SSEAC CLUSTER RESEARCH GRANT 2019 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 2019-21. 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

- Applications must relate to one of the five SSEAC research clusters (economic and social development, environment and resources, health, heritage and the arts, state and society).
- Applicants must be an academic member of SSEAC.
- Applicants must be fixed term or continuing staff employed by; or hold an honorary title at the University of Sydney and have no paid position at another institution.
- Honorary titles and fixed term contracts must be valid to the end of the grant period; otherwise the applicant must attach a letter of intent of employment signed by the head of their academic unit indicating they expect the applicant will continue to be employed or hold an honorary title until the end of the grant period.
- Applicants may only submit one application to the SSEAC Cluster Research Grant Scheme per funding round.
- Members of the SSEAC Grants Subcommittee and current Cluster Research Grant holders are ineligible to apply.
- Projects cannot already be funded by any other source (new projects that build on existing research are eligible).
- PhD projects, or projects to conducted primarily by PhD student, are not eligible for funding.
- Successful applicants are required to abide by University of Sydney policies and show due diligence when researching in-country.
- Successful applicants will be required to produce a blog post.

CRITERIA FOR AWARD

The following criteria will be taken into consideration by the SSEAC Grants Subcommittee when assessing the applications:

- Project quality 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)
- Relevance of proposed project to the region

Preference may be given to projects that involve collaboration.

In cases where scheme requirements are not fully met following an award the awardees will be ineligible to apply for any future financial support from SSEAC.
BUDGET AND TIMEFRAME

The program provides grants of up to $10,000 for use in 2019-21. 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 Grants Subcommittee reserves the right to specify how awards may be used. Funds will be accessible in November 2019 and must be spent by 30 June 2021.

**All grant recipients will be required to submit a final report by 30 June 2021.**

SUBMISSION AND DEADLINES

Submit an online application [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SSEACclu19](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SSEACclu19) by **5pm Friday 27 September**. Late submissions will not be considered.

A sample of the online Proposal form is available for download on the grants website. We suggest you work on your responses offline and copy and paste your answers once it is complete.