

Purpose

Rutgers Global and the Institute of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science (EOAS) and the Rutgers Climate Institute (RCI) invite faculty and researchers to submit proposals for seed projects that leverage and enhance Rutgers’ global presence and cross- disciplinary expertise to advance the understanding and/or governance of global environmental change. These projects can include collaborative, interdisciplinary research, institutional development, and/or other capacity-building projects.

Faculty from all Rutgers campuses are invited to propose bold new ideas or innovative extensions of existing research that integrates across two or more components of the Earth system (geosphere, biosphere, cryosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere), explore the challenges and solutions to governance in the Anthropocene, or leverage the tools of data science and technology (remote, automated, or molecular) to document trends in global environmental change.

A seed grant proposal should outline a clear plan for sustained collaborations that explore new research areas or expands in innovative ways on existing research, and that derives clear and compelling benefit from exploration within interdisciplinary context or at a global scale. In addition, preference will be given to proposals that show promise of generating external funding and/or furthering Rutgers’ collaborations with international institutions.

This grant does not support short-term lecturing or attendance at international conferences or symposia.

Evaluation Criteria

The Review Committee appointed by Rutgers Global and EOAS will review proposals and select awardees based on their intellectual merit and scholarly impacts. In selecting proposals to be funded, priority will be given to proposals that:

- Advance Rutgers’ engagement with the issues that are of global environmental importance;
- Develop interconnections among departments, units, or schools and that will include faculty and graduate students from different disciplines;
- Result in a major outcome such as publication, major international conference, external funding, or establishment of new university international collaborative partnerships;
- Explore new areas of research or build upon an existing strength and demonstrated faculty commitment;
- Will use the funds as seed money to develop a project or initiative with potential to have a long-term impact on one or more university units and/or to lead to external funding.

Application and Submission Requirements

1. All faculty (tenured, tenure-track, clinical, or NTT faculty) with Rutgers appointments that continue at least through December 31, 2025, who do not have current Rutgers Global Grants, are eligible to apply. (NTT faculty will need to provide a letter from their Dean, Chair, or Director stating support for the proposal, and that it is expected that the applicant is in a position which will be renewed for the duration of the grant period).
2. Proposals may be individual(s)—submitted by one or more faculty members—or institutional—submitted by programs, institutes, centers, departments, or schools.