डा. अखिलेश गुप्ता
Dr. Akhilesh Gupta

सलाहकार एवं प्रमुख
कार्यनीतिगत कार्यक्रम वृहत पहल एवं
समन्वित कार्य समर्थकारक (स्पलाइस)
एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन कार्यक्रम
विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग
विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

Advisor & Head
Strategic Programmes, Large Initiatives &
Coordinated Action Enabler (SPLICE)
Division and Climate Change Programme
Department of Science & Technology
Ministry of Science & Technology
Government of India

16th October, 2016

Dear Sir,

As you are aware the Department of Science & Technology (DST), is coordinating and implementing two out of eight national missions launched under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) is one of them which focuses on understanding of the complex processes affecting the Himalayan Ecosystem and the need for evolving suitable management and policy measures for sustaining and safeguarding the Himalayan eco-system, creating and building capacities in different domains, networking of knowledge institutions engaged in R&D, studying traditional knowledge systems for community participation in adaptation, mitigation and coping mechanisms and developing regional cooperation with neighbouring countries, to eventually create a knowledge base for policy interventions.

Within the overall framework of S&T agreement of November 2003 between Government of India and Government of Switzerland, an Indo-Swiss Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation was established by the two governments. In the first meeting of this joint committee held in Bern, Switzerland on 23rd September 2011, it was decided to develop a scientific cooperation between the two countries in glaciology and related areas. The Climate Change programme of Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) piloted this bilateral cooperation programme. SDC developed an Indian Himalayas Climate Adaptation Programme (IHCAP) to support and facilitate implementation of NMSHE as a technical and knowledge partner. It aims to strengthen climate science and capacities for climate change adaptation planning in the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR).

The first phase of Indo-Swiss programme was launched in the year 2013 which continued until December 2015 wherein several rounds of training programmes with India and Swiss resource persons were organised. A total of 55 young scientists were trained in the field of glaciology and related areas.

The second phase of Indo-Swiss programme has technically begun in January 2016.

Contd..2/-

I am pleased to inform you that as part of second phase of the Indo-Swiss Cooperation, a Collaborative Research Programme on Climate Science and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Indian Himalayan Region (2017-20) has just been launched jointly by DST and SDC. Under this programme, joint proposals from universities and research institutions in India and Switzerland to conduct collaborative research in the field of glaciology and related areas in IHR have been invited. The goal of the research is to develop scientific evidence to inform and increase knowledge on impacts of and vulnerability to climate change in the Himalayan socio-ecological systems. The Indo-Swiss collaborative research is expected to enhance institutional and human capacities on climate science for adaptation to climate change in IHR and addressing major knowledge gaps in the region. More information related to this DST-SDC Joint Call for proposals can be accessed at http://ihcap.in/cfp2016.

I am attaching the announcement of the **Joint Call for Proposal** along with Concept Note on DST-SDC proposed Research Programme. The last date of submission of proposals is **December 20, 2016**.

While IHCAP will coordinate with institutions from Swiss side on behalf of SDC, CSIR -Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, Palampur (IHBT) will coordinate with Indian institutions on behalf of DST.

I shall be thankful if this announcement can be circulated among institutions under your administrative control and encouraged them to submit relevant proposals to this Joint call.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Akhilesh Gupta)

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra
Secretary (DARE) & DG, ICAR
Krishi Bhawan
New Delhi

Department of Science & Technology
Ministry of Science & Technology
Government of India

NMSHE NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINING THE HIMALAYAN ECOSYSTEM

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

IHCAP Indian Himalayas Climate Adaptation Programme

Department of Science and Technology (DST)-Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) Joint Call for Proposal

Indo-Swiss Collaborative Research on Climate Science and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Indian Himalayan Region (2017-20)

Under the Framework Agreement on Scientific and Technical Cooperation (2003) between the Government of India and the Government of Switzerland, the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) have agreed to jointly fund the **Indo-Swiss Collaborative Research on Climate Science and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Indian Himalayan Region (2017-20)**.

DST is implementing the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) as part of the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The Indian Himalayas Climate Adaptation Programme (IHCAP) is a project under the Global Programme Climate Change (GPCC) of SDC. IHCAP has been developed to support and facilitate implementation of the NMSHE as a technical and knowledge partner.

