ASIA JRP

In-kind: The Member Organization of his/her country does not provide budget. A researcher participates in a project using funds that are already available, but no additional funding will be provided by the Member Organization from his/her

country. Conditions regarding the number of countries that can participate on an “in-kind” basis in one research project will vary by country. In principle, at least one country should participate with “new” or “re-budgeting” fund, meaning that it is not acceptable as an e-ASIA project if all the applicants intend to participate in a research project on an “in-kind” basis.

III. Application

In addition to these general requirements, there are specific rules clarified by each Member Organization (see Appendix for further information).

III-1. Applicant/ Project Consortium

A project consortium must be consisted of at least three eligible research teams from at least three different participating countries listed above.

Each research team shall be led by a Principal Investigator(PI), and a consortium shall be led by a Lead Principal Investigator (Lead PI) specified among the PIs.

The Lead PI will be responsible for running and managing the project. The Lead PI will be the contact point with the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat on behalf of the whole consortium and is responsible for the administrative management of the complete project, should it be awarded supporting. In addition, the Lead PI is responsible for leading the project activities at his/her own institution. The Lead PI must be affiliated with an institution situated in one of the participating countries in this call.

All PIs must fulfil their respective domestic eligibility rules for research application. Researchers from industry are encouraged to participate in the joint collaboration in accordance with domestic eligibility rules. PIs should contact the person noted in Section VII for information on their respective domestic eligibility rules.

III-2. Proposal Submission

Proposals must be submitted from the Lead PI by e-mail to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat at the e-mail address specified below. Applications shall be written in English.

Deadline for Submission:

17:00 (Thai Standard Time, UTC+7) 26th April 2018

Please submit the proposal to:



Yoshihide Kobayashi (Mr.)

e-ASIA JRP Secretariat

E-mail: easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp

Note1: The e-ASIA JRP Secretariat will send a confirmation email to the Lead PI to confirm receipt of his/her proposal. In case the Lead PI does not receive a confirmation e-mail from the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat within one week, they should contact the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat at the address above. The e-ASIA JRP Secretariat does not assume any responsibility for delay or error in e-mail delivery.

Note2: Application forms sent by any method other than e-mail, such as post, fax or telex will be rejected.

The proposal shall include:

- a) Project description including how the collaboration will be carried out, with clear statements of what roles each country's researchers will play respectively in the project;
- b) Description of the expected outcomes of the proposed project, scientifically as well as in terms of relevance for industry and society;
- c) Description of the ongoing activities and specific advantages of each group respectively, which form the basis for the proposed joint project;
- d) Description of the expected value added from the proposed joint project, including how the competence, technology and other resources in each group complement each other;
- e) Description of how the project is expected to help strengthen multilateral research collaboration over the longer term;
- f) Description of the expected value added from the multidisciplinary approach in the proposed joint project; and
- g) Description of how the proposed joint project interacts with or impacts other comparable activities worldwide.

III-3. Application Forms

Researchers should prepare the following application (proposal) forms in English (“E”).

For further requirements by each Member Organization, researchers shall refer to the Appendix or shall consult each Member Organization of his/her country.

- Form 1E Application outline (title of cooperative research project, names of PIs, cooperative research period)
- Form 2E Summary of the Project
- Form 3E Information on the PIs (their CVs*)
- Form 4E List of individuals committed to the cooperative research project in each country
- Form 5E Description of the cooperative research project including the points stated above.
- Form 6E Research Networking Plan
- Form 7E Budget plan for the project
- Form 8E Research infrastructures and funds from other sources

** The description of Curriculum Vitae (CV) from each PI shall include basic information on education, past and present positions, membership of relevant organizations/associations and a publication list in the past 5 years.*

In addition to the documents above, all projects must comply with ethical review and requirements of each Member Organization, especially for research activities related to human and animal subjects. PIs shall refer to the Appendix for each Member Organization’s ethical requirement.

IV. Evaluation

IV-1. Evaluation Process

A proposal will be evaluated at each relevant Member Organization of the project consortium, according to the evaluation criteria clarified in the following subsection.

Based on the results of the evaluation conducted at each Member Organization, a final decision will be made at the joint panel meeting among the Member Organizations, followed by approval at the e-ASIA JRP Board Meeting.

IV-2. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following common e-ASIA JRP evaluation criteria, incorporated with evaluation criteria clarified by each Member Organization. For the evaluation criteria clarified by Member Organizations each, please refer to the respective Appendix.

