

# Innovation Challenge – AIS Joint Research Program 2021

Monday, March 1, 2021, 9:00 AM –  
Friday, April 2, 2021, 10:00 AM

Archipelagic and Island States Forum  
(AIS Forum)

Kav 3 Jl. M.H. Thamrin, Daerah Khusus  
Ibukota Jakarta, 10340, Indonesia  
(map)



## Background

The academic community represents a critical stakeholder for the AIS Forum, as they play a significant role in knowledge generation through research and innovation. Consequently, the AIS Forum aims to engage with the academic community and other relevant stakeholders to utilize their expertise for the development of practical solutions to environmental issues affecting AIS countries. The Joint Research Programme, agreed upon at the 2nd AIS Forum Ministerial Meeting in 2019, is the AIS Forum mechanism to bring together international researchers and will be implemented in 2021. Specifically, this programme provides assistance for researchers in AIS participating countries. The research findings from this programme are expected to be presented at the High-Level Meeting of AIS the Forum 2021.

Seeing the challenges presented before us during this difficult time, the AIS Secretariat decides to seek creative ideas as an initial breakthrough solution that can solve the problems effected by climate change in the Archipelagic and Island States. As an organization that leverages smart and

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The objective of the assignment is to assist AIS Forum Secretariat finding the ideas for smart and innovative solutions as well as to strengthen the cooperation between the archipelagic and island states, including:

1. Fostering competitive research and development initiatives between AIS Forum participating countries through cooperative working relationships to create new or further develop existing research.
2. Promoting and implementing smart and innovative solutions through the development of a collaborative research and innovation platform for stakeholders in AIS Forum participating countries.
3. Identifying and integrating relevant activities and expertise of AIS Forum participating countries into a framework of international cooperation—with an emphasis on climate change mitigation and adaptation area.
4. Establishing academic networks between AIS Forum participating countries through stakeholders such as: universities, think tanks, civil society organizations, and other relevant institutions.

## **Event Description**

The AIS Joint Research is a program that focuses on the research and collaboration between two AIS countries. The proposed Joint Research Project must be conducted by at least two stakeholders from different AIS participating countries. Each research team must be led by one or more senior researchers or experienced faculty members working on environment and/or marine issues.

## **Total Grants**

1. For Thematic Area 1: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation:  
17.000 USD

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# Research Area: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Sub-Research Areas:

1. Resilience disaster management
2. Ocean conservation
3. Response to climate change

The prize for this Joint Research Programme aims to promote research that creates practical solutions to development and environment related challenges affecting AIS countries. Accordingly, the Joint Research Programme will target projects that fulfil the following criteria:

1. Promising research ideas that would be potentially scaled up in the future.
2. Tangible research plan with a proposed innovative approach.
3. Explanation of clear competitive advantages with added value.
4. Complete budget plan specifying how project funding will be used.

The winner will get prize money of **USD 17,000** to be used for research purpose in 6 months research period. The winner will also get chance present their research findings in front of head of head of states in the AIS Forum High-level Meeting 2021.

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the approved timeline.

3. Final report and output of the joint research project.

## Scope of Work

The scope of work is as follow:

### Scope of work 1: A Joint Research Project Proposal

1.1 The joint research team must submit the research proposal that consist of the research idea, a proposed methodology, approach, and quality assurance protocols, proposed activities by providing a detailed description of all essential activities that will support the research project as well as how the research outputs will be addressed. In addition to that, the joint research proposal should include the following elements: information about participating organizations, a brief description of the research proposal, a situation analysis, an outline of the research strategy, details of the expected output and the sustainability of the research output, a workplan, a summary of the research personnel, and a summary of the budget.

Scope of work 2: Report on at least 50% of the Joint Research progress according to the approved timeline

2.1 The joint research team should write the mid report that cover at least 50% of the research progress for the duration of May 2021 – July 2021.

Scope of work 3: Final report and output of the joint research project

3.1 The joint research team should write the final report and the research output in the end of the 6 months research period.



