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**APPLICATION FORM**

**Mittal Institute Faculty Multi-Disciplinary Research Grant**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Principal Investigator(s)’s Name**: | **Date**: |
| **Department/School**: | **Mailing Address**: |
| **Phone**: | **E-mail Address**: |
| **Title of Research Project**: | |
| **Proposed Project Start Date and End Date**:[[1]](#footnote-2) | |
| **Please specify the location where your research activities will be conducted:**  U.S. India Both | |
| **If project is in India, please indicate amount requested in INR:**  **If project is in the U.S., please indicate amount requested in USD:** | **Does your research involve human subjects?**  Yes No |
| **Grant subcategory (check one)**:  Exploratory Research Project Advanced Research Project Workshop/Conference | |
| **Other:**   * Receipts of funds will be determined by the site of research activities. * Funding is available in the U.S. for research focused on South Asia and with activities based in the U.S. as well as in the region. * Funding is available in India, through the Mittal Institute, an office of Harvard Global Research Support Centre India, for research focused solely for public good of India and with activities based in India | |

**Please submit this application form and all required materials in accordance with the format and word limits specified in the following pages.**

**Your application must be submitted electronically as a single PDF, via email to** [**mirela\_vaso@fas.harvard.edu**](mailto:mirela_vaso@fas.harvard.edu) **and** [**shreya\_majumdar@harvard.edu**](mailto:shreya_majumdar@harvard.edu)**.**

For more information on eligibility criteria, application requirements, and award amounts, please visit our [Faculty Research Grants](https://mittalsouthasiainstitute.harvard.edu/mittal-institute-faculty-grants/) web page.

**Abstract:** (limited to two paragraphs)

*[insert abstract here]*

**Narrative**: Should be 2-4 pages long, describing the proposed project including research questions, methodology, impact, proposed outcome (ex. a book, a journal article, etc.) project timeline, and any collaboration across Harvard and/or collaboration with researchers in the region. Please be sure to discuss how the work will lead to new scholarships, support early ideas, and creatively enhance research or teaching at Harvard. Demonstrate a seasoned understanding of the problem and show prior preparatory work in this area. Advanced Research Projects should include a few paragraphs that describe how the use of this grant will advance the existing project.

For India-based projects, in addition to the above, please describe how your project facilitates, advances, and/or encourages research, training, and support to programs in India that are for the benefit of the public good of India. Please also describe how this will be disseminated to the general public in India.

Priority will be given to projects with a clear pathway to practical application, as well as innovative proposals with the potential to be transformative over time. Recipients of the grant are expected to present their work at key events hosted by the Mittal Institute.

*[insert narrative here]*

**References Cited and Related Bibliography:** Up to two pages of additional materials (citations, images, bibliography etc.) may be included, if necessary

*[insert additional materials here, if necessary]*

**Brief Bios of the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators:** Please limit team bios to two pages**.**

*[insert bios here]*

**Detailed Budget:**

* If you are requesting a grant for US-based projects, the total requested amount should not exceed **$12,000.**
* If you are requesting a grant for India-based projects, the total requested amount should not exceed **INR 10,65,000.**
* Budgets must be itemized by expense category (e.g., travel, materials, hardware, software, supplies, etc.). **For India-based projects, budgets must be presented in INR and broken down by category to ensure alignment with compliance and payment processing requirements.**
* Funding requests involving travel must adhere to [Harvard University’s travel policies and guidelines](https://policies.fad.harvard.edu/pages/travel-0)
* *Unallowable costs for US and India-based projects: Awards may not be used to support capital equipment purchases or to provide salary or tuition/stipend support for faculty or postdoctoral researchers. For India-based projects, funds may not be used to hire administrative staff or researchers at the Mittal Institute’s India office.*

**Note**: We recognize that some comprehensive scientific projects may require extended timelines and additional resources. Proposals for projects that span more than one year and demonstrate a robust need for extended funding will be considered for an award exceeding the cap, based on the merits of the project and its potential impact.

