Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Special Call for Proposals on Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
under Biotechnology Industry Partnership Programme (BIPP)

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection is the leading cause of cervical cancer. India bears 30% of the burden of cervical cancer worldwide. The lack of awareness in rural areas and the lifestyle of women in urban areas worsen the situation of cervical cancer in the country. Low-cost, effective solutions are required for the prevention and treatment of HPV infections.

Academia and industries worldwide are actively involved in finding solutions to HPV infection in terms of new screening / diagnostic tests, vaccines and therapeutic options.

BIRAC invites proposals under its Biotechnology Industry Partnership Program (BIPP) on HPV prevention and control. The proposals with established POC and aspiring funding for validation and product development are encouraged under this call.

Following are some of the indicative priority areas for submitting proposals:

- Simple, sensitive, accurate & affordable screening tests (standard self-screening methods that are independent of individual interpretation)
- Simple, sensitive, specific and acceptable diagnostic tests (cost-effective and applicable to low resource settings)
- Vaccines covering additional number of HPV types
- Process optimization for cost-effective vaccine production
- Development of vaccines with specified duration of protection
- Development of new therapeutic options including products of natural origin

This list is not exhaustive and any other priority area of importance could be considered.

Who can apply?

- A single or consortia of Indian company(ies) - Small, Medium or Large having in-house R&D unit(s), alone or in collaboration with a partner from another Company / Institute / Organization.
- The main industry applicant should have DSIR* recognized in-house R&D unit; alternatively, the applicant should be incubated at an Incubation Centre / Biotech Park which has a valid SIRO / DSIR Certificate.

*(The Companies in the process of obtaining DSIR recognition may also apply along with the proof of application for DSIR. However, the final decision on such applications would be subject to their getting DSIR recognition.)

How to apply?

Proposals are required to be submitted online only. To submit a proposal online, please log on to the BIRAC Website (www.birac.nic.in)

No hard copy to be submitted. Proposals submitted online only would be considered.

BIRAC will ensure maintenance of strict confidentiality of the proposals.

Details of the scheme including eligibility requirements of the applicant company, collaborating organizations, categories for proposal submission, mechanism of evaluation, guidelines for percentage support as grant and loan, agreement templates, projects being supported, etc. are available at http://www.birac.nic.in/programmes.php

For any queries, please contact:

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Last date for Submission of Proposals
31st July, 2014