

Full Project Proposal Evaluation Rubrics

Challenge-driven Innovation Fund (CIF)

Evaluation Criteria

Criteria for Evaluation	Weightage	Score on Grading Scale (1-7)
<p>Relevance to the Priority Thematic Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How relevant are the project’s objectives in contributing to the overall goal and the specific objectives of the Challenge? • Are the identified aspects of the Priority Thematic Area significant and important enough to merit a CIF award? • Does the proposal articulate a clear and reasonable vision with regards to the research program addressing the Priority Thematic Area? • Does the proposed solution address the local problem(s)? 	10	
<p>Novelty and Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How novel and ambitious are the proposed technological breakthroughs with respect to the state-of-the-art? • Does the proposal present a compelling case for the research plan to address the Priority Thematic Area? • Does the proposal describe an integrated research plan/prototype to address particular aspects of the Priority Thematic Area? Is the scope of the proposed research feasible and reasonable in the CIF timeframe and with the anticipated CIF budget? • Is the proposed research plan consistent with a large-scale CIF Project? • How adequate are the proposed measures for protection of results and any other exploitation measures to facilitate future translation of research results into innovations with societal or economic impact? • Does the dissemination plan effectively communicate the anticipated results to all relevant stakeholders? • What is the expected commercialization potential/socioeconomic impact of the product in future? 	30	
<p>Project Team and Partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the proposed CIF project established the necessary partnerships to succeed in its vision and goals? Are the partners committed to the success of the proposed CIF project? • Does the proposal clearly describe why the academic partners were selected to contribute to the proposed CIF project? • Do the academic partners have sufficient resources available to fulfill their commitments to the project? How does the CIF project leverage other funding that the academic partners may have? • Has the proposed CIF project effectively consulted with the relevant sectoral (non-academic) stakeholders? How well has this input been incorporated into the proposal? • Does the proposed CIF project have an effective plan for incorporating sectoral partnerships into the research program? • Does the proposal describe how the proposed partners – academic and/or sectoral - add value to the proposed CIF project? 	20	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment on the financial commitment and other contributions of the sectoral partners to the proposed CIF. • Is there a record of achievement for sectoral-academic partnerships involving those who will contribute to the CIF project? 		
<p>Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the research team have the appropriate track record to deliver on the research program? • Is the PI qualified to lead the large-scale research project with multiple partners? Is the project management plan clearly delineated? • Is the project timeline reasonable? Does the proposal describe appropriate milestones to be delivered during the project lifetime? • Does the research team have the physical resources and facilities available to implement the proposed research plan (these can be on-site at the host institution, available through partners, or planned purchases through the proposed CIF award)? • Is the project budget reasonable? Is the budget appropriately allocated to ensure that the project goals can be achieved? • Does the proposal describe an adequate risk management strategy? 	20	
<p>Institutional Capacity to Implement CIF Research Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the institution have a record of achievement in supporting large project awards? Does the institution have effective policies and practices in place to manage large awards? • Comment on the commitment of the Head of the Organization to the proposed CIF project. 	10	
<p>Integration of Proposal Elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the proposal put forward an integrated, visionary plan for a CIF award? • Does the proposal address all considerations in an achievable manner? • Does the proposal present a compelling case for support? • Does the proposal inspire confidence in the capacity of the faculty and institution to deliver on the goals? • Are the anticipated project milestones (at year one, year two, and project conclusion) deliverable on the timeline proposed? • How will the proposed CIF award address the Priority Thematic Area in a manner that is only achievable through large-scale, multidisciplinary financing? 	10	

Grading Scale

Grading Scale	Description
7- Outstanding	Exceptionally strong proposal with negligible weaknesses
6-Excellent	Very strong proposal with negligible weaknesses
5-Very Good	Very strong Proposal with minor weaknesses
4-Good	Strong proposal with minor weaknesses
3-Average	Proposal having some strengths but moderate weaknesses
2-Weak	Proposal having few strengths with major weaknesses
1-Poor	Proposal having very few strengths with numerous major weaknesses