

NSF Research Grants Scheme

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“Research is the Foundation of Knowledge”



History of the NSF

- National Science Council in 1968 (NSC)
- Natural Resources, Energy and Science Authority in 1982 (NARESA)
- Incorporated in 1998 as the National Science Foundation (NSF) by Science & Technology Development Act No.11 of 1994:

> 50 years old

Vision of the NSF

- Be the nation's premier driving force in promoting Science, Technology and Innovation for economic and social prosperity of Sri Lanka



Mission of the NSF

Promote Science, Technology and Innovation for economic and social prosperity of Sri Lanka by:

- Initiating, facilitating and supporting research, development, innovation and technology transfer;
- Enabling and funding for knowledge creation, dissemination, capacity building, partnerships, popularizing science and promoting STEM education; and
- Conducting policy research and supporting policy development;

Whilst ensuring competent & contented staff and providing due attention to sustainable development goals.

Divisions of the NSF

- **Scientific Divisions**

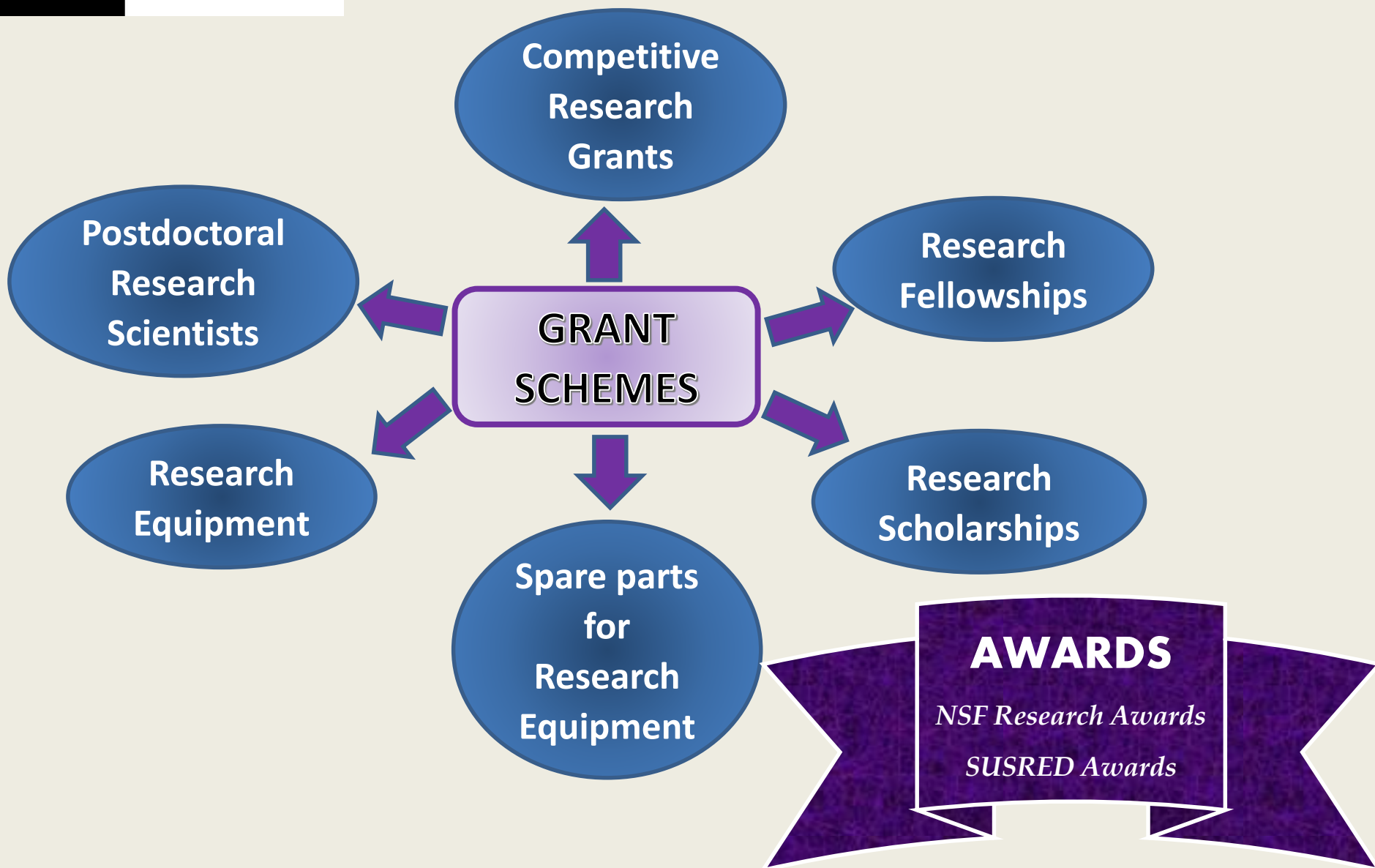
- Research Division
- Technology Division
- Science Popularization Division
- Science & Technology Policy Research Division
- International Liaison Division
- National Science Library and Resource Centre
- Journal Publication Unit
- Thematic and Special Project Unit

