



**Indian Council of Agricultural Research
National Agricultural Higher Education Project
Project Implementation Unit
Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan – II, Pusa, New Delhi – 110012**

**Second Round of Invitation of Concept Notes for support under the Component 1
of the National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP)**

ICAR, with the assistance of World Bank and Govt. of India has launched the National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) with a total cost of US\$ 165 million (Rupees 1100 crores approximately) for four years starting from the financial year 2017-18 upto 2020-21. The investment will be made on infrastructure, competency and development of faculty, and attracting talented students to agriculture. The overall objective of the project is to support participating Agricultural Universities and ICAR in providing more relevant and higher quality education to students of the agriculture universities.

Concept Notes are invited from all accredited Agricultural Universities including State Agricultural University, State Veterinary University, State Horticulture University, State Fishery University established under the Acts of State Legislative Assemblies and Central Agricultural University established under the Acts of Parliament, ICAR Deemed to be Universities, and Central Universities established under the Acts of Parliament and having Agricultural faculty accredited by ICAR for funding under this project. However, those AUs already awarded either an IDP or a CAAST need not apply. Those who are already availing Innovation Grant under the project also need not apply till completion of the IG project period. Details about different components of the project, format and eligibility criteria are available on ICAR website www.icar.org.in. The Concept Notes have to be submitted in a prescribed format electronically by email to ddgedn@gmail.com and twenty copies by post to The National Director (NAHEP), Room No. 207, Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan II, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012. Submission of a Concept Note will indicate that the proponents agree(s) to abide by the rules of selection of NAHEP. The Concept Notes may be submitted latest by 4.00 PM on 24.10.2018.



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**Second Round of Invitation of Concept Notes for support under the Component
1 of the National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP)**

Background

ICAR, with the assistance of World Bank and Govt. of India on a 50:50 cost sharing basis, has launched the National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) with a total cost of US\$ 165 million (Rupees 1100 crore approximately) for four years starting from the financial year 2017-18 upto 2020-21. The investment will be made on infrastructure, competency development of faculty, and attracting talented students to agriculture. The overall objective of the project is to support participating Agricultural Universities and ICAR in providing more relevant and higher quality education to agriculture university students. The key to a successful education programme essentially lies in quality of faculty, learning-focused and career-oriented curricula and necessary laboratory and farm facilities leading to better employment outcomes for students. The project, therefore, aims to address majority of these areas by conceptualizing a number of important reforms under two broad categories, i.e. focusing on the working mechanism of the Agricultural Universities and raising the standard of campus teaching and learning in more non-conventional ways. This will be achieved through a number of schemes and provisions for upgradation of faculty, students and required infrastructure and partnerships with other academic institutions and private industry.

All accredited Agricultural Universities including State Agricultural University, State Veterinary University, State Horticulture University, State Fishery University established under the Acts of State Legislative Assemblies and Central Agricultural University established under the Acts of Parliament, ICAR Deemed to be Universities, and Central

Universities established under an Act of Parliament and accredited by UGC and having an Agricultural faculty accredited by ICAR will be invited to participate. However, those AUs which have been awarded either an IDP or a CAAST in the first round need not apply as they are mutually exclusive. Also, those AUs which have been sanctioned IG in the first round cannot apply for IDP or CAAST during the project period of the IG.

Components to be funded: The NAHEP will have the following three components:

Component 1: Support to Agricultural Universities

This component will have three sub-components:

Sub-component 1A: Investments toward 21st Century Agricultural Universities (Implementation of Institutional Development Plan / IDP). Under this sub-component, grant will be given for institutional development to up to ten Agricultural Universities selected on a competitive basis. This will be implemented through Institutional Development Plans (IDPs) and will target reform-ready, accredited AUs. The IDPs would seek to improve:

- (a) learning outcomes and future employment for AU students for undergraduate education; and
- (b) faculty teaching performance and research effectiveness for knowledge generation.

