Competition documentation for an open public competition to receive grants from the Russian Science Foundation for the priority area of the Russian Science Foundation’s activities “Basic scientific research and exploratory scientific research, conducted by international research teams”

(Last date of Submission 21 December 2015)

1. The competition to receive grants from the Russian Science Foundation for the priority area of the Russian Science Foundation’s activities “Basic scientific research and exploratory scientific research, conducted by international research teams” and grants Department of Science Technology of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of India shall be conducted by the Russian Science Foundation (hereinafter the Foundation) jointly with the Department of Science Technology of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of India (hereinafter the Department) in accordance with the procedure for the competitive selection of scientific and technical programmes and projects presented at the Foundation’s competition based on the decision of the Management Board of the Russian Science Foundation and Department Research Grants Programme.

2. The source of the Foundation’s grants shall be the Russian Federation’s property contribution to the Russian Science Foundation. The source of the Department grants shall be Department budget.

3. The grants shall be allocated for scientific and technical programmes and projects, basic scientific research and exploratory scientific research (hereinafter the projects, scientific research) in 2016-2018 for the following branches of knowledge:
   - 01 Mathematics, computer science and systems sciences;
   - 02 Physics and space sciences;
   - 03 Chemistry and materials science;
   - 04 Biology and life sciences;
   - 05 Basic research for medicine;
   - 06 Agricultural sciences;
   - 07 Earth sciences;
   - 08 Engineering.

4. Projects conducted by international research teams each of which consists of a Russian research team and a foreign research team may take part in the competition. The international research team may include scientists regardless of the position held by the leaders of the Russian and foreign research team (hereinafter the Russian team leader and foreign team leader), their academic degrees, citizenship or the form of incorporation or ownership of the organisations with which the leaders of the Russian and foreign teams and members of the international research team have employment or civil relations.

5. The Foundation’s grants shall be provided to the Russian research team on a free and non-refundable basis according to the competition results under the terms specified by the Foundation, via Russian research organisations, Russian higher educational organisations and international research organisations (interstate and intergovernmental), located on the territory of the Russian Federation, where the projects will be implemented (hereinafter the organisation).

   The Department grant shall be provided to the Indian research team performing basic scientific research and exploratory scientific research on the basis of organisation for carrying out research in partnership of Russian institute (hereinafter the foreign organisation) according to the competition results under the terms specified by the Department.

6. The condition for the provision of a grant by the Foundation shall be the receipt by the foreign research team of a grant from the Department to implement the project. The Foundation’s grant would be provided to the organisation in the amount equal to the Department grant.
shall be discontinued in the event the Department grant is discontinued. The scope and name of the project involved in the Foundation’s competition must be identical\(^1\) to the scope and name of the project involved in the Department competition.

7. The scientist who serves as the leader of a project (leader of an area of the organisation’s integrated research programme) that was previously supported by the Foundation and that was not completed as of the application submission date, is not eligible to be the leader of the Russian team.

8. The scientist who is in any way involved in the implementation of two or more projects (including an area of the organisation’s integrated research programme) that were previously supported by the Foundation and dependent and that was not completed as of the application submission date is not eligible to be a member of the Russian research team.

9. The Russian team leader and Russian research team members may be employees of the organisation or other persons hired to implement the project who have employment or civil relations with the organisation over the duration of the practical implementation of the project. The Russian team leader must have employment relations with the organisation over the entire duration of the practical implementation of the project. The Indian team leader must have employment relations with the Indian organisation over the entire duration of the practical implementation of the project.

10. Over the five years preceding the competition\(^2\), the both team leader must have the following number of publications in peer-reviewed Russian and foreign scientific journals indexed in the Web of Science or Scopus databases\(^3\):

\[ a) \text{-- at least } \text{ten different publications; } \]

11. The size of one grant shall range from 4 (four) to 6 (six) million roubles annually\(^4\). The size of one grant from the Department shall range up to 6 (six) million Indian rupees annually.

