Public Engagement
at DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance
India Alliance aims to bridge the gap between science and society by funding and anchoring public engagement programmes that bring the scientific community and the public together to share, discuss, and collaborate on important matters of science, especially human health, which have implications for the society. The PE strategy ultimately aims to:

- increase awareness of the value of research to society
- reduce scientific misinformation & promote critical thinking
- build public trust and support for science and scientists
- develop evidence-based policies
- receive new perspective on research – new research direction/question
- inspire the next generation of researchers; build capacity for research
- set research priorities that address the need of the people
- enable public to shape the research agenda and have a say on how scientific discoveries are used.
Public Engagement Award

Public Engagement Awards are for those interested in exploring innovative and novel method(s) to engage with the public on matters of biomedical science and human health.

**Aim:** To enable the applicant to develop and implement ideas to share, deliberate and collaborate with members of the society on biomedical science and/or public health matters.

**Salient Features:**
- Proposal can aim to develop tools that will enable the public to explore and understand biomedical/health research independently and most appropriately.
- Proposals should not be purely awareness programmes and there would need to be a strong component of “two-way engagement” with the public in the application.
- Proposals should not be entirely research-based projects.
- The outcome(s) of the Public Engagement project should be relevant and important in the Indian context.
- Final documentation (visual and/or written) of the Public Engagement project on completion is a strict requirement.
Eligibility:

Open to all; preference given to biomedical researchers who plan to collaborate with individuals in other disciplines (the creative arts, medical humanities, social sciences, science or health communication, community engagement, entertainment media etc) to share their research with the larger community.

Applicant must collaborate with or must be affiliated with a government-recognised, not-for-profit organisation at the time of application and for the entire duration of the proposed project.

Applicant would need to ensure they have the sufficient expertise to devise and implement the project or ensure they have suitable collaborators.
Funding: Up to 10 Lakhs/ 10000GBP

Can include
- personnel costs directly related to the project
- direct activity and production costs of any materials to be used (renting equipment, venue etc.)
- project travel, publicity, and administration costs

Cannot include
- salary costs of anyone associated with this project
- equipment purchase
- expenses incurred in submitting an application
- more than 10% for institutional overheads
- academic courses or research programmes such as diplomas, Master’s degrees or PhDs
- costs arising prior to the start date of the project

Duration: 1-12 months
Award Selection Process

• Application based on:
  – Goal/objective of the project
  – Benefits
  – Novelty
  – Strength and weaknesses
  – Sustainability

• External Review

• Review by India Alliance committee members

• Detail feedback to applicant to improve the project
Details of IA Public Engagement Programs:
https://www.indiaalliance.org/public-engagement

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