DST in partnership with SDC is seeking joint proposals from universities and research institutions in India and Switzerland to conduct collaborative research in the field of glaciology and related areas in the Indian Himalayan Region. The goal of the research is to develop scientific evidence to inform and increase knowledge on impacts of and vulnerability to climate change in the Himalayan socio-ecological systems. The Indo-Swiss collaborative research is expected to enhance institutional and human capacities on climate science for adaptation to climate change in the Indian Himalayan Region and addressing major knowledge gaps in the region.

More information related to this DST-SDC Joint Call for Proposals can be accessed from http://ihcap.in/cfp2016 .

The last date for submitting the complete application is 20 December 2016.

04th October 2016

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

IHCAP Indian Himalayas Climate Adaptation Programme

Department of Science & Technology
Ministry of Science & Technology
Government of India

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Climate Change Programme (CCP)-SPLICE

DST-SDC Joint Call for Proposals

Indo-Swiss Collaborative Research on Climate Science and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Indian Himalayan Region (2017-20)

Table of Contents

1. Introduction: Indo-Swiss Collaboration

The Indo-Swiss Collaboration on glaciology and related areas is anchored under the Framework Agreement on Scientific and Technical Cooperation (2003) between the Government of India and Government of Switzerland. In the first meeting of the Indo-Swiss Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (September 2011), it was agreed to have scientific cooperation and capacity building in 'the field of "glaciology and related areas" to be implemented as a bilateral cooperation programme by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The collaboration was anchored within the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE). An Indo-Swiss bilateral programme supported by DST and SDC was initiated in 2012 (Phase 1) with an objective of capacity building in the field of glaciology and related areas. Activities such as capacity building of young researchers in glaciology, training programme for officials in the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR), collaborative studies on risks, hazards and vulnerabilities, and promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms were organized as part of the joint collaboration.

In 2015, the Indo-Swiss Joint Committee agreed to extend the cooperation for another four years as Phase 2. It was agreed that the Indian Himalayas Climate Adaptation Programme (IHCAP) of SDC will support and facilitate implementation of the NMSHE as a technical and knowledge partner. In Phase 2, the scope of Indo-Swiss collaboration with the joint support from DST and SDC includes:

- Jointly funded collaborative research studies in the field of glaciology and related areas in the IHR
- Enhancing capacities of academic and public institutions to address climate change
- Promoting science-policy interface for creating awareness, informing stakeholders and disseminating knowledge

2. Collaborative Research on Climate Science and Adaptation to Climate Change

2.1 General information and background about collaborative research

The Indo-Swiss collaborative research envisages enhancing institutional and human capacities on climate science for adaptation to climate change in the IHR and addressing major knowledge gaps in the region. Inter-and transdisciplinary research partnership projects, with problem and solution-oriented approaches to be jointly carried out by Indo-Swiss research networks, will be funded. The collaborative research is expected to result in improved scientific understanding about climate change and generation of new knowledge on climate change impacts in IHR. The proposed research studies must aim to result in the development and design of concrete adaptation strategies and policy recommendations. The setting up of the Indo-Swiss research networks is expected to result in capacity building of scientists, researchers and institutions in India and Switzerland.

2.2 Goal and objectives of the collaborative research

The goal of the Indo-Swiss collaborative research is to develop scientific evidence to inform and increase knowledge on impacts of and vulnerability to climate change of the Himalayan socio-ecological systems. This goal will require the pursuit of the following objectives:

I. Strengthening of institutional capacity building for research in Indian Himalayas through multiple collaborative research studies
II. Conducting research relevant to society for reducing vulnerabilities and risks in the IHR
III. Developing science and technology (S&T) based adaptation strategies to address the impacts of climate change in the IHR
IV. Promoting bilateral collaboration contributing to climate change research for effective adaptation planning, implementation and for overall sustainable development of IHR