12. Both the Foundation and Department may alter the amount of annual funding in the event of a reduction in the size of the Russian Federation’s property contribution to the Russian Science Foundation or according to a decision by the Foundation’s Management Board based Project Advisory Committee on the results of an expert evaluation of the grant application, reports submitted on the implementation of the project and the proper use of the grant by its recipient.

13. Work on the project shall be performed within the framework of the document\(^5\) on scientific and technical cooperation between the organisation and foreign organisation. This document and/or appendices thereto shall identify the plan coordinated by the parties and the amount of funding for scientific research, the dates for its completion, the terms of interaction as well as the distribution of work to be performed under the project between the Russian and foreign research teams.

This document and/or appendices thereto shall also regulate the procedure for the use of jointly received intellectual property and provide the ability to use for the government needs of the Russian Federation and the Republic of India of the results of intellectual activity created by the international research team when implementing the project on the basis of non-exclusive license provided by the rights holder to the state licensee.

The Foundation shall be entitled to sign an agreement (contract) on the funding of the project (hereinafter the agreement) with the competition winner only after submitting a copy of this document that has been certified by the organisation. The projects supported according with the competition results may not have sources of funding that differ from those listed above over the entire duration of the practical implementation of the project using the Foundation’s grant\(^6\).

\(^1\) The difference may be due solely to the project presentation form to the Foundation and Foreign Partner.

\(^2\) Over the period from 1 January 2010 to the publication date of the competition announcement.

\(^3\) The list of publication is cited in clause 2.9 of Appendix 1.

\(^4\) The planned funding amount for the project is given in clause 1.8 of Appendix 1. A breach of the terms of this clause shall results in the rejection of the application at any stage.

\(^5\) Letter on intentions, memorandum or agreement. The draft of the document may be submitted within the application. A breach of the terms of this clause shall result in the rejection of the application.

\(^6\) Including that the projects may not be fully or partially funded as a part of a government (municipal) objective.
14. The proportion of Russian research team members aged up to and including 39 years directly involved in the performance of scientific research shall be at least 50 (fifty) per cent of the total number of Russian research team members over the entire duration of the practical implementation of the project. Each member of the Russian research team shall receive remuneration annually for work performed as part of the project’s implementation. The total amount of annual remuneration for a member of the Russian research team may not exceed 30 per cent of the total annual remuneration for all members of the Russian research team. The amount of annual remuneration for Russian research team members aged up to and including 39 years may not be less than 35 per cent of the total annual remuneration for all Russian research team members. The total number of members of the Russian research team (along with the Russian team leader) may not exceed 10 persons.

15. The team leader shall be entitled to submit only one application to take part in this competition. There shall be no restriction on the number of projects that one organisation may implement.

16. It shall not be permitted to submit to the Foundation / Department a project that is similar in scope to a project which has been concurrently submitted for the other competitions of the Foundation / Department or other research foundations or organisations (other than those specified by this competition documentation) or which is currently being implemented using the funds of foundations or organisations, a government (municipal) objective or development programmes funded by the federal budget. If these conditions are violated, the Foundation / Department shall discontinue funding for the project regardless of its stage of implementation with the simultaneous recovery of the funds paid to the grant recipient in the prescribed manner.

The project, supported by the Department, may receive funding from other sources, provided that such funding will not be bound by the obligations to third parties, except for obligations to the Indian organization founders.

17. The projects supported as a result of the competition may not contain information that constitutes a state secret or other restricted information that is to be protected in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation. The grant shall be discontinued if such information arises over the implementation of the project.

18. A mandatory condition for the provision of the grant by the Foundation / Department shall be the undertaking of the following obligations by the international research team:

18.1. To make the results of their scientific research a part of the public domain in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation and India by publishing them in Russian and Indian peer-reviewed scientific journals.

