Ignite Ancillary Grant for Field Biologists

About the Grant:

Field-based research in ecology, evolution, conservation biology and related disciplines is essential to understanding India's rapidly changing ecosystems. The Ignite Field Research Enabling Grant is a small, flexible funding programme designed to address practical gaps that can constrain field-based research in India. The programme recognises that the successful conduct of field biology often depends on people, local knowledge, field infrastructure and logistical support that may not be adequately accommodated within conventional research grants. Ignite seeks to provide catalytic support for these needs, enabling researchers to sustain, strengthen or complete important field-based research. Through this programme, Ignite hopes to support individual researchers while demonstrating how small, targeted investments can address gaps in research funding. The programme could also help inform broader discussions among funders and policymakers on strengthening support for field-based research.

Who Can Apply?

- Researchers working in ecology, evolutionary biology, conservation biology, natural history and related areas.
- Investigators from recognized National, State Government and Private academic Institutes or Universities.
- Applicants should demonstrate that they are actively engaged in field-based research and have an existing research project, programme or study for which the requested ancillary support is required.

Priority areas covered to support

The programme will support field biologists in overcoming practical, logistical and human-resource constraints that are not adequately covered by their primary research funding, thereby enabling continuity, quality and sustainability of field-based research. Eligible expenses may

include field personnel, local logistical support, field travel, accommodation, equipment and consumables required for fieldwork, and engagement with local communities, wherever relevant. Following are some key areas covered:

- Biodiversity and conservation research.
- Ecology and evolutionary biology.
- Research in remote or logistically challenging environments.
- Research requiring sustained field presence.
- Projects involving meaningful engagement of local communities or field personnel.
- Research addressing climate and environmental change.
- Research where relatively small ancillary support can substantially improve continuity or quality of fieldwork.

Application Requirements

- The proposal document
- The existing funding information
- Budget sheet and Justification for the requested budget

Quantum of Funding is Upto 2 lakhs per year.

The tenure of the funding should be minimum 1 year to maximum 2 years.

How to apply

· Please register at Ignite's grant management software.

· Grant management portal: https://grant-management.ignitelsf.in/

· Fill in all the information required to create your profile.

· Once logged in, you will get the Grant details on the dashboard.

· Click "Apply" and upload all the required documents before submitting the application.

· Alternatively, only if there is an issue with the website, you can upload the submissions to andrea@ignitelsf.in (Please make sure you inform us of these issues before emailing us your application). The subject line of the email to which the proposal is attached should say: [**Ignite Ancillary Grant for Field Biology] Proposal, Your Name and Institution.**

Information on Ignite Life Science Foundation can be obtained at our website: ignitelsf.in Successful proposals will be announced through our website and via our social media handles.

Last Date to Apply: 13th December 2026

The proposal should contain the following sections (2 to 3 pages maximum):

1. A high-level SUMMARY of the proposal (100 words or less)
2. Background science in support of this proposal
3. The central hypothesis or idea
4. Describe the proposed field activities, research questions or hypotheses, and the methodology to be employed. Applicants should explain how the requested ancillary support will strengthen the implementation, continuity or outcomes of the ongoing research. Current status of the project and justification for ancillary grant requirement.
5. Possible outcomes and next steps.
6. List of References in support of (1) above
7. Six monthly milestones, and funding (with breakup; overheads should not exceed 10%) required to be disbursed in six monthly tranches (ONE page). Please also attach the project budget as a separate excel file with the name: PI name_InstitutionName_[Mention grant name] Proposal_[Year]_Budget.
8. Email ID, Google Scholar Profile, and Mobile phone numbers.
9. Please do list ALL proposals of a similar nature that are funded in your laboratory as well as proposals of a similar nature submitted by you for funding to other agencies.