1) Regional Relevance of the Research

The research activity should contribute to:

- The advancement of scientific discovery;
- The development of science and technology in the region; and
- The resolution of significant relevant issues across the region.

2) Mutual Benefits of the Joint Research

Activities of mutual benefit to the collaborators and their institutions are desirable. Mutually beneficial in the sense that the projects utilize unique opportunities the e-ASIA JRP will provide that could not be achieved either through bilateral or individual research but only through multilateral cooperation.

3) Effectiveness of Exchange

The project should:

- Contain activities to nurture early career researchers through research activities;
- Contain activities to engage female researchers where strengthening capacity is needed; and
- Enhance research capacity in the region.

IV-3. Notification of the Final Decision

The Lead PI will be notified the final decision by the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat as soon as the final decision is taken and approved by all Member Organizations in the e-ASIA JRP. (Approximate implementation of the notification: End of November 2018)

V. Project Implementation

Project reporting will be in accordance with the respective funding agency's rules. Please contact respective Member Organizations for more details.

In addition to the funding agency's requirements, the consortia are expected to

deliver Progress reports and Final reports to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat, in English, including a description of their collaboration and a publishable summary of the project status. The progress and final reports will be reviewed by the Board and Scientific Advisory Council. It is also encouraged that the project proactively disseminates its achievements to the public.

V-1. Progress Report

In the middle of research period (i.e., after one and a half year), the lead PI shall promptly develop and submit an integrated progress report to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat on the status of the joint research.

V-2. Final Report

A final report shall be developed and submitted by the Lead PI to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat within two months after the completion of the joint research period.

V-3. Others

All the researchers/research institutions organizing a consortium are strongly recommended to conclude a Collaborative Research Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “CRA”) to assure optimal understanding and coordination among the collaborating scientists working on each project before project starts. CRA should, with due respect to the researchers’ institutions and the funding agencies’ intellectual property and data handling policy, include the treatment of intellectual property rights, handling of confidential information, publication of research results, warranty and indemnification, and access to and transfer of the bio-resources. Applicants shall refer to the Appendix for each Member Organization’s requirement.

VI. Contact information

Applicants should contact the following for information on each Member Organization’s eligibility rules or support conditions:

Also please refer to the Appendix for information of each Member Organization.

Country:	Member	Contact Point
	Organization	
Indonesia:	Ministry of Research, Technology and	Ms. Tiomega Gulton Tel: +62 8129383743

Higher Education (RISTEKDIKTI)	E-mail: mega@ristek.go.id
Japan: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)	Kawabe(Mr.), Hirakawa(Ms.) Tel:+81 (0)3-5214-7375 E-mail: easiajrp@jst.go.jp
Lao PDR: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	Dr. Silap Boupha Tel: (+85621) 213470-148, 217706 E-mail: silapboupha@yahoo.com
Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCIEERD)	Mr. Nonilo A. Peña Tel:+632-8372935 E-mail :nilo.pcieerd@gmail.com
Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)	Mr. Yaroslav Sorokotyaga Tel: +7 499 941 0196 E-mail: ysorokot@rfbr.ru
Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)	Dr. Chanwit Tribuddharat Tel: +66 2117 6922 E-mail: chanwit@nstda.or.th
Vietnam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	Ms. Bui Thi Thu Lan Tel: (+84 4) 3943 9192 Email: btlan@most.gov.vn

Applicants should contact the following for general inquiries:



Yoshihide Kobayashi (Mr.)
e-ASIA JRP Secretariat / Japan Science and Technology Agency
Room 218 Innovation Cluster1 Building
National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)
111 Thailand Science Park, Phahonyothin Road
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Tel.: +66-2-564-7713 H/P: +66-61-421-0316
E-mail: easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp

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Information about each Member Organization (alphabetical order by country)

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- 2) Japan: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) 12
- 3) Lao PDR: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) 13
- 4) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) 14
- 5) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)..... 15
- 6) Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) 17
- 7) Vietnam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) 19

1) Indonesia: Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (Ristekdikti)

Indonesian researchers who seek new funds from RISTEKDIKTI need to apply for “Insentif Sinas”, RISTEKDIKTI’s competitive fund. It is required to clearly state on “Insentif Sinas” application that the proposal is for the e-ASIA JRP project. If the proposal is selected, Indonesian researchers will receive funds from RISTEKDIKTI. If Indonesian researchers would like to participate in a project on “in-kind” basis even though the application for “Insentif Sinas” is not selected, it should be stipulated in the common application form of the e-ASIAJRP.