- **Supportive Divisions**

- Administration Division
- Finance Division
- Printing Unit
- Information & Communication Technology Unit
- Internal Audit Unit

Mandate.....

- To initiate, facilitate and support basic and applied scientific research by Universities, and Science & Technology Institutions in Sri Lanka, including multidisciplinary collaborative research that addresses themes of national importance
- To award Scholarships and Fellowships to outstanding postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers for full time research work at S&T Institutions in Sri Lanka
- To promote infrastructure development of Research Laboratories



NSF Competitive Research Grants Scheme

Provides assistance to supplement resources available in the scientists' own institutions for research, development and innovation activities, directed towards the socio-economic development of the country.



Working Committees

- **Working Committees (11)**

- **Working Committee on Agriculture & Food Science**
- **Working Committee on Basic Sciences**
- **Working Committee on Biotechnology**
- **Working Committee on Engineering, Architecture and ICT**
- **Working Committee on Environment & Biodiversity**
- **Working Committee on Health Sciences**

- ***Working Committee on Social Sciences (Coordinated by the STPRD)***
- ***Working Committee on Indigenous Knowledge (Coordinated by the STPRD)***
- ***Working Committee on Science & Technology Policy Studies (Coordinated by the STPRD)***
- ***Working Committee on Library & Information Sciences (Coordinated by the NSLRC)***
- ***Working Committee on Science Education (Coordinated by the SPD)***

- ❖ **Research Advisory Board**

Applications for Research Grants : Research Areas

The Ministry of Science, Technology & Research in collaboration with the National Science and Technology Commission has developed the *National Research and Development Investment Framework for 2015-2020*.

- Ten focus areas have been identified, on which research and development interventions are immediately needed.
- Considered to be the most important areas, as far as the quality of life and the enhancement of the economic development of the country are concerned.
- The R & D needs and the relevant interventions have been identified.

Focus Areas for Research

- Water
- Food, Nutrition and Agriculture
- Energy
- Textile and Apparel
- Health
- Mineral Resources
- Shelter
- Information Communication Technology and Knowledge Services
- Environment
- Basic Sciences, Social Sciences, Emerging Technologies and Indigenous Knowledge
- *Marine Resources*
- *Roads and Transport*
- *Natural and Synthetic products*
- *Science Education*



*** National Research and Development Investment Framework for 2015-2020 developed by the MoSTR in collaboration with NASTEC**

Application Format



[Application Form](#)

Guidelines for Investigators

1. Investigators

All Investigators should be registered in the STMIS database (Science & Technology Management Information System)

Principal Investigator should have a postgraduate research degree (PhD, MPhil) and publications in the relevant area. Applicants with MSc, MD or MS qualifications should have minimum of one year research component in the course and publications in the relevant area.

Co-Investigators should have postgraduate qualifications and research experience supported with publications. Any other member of the research group who does not meet these criteria could be listed as collaborators.

Those who wish to read for postgraduate degrees under the proposed project are not eligible to be Co-Investigators.



Funds can be requested for:

- Personnel
- Research Equipment
- Consumables
- Laboratory services and sample analysis
- Statistical analysis
- Calibration of instruments
- Travel
- Postgraduate registration fees of Research Student
- Miscellaneous

NSF Payment Scheme

- Monthly allowance of NSF Research Scientists
 - PhD – Rs 125,000/- MPhil – Rs 100,000
 - MSc- Rs 80,000/-
- Monthly allowance of Research Students,
 - Registered for a PhD or MPhil - Rs. 60,000/= p.m.
 - Not registered for a postgraduate research degree – Rs. 50,000/= p.m.
- Monthly allowance of Technical Assistants,
 - With G.C.E. (A/L) or (O/L) - Rs. 25,000/= p.m.

