



## SOUTH AFRICA / INDIA JOINT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH COLLABORATION CALL FOR JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS

**DA Closing Date: 30 September 2019**

*Please note that the NRF Online Submission System will only open on the 1<sup>st</sup> week of February 2019 for submission of applications. Researchers **must** consult their institutions for internal closing dates.*

**INDIA:** *The Department of Science and Technology (DST) will announce the opening of the call in July 2019.*

**A maximum of 10 joint projects will be funded for this call**

*In line with the science and technology bilateral agreement signed between South Africa and India, the National Research Foundation (NRF), in partnership with the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST), is hereby pleased to announce the 6<sup>th</sup> bilateral call for joint research project proposals between South African researchers and their Indian counterparts.*

### **Aims of the bilateral programme**

This Programme aims to:

- contribute to scientific advancement in both countries by funding joint research projects in specified research fields;
- provide an opportunity for researchers to cooperate in an international setting and to develop their scientific careers, support the advancement of basic and applied research; and
- contribute meaningfully to research capacity development.

### **Areas of cooperation**

Only joint research proposals submitted within the following thematic areas will be considered:

- Advanced materials incl. manufacturing
- Biotechnology
- Renewable energy

### **Duration of the projects**

The projects will be supported for a period of three years.

### **Who may apply?**

- An application must designate two Principal Investigators (PIs), one in South Africa and one in India, who will bear the main responsibility for the project, including its technical and administrative coordination as well as scientific and financial reporting.
- The focus of the Programme lies on new international partnerships. Follow-up projects (i.e. projects that have already been funded under this programme with the same research partners) are not excluded but will not be prioritised for funding.

- Participation of an industry partner on both sides is encouraged. However the industry partner in the project is expected to meet their own costs of participating in the project.

**South Africa:**

This call is open to working researchers residing in South Africa and affiliated with a recognised higher education or research institution such as a university, university of technology or science council. The private higher education institutions are not eligible to apply under this programme. The South African PI must be in possession of a PhD. South African applications from previously disadvantaged individuals and the involvement of historically disadvantaged higher education and research institutions will be prioritised.

**Please Note:**

Joint projects that involve young and emerging researchers and pay attention to a balanced involvement of female and male researchers (gender equality), will be positively considered and will receive a higher rating.

**India:**

Indian PIs should be scientists/ faculty members working in regular capacity in universities, academic institutes and national research and development laboratories/ institutes. The Indian PI should not be retiring or leaving the parent institute during the proposed duration of the project. The Indian scientist involved in any way implementation of two or more projects supported by DST (International Group) and are not expected to be completed by March 31, 2018 are not eligible to be a member of Research team/PI.

**How do I apply?**

It is up to the applicants to find their own research partners. Proposals must be received both in South Africa (NRF) and India (DST). Proposals which have not been received in both countries will not be considered for funding. The call process is highly competitive therefore application does not guarantee funding. The evaluation of applications from both countries should have positive ratings before consideration for funding. Both the NRF and the DST India will not be held responsible for non-submission, administration or evaluation of the application in the partner country.

**South Africa:**

Applications must be submitted through an online application process to the NRF on the NRF Online Submission System at <https://nrfs submission.nrf.ac.za/>. The NRF Online Submission System will open on the 1<sup>st</sup> week of February 2019 for submission of joint research proposals.

**India:**

*Interested applicants should:*

- Submit their proposals on format available at [www.onlinedst.gov.in](http://www.onlinedst.gov.in) by 5:30pm on **September 23, 2019**. After registration, they should move to scheme and format section where details about this call would be available in the International Cooperation (bilateral). An email acknowledging receipt of the application will be provided to the applicant in 3-5 working days.
- Applicants are also requested to submit **one hard copy** to DST by **September 30, 2019** on address given on contact details below.
- Applicants should ensure that their applications with identical titles has been submitted by their South African partners to the NRF by due date.
- Only applications endorsed by the competent authority will be accepted.

**Which activities may I apply for?**

The purpose of this call is to support joint research and short-term exchange visits by senior researchers, scientists, postdoctoral and doctoral students between the two countries. Funding will therefore, be made available for exchange visits of leading and young scientists, technical personnel or other experts conducting joint research within the above-mentioned thematic area of cooperation.

