SSEAC Cluster Research Grant 2017

Guidelines

The purpose of the SSEAC Cluster Research Grants is to provide a pathway for new academic projects in/about Southeast Asia including for scholars who are engaging in the region for the first time. In addition to supporting new research initiatives, these grants offer an opportunity for experimenting with new research ideas and eliciting feedback on them from the SSEAC community.

The program provides grants of up to $10,000 for use in 2017-18. Up to one Research Grant per Cluster will be awarded.

For the purposes of the grant, Southeast Asia is defined as Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

Eligibility and Conditions

Applicants may only submit one application to the SSEAC Cluster Research Grant Scheme per funding round. Members of the SSEAC Executive Committee are not eligible to apply. Current Cluster Research Grant holders are also ineligible to apply.

Applications must:
- Involve one or more full academic member(s) of SSEAC employed at the University of Sydney in a continuing position or a contract that continues until at least 31 December 2019. Academics on recurring annual research contracts will need to provide a letter of intent of employment signed by the head of their academic unit indicating they expect the applicant will continue to be employed until 31 December 2019.
- Not be for projects which have previously been funded from any source (new projects that build on existing research are eligible).
- Relate to one of the following cluster themes:
  - Economic and Social Development
  - Environment and Resources
  - Health
  - Heritage and the Arts
  - State and Society

In cases where these requirements are not fully met, applicants will be ineligible to apply for any future financial support from SSEAC.

Criteria for Award

Applications will be assessed by the SSEAC Executive Committee using the following criteria:
- Research excellence of the project and feasibility within the scheme timeframe
- Strength of track record relative to opportunity
- Prospects for definite outcomes that will lead to quality ERA eligible publications and external funding applications (specifically, but not limited to ARC DECRA, Discovery, Linkage and/or Fellowship schemes)

Preference may be given to projects that involve collaboration.
**Budget and Timeframe**

The program provides grants of up to $10,000 for use in 2017-18. Funding may be used for travel for primary research and research assistance.

The following items **cannot be funded** by the SSEAC Cluster Research Grant:
- Items of recurrent funding (continuing positions, PhD scholarships)
- Equipment
- Costs to fund the participation of academics from other institutions (aside from locally hired assistants when undertaking field research in Southeast Asia)
- Conference attendance

Please attach quotes found on the internet (or otherwise) as evidence of estimates for travel and accommodation costs.

The SSEAC Executive Committee reserves the right to specify how awards may be used. Funds will be accessible in June 2017 and must be spent by December 2018.

**All grant recipients will be required to submit a final report by December 2018.**

**Submission and deadlines**

Applications should be submitted electronically to sseac@sydney.edu.au by 5pm Friday 28 April, 2017. We do not require paper copies of applications. Late submissions will not be considered.