



Republic of Mauritius



and



**The Ministry of Civil Service Affairs
and Administrative Reforms**

The Mauritius Research Council

Public Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme

General Information

**MRC-PuSCRGS
April 2012**

Public Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme

Purpose of the Scheme

The Mauritius Research Council (MRC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Service Affairs and Administrative Reforms (MCSA&AR), hereafter referred to as the Promoters, launched a research scheme in September 2004 to encourage and promote research and development in the Public Sector. The **Public Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme (PuSCRGS)** will be jointly sponsored by the MRC and the MCSA&AR, while Research Institutions will provide the technical and academic collaboration in undertaking research.

The PuSCRGS is essentially a top-down approach to the promotion of research, whereby the promoters invite researchers and research institutions in the public sector to submit proposals in pre-identified areas of interest. Proposals that are multi-disciplinary and involve inter-institutional or inter-departmental collaboration are encouraged. Proposals are selected for funding based on their potential research value, their strategic importance and the contribution they would make to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Sector.

Eligibility

Individuals or teams usually initiate proposals that are then officially submitted through their employing organisations (provider institution). Under this solicitation, graduate students are not encouraged to submit research proposals but can serve as research assistants to the PIs.

Before preparing a formal submission, prospective applicants may discuss their project ideas with the Promoters. This will enable them to verify the

relevance of their research proposal with the established area of priority/interest as well as to ensure its originality.

In principle, any individual from a Public Sector institution may submit a proposal, but preference will be given to proposals that are supported by the academic and/or research institutions/organisations.

Amount funded by the MRC

Once external assessments are received, a selection meeting is held where the internal assessment is compared with the assessor's evaluation. This may lead to one of the following recommendations:

- Approval for full funding
- Approval for partial funding
- Not approved.

Application procedure

Proposals should be submitted on **prescribed forms** as at Appendix B of the PuSCRGS Guidelines. Applications can be sent to the address of The Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Civil Service Affairs and Administrative Reforms.

Application forms can be made available on soft copy or by e-mail on request.

Evaluation Criteria

The main criteria are:

- **Intellectual Merit** - the importance of the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields
- **The degree of innovativeness of the proposed activity,**
- **Its relevance to national priority** - extent that the research will produce benefits to the Public Sector, potential users and customers and how will they benefit,
 - Targeting activities that address a current problem areas or urgent issues,
 - Exploring areas of strategic interest to the country,
 - Contributing to enhanced efficiency,
- **The manageability of the proposal**
- **Potential for Application**
- **Capacity Building,**
 - extent to which the activity can enhance the infrastructure for research and foster synergy between institutions.

For more details on the scheme, please consult the PuSCRGS: Guidelines for Applicants available at the Mauritius Research Council or on its website <http://www.mrc.org.mu>

Important Note: A call for Proposals is advertised for specific schemes at least once every year. Only applications submitted as a response to the call for Proposals and within the prescribed delay will be considered by the MRC.

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