

**e-ASIA Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP)
Research Cooperation in the overarching field of ‘Food &
Health’ on the topics of ‘Personalized Nutrition’ and
‘Functional and Future Foods’**

13th Joint Call for Proposals to be submitted by 29 March 2024

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 Member Organizations of the e-ASIA JRP listed below have agreed to implement a joint call for proposals of multilateral cooperative research activities.

Participating Member Organizations (listed in alphabetical order)

- 1) Australia: National health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- 2) Cambodia: Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI)
- 3) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
- 4) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)
- 5) Myanmar: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)
- 6) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST- PCHRD)
- 7) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research, and Innovation (PMU-B)

There are some additional requirements to fulfil the eligibility for the following organizations, please refer to below table and the National Appendix for additional detail:

Member Organizations	Eligibility/Additional requirements
1) Australia: National health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHMRC can only support research from sub-topic 1 (personalized nutrition) • Applications will only be accepted from NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions. A list of NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions is available on NHMRC’s website. • Australian researchers must submit an application to NHMRC (through the Sapphire online grant management system) AND to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat to be considered for the

Member Organizations	Eligibility/Additional requirements
	<p>NHMRC e-ASIA 2024 Joint Research Program. A copy of the research consortium's e-ASIA Common Application must be attached to the Sapphire application form.</p>
<p>2) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Investigator (PI) is an Indonesian citizen, a BRIN or non-BRIN researcher (university or other research institution, either from a business entity or community organization in Indonesia), civil servants or non-civil servants who has a doctoral education qualification and competency in conducting research with international partners. • One team member could only be participated maximum in 2 proposals (1 proposal as Principal Investigator and 1 proposal as member, or as member in both proposals). • The proposal must be written in English and submitted to Directorate of Research and Innovation Funding BRIN by email to dana-risnov@brin.go.id (Subject email: CFP13-eASIA-Topic-Name of PI-Institution of PI) and using the provided template. • Application submission and correspondence may send by email to dana-risnov@brin.go.id. The deadline for submitting your proposal is March 8th, 2024. You do not need to submit a proposal if you are merely a team member and not the Lead PI. Detail application process, links to guidance/ policy materials can be seen here https://pendanaan-risnov.brin.go.id
<p>3) Myanmar: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicants must be Researchers and /or University Professor/Instructors who work in Public and Private Institute or University in Myanmar, and are competent in conducting a Research with International Partners.
<p>4) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST- PCHR)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filipinos with at least a master's Degree in a relevant field, have proven research competence / track record, and employed in universities/colleges, research agencies/ institutes, hospitals,

Member Organizations	Eligibility/Additional requirements
	<p>and other health related agencies are eligible to apply for the research grant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proponent shall submit the following requirements online through the DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS) (http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph/) Filipino researcher and implementing agency should comply with the eligibility requirements, especially on Item VI, of the DOST GIA Guidelines. Deadline for online submission will be on or before 03 April 2024, 5:00 PM (Philippine Standard Time).
<p>5) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research, and Innovation (PMU-B)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thai applicants must submit the proposal and endorsement letters from all research partners to PMU-B through NRIIS: https://nriis.go.th Thai applicant's institution must endorse the submission in the NRIIS system. Lead PI must also submit proposal to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat. <p>All submission process must complete before the Closing Date before 17:00 PM, 29 March 2024.</p>

*****It is very important to read call guidelines carefully. It may affect the eligibility of the whole research team. Please see Appendix for more information on Eligibility/Additional requirements.*****

I. Aim of Joint Call and Research Area

The aim of the Joint Call is to strengthen multilateral collaboration among researchers of the countries participating in the call and to solve issues common across the region, in the overarching area of **“Food & Health” on the specific field of Personalized Nutrition, Functional and Future Foods.**

Background

The e-ASIA Joint Research Program proposed the overarching field of “Food & Health” research program on the topics of Personalized Nutrition, Functional and Future Food. This call emphasizes the pursuit of research excellence in the advancement of food and food processes research to achieve specific health benefits.

