

ACTION PLAN - 2022
Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation
Research and Innovation Sector

Institute/ Division :- National Science Foundation (NSF)

Priority Area	Objectives of the Ministry	Relevancy to SDG goal & Target	Programme	Research Activities	Allocation (Rs. Mn.)	Target								KPI	Expected Output	Expected Outcome	Responsible Officer																																								
						Financial (Rs.Mn)				Cumulative Physical Target							Name	Contact No.																																							
						Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4																																												
1.Establishing Sri Lanka as an Innovation Hub by maximizing the use of Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Biotechnology, Robotics, Augmented Reality, Cloud Computing, Nanotechnology and 3D Printing 2.Making efficient the system to issue patents to researches for their innovations and to secure ownership to their research designs 3.Providing facilities to local research institutions to collaborate with the international research institutions 4.Providing tax reliefs to private enterprises contributing to research 5.Introducing domestic or foreign investors required for manufacturing under a domestic brand with innovation products 6.Formulating an efficient mechanism to channel innovations and research results to investors and relevant users	1.Establishing and networking dynamic organizational structures to assist in the process of vesting the public with science, technology and research-based knowledge. 2.Directing institutions to impart scientific principles and technological concepts essential for the efficacy and efficiency of products to benefit the society. 3.Strengthening the human resources base and organizational structure for the promotion of research, inventions and innovations. 4.Identifying the concept-based applications of researchers and inventors, encouraging competencies leading to their practical application. 5.Facilitating and increasing opportunities for the commercialization of innovations. 6.Facilitating the increase of local and foreign investments being made in the research and development field. 7.Establishing continual and wider discussions and joint approaches among all the stakeholders encompassing S & T communities, entrepreneurs and policy makers. 8.Introducing modern technology and promoting its applications 9.Value addition to products utilizing modern technology 10.Promoting high end tech inventions and innovations to be on par with the competitiveness of foreign markets	Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development	NSF mandate a) Promoting R&D Implementing Research & Technology Development Projects	i. Creating new knowledge , Technology development, establishing start ups/PPPS, Technology Transfers, commercialization and branding activities ii. Establishment of the national analytical & testing facility (Instrument database) iii. Providing recognition for S&T excellence (NSF Awards)	25.957	2	7.998	11.94	4.017	Conduct brainstorming sessions. Identification of priority concerns/research needs of SMEs and relevant RD & I projects. Award Technology specific grants Monitoring of ongoing grants & Research Scholarships and bring to completion. Upgrading and updating RGRA/TGRA database. Develop & validate quality standards/quality assurance for batik apparel and other R&D work. Upgrading and updating RGRA/TGRA database. Continuation with the R&D partnership programme on batik apparel.	Calling for EOLs & evaluate Calling for full proposals Monitoring of ongoing grants & Research Scholarships and bring to completion. Upgrading and updating RGRA/TGRA database. Develop & validate quality standards/quality assurance for batik apparel and other R&D work.	Organize pitching events and identify commercial partners for PPPs/Start-ups targeting at creating local brands etc. Award of R&D grants Monitoring of ongoing grants & Research Scholarships and bring to completion. Preparation of outreach material for research information dissemination. Upgrading and updating RGRA/TGRA database. Priority settings for 2023 through brainstorming sessions.	Monitoring of ongoing grants & Research Scholarships and bring to completion. Upgrading and updating RGRA/TGRA database. Obtaining approvals for identified R&D projects for 2023. Establishment of quality standards for batik apparel.	No. of PPP established - 6 No. of TTs - 02 No. of start ups - 01 No. of commercialized products/ processes - 1 No. of new brands - 02 No. of patents - 3 No. of research publications (in IF > 3 journals) No. of M Phil/PhD produced - 10 No of international awards made on local R&D - 2	No. of grants/scholarships awarded No. of new products/processes developed No. of students registered for PG degrees No. of research Grants/ Scholarships/ Fellowship completed No. of publications (in IF < 3 journals) No. of communications No. of completed research grants identified for further actions Updated RGRA database Quality standards developed for batik apparel. Efficiently used RGRA & TGRA for R&D project evaluation & decision making.	Knowledge enhancement & sharing, Capacity building, Infrastructure development S&T contribution to the national economy	Head/RD, Head / TDID	Ext 120/ 140																																							
																			Completion of data collection and establishment of the database with required features.											User statistics (BP to be established)	Completed national database on equipment and testing facility.																										
