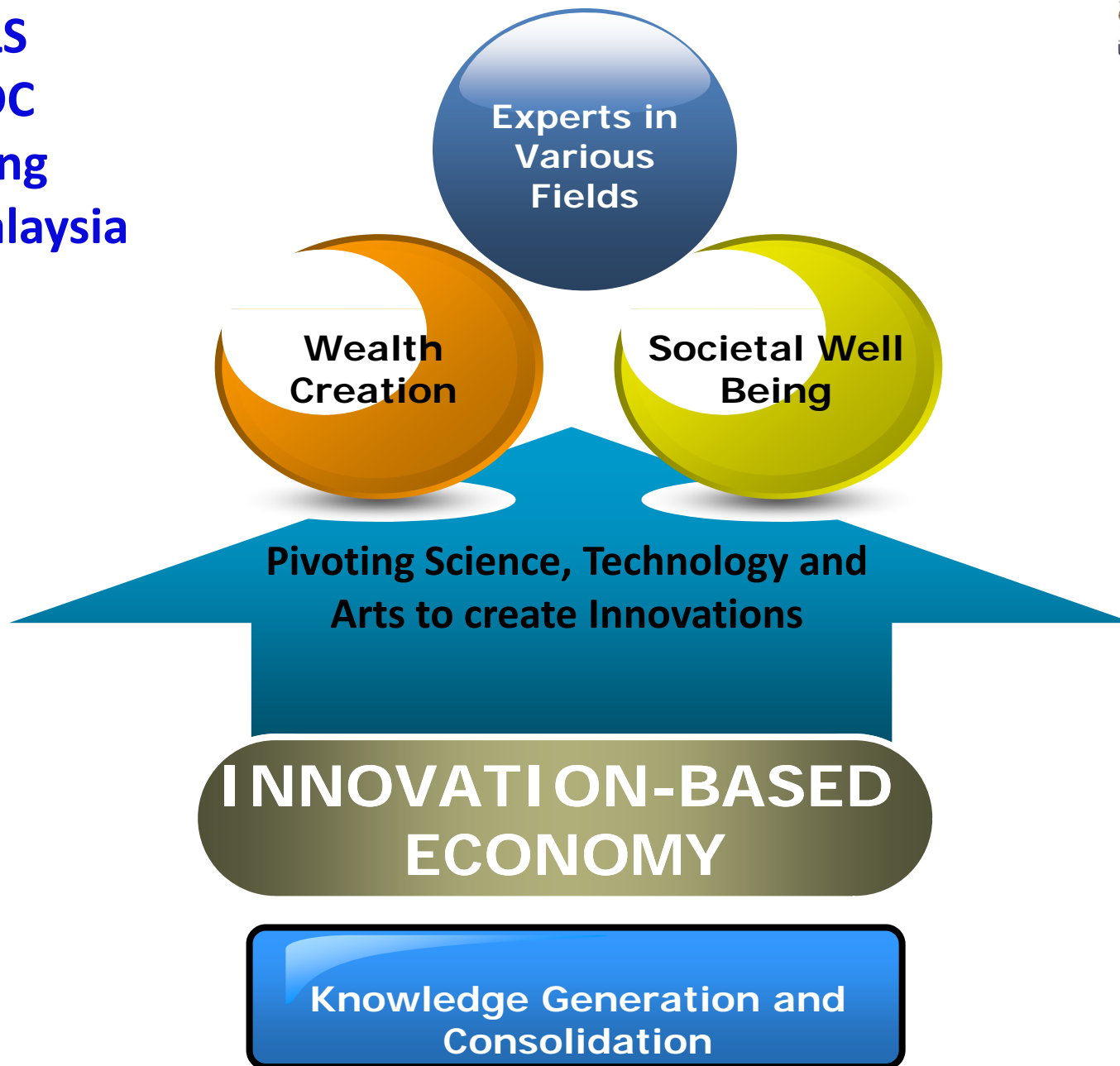




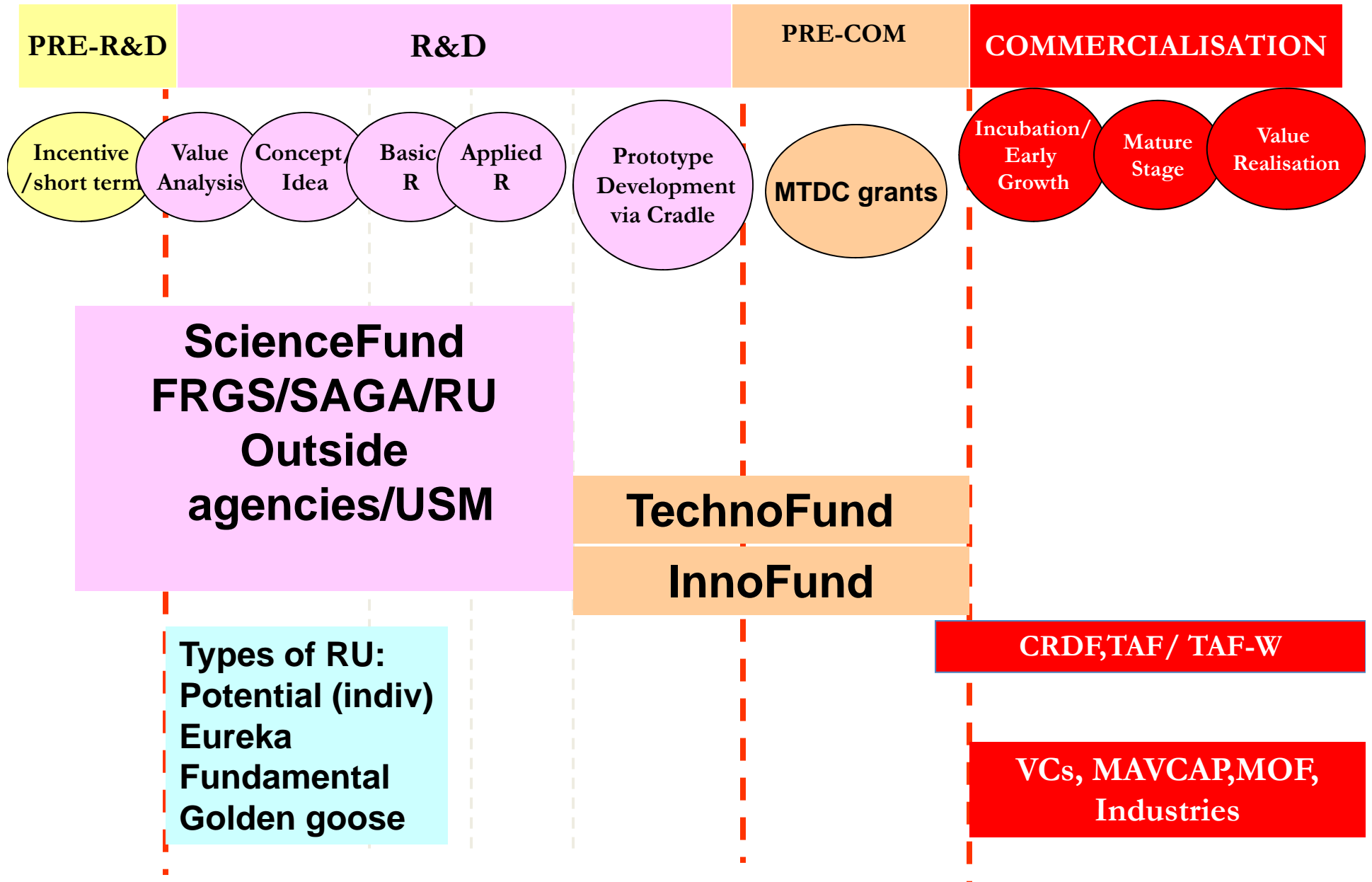
BAHAGIAN PENYELIDIKAN DAN INOVASI
DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

USM WAY FORWARD : NEW RU GRANT FUNDING

GOALS Of RDC funding In Malaysia



Current R&D FUNDING At USM



**There is a need to design the RU
funding to show continuity and nurture
young researchers to become mature
research leaders**