Personalized nutrition is an approach to dietary planning and recommendations that takes into account individual differences in genetics, metabolism, lifestyle, and health

status. This tailored approach aims to provide individuals with optimal nutritional guidance based on their unique characteristics, preferences, and needs. People have distinct responses to different foods and nutrients due to genetic makeup, metabolic rate, gut microbiome composition, and other factors. Personalized nutrition recognizes and addresses this variability, ensuring that dietary recommendations are better suited to an individual's physiology. By tailoring dietary advice to an individual's specific health goals and needs, personalized nutrition can help prevent and manage various health conditions. It has the potential to optimize weight management, control chronic diseases (like cancers, diabetes and cardiovascular conditions) and reduce the risk of diet-related ailments.

Just as personalized medicine considers a patient's genetics for targeted medical treatments, personalized nutrition employs a similar approach to food. This precision-based approach enhances the potential for successful health outcomes and better disease management. Traditional dietary guidelines might not account for specific nutrient deficiencies or excesses that an individual might have. Personalized nutrition identifies these nutrient imbalances and recommends foods to address them, ensuring adequate nutrient intake.

Personalized nutrition takes into account:

- dietary restrictions, allergies, and intolerances, allowing individuals to choose foods that won't cause adverse reactions or discomfort.
- people have different lifestyles, activity levels, and dietary preferences.
- an individual's preferences and cultural background, making dietary recommendations more likely to be adopted and sustained in the long run.
- Personalized nutrition can leverage nutrigenomic insights to tailor dietary recommendations based on an individual's genetic profile. Nutrigenomics is an emerging field which studies how individual genetic variations influence responses to diet and nutrients.

Personalized nutrition can leverage nutrigenomic insights to tailor dietary recommendations based on an individual's genetic profile. In conclusion, personalized nutrition recognizes that no two individuals are exactly alike in terms of their dietary needs and responses. By offering tailored guidance based on a person's unique characteristics, personalized nutrition has the potential to revolutionize how we approach diet and health, leading to more effective and sustainable strategies for overall well-being.

Functional foods play a vital role in modern nutrition by offering specific health benefits beyond basic nutrition. These foods are enriched with bioactive compounds that can contribute to disease prevention and management, bridge nutrient gaps, and promote overall well-being. From enhancing immunity and gut health to supporting weight management and catering to specific populations, functional foods are tailored

to address diverse health needs. With an increasing demand for healthier food choices, functional foods have emerged as a way to deliver targeted nutritional advantages, empowering individuals to make informed dietary decisions for improved health outcomes.

Future foods represent a visionary approach to addressing the challenges of a growing global population and a changing environment. These innovative foods explore alternative sources of nutrition, such as plant-based proteins, insect-based ingredients, and lab-cultured proteins. By embracing sustainability, reducing resource consumption, and offering cruelty-free options, future foods pave the way for a more environmentally responsible food system. Technological advancements in biotechnology and food science are harnessed to create nutritious and versatile food sources that can adapt to diverse cultural preferences and dietary needs. With a focus on minimizing the ecological footprint and ensuring food security, future foods offer a promising solution to nourishing the world in a sustainable and ethical manner.

Research Area

The seven (7) Participating Member Organizations (MOs) will be taking part on the following sub-topics:

Participating MO	Personalized Nutrition	Functional & Future Foods
Australia: National health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	✓	
Cambodia: Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI)		✓
Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)	✓	✓
Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)	✓	✓
Myanmar: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	✓	✓
Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST- PCHRD)	✓	✓
Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research, and Innovation (PMU-B)	✓	✓

Sub-topic 1: Personalized Nutrition

Proposals submitted under sub-topic 1 are encouraged to focus on the realm of Personalized Nutrition with **specific target directed towards:**

- Nutrition for patients with Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) like cancer, high blood pressure, diabetes, and kidney disease
- Metabolic syndrome, macro-nutrient deficiencies, stunting, obesity, and their associated complications
- Tailoring nutrition for specific age groups or lifestyles, such as older adults, individuals, teenagers, those with active lifestyles, and those requiring nourishment for creative moods

Within this context, this call for proposals **welcomes submissions on the following topics:**