Each IDP would be linked to performance and quality enhancement. The selected universities would act as a model to introduce reforms in other agricultural universities. Through the IDPs, the AUs would identify and prioritize key challenges, propose interventions to respond to these challenges, and set timelines and indicators for measuring achievement of greater quality and relevance attributable to these interventions. Each AU would receive specialized support from ICAR and the External Advisory Panel during IDP development. IDPs would draw on consultations with stakeholders, including faculty, administrators, students and industry. IDP funding would be performance-linked. Activities financed under each IDP would include:

- (a) Pilot courses by designing curriculum involving industry and implement with industry in faculty for skill development, entrepreneurship and employability of agriculture graduates.
- (b) capacity building and training for agreed governance reforms that promote AU

autonomy and sustained accreditation;

(c) improved infrastructure (i.e., renovation and modernization of existing facilities) for research and teaching;

(d) faculty development programmes (i.e., training, consultant services);

(e) student development programmes (twinning arrangements, dual degrees, remedial courses, enhancement of soft skills, etc.)

(f) networking with industry and other learning institutions, both national and international;

(g) increased vocational education through the launching of relevant programs;

(h) more effective student job placement;

(i) own-revenue generation through consultancies, testing and certification for AUs.

(j) establish and or activate alumni network, industry linkage and student internship with industry.

(k) Provide for adjunct professorship, visiting professorship, mentorship, guest lectures, etc to expose students outside talents in teaching.

Each IDP would also specify a Twinning Plan with a recognized high-performing university, either in India or abroad.

The IDP would (a) demonstrate the role of reforms in governance and increasing system's internal efficiency through the piloted programmes/courses; (b) ensure compliance with ICAR's policies and reforms introduced, and strengthen quality assurance mechanisms; (c) enhance quality of human resource development and competence of faculty; (d) take up strategic planning, and (e) attract and shape young talent to agricultural education and profession.

Sub-component 1B: Investments in Centres for Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology (CAAST). This sub-component would provide grant to selected reform-ready, accredited Agricultural Universities. The AUs will be competitively selected for the establishment of CAAST for knowledge generation and teaching aids for post graduate and

doctoral level. The sub-component would finance: (a) research and teaching equipment (i.e., goods); (b) faculty and scientist development fellowships, (c) student scholarships, primarily at the postgraduate level; and (d) costs associated with twinning arrangements with similar centres (e.g., universities, research centres) both outside and within India (i.e., training, consultant services, and non-consultant services)..

CAAST would support AUs in setting up interdisciplinary Centres in the areas of importance and present state-of-art technology. Based on an assessment of key knowledge challenges expected to be faced by Indian agriculture in the coming years and the expected need for skilled graduates and postgraduates in these areas in the future, thrust areas will be selected for setting-up CAAST. The emphasis will be on participation of industries in these centres for skill development for enhanced education, employability and entrepreneurship.

Suggested theme of CAAST

A maximum of ten (10) Centres of Advanced Agricultural Science and Technology selected from different sub-sectors of Indian agriculture will be funded on a competitive basis. Suggested themes would include: Conservation Agriculture, Precision farming / Farm Mechanization, Secondary Agriculture, Specialty agriculture, Renewable Energy Sources, Integrated Farming System (IFS), Agriculture Market Intelligence, Good Agricultural Practices, Hitech/Protected Cultivation, Climate Resilient Agriculture, Food Safety, Big Data Analysis and Genomics-assisted Breeding. The above list is only indicative and Agricultural Higher Education Programme Committee (AHEPC) and Project Management Committee (PMC) will take the final decision on the relevance and importance of the theme while considering a proposal. Only existing performing and successful multi-disciplinary thematic research team as evident by publications in high rated, peer reviewed journals, patents commercialized and patent revenue generated, will be considered for upgrading into a CAAST. No proposal for establishment of totally new CAAST by forming a fresh team will be considered. An indicative list of activities to be financed under Subcomponent 1b includes:

- New PG course development and existing PG course revision, with emphasis on applied problem solving and entrepreneurship.
- Development of certificate courses for skill development in relevant areas such as high-tech horticulture, food processing and precision farm technology.

- Master and Ph.D. students sandwich program to facilitate student exposure to national and international universities.
- Modern research facilities to conduct high-quality advanced research by faculty and students.
- Faculty upgradation through international and national training with mentor universities.
- Targeted research collaboration with national and international centers of excellence to increase both faculty/student productivity and research quality and relevance (see Box 3).
- Adjunct/Visiting Professorship opportunities to stimulate innovation in ongoing PG research and to mentor PG students.
- Distinguished Lecture Series/Special lectures to bring about much needed vibrancy in the academic atmosphere and inspire students and faculty to perform better.
- Collaboration with private sector, industry and civil society organizations related to the specialized areas to develop market-oriented programs and produce industry-ready graduates.
- Transfer of technology to end users, e.g., farmers; this can be done effectively through KVKs in that region so that the research-education-extension synergy is revitalized.