Support will be provided for collaborative basic or applied research projects. The NRF will cover expenses incurred by the South African researchers and the DST India will be responsible for expenses borne by their researchers.

The following activities will not be funded from the NRF and the DST India funds allocation:

- Consultant's fees
- Large equipment
- Project management fees
- Salaries and temporary staff fees.

#### **South Africa:**

*Research activities supported by the NRF grant for South African researchers are as follows:*

- **Research-related costs**  
Activities to be supported may include expenses relating to field work, research-related trips, and small research equipment. The funds can also be used for consumables, accessories, publication related costs, etc. Up to a maximum of 25% of the budget may be utilized for small equipment, consumables and accessories.
- **Exchange visits**  
These includes short term travel expenses of the research teams between the two partnering countries. In the case of these meetings, research visits and exchanges of scientists, personnel and experts, as well as reciprocal visits undertaken as part of joint research projects and the attendance of workshops, seminars, symposia and other meetings funded under this partnership, the sending side will be responsible for all expenses associated with their travel (i.e. international travel, visas, medical insurance, accommodation and subsistence).
- **Doctoral fellowships**  
Each South Africa PI is allowed to offer one 3-year doctoral fellowship to one of their PhD students within the project. Therefore, 1 doctoral student will be supported per project at R120 000 per student per annum. However, it is important to note that *scholarship support will be released on condition that nominated students meet the government equity targets*
- **Science engagement/ knowledge sharing costs**  
Each project is expected pay attention to the broader impact of their projects – i.e. to consider the impact of their activities/ projects on the public and/or targeted participants in terms of knowledge and/or awareness, behavioural and/or attitudinal changes, skills acquisition, etc. This can be done through activities such as joint workshops, seminars, conferences, symposia, lecture presentations, capacity building sessions, meetings, local/regional dissemination of results aimed at involving stakeholders, and/or end users from outside the research teams, etc.

#### **India:**

*Research activities supported by the DST India grant for the Indian researchers are as follows:*

- Exchange visits, contingency, consumable and minor accessories
- Institutional overhead will be determined in accordance with specific research and development program regulation of the Indian government.
- One student Fellowship (JRF/SRF/RA) for each project can be supported.
- A maximum of 30% of the budget may be allowed for consumables and accessories.

#### **Funding modalities**

Funding will be available for a maximum of 3-years for collaborative research projects jointly developed and completed by researchers on both sides. In both countries, all the approved projects will get funding support from the two parties in terms of the cost of activities mentioned above.

Apart from the financial support from the two parties, institutions and universities in both countries are encouraged to solicit other funding resources. Successful researchers will be funded only for the

activities within the scope of this guideline. Both scientific and financial reporting on the project is **OBLIGATORY**. Research stays in both countries are **OBLIGATORY**.

### **Funding limits**

#### **South Africa:**

The total amount requested from the NRF should not exceed **R960 000** per project. Funding will be made available for a maximum of three years, to be paid in annual installments as follows:

- R200 000 per project per annum (total of R600 000) for research and mobility.
- R120 000 doctoral fellowship per project, per student, per annum (total of R360 000).
- These funds are exclusively for research activities/ and doctoral fellowships.

### **How are applications evaluated?**

Following the closing date indicated below, applications will be submitted to recognised national experts in the various fields of research represented by the proposals received. These experts will evaluate each proposal based on the following broad criteria:

- Scientific quality of the intended research project.
- Feasibility of the joint research plan and the adequacy of the scientific method.
- Alignment with national priorities in each country.
- Reasonableness of the described further cooperation perspective.
- Project proposals involving doctoral students and female researchers (capacity building).
- Adequacy of the proposed knowledge sharing approach/ science engagement activities.
- From the South African side: researchers from previously-disadvantaged individuals/ institutions.

Please note that other national criteria may be applicable in line with the national policies and regulations of the partnering countries. Following national evaluation, a shortlist of projects to be funded will be constituted through consultations between the two Parties based on the results of the expert evaluations done in both countries. The project selection will be carried out at the Joint Technical Committee (JTC) Meeting. The minutes of this meeting (indicating approved joint projects for funding) shall be signed by both Parties to indicate a joint consensus on projects to fund.

