



**VINNOVA**  
Sweden's Innovation Agency

# Cooperation within Health focusing on AI-based Digitalisation, Biodesign or Circular Economy

A Joint Call for Proposals under the Sweden-India  
Innovation Partnership



DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

[www.dbtindia.nic.in](http://www.dbtindia.nic.in)

VINNOVA, SWEDEN'S INNOVATION AGENCY

[www.vinnova.se](http://www.vinnova.se)



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## 1 The Call in Brief

Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India and Sweden's Innovation Agency (Vinnova), Government of Sweden announce grant funding for collaboration between Sweden and India in health with a focus on AI-based digitalisation, biodesign or circular economy. The aim is to enable innovative, sustainable, scalable, and cost-effective health solutions in both countries.

Projects should be able to add economic value either:

- by bringing about new products or services that can be commercialised, or
- by other means such as scalable, cost-effective health solutions

This Call is aimed at groups of at least two project partners with different expertise within health using AI-based digitalisation, biodesign or circular economy to develop scalable health solutions. The grants must be jointly applied for by Indian and Swedish partners. In India, applicants are welcome from academic institutions, but industries will not be supported. In Sweden, applicants are welcome from all sectors. This might include companies, universities, hospitals, county councils and municipalities.

Projects should be of a solution-oriented nature and be based on clear user needs. Therefore, a needs owner could preferably be included as a project partner. If not, the project plan should clearly describe the needs of the users.

Swedish applicants send their proposal to Vinnova and Indian applicants to DBT. Relevant information on this offer and a link to Vinnova's e-services can be found on Vinnova's website<sup>1</sup> and on DBT's website ([dbtindia.gov.in](http://dbtindia.gov.in))<sup>2</sup>. Swedish applicants should submit their proposals to Vinnova no later than 2 p.m. Swedish time on 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2023. Indian applicants should submit their proposals to DBT no later than 5 p.m. Indian time on 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2023. DBT and Vinnova's joint decision to award or decline a proposal will be made by e-mail no later than in June 2024.

## 2 Background

Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India and Sweden's Innovation Agency (Vinnova), Government of Sweden, have been jointly working on advancing biotechnology R&D in both countries since 2006.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.vinnova.se/en/calls-for-proposals/swedish-indian-cooperation/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://dbtpromis.nic.in/Login.aspx>



A Joint Declaration was signed by the Governments of India and Sweden on an innovation partnership for sustainable future during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to Sweden on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018. In 2020, Vinnova, DBT and the Indian authority Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) conducted two Calls within AI and health (whereof one was conducted within EUREKA GlobalStars). Eight proposals were granted a total sum of just over SEK 8 million on the Swedish side. Indian side of the projects were granted funding from DBT. Most projects are three-year and will run through 2023.

### 3 Purpose of the Call

With this Joint Call within health, DBT and Vinnova aim to ensure sustainable and equitable spread of AI-based technology in advancing healthcare access and affordability across India and Sweden. The Call seeks to provide scalable and implementable innovative, sustainable, and cost-effective health solutions across both countries using either AI-based digitalisation, biodesign or circular economy as a tool. In other words, all projects should focus on health using either one of the mentioned subthemes. The grant finances joint research and development activities in Sweden and India resulting in innovative, sustainable, and cost-effective health solutions.

Collaboration, power gathering, and innovation will be crucial to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With this Call, Vinnova and DBT seek to promote collaboration leading to increased innovative capacity and the creation of new scalable, cost-efficient health solutions contributing to the SDGs, within the framework of the priorities of the Call. This Call addresses groupings of at least two project partners with different expertise within any one of the specified areas artificial intelligence (AI), digitalisation, biodesign or circular economy to develop scalable health solutions.

The aim is for these partnerships to result in new products and services, which can be commercialised, thus helping enhance Sweden and India's international competitiveness within the field. The solutions which are produced must also contribute indirect economic value through such things as improved healthcare. For this reason, proposed solutions should be scalable and preferably implementable during the lifetime of the project. Projects should have a clear user perspective and a solution-oriented approach.

