

Research & Development Office
Collaborative Research Project Initiative
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Contents

Summary.....	2
Frequently Asked Questions.....	2
Collaborative Research Project	2
1. Can a researcher collaborate with international companies?.....	2
2. Can a researcher engage in more than one Collaborative Research Project?.....	2
3. What is the value of the Collaborative Research Grant?.....	2
4. Are there specific fields that will be required to engage in such projects?.....	2
5. Is match funding required by industry?.....	2
6. What should be included in the Expression of Interest Letter of Intent?	2
7. How are such projects communicated to industry?	3

Summary

The purpose of this Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is to provide answers to common questions of the Collaborative Research Project Initiative that the RDO expects stakeholders will ask.

Frequently Asked Questions

Collaborative Research Project

1. Can a researcher collaborate with international companies?

Yes, researchers may collaborate with international companies but have to be operating in Saudi Arabia. All proponents of the project must take place in Saudi and must have a primary goal of developing and enhancing Saudi research capabilities which will in turn, support society as a whole.

2. Can a researcher engage in more than one Collaborative Research Project?

Yes, a researcher can get involved in three projects during the course of the grant cycle. Researchers are eligible to submit proposals to be a **PI on one project and can be a CO-PI on two.**

3. What is the value of the Collaborative Research Grant?

Grants allocated for each Collaborative Research Project are valued between SAR 200,000 and SAR 500,000 over the course of two to three years, depending on the size and scope of the project.

4. Are there specific fields that will be required to engage in such projects?

The Collaborative Research Project initiative has been developed to give researchers (university) and industry an opportunity to develop impactful research projects. Projects are required to be STEM based and R&D related and priority will be given to industries identified in the Guidelines.

5. Is match funding required by industry?

For this initiative, in order to ensure commitment from the industry partner, it is required for the company to contribute funds and if match funding is provided, the researcher will enhance his/her chances of being selected. The industry partner is required to provide a confirmation of funding contribution or match funding within the Letter of Intent (Stage 1) which is non-binding, and within the binding Letter of Support in the Comprehensive Proposal Application (Stage 2).

6. What should be included in the Expression of Interest Letter of Intent?

A Letter of Intent (LOI) is a short non-binding Letter that precedes the Letter of Support (Stage 2), confirming the industry partner's commitment to the projects.

This Letter of Intent should at-least provide:

- Initial confirmation of intended partnership

- Initial confirmation of intended project
- Initial confirmation of capacity for the project
- Initial confirmation of capabilities to execute the project
- Initial confirmation for match funding and percentage of contribution

7. How are such projects communicated to industry?

Researchers wishing to engage in this initiative are responsible for seeking out industry partners who have appropriate and relevant capabilities in the identified research field.

Industry players that wish to engage in such collaborative projects can also increase their chances of getting involved in this initiative by getting in touch with relevant deans or influencers within the universities that may be interested in collaborating on the selected research.