Processing of Competitive Research Grants

Closing of the application submission

Initial Screening

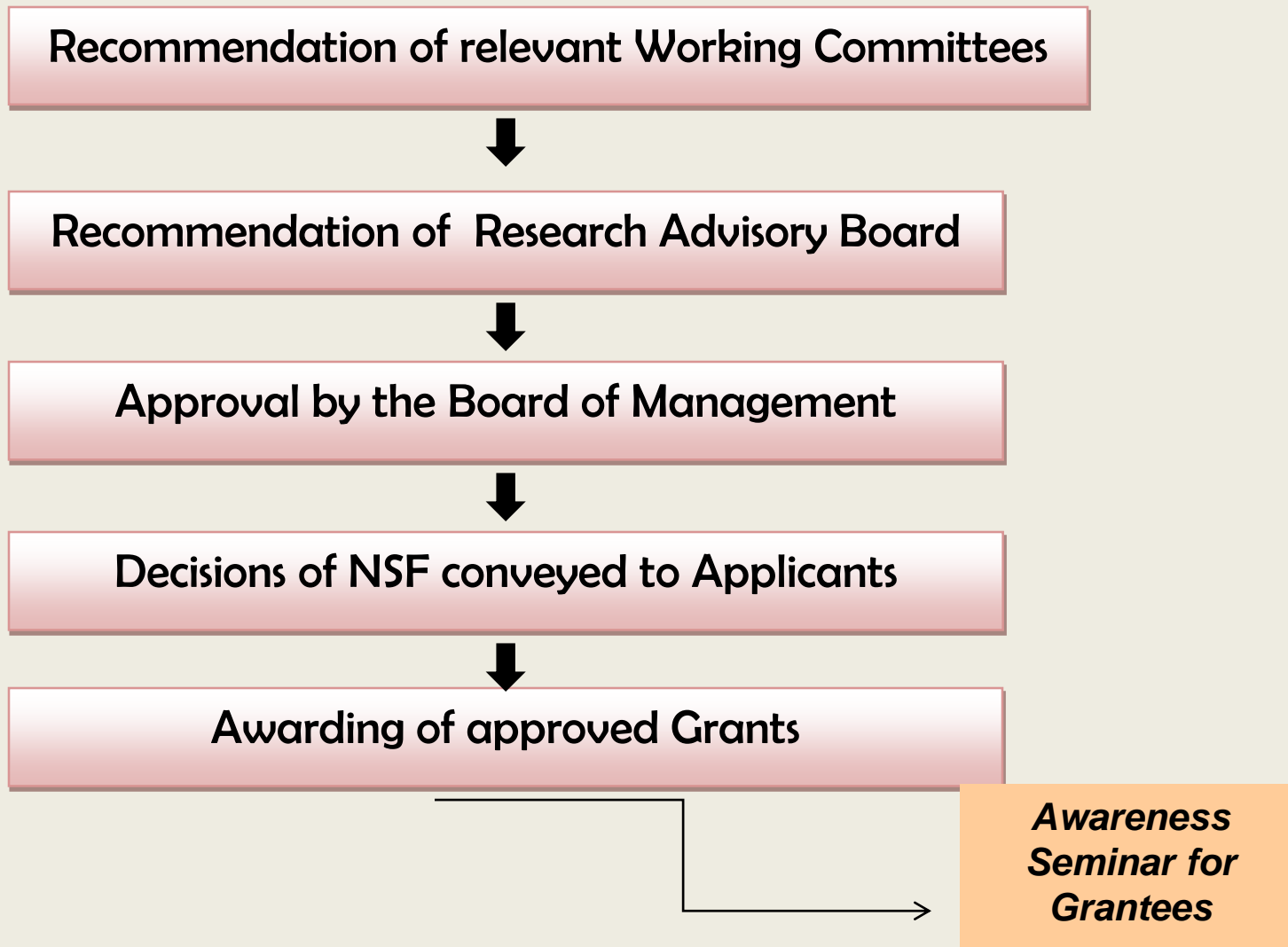
Selection of Reviewers & sending for review (Two for each proposal)

