Proposal Submission, Evaluation and Approval

START

Capsule Proposal Submission

Review & Endorsement
(DOST RO / RDC / OUSecRO)

Capsule Proposal Processing
(S4CP-PMO / OUSecRD)

Evaluation & Endorsement
(DOST Council/s)

NO ← Approved?

YES

Submission of Full Blown Proposal

DOST-GIA Evaluation

NO ← Approved?

YES

MOA / Fund Release / Implementation
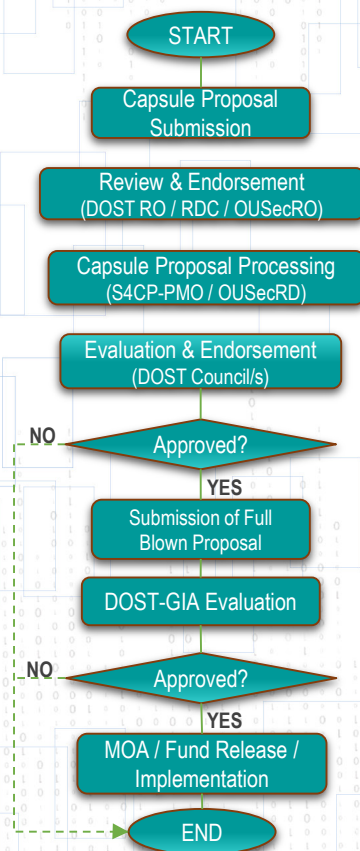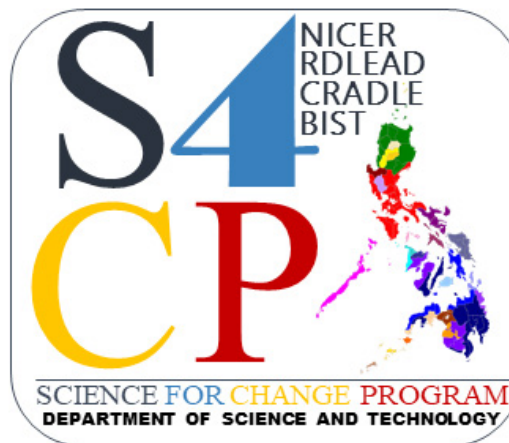
END

*If the HEI proponent does not have the full capacity to pursue the proposed R&D, the HEI must have a corresponding proposal under the **RDLead Program** to fill in the capacity gap.*

S4CP

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SCIENCE FOR CHANGE PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

For inquiries, please contact:

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE-SCIENCE FOR CHANGE PROGRAM

Office of the Undersecretary for R&D
Department of Science and Technology
2/F ADMATEL Bldg., DOST Compound
Gen. Santos Ave., Bicutan, Taguig City

✉ s4c.ousecrd@gmail.com

📞 (+632) 837-2943/ 837-2071 local 2510

f @dost.s4cp

Important links:

www.dost.gov.ph/knowledge-resources/download
DOST Forms 1A and 1B Capsule R&D Proposal (Forms)
Revised DOST-GIA Guidelines 2017 (Resources)
Approved HNRDA 2017-2022 (Journals)

www.dost.gov.ph/transparency (List of Officials)
Directory of DOST Regional Offices

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NICER
NICHE CENTERS IN THE REGIONS FOR R&D

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Establish R&D Centers in the regions by stimulating collaborative Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) ecosystem among Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to promote regional development

Niche Centers in the Regions (NICER) for R&D

The Niche Centers in the Regions (NICER) for R&D is a component of the DOST's Accelerated R&D Program for Capacity Building of Research and Development Institutions and Industrial Competitiveness under the **Science for Change Program.**

The DOST, through the NICER Program will capacitate Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the regions to make significant improvement in regional research by integrating its development needs with the existing R&D research capabilities and resources. It will provide institutional grant for R&D capacity building to improve their S&T infrastructure.
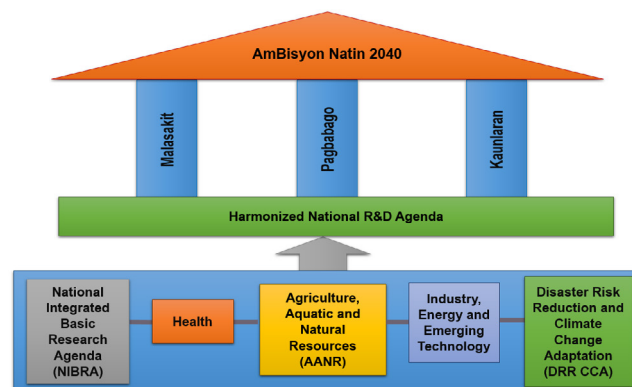
Why does DOST implement the NICER Program?

NICER Program is being implemented to achieve the following:

- establish R&D Centers that will cater to the specific needs of the Regions, to include upgrading, development and acquisition of research equipment to undertake collaborative R&D activities;

- capacitate S&T human resource through the R&D leaders under the R&D Leadership (RDLead) Program who will pursue innovative research relevant to the societal needs of the region that will support the local industries;

- promote inclusive growth that will benefit the research community and the industry by increasing the number of developed and transferred technologies

Who are eligible to apply?

Any HEI with proven competence and track record may apply for funding under the NICER Program, provided that the projects will have beneficial impact on local industry. The DOST Councils will evaluate the eligibility and capability of the proponent to implement and sustain the NICER.

Major criteria for funding under NICER Program

Proposed NICER shall meet the following requirements:

- unique across regions, with projects anchored on the Harmonized National R&D Agenda and regional primary needs and capabilities;
- duly endorsed by the Regional Development Council (RDC);
- hosted by an eligible HEI proponent with commitment to maintain and sustain its operations;
- a collaborative project of HEIs in the region; and,
- structured for a multi-year program implementation (maximum of three years) with at least three (3) initial component R&D projects and a clear roadmap of R&D activities and outputs

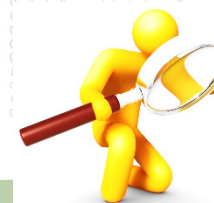## What are the application requirements?

- Capsule proposal with at least three (3) component R&D projects using DOST Form No. 1A and 1B;

- Line Item Budget for the whole program with breakdown for each corresponding component project;

- CV of project leader and all co-researchers/ implementers; and,

- Endorsement of the RDC for the full blown proposal (once the Capsule proposal is endorsed)

Other additional requirements for submission:
- inventory of MS/PhD faculty members and researchers
- number of graduate students (MS/PhD) per course
- list of existing R&D centers and Technology Licensing Office
- list of publications of involved personnel
- list of collaborating and cooperating partner universities with corresponding letter(s) of support

How will your proposed NICER stand out?

- proposed NICER should be able to create value by providing a **Solution to Needs**
- clear objectives with defined outputs against realistic budget and timeframe

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Publications
Patents
Products / Process
People Services
Places
Policies