



DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY
Ministry of Science and Technology
Government of India

Call for proposals on Biology of Childhood Undernutrition and Healthy Growth with an emphasis on Linear Growth Retardation

Global estimates suggest that undernutrition including fetal growth restriction, stunting, wasting, and deficiencies of vitamin A and zinc along with suboptimum breast feeding is a cause of majority of all child deaths. Childhood undernutrition is a major national concern too, which needs urgent remedies to optimise our human resource development. Undernutrition, especially linear growth retardation, probably occurs through several inter-related or independent mechanisms. The precise biological or pathogenic pathways are unknown and require optimization for designing of public health intervention packages.

Department of Biotechnology solicits R & D proposals in the following thematic areas (suggestive and not restrictive):

- Measuring undernutrition, especially biomarkers and functional correlates;
- Genetic and epigenetic influences on healthy growth
- Endocrine influences facilitating linear growth
- Nutrition requirements and dietary composition for healthy growth
- Underlying biology for addressing undernutrition including that related to intergenerational constraints and social interventions and
- Role of immune system and gut health.

This call for proposals is intended to enhance our understanding to facilitate healthy growth in children at the population level.

Eligibility: Proposals may be submitted by clinicians / scientists/ interdisciplinary groups working in recognised R & D Institutions

Screening of proposals: The proposals will be examined by constituted expert committee for consideration of financial support by DBT

Submission of Proposal:

The R & D proposals are to be submitted online by the following steps:

- a) Open DBT epromis website (<http://dbtepromis.nic.in/login.aspx>) and consult the user manual for Project Investigator and thereafter submit R & D proposal online to DBT under the programme area: “*Public Health, Food and Nutrition*”. The investigators should choose “Call for proposals option” while uploading the proposal in epromis.
- b) Send a soft copy of the R & D proposal by email to vk.addanki@nic.in
- c) Also submit 02 hard copies to Dr. A.Vamsi Krishna, Scientist-D, Department of Biotechnology, Block-2, 7th Floor (R.No-726), C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003.

Last Date of submission: 30th May 2016

Extended Last Date of submission: 15th June 2016