



**Social Sciences  
WOTRO Science for Global Development**

## **Social Science Cooperation**

## **India-Netherlands (SSCIN)**

**ICSSR-NWO India-Netherlands Social Science Scholar Exchange Visits 2011-2012**

**Indian Council of  
Social Science Research**





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# 1 Introduction

The Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) invite applications from established scholars for funded academic visits of 1-3 months (and in exceptional cases a minimum of 2 weeks) to recognized research organisations (ROs), including universities and research institutes<sup>1</sup>, in either country to undertake clearly specified research collaborations between themselves and their own research centre and research centres in the alternate country (either India or The Netherlands).

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<sup>1</sup> For The Netherlands this refers to the Dutch universities, NWO and KNAW institutes, and international centres for scientific education based in The Netherlands (IHS, ISS, ITC, MSM, UNESCO-IHE).

## 2 Aim

The purpose of this scheme is to strengthen the quality and potential of research in both countries by building greater research interaction. This scheme is for staff with an academic or research appointment, up to senior professors.

The Councils are particularly interested in applicants about to make major contributions in their research area. In this second round of exchange awards, the Councils are concerned to encourage applicants who have established, begun to establish, or are on the verge of establishing, international recognition in their research field. Early career and female researchers are especially invited to submit a proposal.

## 3 Guidelines for applicants

### 3.1 Who can apply?

Applicants should be the scholars who wish to make the visit. They must however attach a letter of invitation from the proposed host institution in the other country indicating clearly that they have read and agree with the application, welcome the visitor, and provide research facilities to him / her.

Applicants must be employed in a research or academic position in a recognised research or academic institution in that country (see also note on page 3).

They must also hold a PhD or equivalent qualification, and have held this for at least three years by September 2011 (i.e., since at least September 2008).

Applications must nominate as Lead Collaborator an established scholar of postdoctoral status who is a secure member of staff at the host institution, with a recognised international standing in their field. The Lead Collaborator in association with the host institution must undertake to make all the necessary practical and administrative arrangements for the visit, and to provide the lead intellectual partner or mentor role for the exchange scholar during their visit. In addition, by supporting the application the host research centre or group makes a commitment to work towards research collaboration with the visiting scholar and the partner institution. Successful applications will normally be based in departments with clear international recognition in their fields.

### 3.2 What can be applied for?

ICSSR and NWO will provide:

- Reasonable / economy international travel costs between the two institutions.
- Related costs such as visa arrangements, domestic travel and medical insurance (for Indian scholars) or vaccinations.
- The costs of residential accommodation to be provided by or on behalf of the host institution for the period of the stay.
- Some internal travel costs for the period of the stay where a case is made for links with related groups in other parts of the country.
- Additional subsistence and support costs up to a maximum for the full 3 months of Euro 8,000 in The Netherlands and 400,000 rupees in India.
- The total value of the grant may not exceed Euro 10,000 for visitors to The Netherlands or 500,000 rupees for visitors to India.

### 3.3 When can applications be submitted?

Applications should be submitted by E-mail to ICSSR or through the Iris system to NWO not later than: 15 September 2011 4.00pm (16.00 hours) local time.

### 3.4 Drawing up an application

Applications may be made on the application form for periods of visits between 1 and 3 months:

- for Indian scholars to visit a Netherlands research group or centre
- for Netherlands scholars to visit an Indian research group or centre

### **3.5 Specific conditions**

Applicants are not expected or required to be working on research topics specifically concerned with India or The Netherlands (though this is not excluded), but on any topic across the whole social sciences or related areas.

There is no fixed focus to the subjects in which the exchanges might be based, and the Councils are interested in these across the social sciences – covering economics, economic and social history, education, demography, development and area studies, environmental studies, human geography, law, management and business studies, pedagogy, political science, psychology, social and cultural anthropology, sociology, social policy, social statistics, and computing for social sciences.

### **3.6 Submitting an application**

Successful applicants will be required to provide a short report on their visit and research (no more than 2,000 words) within 3 months of its completion. This will be expected to cover (a) the specifics of any research undertaken, (b) the development of new ideas, (c) any papers (draft or final) to which the visit has contributed, and (d) any new opportunities for collaboration which have been opened up. Published articles or books related to the visit should include acknowledgement of the ICSSR-NWO exchange programme.

Applications should be submitted on the form to ICSSR for Indian scholars wishing to visit The Netherlands and to NWO for Netherlands scholars wishing to visit India.

## 4 Assessment procedure

### 4.1 Procedure

Applications will be acknowledged. If they are not acknowledged within 10 working days of submission applicants should not assume that they have been received. Applications to NWO will be shared with ICSSR who will eventually fund any awards to India, and similarly those to ICSSR will be shared with NWO.

The Councils expect to be able to make up to 10 awards during 2011-2012, with arrangements for the visit to be completed not later than March 2012, and the visit to be taken up during 2012, with a deadline of March 2013. The Councils expect but do not require that five of the visits will be to The Netherlands and the other five to India.

The award for all the costs during the exchange visit will be made directly to the host institution in the country to be visited. These will be made by ICSSR to host institutions in India, and by NWO to host institutions in The Netherlands. International travel and related costs will be handled in the country of the applicant.

It is intended to make announcements about outcomes not later than 31 October 2011, and earlier if possible. Awards will need to be taken up during 2012, and at the latest by 31 March 2013, or the offers will lapse.

Awards to Indian host institutions will be made by the ICSSR, and similarly awards to the Netherlands host institutions will be made by NWO. The Councils will however make joint decisions on all applications. While the aim is a balanced set of exchanges in each direction to and from both The Netherlands and India, the final outcome will be determined by the quality of applications.

### 4.2 Criteria

The Councils will be particularly but not exclusively (as indicated above) interested in applications in such areas as:

- Changing life courses:
  - childhood and adolescence
  - family, gender and ageing
  - ethnicity, religion and identity formation
  - employment and social security
  - education
- Science, technology and society (STS)
  - environment
  - ICT
  - biotechnology
  - health
- Global relationships
  - conflict and security
  - international migration
  - international economic relations
- Poverty and inequality

### 4.3 Composition of committee

All applications will be referred to the ICSSR-NWO Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) for final decision. The JAC will consist of a number of senior academics across the social sciences. They (or specialist advisors appointed for them) will evaluate the proposals on the basis of academic merit, taking into account:

#### I. Quality of the proposal

- originality
- relationship to existing research in the field
- scholarly importance of the research proposed
- suitability of the methodology

#### II. Quality of track record

They will evaluate the ability of the investigator(s) to undertake the proposed research, taking into account their track record of scholarly publication and their academic standing. This applies to both applicant and host.

#### III. Quality/attributes of collaboration

- feasibility of the research programme and the visit plan
- adequacy of the scheme of research and its presentation
- intended outcomes

They will particularly look at the potential for building strong collaborations of potentially leading-edge international work on the back of the proposed exchange.

# 5 Other information

## 5.1 Contact

If you need any further advice or information about the scheme you may contact:

At NWO

- Ms Dr C.J.H. Govers
- E-mail: [sscin@nwo.nl](mailto:sscin@nwo.nl)
- Telephone: +31 70 344 06 73 / 07 63

At ICSSR

- Dr K N Jehangir or Mr M.A. Jawaid
- E-mail: [knjehangir@gmail.com](mailto:knjehangir@gmail.com)
- Telephone: +91 11 26742351 / 26741856