#### **AI in Health within Digitalisation**

DBT and Vinnova want to drive advancements in healthcare, nursing and care and thereby contribute to sustainable development, improved public health and good, equal care. Aided by AI, the aim is to benefit Swedish and Indian residents and businesses by creating solutions that facilitate disease prevention, earlier and safer



diagnoses, better treatments, improved medicines, and vaccines as well as more effective and cost-efficient processes.

The primary aim is not to develop new methods within AI, but to use AI based methods within digitalisation to develop health solutions. Vinnova and DBT would like to see new inter-sectorial collaboration, and AI experts working in other sectors such as finance technology to tackle and release the potential of AI in health solutions.

### **Biodesign**

Biodesign is the use of living organisms in design and translating scientific discoveries and methods into real-world applications. Biodesign is a recent discipline broad in scale and scope, reaching towards solving complex biological issues in the areas of infectious diseases, immunology, imaging and testing, cancer, neuroscience, pollution, bio-diversity loss, and security.

### **Circular Economy**

The transition to a circular economy is one of the important building blocks towards sustainability, since reuse, remanufacturing and recycling contribute to the long-term use of materials and other resources, and thereby limiting the excess extraction of virgin resources. Circular economy relates to several of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, from the more obvious goal 7 Affordable and clean energy, goal 9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure, and goal 12 Responsible consumption and production, to goal 1 No poverty and goal 6 Clean water and sanitation, and many more. Therefore, a shift to a circular economy requires innovations in both technical and social fields in almost all sectors of society. Sharing solutions, renting and other business models increasing the use of resources are often included in the concept.

Gender equality is a prerequisite for sustainable growth and is found in the UN SDGs, as an objective in itself, but also as a perspective that should permeate the work on all objectives. The Call should therefore contribute to an equal development of society linked to two main perspectives. One aspect is that both women and men share the grant in an equal way, participate in and have influence over the project. Another important aspect is to analyse and determine if there are gender dimensions that are relevant within the problem area and utilisation of the health solution.

## **4 Who can Apply?**

This Call addresses Indian and Swedish consortium partners with different expertise within health using AI-based digitalisation, biodesign or circular



economy. The project partners should be legal entities and independent of each other with base operations in respective countries.

On the Indian side, applicants are welcome from academic institutions only, not from industry. On the Swedish side, applicants might include start-ups, companies, incubators, universities, research institutes, hospitals, county councils, state municipalities, primary or tertiary care centers.

A needs owner should preferably be included as a project partner (but on the Indian side they will not be supported by DBT). If not, the project plan should clearly describe the needs of the users. In this Call, a needs owner means someone who needs the solution which the project intends to develop. The needs owner is responsible for the solution corresponding to a genuine need and that the solution can be implemented preferably during the lifetime of the project. Users, customers, patients, the public sector, medicine or vaccine developers or manufacturers are examples of possible needs owners.

On the Swedish side, the project coordinator must come from the academic sector, university, university college or research institute. Each proposal must list one coordinator from Sweden and one from India, along with one co-principal investigator from the coordinating organisation. There is no limit to the number of collaborators on both sides.

## 5 Criteria Governing Funding

### 5.1 What will be Funded?

Funding may be sought for projects which, aided by AI methods, biodesign or circular economy, produce a solution of great potential to improve public health, nursing or care in India or Sweden. The health solution (product, process or service) must be innovative and with the potential to create impact. The joint project may focus on such things as disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment, nursing, healthcare access, automation or improved efficient processes in medicine discovery and manufacturing (smart drug manufacturing). Biodesign can be used to protect human health and critical ecosystem by detecting and eliminating harmful chemical and biological agents. Circular economy in healthcare is a sustainable approach that reduces waste generation and minimises the exposure to harmful chemicals.