- a. Nutrigenomics, Nutragenomics, Metagenomics, Metabolomics, Nutrigenetics and Nutrition Multi-omics
- b. Identification of targets for the development of diagnostics and therapeutics, catering to the populations of each participating country
- c. Utilization and integration of diverse platforms, including genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, and cutting-edge tools such as bioinformatics, artificial intelligence, and computational pipelines
- d. Multifaceted approach for comprehensive insights into nutrition-related diseases and conditions, achieving higher levels of resolution and translating into practical tools for preemptive lifestyle interventions, improved disease diagnosis and prognosis, predictions of treatment responses
- e. Combined approaches aim to provide a comprehensive panorama of specific human conditions, whether related to diseases or states of health
- f. Policy, regulatory, ethics research and implementation mechanism on personalized nutrition aspect

Sub-topic 2: Functional & Future Foods

Proposals submitted to sub-topic 2 are encouraged to focus on the development of functional foods and functional ingredients for specific health benefits beyond basic nutrition. For the future foods, the proposals are encouraged to explore alternative source of nutrition to address the changes of the global population and environment.

Within this context, this call for proposals **welcomes submissions on the following topics:**

- a. **Functional foods and functional ingredients derived from grains**
 - Comprehensive approach such as distribution mapping and potential assessment to support the utilization of grains for functional foods to meet community needs.
 - Several promising grain crops will be the subject of activities, involving inventory in the target area, morpho-agronomic characterization, and evaluation of nutritional quality
- b. **Functional foods and functional ingredients derived from aquatic/sea**

- products** such as microalgae species found in local water regions
 - Involves activities like bioprospecting, optimizing nutrition or functional material, health testing through in-vitro/in vivo approaches, and their application in functional food production
- c. Functional Food derived from Enzymatic pathway**
- d. Future Food research in food innovation**
 - Alternative Protein: Protein-rich foods derived from cultured, plant-based, insect-based, and myco/algae-based sources. The goal is to create protein sources with nutritional characteristics similar to real meat.
 - Research areas encompass various progenitor cell technologies, technology advancement to enhance cell or protein quantities/qualities within the system, laboratory bioreactors, and the creation of tissue prototypes using structural technologies like Scaffold, Tissue Engineering, 3D bioprinting, and High Moisture Extrusion.
- e. Novel food processing technology**
 - Food processing and technology for maintaining food quality and value comparable to fresh food
 - Minimal processing and non-thermal processing aiming to use energy and water efficiently to reduce waste generation and carbon dioxide emissions
 - Resilience and sustainable food systems
- f. Innovation on Research for Indigenous Food as functional and future foods for a larger and emerging market**
- g. Functional and Future Food Market**
 - Research and communication on market for functional & future foods
- h. Food safety and Security for Functional and Future Foods**
- i. Policy, regulatory, ethics research and implementation mechanism on functional and future foods**
 - Policies and guidelines on safety and health claims of functional foods as supported by clinical, biological or in-vitro studies
 - Efficacy and effectiveness studies of the developed potential functional food products
 - Enabling environment for stakeholders

Research Approach

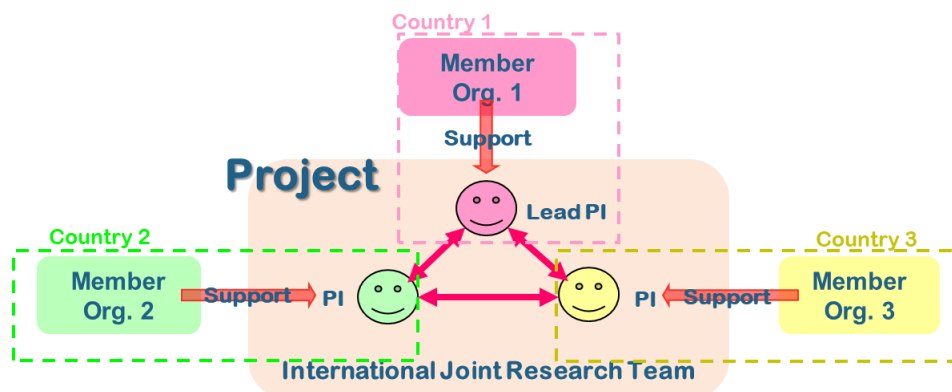
The e-ASIA JRP presents a research collaboration opportunity for researchers, as it offers access to funding and other resources to support multi-investigator research engaging scientists in at least 3 countries in this call. To effectively utilize and maximize the unique opportunities provided through the e-ASIA JRP and to synergistically address Personalized Nutrition, Functional and Future Foods in East Asia, proposals that include the following integrated research approaches are strongly encouraged:

