COUNTRY: PHILIPPINES
***DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY* – PHILIPPINE COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURE, AQUATIC AND NATURAL RESOURCES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (DOST-PCAARRD)**

DOST-PCAARRD participates in the thematic area of **Climate Resilient, Smart Agriculture using AI and IoT** of the 2025 JFS Call for Research Proposals (10th Call). The Council will support joint and collaborative research initiatives that develop, pilot, and validate AI- and IoT-enabled technologies, decision-support systems, and digital innovations aimed at enhancing climate resilience, productivity, resource-use efficiency, and sustainability of agriculture, aquatic, and natural resource systems, particularly in smallholder and vulnerable farming communities.

This strategic initiative positions DOST-PCAARRD at the forefront of digital transformation in the Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources (AANR) sectors, in line with the 2022–2028 Harmonized National Research and Development Agenda (HNRDA). Anchored on a whole-of-government approach, it accelerates the transition toward Agriculture 4.0, smart, green, and powered by science, technology, and innovation.

Eligibility and funding modalities

Filipinos with at least a Master's Degree in a relevant field, have proven research competence/track record, and employed in universities or research agencies/institutes that are members of the DOST-PCAARRD National Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development Network (NAARRDN) or Regional R&D Consortia are eligible to apply for the research grant.

DOST-PCAARRD will be funding two (2) applications, with a maximum budget of P15,000,000.00 each for a maximum duration of three (3) years. The DOST-Grants-in-Aid Guidelines shall be applied.

Eligible cost categories

The requested budget shall be itemized following the DOST Form 4- Project Line-Item Budget (LIB). The grant may cover partial or full cost of the project, both direct and indirect costs which shall include personnel services, maintenance and other operating expenses, and capital outlay that are integral part of the project. All expenditure items in the LIB shall be in accordance with the Unified Account Code Structure (UACS) and relevant provisions stipulated in Section IX-B of the DOST-Grants-in-Aid Guidelines (https://www.pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph/index.php/dost-gia-guidelines/file).

Additional regulations

Eligible costs

The Grant shall cover up to 100% of the total project cost. However, the applicant organization is required to provide a minimum of 15% counterpart funding, either in cash and/or in kind, except for projects classified as public goods. Only costs deemed eligible and allowable by DOST-PCAARRD may be counted as counterpart or in-kind contributions (e.g., utilities, office space rental, and similar expenses). The proposal must clearly explain the nature and source of the counterpart funding or in-kind contribution and articulate how the Grant will support and complement the overall project implementation.

The proposed budget must be itemized using DOST Form 4 – Project Line-Item Budget. Capital or infrastructure expenditures are not eligible under the Grant, nor are fees or stipends related to Master's or PhD studentships.

Review of Proposals

Approval of proposals for research grants will be based on the following multi-level review process:

1. In-house screening in terms of alignment to the research priorities, duplication, and completeness of requirements;
2. Technical review by Experts' Pool based on the following criteria:
   - Technical merit;
   - Data management;
   - Relevance/significance;
   - Marketability potential (for product-based proposals);
   - Feasibility (practicality, cost, time); and
   - Proponent's/Institution's capacity;
3. Final approval by the DOST-PCAARRD Directors' Council if the budget is Php5,000,000 and below and the DOST-PCAARRD Governing Council if the budget is more than Php5,000,000.00; and
4. In each stage of the review process, the proponent may need to revise the proposal on the basis of the recommendations of the reviewers/evaluators. The review process will take 40 working days provided that all the requirements had been submitted.

Reporting

Semi-annual and annual technical and financial reports will be required in compliance with DOST-GIA guidelines. The final reports must be submitted within 90 calendar days after the completion of the period of performance. Required forms are downloadable from the DOST-PCAARRD website (pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph) and may be provided by the DOST-PCAARRD to accepted applications

Submission in addition to PT-Outline submission

Applicants shall follow the DOST GIA Proposal format which will be accomplished in the e-Proposal proposal at dpmis.dost.gov.ph. Instruction for submission are also available in this site.

When submitting your application, please follow these steps:

1. Register and create an account in the DPMIS
2. Log in to your DPMIS account
3. Select Type of Proposal: Southeast Asia-Europe Joint Funding Scheme for Research and Innovation – 10th Joint Call for proposals (STI) - Climate Resilient, Smart Agriculture using AI and IoT
4. Select Classification: New Proposal

The following will automatically disapproved:

1. Proposals from organizations that are not qualified to submit during this Call;
2. Proposals outside the priority areas of the Council;
3. Proposals submitted to any other call route/Council/s
4. Proposals not submitted through DPMIS.

Required Documents

As a summary, your application should include the following:

1. DOST Proposal Form
2. Supplementary Files
   - Line-Item Budget
   - WorkPlan
   - Endorsement of Head of Agency
   - Gender and Development Score Sheet
   - Letter of Intent / Letter of Cooperation

Each proponent that requests funding from a JFS funder must carefully read the respective National Regulations and contact the National Focal Point for an informal eligibility pre-check before submission.

Before submission, it is advisable that each partner also reads the National Regulations of the other partners in the consortium, to understand and fit-in to the criteria specified in the partners' National Regulations.

For more information, please contact our National Focal Point:

Name and contact of National Focal Point,

-

Dr. Reynaldo V. Ebora
Executive Director
Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)
Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
Tel: +6349-536-4990; +6349-554-9670
Email: r.ebora@pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph

Dr. Juanito T. Batalon
Deputy Executive Director for Research and Development
Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)
Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
Tel: +6349-536-1582; +6349-554-9670 loc. 228
Email: jbatalon@yahoo.com; j.batalon@pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph; oed-rd@pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph