

Guidelines for UNIMAS Collaborative International Research Grant (CIReG)

1. Program Overview

CIReG is an international internal initiative with no funding exchange aimed at fostering high-impact partnerships between UNIMAS and global institutions. It focuses on agility and academic excellence through direct researcher-to-researcher collaboration. To qualify, applicants must provide either a new or existing active Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), along with a Letter of Award (LoA) as supporting documentation.

2. Duration of Research

24 Months

3. Eligibility and Team Composition

To maintain a focused and productive research environment, teams must adhere to the following:

- Total Membership: A maximum of five (5) members per project.
- Principal Investigator (PI) Eligibility: Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Associate Professor & Professor
- Researchers may not hold multiple CIReG grants as PI concurrently. Participation is restricted to one (1) active project involving international partners.
- Institutional Representation: The team must consist of members from two or three institutions:
 1. Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
 2. One/ Two International Partner Institution (based outside of Malaysia).
- Leadership: The PI and the next appointed leader must be from UNIMAS.

4. Funds

Cluster	Maximum Amount (RM)
Art, Humanities & Management	10, 000.00
Natural Sciences	20, 000.00
Engineering & Technology	
Medicine & Health Sciences	

5. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The primary goal of this grant is to increase the global visibility of UNIMAS research. The following KPIs are mandatory for project completion:

- **Publication:** This requirement comprises one (1) research article from UNIMAS and one (1) research article from the International Partner Institution must be published as the Main or Corresponding Author.
- **Indexing:** Research articles must be published in journals indexed by Scopus or Web of Science (WoS).
- **International Authorship:** All publications resulting from this grant must feature co-authorship from both UNIMAS and international partner members. Additionally, both institutions must be formally acknowledged in the manuscript.

6. Reciprocal Training & Researcher Exchange

Reciprocal training and researcher exchanges are encouraged to facilitate knowledge transfer and enhance institutional capacity building throughout the grant period.

- **Duration:** Each participating institution must host at least one researcher from the partner institution for a minimum of one (1) week.
- **Reciprocity:** Training must be reciprocal, where UNIMAS hosts an international researcher and the international partner, in turn, hosts a UNIMAS researcher.
- **Financial Framework:** Funding shall be allocated from the Grant Budget under VOT 29000, with a maximum limit of RM5,000.00.
- **Prohibitions:** Asset procurement is not permitted under this allocation (VOT 35000).
- **Knowledge Sharing:** The collaboration should also include joint online seminars or guest lectures featuring speakers from both universities.

7. Formalising the Partnership (Memorandum of Understanding - MoU and Letter of Award - LoA)

- **The MoU and LoA Mandate:** All applications must be accompanied by a Research MoU and LoA signed by the Research Management Centre of both institutions. This document must reflect reciprocal commitment and internal funds (equal value).
- **Scope of the MoU and LoA:** These documents act as a "Statement of Commitment," outlining shared research objectives, the commitment to training and research exchange, and the agreement to co-author joint Scopus/WoS publications (research article).
- **Validity:** The MoU and LoA are considered valid for the duration of the grant cycle and serve as the primary governing documents for the collaboration.

Summary Table of Requirements

Category	Requirement
Team Size	Max 5 members total
Duration	24 months
Diversity	Local (UNIMAS) + One/ Two International Partners
Mandatory KPIs	2 Research Articles in Scopus/WoS Journals (Joint Authorship)
Research Training / Exchange	Encouragable - 1 week reciprocal (at least 1 researcher each)
Funding for Research / Training Exchange	Costs shall be borne by the participants' respective home institutions using their allocated grants.
Legal Document	Research MoU and LoA only.

**Kindly attach the risk assessment obtained from SQRC.*