



ICOMOS-INDIA RESEARCH GRANTS 2021 Call for Proposals

THEME

Conservation professionals have in the recent past been challenged with difficult questions on the value and relevance of conservation in a developing nation such as India: The Hall of Nations in New Delhi, Kashi Vishwanath Corridor, IIM Ahmedabad, and the Central Vista Project to name a few on the built heritage front, particularly unprotected heritage, but there are also a host of instances of infrastructure projects in eco-sensitive regions on the natural heritage front.

*There is an urgent need to evolve new perspectives on the **dynamics of development and its linkage to heritage conservation**, recognising pluralism and diversity as core values that define India. How do we define the value and relevance of **conservation-led regenerative and sustainable development** in a fast-growing economy that needs infrastructure development and renewal to keep up with growing aspirations of a young population? The ICOMOS India Research Grants 2021 seeks to address this conundrum through exploratory research involving collation of data, analysis, and interpretation of case examples and innovative interventions. Furthermore, the **Strategic Plan of ICOMOS India 2020-25** emphasizes seven thematic areas, which are current and central societal issues that are essential for good practice in cultural heritage conservation and management, offering opportunities for inter-disciplinary partnerships and collaborations for members of COMOS India. Such themes are in line with ICOMOS International Themes (i.e., sustainable development; climate change; recovery and reconstruction). These efforts will lay the foundation for developing a Charter for ICOMOS India.*

THEMATIC AREAS

1. Rights Based Approaches in Heritage Management
2. Safeguarding Heritage@Risk
3. Nature Culture Journey
4. SDGs...
5. Water and Heritage
6. Climate Change and Heritage
7. Heritage and Resilience: Recovery from Pandemic and

CALL FOR PROPOSAL

ICOMOS India calls on its National Scientific Committees & Scientific Working Groups to submit research proposals in response to the Call for Research Grants 2021. While responding to the primary theme announced, applicants must further attempt to align their research topic to at least one of the Thematic Areas of the Strategic Plan, and that such an alignment shall be considered more favourably in the assessment.

Three categories of funding are available for the Grants for a total outlay of INR 4.5 Lakhs for the current fiscal year. Note that the funding from ICOMOS India is conceived only as a seed grant.

- **Large project:** INR 1.5 Lakhs
- **Medium project:** INR 0.75 Lakhs
- **Small project:** INR 10,000

Proposals have to be submitted by the proposing team led by a Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator/s through their respective NSC Coordinator/s and WG Focal Point/s. Up to a maximum of four NSCs / WGs are encouraged to collaborate in a research project. Note that the Principal Investigator can be different from the NSC Coordinator / WG Focal point. The research project has to be completed within the financial year (i.e., end-March 2021).

Proposals must be submitted in the prescribed format for ICOMOS India NSC Research Seed Grants (attached). Proposals should be sent through the respective NSC Coordinator/s and Working Group Focal Point/s to:

icomosindia@gmail.com with a copy to:

nscounselor.icomosindia@gmail.com

REVIEW OF PROPOSALS

The technical review will be conducted by the Steering Committee of the Scientific Council by means of an online presentation soon after proposals are received. The presentations will be open to Members of the Executive Council and the Scientific Council.

The final list of selected proposals for the year will be arrived at by consensus within the Steering Committee and communicated to Executive Committee in a joint meeting of Steering Committee and Executive Committee represented by President/Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer for administrative/financial approval.

Feedback will be provided to the selected proposals along with the possibility of mentoring with a Subject Expert (within ICOMOS India or external) at a second stage.

A final proposal document with revisions incorporated will have to be submitted before commencement of the project within a week after announcement.

Criteria for the Review of the Proposals will be as follows:

- Linkage with current theme, the objectives of ICOMOS India as set out in its Memorandum of Association (MoA) and/or the Strategic Plan of ICOMOS India.
- Linkage with the discourses of the corresponding International Scientific Committee/s and articulation of the Indian view of the concerned domain.
- Cross-disciplinary and pan-India studies, with collaboration of NSCs and WGs.
- Relationship with World Heritage Sites in India, whether inscribed or on the Tentative List.
- Completeness of information and clear articulation of all aspects in the Proposal Template.
- Recording currently available knowledge and ongoing work on the subject of the proposal while identifying the need for the research.
- Proposed tangible outcome from the research (including research publications).

KEY DATES

- **Call for Proposals: 25 June 2021** at the AGM 2021
- **Deadline for Submission of Proposals: 25 July 2021**
- **Deadline for Completion of Review: 10 August 2021**
- **Announcement of Selected Proposals: 15 August 2021**
- **Submission of Revised Proposals: 31 August 2021**
- **Closure of Project: 31 March 2022**