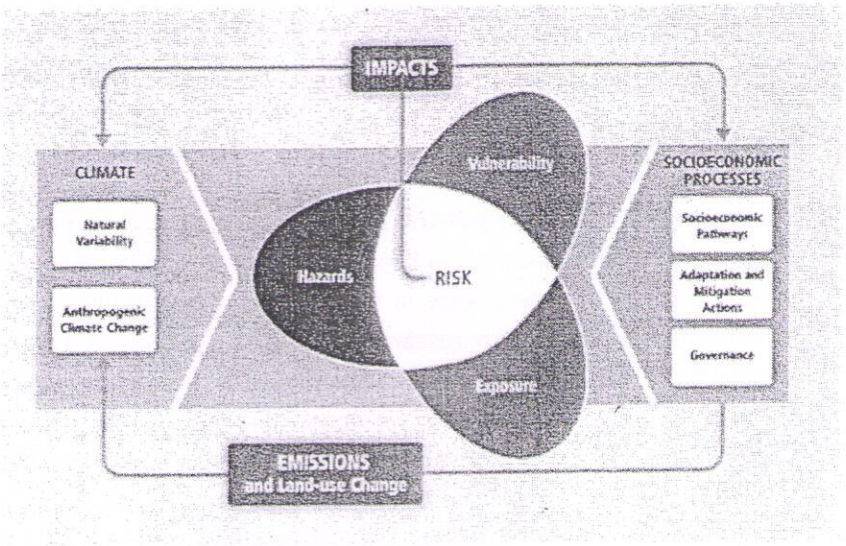
As an overarching principle, the research will take into consideration the gender and economic dimensions (cost of action or inaction) in the studies.

To achieve the above mentioned objectives, two research networks will be funded under the Indo-Swiss collaborative research.

2.3 Framework, priority themes and geographical focus areas

2.3.1 Framework

The Indo-Swiss collaborative research will be required to follow a common approach based on the framework for integrated vulnerability, risk and hazard assessment provided under Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Assessment Report 5 (IPCC AR5). The IPCC AR5 considers that the interaction of the changing physical characteristics of the climate system (hazards) with evolving characteristics of socio-economic and biological systems (exposure and vulnerability) produces risk. Since climate related risks are evolving over time as a result of climate change and development, it is necessary to consider both current as well as future risks for developing adaptation strategies.



Source: IPCC AR 5, Summary for Policymakers, WG II

Figure 1: Common research framework for Indo-Swiss collaborative research studies

2.3.2 Themes

The Indo-Swiss collaborative research will fund two research networks, one on each of the two themes (Theme 1 and Theme 2). The thematic focus of the collaborative research will be as follows:

Theme 1: Glaciology[1], hydrology[2] and meteorology[3]

The ongoing changes in the climate are directly impacting glaciers and snow cover in the Himalayas, and in turn, the hydrology of the region. The Indo-Swiss collaborative research considers studies on the impacts of climate change on glaciers, snow cover, permafrost as well as related hydrology crucial for the IHR. Due to their sensitive reaction to changes in climatic conditions, glaciers provide some of the clearest evidence of climate change and constitute key variables for early-detection strategies in global climate-related observations. Understanding of climate change impacts including extreme events related to glacier dynamics, snow melt, hydrology and meteorology as well as their interlinkages are important to understand the downstream effect on communities, infrastructure and economic activities. Extreme events cause adverse impacts and major losses in the affected area as well as in the downstream region. Generation of knowledge on climate induced extreme events such as floods and their impacts can accordingly assist in enhancing the adaptive capacity and preparedness of communities or socio-ecological systems to climate-related risks and disasters in the IHR. The Indo-Swiss collaborative research encourages assessments in areas of glaciology, hydrology and meteorology, their interlinkages, current and future impacts of climate change and adaptation strategies.

Possible questions in Theme 1 could be:

What types of changes are being observed related to glaciers, snow cover and permafrost in the IHR? How do they relate to the changes observed in the climate of the region? What are the expected or likely climate-related risks and impacts of these changes on water resources in the downstream region? What are the meteorological changes being observed in the IHR and what are its implications for current and future vulnerability? How will the hydrology of the region be impacted as a result of direct changes in climate parameters such as temperature and precipitation? Which sectors, areas and communities face the risks of being affected by adverse impacts due to changes in glaciers and hydrology in the region? What are the current coping and adaptive mechanisms being adopted by communities and the government to respond to the changes in hydrology of the region? What should be the adaptation plans with concrete implementable measures to be considered by the policy makers?

