



**RESEARCH CENTER FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**Faculty of Social Sciences,**  
**University of Kelaniya, 11600, Dalugama,**  
**Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.**



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**GRANT SCHEME -2**

**GUIDELINES FOR INTER-DISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIVE  
RESEARCH GRANT SCHEME**

**RESEARCH CENTRE FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES (RCSS)**

**Preamble**

The Research Centre for Social Sciences (RCSS) has initiated a program to provide financial assistance to members of the academic staff of the Faculty of Social Sciences (FSS) to conduct research and publish articles in peer-reviewed, indexed journals. RCSS proposes two types of grant schemes:

1. Individual Short-term Research Grant
2. Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research Grant

Suitable candidates will be selected to receive grants after a thorough review of their applications. Information about this research grant, the application process, and other relevant details are summarized below.

**Objective of the Research Grant Scheme – 2**

The main objective of the Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research Grant Scheme is to encourage senior academic staff members of the FSS, University of Kelaniya, to carry out multidisciplinary research that contributes new knowledge to their field and facilitates the dissemination of this knowledge. Research proposals that address urgent national and global issues—whether cultural, socio-economic, political, environmental, or otherwise—are highly encouraged.

RCSS envisions that the outcomes of the selected research will directly or indirectly contribute to achieving one or more of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals, as adopted by the Government of Sri Lanka (<https://www.statistics.gov.lk/sdg/>). Additionally, RCSS aims to broaden the research scope of academic staff by promoting collaborative projects. Priority will be given to senior academics who wish to collaborate with scholars in

related disciplines, either within the University of Kelaniya or from other local or foreign universities.

Only six (06) outstanding research proposals will be selected by the RCSS Review Panel to receive the Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research Grants in 2025.

### **Terms and Conditions**

1. The project must aim to produce publications in the form of full research papers, review articles in SCOPUS-indexed journals, creative work, or research-based textbooks that directly impact university rankings.
2. Grants are strictly for research purposes. Budget allocations for workshops, seminars, tokens of appreciation, or honoraria will not be considered.
3. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) must be clearly stated in the proposal, along with a plan to achieve them.
4. Proposals meeting the grant objectives will be selected during the initial application stage, based on relevance, urgency, and national/global significance.
5. Only permanent senior academic staff members of the FSS, University of Kelaniya, are eligible to apply.
6. Grants will be awarded competitively, up to a maximum of LKR 500,000. Six (06) grants will be awarded annually.
7. The research must be relevant to Sri Lanka and must be conducted within Sri Lanka.
8. Grant progress will be evaluated based on 6-month progress reports and KPIs.
9. Applicants must have public profiles on Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and ORCID, using their “@kln.ac.lk” email address and the official university affiliation.
10. The completed application form for ‘Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research Grants’ must be submitted as specified. The form is available on the RCSS website (<https://ss.kln.ac.lk/depts/RCSS/>).
11. Upon approval, two (02) copies of the agreement must be signed by the grantee in the presence of the Dean, FSS, University of Kelaniya.
12. The research project duration is fifteen (15) months. A three-month extension may be granted upon request, subject to approval by the review panel.
13. The grant will be released in instalments based on the achievement of KPIs (e.g., submission of research papers, symposium abstracts, or progress presentations).

The first instalment, up to Rs. 100,000.00, will be disbursed initially. The full amount will not be released at the beginning.

14. A progress report and KPI update must be submitted every three months to the RCSS.
15. Failure to provide timely progress reports or show sufficient advancement may result in termination of the agreement. Reports will be reviewed by the Research & Publications Committee.
16. Applicants must adhere to the budget format provided in the application form on the RCSS website.
17. The grant policy expires twelve (12) months after the date of signing the agreement.
18. Research outcomes will be evaluated by the Internal Review Panel (Annexure 01). This evaluation is linked to the grant recovery process of Scheme-2.
19. RCSS expects meaningful contributions from grantees toward the development of the RCSS.

#### **Approval of the Grant:**

1. The prescribed application form must be submitted with relevant supporting documents, including a research proposal and tentative budget.
2. Applications will be reviewed by the Internal Review Panel (Annexure 01).

**\*\*Progress reports should include:** Title of the project Proposed outcomes Progress toward outcomes, with relevant data and visuals Plan for achieving final outcomes (Do not include the introduction or discussion in the presentation)

3. If accepted by the internal reviewers, the Administrative Board of the RCSS will approve the grant.
4. If a proposal is rejected by at least two members of the Internal Review Panel, the applicant will not be eligible to apply again within the same year. Reapplication will be allowed in the following year.

**Requirements for signing the agreement:**

1. Reports from the Internal Review Panel
2. Letter of Grant Approval issued by the RCSS
3. A duly completed agreement

**Issuance of the grant and progress reporting:**

1. Grantees must utilize the grant within the 15-month period. The grant will be disbursed in three (03) instalments.
2. The second instalment will be released only after a satisfactory progress presentation.
3. RCSS reserves the right to terminate the grant if the project's progress is deemed unsatisfactory by its governing body.

**Recoveries:**

1. If any grantee is unable or fails to fulfill the requirements and conditions laid down by the RCSS, as mentioned above, the RCSS reserves the right to recover the funds granted, after informing the grantee of the violation and allowing a grace period of one (01) month to take remedial or corrective measures.
2. If the grantee fails to fulfill the requirements even after the grace period, the RCSS may inform the relevant authorities to recover the amount by deducting it from the grantee's salary over a period of eighteen (18) months.

**ANNEXURE -1**

The Internal Review Panel consists of:

- Dean/Faculty of Social Sciences
- Director RCSS (ex-officio)
- One Senior Member from the RCSS Administrative Board
- At least two (02) Chair Professors from the FSS
- Head of the relevant Department and/or a senior member of the academic staff of the relevant department.