



REINVENT THE TOILET CHALLENGE - India (RTTC-India)

A GRAND CHALLENGES INDIA GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), A Government of India Enterprise (Section-25 "Not-for-Profit Company") is announcing the Second Grand Challenges India Funding Opportunity with support from Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). This collaboration seeks to support the development of innovative sanitation technologies, products and services under the Reinvent the Toilet Challenge: India (RTTC-India).

Solving the sanitation challenge in India requires leading-edge innovations deployable across diverse landscapes. UNICEF report on India sanitation showed that poor sanitation is responsible for 62 million children under-5 being stunted and not reaching their full physical or mental potential. Sustainable solutions supporting the entire value chain of sanitation from collection till treatment are important. The overall goal of the RTTC-India is to find sustainable sanitation solutions for processing waste that include controlling the environmental contamination, improving users' acceptance and experience, ease of maintenance and operation in resource poor settings.

Under the Grand Challenges India Initiative, we are looking for

- Conceptualizing novel ways to process human waste, design and field-test prototypes having stand-alone, self-contained, practical sanitation modules.
- Innovative technologies incorporating new systems and modification of existing toilet solutions that create affordable services and have on-site processing with no further transport requirement
- Creating completely new systems for train-cars that intake bodily wastes directly and process them onboard with no further transport of hazardous waste from the train.
- Neighborhood level systems that swiftly dispose of bodily wastes and fecal sludge collected from local pit latrines and/or septic tanks

Preference shall be given to proposals catering for end-to-end approaches (prototype and processing) that respond to all aspects of the challenge.

WHO CAN APPLY

We seek Expression of interest under the RTTC-India from:

- Indian researchers, Innovators and Entrepreneurs
- Indian entities such as Academia, Research Institutes, Medical Institutes, Industries, Not-for-Profit Organizations and Foundations.

Indian led projects will be supported but we would encourage partnerships with researchers in other countries, especially where the opportunity exists to build on established collaboration or developing consortium.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants can submit a **Letter of Intent (LOI)** online at www.birac.nic.in latest by **November 15, 2013**. For further information please contact: **Dr. Shilpi Gupta**, Manager-Technical (Discovery and Product Development), BIRAC,
Email: sgupta.birac@nic.in;
swarup@dbt.nic.in

Detailed guidelines regarding the Request for Proposal for RTTC – India are available at www.birac.nic.in.