18.2. To publish in Russian and Indian peer-reviewed scientific journals during the practical implementation of the project:

a) for branches of knowledge 01-08 specified in clause 3 of this competition documentation – at least ten publications with the involvement of Russian and Indian research team members indexed in the Web of Science or Scopus databases;

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7 The members of the research team are listed in clause 1.6 of Appendix 1.
8 Including guarantees established by the legislation of the Russian Federation, deductions on insurance premiums for mandatory pension insurance, for mandatory medical insurance and for mandatory social insurance in the event of temporary disability and due to maternity and for mandatory social insurance against accidents at work and occupational diseases.
9 The number of research team members is given in clause 1.6 of Appendix 1.
10 The number of other projects where he or she is declared as the member of the team but is not entitled as the leader of the project shall not be limited. A breach of the terms of this clause shall result in the rejection of the application at any stage.
11 The number of planned publications is given in clause 1.10 of Appendix 1.
18.3. To mention the financial support received from the Foundations, the Department, the organisation and the Indian organisation in published results of any research work performed as part of a project supported by the Foundation.

18.4. To agree that the summary of the supported project and relevant project implementation reports will be published by the Foundation and Department, including publication on the Internet.

18.5. To agree, that the application submitted for the competition may be subject of international expert evaluation.

19. Applications for the Foundation’s competition shall be submitted by Russian team leaders using the forms in accordance with Appendix 1 to this competition documentation both electronically [via the Foundation’s information and analytical system (hereinafter the IAS)] and as hard copy (printed from the IAS), and the contents of electronic application must be identical to the contents of the hard copy. Applications shall be submitted to the Foundation in English with individual fields of the application forms to be completed in Russian (only where specifically indicated).

20. Applications shall be completed using the Foundation’s IAS located on the Internet at the address http://grant.rscf.ru. As an application receives a registration number in the IAS, the Russian team leader must print and submit one hard copy of the application and additional materials to the Foundation no later than 12:00 a.m. (Moscow time) December, 21, 2015 at the address: Moscow, GSP-2, 109992, ul. Solyanka, d. 14, str. 3. The Russian team leader shall independently choose the method for delivering the application materials to the Foundation that ensures that they (for Russian Project Leader) are received by the Foundation by the required deadline. On the Indian side, one soft copy of the proposal be sent to skvdst@nic.in by the closing date and

21. The hard copy of the application must be bound and affixed with the organisation’s seal, while the relevant forms must be personally signed by the Russian and Indian team leader, the core research team members (core investigators) and the head of the organisation (authorised representative acting on the basis of a power of attorney). On the Indian side, one hard copy duly forwarded by the applicant institute should be submitted within 15 days of closing date to Shri SK Varshney, Scientist G / Adviser, International Bilateral Cooperation, Department of Science & Technology, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi 110016.

22. Applications received by the Foundation / Department shall not be returned.

23. The following applications are not eligible for the competition:
   a) applications that are completed and/or submitted to the Foundation with violations of the requirements of clauses 19, 20 and 21 of this competition documentation;
   b) applications that are completed and submitted to the Foundation with violations of the requirements for the content of the application to take part in the competition set forth in the announcement on the competition and the competition documentation;
   c) applications whose hard copy versions differ from the electronic version registered in the IAS;
   d) applications whose hard copy versions were received by the Foundation after the deadline for the submission;
   e) applications whose content violates the requirements of clauses 3, 5-8, 10, 11, 13-18, 34, 36 and 38.

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12 The application completion cycle consists of the following steps: the registration of the applicant (if this was not done earlier, including the individual registration of the Russian team leader and up to three core research team members), completion of information about the applicant in the IAS, the preparation of the application and the registration of the application.

13 In the event the application is signed by an authorised representative, a power of attorney (copy of a power of attorney certified by the organisation’s seal) shall be attached to the hard copy of the application.
24. The Foundation shall notify the Russian team leader via the IAS about the registration of the application, the receipt of the hard copy of the application and the results of the competition. The Department should send email acknowledgment to Indian Project Leader.