### **Project follow-up and reporting**

- A final scientific and financial report has to be submitted in English by both the South African and the Indian PIs no more than 3 months after the end of the project.
- From both the South African and Indian sides, successful submission of the first annual report is an obligatory condition of funding in subsequent years.
- All project reports must mention project outputs as compared to the objectives and aims of the proposal.
- The funders reserve the right to make the final reports available to researchers within and outside this programme in similar disciplines.
- The joint publications by researchers must mention the support from the funders (i.e. the South African Department of Science and Technology, the South African National Research Foundation, and the India Department of Science and Technology).

### **Intellectual property**

The researchers of each country, particularly the PIs, must take adequate steps to ensure protection and sharing of the intellectual property that could result from the joint projects.

### **Closing date for applications**

### **South Africa**

South African researchers must consult their institutions for internal closing dates. The cut-off date for the Designated Authorities (DAs) to submit applications to the NRF is **30 September 2019**. Applications submitted to the NRF after this cut-off date will not be considered for review.

### **India**

India researchers must submit proposals to DST portal on **September 23, 2019**. One hard copy of submitted proposal should reach to DST by **September 30, 2019** by 5:30pm

Please note that neither the NRF nor DST India will be held responsible for applications that were not received. Researchers are also advised to ensure that their research partners' applications are submitted and have also been received in the partner country.

### **Contact details for queries and further information**

<b>In South Africa</b>	<b>In India</b>
National Research Foundation (NRF)  <b>For content related queries: Ms Nombuso Madonda</b> Knowledge Advancement and Support (KAS) Tel: +27 (0) 12 481 4285 Email: <a href="mailto:Nombuso.madonda@nrf.ac.za">Nombuso.madonda@nrf.ac.za</a>  <b>For technical queries: Mr Jan Phalane</b> Grants Management and Systems Administration (GMSA) Tel: +27 (0) 12 481 4157 Email: <a href="mailto:jan.phalane@nrf.ac.za">jan.phalane@nrf.ac.za</a>	Department of Science and Technology (DST)  <b>Dr Sulakshana Jain</b> Scientist D, International Bilateral Cooperation Division, Ministry of Science & Technology, Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi-110016 E-mail: <a href="mailto:jain.s@nic.in">jain.s@nic.in</a>



**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
(DST), GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**



**&  
NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH  
AFRICA**

**APPLICATION FOR A JOINT RESEARCH GRANT UNDER THE SOUTH AFRICA/INDIA  
AGREEMENT ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION**

**PAART I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Title of Project

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2. Specific research field

Field	Sub-field

✘ please be sure to be specific.

3. Project Duration

Project Start Date:	Project End Date:	Duration
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4. Budget

	Ist Year	IIInd Year	IIIrd Year	TOTAL
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Overall Budget Distribution ZAR:				
Overall Budget Distribution INR:				

5. Summary of Project

<b>Keywords</b>			
<b>Objectives</b>			
<b>Approach</b>			
<b>Expected Outcome</b>			

※ Attention - font: Times New Roman, size: 11 points / Do not exceed space provided.

6. Personal Data

	<i>INDIA</i>	South Africa
Name of PI		
Nationality (compulsory for SA applicant)		
Race and gender ( <b>Race is compulsory only for SA applicant</b> )		(Please Specify Race also)
Organization		
Department		
Title		
Address of Institution		
Office phone #		
Cell phone #		
Fax #		
e-mail		
Date of Birth		
Name of Co-Investigator		
Organization		
Department		
Title		

Address of Institution		
Office phone #		
Cell phone #		
Fax #		
e-mail		

**Names and affiliations of other researchers/students to participate in the project (add rows where required)**

**These fields are compulsory for SA applicant and can lead to disqualification if not completed.**

Full name and state if researcher or student	Current Academic Qualification	Institution	Nationality	Race & Gender