- Interdisciplinary research
- Training, mentorship, and career development of early-career (early-stage) investigators
- Communication, information, and data exchange
- Sample/data sharing and analysis
- Capacity building
- Community and stakeholders' engagement
- Commitment to long-term sustainability
- Establishment and maintenance of networks of collaborating institutions

Collaborative research projects, supported through this program, should be pursued through mutually beneficial partnerships and shared leadership that contribute to scientific innovation, research capacity and social applicability in the region. The study findings from the e-ASIA JRP projects should be disseminated to expand scientific knowledge and facilitate the utilization of the research results to enhance evidence-based environmental practice in East Asia and in other parts of the world.

II. Support/ Funding Modality

In principle, each Member Organization will support its own country's researchers in research projects selected for funding through this joint call with the type of support available as defined under "Funding Modality" in the table below. The duration of a selected 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 should carefully consider information included in the Appendix for each Member Organization's rules and regulations.



Participating Member Organizations and Funding Modality

Participating Member Organizations	Funding Modality
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(1) Australia: National health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	New
(2) Cambodia: Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI)	In-kind
(3) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)	New, In-kind
(4) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)	In-kind
(5) Myanmar: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	In-kind
(6) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST- PCHRD)	New
(7) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research, and Innovation (PMU-B)	New

New: Each Member Organization will support a selected project by new funding

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

In-kind: Each Member Organization does not provide budget for a selected project. A researcher participating in a selected project will use funds already available, but no additional funds will be provided by each Member Organization. In principle, at least one country must participate via “new” or “re-budgeting” funding modality. In other words, proposals cannot be accepted if all the applicants intend to participate through an “in-kind” basis.

III. Application

In addition to the following common requirements, there are specific rules clarified by each Member Organization. For specific rules by each Member Organization, please refer to the Appendix or consult the person noted in Section VI.

III-1. Applicant/ Project Consortium

A project consortium must consist 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 (Principal Investigators).

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 support. 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 the home country of one of the Member Organizations participating in this call.

All PIs must fulfil their respective domestic eligibility rules for research application. Researchers from industry are encouraged to participate in the collaboration in accordance with domestic eligibility rules. PIs should contact the person noted in Section VI 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) 29 March 2024

Please submit the proposal to:



Yukio Kemmochi, PhD. (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.

< Important Notice to ALL PIs >

Make sure to submit all necessary application documents requested by each Member Organization of your country, in addition to the application to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat (submitted by Lead PI only), because each Member Organization may request applicants of its country to submit another form of proposals with another deadline date. Proposals shall satisfy both common requirements written in this call guideline and individual requirements requested by each Member Organization. A research team that does not satisfy individual requirements of the Member Organization of your country will not be deemed as eligible research team.

For individual requirements by each Member Organization, please refer to the Appendix or consult the person noted in Section VI.

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, acronym, general description, and proposed period of cooperative research project)
- Form 2E Summary of the project
- Form 3E Research leaders’ information (their CVs*)
- Form 4E Research team (list of individuals committed to the cooperative research project in each country)
- Form 5E Description of the cooperative research project
- Form 6E Research networking plan
- Form 7E Plan to nurture early career researchers
- Form 8E Budget plan for the project
- Form 9E 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 participating 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 each Member Organization, please refer to the respective Appendix or consult each respective Member Organization.

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 were strengthening

- capacity is needed; and
- Enhance research capacity in the region.

IV-3. Notification of the Final Decision

The Lead PI will be notified of 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 2021)

V. Project Implementation

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

In addition to the Member Organization'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 the research period (i.e., after one and a half years), 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 joint research period is completed.

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 (Collaborative Research Agreement)") 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 Member Organizations' 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 relevant materials. 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 on each Member Organization.

