



1st Call for Proposals for the Asi@Connect Project

On behalf of the Asi@Connect project, TEIN*CC¹ would like to release the 1st Call for Proposals (CFP) to interested individuals or organizations who are willing to collaborate over TEIN networks and its peering networks. Detail information on this Call is shown in the below tables. Further Information about the Asi@Connect² project can be found on www.tein.asia and www.teincc.org.

Work Package (WP) 2: Capacity Development of Developing Country NRENs	
Main Activities	Enhance the capacity of the developing country NRENs in managing their national R&E networks and promoting international R&E collaboration. So that they are able to play a full role in developing Asi@Connect usage and impact in their respective countries.
Areas of Interests	Capacity building trainings, workshops, and seminars for engineers as well as non-technical administrators, such as in the procurement and tendering, financial administration, communication and public relations. Prospective proposals may cover following areas, but not limited to, <i>e.g. Network Performance, Network Management and Monitoring, Network Security, Routing, Peering and Management, Financial Administration, Tendering, Communication and Public Relations...etc.</i>
Budget Allocated	Maximum 150K Euro. Up to 30K EUR for the 1 st year (by 31 August 2017) and up to 120K for the 2 nd year (by 31 December 2018). Maximum 15 programs will be awarded.
Period of per program	3 to 5 days, one-time event
Implementation deadline	31 December 2018

WP3: R&E Network Design & Operations and associated capacity development	
Main Activities	Develop local network engineering expertise in developing country university IT departments and NRENs to optimally utilize Asi@Connect Internet capacity and equipment.
Areas of Interests	Support design and improvement of developing NREN's R&E networks, and of conduct of trainings with the concept of 'train the trainers', <i>e.g. Campus Network Design for developing NRENs and regional Network Operator Groups (NOGs), Direct Engineering Assistance (DEA) to improve networks, network security and performance monitoring, wireless infrastructure to improve faculty and student access and DNS stability, security and IP4/6 address technical assistance...etc.</i>
Budget Allocated	Maximum 430K Euro. Up to 80K for the 1 st year (by 31 August 2017) and up to 350K for the 2 nd year (by 31 December 2018). Maximum 2 programs will be awarded.
Period of per program	1 to 2 year
Implementation deadline	31 December 2018

¹ TEIN*CC is a Not-for-profit Korean based institution to manage and operate the European Union funded project, specifically Trans-Eurasia Information Network (TEIN) 4 and its next phase Asi@Connect.

² The Asi@Connect project is composed of six (6) Work Packages in which they elaborates activities and programs to be project-managed by the TEIN*CC. The current partners (23) for the project are: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.



WP4: Deployment of Specialized Network Products, Services and Applications and Associated Capacity Development	
Main Activities	Provide advanced network engineering products/services and associated training/capacity development to developing country NRENs and promote Asi@Connect as a test bed platform for Future Internet technologies.
Areas of Interests	Promote the use of the TEIN network, as a testbed platform for Future Internet technologies and applications, and to deploy the advanced network engineering products/services and associated training/capacity development <i>e.g. Software Defined Networking (SDN), Network Functions Virtualization (NFV), OpenFlow, Cloud Computing services, Big Data, Internet of Things (IoT), Federated Identification/Eduroam/EduGain, Mobility, IPv6 and Security...etc.</i>
Budget Allocated	Maximum 690K Euro. Up to 190K for the 1 st year (by 31 August 2017) and up to 500K for the 2 nd year (by 31 December 2018). Maximum 3 programs will be awarded.
Period of per program	1 to 2 year
Implementation deadline	31 December 2018

WP5: Promoting Asi@Connect-enabled Research and Education Collaboration for Societal Benefit	
Main Activities	Promote new and scale-up existing research and education collaborations to directly benefit people in developing countries.
Areas of Interests	Set up relevant platforms in the major applications with the promotion of ongoing R&E collaborations enabled by TEIN networks which generate wide societal benefits, and with the identification and assessment of new collaborations <i>e.g. telemedicine, e-learning, water resource management, climate and weather prediction and change, environment, bio-technology, e-culture, cyber performance, e-library, sensor networks in agriculture, earth monitoring, crop research, plant phenomics and plant pest and disease diagnostics.</i>
Budget Allocated	Maximum 670K Euro. Up to 170K for the 1 st year (by 31 August 2017) and up to 500K for the 2 nd year (by 31 December 2018). Maximum 3 programs will be awarded.
Period of per program	1 to 2 year
Implementation deadline	31 December 2018

