

National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)  
and Japan Science and Technology agency (JST)  
jointly announced the J-RAPID call for proposal  
in response to Thai flood disaster

## **CONTACTS**

**Technical, scientific, administrative and financial questions**

**NSTDA**

Dr. Parichatt Krongkant

Director, International Cooperation Division

National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

111 Thailand Science Park, Paholyothin Road, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand

Tel: +662 564 7000 ext 71530,

Email: [parichatt@nstda.or.th](mailto:parichatt@nstda.or.th)

**JST**

Dr. Hideo NAKAJIMA and Mr. Mitsuhiro OI – [rapid@jst.go.jp](mailto:rapid@jst.go.jp)

Department of International Affairs – Japan Science and Technology Agency

5-3 Yonbancho Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8666 JAPAN

Tel.:81 3 5214 7375

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**CLOSING OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**29<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

# CONTENTS

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS.....	3
1.1. Prelude .....	3
1.2. Context.....	3
1.3. Call for proposals objectives.....	3
2. EXAMINATION OF PROPOSALS .....	4
2.1. Acceptability criteria .....	4
2.2. Eligibility criteria .....	4
2.3. Evaluation criteria .....	5

# **1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

## **1.1. PRELUDE**

Following the major flood occurred in 2011 in Thailand, the Thai and Japanese research agencies (National Science and Technology Development Agency, NSTDA, and Japan Science and Technology Agency, JST, respectively) agreed to open a coordinated call to promote urgent research activity related to this major disaster.

The aim is to support immediate research and surveys requiring the acquisition of information and rare data that would not be possible to acquire in common situations. It aims to promote the production of new scientific results related to a rare and large-scale event.

## **1.2. CONTEXT**

The Thai flood in 2011, has been an exceptionally large event with exceptional and dramatic consequences. It occurred in a populated and industrialized area of the world. The flood has led to raise a number of issues in diverse fields (science, engineering, regulation, political and societal organization, etc.) not only in Thailand but also in all countries where extreme natural events can occur and impact large population and/or critical facilities.

In addition, the short and medium term disruption of a large number of industrial facilities, coupled with the globalization of economy and complex interdependence of industrial activity in many parts of the world, raises another set of short, medium and long-term socio economic issues.

While its full exploitation will certainly take years and mobilize many researchers worldwide, one can easily consider that a quick analysis may identify some issues that could need some urgent field checks.

In cooperation with the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), NSTDA thus calls for proposals on immediate research needs that arise from the Thai flood. NSTDA will support research teams in Thailand who have mutual agreement with Japanese researchers on joint research or research collaboration or survey related to the Thai flood .

## **1.3. CALL FOR PROPOSALS OBJECTIVES**

This NSTDA/JST “J-RAPID” coordinated call is open to any research proposal dealing with the Thai flood the detailed analysis of the event itself and of all its components and consequences, and the lessons to be learnt regarding the prevention of flood and related disasters.

This call is fully open, non thematic: its scope encompasses all fields that have been affected by this giant event. All scientific fields are acceptable provided they are in close connection with the flood and its aftermaths.

Several topics of particular interest may be indicated, but this list should by no means be considered as exclusive and limitative:

- Survey on the sites of the flood
- Survey on the effect of the flood on buildings
- Study on the remedy of the loss of disaster using biotechnology, for example bioremediation using microorganism

## 2. EXAMINATION OF PROPOSALS

The selection procedure involves two steps.

- The proposals are first evaluated separately by the NSTDA and the JST, each following its own specific evaluation procedure. Each proposal will thus be evaluated by both sides. As regards the NSTDA, the proposals will be evaluated according to the NSTDA's, criteria mentioned below. Furthermore, the evaluation criteria specific to international cooperation will be applied, that is to say **the added value of the international cooperation**.
- In a second phase the NSTDA and the JST will decide jointly which projects will be financed based on their separate peer review process.

The NSTDA selection procedure thus comprises the main following steps:

- Examination of the acceptability of the proposals by the NSTDA in accordance with the criteria stipulated in 2.1 and 2.2
- Cross check of the proposals evaluations between NSTDA and JST, which will finalize a list of projects to be proposed for funding by both the NSTDA and the JST.

### 2.1. ACCEPTABILITY CRITERIA

- 1) Proposals must include at least one Thai and one Japanese research teams.
- 2) The application must be submitted in each country according to the submission rules; proposals submitted in one country only are not acceptable.
- 3) The project **duration** will be the same for the Thai and Japanese partners, and be in principle from 6 to 12 months.

### 2.2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 1) The project must **enter into the scope** of the call for proposals described in § 1.
- 2) The Thai partners must meet the eligibility criteria defined by the NSTDA for this call for proposals. The Japanese partners must meet the eligibility criteria defined by the JST.

### 2.3. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following general evaluation criteria will apply to each application:

1. Conformity with Program Aims and Designated Research Fields

The proposed activity shall conform to the aims and the designated research fields of the program. In addition, the applicants shall have the enough research infrastructures to pursue the proposed activity.

2. Capability of Research Leaders and Current Research Activities

The research leaders in both countries shall have the vision and the experiences (or the potential for younger researchers) to reach the project goals during the period of support.

3. Validity of Research Plan

The proposed research activities and their related expenses, including the sharing of research activities with the counterpart research institute, need to be appropriately planned.

4. Effectiveness and Synergy of the Joint Research Activities

Joint research/survey shall have at least one of the following urgencies and be implemented as international cooperation to achieve objectives.

- Urgency in solving confronting problems that may give devastating aftermath to societies (e.g., preparedness and response for outbreak of infectious disease).
- Urgency in collecting data that are perishable and may hardly be obtainable at other opportunities. (e.g., documentation of the flood generation, run-up, and impact on natural and built environments)

### RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING SCIENTIFIC CONTENT OF THE PROPOSALS

A common abstract written in English and not exceeding 1 page must be submitted to both NSTDA and JST.

### PROJECTS DURATION

The projects will last in principle from 6 to 12 months.