SSEAC Collaborative Research Grant
2017 Guidelines

The purpose of the SSEAC Collaborative Research Grants is to provide a pathway for new academic projects in/about Southeast Asia or 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 $20,000 for use in 2017-19. Up to two Collaborative Research Grants 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 Collaborative Grants Scheme per year. Members of the SSEAC Grants Subcommittee and current Collaborative Research Grant holders are ineligible to apply. PhD projects are not eligible for funding.

Applications must:
- Involve more than one academic employed at the University of Sydney in a full-time or fractional (0.5+ FTE) teaching or research position. Applicants must hold a continuing position or a contract that continues until at least 30 June 2020. 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 30 June 2020.
- Not be for projects which have previously been funded from any source.
- Be for research about Southeast Asia that fits within at least one of the five SSEAC research clusters (economic and social development, environment and resources, health, heritage and the arts, state and society).

Grant recipients will be expected to:
- Provide six monthly progress reports.
- Present their work at a SSEAC event, if requested.
- Have written at least one op-ed piece based on their research for newspaper or online publication (SSEAC can assist with this process).
- Provide evidence of submission of a manuscript in a quality academic journal or similar by June 2019.

In cases where these requirements are not fully met, applicants will be barred from applying for any future financial support from SSEAC.
Criteria for Award
The following criteria will be taken into consideration by the SSEAC Grants Subcommittee when assessing the applications:
- Quality and ongoing potential for research collaboration
- Research excellence of the project and feasibility within the time-frame supported by the scheme
- Strength of the applicant’s research track record relative to opportunity
- Prospects for definite outcomes that will lead to ERA eligible publications and external funding applications (specifically, but not limited to ARC DECRA, Discovery, Linkage and/or Fellowship schemes)

Preference will be given to projects that encourage interdisciplinary collaboration.

Budget and Timeframe
The program provides grants of up to AU $20,000 for use in 2017-19.

Funding may be used for travel, primary research and research assistance only. Per diems will need to be calculated using the University of Sydney rates.

The following items cannot be funded by the SSEAC Collaborative 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

In the case of estimates for travel accommodation, please attach quotes found on the internet (or otherwise) as evidence of estimates.

The SSEAC Grants Subcommittee reserves the right to specify how awards may be used. Funds will be accessible in December 2017 and must be spent by June 2019.

All grant recipients will be required to submit a final report by June 2019.

Submission and deadlines
Applications should be submitted electronically to sseac@sydney.edu.au by 5pm Friday 22 September, 2017. We do not require paper copies of applications. Late submissions will not be considered.