25. The Russian team leader shall be entitled to withdraw an application submitted for a competition provided that the relevant written notification is submitted to the Foundation / Department.

26. The Russian team leader shall be entitled to make changes to an application submitted for a competition only in the form of its withdrawal in accordance with clause 25 of this competition documentation and the submission of a new application for the competition by the required deadlines.

27. Applications eligible for the competition shall undergo an expert evaluation in accordance with the Procedure for the expert evaluation of scientific and technical programmes and projects submitted for a competition of the Russian Science Foundation & DST and the Criteria for the competitive selection of scientific and technical programmes and projects submitted for a competition of the Russian Science Foundation / DST. Applications shall be referred for an expert evaluation in accordance with the classifier codes for the branches of knowledge specified by the Russian team leaders in the applications. (Project Advisory Committee of the Department)

28. The competition results shall be approved by the Foundation’s Management Board by June 1, 2016.

29. The list of supported projects based on the competition results shall be published on the Foundation’s / Department website no later than 10 days after the competition results are determined.

30. The texts of the agreements shall be sent to the leaders of Russian teams whose projects were supported by the Foundation via the IAS system within 15 business days after the approval date of the competition results, for completion and signing. The will contain the following information:
   - the area of scientific research;
   - the work plan and cost estimate of scientific research;
   - the duty of the team leader to submit an annual report on the project’s implementation;
   - the duty of the organisation to provide the research team with the necessary facility, equipment and supplies as well as access to the available experimental base for scientific research;
   - the duty of the organisation to conclude civil or employment (fixed-term) contracts with each member of the research team;
   - the duty of the organisation to pay to the members of the research team remuneration for work performed as part of the project under written orders from the team leader;
   - the duty of the organisation to maintain separate records of grant expenditures and present reports on its proper use;
   - the duty of the organisation to submit a report on the proper use of the grant;
   - the conditions and procedure for the parties to terminate the agreement, including in the event the Foundation identifies the misuse of the grant;
   - other rights and duties of the Foundation, the Russian team leader and organisation associated with the use of the grant in compliance with the provisions of this competition documentation.

31. The amount of the Foundation’s / Department financial support for the project in the agreement may be reduced compared to the amount requested by the Russian / Indian team leader in accordance with the decision of the Foundation’s Management Board / PAC based on the recommendations from the Foundation’s Expert Council.

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14 The documents were published on the Internet at the address http://rscf.ru/fonddocs.
15 If such contracts were not previously concluded.
32. The Foundation / Department may not conclude an agreement if the head of the project, declared in the agreement is different compared to the materials of the relevant application that has undergone the expert evaluation procedure.

33. Within 15 business days after receipt via the IAS of a draft agreement signed by the Russian team leader and authorised representative of the organisation, the agreement or a substantiated refusal by the Russian team leader or organisation to sign the agreement must be submitted to the Foundation. The Russian team leader shall independently choose the method for delivering the signed agreement to the Foundation that ensures that it is received by the Foundation on time. If this deadline is violated, the Russian team leader and organisation shall notify the Foundation about the impermissible delay with the signing of the agreement. If the duly signed agreement is not received by the Foundation within the following 5 business days, the relevant project shall be excluded from the list of projects supported by the Foundation, and the relevant notice will be published on the Foundation’s official website. The Indian team leader and his / her institute would be expected to fill up necessary documents required for completion of international collaboration. These institutes belonging to different department has to organise required clearances from their parent Ministry / Department.

34. The Foundation’s / Department grant may be used solely for the purposes specified in the agreement.

35. The identification of the misuse of the grant shall constitute grounds for the termination of the agreement and the return of the grant in the manner prescribed by the agreement.

36. Any Intellectual Property Rights, originated from implementation of projects by Foundation and Department Funding, belong to the Russian and Indian researchers, representing the part of an international research team.

