

National Parks Board Research Collaboration Opportunity

Questions Related to RCO-CUGE-2020-03: Social Research Study on Management of Cats

1. I understand that the research collaboration agreement has to be signed before the project commences. I would like to check if agreement can be submitted after the research proposal has been submitted (after 14th August) or both documents have to be submitted strictly by 14th August.

Answer: The research collaboration agreement (RCA), setting out the full responsibilities and obligations of collaborators, need not be submitted together with the research proposal.

As the deadline for the submission of the research proposal is on 14 August 2020, the RCA can be submitted together with the research proposal on or after 14 August 2020.

2. ...the status of JCU Singapore is different from local institutions for most of the national grant funding. If we are eligible under 2.1, given that we are based in Singapore and have set up our Tropical Futures Institute as our not-for-profit research arm, then I am confident to proceed... Will there be a designated liaison to discuss NParks plans with prospective applicants while putting together proposals, and linking up teams with community groups? Or is the collaboration more in terms of NParks providing the project outline and funding?

Answer: Under the Eligibility Criteria, as long as the researchers are from a Singapore-based research institutions or companies, they are eligible to apply. There will be no discussions to be held with prospective applicants on the proposals. The project outline and funding are stated within the attachment "Social Research Study on Management of Cats", under "Minimum Project Deliverables" and "Budget Limits".

3. I am very interested in submitting a proposal, but it seems that I am not eligible to apply. The document says that only Singaporean PIs or PIs that work for a Singaporean institution can apply. Is this correct? Can you please confirm whether or not I would be eligible to apply, or advise on how I can apply (do I need to partner with a Singaporean PI?) Was thinking to provide additional info although I have replied him, or does my reply suffice?

Answer: You may partner with Singapore-based research institutions or companies to bid for the proposal. However, the Lead Principal in the research collaboration must be based in Singapore, and all research work should be undertaken in Singapore unless there is an approval from NParks.

4. As we work on the proposal, we would like to find out if NParks/AVS has relevant data on the issue, and is able to share the information with us. This may include prior studies on the topic and systematic data (eg. survey results, data on the community cat and cat ownership in Singapore, types and number of complaints about community cats etc.) that are not publicly available. The information would be used

solely for the writing of the proposal. We would also like to know the “hotspot and non-hotspot areas of cat activity” identified by AVS, so that we can better design the sampling method. A definition of a “hotspot area of cat activity” would be useful too.

Answer: We are unable to share any data at this stage. Bidders are required to submit proposals based on the requirements stated.

5. May I check if NParks/AVS has relevant data on the issue? If so, will they be able to share such information us - may include prior studies on the topic and systematic data (eg. survey results, data on the community cat and cat ownership in Singapore, types and number of complaints about community cats etc.), especially those that are not publicly available. The information would be used solely for the writing of the proposal.

Answer: We are unable to share any data at this stage. Bidders are required to submit proposals based on the requirements stated.

6. When will the results (if the proposal are accepted or declined) be made available?

Answer: Bidders will be notified in due course as we require time to evaluate all the proposals received in detail.