

Expanding and Diversifying Counter-proliferation Efforts

Competition Opens:	February 22, 2023
Application Deadline:	June 22, 2023
Eligibility:	Applications must be submitted from Indian Universities, research institutions, think tanks, investigative journalists, and media outlets, Business Councils, Industry Associations who are FCRA Registered, or exempted organizations to be eligible for funding.
How to Apply:	By email to (EXBSGrant@Crdfglobal.org)
General Area:	Research
Award Amounts:	USD 36,000
Award Duration:	Eight months
Announcement and Application:	On CRDF Global’s website: crdfglobal.org/funding-opportunities/#open-opportunities

Overview

- CRDF Global, with support from the U.S. Department of State’s Export Control and Border Security (EXBS) Program, will oversee a grant competition for organizations to leverage open-source tools to produce research, analysis, and/or enforcement tools related to the practical implementation of export controls, sanctions, and other international nonproliferation mechanisms.
- Priority will be given to project proposals addressing key proliferation problem sets that are perpetuated by nation states that promote Weapons of Mass Destruction or provide support to terrorist proxies. These include, among other things, the use of paramilitary organizations for national border security, the forced or illicit acquisition of technologies for military aggression, unauthorized arms transfers or illegal trade in arms, unauthorized intangible technology transfers.
- Creativity and innovation in the outputs of the proposed project is highly encouraged. Examples of proposed project outputs include (but are not limited to): a research paper with practical application such as informing policy or practices; due diligence and “Know Your Customer” guidance or protocols for local industries; a training module or model policy to protect intangible technology; a training module or software tool to enhance public procurement, financial controls, investment screening, etc.; a case study or visual aid to support policy analysis and/or advocacy around strategic trade controls and sanctions; data collection or analysis to map high-risk investments or transactions; an investigation to uncover hidden proliferation-related procurement activities; an investigation to uncover sanctions evasion practices; etc. Grants are a one-time, eight-month award up to approximately USD \$36,000 each.

Project Scope

Grant recipients will:

- a. Conduct an effort that enhances partner countries’ capacity to strengthen international nonproliferation regimes and norms through awareness raising, policy reform, enhanced enforcement procedures, or other.

- b. Actively promote their effort through an event such as, but not limited to, a publication event, a roundtable, journal or workshops at relevant universities. Materials should primarily focus on impacting the community in India, and to be published and disseminated locally

This work may explore topics related to paramilitary organizations, illicit pursuits of technologies for military dominance, and arms transport. It may focus on state-based threats to nonproliferation, its norms and regimes – such as those originating from the Russian Federation, from the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People’s Republic of China – as well as nonstate threats terrorist organizations, proxy groups, or other. Research applications targeting state actors threats and key proliferation problems will be reviewed

Eligibility

- Applicants must be Indian nationals and residents of India to be eligible to apply.
- Institutional and/or managerial approval is required for *all* applications to be considered for this competition.
- Indian Institutions must be legally exempt from the FCRA Registration requirement and submit sufficient exemption documents or have the FCRA Registration and the correspondent bank account.
- Applications must be submitted from Indian Universities, research institutions, think tanks, investigative journalists, and media outlets, Business Councils, Industry Associations who are FCRA Registered, or exempted.

Application Materials:

- A completed application and supporting documents with all application sections filled out, including:
 - Fully completed application form
 - A one-page abstract and proposed action plan describing the project objective, proposed methodology, brief review of existing work on the same topic (if any) and expected results. The abstract should be double-spaced in 12-point font no more than 900 words. The application should include specific plans on what kind of event or other method of research dissemination and promotion will be conducted.
 - Institutional letter of support
 - Proposed detailed budget: the primary sheet of the budget should be used to fill out the project budget. Any Institutional support should be filled out in the CostShare tab.
 - The curriculum vitae (CV) for each individual on the project team. The CVs should be sent as a single PDF document.
 - FCRA Registration or exemption documents
- Application materials and research products must be submitted in English.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria.

1. Research topic relevance and impact:
 - Does the proposed project meet the research scope and objectives?
 - How will the institution plan to present the project’s findings in a follow-on event?

- Who is the target audience, and how will they be affected by the project's outcomes?
- 2. Sustainability and commitment
 - Does the applicant's organization demonstrate commitment to the project by offering any complementary in-kind or financial support?
 - Ability to sustain the project and support research outcome dissemination after the grant ending period
- 3. Clarity, feasibility, and detail
 - Is the project sufficiently detailed and possible to successfully accomplish? Can the project feasibly be completed during the grant period?
- 4. Past performance
 - Do applicants have a track record of high-quality research, advocacy or policy analysis. Are applicants an authority on relevant topics (e.g., technology security, export controls, sanctions, responsible science, information security, data governance, responsible technology, institutional compliance, dual-use knowledge and technology, and/or intangible technology transfer, etc.)

Additional Information

- Applicants receiving provisional notice of selection may be asked to provide additional information to determine eligibility for receipt of U.S. funds.
- For detailed information regarding general CRDF Global grant policies please visit:
<https://www.crdfglobal.org/funding-opportunities/#information-applicants>
<https://www.crdfglobal.org/funding-opportunities/#information-awardees>
- For additional questions regarding the grant competition please list the competition name in the email subject and use the below address: EXBSGrant@Crdfglobal.org