																			Calling for applications and conduct evaluations for all kinds of awards.											Obtaining approvals for selected awards	Organize the ceremony	No. of recognized S&T personnel	No. of National & NSF Awards and Commendation Certificates conferred	Scientists, researchers and technologists encouraged for contributing to new knowledge creation and national economy .																							
																			NSF mandate b) S&T information dissemination																																						
																			Publication of scientific research	i. Publication of Journal of National Science Foundation (JNSF)	2.254	0.21	0.966	0.639	0.437	Processing 75 manuscripts Publishing of Vol 50 special Issue & Vol. 50 Issue 1 No. of articles published - 20 Harnessing at least 04 high-end research findings for publishing Enhancing review pool by 25 reviewers (local + foreign) Developing journal matrices and updating quarterly.	Processing 150 manuscripts Publishing Vol 50 Issue 02 of JNSF (with at least 10 articles). Total no. of articles published - 30 Hamessing at least 08 high-end research findings for publishing. Enhancing review pool by 25 reviewers (local + foreign)	Processing 225 articles Publishing Vol 50 Issue 03 of JNSF (with at least 10 articles). Total no. of articles published - 40 Hamessing at least 12 high-end research findings for publishing. Enhancing review pool by 30 reviewers (local + foreign)	Processing 300 manuscripts Publishing Vol 50 Issue 04 of JNSF (with at least 10 articles). Total no. of articles published - 50 Hamessing at least 16 high-end research findings for publishing. Enhancing review pool by 40 reviewers (local + foreign)	Reduced TAT by 25%	No. of Articles published No. of JNSF issues published (04 normal issues & the JNSF 50th anniversary issue) No. of high-end research findings published No of new entries added to the review pool.	Dissemination of local and foreign research findings to local and global scientific community contributing to scientific advancement Knowledge creation	Head/JPD	Ext 269																							
																																			ii. Publication of Sri Lanka Journal of Social Sciences (SLJSS)	1.980	0.22	0.670	0.430	0.660	Processing 60 manuscripts Harnessing manuscripts addressing policy recommendations for important social issues from SL and South Asian region. No. of manuscripts - 03 Enhancing review pool by 15 reviewers (local + foreign) Developing journal matrices and updating quarterly.	Processing 120 manuscripts Publishing Vol 45 Issue 01 of SLJSS (with at least 10 articles). No. of articles published 10 Hamessing manuscripts addressing policy recommendations for important social issues from SL and South Asian region. No. of manuscripts - 09 Enhancing review pool by 25 reviewers (local + foreign)	Processing 180 manuscripts Hamessing manuscripts addressing policy recommendations for important social issues from SL and South Asian region. No. of manuscripts - 06 Enhancing review pool by 15 reviewers (local + foreign)	Processing 240 manuscripts Publishing Vol 45 Issue 02 of SLJSS (with at least 10 articles). Total no. of articles published 10 Hamessing manuscripts addressing policy recommendations for important social issues from SL and South Asian region. No. of manuscripts - 12 Enhancing review pool by 15 reviewers (local + foreign)	Reduced TAT by 20%	No. of SLJSS issues published 02 No. of articles published - 20 No. of articles published with policy recommendation on important social issues - 3	Dissemination of local and foreign research findings to local and global scientific community. Knowledge creation SLJSS Indexed in the Social Science Citation Index of Clarivate Analytics										
																																																iii. Publishing other local journals at Sri Lanka Journals Online (SLJOL)	1.300	0.45	0.850			Making available of Sri Lankan scientific journals online via SLJOL platform and carry out related routine work of the online platform by adding 1200research articles, 140 journal issues with 1150 DOIs for 118 SL journals.	Increased access by 10 %	No. of research articles uploaded No. of journal issues uploaded No. of DOIs provided (system generated) No. of journals available at SLJOL	Providing a platform for prominence to local scientists and researchers for their S&T work S&T information dissemination locally and internationally
																			ii. National Digital Library Consortium (National E-consortium of digital resources: a proposal for electronic resource sharing being under consideration by the Ministry)						Proposal to be evaluated by the Ministry.	Obtain approval from the NPD	Appointing the Steering Committee and Working Committee for the consortium	Project execution by purchasing digital resources	Increased number of databases subscribed - 10 Amount of foreign currency saved (Rs Mn)	No of databases subscribed No of Institutes benefited																											

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						Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4					
NSF mandate e) Science popularization																		