WP6: Helping to Bridge the Digital Divide in Developing Countries	
Main Activities	Develop Internet access to underserved rural and remote locations as well as help bring down costs of local internet access at national level.
Areas of Interests	Create and enable opportunities to build regional and national infrastructures and capacity to address the digital divide in countries such as Bhutan, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, The Philippines and Pakistan, and other Least Developing Countries. <i>e.g. establishment of carrier neutral Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and provision of associated capacity building such as 'train the trainers'</i> <i>e.g. Deployment of Wireless for Community (W4C) networks and provision of associated capacity building such as 'train the trainers'.</i>
Budget Allocated	Maximum 780K Euro. Up to 140K for the 1 st year (by 31 August 2017) and up to 640K for the 2 nd year (by 31 December 2018). Maximum 3 programs will be awarded.
Period of per program	1 to 2 year
Implementation deadline	31 December 2018



General Guidelines

- Every year, Asi@Connect launches 1~2 Call for Proposals depending on the funding the project has been able to raise.
- After the deadline to submit proposals, all received proposals are subject to following the EC procedures for evaluation and selection processes. Applications will be selected based on their compliance with the objectives and specific eligibility criteria of the Asi@Connect project (Grant Contract ACA 2016/376-562).

Common requirements for proposals:

- Any proposed activity under this Call should have a regional dimension and must benefit by preference the DCI-eligible countries (<https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/node/37626>).
- One proposal for one WP per proposer can be submitted, however another separate proposal can be permitted to other WPs (e.g. a proposer submits two proposals, one for WP3 and the other for WP5).
- In case of a proposal related with more than one WP, it should be required more concrete information and budget plan to each related WP.

Evaluation Criteria covering but not limited to the following areas, subject to any change to the contents of the Proposals:

- Quality of programs (e.g. effects on the developing countries and networks)
- Aligned with WP purpose and scope
- Clear benefit for the community
- Regional diversity and balance
- Clear objectives and well structured methodology
- Capacity of proposers. Demonstrated capacity to manage funds, conduct project activities and document outcomes effectively, within the specified budget and time limits
- Cost factors, realistic budget and timeframe proposed
- Potential for growth/further development
- Relationship with other existing projects at a regional/global level
- Visibility & PRs, etc.

A proposal at the least should include the following:

- Set of objectives
- Expected outcome
- Synopsis program
- Target Participant(s)
- Any other collaborations or related awarded projects or grants by other funding agencies
- Outline budget (subject to Work Packages as above). A break-down cost quotation for estimated budget is to be included in the Proposal in **Euros**. Budget can be used to partially support travel of resource persons and participants and for the organization of the event.

Data Policy:

- Any outputs/outcomes will be made available to the public and to the research and education community.

Other Points to be noted:



- TEIN*CC can request applicants to provide more details and modify any part of the proposal (including the requested budget) at any time during the selection process.
- The final amount to be funded and implementation period is subject to the result of evaluation.
- Availability of co-funding by other agencies or organisations is not a requisite but encouraged. Donation or commitment (e.g. in kind contribution) from the proposer is encouraged and will be considered under evaluation. Any complementary funding must be declared in the budget section of the proposal.
- A proposal can be carried out by one group, institution/organization or collaboratively with others.
- It is encouraged to collaborate with the experts of developed countries or other European organizations or institutions and can be conducted as a training format.
- TEIN*CC is to solicit proposals on a continuous basis from the Asi@Connect project partners in the future and 2nd Call for Proposals are expected to be around June 2017.

Important Dates:

Proposal submission: 31 January 2017, addressed to: tech@teincc.org

Acceptance notification: 28 February 2017

For any inquiries, please email to: tech@teincc.org