

Frequently asked questions (FAQ) on Multi-Institutional Centres on Materials for Energy Conservation and Storage Platform (MECSP) - 2017

Q1. What is the basis for MECSP- 2017 call?

A: It is a theme based initiative to support research and development for entire spectrum of energy conservation and storage technologies from early stage research to technology breakthroughs in materials, systems and develop scalable technologies to maximise resource use efficiency.

Q2.What is the budget ceiling for the proposals?

A: The project cost for the call MECSP 2017 is Rs. 10 Cr. (excluding overheads).

Q3. Who can submit the proposal?

A: The call invites proposals from Indian scientists working in regular positions in academic institutions/ public funded R&D institutions in multidisciplinary consortium only.

Q4. What is eligibility criteria for the call?

A: The consortium must involve a minimum of five academic / research institutions to submit a proposal for multi-institutional research centres. Applications are to be submitted by consortia of Faculties/Scientists working in regular position in recognised Academic Organisation/Public funded R&D institution/Laboratories etc. Participation of industry is desirable.

Q5. What is the purpose of this call?

A: The purpose of this call is to underpin recognised centres of energy materials research, to encourage those centres to link with new research groups working in complementary areas and to link centres into a coordinated national network to create a strengthened energy materials research community that covers the full breadth of energy research areas that is strongly linked both nationally and internationally.

Q6. What is the duration of support?

A: The duration of support to the centres is for 5 years.

Q7. What is the objective of these centres?

A: The successful centres will be required to work together forming a national network of energy materials research groups (The network must involve a minimum of five academic / research institutions preferably with user's participation) with the intent of forming a coherent Indian community of energy materials researchers.

Q8. What is the type of support admissible for centres?

A: The support would include manpower, travel, consumables, contingencies and fabrication / outsourcing activities as per the proposal requirement. Flexible funding to support emerging research areas may be included but should be a minor part of the proposal, and a robust system for allocating the flexible funding to research activities must be described in the case for support. Researchers are requested to make use of existing facilities and equipment, including those hosted at other universities.

If equipment is needed as part of the research proposal, applicants must justify the requirement of requested equipment.

Q9. Are there any regional restrictions for submission of proposals under the call MECSP-2017?

A: There is no stipulation restricting participation of Indian institutions within a State/region. All consortia are free to choose partners from any part of the country.

Q10. What is the deadline for the call MECSP- 2017?

A: The last date for submission of proposals for the call is being extended to 31st December, 2017.

Q11. What are the expected deliverables?

A: The successful centres are expected to conduct cutting edge research leading to technological breakthroughs and are expected to generate both scientific and technological outputs of higher order. While it is recognised that fundamental research has critical role for knowledge generation and serving as building blocks for higher steps in technology development chain, the same is being supported under several funding programmes. Accordingly, the thrust of these centres is expected to be on applied research leading to technologies development in the domains of research, development, demonstration programme on energy materials.