The project should be able to add economic value, either by bringing about new products and services, which can be commercialised, or other things such as improved healthcare or streamlining of access, electronic health record (EHR) interoperability, more cost-efficient production of drugs through smart





manufacturing. The solution should be scalable, and feasibility shown or implemented during the lifetime of the project.

Innovation over existing solutions must be clearly defined. The need for collaboration and partnership between Sweden and India must also be articulated with clarity. That is, why the same solution cannot be delivered independently by the Indian or Swedish group.

## 5.2 Eligible Costs

### Vinnova

The funding is in the form of grants. Grants to organisations which are conducting economic activity are restricted by rules on state support. These rules govern such things as the type of costs and what proportion of them may be covered by a grant. Further information on funding rules is available on Vinnova's website.<sup>3</sup>

### DBT

The funding is in the form of Grant-in-aid and will be as per the guidelines of Indian Government (please check **Annexure I** for more details).

## 6 Project Duration and Size of Grants

Projects must be for a duration of three years (36 months). Projects may start in June 2024 at the earliest and in September 2024 at the latest. It is desirable that research and development efforts of the Swedish and Indian side are matching. However, it is not required that the Swedish and Indian budgets within a project are balanced.

Indian partners will be funded by DBT and Swedish partners by Vinnova. Proposals involving ineligible applicants, from either India or Sweden, will result in the whole proposal being withdrawn.

### 6.1 Sweden/ Vinnova Funding

Vinnova will provide funding to Swedish organisations up to 2.8 million SEK per project as Grant. A total of SEK 14 million has been earmarked for the Call for the Swedish side of the projects receiving funding.

Grants are only given to Swedish legal entities or organisations with branch or place of business in Sweden.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.vinnova.se/en/apply-for-funding/rules-for-our-funding>



The maximum aid intensity is up to:

- 50% of eligible costs for companies,
- 70% of eligible cost for startups (see EU-definition Aid for startups<sup>4</sup>),
- 100% of eligible costs for research organisations,
- 80% of eligible costs for public sector and other non-economic organisations.

The project activities approved shall be covered by Industrial Research, Experimental Development or Aid for start-ups in State Aid Rules (the General Block Exemption Regulation, GBER).

## 6.2 India/ DBT Funding

On the Indian side, DBT can support only academic components as per existing norms of Govt. of India. Industry will not be supported on the Indian side under this Call.

DBT has no limit on the number of projects funded and capping of budget; however, financial support will be facilitated to only mutually agreed successful proposals from Indian side.

All Indian faculty (UGC recognised public/private universities/institution. Indian NGOs/VO(s) Trust(s)/Research foundations) are normally eligible to apply for DBT funding opportunities as Principal Investigators with at least one eligible faculty from Sweden listed as co-Principal Investigator. Please check eligibility criteria for Indian funding. Please follow DBT guidelines (**Annexure I**) for submitting the proposals under this Joint Call.

## 7 Grant Guidelines

### 7.1 Proposal Details

It is for the applicant to determine what type of data and which methods, within AI based digitalisation, bio design or circular economy, will be used in their

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<sup>4</sup> Start-up aid schemes shall be compatible with the internal market within the meaning of Article 107(3) of the Treaty and shall be exempted from the notification requirement of Article 108(3) of the Treaty, provided the conditions laid down in this Article and in Chapter I are fulfilled. Eligible undertakings shall be any unlisted small enterprise up to five years following its registration, which fulfils the following conditions: • it has not taken over the activity of another enterprise; • it has not yet distributed profits; • it has not been formed through a merger. More information: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02014R0651-20170710>





project. The project plan must state clearly why the chosen method is best suited for its purpose. The expertise the project collaborators in the chosen method must be stated clearly with supporting documentary evidence.

Proposal must indicate clearly the identified problems of regional/ national/ international level with proposed solution and clear plan of actions within the selected priority areas for submission of proposals.