**Names and affiliations of other Indian researchers/students to participate in the project (add rows where required)**

Full name	Current Academic Qualification	Institution	Nationality	Gender

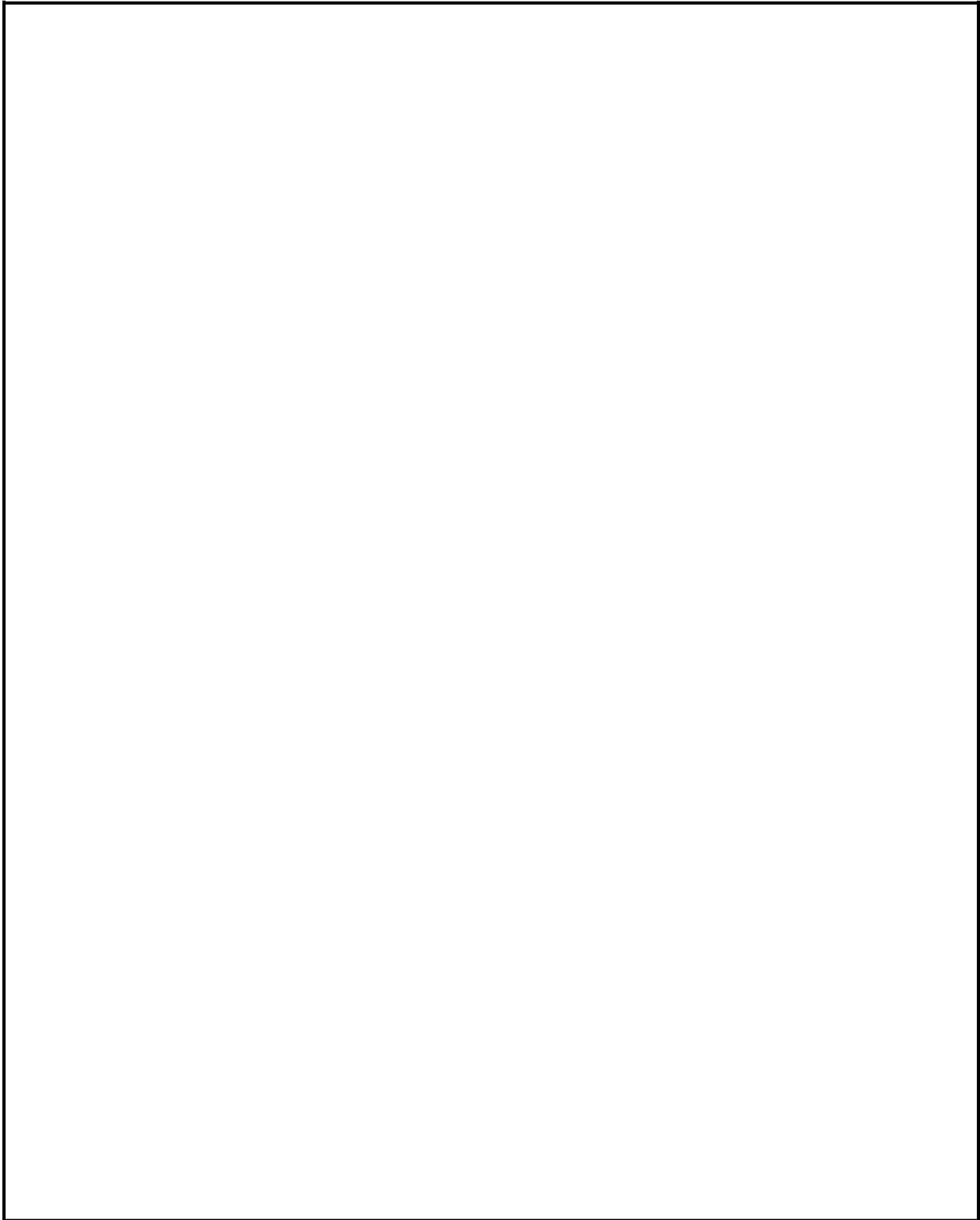
## **PART II: TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

1. Objectives of Project (up to 200 words)

2. Justification for collaboration & brief introduction to the national and international backdrop to the proposed area of research (up to 400 words)

3. Technical description of the project including methodology

**※ Attention - font: Times New Roman, size: 11 points / Do not exceed space provided.**



4. Plan of work (*per annum*)

Timeline	Responsibilities of Indian team	Responsibilities of S. African team
1 <sup>st</sup> Year (yyyy)		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year (yyyy)		
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year (yyyy)		

5. Facilities related to project activity available at the institutions where the project will be carried out:

At the Collaborating Indian Institutions	At the Collaborating S. African Institutions

