

ACADEMY OF FINLANDCALL FOR APPLICATIONS
9 January 2013**Synthetic Biology Research Programme (FinSynBio)****International call for joint projects, funding cooperation with Indian Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**

The Academy of Finland and the Indian Department of Biotechnology (DBT) have agreed on funding cooperation with a view to promoting Finnish-Indian research collaboration within the *Synthetic Biology Research Programme (FinSynBio)*. This call is an international extension to the national call that closed in September 2012. The themes of this joint call may relate to any of the thematic areas of the FinSynBio research programme. Other details concerning the content of the research plan of the programme projects are also applicable to this call. The programme's background and aims are described in more detail in the programme memorandum. The Academy will fund research teams based in Finland and the DBT will fund researchers based in India. Both partners apply for funding from their national funding agency.

Applicant

Funding from the Academy can be applied for by individual research teams and by consortia composed of two or several research teams based in Finland. The applicant for Academy funding is a researcher working in Finland. Applicants who within the FinSynBio September 2012 first-stage call were selected to proceed to the second stage, as well as those not selected, are also equally eligible to apply as new applicants. However, overlapping funding cannot be granted to similar projects from one and the same applicant. In the case of a Finnish consortium, the principal investigators of the consortium subprojects also submit their own funding applications.

Joint research plan

The application shall include a joint research plan drafted by the Finnish partner and the Indian partner. The plan shall involve a clear description of the planned collaboration (distribution of work and methods of implementation) and the added value to be expected from the collaboration for both partners.

The research plan shall also include both a joint budget and separate budget for both partners. The costs of the Finnish partner must be entered in line with the Academy's guidelines. Accordingly, the costs of the Indian partner must be entered in line with DBT guidelines. Applicants are reminded to include a sufficient budget for travel between Finland and India to ensure successful collaboration.

Funding

The joint projects included in the FinSynBio programme will be funded for four years. The Academy has earmarked EUR 9 million for programme funding, including funding for Finnish-Indian joint projects. As a rule, the funding period starts on 1 September 2013.

Programme memorandum

The programme memorandum contains more detailed information on the programme's background, aims, themes and review criteria. The memorandum is available on our website at www.aka.fi/finsynbio, or upon request from the Academy Registrar's Office. Applicants are requested to carefully read the programme memorandum in order to submit a competitive application.

Appendices to applications to the Academy

Obligatory appendices:

- **joint research plan** of the Finnish and the Indian partner, no more than 12 pages (in the case of a consortium: no more than 15 pages), including
 - a clear description of the planned research and research collaboration (distribution of work and methods of implementation) and the added value to be expected from the collaboration
 - a joint budget for the project and separate budgets for both partners
 - a justification for the funding applied for
 - a description of any researcher training to be carried out within the project
 - a mobility plan detailing the research project's national and international mobility plans during the funding period, describing the involvement of foreign researchers in the project, and explaining other ways in which the project intends to transcend international, national, institutional and public/private sector boundaries.
- curricula vitae for the Finnish applicant and the foreign partner, no more than four pages each: the curriculum vitae for the Finnish applicant is appended under *Personal data/CV*
- lists of publications by the Finnish applicant and the foreign partner; clearly indicate the ten most important publications in both lists in terms of the research plan.

Case-specific appendices:

- invitation by foreign university or research institute, if the research or part of it will be conducted abroad
- statement by an ethics committee or the Committee on Animal Experimentation (if relevant); the ethical aspects shall always be specified in the research plan
- statement by a Strategic Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation, confirming that the applicant's project is affiliated with the centre and justifying its significance for the centre's operations
- progress report on all Academy-funded projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports.

How to apply

Please note that this is not the same call as the national FinSynBio programme call.

The Finnish partners of the Finnish-Indian joint projects shall submit their applications in the Academy's online services **no later than 6 February 2013 at 16.15**, select *Open calls* > **Joint project call: Synthetic biology (Academy, Indian DBT)**. The deadline is non-negotiable.

In this call, applicants follow the Academy's general guidelines applicable to all Academy calls. These guidelines are available in, for example, the September call for applications. The costs of the Finnish partner are calculated by applying the full cost model. The costs of the Indian partner are indicated only in the research plan drafted jointly by both partners.

If the Finnish applicant is a consortium, see detailed guidelines on the Academy's website under [Consortium application](#). The application of the whole consortium can be processed only if the applications of all consortium subprojects have been submitted by the deadline. The composition of the consortium cannot be changed after the deadline.

The Indian research teams apply for funding from the DBT in line with DBT guidelines. The Academy advises Finnish applicants to make sure that their Indian partner is eligible to apply for funding from the DBT. The Indian teams draft their applications in line with the DBT's procedure for international collaboration on form No. 14, available at <http://dbtindia.nic.in>.

More information

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