**For India-based Projects:**

For faculty grants awarded in India, the Mittal Institute’s India office, through Harvard Global Research Support Centre India, can either manage funds in-house or provide a grant to an Implementing Partner organization(s) based in India to undertake research activities. ***Funds must mandatorily be utilized within India. In cases where an Implementing Partner Organization is to be engaged, the funded entity’s scope of work should be clearly defined in the application.***

**Award funds managed by the Mittal Institute’s India office:**

Award funds managed by the Mittal Institute, an office of Harvard Global Research Support Centre India, can only be used towards the appointment of Independent Contractor(s) (ICs) for a limited duration of less than one year, to undertake research activities. All proposed Independent Contractors (IC) should fulfil hiring requirements as laid out in [Harvard’s Independent Contractor Policy](https://policies.fad.harvard.edu/files/fad_policies/files/independent_contractor_policy.pdf), and also be compliant with Indian labour and employment laws. IC stipends/fees will be subject to applicable local taxes, and the IC is solely responsible for taxes. Final IC classification will be at the discretion of Harvard Global India after review by Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) HR.

*The Mittal Institute’s India office cannot manage funds related to other budget categories such as materials, hardware, software, equipment, travel etc. Additionally, funds cannot be used to hire research or administrative staff at the Mittal Institute’s India office.*

**Award funds contracted to an Implementing Partner in India:**

In cases where project implementation entails expenses related to research or administrative staff, materials, hardware, software, equipment, travel etc., the Principal Investigator(s) is required to identify a partner organization(s) who can receive a grant from the Mittal Institute’s India office, through Harvard Global Research Support Centre India, and serve as the Implementing Partner(s) for the project. If the grant is not allowable to the entity, the funds may instead be routed through a service agreement.

**Note:**

In the case of a Service Agreement, all applicable taxes shall be considered part of the approved budget, and no additional funds shall be made available to cover such taxes. In such case, the scope of work and deliverables shall be revised to align with the terms of the service agreement.

In the case of a Grant, only India-based entities can serve as an Implementing partner/grantee organization. Grants to an implementing partner can cover expenses related to personnel, materials, hardware, software, equipment, travel etc., and will be based on budgets provided by the Principal Investigator(s). Please note that a grantee organization’s actual indirect overheads are an allowable expense. Fund transfers are within India, and a grantee organization will not require FCRA (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act) clearance to serve as an Implementing Partner. However, a tax exemption certificate from Indian tax authorities is required in order for the transfer to be considered a grant. Grantee organizations are solely responsible for any applicable taxes. Grantee organizations are required to provide a ‘Fund Utilization Certificate’ at the end of the grant period.

*(Fill in the table below by double-clicking on it – if necessary, add notes and comments below the table).*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Justification | Cost (USD/INR) | Quantity | Total (USD/INR) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | **Total Budget** |  |

**Budget Justification:** Briefly explain each budget line item.

If you are requesting funding from India, please indicate how you plan to utilize funds:

Mittal Institute’s India office is requested to manage funds.

Grant to Implementing Partner(s). Identify an organization(s) that can serve in this role: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Scope of Work of Implementing Partner Organization:** Please provide a brief description of the proposed Implementing Partner’s scope of work. This should outline the specific activities, responsibilities, and deliverables that the organization will undertake in support of the project. Clearly define how these activities align with the objectives of the proposed research and contribute to the overall project outcomes.

*[insert scope of work here]*

**IRB Approval and other Clearances, where applicable:** Proposals involving human subjects will require institutional review board approval. The Principal Investigator(s) is solely responsible for securing IRB approval and other research clearances before the commencement of the project. Proof of IRB approval and other clearances must be submitted to the Mittal Institute prior to fund disbursement. If your project requires IRB approval and other clearances, please indicate in this form the status of these approval requests.

*[insert text here]*

1. Funding will be disbursed once all required administrative processes are complete. While the grant cycle is scheduled to begin in April 2026, documentation, compliance, and payment processing may extend the actual start of project activities by 3–4 months, particularly for grants disbursed via the India office. Applicants are encouraged to plan timelines accordingly.

   [↑](#footnote-ref-2)