

**QAFCO Reseach and Development Grant**

**(QRDG)**

**Guidelines**

 **Office of Research Support**

 **March 2020**

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# QRDG Program’s Summary

**Stage 1:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  **Launch of the Call for Proposal**  |  11th March 2020  |
|  **Deadline for Proposal Submission** | Please check QRDG Website for updated dates  |
| **Award Announcment** | Please check QRDG Website for updated dates  |
|  **Projects’ Start Date**  | Please check QRDG Website for updated dates  |
|  **Duration**  | Please check QRDG Website for updated dates  |
|  **Budget**  | Up to US 5,000 $ per project |
| **Submission**  | All applications to be submitted through the iGrants system : <https://www.conftool.org/igrants/>  |
|  **QRDG Program Contact** |   igrants@qu.edu.qa |

**Stage 2:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Proof of Concept Selection Announcement** | Please check QRDG Website for updated dates  |
| **Full Project Submission Deadline** | Please check QRDG Website for updated dates  |
| **Stage 2 Completion (End of Projects)** | Please check QRDG Website for updated dates  |
| **Award budget** | Up to US 70,000 $ per project |
| **Duration** | Please check QRDG Website for updated dates  |
| **QRDG program contact** |   igrants@qu.edu.qa |

# Program Overview

The ambition through the QAFCO Research and Development Grant (QRDG) is to facilitate the involvement of researchers with the industrial sector to recognize the importance of the research as the way ahead for building the knowledge based economy and meeting the aspiration on QNV 2030.

QRDG program will raise the creation of potential products and systems and motivate the young generation for innovation and creation, through multidisciplinary teams.

# Research Areas

1- Process Enhancement:

2- Environmental Studies

3- Climate change adaptation

4- Soil Health Management

Example of possible topics provided by QAFCO:

(Desalination: Process Optimization and Efficiency studies; Seawater cooling systems; Power Generation; Combined Power and Steam Generation Systems; Seawater systems; Filtrations/Cleaning of Seawater and post processing treatment; Fouling problems in Seawater systems; Shock dosing proposals; Effects of temperature changes; seawater quality; Activation of CO2 Absorption Systems; Groundwater Movement Studies; Effect of Hamad Port Construction on Groundwater Movement; Mapping of Groundwater Movement at QAFCO sites; Water Table movement; Air Capacity Studies at QAFCO; Low level/Ground level Ozone calculation study; Technical and Economical Studies evaluating feasibility of De-Sox system installation; Biological Treatment of Process Wastewater; Soil Remediation Project - Due to oil spill and contamination; Feasibility Evaluation and Implantation plan of LEED Green Building strategies; Generated Waste Minimization Studies; Recovery of Wasted Resources: Urea Dust Emissions; stream; flaring.; Construction of a noise Contour covering QAFCO 1-6 sites and evaluation of adverse environmental effects; Proposal of a solution to counteract the effect of sand movement towards QAFCO 5/6 site; Pollution and adverse Environmental Effects of operating QAFCO 5/6 towards resident of of nearby camping areas; Effect of Urea Dust emissions on ground water at QAFCO 5/6 site)

# Eligibility

Each QRDG Proposals will be initially assessed based on the below eligibility:

1. The LPI must be a full-time faculty member.
2. The team includes a maximum of two faculty members (from colleges and/or research centers)
3. The team includes at minimum one student (Graduate, Undergraduate)
4. Proposed budget is invested inside Qatar only
5. The proposal submitted in response to this call should have not been successfully funded or proposed in parallel to another funding program.
6. The requested budget does not exceed the maximum authorized budget per project

All propsals that meet the above criteria will be put forward for technical evaluation.

# Budget

QRDG submitted projects will be awarded an amount not exceeding the awards mentioned above. Qatar University will be directly responsible for dispersing and managing the funds allocated from the QRDG.

100% of funds should be spent inside Qatar and restricted to the following budget lines only: Software packages, Materials and supplies, Equipment and/or other justified Miscellaneous items to help develop the prototype.

All proposals must adhere to the global Qatar University Internal Funding guidelines (considering the restricted budget lines stated above): <http://www.qu.edu.qa/research/offices/research-support/policies>

# Proposal Evaluation

The proposal review and ranking process consist of:

1. ORS Eligiblity Review (Pre Screening)
2. Peer review by expert faculty members in the college.
3. QU-QAFCO Joint Task force review of proposals and feedback
4. Final approval/review from the QU-QAFCO Joint Task Force.

# Acknowledgement of Support and Project Outcomes

Aknowledgement:

QRDG LPIs shall ensure that all research outcomes and publications resulting from this grant includes the following statement: “This [publication, poster, report, etc.] was supported by Qatar University via XXX -QRDG [GRANT CODE]. The findings achieved herein are solely the responsibility of the authors.”

The QRDG Project final report should be submitted to the QU-QAFCO Joint Task Force for evaluation ahead of any external discssions related to the Technology.

Outcomes:

Beyond the regular publication requirements, it is expected that the project outcome will be submitted to local incubation centers after their development (such as QSTP, QBIC, DIC, etc) for further commercialization opportunities.

# Inquiries

For any inquiry regarding this document and the proposal submission process please send an email to igrants@qu.edu.qa.