



Australian-India Cyber and Critical Technology Partnership: Grant Round 2

About the program

The AUD 12.7 million (INR 68.83 crore approx.) Australia-India Cyber and Critical Technology Partnership (AICCTP) contributes to Australian Government priorities to promote a stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific. Senator The Hon. Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Women, announced the opening of grant round 2 at the [Third Indo-Pacific Oratorion](#) on 10 September 2021.

Under the AICCTP grants program AUD 5.22 million (INR 28.29 crore approx.) will be made available over four years. The AICCTP complements the *Australia-India Framework Arrangement on Cyber and Cyber-Enabled Critical Technology Cooperation* signed by Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs Senator the Hon Marise Payne and India's External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar as part of the [Australia-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership](#) announced during the Leaders' Virtual Summit on 4 June 2020.

AICCTP Grant Round 2 priority areas

India and Australia have a key role to play in contributing to the global development of critical and emerging technologies such as **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**, **next generation telecommunications (5G/6G)**, **Internet of Things (IoT)**, **quantum computing**, **synthetic biology**, **blockchain** and **big data**.

The Partnership's 2021 grant program (**Grant Round 2**) will consider proposals for practical cooperation and collaboration on cyber and critical technology, which will help shape a global technology environment that meets Australia and India's shared vision of an **open, free, rules-based Indo-Pacific region**.

What activities are eligible for an AICCTP grant?

Activities that facilitate Australia-India research partnerships to strengthen **understanding of ethical frameworks for emerging and critical technologies**, and the development of best practice on translating ethical frameworks into practical action

Initiatives that encourage the development of **technical critical technology standards** that advance Australia and India's interests

Research on the **trends shaping the global and technology marketplace** or that assesses the opportunities and effectiveness of ethical frameworks or technical standards for emerging and critical technologies

Who can apply?

To be eligible you must:

- be located in Australia and have a partner institution that is located in India for the purposes of the activity; or
- be located in India and have a partner institution that is located in Australia for the purposes of the activity

and be one of the following entity types:

- a company incorporated in Australia or India
- a company incorporated by guarantee
- an incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust
- an incorporated association
- a partnership
- a joint (consortia) application with a lead organisation
- a not-for-profit organisation
- a think tank or research organisation
- an Australian state or territory government body
- an Indian sub-national government body.

Joint applications involving more than one organisation are welcome.

Indian applicants should ensure they comply with the *Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA)* in relation to the project, including holding a FCRA certificate if applicable. Information supplied by applicants may be shared with Indian and Australia government agencies.

Available funding

- For any single grant proposal, the minimum is **AUD 150,000 (INR 81.31 lakh approx.)** and the maximum amount is **AUD 750,000 (INR 4.06 crore approx.)**
- Multiyear grants will be considered up to a maximum of AUD 250,000 (INR 1.35 crore approx.) per year for up to three years from 2021-22 to 2023-24.
- In total, we anticipate that a total of up to **AUD 1.8 million (INR 9.75 crore approx.)** in funding would be available grant proposals awarded in grant round 2

Prospective grantees cannot use funding from other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government sources to fund your share of eligible expenditure. DFAT reserves the right to offer less funding than that requested by the applicant. **All applications will be assessed on competitive basis.**

Eligible expenditure

Grant Round 1 can support

- **Personnel** - Eligible labour expenditure for the grant covers the direct labour costs of employees you directly employ on the core elements of the project
- **Direct costs** of the eligible grant activities
- **Travel** – Costs for domestic and/or international economy class airfares and modest accommodation and per diems that are essential for delivery of the project
- **Equipment** – DFAT will only fund ‘small equipment’ or software specific to the project proposal. ‘Small equipment’ is defined as equipment under a total of AUD\$10,000 (INR 5.4 lakh approx.) that is used collaboratively and, where possible, is Australian-made. Computing equipment or software should be specialised and required for the completion of the project
- **Monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL)** – As a key component of the program, costs associated with MEL processes and activities to inform program reporting and learning should be identified separately within the indicative budget outline.
- **Administrative support**

How to Apply?

To apply you must:

- have read and understand the **AICCTP grant guidelines** available [here](#)
- complete the [online application form](#) on DFAT’s online grant application system SmartyGrants and provide all the information requested

All AICCTP grant applications must be submitted through our online grants management system [SmartyGrants](#)

Last date for applying is **Monday 18 October 2021, 1700hrs AEDT/1130hrs IST**

Enquiries

If you have any questions while completing your application, kindly contact CyberAffairs@dfat.gov.au.