Country: Member Organization	Contact Point
(1) Australia: National health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	NHMRC Research Help Centre Tel: +61 1800 500 983 (+61 2 6217 9451 for international callers) E-mail: help@nhmrc.gov.au
(2) Cambodia: Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI)	Dr. KEO Socheat, Director General E-mail: keo.socheat@misti.gov.kh Ms. SDOK Soksreymeng, Director E-mail: sdok.soksreymeng@misti.gov.kh Dr. CHHE Chinda, Chief of R&D of STI office E-mail: chhe.chinda@misti.gov.kh
(3) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)	Dr. Ajeng Arum Sari Director of Research and Innovation Funding, National Research and Innovation Agency Phone: +62 811-1064-6771 E-mail: dana-risnov@brin.go.id
(4) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)	Dr. Nilandone SENVANPAN Tel: +856 20 5566 9111 E-mail: nilundone.lun@gmail.com
(5) Myanmar: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)	Dr. Cho Cho Lwin Director of Department of Research and Innovation Tel: +95-9-884235932 H/P: +95-95135609
(6) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCHRD)	Mr. Vincent John H. Tumlos Tel: +632-837-7537 local 102 E-mail: vhtumlos@pchr.dost.gov.ph Mr. Paul Ernest N. De Leon Tel: +632-837-7535 E-mail: pndeleon@pchr.dost.gov.ph

<p>(7) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research, and Innovation (PMU-B)</p>	<p>Dr. Angkana Jantanaprasartporn Tel: +66 2470 7961-4 Email: pmub.gp@nxpo.or.th</p>
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Applicants should contact the following for general inquiries:



Yukio Kemmochi, PhD. (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
Khlong Nueng, Khlong Luang, Pathum Thani 12120 THAILAND
Tel: +66-2-564-7713
E-mail: easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp

**e-ASIA Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP)
Research Cooperation in the overarching field of 'Food &
Health' on the topics of 'Personalized Nutrition',
'Functional and Future Foods'**

13th Joint Call for Proposals to be submitted by 29 March 2024

Information about each Member Organization (alphabetical order by country)

- 1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- 2) Cambodia: Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI)
- 3) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
- 4) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)
- 5) Myanmar: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)
- 6) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCHRD)
- 7) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research, and Innovation (PMU-B)

1) Australia: National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

Applicants must be aware that NHMRC can only fund research into human health, so is only supporting sub-topic 1: personalized nutrition.

NHMRC can support a maximum of 4 applications. Applicants should note that NHMRC is only offering the funding modality of New funding for this call.

I. **Eligibility**

Eligibility is dependent on the following:

- (1) Projects require support from a minimum of three (3) e-ASIA member organisations including NHMRC, i.e. a research project must consist of an Australian research team collaborating with research teams seeking support from a minimum of two (2) e-ASIA participating member organisations in the relevant call.
- (2) Applications will only be accepted from NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions. A list of NHMRC-approved Administering Institutions is available on [NHMRC's website](#).
- (3) Member organisations from other e-ASIA countries must be supporting the relevant Health Research topic in the call for applications. It is the applicant's responsibility to verify the member organisation participation in respective calls, and any additional eligibility requirements specific to the member organisation. Partnering country applicants are required to submit their applications to their respective member organisation in line with the applicable funding organisation due dates.
- (4) The Chief Investigator A (CIA) and Administering Institution must ensure applications meet all eligibility requirements, as set out in these guidelines, at the time of submission and for the duration of peer review. Applications that do not meet these eligibility requirements may be ineligible and may be excluded from further consideration.

An eligibility ruling may be made by NHMRC at any stage following the close of applications, including during peer review. Where an eligibility ruling is being considered, NHMRC may request further information in order to assess whether the eligibility requirement has been met.

Decisions are made based on current policies and considerations specific to this grant opportunity. Decisions made in relation to previous grant opportunities or other NHMRC funding schemes will not be regarded as precedents and will not be considered when assessing compliance with the requirements of this grant opportunity.

Administering Institutions will be notified in writing of ineligible applications and are responsible for advising applicants.

Grant offers may be withdrawn if eligibility criteria to accept a grant are not met. Action may also be taken over the life of a grant if eligibility criteria to continue holding a grant are not met.

NHMRC staff will not make eligibility rulings before an application is submitted.

II. Support

NHMRC will support up to 4 applications, with a maximum budget of \$500,000 (AUD) over three years.

III. How to Apply

Australian researchers must submit an application to NHMRC (**through the Sapphire online grant management system**) AND to the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat to be considered for the NHMRC e-ASIA 2024 Joint Research Program. A copy of the research consortium's e-ASIA Common Application must be attached to the Sapphire application form. The application must address one (or more) of the research topics for the Food and *Health call.