In addition to reform readiness (i.e., accreditation), AUs would be required to verify the qualifications and experience of faculty and staff to successfully establish and maintain the proposed CAAST, including:

- *Faculty and Research Staff Strength*: At least ten permanent multi-disciplinary faculty with demonstrable expertise and research accomplishment relevant to the proposed CAAST;
- *Scientific partnership* with national and international professional institutions.

Existing and functional advanced center in the proposed thematic area

Note : Sub-components 1A & 1B are only for the accredited Agricultural Universities /Colleges/Programs on a competitive basis and they are mutually exclusive i.e. any AU selected for both can avail either IDP or CAAST.

Sub-component 1C: ICAR innovation grants to AUs. would provide Innovation Grants to selected participating AUs for the carrying out of Innovation Plans. The Innovation Plans would support technical assistance and consultant services, including those required to: (a) make AUs reform ready (i.e., attain accreditation); and (b) promote mentoring of non-accredited AUs by existing reform-ready AUs and other interstate and international academic partnerships.

Shortlisting of Concept Notes:

Concept Notes for Component 1a, 1b and 1c will be invited and selected through a competitive process. Full project proposals will then be invited from the successful and selected Agricultural Universities. Format on which the Concept Note is to be submitted by the AUs is attached as **Annexure A**. The Concept Notes will be screened by a screening committee and evaluated by the NAHEP Technical Committee and recommended for preparing full proposals. Eligibility criteria for shortlisting of Concept

Notes are attached as **Annexure B.**

Expenditure to be funded:

In general, expenditure on goods & equipment, capacity building, renovation of labs and TA/ DA, workshops/ meetings, contractual staff, operational costs and institutional charges will be considered for funding. The financial limits will depend on the nature of the full proposals and will be decided by the Competent Committee(s).

General information about submission of Concept Notes :

1. The Concept Notes have to be submitted in a prescribed format available on the website electronically by email to ddgedn@gmail.com and 20 hard copies by post to The National Director (NAHEP), Room No. 207, Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan II, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012.
2. The decision of the Competent Committee will be final.
3. Submission of a Concept Note will indicate that the proponent agrees to abide by the eligibility criteria of the NAHEP.
4. The Concept Notes may be submitted latest by 4.00 PM on 24.10.2018.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL HIGHER EDUCATION PROJECT

Concept Note for Institutional Development Plan submitted by NDRI, Karnal

(Concept note should be in 5-6 pages of A4 Size, 12 font Times New Roman of MS Word and submitted by email at ddgedn@gmail.com or by post).

A: Participating AU Details

1. Name of the AU:
2. Date of Establishment of the Institute:
3. Mandate of the Institute:
4. Name of the present Vice-Chancellor:
5. Postal Address of the AU:
Telephone Number (With STD Code):
Fax No.:
Email Address:
6. Nodal Officer Details:
Name of the Nodal officer:
Designation:
Telephone & Mobile Nos:
Email:
FaxNo.:
7. Number of constituents or on campus colleges and college-wise number of students:
8. Number of college-wise faculty/scientists associated with teaching:
9. Major contribution of the AU in relevant field of teaching and research (not more than 10 bullet points including patents, technologies developed, etc.) over last five years:
10. Total Annual Budget of the AU (for the last 5 years ending 2017-18 in Rs. Lakhs):

B: Project Details

1. Title of the Project:
2. The background information on scope and purpose of the proposed IDP/CAAST/IG (one page)
3. Objectives:
4. Rationale (half a page):
5. State clearly the hypotheses defining the problem and prospects of the proposed IDP (half a page):

6. Work Program (Two pages):
 - i. Work plan for each objective:
 - ii. Activity chart for each objective:
 - iii. Training need assessment
 - iv. Benchmark
7. Stakeholder/Industry participation plan (one page)
8. Proposed Duration of the Project:
9. Total Funds proposed: (Rs. In Lakh)
10. Expected outputs/Outcome (in bullets):
11. Manner in which the proposal will be developed if the Concept Note is accepted (half a page):
12. Brief the probable consultation processes to be involved in the development of the full proposal (half a page):

PS: Only accredited AUs need to respond for participation in IDP and CAAST. Those AUs already awarded with either an IDP or CAAST need not respond as they are mutually exclusive. Those AUs already awarded with an IG also need not respond.