Receipt of evaluation reports

Meeting of Working Committees

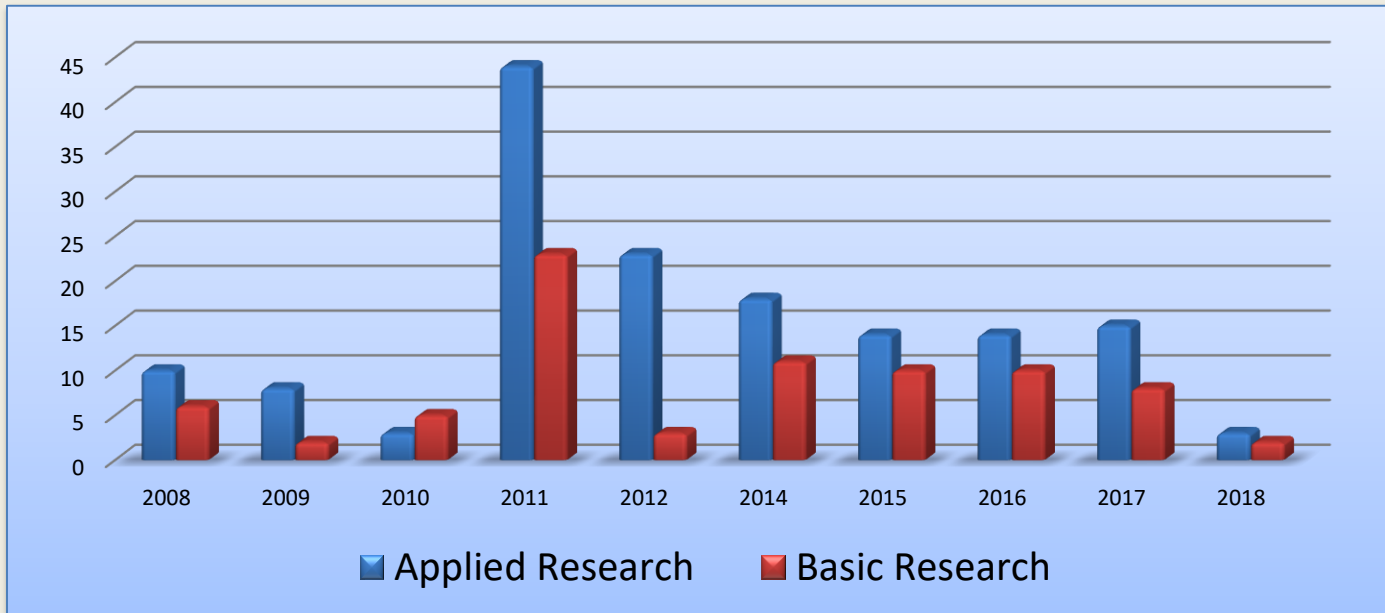


Processing of Competitive Research Grants Cont.....



