



2017 RFP: Genomics Applications in Biodiversity and Evolution

Timetable for Proposals

- Aug 14, 2017: Announcement of call for proposals
- Sep 15, 2017: Deadline for expressions of interest
- Sep 29, 2017: Invitation for full proposals
- Oct 27, 2017: Deadline for submission of invited proposals
- Nov 10, 2017: Final funding decision communicated by BGI Australia
- Dec 1, 2017: Approximate date of project commencement

BGI Australia is issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for single or multi-year collaboration projects with BGI researchers, focusing on using next-generation sequencing to study the genomic basis of evolution and biodiversity and to understand the impacts of environmental, climate and ecological factors to the biodiversity with an emphasis on the [Queensland Government research priority areas](#).

For each qualifying proposal BGI Australia will award up to \$200,000 of sequencing costs to be performed on the BGI sequencing platform (www.seq500.com) at the BGI Australia laboratory in Brisbane.

Requirements

In order for a proposal to be considered for funding it should meet the following requirements:

- There is a well-defined use of next-generation sequencing and the use of sequencing is necessary for the project plan.
- Sequencing plans are justified in significant detail in terms of sample availability, feasibility for producing sufficient amounts and quality of nucleic acid material, timing of sample acquisition, and rationale.
- The proposed chief investigator is a full-time employee of a Queensland-based non-profit or educational institution.
- All proposed chief investigators will collaborate openly and transparently with BGI researchers to progress the research toward publication.
- Projects primarily focus on issues, regions, and/or organisms that are particularly relevant to the biodiversity topics.

Application Process

Expression of Interest

Applicants should submit an expression of interest as a PDF. The EOI will be a two-page document including the background, objectives, and a summary of the research plan and a description of the research team including previous research achievements relevant to this proposal. EOIs will be reviewed by a team of BGI researchers and selected applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal. The EOI should be submitted to bgi-australia@genomics.cn with email title starting with "2017 RFP".

Full Proposal

Applicants should submit their application as a PDF. The application must include a cover page, the research proposal (maximum five pages), and biographical descriptions of the team (1-2 pages per investigator).

The cover page will include:

- the project title;
- an approximate budget for sequencing and data analysis only;
- the chief investigator's name, affiliation, telephone number and email address; and
- a list of all co-applicants, with their affiliation and email address.

The research proposal will include:

- a description of the main research challenges and aims;
- a description of the project design or method;
- a description of expected outcomes;
- a description of the novelty or significance of the outcomes;
- a high-level summary of the sequencing plan with justification.

The biographical information should contain short biographies of all listed investigators. NHMRC/ARC/NIH track records/biosketches are acceptable.

Full proposals will be reviewed by a committee of BGI researchers to evaluate their eligibility, feasibility, and research merit. With successful applicants we will mutually establish a collaborative research agreement that addresses sample shipping, data ownership, and IP issues as appropriate to each project.

BGI in Biodiversity and Evolution

BGI is one of the largest genome centres in the world and the only one with a department dedicated to biodiversity genomics. In the past 18 years, BGI has made significant achievements in this field and has contributed for at least 300 plant and animal genomes, including more than 30 species in Australia. With this RFP it is our goal to advance biodiversity research through our capabilities and experience and by partnering with the Australian research community.



Thank you for your interest. Please write to bgi-australia@genomics.cn with any questions regarding this request for proposals.