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[1] Glaciology refers to the study of glaciers, snow and ice on the earth's surface (Source: Glossary of Meteorology, American Meteorological Society)

[2] Hydrology refers to the scientific study of the waters of the earth, especially with relation to the effects of precipitation and evaporation upon the occurrence and character of water in streams, lakes, and on or below the land surface. In terms of the hydrologic cycle, the scope of hydrology may be defined as that portion of the cycle from precipitation to evaporation or return of the water to the seas (Source: Glossary of Meteorology, American Meteorological Society)

[3] Meteorology refers to the underlying science of weather and weather forecasting (Source: Glossary of Meteorology, American Meteorological Society)

Theme 2: Socio-ecological systems[4]

The ecosystems of IHR provide a range of provisioning, cultural, regulating, and supporting services. With huge dependence on natural resources for livelihoods, the vulnerability of human communities in IHR is placed high.[5] The Indo-Swiss collaborative research programme supports innovative inter-and transdisciplinary research that develops methodologies to generate improved knowledge and better understanding on impacts and vulnerabilities of socio-ecological systems towards climate change in the IHR. Special emphasis is on design of approaches to enhance the resilience of ecosystem and communities' livelihoods to changing climate through appropriate adaptation measures.

Possible questions in Theme 2 could be:

What are the observed and projected changes in the ecosystem of IHR and how do they relate to current and future changes in the climate? How would the boundaries of existing natural ecosystems vary due to climate change (e.g., boundaries of tree species)? How are the livelihoods of human communities, dependent on climate sensitive sectors, being impacted by the changes in the ecosystem and climate? What are the current coping and adaptive mechanisms being adopted by human communities to respond to the changes in natural resources and ecosystem? What are the adaptation plans with concrete implementable measures to be adopted for enhancing the resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods to current and future scenarios?

Cross-cutting themes

Focussing on one particular theme mentioned above, both research networks should incorporate the following cross-cutting themes in their research plans:

- **Future climate projections:** To facilitate long-term adaptation planning and implementation, the collaborative research should consider observed as well as future climate projections for taking into account current and future climate-related risks.
- **Physical and socio-economic vulnerability intersection:** Enhanced scientific knowledge on climate change without proper understanding of its links to social vulnerability will be of limited interest to mountain communities and policy makers. The proposed research studies should focus at the intersection of social and physical aspects of climate change induced vulnerability and impact. The research proposals seeking support need to demonstrate a clear social and developmental relevance for the region and beyond and should make concrete recommendations for adaptation measures. For this, each research network will include components of socio-economic analysis. This will include vulnerability due to climate change impacts, in particular, the vulnerabilities of disadvantaged social groups and strategies to mainstream gender aspects into the overall research plan.

[4] Social-ecological systems are complex adaptive systems where social and biophysical agents are interacting at multiple temporal and spatial scales (Source: Janssen and Ostrom., 2006. Governing social-ecological systems. In: Handbook of Computational Economics, Volume 2. Edited by Leigh Tesfatsion and Kenneth L. Judd, Elsevier

[5] National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem

- **Economic analysis to assess the cost of adaptation action or inaction:** The collaborative research should include components on assessing the financial implications of implementing proposed adaptation strategies as compared to losses and impacts due to inaction.

For greater uptake of results, the collaborative research is expected to involve a wide range of relevant stakeholders including government, civil society organizations and communities during the course of research.

2.3.3 Geographical areas

Each research network having a thematic focus will conduct research in the following two regions:

- **Region 1: Western and Central Himalayas**

The Western and Central Himalayas essentially cover the states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

- **Region 2: Eastern Himalayas**

The Eastern Himalayas mainly include the states of Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Sikkim and the hill districts of West Bengal and Assam.

Within the IHR, decisions on specific location of research (in Region 1 and Region 2) should be guided by factors such as access, data availability, vulnerability and the ability to develop concrete climate change adaptation measures to enhance resilience of vulnerable communities, livelihoods, and sectors.