6. Information of visiting persons for technical mission (*per annum*).

A. India to South Africa

	Name	Organization	Duration	Purpose
1 <sup>st</sup> Year				
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year				
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year				

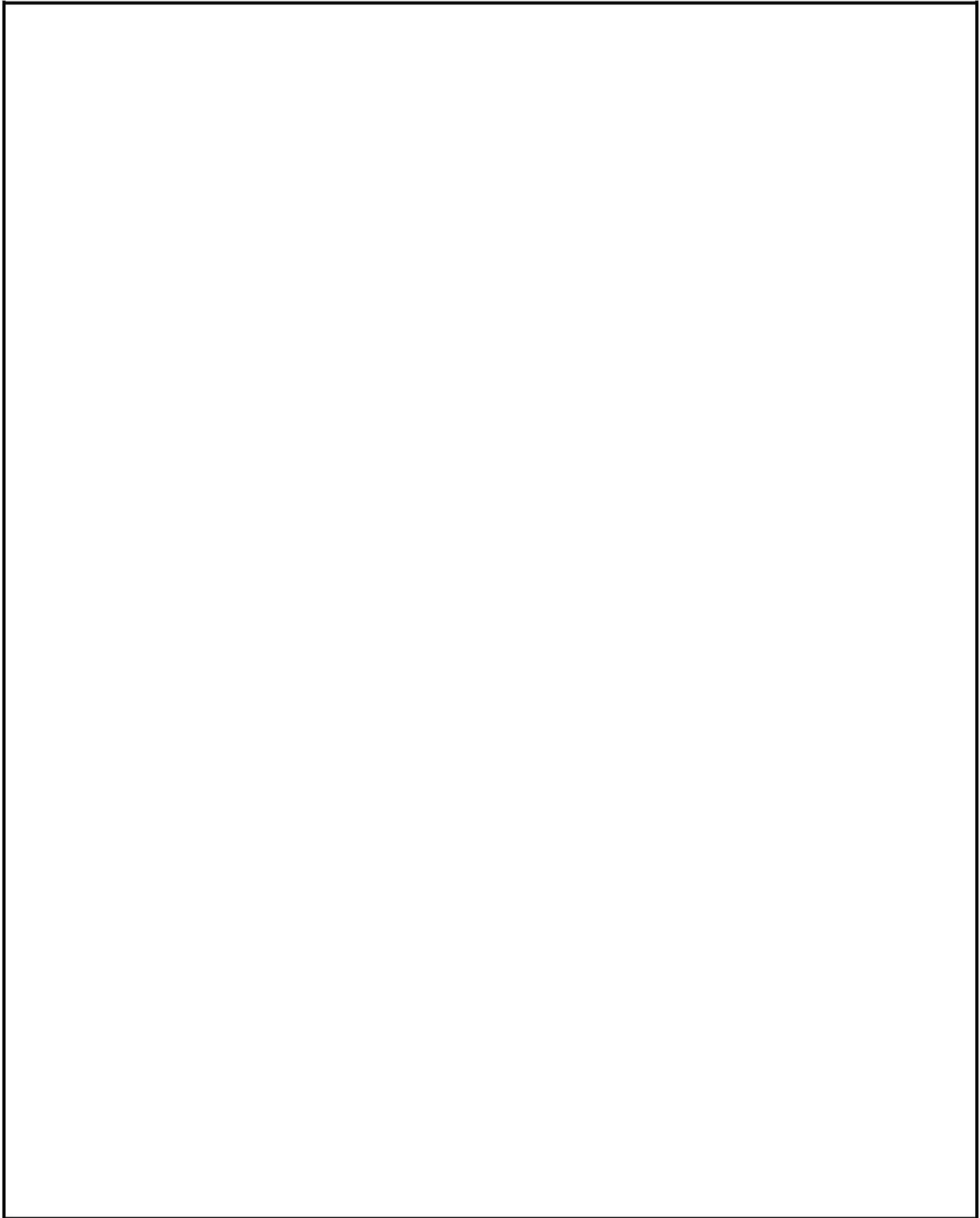
B. South Africa to India

	Name	Organization	Duration	Purpose
1 <sup>st</sup> Year				
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year				
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year				

※ **Attention: Please add lines if necessary.**

7. Expected results of Cooperation (e.g. joint publications, patents etc.)

Are any of the expected results likely to have commercial value? (Up to 100 words)



### PART III - BIOGRAPHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

#### 1. Personal Data of Indian and South African investigators to be attached.

※ Describe the expertise of the PI(s) in the proposed field of work by citing relevant publications. Do not exceed one pages A4 size for each PI (Font: Times New Roman, size: 11 points).

