



ANNOUNCEMENT 2ND CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

The ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST) seeks proposals that support the ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2016-2025. The information on APASTI is available at <http://astnet.asean.org/>.

The APASTI 2016-2025 Vision is a science, technology and innovation-enabled ASEAN, which is innovative, competitive, vibrant, sustainable and economically integrated.

The four (4) APASTI 2016-2025 Thrusts are:

- i. Strengthen strategic collaboration among academia, research institutions, networks of centres of excellence, and the private sector to create an effective ecosystem for capability development, technology transfer and commercialization;
- ii. Enhance mobility of scientists and researchers, people-to-people connectivity and strengthen engagement of women and youth in STI;
- iii. Establish innovative system and smart partnership with dialogue and other partners to nurture STI enterprises to support MSMEs, nurture knowledge creation and STI applications to raise competitiveness; and
- iv. Raise public awareness and strengthen STI enculturation to enhance ASEAN science and technology cooperation.

The ASEAN COST welcomes proposals addressing the challenges and development gaps in the following areas:

1. Energy and water
2. Food and biotechnology
3. Biomedical and healthcare
4. Climate change adaptation and mitigation
5. ICT applications
6. Relevant enabling innovation for science and technology

Proposals related to innovation and capacity building, involving the engagement of the young and would-be entrepreneurs are particularly welcome. Engagement of private sector and third parties can provide an added advantage.

(A) Funding and Duration

The scheme supports operational costs including programme costs, recruitment costs, service fees and allowances of professional staff engaged.

The requested funding for each proposal should not exceed **USD 50,000** and the project duration should not be longer than **24 months**.

(B) Regionality

ASEAN cooperation projects are expected to adhere to the principle of parity and equal treatment of all Member States by involving the participation of all Member States.

Proposal which involves participation of all Member States, but in different ways (e.g., through different level of assistance) or does not involve all Member States, but is participated by a minimum of 3 Member States, would need to provide the rationale for the different treatment.

(C) Eligibility

The ASEAN COST Sub-Committees' focal points and ASEAN Member States' government agencies are eligible to be the project proponent for this call

(D) Submission and Notification

The project proposals may be submitted electronically using the provided template at <http://astnet.asean.org/astif/> by the sponsoring ASEAN COST Sub-Committee or Expert Group representative.

The closing of this Call for Proposal is **31 July 2018**.

Proponents may be contacted for clarification(s) and/or to present their proposal.

Proponents of successful projects will be notified by the ASEAN Secretariat by **30 November 2018**.

(E) Disbursement and Reporting

The approved budget will be disbursed in US dollars and in tranches to the proponent's bank account, which is in the name of an official institution. The fund may be transferred up to 60 days before the commencement of the implementation.

Any unspent balance is to be returned within 90 days after the completion of the project.

Proponents will be requested to provide progress report prior to relevant meetings of the ASEAN Science and Technology sector.

The project completion report accompanied by a financial statement is to be submitted within 60 days after its completion, and thereafter, the final tranche of 10%-30% of the approved budget can be reimbursed based on actual expenditure of the approved budget items.

