

International Science: Global Science & Technology Diplomacy Fund

11 June 2024

Our purpose is to help the government build a better future for all Australians through enabling a productive, resilient and sustainable economy, enriched by science and technology.

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Benefits of International Collaboration

- International collaboration supports the exchange of knowledge, helps to bring diversity in perspective to solving the challenges of our time, and generates new ideas for the future.
- The Australian Government recognises the vital role that new knowledge and innovation plays in the economic, cultural and social advancement of a nation.
- The Global Science & Technology Diplomacy fund is the department's primary mechanism for funding international scientific collaborations.



What is the GSTDF?

The Global Science and Technology Diplomacy Fund (GSTDF) is designed to be a strategic, flexible and streamlined approach to promote international science and research collaboration, and build relationships. It has two elements: Strategic and Bilateral.

a. The **Strategic Element** identifies priority themes and partners and supports Australia's national science interests. It also provides a mechanism for Australia to contribute to the science capability needs of our region.

Priority themes and partner countries are agreed after consultation and collaboration across agencies, which allows us to set priorities that align with broader government policies and initiatives.

There is an opportunity now for us to revisit countries & themes for the Strategic Element to support upcoming government agenda.

b. The **Bilateral Element** maintains support for the longstanding and diplomatically important Australia-China Science and Research Fund (ACSRF) and the Australia-India Strategic Research Fund (AISRF).

Global Science and Technology Diplomacy Fund (GSTDF)

Strategic Element

Bilateral Element

Australia-China Science and Research Fund

Australia-India Strategic Research Fund

Priorities and Countries informed by IDC and agreed by Minister and PM

Administered by a Learned Academy through a grant agreement administered by Business Grants Hub & Integrity Division Priorities, topics negotiated with bilateral partner countries

Activities negotiated with bilateral partner countries

GSTDF Strategic Element - What is it?

What: The Strategic Element seeks to boost Australia's strategic international science diplomacy and research capabilities, and promote Australia's scientific international expertise and reputation.

How: identifies priority science and technology themes that support Australia's national interest, and priority international partner countries.

Why:

- 1.To uplift Australia's domestic science system capability by supporting collaboration between Australian researchers and world leading international researchers.
- 2.To bolster Australian science and technology diplomacy internationally by using our local scientific capability and leadership to advance and uplift science in our region.

Strategic Element - Round 1

- Round 1 of the Strategic Element was launched by the Minister for Industry and Science on 21 March 2024.
- A share of A\$6 million in grant funding is available to successful applicants.
- Australian organisations are eligible for funding to support bi-lateral and multilateral activities that involve at least:
 - One priority theme.
 - One priority partner
- Eligible activities are flexible and can include bilateral or multilateral research, conferences, workshops, exchanges, among other initiatives.

Strategic Element - Priority Themes

Advanced Manufacturing

Artificial intelligence

Hydrogen Production

Quantum computing

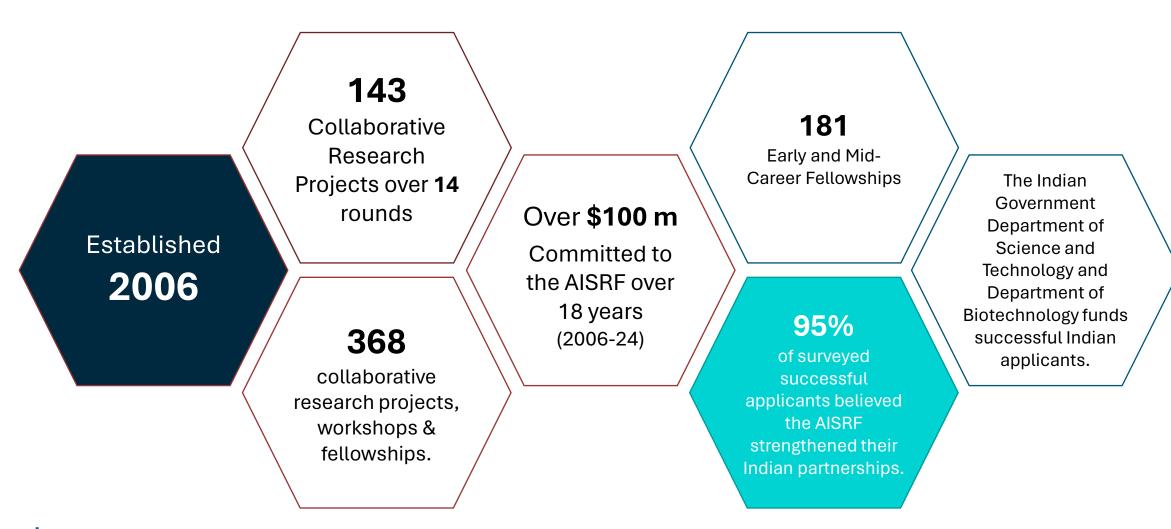
RNA (including mRNA) vaccines and therapies