			Awarding Grants	Science education popularization programmes (SEPP) Supporting 02 Schools - Stage-1	0.500		0.300	0.200		Complete site visit for inspection (04 schools)	Award 01 grant Monitoring progress	Award 01 grant Monitoring progress.	Monitoring progress.	No.of Grants awarded No. of schools supported	Improved lab facilities in schools	Motivated school children engaged in Science	Head/SPD	Ext 180
			Improving public awareness on STI	i. Conducting Competitions on Science education and science popularization	2.000	0.5	0.500	0.500	0.500	SRPC 2020/21 - Complete competition and publish proceedings. Kid naturalist Programme: i. Complete Training programme for teachers ii. Initiate Kidnaturalist programme for kids	Calling applications for Science Research project Competition 2022 Evaluation of project proposals Kid naturalist program Calling applications for Science Competitions	Completion of	Conduct 02 progress review meetings with project teams Complete SRPC 2022 Complete evaluation and selection of winners for science competitions Kid naturalist programme - initiate teacher training programme	Increased science literacy of the nation (BP to be established) Percentage of student cohort pursuing STEAM education (BP to be established)	No.of Competitions conducted No.of students participated No. of high-graded R&D proposals received No. of science communicators developed	Enhanced research culture Enhanced public awareness on science Motivated students to take up science		
				ii. Science Communication via printed and digital media	1.000	0.25	0.250	0.250	0.250	Publish issue 1 of "Vidurava" Work on upcoming issues of "Vidurava" and other. Proceed work on 03 books	Publication of "Vidurava" Issue 2 Work on upcoming issues of "Vidurava" and other.	Publication of "Vidurava" Issue 3 Work on upcoming issues of "Vidurava" and other.	Publication of "Vidurava" Issue 4 Work on upcoming issues of "Vidurava" and other. Award 01 publication grant		No.of "Vidurava" issues published No.of books/handbooks published No.of documentaries made No.of TV/Radio programmes conducted No. of news articles/tabloids published No.of posters created			
				iii. Conducting outreach programmes for science popularization a) Training for science Teachers/youth/community) b) Training for effective science communication for scientists and undergraduates	1.750	0.35	0.700	0.500	0.200	Organize one training programme and 02 public lectures	Conduct one training programme for teachers and 01 for youth. One outreach programme for community	Conduct one training programme for teachers and 01 for youth. One outreach programme for community	-		No. of programmes/webinars completed enhancing science literacy among people and developing science communicators. No. of training/capacity development programmes conducted No. of personnel trained No. of persons benefitted	Improved community wellbeing		
				Training/capacity development workshops on technology transfer and knowledge sharing						-	-	-	Capacity development workshops - 08	Increased IP literacy (BP to be established)	No. of outreach programmes conducted No. of technologies/research outputs shared/disseminated		Head/TDID	Ext 140
				Outreach awareness programmes on Scientific Information Dissemination & NSF Services and promoting scientific activities and achievements via Science Media Hub						Conduct 05 awareness programmes/webinars. One webinar series on health related issues.	Conduct 04 awareness programmes/webinars. One webinar series on health related issues.	Conduct 04 awareness programmes/webinars. Two webinar series on health related issues.	Conduct 07 awareness programmes/webinars. Two webinar series on health related issues.	Increased awareness on R&D outputs by 10%			Head/NSLRC, Head/RD	Ext 190/120
				Providing S&T e-resource awareness to library professionals						Conduct 01 awareness programme	Conduct 01 awareness programme	Conduct 01 awareness programme	Conduct 01 awareness programme				Head/NSLRC	
Acquisition of capital assets, maintenance and system administration																		
			HR development	Provide training for work performance enhancement	1.180	0.39	0.370	0.250	0.170	Provide training on Office Management Systems & Financial Regulations for 50 staff members. Providing Specific Training programmes to 10 staff members. Provide training on Fire fitting for all staff.	Conduct the English Course for 25 staff members for office use. Provide Tamil language Course for PL category staff. Provide Specific training programme to 10 staff members.	Provide training on Compeering to 15 staff members. Conduct a Training programme on Team Building Skills for 65 staff members. Provide training on leadership to career Development for 65 staff members.	Provide training on time Management for all staff. Conduct a training programme on Motivation / Positive Thinking to all staff.	Increased Staff happiness index (BP to be established)	No. of staff members trained	Enhanced motivation and work output	SAO & HRDO	Ext 235
			Maintaining the IT infrastructure	Improving IT networking	1.650	0.35	1.300			Upgrading auditorium multimedia facilities	Network switch replacements at two locations. Core network switch expansion in the Server Room	-	-	Quality increased IT platform	Trouble free computer networking facilities Reduced badndwith bottleneec for servers.		IT Manager	Ext 210
Total					50.000	7.307	19.218	15.966	7.509									