## 7.2 Conditions for us to Consider a Proposal

Vinnova and DBT will only consider proposals which meet the following:

- The grants must be jointly applied for by Indian and Swedish partners.
- The proposals must be submitted to both DBT and Vinnova to be eligible.
- The proposal should meet Call objectives (see Purpose of Call above).
- For Swedish applicants: Submission of proposal at Vinnova's eServices Portal (<https://portal.vinnova.se>)
- For Indian applicants: DBT submission, the joint project proposal must be submitted online through eProMis system (<https://dbtepromis.nic.in/Login.aspx>) along with all supporting documentation required by the funding organisation. All documents and forms required for the proposal are accessible online for Swedish applicants. For Indian applicants, please refer **Annexure I** for submission of proposal.
- All project partners must be legal entities.
- Project duration is to be 3 years (36 months).
- There must be clear complementarities between the Swedish and Indian Partners.
- The proposal must be submitted before the 21<sup>st</sup> of December at 2 pm CET for Swedish applicants and 5 pm IST for Indian applicants.

## 7.3 Areas not Considered

Proposals other than the areas specified in chapter 3 will not be considered.

## 7.4 Grant Assessment

### 7.4.1 Scientific Merit of Proposal

- Alignment to Call objectives (see Purpose of Call above)
- Innovation over existing processes or products



#### **7.4.2 Approach and Methodology**

- Relevance of the choice of AI based method, biodesign or circular economy to the proposed health solution
- The project clearly describe the need of the proposed ideas
- Realistically planned activities in regard to time and budget
- How well relevant gender and sustainability perspectives have been integrated into the project plan.

#### **7.4.3 Organization and Investigator Capabilities**

- Project partners' expertise and experience in the area (Health and AI-based digitalisation, biodesign or circular economy)
- There must be clear complementarities between the project partners as well as between the Swedish and Indian partners
- Project coordinator and project partners' capability and domain expertise in regard to implementing the project
- Commitment of the respective project partners to implementation and funding
- Advantages of partnering between Indian and Swedish groups
- How well the project team (key people) is composed regarding gender balance, including commitment and influence.

#### **7.4.4 Impact and Deliverables**

- Potential to improve sustainable and cost-effective health solutions in Sweden and India that clearly contribute to a developed circular economy and the SDGs (listed in chapter 3)
- Potential to contribute economic value for the project partners and society
- Potential to contribute increased gender equality
- Well-articulated implementation or demonstration plan during the project period
- Plan for commercialisation or future funding
- Scalability and potential for national and international dissemination of results
- Potential to increase international competitiveness for Sweden and India in the field.

#### **7.5 How do we Assess?**

The grants would be evaluated independently by Indian and Swedish expert committees and then jointly reviewed for decision on award. With reference to the equal treatment principle, only those proposals meeting the requirements under point 7.2 will be considered. Proposals which meet the requirements under point 7.2 will be assessed according to the above assessment criteria in competition



with each other. The proposals will be assessed by Vinnova and DBT by experts appointed by the Agencies. Applicants may be called to interview. Vinnova and DBT will then make its decision on funding and notify this to all applicants (see 11 Grant Timeline).

## 8 Decision and Terms

### 8.1 About our Decisions

Grants are made under the framework for experimental development in accordance with Vinnova's regulations SFS 2015:208 R&D support (§ 9 / Art. 25). The decision to award or decline a proposal will be made by e-mail no later than in June 2024. Decisions may not be appealed. If funds have been awarded in error, or an overpayment made, the recipient may be liable for repayment.

### 8.2 Terms for Granted Funds

DBT's and Vinnova's general terms apply to granted funds and are in force from the date a decision is made. These terms include rules on project contracts, conditions of payment, monitoring, reporting and utilisation of results.

In addition to DBT's and Vinnova's general terms and conditions, the following special conditions apply: a project must be represented by at least one project partner at any programme seminars and conferences which DBT or Vinnova arranges. The costs of such participation may be claimed in Sweden. Additional special terms may be stipulated for individual projects.