The Russian Federation and the Republic of India may use for public needs the results of intellectual activity, originated from implementation of the project, carried out by the international research team, on the basis of non-exclusive license provided by the rights holder to the state licensee.

37. The organisation shall be responsible for the proper use of the Foundation’s grant. The foreign organisation shall be responsible for the proper use of the Department grant.

38. The organisation’s overhead may not exceed 10 per cent of the amount of the Foundation’s grant.

16 The winner is responsible for settling matters associated with the implementation of this clause with the foreign research team.
PROJECT PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE:

KEY WORDS
(Max. 5)

AREA
Pls indicate area under which your proposal falls

PROJECT COORDINATORS
(one on each side)
(Name, Designation, Address, Tel., Fax, E-mail)

Indian
Russian
OTHER PARTICIPANTS : (Including those from user agency(ies))

PROPOSED STARTING DATE :

DURATION :

OBJECTIVES :

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT :
(Please attach 1-2 page Project summary including methodology and anticipated results)

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL SCENARIO IN THE PROPOSED TOPIC/THEME OF RESEARCH :
(in about 200 words), Please provide key bibliographic references.

NECESSITY AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROPOSED RESEARCH EXCHANGE WITH RUSSIA:

PLANNED TARGETS :

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time frame</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indian responsibilities</th>
<th>Russian responsibilities</th>
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SUGGEST WAYS OF MEASURING THE OUTCOME AND IMPACT OF THE JOINT RESEARCH PROJECT

**PROPOSED METHODOLOGY FOR JOINT UTILISATION OF RESULTS:**
(Joint Publications, transfer of results to industry, setting up of joint ventures etc.)

**ONGOING / COMPLETED PROJECTS WITH THE INDIAN PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR** (last 5 years)

### National Projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Sponsoring Agency</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
</table>

### International Projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Name of the Collaborating Scientist &amp; Institute</th>
<th>Sponsoring Agency</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
EXCHANGE VISIT WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED TO MEET TARGETS:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st year</th>
<th>2nd Year</th>
<th>3rd year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India to Russia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia to India</td>
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FINANCIAL SUPPORT REQUIRED:

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Financial Year</th>
<th>2nd Financial year</th>
<th>3rd year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Consumables</td>
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<td>Manpower</td>
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<td>Contingency</td>
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<td>Exchange Visits</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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- Please add appropriate justification / basis of calculation for the required budgetary support head-wise.
### FUNDING PATTERN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em>Available from</em></th>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Financial Year</th>
<th>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Financial Year</th>
<th>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; financial year</th>
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<td>* Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Parent Deptt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>* (CSIR, DBT, DAE, etc)</td>
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<td>* Others DST</td>
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<td>Schemes Pl. Specify</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Other Sources Pl. Specify</td>
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| *Required*                        |                                 |                                 |                               |
| * DST                             |                                 |                                 |                               |
| * Other Sources (Pl. Specify)     |                                 |                                 |                               |

**Total**

*Note: The Project Leader is required to submit periodic reports and its continuation in the second year would depend upon its progress assessed by DST & RSF. At the end of each financial year the Indian Project Leader is also required to submit the Utilization Certificates and Statement of Expenditure in prescribed to DST.*

(Signature of Project Coordinator)

**Attachments required**

1. A consent of Russian counterpart to pursue proposed joint work.
2. No objection / Forwarding letter of Institute.
3. Bio-data of Project Coordinators (max: 2 pages) including date of superannuation / completion tenure, field of specialization, current research interests, significant research accomplishments.
4. In kind support available from the participating institute may also be indicated.
IMPORTANT NOTICE TO INDIAN APPLICANTS

Closing Date: For soft copy receipt on skvdst@nic.in by 21st December 2015
For Hard copy receipt by 4th January 2016 at the following address:
Shri SK Varshney, Scientist G ./ Adviser, International Bilateral Cooperation,
Department of Science & Technology, Technology Bhawan,
New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi 110016