

Smithsonian DNA Barcode Network Awards FY 2018 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Smithsonian DNA Barcode Network (SIBN) Awards Program provides funding for DNA barcoding projects that further the SIBN mission. This includes supporting projects that

- leverage the world-class Smithsonian collections to generate high quality barcode sequence records which are publicly available in GenBank within a short timespan;
- target high-priority taxonomic groups or geographical locations that are under-represented in GenBank; and
- expand the Smithsonian's capacity for DNA barcoding by embracing new technologies and applications.

SIBN supports all Smithsonian units and science initiatives (e.g. ForestGEO, MarineGEO).

The submission deadline for proposals this year is December 15th, 2017. The Proposal Review Committee will consider requests for up to \$12,000 with a clearly articulated budget (budget template is included in Proposal form).

Note that the Global Genome Initiative is also soliciting proposals. Please see the GGI Peer Review proposal call. If you plan on submitting interconnected proposals to both programs, please contact Niamh Redmond (redmondn@si.edu) and Katie Barker (barkerk@si.edu) for details and guidance.

Eligibility:

All SI staff, affiliated agency staff, resident research associates, and fellows (fellows' advisors required as co-PI's), who are pursuing science-related scholarship or seek to build and improve the DNA barcode reference library, are eligible to apply. Multiple proposals per PI will be accepted. Other Smithsonian personnel and non-Smithsonian colleagues may be included as co-PI's.

Proposal Format:

The review panel expects to see well-designed and rigorous research projects. Please provide a title and project summary (100 words). The body of the application should be no more than five single-spaced pages and address Smithsonian Impact, Taxonomic Novelty (if appropriate), Impact on SI Collections and Units, Timeline, PI Past Performance and Matching Funds (see Ranking Criteria below). Applicants should fill out the FY2018 SIBN Awards Cover Sheet , Appendix A, and Appendix B (see http://barcoding.si.edu/sibn_awards/FY18_SIBN_CoverSheet_Appendices.pdf). Fields that do not apply may be left blank. The PI and all co-PIs must submit a two-page CV (NSF format). The past productivity of applicant(s), as indicated by the submitted CV(s), will also be considered when ranking proposals. Applications that do not conform to the guidelines will be rejected.

Submission:

The submission deadline for proposals this year is December 15th, 2017. Submit the proposal as a single PDF to SIBN@si.edu. Documentation should be submitted in the following order: Cover sheet, the Taxonomy Appendix A, and the Budget Appendix B, proposal text, CVs. A short email is also requested from your supervisor indicating the PI's name, project title, and approval of the submission of the proposal and should be sent to SIBN@si.edu. If the project will result in the accession of new samples into an SI department, approval must be given by the relevant SI department chair following the criteria listed above.

Selection and Notification: All proposals will be evaluated by a committee composed of Smithsonian researchers appointed by SIBN. Please contact Niamh Redmond (redmondn@si.edu) with any questions regarding the scientific scope, ranking criteria, or clarifications for this proposal call.

RANKING CRITERIA

- Smithsonian Impact:
 - Expands SI's involvement in DNA barcoding to new research areas, departments, affiliated agencies, taxonomic groups, geographic regions, habitat type and applications;
 - Strengthens SI and US contribution to international barcoding activities;
 - Advances individual and institutional research goals.
- Taxonomic Novelty:
 - Contributes BARCODE-compliant records that expand the public reference library;
- Impact on SI Collections and Units:
 - Enhances existing SI collections by adding barcode data to accession records;
 - Increases the visibility of SI specimens and SI-generated barcode records in publications and public databases (especially GenBank and GGBN);
- Timeline:
 - 'Shovel-ready' projects, where samples are already collected, and already accessioned into an SI collection (or with plans for accessioning in the very near future).
 - All projects must result in timely release of genetic sequence data on GenBank.
- PI Past Performance:
 - Past productivity and timeliness of previous SIBN and/or GGI funded projects (where relevant).
- Matching funds and/or additional resources:
 - Leverage of external funding and/or resources, for example, providing a technician for tissue subsampling; cost sharing etc.