

Notice

2026 Call for Proposals: Strategic Hub for International Research Collaboration

Due Date: Friday, November 6, 2026

Note: This English announcement is a summary of the official Korean call. Please refer to the Korean announcement and application forms for full details.

Program Overview

Seoul National University Office of Research Affairs (SNU ORA) invites applications for new projects under the **Strategic Hub for International Research Collaboration** program.

This program aims to position SNU as a global research hub by:

- Fostering international collaborations in cutting-edge, convergent fields
- Empowering early-career researchers to take leadership roles in global research activities
- Building sustainable international research networks

The program adopts a **three-year, milestone-based structure (1+1+1 years)**. Projects must pass an annual review to continue, focusing on:

- **Year 1:** Planning
- **Year 2:** Execution
- **Year 3:** Outcomes & Scalability

Key Features for 2026 Call

- **Research Focus:** International collaborative projects led by or actively involving early-career researchers, with an emphasis on building a global research network.
- **Target Fields:** Research contributing to Korea's national strategic technologies and global challenges. Projects in STEM and medical sciences will receive priority if aligned with Korea's 12 National Strategic Technologies. Proposals from other disciplines, including the humanities and social sciences, are welcome and will be evaluated regardless of such alignment.
- **Estimated Funding (Year 1):** ~4 projects; up to KRW 178 million per project
 - The final number of projects and the funding amount for each project may be adjusted depending on the evaluation results and available budget.
- **Funding Period (Year 1):** January – December 2027

- **Supported Expenses (Year 1):** Seed grants for joint research, researcher mobility, international workshops, and collaboration activities
- **Research Fund Management:** All budgeting, expenditure, and reporting follow SNU's financial regulations and guidelines.
- **Strategic and New Partner Countries/Institutions:** Projects involving substantive collaboration with a country or institution included in the attached List of Strategic and New Partner Countries/Institutions will receive preference in the selection evaluation.

Eligibility & Roles (Year 1)

- **Principal Investigator (SNU only):**
 - Must be a full-time, endowed, or HK professor at SNU
 - Role: Responsible for overall project leadership, research network management, and mentoring
- **SNU Early-Career Researchers:**
 - At least two early-career researchers must participate
 - Eligible: doctoral students; researchers who obtained a Ph.D. within the past seven years; Ph.D. holders aged 39 or younger; or assistant professors within five years of their first appointment.
 - Role: Lead international teams, conduct joint research, and organize collaboration activities
- **International Collaborators:**
 - At least two international researchers from overseas universities or research institutes
 - No restrictions on academic rank or position
 - Role: Participate in joint research with SNU early-career researchers, co-develop project plans, attend workshops, and contribute to academic outputs

Key Requirement (within 6 months of the project start)

1. Establish at least two international research teams led by SNU early-career researchers, with a senior faculty mentor for each team
 - After fulfilling this requirement, the PI and other faculty participants may also organize international research teams.
2. Host an international collaborative workshop involving all project researchers (including international collaborators).
 - Must include a session presenting the formation and planned activities of the international research teams, as well as at least three academic presentation sessions.

- If full in-person participation is not possible: At least five researchers must attend in person, including the PI, one key SNU early-career researcher, and one key international collaborator from each team. Each participating institution must be represented.
3. All SNU early-career researchers must complete at least one capacity-building training session per year.

4. Failure to comply may result in project termination and recovery of funds.

Application Process (SNU internal only)

- **Application Deadline:** **Friday, November 6, 2026**
- **Submission:** SNU PIs must submit all required documents to their affiliated college/school office, which will forward them to the SNU ORA
- **Required Documents**
 1. Form 1: SNU Internal Research Project Proposal
 2. Form 2: Research Team Composition and Development Plan (including research plans, team structure, and growth strategies)
 3. Form 3: Confirmation of Research Project Participation (to be submitted by SNU's researchers (Ph.D. students and postdocs) and all international collaborators)

Contact

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