IV. Evaluation

Applications for NHMRC e-ASIA 2024 Joint Research Program grant opportunity are assessed by peers against the weighted assessment criteria listed below.

- Health significance (20%)
- Scientific merit (20%)
- Design and methods (25%)
- Expertise of the research team (15%)
- Quality of the research partnership (20%)

Applicants should refer to the *NHMRC e-ASIA 2024 Joint Research Project Peer Review Guidelines* on the [NHMRC website](#).

V. Reporting

Administering Institutions are required to report to NHMRC on the progress of the grant and the use of grant funds. Applicants should note that e-ASIA JRP has additional reporting requirements and conditions specific to research funded under this grant opportunity, which includes the provision of:

- progress reports
- a final report

Further information is provided in the *NHMRC e-ASIA 2024 Joint Research Program Grant Guidelines* available on [GrantConnect](#).

*Edited on 19 December 2023 from "Nutrition"

VI. Contact Information

All enquiries should be directed to the NHMRC Research Help Centre

- Tel: +61 1800 500 983
- (+61 2 6217 9451 for international callers)
- E-mail: help@nhmrc.gov.au

Refer to the [Research Help Centre webpage](#) for further information and opening hours



Australian Government

National Health and Medical Research Council

2) Cambodia: Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI)

Cambodian researchers can participate in research projects only on an "In-kind" basis, as there will be no new or additional support available from the MISTI of Cambodia.

Please consult the person in charge directly.

Contact Information



National Institute of Science, Technology, and Innovation

Dr. KEO Socheat

Director General

E-mail: keo.socheat@misti.gov.kh

Department of Technology Research and Development

Ms. SDOK Soksreymeng

Director

E-mail: sdok.soksreymeng@misti.gov.kh

Dr. CHHE Chinda

Chief of R&D of STI office

E-mail: chhe.chinda@misti.gov.kh

3) Indonesia: National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)

BRIN is supporting the following topics Food and Health:

Subtopic 1: Personalized Nutrition

Subtopic 2: Future Food

The following funding modalities will be supported:

- New
- In-kind

I Eligibility for Indonesian Applicants

- Principal Investigator (PI) is an Indonesian citizen, a BRIN or non-BRIN researcher (university or other research institution, either from a business entity or community organization in Indonesia), civil servants or non-civil servants who has a doctoral education qualification and competency in conducting research with international partners;
- Team members may come from across institutions, universities, and/or other research institutions from business entities or independent research institutions;
- Both Principal Investigator and research team members have an experience and expertise relevant to the proposed research and proven by evidence of a track record (portfolio) of research activities;
- One team member could only be participated maximum in 2 proposals (1 proposal as Principal Investigator and 1 proposal as member, or as member in both proposals).

II Support

BRIN will support up to 5 applications. Research funding can be implemented for a maximum period of 3 (three) years based on the results of evaluations each year with a maximum amount of IDR 1,000,000,000 per project/year (including researcher mobility and infrastructure sharing).

List country specific eligible costs:

- Purchase/procurement of chemicals/consumables such as raw materials or production components;
- Honorarium for field workers;
- Domestic travel, directly related to the research activities;
- Indonesian grant could not be used for equipment;
- Mobility of Indonesian and foreign researchers and experts refers to the BRIN researcher mobility scheme (post-doctoral and/or visiting researcher). The Researcher Mobility Scheme is restricted to BRIN researchers only. For Indonesian researchers who will use the Researcher Mobility Scheme, they must engage the BRIN research group.

Please adjust the RIIM Kolaborasi guidelines as a reference for funding from Indonesia.

III How to Apply

The proposal must be written in English and submitted to Directorate of Research and Innovation Funding BRIN by email to dana-risnov@brin.go.id (Subject email: CFP13-eASIA-Topic-Name of PI-Institution of PI) and using the provided template. All documents must be complete and original. The awardee selected proposed funding will be subject to assessment by BRIN reviewer. The amount of funds will be determined through the evaluation process by the reviewer assigned by BRIN. Shortlisted participants would be invited to give presentations if needed.

Application submission and correspondences may send by email to dana-risnov@brin.go.id. The deadline for submitting your proposal is March 8th, 2024. You do not need to submit a proposal if you are merely a team member and not the Lead PI.