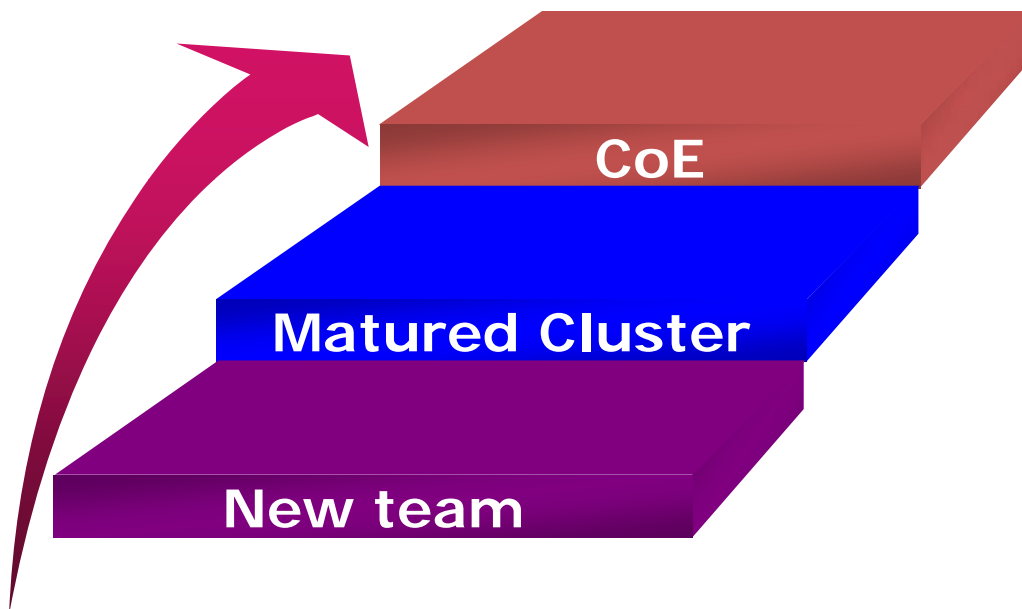
From individual to team to cluster

Definitions

- **Group** is when all are working together but there is a leader and a group of people that do their own work. Some pull their weight but others are in there for a ride. The members may/not understand the whole mission and vision of the group. Equivalent to “mini MOSTI”. USM is not in favour of this. It does not nurture nor enrich the group.
- A **team** is when all members are equally important. They all pull their weight and there must be bonding with rapport and trust among each other to deliver. They all understand the whole mission and vision of the team. Each team is multidisciplinary and show sustainability of cohorts. A mature team can become a cluster.

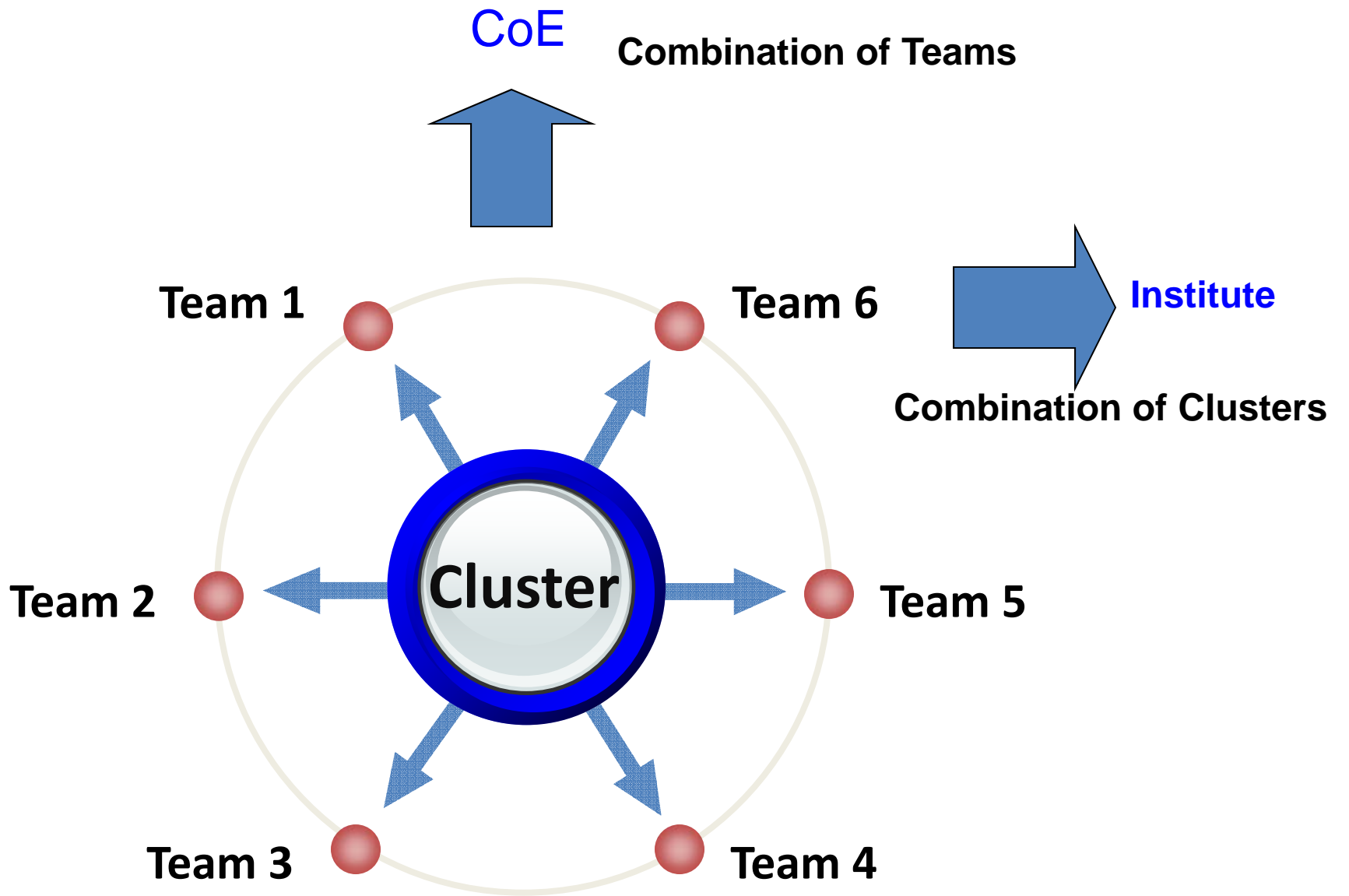
From team to cluster to center to institute

