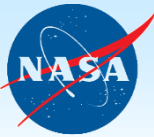




FY18 SSC Agile-Seedling Fund Opportunities

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Agile – Seedling Fund Opportunities

Project Manager: Ramona Travis, Ramona.E.Travis@nasa.gov , 228-688-3832

Type of Project: continuing/Seedling work FY18

Goal/Gap

There are still many civil servants, largely in the operations-oriented branches at SSC, though they may be aware of needs for improvement in technologies, processes, etc. in their work environment and though they may have ideas about what may need to be done to make those improvements, they have not applied to the CIF program.

Many times, they just need the opportunity to explore their issue more to either attempt to resolve it quickly through a short study and test or to conduct searches into the SOA so as to develop a larger CIF or other R&D proposal. Additionally, funds may be needed to help support doing work with the NASA@Work Platform and related CoECI contracts. These seedling fund opportunities intend to address those sorts of needs.

Technology Area (TA) / Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

Primary TAs: TA01, 02, 03, 04, 08, 11, 13 are the most common areas for SSC technology development.

TRL start (anticipated at the beginning of the project) = 0-3

Approach/Innovation

Employees need an opportunity to engage in shorter duration “seed” types of innovation activities than what is typically thought of as a CIF project which often take place over the course of a year.

With the planned FY18 SSC Innovation Day in Nov. 2017 and with the development of an agency-wide portal regarding resources for innovation on the horizon, SSC would like to further embrace this spirit of innovation and encourage even short duration/small scale efforts by offering Seedling level funding opportunities. The hope is that more of the employees will be willing to take those early, small steps toward innovative efforts and technology development that will enable them to develop larger space technology and center related proposals and projects.

It is intended that the opportunity for Seedling funds will be announced during the FY18 Innovation Day at the center and training will be held in how to use the agency’s assorted resources for finding answers to innovation challenges.

These seedling fund projects will be small in number and funding but a start (perhaps ~30-40 hrs. of covered FTE and about \$2-3K in procurement funding for each of 2-3 awards) to enable individuals to take that initial step. Other offices will be contacted to help match FTE coverage and/or procurement support or to augment the number of awards that can be made to encourage this effort.

Planned Resources

- CIF FTE = \$6K
- CIF Procurement = \$7K
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- Other leveraged:
 - CIF FTE = TBD
 - Procurement = TBD

Partnerships

Office of the Chief Technologist, SSC Directorates, HEOMD/SSC/RPT

Technology Maturation/Infusion Opportunities or Intentions

Use center Innovation events and follow-on efforts and activities to engage the workforce in a continuous innovation culture to expand the pool of civil servants who may propose to CIF and other Space Technology development solicitations and opportunities. Additionally, at SSC, we hope to use this mechanism to also stimulate proposals to RPT and other HEOMD program opportunities. We want to help catalyze technology innovation from all corners.

“Seed” the innovation process with small/short-termed exploratory opportunities leading to future proposals!



Project Title

Project Investigator (PI): PI name, PI email address, PI phone number

Type of Project: Seedling

Goal/Gap

Identify what the “problem” is that needs to be addressed. That problem may be considered a “Gap”, hence that term from HQ. In the process you should identify what the intention is of the project (what the “Goal” is) that you want to achieve.

Also explain your understanding of the State of the Art (SOA) of what is known about the issue. In the case of a Seedling project idea, perhaps you need some seedling support (FTE and procurement \$) to enable you to find that out and progress to the next level of a more full blown CIF proposal or some other technology development proposal.



Approach/Innovation

-Lay out what you intend to do (the approach) and over what kind of a timeline. Other than identifying the problem statement in the “Goal/Gap” block, this section is the “meat” of the project proposal. Think through what and how you want to conduct the proposed project idea.

-Also state what the actual Innovation is. Since Center Innovation Fund (CIF) projects are meant to be innovative, this is an important aspect of the project.

-If appropriate, incorporate a visual of some sort in this section...considering the adage that “...a picture is worth a thousand words”. Since your space is limited, visuals can help get points across more succinctly than words in some cases. An example is below.



Planned Resources

- CIF FTEs = provide in needed Hrs.
- CIF Procurement = provide in needed dollars

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- Other FTE Hrs. and/or Procurement \$ (possible leveraged resources from a source other than CIF Seedling funds....if appropriate and available)



Partnerships

Identify any partnerships/ assistance that may come from another funding source or group that may make the project stronger and/or enable greater chance at success.



Technology Maturation/Infusion Opportunities or Intentions

Discuss how/where the results from this project could be/will be used. Mention if another group might be willing to fund the next level of work or where you intend to try to find such funding (your FTE time or procurement dollars) through another proposal.

Technology Area (TA)/ Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

-This block is on the standard CIF proposal forms but you may not know this information yet. If you do know about the Technology Roadmap nomenclature, please use it. If you are not yet familiar with the NASA Technology Roadmap nomenclature, that will be something we can discuss during your seedling fund experience. Plan to meet with me to discuss.

(Example diagram)

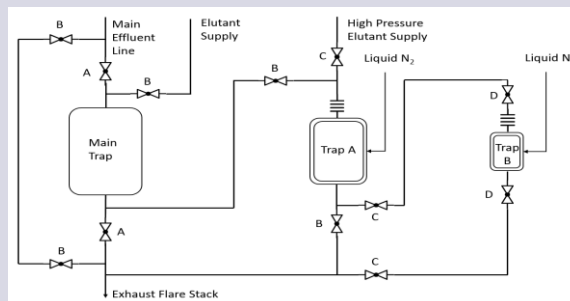


Fig. 1: caption statement with any beneficial image or diagram that may enhance the narrative of what you have written. However, it is not a requirement.

A “tagline” sentence that sums up what this project will do and/or why it’s important.