**APPLICATION GUIDE**



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# What project profiles are of interest to us?

## SUBJECT MATTER

The vision of the COI Program is deeply rooted in the aspiration to strive towards a One World, One Health society. This concept encompasses a holistic and interconnected approach to well-being that extends beyond physical health. Therefore, we support initiatives aligned with three fundamental pillars: Healthy Mind, Healthy Body, and Healthy Environment.

## EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

The COI Program is an initiative that transcends the boundaries of traditional scientific research. It focuses on projects that go beyond solely scientific agenda and promise to deliver tangible outcomes in the domains of TECHNOLOGY, BUSINESS, or OUTREACH.

**TECHNOLOGY**

We expect projects to fall into one of the following categories:

**Technological advancements**: creation of new technologies or significant advancements in existing ones.[[1]](#footnote-1)

*Deliverables:*

* Patenting,
* Other forms of IP registration (trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, software licensing),
* Optimization, efficiency improvements, or automation, leading to cost savings and enhanced productivity.

**Technology transfer**: moving technologies developed in one context, often within a research or development setting, to another context.[[2]](#footnote-2)

*Deliverables:*

* Technology Transfer Agreement with industry or government agencies,
* University-industry Partnerships or Collaborations Agreements with a financial or revenue-sharing component,
* Data Sharing and Access Agreements,
* Technology demonstrations (working prototypes).

**Technological open-source contribution**: sharing and collaborating on technology-related projects within an open-source framework.[[3]](#footnote-3)

*Deliverables:*

* User adoption metrics,
* Broad media coverage,
* Recognitions and awards.

**BUSINESS**

We expect projects to fall into one of the following categories:

**Revenue-share agreements**: distribution of the financial benefits or profits between OIST and an industrial partner generated from a collaborative project, research, or intellectual property (IP) commercialization.

*Deliverables:*

* Agreement that specifies specific milestones or triggers that need to be achieved for revenue-sharing to commence,
* Product sales revenue,
* Technology licensing fees or royalties from IP,
* Consulting, training or certification fees,
* Donations/ sponsorship provided by industry interested in the project's goals or in aligning their brand with the project's objectives,
* Crowdfunding contributions received through crowdfunding campaigns to support project-related initiatives or products.

**Corporate social responsibility and sustainability initiatives**: involving established businesses in social and environmental responsibility initiatives.

*Deliverables:*

* Advancement of “Healthy Mind, Healthy Body, Healthy Environment” solutions and practices within a corporate setting,
* Attracting corporate investments to support existing initiatives.

**New product or service development**: creation of innovative products/services base on existing technology.

*Deliverables:*

* Establishment of new startup company with the purpose of commercializing the product/service,
* New product/service launch in an existing company,
* Process optimization, efficiency improvements, or automation, leading to cost savings and enhanced productivity within the business.

**Market expansion**: expansion of market presence for established businesses, enabling them to reach new customer segments, thereby contributing to the growth of the local economy.

*Deliverables:*

* New revenue stream(s),
* New jobs creation.

**OUTREACH**

We expect projects to fall into one of the following categories:

**Social change initiatives (community engagement)**: programs, social services or support systems targeting specific social issues like education, healthcare, housing or else.

*Deliverables:*

* After-school programs, tutoring services, scholarships or youth mentorship and leadership development programs,
* Mobile medical units or health education programs,
* Mental health and counseling services,
* Family support centers,
* Job training and placement programs/ skills development workshops,
* Programs that encourage civic engagement and informed voting,
* Cultural preservation efforts, workshops and activities fostering cultural awareness and appreciation,
* Environmental education programs to promote sustainable practices,
* Conservation and wildlife protection programs,
* Emergency preparedness and disaster response programs.

**Informed Decision-Making Support (collaborating with authorities):** creation of policy recommendations and reports that provide valuable insights and data.