Analysis of Research Grants Awarded from 2008 - 2018

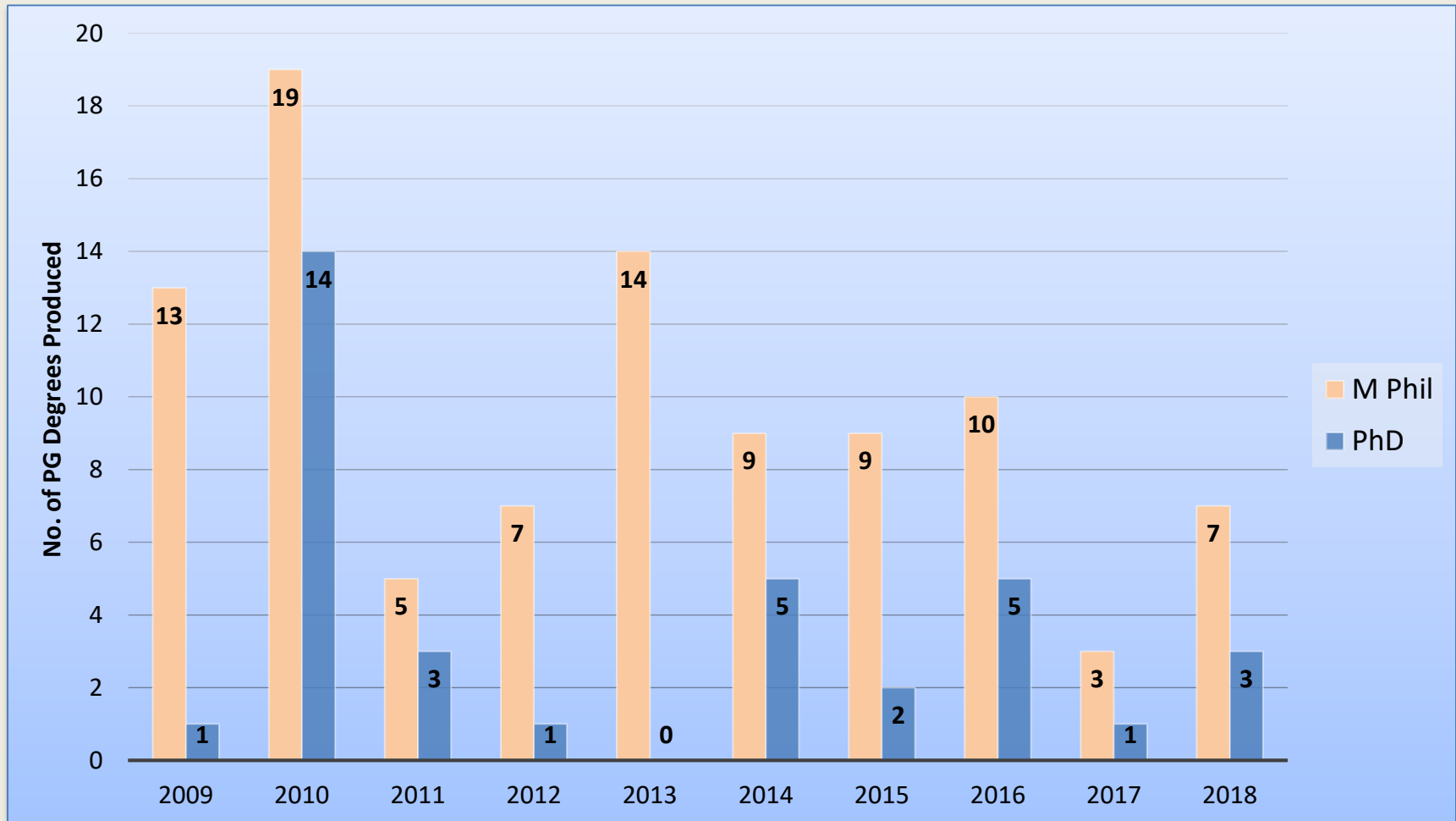
Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Applied Research	10	8	3	44	23	18	14	14	15	3	152
Basic Research	6	2	5	23	3	11	10	10	8	2	80
Total number of Grants awarded	16	10	8	67	26	29	24	24	23	5	232