2.4 Deliverables

- Creation of data and knowledge base
- Reports
  - Scientific assessment reports
  - Summary report for policymakers: Key scientific messages for policy making
  - Recommendation report on adaptation plans with concrete implementable measures
- Publications
  - Joint publications in peer reviewed journals
  - Science briefs on key issues and important findings of the research studies
- Proceedings of workshops, posters and abstracts
- Progress Reports:
  - Half yearly and annual progress and financial reports

3. Structure of the Collaborative Research

3.1 Programme structure

For management of the collaborative research and providing guidance, the following entities will be part of the overall project management structure (also refer Figure 2):

a) **Research Network**: A research network based approach is being proposed for this Indo-Swiss collaborative research. Research network will be a combination of universities and institutes from India and Switzerland. DST will provide support for universities and research institutions from India. SDC will support universities and research institutions from Switzerland. Please see section 3.2 for further details.

b) **Joint Working Group**: A Joint Working Group (JWG), established under the leadership of DST and SDC will be the advisory body for the collaborative research. It has representatives from Ministries and Government institutions as well as academic institutes and universities from India and Switzerland. JWG will act as a peer review group to provide scientific inputs to design and selection of collaborative research networks, review of methodologies, review progress of collaborative studies and promote results generated by the research networks.

c) **Research Coordination and Implementation Team**: The collaborative research will be jointly coordinated by DST and SDC. On behalf of DST, CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT), Palampur, will act as the nodal institution for coordination and implementation of joint research programme from Indian side. On behalf of SDC, IHCAP will coordinate and contract with lead network partner from Switzerland for each research network.

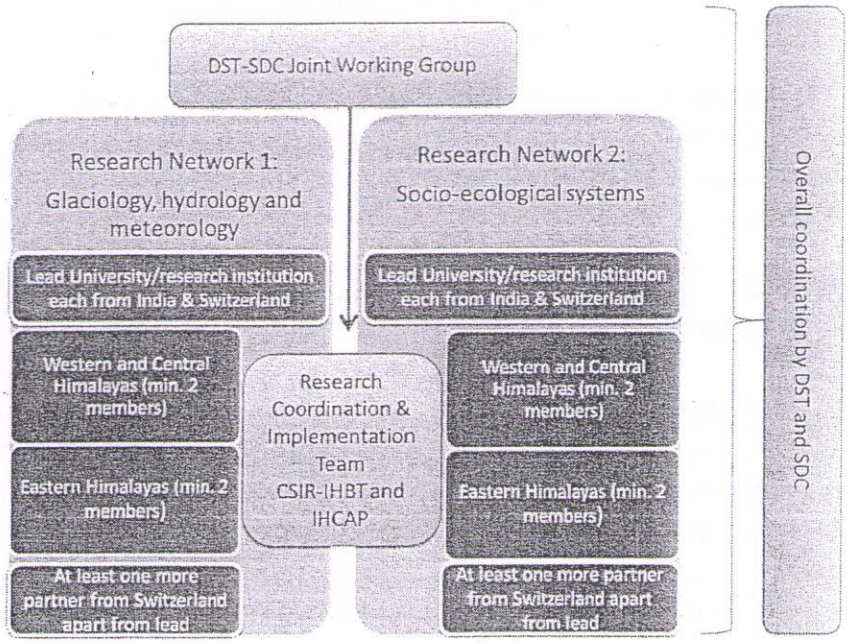

Figure 2: Programme structure of Indo-Swiss Collaborative Research

3.2 Research Network

Universities and research institutions from India and Switzerland interested to conduct research under the Indo-Swiss collaborative research need to come together to form a research network and submit joint proposal. Following are the key features required for the composition of the research networks:

- Each research network should have one thematic focus (Theme 1 or Theme 2) covering both the regions (Region 1 and Region 2).
- Each research network should comprise of one lead Indian and one lead Swiss University/research institution. The lead organizations should nominate one of them as the coordinating organization (contact partner) for the collaborative research.
- At least two Indian Universities/research institutions, each from Western-Central and Eastern Himalayas should be part of each research network.
- At least two Swiss universities/research institutions should be part of each research network.
- At least one of the Indian/Swiss partner university/research institutions in each research network should have social science background.

3.3 Eligibility

- The research network must have the experience of carrying out research projects comparable with the present proposal in terms of scope and complexity.
- All researchers working at universities/research institutions in India and Switzerland are eligible to apply.
- The research team must be located at a university/research institution that does not conduct research for commercial purposes. Subcontracting to commercial service providers is permissible, provided they are not lead organizations.
- None of the universities/research institutions should submit more than one proposal as lead. However, the lead partner in a proposal may apply in other proposals as a network partner.
- NGOs based in India working on research areas relevant for the collaborative study can also be part of the networks but not as lead.