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# **Research Area: Good Maritime Governance**

Sub-Research Areas:

1. Marine Energy Management
2. Blue Digital Connectivity
3. Maritime Law, Policy and Governance

The prize for this Joint Research Programme aims to promote the policy research that creates practical solutions to marine governance related challenges affecting AIS countries. Accordingly, the Joint Research Programme will target projects that fulfil the following criteria:

1. Promising policy research ideas that would be potentially implemented by AIS countries.
2. Tangible research plan with a proposed innovative approach.
3. Explanation of clear competitive advantages with added value.
4. Complete budget plan specifying how project funding will be used.

The winner will get prize money of **USD 13,000** to be used for research purpose in 6 months research period. The winner will also get chance present their research findings in front of head of states in the AIS Forum High-level Meeting 2021.

## **Expected Outputs**

The key outputs under this assignment are:

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# Scope of Work

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Scope of work 2: Report on at least 50% of the Joint Policy Research progress according to the approved timeline

2.1 The joint research team should write the mid report that cover at least 50% of the research progress for the duration of May 2021 – July 2021.

Scope of work 3: Final joint research report and policy recommendation to be adapted by AIS countries.

3.1 The joint research team should write the final report and the research output in the end of the 6 months research period.

# Qualification

To determine one winner that will receive the Innovation Challenge funding, UNDP uses the following evaluation criteria that have equal weight:

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The research methodology should be relevant in contributing to the research output

- **Research output and sustainability (weight 20%)**

The research output should be implemented in sustainable manner

- **Workplan, timeline and performance target (weight 10%)**

The research proposal should have a workplan and timeline that is realistic to its performance target

- **Research personnel (weight 10%)**

The research personnel must be qualified and has relevant roles in achieving the research output

- **Budget (weight 10%)**

The research's spending should be efficient and should meet the value for money principle

## QUALIFICATIONS

### 1. Team qualification

Any research team that consists of at least 2 senior researchers/experienced faculty members from AIS participating countries.

### 2. Proposal qualification

The proposed research project needs to demonstrate it is of high scientific value and aligns with climate change mitigation and adaptation area. It should also aim to enhance the well-being and livelihoods of local peoples and to preserve coastal and marine ecosystems. Furthermore, the applicants should explain why their research project would benefit from having the cooperation of multiple parties as well as how the proposed research activities will be implemented cooperatively.

### 3. Language Requirement

Proficiency in English language, spoken and written. The team must have the ability to write reports and make presentations in English.

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Should you be interested to submit a proposal for this, kindly send Annex 1 and Annex 2 documents to [registration@aisforum.org](mailto:registration@aisforum.org) with subject “Innovation Challenge - 2021 AIS Joint Research: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation” or “Innovation Challenge - 2021 AIS Joint Policy Research: Good Maritime Governance” no later than 31 March 2021.

## **Proposal Format**

The joint research proposal should consist of a proposed methodology, approach, and quality assurance protocols. Additionally, a research plan is required that identifies the specific components of the proposed activities by providing a detailed description of all essential activities that will support the research project as well as how the research outputs will be addressed. The applicants should complete the annex 1 document in a proposal format and

Include the following elements: information about participating organizations, a brief description of the research proposal, a situation analysis, an outline of the research strategy, details of the expected output and the sustainability of the research output, a workplan, a summary of the research personnel, and a summary of the budget.

### ANNEX 1

## **Key Budgeting**

Details of the proposed budget should be written in the annex 2 document and include a budget for each Individual project component, a summary of

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- Communication and the dissemination of research project findings

The grantee is responsible for all financial reporting pertaining to the utilization of the grant as will be defined in the grant agreement. Appropriate evidence that reported activities were completed should be attached to the report, such as photographs, copies of boarding passes, meeting minutes, sign in sheets, etc.

## ANNEX 2

# **Contact Person**

For further questions/clarification about the guidelines or application forms, please contact Ms. Livita Sumali [[livita.sumali@undp.org](mailto:livita.sumali@undp.org) / [secretariat@aisforum.org](mailto:secretariat@aisforum.org)].

READ THE FULL TERM OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THEME 1:  
CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

READ THE FULL TERM OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THEME 2:  
GOOD MARITIME GOVERNANCE

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