## 9 Who may Read Proposals?

All proposals submitted to DBT or Vinnova become public documents. However, DBT and Vinnova may not lawfully disclose information on commercial or operational conditions, inventions, and research results, if it may be assumed that individual financial loss would occur upon publication of such information. DBT is not having any Data policy, but the confidentiality will be maintained.

In practice, this means DBT and Vinnova must supply documents if requested, but that it is marked as confidential any information deemed personally damaging were it to be released. Further information on confidentiality rules is available on Vinnova's website<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.vinnova.se/en/apply-for-funding/rules-for-our-funding>



## 10 Contact Details

### 10.1 Vinnova, Sweden's Innovation Agency

- Jennika Gill Noltorp, Programme Manager  
Phone: +46 (0)8 473 30 45, Email: [jennika.gillnoltorp@vinnova.se](mailto:jennika.gillnoltorp@vinnova.se)
- Vinnova's IT-support, Vinnova's e-services portal  
Phone: +46 (0)8 473 32 99, Email: [helpdesk@vinnova.se](mailto:helpdesk@vinnova.se)

### 10.2 Department of Biotechnology, Government of India

- Dr. Shahaj Uddin Ahmed  
Phone: 011-24364065, Email: [gi-division@dbt.nic.in](mailto:gi-division@dbt.nic.in)
- DBT Application support – e-promise team  
Phone: 011-24365136, Email: [epromise.dbt@nic.in](mailto:epromise.dbt@nic.in)



## 11 Grant Timeline

Grant Proposal Submission	2 pm CET or 5 pm IST the 21 <sup>st</sup> of December 2023
Grant Proposal Evaluation	January-February 2024
Joint Review	March-April 2024
Formal Decision and Declaration of Funded Projects	June 2024
Project Start	June 2024–September 2024
Last Day for Project End	September 2027



## 12 Annexure 1, DBT Modalities of Participation and Funding

# Department of Biotechnology Ministry of Science & Technology Government of India

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## **MODALITIES OF PARTICIPATION AND FUNDING**

### **1 PARTICIPANTS FROM INDIA**

The participating entities/organizations from India have to be a legal entity as per Indian law (Indian applicants).

The Indian entities eligible to participate include:

- Government of India supported or recognized (Public or Private) academia; research organizations;
- Government of India recognized not- for profit NGO(s)/VO(s) Trust(s)/Research foundations, having research as on the imperative mandates

### **2 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

#### **Academic/Research Partners:**

- Public and/or private universities and research organizations must have a well established research support system, for basic or applied research; and
- Submission of proof of establishment under Indian statute; recognition documents and registration at Government of India's Public Finance Management System (PFMS) - <https://pfms.nic.in> shall be obligatory.

#### **NGO(s)/VO(s)/Trust(s)/Research Foundations:**

- The Indian Not-for-profit, NGO(s)/ VO(s)/ Trust(s)/Research foundations should have experience of at least 3 years in scientific research, teaching, training and extension activities; and must follow research as one of the mandates;





- Proof of registration at 'NGO DARPAN' of NITI Aayog (<http://ngodarpan.gov.in/>) Certificate of registration under Society Registration Act, Firm's Memorandum of Association, Registration at Government of India's Public Finance Management System (PFMS) (<https://pfms.nic.in>), Valid SIRO certificate for firm's in-house R&D recognition and audited account statements for the past three years shall be obligatory<sup>16</sup>.

#### **Ineligible Organisations:**

- Research centres and academic organisations headquartered and owned outside India and their subsidiaries in India, or vice versa, are not eligible to receive funding from DBT under this programme.
- Industries will not be supported by DBT under this Call

#### **Consortium:**

- The number of Indian project partners should be optimum and correspond to the objectives of the project. Each project should clearly demonstrate the partner's essentiality, complementarities, and added value in jointly addressing the topic.
- In case there is more than one Indian participant in a given proposal it is advised that the Indian participants appoint among them a '**Lead Scientific Coordinator**', who can represent the Indian participants in the consortium vis-à-vis DBT.
- In case there is only one Indian participant in a given proposal it is advised that the Indian participant should include one Co-Principal Investigator in the proposal.