- Teams must be allowed to nurture. Spirit of trust and sharing must be enforced.
- Teams can gather together working on an area of focus and develop into a Cluster. A cluster is a **combined number of teams** with the **shared mission** to deliver the vision of the cluster. The cluster is usually headed by a mature research leader with a proven track record.
- Cluster formation cannot be forced. There must be rapport among the team members
- Within each cluster, it must be multi-disciplinary, inter-PTJ, inter-institution. Must show sustainability of cohorts
- A mature Cluster may eventually become CoE or strong enough to be an institute.
- A group of Clusters may also form an institute.



Cluster Definition:

- Multidisciplinary
- Inter PTJ
- National linkage
- International linkage
- Mission
- Vision
- Proven track record
- Sustainable with Continuity
- Problem solving



Way Forward: New RDC funding at USM

JENIS GERAN	Geran Insentif	Geran Jangka Pendek (Young researchers)	Geran RU	Geran RU Berpasukan (Team)	Geran RU Kluster (Cluster)
SILING PERUNTUKAN (RM)	RM5,000	RM40,000	RM250,000	RM1 juta	RM 5 juta
TEMPOH	1 tahun	2 tahun	3 tahun	4 tahun	5 tahun
CATATAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pensyarah dan Gred 41 ke atas yang tidak memegang sebarang geran penyelidikan Kelulusan TNC (P&I) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual Pensyarah dan Gred 41 ke atas sehingga gred 54. Penilaian peringkat Pelantar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive Min : 2 academic staff Peringkat pelantar + 2 panel dari pelantar lain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive Team based Min: 5 academic staf Peringkat pelantar + 2 panel dari Pelantar lain Panel luar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly competitive Cluster based Min : 5 academic staff Panel luar sahaja <p>HIGHLY competitive</p>

Competitive grants

Young researchers nurtured to become mature research leaders

Evaluators

Domain experts

Ethics

Social

Culture

Innovation

RU GRANTS

- All RU grants are now considered as **competitive** grants and aggressively monitored.
- RU funds will be made available to individuals, teams or clusters. The RU grants are henceforth named as:
 - RU (for Individuals - RUI) (Max ceiling: RM 250,000 for 3 years)
 - RU Team (RUT) (Max ceiling: RM 1 million for 4 years)
 - RU Cluster (RUC) (Max ceiling: RM 5 million 4-5 years)
- To encourage researchers to apply for outside grants, each researcher is allowed to be PI for only 2 RU grants at any one time.
- Researchers can also form a team/cluster to bid on Advanced Study Initiatives (Top down projects) that will be determined by USM aligned with the priority areas of the country or of USM as part of its strategies as an APEX university. These topics will be announced from time to time.

