

Innovation Lab Membership Policy

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1. Introduction

BISR Innovation Lab (BIL) is a wing of the Bangladesh Institute of Social Research (BISR) Trust, a leading think tank and research organization in Bangladesh. The BISR Innovation Lab aims to generate new ideas and knowledge for pragmatic solutions to complex social and environmental problems which are often unaddressed. The Lab promotes scholarly engagement, collaboration and networking, and professional development of graduates, self-educated, and post-graduate students, and young professionals of social science, environmental sciences, or any other relevant backgrounds from around the world who are highly passionate about research works and pursuing research careers.

Under this program, innovation means to develop some new theories, concepts, methods, models, index, indices, scales, indicators, measurement, estimations, new way of doing something, new way of thinking, solutions of a problem, and new programming.

An organization needs a culture of innovation without which it can not make progress. There are 4 types of innovation which include, fundamental innovation, breakthrough innovation, sustaining innovation, and disruptive innovation. There are at least scope of three types of innovations under the BIL which include- i. academic innovation, ii. program innovation and iii. technological innovation. Innovation requires four steps: i. a clear gap in knowledge; ii. a demand for that knowledge; iii. a competent person for doing that innovation; and iii. an adequate initiative to achieve that.

2. Membership categories

The following four types of membership would be offered to the eligible candidates-

- a) Associate member
- b) Full Member
- c) Fellow
- d) Emeritus Fellow

a. Associate membership

Eligibility

To qualify as an associate member, one must meet the requirements noted below-

- Have at least one publication in peer reviewed international journal
- Having an MPhil or PhD enrollment
- Having an MPhil or PhD degree
- Have exceptionally proven capabilities

Duration

Associate membership will initially be granted for two years (subject to a possible 2-year extension based on performance).

b. Full Member

Eligibility

- Having at least one proven innovation like program, theoretical, conceptual, analytical, calculation, estimation, index, ratio, technological innovation, etc. as recognized.
- If an associate member performs satisfactorily during associate membership and develops any noble theories, concepts, analysis, calculation, estimation, index, ratio, toolkits, technologies, etc. he or she may become a full member.

Duration

Membership would be provided for lifetime

c. Fellow

Eligibility

Have at least three proven theoretical, analytical, calculation, estimation, index, ratio, program or technological innovation.

Duration: Lifetime

d. Emeritus Fellow

Those who have outstanding contributions would be eligible for the emeritus fellowship for lifetime.

3. Benefits of Membership

The following benefits would be there for memberships-

- Intellectual support for innovation
- Periodic seminar and innovative training/workshop
- Scope to share research findings through presentation Briefing
- Group works
- Globally acceptable certificate
- In some cases, a member can get small grant for field work or other incidental expenses/honorarium following appropriate procedures and terms.
- May be eligible for reimbursement of incurred costs associated with the research-related travel and other approved activities within the research budget.

- Technical support to get research grant from other organizations. The technical supports hereby refers to
 - Assistance to prepare quality grant/research proposal.
 - Eligibility to use BISR affiliation for “professional usage” (e.g., in journal article, and to participant in any research collaboration, seminar, conference, webinar).

4. Conditions of Membership

Following terms and conditions will be applicable for innovation lab-

- Membership is not a paid appointment
- Membership will be subject to the policies and procedures of BISR Trust
- Members will involve in innovative research activities under the direction of the Chairman/Research Director, or any counterpart senior researcher nominated by the BISRT
- Member is expected to contribute constructively and creatively to the activities through his/her involvement in innovative research
- Member will be provided with basic facilities and/or resources as per agreed plan
- Member may use institute’s facilities and/or resources appropriately to perform his/her agreed duties (e.g., materials, spaces, computers, etc.)
- Member will submit a grant application where applicable
- Member will acknowledge BISRT in publications
- Member will ensure that there is no conflict of interest between their membership with the mother organization of the member
- Members may use their membership title provided to them, including on a business card and official correspondence.

5. Roles and responsibilities innovation lab member

The roles and responsibilities of innovation lab member are to-

- do innovations in the relevant fields
- participate in innovation seminar, workshop, and seminars organized by the BISRT
- prepare quality research articles on accomplished innovative research and publish in recognized international journals.

6. Membership Approval Process

Step-1:

- 6.1 The interested person will submit an application for innovative lab membership with the copy of the latest curriculum vitae and copy of publications.
- 6.2 The applicant will complete the membership form and submit it for evaluation.
- 6.3 The applicant will need to have clear understanding of the terms and conditions of the offer and accept that in writing.
- 6.4 No charge is required to apply for membership.



Step-2:

6.5 The membership form will be reviewed by the relevant head of research division to ensure that there is no conflict of interest between the applicant's own organization and working with the BISR Trust.

6.6 The head of the research division must ensure that the candidate meets the eligibility criteria checking all submitted documents and is invited for a formal interview (offline or online).

Step-3:

6.7 All applications for innovative **lab membership will be reviewed by Chairman of BISR Trust and when finds the person** suitable for membership, he/she will recommend it to the Human Resource Division.

6.8 **The applicant will pay BDT: 200** (two hundred) as membership fee to the HR

6.-9 The HR will confirm the appointment.

7. Termination

BISR Trust reserves the right to terminate the membership if the member violates any rule and regulation of the institute or does anything against the interest of the institute, country or society.

8. Intellectual Property

Intellectual works and output of innovative lab will be joint intellectual property of BISRT and the member.