#### **3 FUNDING SUPPORT BY DBT**

DBT will fund the Indian consortium members as per requirement of the project, for the project duration, upto 3 years. Budget should be commensurate with the essentiality of participation, work load and objectives of the project and cost of participation.

#### **Eligibility for Funding:**

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.dsir.gov.in/#files/tpdup/irdpp/SIRO-revised-guidelines.html> The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Government of India is the nodal government department for granting recognition to non-commercial Scientific & Industrial Research Organisations (SIROs). The functional SIRO having clearly stated objectives of undertaking scientific research, broad based Governing Council, Research Advisory Committee, research personnel, infrastructure facilities for research, well defined, time bound research programs and clearly stated objectives of undertaking scientific research are considered eligible for recognition by DSIR.



Budgeted cost of the project to legal entities subject to obligatory fulfillment to eligibility criteria.

**DBT will support (Grant-in-aid) 100% of the approved budget cost to the following two categories of organizations:**

- A. Government of India supported or recognised public or private academic institutions or research organisation;
- B. Indian private R&D performing institutions and Not-for-profit,NGO(s)/VO(s)/Trust(s)/Research Foundations, having research as one of the imperative mandates.

**Eligible costs for funding are:** Capital expenditure (equipment's) || Manpower || Consumables || Travel (local and international travel) || Contingency || Overheads || Outsourcing || Others. (*Academia can factor in additional sub heads (in other category) such as; workshops; publications; review meetings etc. under expenditure based on the requirement of the project*).

**Funding Instruments/Items (Rs. in lakhs)**

Head	Year1	Year2	Year3	Total
<b>A. Grant-in-Aid (Capital)</b>				
Equipment				
<b>B. Grant-in-Aid (General )</b>				
Manpower				
Consumables				
Travel				
a. Domestic Travel				
b. International Travel				
Contingency				
Outsourcing				
Overhead				
Others				
<b>TOTAL(A+B)</b>				

**Important Notice:** This budget table should be made for each Indian participating/applicant partner. Details and Justification should be provided for each head. Equipment cost should not exceed 30 per cent of total project cost.

**Non-Admissible Cost from DBT:**



- i)* Regulatory approval fees;
- ii)* Prosecution/litigation costs;
- iii)* Insurance coverage;
- iv)* Salary of investigators;
- v)* Capital expenditure for the purchase of assets such as office furniture, motor vehicles, Office equipment viz. desktops, laptops, tablets, cell phones, scanners, printers, photocopy machines, and renovation or extension of facilities such as buildings and laboratories;
- vi)* Capital expenditure toward technology(ies), demonstration plants and associated field equipment(s), hardware, software etc. for test and analysis from consortium partner(s) from abroad;
- vii)* Expenditure toward rental and utilities;
- viii)* International travel to countries other than the one participating within the consortia in a particular call;
- ix)* Mere attendance at conferences/symposiums/congresses

#### **4. REGULATORY, ETHICAL, SAFETY & STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS (IF APPLICABLE)**

##### **a. Research Using Hazardous Microorganisms, Genetically Engineered (GE) Organisms & Products thereof or R&D Purpose:**

In India, research using hazardous microorganisms, genetically engineered (GE) organisms & products thereof are governed under Rules, 1989 (Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/ Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells) of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, according to which, necessary intimation/ recommendation/ authorization from concerned Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC), Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) & Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is obligatory based on type & scale of research operations.

Further guidance on regulatory consideration can be obtained from:

- Guidelines and Hand book for IBSCs, 2011  
[http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/9.-Guidelines-Handbook\\_2011.pdf](http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/9.-Guidelines-Handbook_2011.pdf)
- Regulations and Guidelines on Biosafety of Recombinant DNA Research & Biocontainment, 2017  
<http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/Draft-Biosafety-Regulations-andBiocontainment-Guidelines-2017-FF.pdf>
- Recommendations for Streamlining the Current Regulatory Framework,



2005

[http://www.moef.nic.in/divisions/csurv/geac/draftreport\\_rpharma.pdf](http://www.moef.nic.in/divisions/csurv/geac/draftreport_rpharma.pdf)**b. Human and Animal Subjects Research:**

DBT and DLT-PT are committed to ensure that projects involving human or animal subjects are protected from research risks in compliance with the rules and policies in respective countries (ICMR/DBT policies).

