

	Programme Brief - Gap Filling Research Grants (GAPF)	Issue No: 01
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		Revision No. 00
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<p>Main objective: To support further research of NSF funded completed grants with commercial potential</p> <p>Specific objective: To develop a product (including prototype) or process which is of commercial value</p>		
<p>Rationale: The NSF supports R & D activities of Sri Lankan scientists in all fields of Science & Technology, the output and outcomes of which will ultimately benefit the Sri Lankan society. Accordingly, the GAPF grants facilitate and encourage scientists to carry out further research of high standard preferably with collaboration with the industry sector, targeting commercialization.</p>		
<p>Programme consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage continuation of research to come up with an output of commercial value • Encourage researchers to utilize their knowledge to carry out research to address the gap between research and commercialization and achieve a high technology readiness level. • Encourage collaborations between the researchers and the industry sector. • Develop and strengthen operational framework for R & D <p>Programme guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NSF Research Division (RD) identifies suitable completed grants based on the technology readiness level (03 or above). • After obtaining necessary recommendation and approvals, applications are called from the shortlisted research teams. • The Research team has to provide the consent to the NSF on continuation of the project. • The duly completed applications should be submitted through proper channels. 		
Prepared by :		
Signature :		
Authorized and issued by: Chief Executive Officer		
Signature :		

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<p>Programme guidelines (Continued):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total allocation for the grant is Rs 2M and the maximum grant period is 02 years. • Funding for Equipment and Research Scientist/Students are not provided through this scheme. • The applications are processed by the NSF with regard to its conformity with the NSF guidelines for GAPF grants. • The selected applications are sent to two reviewers for evaluation. The short-listed applicants are invited to make a presentation on the proposed project to the Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP). Based on the evaluation reports and presentation, the TEP makes a collective recommendation for funding/ not funding. • These recommendations are forwarded to the BoM for approval. • The letter of award and the contractual agreement are sent to the grantees whose research proposals have been approved by the BoM. • After the completion of the Contractual Agreement, the 01st installment of the grant is transferred to the PI's Institution according to the fund disbursement procedure. Funds are generally transferred in 06 months installments subject to satisfactory physical and financial progress. • Half yearly/ quarterly Progress Reports and Financial statements according to the NSF format should be submitted through the Head of the Department / Division with his/her comments for evaluation by the TEP until the completion of the grant period. • Irrespective of the date of commencement of the project, the progress reports should be submitted as stated in the Contractual agreement. • The work carried out should be presented by the Principal Investigator at the Progress Review Seminars organized by the NSF. Site visits to the project sites are made by the RD/TEP to assess the progress. 		
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Final Financial statement and a comprehensive Final Report according to the NSF formats should be submitted within 01 month and 03 months respectively from the date of completion of the project. • The Final Reports that need to be revised are returned to the Principal Investigator for resubmission with revision. • The follow up activities /implementation of the findings are coordinated by the NSF. • The GAPF grants are not considered for NSF Research Awards 		
Output: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed research with high technology readiness levels (06 or above) • Comprehensive prototypes/products/processes which are of commercial value • Strengthened scientific research potential and encouraged research commercialization • Research findings published in local and international journals/ patents • Dissemination of important research findings through public fora, news paper articles, seminars, workshops etc. 		
Target groups <u>Direct target group</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSF grantees who have completed their grants successfully • Industries interested in collaborating with the public sector in R&D <u>Indirect target group</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Institutes, R & D Organizations, Universities • General Public of Sri Lanka 		
Possible Collaborators/Partners R & D Institutions, Local/Foreign Universities and Industries		
Remarks :		
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