3.4 Intellectual property rights, open access principle and data sharing

- Every product created by the research shall be subject to the open access principle. Hence, third parties shall have a free and absolute right to use each product insofar as they do not have any commercial interests.
- Before filing an application for intellectual property rights to a research result (through trademark, design, patent, etc.), prior approval needs to be obtained from DST and SDC.
- DST and SDC will assert the above-mentioned open access principles by means of a corresponding clause in the contract.
- Under the Indo-Swiss research collaboration, raw field data (e.g. glaciological and hydrological data) will not be shared with Swiss research network partners. However, field data can be analysed by Indian network partners using mutually agreed methodologies. Analysed data/knowledge can be shared with Swiss research network partners. The processed data/information can also be used for joint publications.

4. Funding and Duration

The overall funding for collaborative research is CHF 1.5 million (for Swiss partners) and INR 10 crore (for Indian partners). Each research network will have to submit a joint proposal and

budget. Budget for Swiss cost (in CHF) and Indian cost (in INR) should be mentioned separately in the format provided in Annex 1a and Annex 1b, respectively. DST will fund the Indian partners of the collaborative research while the Swiss partners will secure funding from SDC.

The following costs are covered:

- Salaries:
  - Swiss (if not employed full-time) or Indian research staff working under the project.

The salaries of Swiss researchers will have to comply with prevailing SDC norms. The salaries of Indian researchers will have to comply with DST norms (Available at: http://serb.gov.in/pdfs/Order/SERB_Fellowship%20revision.pdf)

- Research fund (data acquisition[6], data collection and analysis, scientific research including field work and stakeholder interactions, travel costs, room and board costs, research publications including open access publication costs, exchange programme between network partners)
- Communication and application activities (annual face to face workshop for network partners, communications, dissemination and outreach, workshops, conferences)

For Swiss and Indian applicants, the following costs are not covered:

- The salaries of full-time (100% employment) academics (Professor, Associate/Assistant Professor, Lecturer/Reader) or senior researchers (Postdocs) employed in the University or research institutions
- Institutional overhead costs
- Scientific instruments and software

Duration: Following the competitive process, funding support will be provided to two research projects which will start from April 2017 for duration of 3 years.

[6] DST has expressed its support in assisting research networks to get access to necessary data in a time-bound manner

5. Evaluation Criteria

5.1 Suitability Criteria:

The following **Suitability Criteria** (SC) must be complete and without limitation or modification with the submission of the proposal. Otherwise the proposal will not be considered.

SC	Suitability Criteria	Evidence
SC1	**Composition of Research Network** The applicants shall fulfil all the key features required for the composition of the research network.	Written confirmation; details of research network leads and network partners according to Annex 1 (Template for Proposal)
SC2	**Eligibility for Research Network** The applicants shall fulfil all the eligibility requirements and experience needed from each research network.	Written confirmation; details of research of the research team, its qualification, experience and a list of relevant publications according to Annex 1 (Template for Proposal)
SC3	**Declaration of applicants** The applicants must fill in the declaration form.	Written confirmation, signed by the applicants according to Annex 2 (Bidder/applicant declaration).
SC4	**Legal Documents** Certificate of legal registration of the applicant organisation. All members of the research network have to fulfil this criterion and hand in the documents.	Excerpts of registration documents.
The following Suitability Criteria must be met by all Swiss applicants		
SC 5	**Acceptance GCB** The applicant shall explicitly confirm, without limitation or modification, the acceptance of the FDFA's General Conditions of Business (GCB). In case of consortia, confirmation must be submitted for every member of the consortium.	Written confirmation as per Annex 3 of the present call for proposal document.
SC 6	**Compliance with working conditions, workplace health and safety regulations and requirement of equal pay for men and women** Compliance with procedural principles The applicant confirms that his/her organisation (and their subcontractors and sub-suppliers mandated) comply with the procedural principles according to the self-declaration of the federal procurement conference. In case of a consortium, each member has to fill in and sign the self-declaration.	a) Legal signature on the self-declaration (Annex 4 Declaration form for compliance with working conditions). b) Written proof that the basis of good employer practice regarding salary inspection has been checked (by the «Fazit sheet» Logib, controls of state authorities or salary analysis of third parties). This proof has to be based on wage data not older than 36 months before signing the self-declaration.
SC 7	**Acceptance of electronic bill** Contractors are obliged to submit an electronic bill to the FDFA if the contract value is above CHF 5'000 (excl. VAT). Information on the electronic billing system is available under the following link: www.e-rechnung.admin.ch.	Written confirmation.