*Deliverables:*

* Data analysis and research reports that present authoritative information, statistics, and trends related to the subject matter,
* White papers that delve deep into a particular issue, presenting thorough analysis, alternative solutions, and policy suggestions to guide decision-makers,
* Legislative proposals or bills that outline suggested changes to existing laws or regulations,
* Cost-benefit analyses of proposed policies or projects,
* Stakeholder engagement platforms or forums for constructive discussions among various stakeholders, including experts, community members, and policymakers,
* Public opinion surveys to inform authorities about community sentiment and preferences,
* Environmental impact reports to evaluate environmental consequences and suggest mitigation measures.

## COLLABORATION MANDATE

Collaboration among academia, industry, and government stands as a cornerstone within the COI Program. It is of utmost importance that every COI project brings together various stakeholders each contributing unique perspectives and expertise to work collectively on addressing complex challenges, fostering innovation, and driving economic growth.

# Who can apply?

The Applicant must currently be:

* A full-time Faculty Member at OIST.
* An Adjunct Faculty Member who maintains an active Research Unit at OIST.
* A researcher or technician who has the support of the Unit PI.
* A member of the Science and Technology Group (STG) at OIST, with prior approval from the Dean of Faculty Affairs.

# How to apply?

To apply for COI-NEXT funding, kindly complete the Application Form and submit it to [COI@oist.jp](mailto:COI@oist.jp)

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| **APPLICATION FORM** |
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| **SCIENTIFIC GOAL**  Please describe the scientific background for your project. Is there a specific scientific question or challenge that your project seeks to answer? Discuss any key studies, findings, or theories that are relevant to your work. Describe the scientific methods, experimental design or technological framework you plan to employ. What do you hope to discover, confirm, or contribute to the field?  *Please reply in 50-300 words.* |
|  |
| **TANGIBLE OUTCOME  (specific, measurable indicators of the project’s success)**  Explain the problem or opportunity that your project addresses. What is the purpose of your project? Discuss the anticipated outcomes of your project. How does it fit into the COI goals and strategy? How does it contribute to a broader, long-term vision of “One world, one health” concept?  *Please reply in 50-300 words.* |
|  |
| **STRATEGY**  Outline your primary research strategy (Plan A) by explaining the specific research methods and clearly stating the hypotheses or research questions your strategy aims to address. If your initial hypothesis cannot be substantiated, do you have a contingency plan (Plan B) in place to utilize your research findings? Are there any readily accessible opportunities you can leverage?  *Please reply in 50-300 words.* |
|  |
| **RISKS**  What are the major risks to your project? Please provide details on any research-related or operational risks that may emerge during the implementation process.  *Please reply in 50-300 words.* |
|  |
| **STAKEHOLDERS AND COLLABORATORS**  Please list all stakeholders who may have an interest in your project or the potential to influence its outcomes, whether positively or negatively. Within this list, do you maintain contact with any public or private organizations that could be registered as project collaborators?  *Please reply in 50-150 words.* |
|  |
| **TIMELINE**  Please provide an overview of the project's high-level timeline, including projected start and end dates, major milestones, and the specific deliverables associated with each of these milestones.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | START | Milestone 1 | Milestone 2 | Milestone 3 | Milestone 4 | Milestone 5 | Milestone 6 | END | | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR |   *Please provide the details for each milestone in the table and specify the anticipated year of completion. Feel free to include multiple milestones for a single year.* |
|  |
| **BUDGET**  Please provide an overview of the expected annual budget necessary for the project.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | YEAR | | Amount | Amount | Amount | Amount | Amount | Amount | Amount | Amount |   *Make your best estimate.* |
|  |
| **PEOPLE**  Please specify the essential roles and responsibilities necessary for the successful execution of the project.  *Please reply in 50-150 words.* |

1. This could include the development of groundbreaking software, hardware, or systems/services that have practical applications in various industries. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In this new context, technologies can be applied and further developed for practical use. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Collaboration can occur through code contributions, bug reports, documentation, community forums, providing data inputs, etc. Open-source contributions drive innovation by allowing a wide range of people and organizations to build upon existing technology. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)