

2. Research & Development Proposals from Researchers

GEMI intends to support budding as well as established Scientists and Engineers for undertaking research in frontier areas of Environmental Research in the field of Environment Management, Environment Technology and Environment Sciences including in the field of Life Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Atmospheric Sciences, Earth Sciences, etc.

It has, therefore, decided to invite innovative **Research projects** through “*Call for Proposals*” once in a year. The proposal submission window for Principal Investigators shall remain open for 60 days during May-June.

2.1 Thrust Areas for R&D

The broad thrust areas for supporting Research & Development in Environment would be as follows:

1. Development of interventions for Prevention, Control and Abatement of all forms of Pollution based on Bio technology, Biochemical, Biophysical, Nanotechnology, Artificial Intelligence, Biological methods etc.
2. Development of Greener Processes, Greener Technologies and Cleaner Practices for better Environment Management Systems.
3. Development of technologies, processes and practices for bioremediation of contaminated sites for Solid/Hazardous waste and Water.
4. Application of Remote Sensing, GIS, Drone Technology and Artificial Intelligence for environmental planning
5. Basic Primary Research on Climate Change and development of its indicators.
6. Basic Research on different forms of Pollution and its effect on Life, human health and property.
7. Studies on impacts of developmental activities on the environment, ecology and habitat.
8. Policy Research on socio-economic issues of environment including legal and policy frameworks.
9. Ecological studies on linking of Rivers.

GEMI may also support new, creative, innovative and original proposals from researchers in areas which may be outside the identified thrust areas but have direct bearing on the environment and ecology.

2.2 Timeline for call for Proposals:

The call in a financial year will be made in first week of May of every year and window will open for submission of research proposals from 1st May to 30th June 2018. Funding decision on the proposals will be communicated to the Principal Investigators (PIs).

2.3 Eligibility:

- Applicant should be an Indian citizen residing in Gujarat.
- The applicant(s) must hold a regular Academic/Research position in a recognized institution.
- **He/She should be Doctorate with at least 3 years of experience**
- **There shall be no age limit for PI.**
- The proposals can be submitted by an individual or by a team of investigators. Proposals submitted by a team of investigators must identify a Principal Investigator who will spearhead the research objectives and administer the fund.
- The term "Regular" in this context refers to one or more of the following:
 1. Those who are appointed by the Institutions against the sanctioned post. Such positions are regularized/confirmed after the probation period is over.
 2. Those who are appointed in a tenure post, but are likely to be renewed after the end of the tenure.

Note: *Research Associates, Guest Faculty, Visiting Scientist, Project Fellows, Faculty members whose contract is renewed every year; and those who are expecting to draw salary from the scheme shall not be eligible.*

- In case of any doubt regarding the eligibility, the decision of Director GEMI in consultation with Peer Group shall be final.

2.4 Criteria for Selection of Projects

The selection of projects will be based on Thrust Areas of R&D listed above. However, there shall be selection only on the fulfillment of certain basic criteria regarding the proposed objectives and the competence available. Preference will be given to the following kinds of projects:

- a) Those concerned with research in environment subjects or are of cross-stream and trans-disciplinary in nature and are of direct relevance to the objectives of environmentally sound development of the State.

- b) Those attempting to solve any urgent and pressing environmental and ecological problem(s) perceived to be of wide State /National/Specific Interest and importance and are, therefore, of broad applicability or offer solutions to mitigate a regional environmental issue;
- c) Those capable of producing knowledge which can be implemented directly, used for the purpose of environmental planning or can lead to innovation and development of environmentally sound technologies, processes and techniques;
- d) Those that can provide knowledge, which is not being already generated by other programmes or is complementary to such knowledge; and which do not overlap with the mandates/ programme of other funding agencies;
- e) Those able to produce time-bound results;

Projects co-sponsored or co-financed by industry, private and/or public sector organizations for solving region-and locations-specific environmental problems may also be considered.

2.5 Nature & Duration of Support:

- The funding provided shall normally be for a period of **two and/or three years based on the proposed study by Principal Investigator.**
- Budget limit prescribed for the research shall be limited to a maximum of Rs.10 lakhs. The research funds should cover man power, consumables, contingency and inland travel apart from overhead costs.

2.6 Selection & Mode of Application

- The call for proposals will be notified through an advertisement with details on the website www.gemi-gujarat.gov.in ; whereas the application shall be submitted on the website www.researchproposalsgemi.org
- The proposals will be evaluated by a Peer Review Process as approved by the Director of the Institute.

2.7 How to apply online:

For successful online submission of the application the following points may be noted:

- Applicant(s) has to first download all the required formats/templates given in the scheme. The formats in word file are made available below in this section and/or from the APPLY NOW tab.

- Applicant has to fill all the mandatory formats which includes Application Format, Bio-data, Endorsement Letter from Head of the Institution, Certificate from Principle Investigator.
- In case of more than one applicant, the format of Biodata has to be filled separately by the PI and Co-PI, thereafter shall be uploaded in a single pdf file.
- Applicant has to upload the following documents in the pdf format only:
 - Application Format for Research Proposal Download Template
 - Project Details Download Template
 - Bio-data Download Template
 - Certificate from Investigator Download Template
 - Endorsement Letter from Head of the Institution Download Template
 - Signature
 - Photograph

2.8 Submission of Hard Copies of the Proposal

An applicant has to submit Five copies of full proposal (full PDF) in the above listed sequence and as submitted online to this Institute latest by 15th December, 2017.

2.9 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- GEMI may seek any document/clarification from the applicant before deciding about the approval of proposal.
- The funds shall be strictly utilized for the specific programme and shall be spent only on the programme within the timeframe as specified in the sanction letter. Re-appropriation of funds from one stipulated head to another head is not permitted without prior approval of GEMI.
- If the University/ Institution/Organization is unable to start the programme within six months of the receipt of the funds, the approval shall ipso facto lapse.
- GEMI reserves the right to terminate the project at any stage if it is convinced that the funds have not been properly utilized and/or sufficient progress is not achieved towards the purpose for which the money was sanctioned.
- The Principal Investigator must submit Annual Progress Report in the prescribed format every year indicating the progress. GEMI may, however, call Principal Investigator to present the work progress of the approved Research, during the intervening period.
- The Principal Investigator must publish a research paper under this project in a reputed International Journal with due credits to GEMI and only after approval by the Director, GEMI.

- The Principal Investigator must take steps to ensure that the audited Utilization Certificate and statement of accounts for the funds are submitted by the Institute/University department, in the formats prescribed by GEMI.
- If the **Principal Investigator** leaves the institution, retires, or goes on long leave, the institute will appoint another **Principal Investigator** to the programme, under intimation to the GEMI immediately.
- International travel is not permissible under this scheme. Furthermore, travel outside Gujarat will be permissible only in certain specific situations and only on the satisfaction of Director, GEMI that such travel outside state is required. And necessary for the research proposal.
- The manpower recruited for the project should be paid as per the rules of the Institute and guidelines of the appropriate Government and shall in no case exceed the 30% of the total proposal cost.
- The GEMI shall have the sole right to patent the research fully or partly.
- In case of any dispute regarding above, the decision of Director GEMI shall be final.
- The Director GEMI while approving the research proposal may impose such terms and conditions as may be necessary for smooth execution of the research proposals.

2.10 Budget Details - *Based on whether the proposed study is of two or three years, the column for the third year in the given prescribed format may be filled in or left blank by the Investigator.*