All projects recommended for award that involve human or animal subjects will undergo review by the Indian Bioethics Committees prior to award request. For information on ICMR policies, please consult:

- Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) guidelines for Animal Research [ACTS, RULES AND GUIDELINES: Committee for the Purpose of Control And Supervision of Experiments on Animals \(cpcsea.nic.in\)](http://www.cpcsea.nic.in)
- National Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical and Health Research Involving Human Participants, 2017 [http://www.icmr.nic.in/guidelines/ICMR\\_Ethical\\_Guidelines\\_2017.pdf](http://www.icmr.nic.in/guidelines/ICMR_Ethical_Guidelines_2017.pdf)
- India PIs of the consortium should apply to their institutional review boards (IRBs)/ institution alethics committees (IECs) at the time of submission of proposal to obtain necessary bioethics approvals from all involved institutions. If selected, Indian PIs are required to submit proof of their institution's IRB/IECs approval to DBT by before start of project.

**c. BIORRAP (Single portal for all regulatory clearances)\* Mandatory**

The Department of Biotechnology has developed Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal (BioRRAP) to track the regulatory approvals for a research proposal on a single portal. All Biological Research proposals require BioRRAP ID for submission on portals of regulatory agencies involve handling and exchange of materials that include micro-organisms, plants, small and large animals, humans samples as well as biodiversity resources of the country. The Government of India supports biological research through its Ministries/Departments providing statutory and administrative approvals through their regulatory agencies/committees. Health Ministry's Screening Committee (HMSC), Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM), Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA), National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Directorate Of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (DPPQ) and Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) are amongst the regulatory agencies/committees facilitating biological research in India by providing requisite approvals.

**CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT**



The participants shall enter into a Project Agreement. The Project Agreement shall include the Participants mutual commitments with International counterpart, conditions concerning rights to foreground and background information and other issues of significance to the cooperation. The project Agreement shall be consistent with each funding organizations terms and conditions for grants for funding (foreground and background information refer to IPR).

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

The IPR arising from cooperative activities under this working Programme shall be regulated in accordance with the relevant laws of the two countries.

With respect to any invention or discovery made or conceived in a joint venture in the course of the execution of the cooperation, the Parties agree that ownership, title and patent rights as well as other rights accruing shall be handled according to the agreement signed by the participants in that specific joint venture.

All details shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the participants in each specific case of joint venture.

### **5. OTHER DOCUMENTS**

PI, whose project is recommended by Joint Expert Committee will have to submit necessary documents such as detailed checklist, IPR arrangement, approvals of necessary authority such as CPCSEA, ICMR, National Biodiversity authority, DBT, NBPGR etc as the case may be, and any other documents required by DBT.

### **6. HOW TO APPLY**

Please apply through this link; <https://dbtepromis.nic.in/Login.aspx>

#### **Steps for submission:**

- a. Please login to eProMIS account (<https://dbtepromis.nic.in/Login.aspx>)
- b. Go to International Cooperation-Bilateral Programs area
- c. Open Call link for Indo-Swedish DBT-VINNOVA Joint Call within Health on AI based digitalization; Bio-design; Circular Economy
- d. Submit proposal



**Contact details:**

Dr. Shahaj Uddin Ahmed, Scientist 'F'  
Global Innovation Directorate  
Department of Biotechnology  
Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India

[gi-division@dbt.nic.in](mailto:gi-division@dbt.nic.in)

**For e-ProMIS related enquiries**

[epromis.dbt@nic.in](mailto:epromis.dbt@nic.in)