Additional application materials are required to be submitted directly to BRIN (email to: dana-risnov@brin.go.id) after the awardee list has been announced by the e-ASIA Secretariat of the Joint Research Program (the e-ASIA JRP).

Detail application process, links to guidance/policy materials can be seen here <https://pendanaan-risnov.brin.go.id>.

IV Evaluation

Once BRIN has approved the proposal, PI must submit it to the e-ASIA Secretariat for assessment and evaluation based on the general evaluation criteria of the e-ASIA JRP. Applications submitted to the e-ASIA Secretariat will be reviewed according to the published e-ASIA JRP evaluation process and criteria.

V Reporting

- The Indonesian PI shall promptly submit a progress report on the status of joint research to BRIN, in accordance to the second term disbursement.
- After completion of the period of joint research, the Indonesian PI shall submit within a month a final report on the results of the joint research to BRIN.

Ethical Clearance and Foreign Research Permit

Researchers and Foreign Parties have to obtain a research permit. To obtain a research permit, Researchers and Foreign Parties must apply for Research Ethical Clearance and foreign research permit request. This application is done through the Research Ethical Clearance information system (<https://klirenetik.brin.go.id/>)

Material Transfer Agreement

Awardee agree that any tangible research materials required to be taken from

the Republic of Indonesia for research purposes of the approved collaborative project shall be transferred through a Material Transfer Agreement (MTA) between concerned research organizations in strict compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Indonesia.

Intellectual Property

In the event of joint research cooperation, it is the responsibility of the respective member of the collaborating project partners to determine in advance how any exploited IP will be divided amongst the partners in accordance with the prevailing laws and regulations of the respective countries of the institutions Participants and the institutions' policies and procedures. Details of this agreement shall be included in the collaborative agreement.

Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge

1. The Parties recognize the importance of the protection of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources (hereinafter referred to as the "GRTK"). Awardee to carry out any research activities in accordance with the provisions of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) FAO, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other international agreements, particularly taking into account the principle of prior informed consent and of fair and equitable benefit sharing.
2. Details regarding the management of GRTK shall be included in the Collaborative Agreement of any collaborative projects.

Data and Material Management

Data and information resulting from the research activities shall be submitted and stored at the Indonesian national repository (Repositori Ilmiah Nasional) through the page <https://rin.brin.go.id/> in accordance with applicable laws and regulations;

Material or specimens resulted from the research activities must be lodged with the BRIN cq. Directorate of Scientific Collection Management.

VI Contact Information

Dr. Ajeng Arum Sari

Director of Research and Innovation Funding

National Research and Innovation Agency

Phone: +62 811-1064-6771

E-mail: dana-risnov@brin.go.id

4) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)

Funding Modality

In-kind

Contact Information

Dr. Nilandone SENVANPAN

Parasitology Control Division;

Department of Communicable Disease Control;

Ministry of Health, Lao PDR

P/M: +856 20 5566 9111

E-mail: nilundone.lun@gmail.com

5) Myanmar: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)

I. Funding modality

The following funding modalities will be supported:

➤ In-Kind

II. Eligibility

➤ The applicants must be Researchers and /or University Professor/Instructors who work in Public and Private Institute or University in Myanmar, and are competent in conducting a Research with International Partners.

III. Contact point



Dr. Cho Cho Lwin
Director
International Relation and Technical Cooperation
Division
Department of Research and Innovation

Ministry of Science and Technology, Myanmar
No.6, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township,
Yangon, Myanmar

Tel: +95-9-884235932 H/P: +95-95135609

Foreign Relation Department
Ministry of Science and Technology
Office Number (21), Naypyitaw, Myanmar

6) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCHR D)

I. Review Procedures

Approval of proposals for research grants will be based on a multi-level review process.

1. In-house screening in terms of alignment to the research priorities, duplication, and completeness of requirements.
2. Technical review and scoring by external consultants (Technical Panel) based on the following criteria:

Relevance & Sensitivity	Alignment to national S&T priorities, strategic relevance to national development and sensitivity to Philippine political context, culture, tradition and gender and development.
Technical/Scientific	Merit Sound scientific basis to generate new knowledge or apply existing knowledge in an innovative manner.
Financial Feasibility	Financial viability of the undertaking with proponent's and institutional capacity to manage R&D funds vis-à-vis the proposed work plan and budget.
Proponent's / Institutional Capacity	Good track record or CV with proven competence to implement and complete the R&D program / project within the approved duration and budget.
Program Contribution	How much the proposal will contribute to the overall achievement of the program? Other potential socio-economic, environmental, and health impact.