Capacity building and knowledge dissemination through NSF funded projects

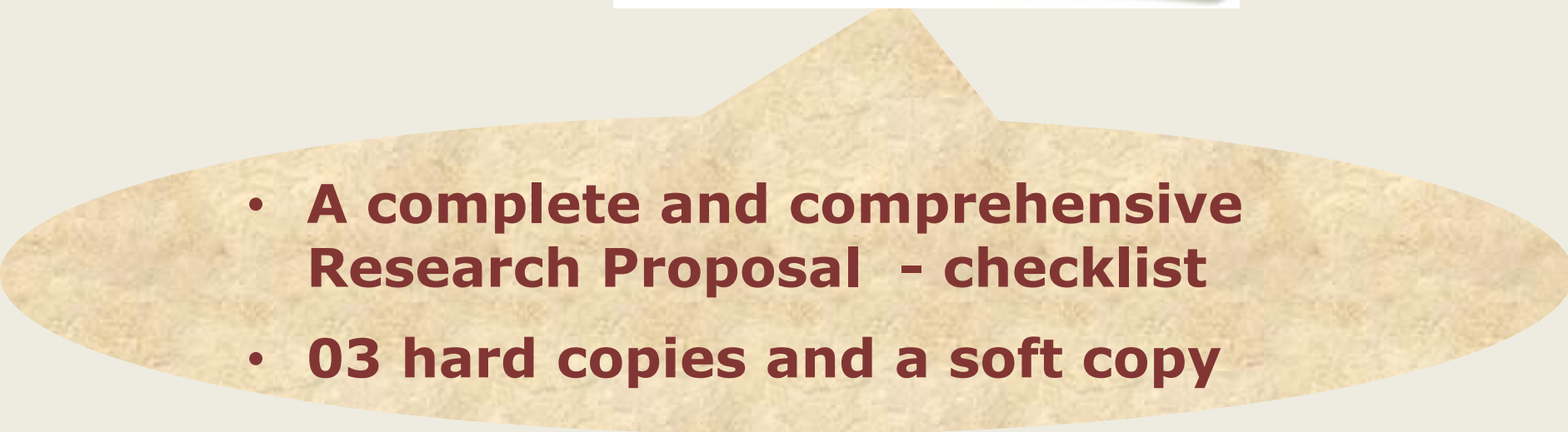
Year	MPhil	PhD	Publications		
			Foreign	Local	Communications
2008	5	0	10	12	17
2009	13	1	5	6	13
2010	19	14	35	14	147
2011	5	3	16	8	114
2012	7	1	13	15	94
2013	14	0	7	7	52
2014	9	5	8	3	87
2015	9	2	3	15	40
2016	10	5	26	21	113
2017	3	1	32	17	132
2018	7	3	24	8	95
Total	101	35	179	126	904

