Competitive Research Program (CRP) Funding Scheme

supporting broad based, high impact research groups through competitive funding

CRP Funding Scheme details

- Funding for programs each comprising multiple related projects
- Open to all Singapore-based researchers
- $10 million (max) per award (including overheads)
- 3+2 years with mid-term review
- Each round of CRP calls would be held twice yearly and include:
  - General Call
  - Scenario-based Call **NEW!**
Objectives

General Call
- Bottom-up identification of potential strategic research areas in which Singapore can invest to develop new industries for the future

Scenario-based Call
- Tighter linkage to address potential challenges and opportunities relevant to Singapore
- Identification and development of visionary Program Managers with the right ideas and ability to exploit R&D to address specific challenges and opportunities
- Complement the existing general open calls

CRP General Calls
- Open to all areas of Science and Technology
- Preference given to areas which fall outside the three strategic programmes of Biomedical Sciences (BMS), Environmental and Water Technology (EWT) and Interactive Digital Media (IDM).

Process for CRP General Calls
- NRF launches call for CRP
- PIs submit 5-page White Paper proposals
- CRP Local Evaluation Panel reviews and shortlists suitable submissions for development into Full Proposals
- NRF sends Full Proposals for international peer review
- International Evaluation Panel evaluates Full Proposal and selects programs for award
CRP Scenario-based Calls

- The CRP Scenario-based calls would select a program manager with a strong track record in research and program management, who would put together and manage the overall program.

- Program manager may opt to manage the Scenario-based program on a full-time or part-time basis and funding support for the program manager’s salary cost will be allowed.

Process for CRP Scenario-based Calls

NRF draws up 1 future scenario describing a problem / challenge that could benefit from R&D

NRF calls for proposals that would be relevant in tackling research challenges/opportunities presented by the scenario

Program Managers (PMs) submit 5-page preliminary proposals, CVs and research management track record

Preliminary proposals should:
- Clearly articulate how the program would address the scenario;
- Explain the program’s relevance and importance to SG;
- Describe briefly how R&D in this area would have a significant impact on the problem identified

CRP Local Evaluation Panel reviews and shortlists suitable submissions for consideration by the Int’l Evaluation Panel

PMs given 4-5 weeks to submit proposals
CRP Scenario-based Calls

Process for CRP Scenario-based Calls (cont.)

International Evaluation Panel evaluates shortlisted submissions to select programs for in-principle award

PM of each program awarded in-principle approval convenes his team of partners and develop his program in detail

PMs present their detailed program plans to the International Evaluation Panel at its next meeting for comments and final approval to proceed

Scenario-based programs begin and will be subjected to regular reviews as per the general CRP call programs

CRP Scenario-based Calls

Guidelines for Submission of Preliminary Proposals

- Sign up for an account on NRF’s RITA system.
- Download a copy of the Scenario-based Program Preliminary Proposal Submission Form and other relevant documents from RITA.
- Email completed form to NRF_Rita@nrf.gov.sg by due date.
- Preliminary proposals should NOT be submitted using the regular online RITA application form.
- Endorsement by Director of Research of PM’s host institution is NOT required prior to submission.
- Hard copies are NOT required to be submitted.
Detailed Information to be Provided

- **Program Formulation**
  - How the proposed program addresses the challenges and/or opportunities posed by the given scenario
  - Relevance and importance of proposed program to Singapore
  - Describe the main objectives of the program

- **Possible Research Problems Tackled**
  - Brief write-up of research problems to be tackled
  - How tackling these problems can achieve the overall program objectives

Detailed Information to be Provided

- **International Competitiveness**
  - List the key/main competitors in this area
  - Highlight the international competitiveness of the program

- **2-page CV of Program Manager**

- **2-page Track Record of Program Manager**
  - Summary highlighting the Program Manager’s track record and experience in research management
## Update on CRP Scheme

### Overall Scenario-based CRP Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Sep</td>
<td>Call for Scenario-based preliminary proposals opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Oct</td>
<td>Close of Scenario-based CRP Call</td>
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<td>Mid-Oct</td>
<td>Shortlisting of preliminary proposals by Local Evaluation Panel</td>
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<td>12-13 Nov</td>
<td>International Evaluation Panel selects PMs and programs for in-principle awards for Scenario-based call. PMs given 3 mths to develop detailed program proposals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb - May</td>
<td>Submission of Full Proposals for international comments and review</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>International Evaluation Panel to confirm award</td>
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## Update on CRP Scheme

### Overall CRP Timeline (Tentative Dates in 2008)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early-Dec</td>
<td>2nd CRP General Call for White Papers Opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Jan</td>
<td>Close of General Call for White Papers</td>
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<td>Feb</td>
<td>1. Short-listed White Papers to be developed into Full Proposals</td>
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<td>2. Submission of detailed proposals for Scenario-based Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>End-Mar</td>
<td>1. Submission of General Call Full Proposals</td>
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<td>2. Launch of 2nd Scenario-based Call for preliminary proposals</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>International Panel Members meeting:</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1. Selects programs for General Call</td>
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<td>2. Confirms program for Scenario-based call</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Selects PM &amp; programs for in-principle awards for 2nd Scenario-based call</td>
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Q & A

~ End ~

Thank You