3. Final approval by the PCHR D Governing Council or the PCHR D Executive Director depending on the recommended total budgetary requirement of the proposal.
4. In each stage of the review process, the proponent may need to revise the proposal on the basis of the recommendations of the reviewers. The review process will take 40 working days provided that all the requirements had been submitted.

II. Who may apply

Filipinos with at least a Master's Degree in a relevant field, have proven research competence / track record, and employed in universities/colleges, research agencies/institutes, hospitals, and other health related agencies are eligible to apply for the research grant.

III. How to apply

The proponent shall submit the following requirements online through the DOST

Project Management Information System (DPMIS) (<http://dpmis.dost.gov.ph/>):

- Project Proposal following the DOST Detailed Proposal Form (downloadable from the DOST DPMIS website).
- Work plan Schedule (Gantt Chart of Activities)
- Proposed Line-Item Budget (LIB) (DOST-GIA LIB Form)
- Counterpart Funding of Implementing Agency
- Endorsement of Agency Head
- Curriculum Vitae of Proponent(s)
- Duties and Responsibilities of each Project Personnel
- For proposals with human subjects:
 - Informed Consent Form
 - Case Report Form, if applicable
- Endorsement Letter from Agency Ahead addressed to:

The Executive Director
Philippine Council for Health Research and Development
Department of Science and Technology
Bicutan, Taguig City

DOST-PCHRD shall also require the proponent to submit the following documents before the start of project implementation:

- Biosafety Clearance, if applicable
- Animal research permit, if applicable
- Bureau of Animal Industry Clearance, if applicable
- Ethics Clearance (for studies involving human subjects)

IV. Funding Support Available

DOST-PCHRD will support 2 projects under this Call and allocate up to **87,000 USD (PhP 5,000,000)** for each research project for a duration of three years.

Deadline for online submission will be on or before **03 April 2024, 5:00 PM** (Philippine Standard Time).

Important Notes:

1. Application and funding will be governed by the DOST Grants-in-Aid Guidelines and its amendments for Filipino researchers.
2. Additional and specific requirements may be required on a **separate local call** to be issued and published by the DOST-PCHRD. Filipino researchers are advised to anticipate this local call for their guidance.
3. Online submission will be through the DOST DPMIS website only. Submission through emails will not be accepted.

V. Contact Information



Mr. Vincent John H. Tumlos
Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD)
Tel: +632-837-7537 local 102
E-mail: vhtumlos@pchrd.dost.gov.ph

Mr. Paul Ernest N. De Leon
Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD)
Tel: +632-837-7535
E-mail: pndeleon@pchrd.dost.gov.ph

7) Thailand: Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research, and Innovation (PMU-B)

I. Eligibility for Thai applicants

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

II. Support

The total budget for the Thai researcher over a full 3-year period is up to **5,000,000 THB per project**. The budget for a project may differ each year, depending on the content of activities and compliance with PMU-B financial guideline (please find details via PMU-B website: www.pmu-hr.or.th)

III. Application Process

1. Thai applicants must submit the proposal to PMU-B through **NRIIS**: <https://nriis.go.th> and;
2. Lead PI must also submit proposal to **the e-ASIA JRP Secretariat's** E-mail: easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp.

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.

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
- Capabilities of the research team
- 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

IV. Reporting

- Every six months, the Thailand PI shall promptly submit a progress report on

the status of joint research to PMU-B

- After completion of the period of joint research, the Thailand PI shall submit within three months a final report on the results of the joint research to PMU-B.

Contact Information



Dr. Angkana Jantanprasartporn

Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development,
Research and Innovation (PMU-B)

Tel: +66 2470 7961-4 E-mail: pmub.gp@nxpo.or.th

General inquiries



Yukio Kemmochi, PhD. (Mr)

e-ASIA JRP Secretariat / Japan Science and Technology Agency

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National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

111 Thailand Science Park, Phahonyothin Road

Khlong Nueng, Khlong Luang, Pathum Thani 12120 THAILAND

Tel: +66-2-564-7713

E-mail: easia_secretariat@jst.go.jp