	The bidder shall confirm that he/she is willing to submit an electronic bill to FDFA.	

5.2 Award Criteria:

The following table provides an overview of the evaluated **Award Criteria** (AC) and the corresponding weighting. The proposals which fulfil the Suitability Criteria will be evaluated against the Award Criteria.

AC	Award Criteria	Weighting
	Research Proposal (Technical)	
AC 1	**Methodology and Approach:** • *Clarity:* Clearly stated research objectives with well-defined methodology and approach including the cross-cutting themes. • *Research Innovation:* New and innovative methods to conduct solution oriented research and their suitability and feasibility in the proposed research context. • *Relevance:* Relevance of the proposed research to the vulnerability context in the identified region as well as the current policy regime. Its significance to provide science-based concrete adaptation strategies and potential for transferring research results to policy making or practice. • *Engagement:* Strategy to communicate and engage with all relevant stakeholders including policy makers and community members to ensure shared learning process and research uptake. • *Social Inclusion:* Approach to take into particular consideration disadvantaged vulnerable social groups.	45 %
AC 2	**Qualification and experience of research network:** • *Network qualification:* Scientific track record (credentials/publications) of the proposed research networks and track record of the partner universities and research institutions in the IHR. Preference will be given to research networks with prior experience of working in the Himalayan Region. • *Qualification of network members*: Experience of proposed individual researchers. • *Management*: Experience and capacity of the team leaders to manage the research, organization and distribution of roles and responsibilities.	35%
	Financial Proposal	
AC 3	**Budget:** • *Clarity:* Full character of cost structure, realistic estimation of costs. • *Cost distribution:* Distribution among various network partners and between different sets of activities.	20%

Each Award Criterion (AC) will be evaluated according to the following score table:

Score	Fulfilment and quality of the criteria	
0	Cannot be established	• Information has no significance.
1	Very bad fulfilment	• Information is insufficient. • Data quality is very poor.
2	Bad fulfilment	• Information relates inadequately to the requirements. • Data quality is poor.
3	Average fulfilment	• Information globally responds inadequately to the requirements. • Data quality is adequate.
4	Good fulfilment	• Information focuses well on requirements.

Score	Fulfilment and quality of the criteria	
		• Data quality is good.
5	Very good fulfilment	• Information clearly relates to the achievement of outputs. • Data quality is excellent.

6. Submission and selection process

6.1 Call for Proposal

The documentation on the open call for proposal can be downloaded from the platform http://ihcap.in/cfp2016. In order to do so, the potential applicants, will have to first register. The potential applicants will then be able to login to download the desired documentation.

6.2 Desired deadline for questions in written form

No information is given by telephone. Any questions can be made by **24.10.2016** anonymously in the queries space at http://ihcap.in/cfp2016 or by email cfp2016@ihcap.in. Questions submitted late cannot be answered.

Answers will be published on http://ihcap.in/cfp2016 by **03.11.2016**. Applicants are themselves responsible for downloading the answers and for taking them into consideration in the preparation of the joint proposals.

6.3 Proposal content

The full proposal has to cover the entire period of three years. Please respect the following structure for your research proposal and requested documents, which is compulsory. The number of pages is indicative but the proposal (exclusive of CVs) should not exceed 40 pages.

Chapter	Description	Number of Pages
0	Cover letter with list of all network partners (jointly signed and stamped by heads of lead institutions from India and Switzerland)	2
1	Details of Research Network (Swiss and Indian) and Coordinator • Contact details of Network leads from India and Switzerland • Network partners (from India and Switzerland) • Coordinator	2
2	Details of the research team from India and Switzerland: • Qualification of the research network leads, research network partners, and their experience • List of the ten most relevant publications by research network in the project's field of study • Scientific track record of the research network partners • Profile of the research network team members (CV maximum two pages per team member in Annex)	8
3	Abstract	2
4	Research Plan • Research hypotheses and objectives of the project • Potential impact of the project and its relevance for development including gender • State of research in the field and link to international and national policy debates	20

