

# Science Diplomacy



*India's Global Digest of Multidisciplinary Science*



Health Ministry signs Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

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# MoUs Signed

## *Health Ministry signs Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*



The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) on 18 November 2019 signed a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). The MoC was signed by Mr. Lav Agarwal, Joint Secretary (International Health) from MoHFW and Mr. M. Hari Menon, Director, India Country Office, BMGF.

Under the MoC, Gates Foundation will provide technical, management and program design support through its grantees and other partners, with a special focus on innovation, best practices and enhancing performance management, while working closely with the

government. The Foundation will support the Ministry's work towards strengthening the primary health aspects such as reducing maternal and child mortality, improving nutrition services and increasing the immunization reach. Efforts will be made to increase access to family planning measures amongst younger women and reduce the burden of selected infectious diseases. The work will also include strengthening of supply chains and monitoring systems while focusing on budget utilization, management and skills of human resources for health, ultimately bolstering the entire health system.

## *India and Sweden sign Memorandum for India-Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre*



India and Sweden announced the launch of a Healthcare Innovation Centre in India for early diagnosis and digital intervention in the management of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes and cancer on 3 December 2019. The Swedish Trade Commissioner's Office, in collaboration with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi and Jodhpur, announced launch of the India-Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre in India. The announcement was made

at the India-Sweden Business Summit in the presence of Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf and Union Finance Minister Ms Nirmala Sitharaman, and her Swedish counterpart Ibrahim Baylan, as per an official statement. The signing of the Memorandum of Intent took place at the event to mark 10 years of India-Sweden health cooperation. Others present were Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan and his Swedish counterpart Maja Fjaestad.

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## *CSIR, India and CNRS, France sign MoU for Promotion and Support of Scientific and Technological Research*

On 17 December 2019, an MoU was signed between the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), India and the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), France to establish a framework for cooperation between the two towards promotion and support of scientific and technological research. This

cooperation could include sharing good practices, promoting technology transfer and enhancing industry-academia cooperation. The broad research areas of mutual interest include biotechnology including plant and marine biotechnology; health research; environment and climate change studies; engineering



science and technology; material science and technology; energy science and technology and water research. A team led by Director General,

CSIR, Dr Shekhar C. Mande signed the MoU with a delegation from CNRS France, led by its President and CEO, Prof. Antoine Petit.

## Announcements

### DST Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Fellowships 2019

Recognizing the growing demand and the need to bridge the gap between 'research' and 'practice' in Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) policy, the Policy Research Cell (PRC) of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) launched DST-STI-PFP, a flagship policy fellowship program in 2016. This year's DST-STI-PFP is proposed in three different categories with a larger scope

and thematic coverage: 1. STI-Senior Policy Fellow, 2. STI-Postdoctoral Policy Fellow, and 3. STI-Young Policy Professional. The main objective of DST-STI Fellowship is to build up the cadre of academic STI policy researchers/professionals in the country, such that these fellows may actively contribute in policy making in academia, research organizations, or even in government.

The thematic scope of the DST-STI-PFP 2019 may include the following six components:

1. Policy
2. STI related Data
3. Programmes/Schemes
4. Project Management
5. Monitoring and Evaluation
6. Impact Assessment of Policy/Programmes

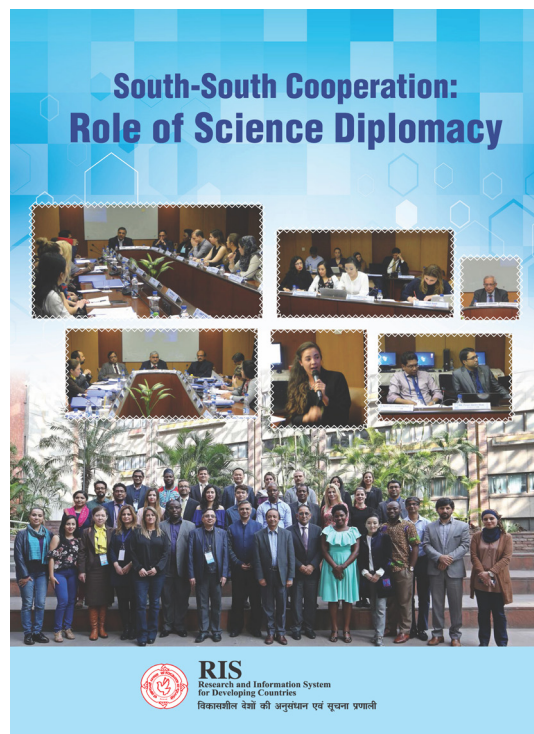
**Last date:** January 15, 2020

Further information at [https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/DST STI PFP Call Dec. 2019.pdf](https://dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/DST_STI_PFP_Call_Dec.2019.pdf)

# Publications

## South-South Cooperation: Role of Science Diplomacy

This publication is a collection of articles written by participants of the second programme on Science Diplomacy organised by Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India in 2018. There were 32 participants from 20 countries including Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, etc. The articles are based on their expectations from Science Diplomacy and their suggestions about harnessing them. In 2017, RIS organized the first programme on Science Diplomacy under ITEC/SCAPP Programme of Ministry of External Affairs. Thirty-seven participants from 25 countries attended it.



## A FRAMEWORK for Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Reviews: Harnessing Innovation for Sustainable Development

This is a United Nations publication issued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). This publication is intended to provide policymakers and other stakeholders with a guide to the new thinking that underpins the STIP Review programme. The STIP Review programme provides tailored technical support to countries in assessing national STI systems and designing or reframing national STI policies and plans. The new framework presents an ambitious vision for transformative STI policymaking that advances an inclusive and sustainable development

agenda. It calls for commitment to an inclusive process involving a broad range of social actors. It also requires flexibility in tailoring the process to each country's specific concerns, priorities, development trajectories and policy needs.

The work is available in open access at [https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/dtstict2019d4\\_en.pdf](https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/dtstict2019d4_en.pdf).



# Call for Proposals

## Indo-Uzbek Joint Research Programme

Last date: February 14, 2020

Further information at <https://dst.gov.in/callforproposals/india-uzbekistan-joint-call-proposals-2019>

## Indo-Hungarian Joint Research 2019

Last date: March 11, 2020

Further information at <https://dst.gov.in/callforproposals/call-proposals-indo-hungarian-joint-research-2019>

## Indo-Danish Research and Innovation Cooperation in the Areas of Cyber Physical Systems

Last date: March 17, 2020

Further information at <https://dst.gov.in/callforproposals/india-denmark-joint-call-proposals-cyber-security>

## India-Spain Joint Call for Co-operation in Biotechnology 2019

Last date: March 27, 2020

Further information at [http://dbtindia.gov.in/sites/default/files/Indo-Spanish%20CFP%202019-2020\\_0.pdf](http://dbtindia.gov.in/sites/default/files/Indo-Spanish%20CFP%202019-2020_0.pdf)

## TDB-CEFIPRA-Bpifrance Programme for Indian and French Industries

Last date: quarterly cut off dates on March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 till 10th April, 2021.

Further information at [http://www.cefipra.org/TBD\\_Cefipra\\_BPIfrance.aspx](http://www.cefipra.org/TBD_Cefipra_BPIfrance.aspx)

# Forthcoming Events

## ITEC: Science Diplomacy Course

Venue: New Delhi, India

Date: 06-17 January 2020

Further information at <https://www.ris.org.in/itec-science-diplomacy>

## 2020 Science Diplomacy Symposium

Venue: Vienna, Austria

Date: 30 March to 3 April 2020

Further information at <https://ctnw.ctbto.org/ctnw/event/5859>

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