

**RESEARCH PROPOSAL REVIEW CRITERIA FOR INTERNATIONAL REVIEWERS**

- 1. How well do you know the applicant(s)? Is there any relationship between you (such as (ex-) colleague, previous working relationship, personal friends, (ex-) supervisor/supervise, co-authored a book/publication, etc)?**

**Please also comment on:**

- (i) the international and national reputation of the applicant(s);
- (ii) the applicant(s) past record and present level of activity in this area

- 2. What is the intellectual significance of the proposed activity?**

*Possible considerations: To what extent does the project address an important problem? How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field and across other fields? To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative and original concepts? Are the aims original and innovative?*

- 3. To what extent is the proposed activity innovative?**

*Possible considerations: To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative and original concepts? Does the project employ novel approaches or methods? Are the aims original and innovative? Does the project challenge existing paradigms or develop new methodologies or technologies?*

- 4. What is the broader impact of the research proposal?**

*Possible considerations: To what extent will the project enhance the infrastructure for research and education such as researcher capability, facilities, information bases, partnerships, and/or other infrastructure – in both a local and international context? How will the project contribute to industry and society? How relevant is the project to Singapore?*

- 5. What is your assessment of the proposed research team?**

*Possible considerations: Is the project team technically competent enough to undertake the project? Are the relevant and necessary capabilities for this research project present in the team? In your opinion, does the team have sufficient track record in this area of research?*

- 6. What is the likelihood of success of the proposed activity?**

*Possible considerations: To what extent is the project plan including organization and method design credible and well-conceived? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics? Is the proposed budget reasonable and appropriate? Is the schedule realistic?*

- 7. How well does the proposed project/programme leverage on collaborations to further its goals?**

*Possible considerations: To what extent can/will the proposed programme exploit the opportunities for productive collaboration with: (a) local academic institutions and research organisations; (b) overseas academic institutions and research organisations; and (c) industry? How does the proposed programme relate to existing or completed research programmes at the local academic and research institutions? To what extent are there complementarities and synergies with existing research programmes? To what extent is there duplication of past or ongoing efforts at other organisations? To what extent does the proposed programme leverage on existing capabilities at the local academic and research institutions? How can the proposed programme be modified, augmented, reduced or structured for greater effectiveness or efficiency?*

- 8. What is the strategic importance of the proposed programme for science & technology development and economic development in Singapore?**

*Possible considerations: In your opinion, what are the potential long-term economic returns and the benefits for the development of science and technology in Singapore of investing in the proposed or a*

*similar programme? What are the potential dangers of not investing in such a programme? What important or potentially important collaborative and cooperative links with industry and international academic and research organisations can/will the proposed programme help to develop in significant measure? What compelling reasons are there to support the proposed or a similar programme?*

**9. If this research proposal was submitted to an equivalent funding body in your country of residence, what, in your opinion, are the chances of it being supported, and why?**

**10. Summary Statement and Overall Rating**