	• Methodology and approach • Risks, constraints and opportunities • Timeframe and milestones • Organisation of research networks (distribution of roles and responsibilities) • Strategy for dissemination of scientific results and adaptation strategies	
5	Financial Proposal • Summary budget table (Swiss and Indian cost) including notes • Detailed budget (as per Annex 1a for Swiss applicants and Annex 1b for Indian applicants)	
Annex		
1	Declaration of bidder (applicants)	
2	Legal documents	
3	CVs of research network team members (maximum 2 pages per CV)	
4	Logframe (as per Annex 1c)	
Additional documents to be submitted only by Swiss applicants		
5	Acceptance of General Conditions of Business (GCB) for Mandate B	
6	Compliance with working conditions, workplace health and safety regulations and requirements of equal pay for men and women	
7	Acceptance of electronic bill	

6.4 Submission

Joint proposal containing all documentation in accordance with Section 6.3 are to be submitted online via IHCAP portal (http://ihcap.in/cfp2016)[7] in a single zipped folder (size not exceeding 1GB) by **20.12.2016** (2400 hours IST, 1930 hours CET). Proposal submitted in printed form will not be accepted. A confirmation receipt will be sent to all applicants.

Late submissions: Proposals submitted late will not be accepted and not taken into consideration. In all cases, the applicants must ensure timely submission of the proposal.

Language: The joint proposal must be submitted in **English**.

6.5 Evaluation

The proposals will be evaluated in three stages by a joint team constituted by DST and SDC.

Stage 1: Review of compliance of proposals with formal requirements (in accordance with Section 6.4)
Stage 2: Review of compliance with Suitability Criteria (see Section 5.1)
Stage 3: Rating of proposals with Award Criteria (see Section 5.2)

The final decision on selection of the proposal will be done by the DST-SDC Joint Working Group (JWG). A university/research institution whose representative is a member of the JWG is allowed to submit proposal(s). However, the individual JWG member affiliated to the said university/research institution will abstain from the meeting when the proposal(s) is (are) being deliberated.

[7] The link will be active from 4 October 2016

Negotiations: DST and SDC reserve the rights for negotiations on the proposed budgets.

Award decision: The award will be published on www.ihcap.in/cfp2016. All applicants will be informed in writing of the award decision. There is no right of appeal.

7. Contact information

Questions or clarifications concerning the call for proposal, submission and evaluation procedure can be obtained only by email to cfp2016@ihcap.in. No information is given by telephone or directly by Climate Change Programme- Strategic Programmes, Large Initiatives and Coordinated Action Enabler (SPLICE) of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) or by the Research Coordination and Implementation Team.

Supporting agency:

Department of Science and Technology (DST)
Climate Change Programme – Strategic Programmes, Large Initiatives and Coordinated Action Enabler (SPLICE)
Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road
Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110016, INDIA

Research Coordination and Implementation Team:

On behalf of DST

CSIR-Institute for Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT)
Post Box No. 6, Palampur 176061, Himachal Pradesh, INDIA

On behalf of SDC

Indian Himalaya Climate Adaptation Programme (IHCAP), Programme Management Unit (PMU)
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Embassy of Switzerland
Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110021, INDIA

8. Schedule

This is the planned schedule at the time of the publication of the DST-SDC Joint Call for Proposals on Indo-Swiss Collaborative Research on Climate Science and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Indian Himalayan Region (2017-20).

DST and SDC reserve the right to make amendments.

Milestone	Timeline
Announcement of Joint Call for proposals	04.10.2016
Submission of questions/clarifications	24.10.2016
Response to questions/clarifications	03.11.2016
Submission of full proposals	20.12.2016
Evaluation of proposals	Mid-January to February 2017
Final decision on full proposals and award	March 2017
Inception workshop and start of collaborative studies	April 2017

List of Annexes

Annex 1	Template for Proposal
Annex 1a	Budget template –Mandate B (only for Swiss applicants)
Annex 1b	Budget Template (Only for Indian applicants)
Annex 1c	Logframe Template (for joint proposal) and guidelines
Annex 2	Bidder declaration
Annex 3	General Conditions of Business (GCB) for Mandate B (only for Swiss applicants)
Annex 4	Declaration form for compliance with working conditions for Mandate B