Please consult the person in charge directly.

Contact Information



Ms. Tiomega Gulton

Deputy Director for Int'l S&T Network

State Ministry of Research and Technology

Tel: +62 8129383743 E-mail: mega@ristek.go.id

2) Japan: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

3) **Lao PDR: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)**

Laotian researchers can participate in research projects only on an "in-kind" basis, as there will be no new or additional support available from the Lao PDR MOST.

Please consult the person in charge directly.

Contact Information



Dr. Silap Boupcha

Director

ASEAN and International Organization Affairs

Ministry of Science and Technology, Lao PDR

Tel: (+85621) 213470-148, 217706 Fax: (+856) 213472

E-mail: silapboupcha@yahoo.com

4) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD)

Call Proposal Forms and Guidelines, please visit our website:

<http://www.pcieerd.dost.gov.ph/library/e-forms/call-for-proposal-forms>

Contact Information



Mr. Nonilo A. Peña
Chief, EUSTDD, DOST-PCIEERD
Tel : +632 - 8372935
E-mail :nilo.pcieerd@gmail.com

5) Russia: Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)

National call announcement is published on RFBR website at:

http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/n_812/o_1965382

I. Eligibility for Russian applicants

Who can apply?

1. Any Russian researcher
2. Foreign researcher working in Russian research institution, holding Russian Federation residence permit and accredited in tax authority and superannuation fund.

Despite Russian researchers can present themselves in a project proposal submitted to e-Asia call secretariat as a multiple private investigators, they will be treated by RFBR as one team only. In case the project will be among selected for funding, RFBR grant award will be managed within one project through only one Russian legal entity. Therefore Russian researchers should agree beforehand through which legal institution they will manage grant award and appoint a person to be responsible for managing grant award and acting on behalf of team in negotiations with RFBR. The total number of Russian researchers in a project should not exceed 10 people.

II. Support

Within each selected international consortium, funding of the participating researchers is provided by their respective national funding organization in accordance with their standard award terms and conditions. RFBR provides funding only for the Russian researches. The funding within this call will cover a three year period 2018-2020.

The participants of research projects should aim towards equal collaboration, both in terms of workload and funds requested.

Please use link below for detailed eligible costs list:

<http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/getimage/?objectId=1896479>

III. Application

Russian applicants should submit a national proposals to RFBR through KIAS

system (<http://kias.rfbr.ru>) before 17.00 (Moscow time) 14 March 2017 and deliver a hard copy of proposal not later than 28 March 2017.

IV. Evaluation of Project Proposals

All proposals will be ad hoc evaluated by RFBR experts according to RFBR internal rules and procedures. After ad hoc evaluation an Independent Committees consisting of international experts will review all proposals. Based on the results of the evaluation, a common decision will be decided jointly among Parties regarding funding of the selected proposals.

V. Contact Information



RUSSIAN
FOUNDATION
FOR BASIC
RESEARCH

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Division Director
International Relations Department
Russian Foundation for Basic Research
Tel: +7 499 941 0196
E-mail: ysorokot@rfbr.ru

6) Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

I. Eligibility for Thai applicants

The applicants must be researchers and/or university professors/instructors who work in public research institute or university in Thailand, and are competent in conducting a research with international partners.

II. Support

The total budget for the Thai researcher over a full 3-year period is up to 3,000,000 THB. The budget for a project may differ each year, depending on the content of activities.

III. Evaluation of Project Proposals

Proposals will be peer-reviewed, and evaluated by a committee. The final selection will be done by the international selection committee of e-ASIA.

III.I Evaluation Criteria

To be funded, proposals must be internationally competitive. It should lead to the advancement of the research field, or novel applications or increase of research capacity.

Key evaluation criteria are:

- Significance and impact of the research
- Scientific Rationale: novelty, importance and timeliness of the research
- Design and feasibility of the project plan
- Partnership: including strength and clarity of collaborations and opportunities provided, quality of the project management structure proposed;
- Quality and suitability of the research environment and of the facilities;
- Ethical considerations and governance arrangements

Contact Information



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chanwit Tribuddharat
Vice President
International Collaboration
National Science and Technology Development Agency
Tel: +66 2117 6922
E-mail: chanwit@nstda.or.th

7) **Vietnam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)**

Vietnamese researchers can participate in research projects only on an "in-kind" basis, as there will be no new or additional support available from the Vietnam MOST.

Please consult the person in charge directly.

Contact Information



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General inquiries



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