Strategic Element - Priority Partners

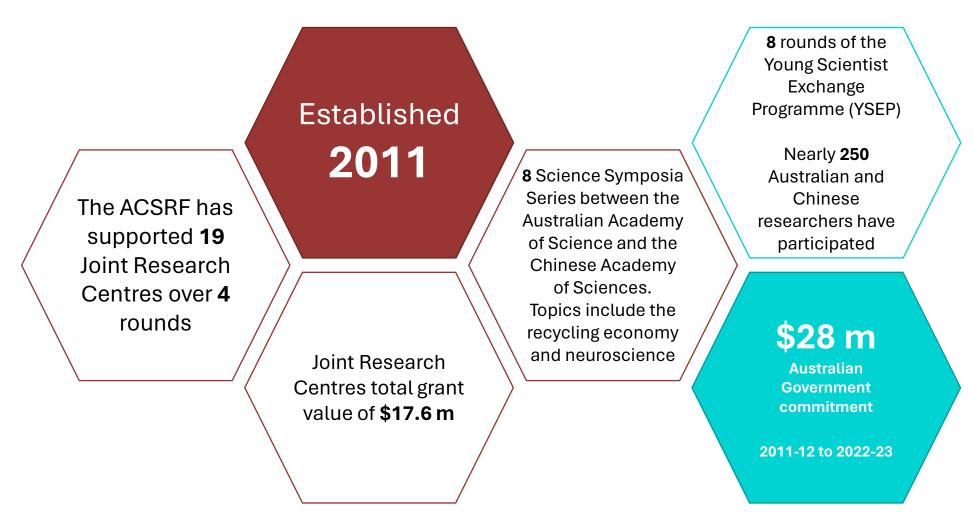
Indonesia Brazil Japan New Republic Malaysia of Korea Zealand Thailand Vietnam Singapore

Bilateral Element

AISRF: Australia India Strategic Research Fund

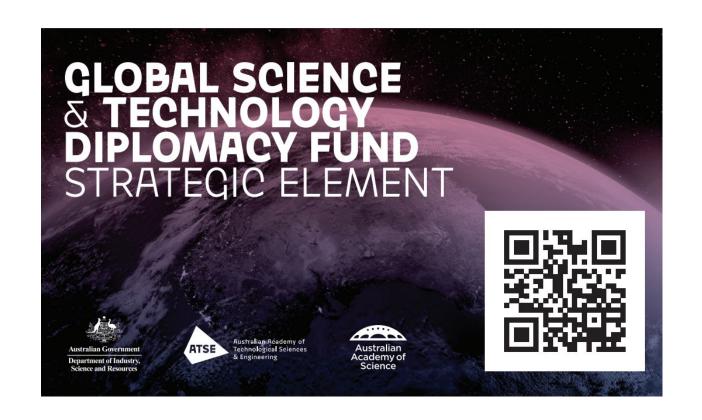


ACSRF: Australia China Science and Research Fund



Applications – Round 1

- Expression of interest submission timeline: Friday, 31 May 2024.
- July Call for full applications
- August Full applications close
- October To be announced
- Visit https://www.glodip.org.au/ for additional information.



Application summary – Round 1

• A total of 548 applications were received as part of the EOI process. Total funding requested over \$320m.

Application by Theme	Number of
	Applications
Artificial Intelligence	295
Advance Manufacturing	222
Hydrogen Production	103
RNA (including mRNA) vaccines and therapies	61
Quantum Computing	50

- 349 applications were for a single theme, and 199 applications were submitted for 2 or more themes.
- 127 applications submitted included at least one non-partner country.

Next steps

- Applications will now be assessed for eligibility before being assessed for merit by a panel of academics convened by delivery partner ATSE.
- Following assessment of the EOIs selected applicants will be invited to submit a full application.
- Outcomes from round one are expected to be announced in October.

Round 2

• We are working with ATSE to determine timing of Round 2 of the Strategic Element, which will be influenced by the significant number of applications for Round 1.

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