**Principal Investigator – Indian** (This resume concerns the Principal Indian Investigator whose name appears in Part 1.)

Title	
First Names	
Family Name	
Nationality	
Year of Birth	

**Resume** (Relevance of the researcher's professional background to the proposed research).

In addition, please enclose abbreviated Curriculum Vitae, which should include the following:

1. Academic and professional training, including names of institutions, years of study, degrees and diplomas.
2. Academic and professional experience, including names of institutes and companies, role and period.
3. Research areas (detailed areas of research in which the researcher has been involved).

4. Publications and patents (during last two years).
5. Any additional detail which may assist in evaluating the professional background of the researcher.

**Principal Investigator - South Africa** (This resume concerns the Principal South African Investigator whose name appears in Part 1).

Title	
First Names	
Family Name	
Nationality	
Year of Birth	

**Resume** (Relevance of the researcher's professional background to the proposed research).

In addition, please enclose abbreviated Curriculum Vitae, which should include the following:

1. Academic and professional training, including names of institutions, years of study, degrees and diplomas.
2. Academic and professional experience, including names of institutes and companies, role and period.
3. Research areas (detailed areas of research in which the researcher has been involved).
4. Publications and patents (during last two years).
5. Any additional detail which may assist in evaluating the professional background of the researcher.

Research history of both PIs. (Ongoing / Completed projects with the PIs (last 5 years))

**Indian PI**

**National Projects:**

S. No.	Project Title	Sponsoring Agency	Budget	Status

**International Projects:**

S. No.	Project Title	Name of the Collaborating Scientist & Institute	Sponsoring Agency	Budget	Status

**South African PI**

**National Projects:**

S. No.	Project Title	Sponsoring Agency	Budget	Status

**International Projects:**

S. No.	Project Title	Name of the Collaborating Scientist & Institute	Sponsoring Agency	Budget	Status

**PART IV: FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Budget plan (Project Cost) – Indian side**

*(All costs should be in Indian Rs. for projects submitted by Indian PIs to DST)*

**(Rs.)**

	1 <sup>st</sup> Financial Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Financial year	3 <sup>rd</sup> Financial Year
Consumables and Accessories			
Manpower			
Contingency			
<b>Exchange Visits</b>			
Indian Scientists to South Africa			
<b>Total</b>			

- ❖ Please list our consumable and accessories items
- ❖ Full justification should be given for each budget head

**Budget plan (Project Cost) – South African side**

**(ZAR)**

Consumables and Accessories			
Manpower			
Contingency			
<b>Exchange Visits</b>			
South Africa to India			
<b>Total</b>			

## PART V OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPORT

**1 Is this research currently being supported by other sources?**

YES	NO
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If yes, please indicate the sources, amounts and periods of support.

**Indian side:**

**South African side:**

**2 Has this project been submitted to other agencies for financial support?**

YES	NO
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If yes, please indicate which agencies, and when.

**Indian side:**

**South African side:**



**3. PLEASE IDENTIFY THE NAMES OF AT LEAST SIX PEER REVIEWERS:**

NO	NAME	INSTITUTION	TEL & POSTAL ADDRESS	E-MAIL
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

5.				
6.				

A. Signatures of the Principal Investigators & Institutions

 **Indian PI**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

 **South African PI**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

B. Declaration from the Heads of the Collaborating Institutions

It is certified that

- i) the Institutions agree to participate in this Joint Research Project;

- ii) the Institutions shall provide necessary facilities for implementing the Joint Research Project;
- iii) the Institutions assume financial & other management responsibilities for the duration of the project to be carried out at their institution; and
- iv) the back-up funding for manpower, consumable etc. is available for this Joint Research Project.

Signature of the Heads of the Institutions

**▶ Head of the Indian Institution**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**▶ Designated authority at SA Institution**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_