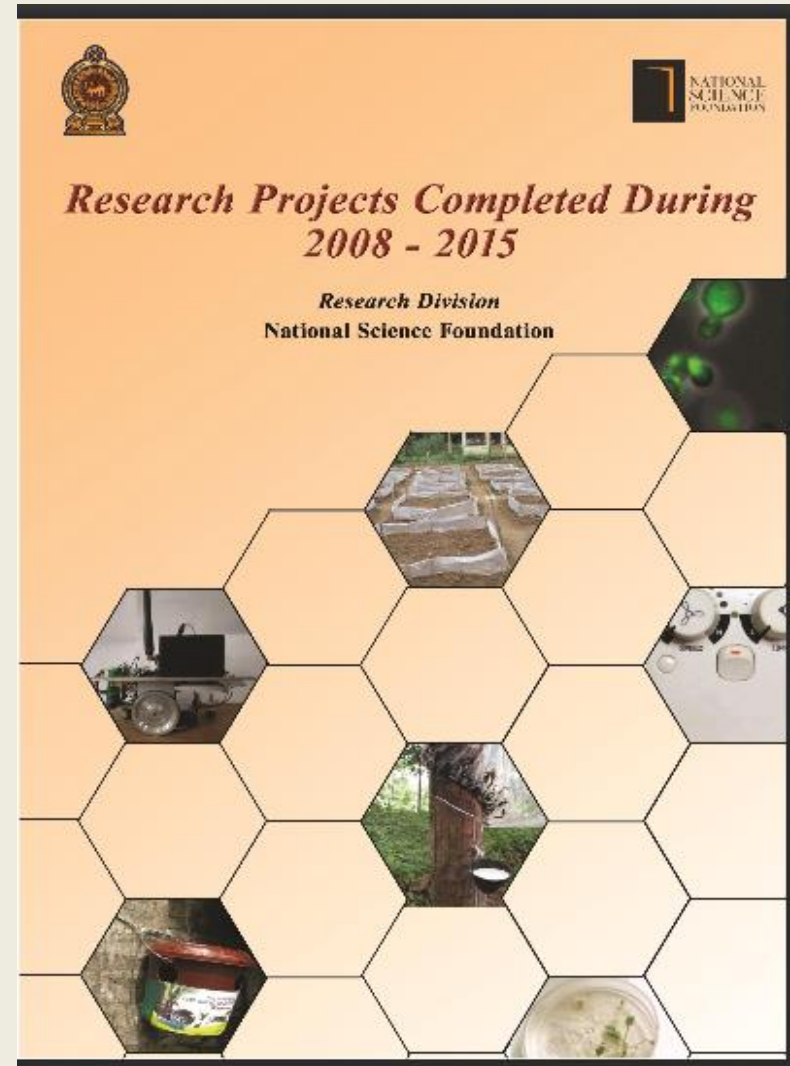
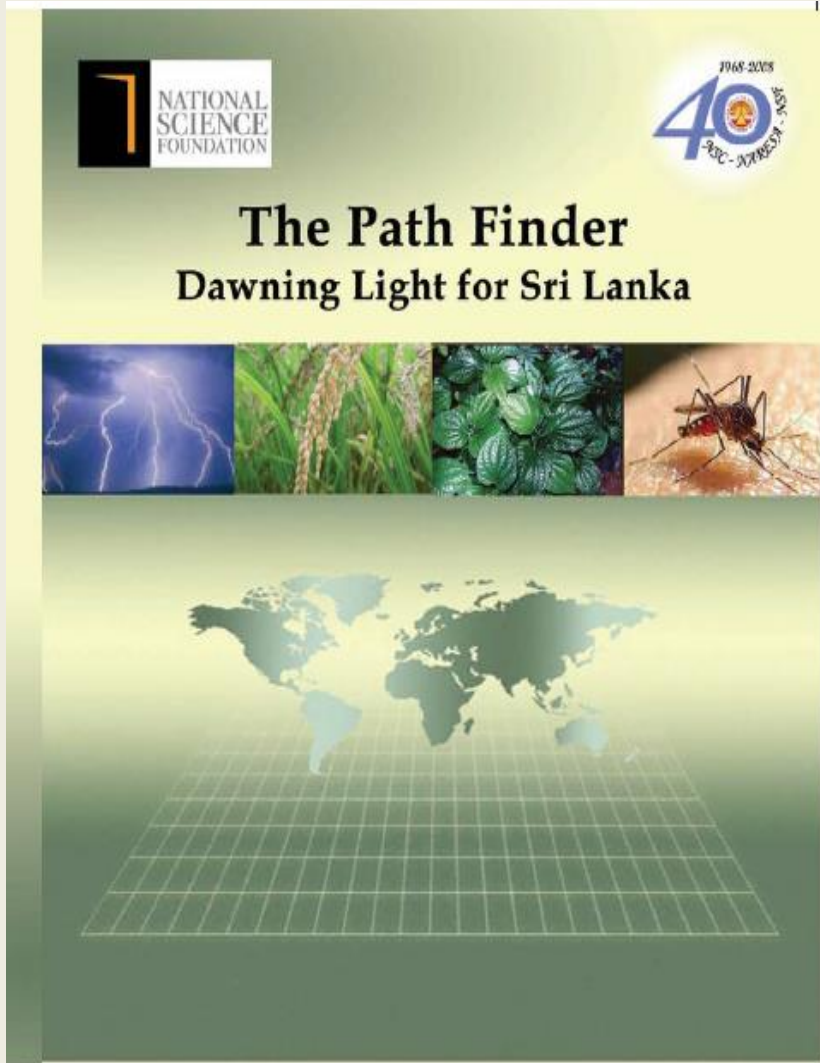
Postgraduate degrees completed from 2008 - 2018





*important
message*

- 
- **A complete and comprehensive Research Proposal - checklist**
 - **03 hard copies and a soft copy**



Benefits of being an NSF Grant recipient



**Submission
of a
quality proposal**

**NSF
Research
Grant**

**Special Grants for
Infrastructure Development**

- Research Equipment Grants

- Spare Part Grants

International Travel Grants

OSTP

NSF Research Awards

**Technology Grants- Follow
up for projects with
tangible outputs**

STMIS facilities →

NSF Research Awards

- To bestow on NSF grant recipients who have attained a high level of excellence in their research work, the recognition they deserve and to recognize their contribution to the advancement of science.
- Given annually for projects completed during the previous year. The Final Report should have been accepted by the NSF with *Very Good* or *Good* grading.

Cash Prize, Plaque, Certificate for the winners

Support Scheme for Supervision of Research Degrees (SUSRED)

- To motivate, support and recognize the scientists / engineers engaged in supervising students conducting research in all areas of Science & Technology, leading to postgraduate degrees.
- Given annually. Applications invited through an open advertisement.


Cash Prize, Plaque, Certificate for the winners





NSF Research Awards 2017





THANK
YOU