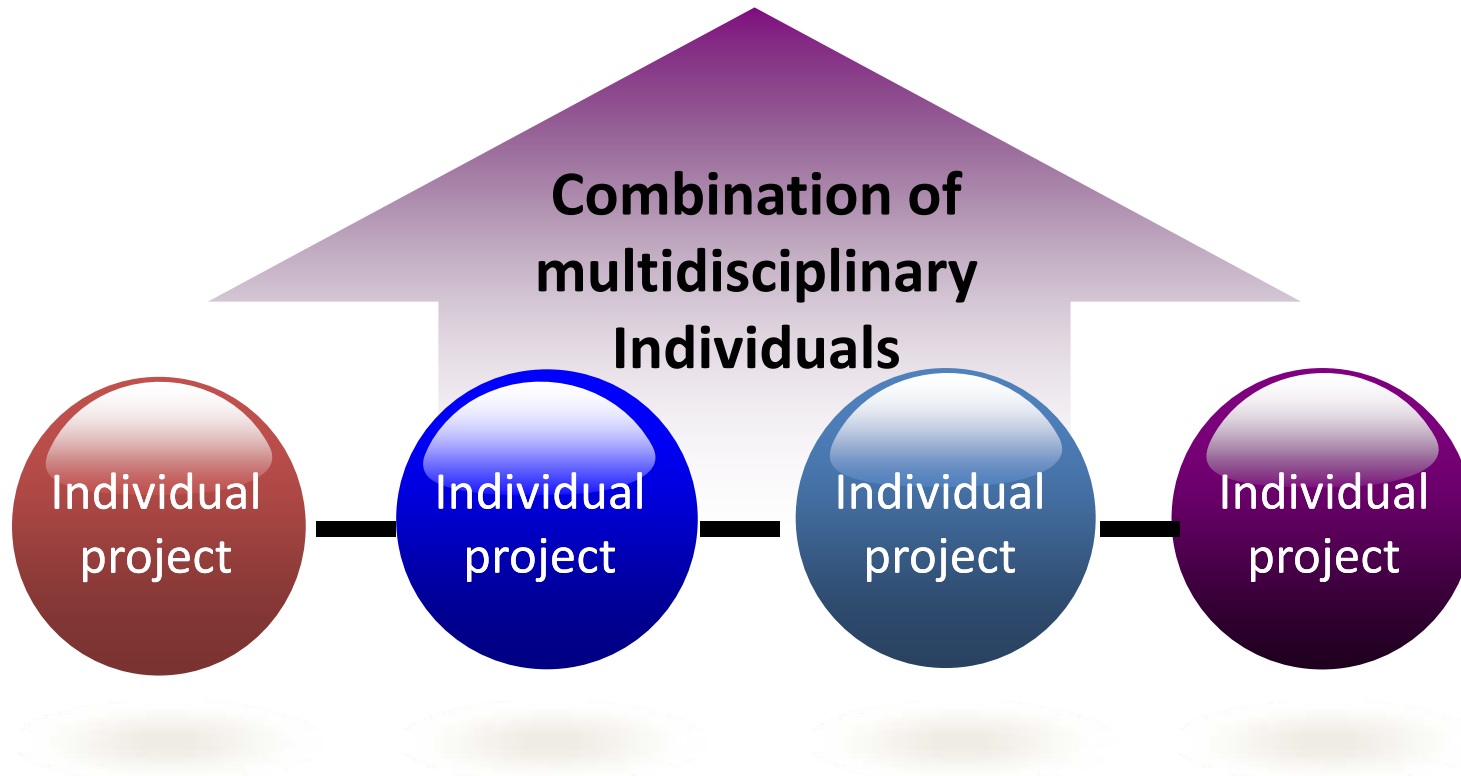
RU Individual (RUI) Grants

- RUI has a ceiling of up to RM 250,000 for a maximum of 3 years .
 - Evaluated based on merit
 - Need to show a minimum RU KPI of 10 with a minimum of 2 researchers
 - Submit evidence for verification of RU KPI

RU Team (RUT) Grants

- RUT has a ceiling of up to RM 1 million for a maximum of 4 years .
 - Evaluated based on merit
 - Must show multi-disciplinary
 - Provide people-oriented solutions to sustainability issues, wealth creation and/or bottom billion agenda are encouraged
 - Need to show a minimum RU KPI of 25 with a minimum of 5 researchers
 - Submit evidence for verification of RU KPI

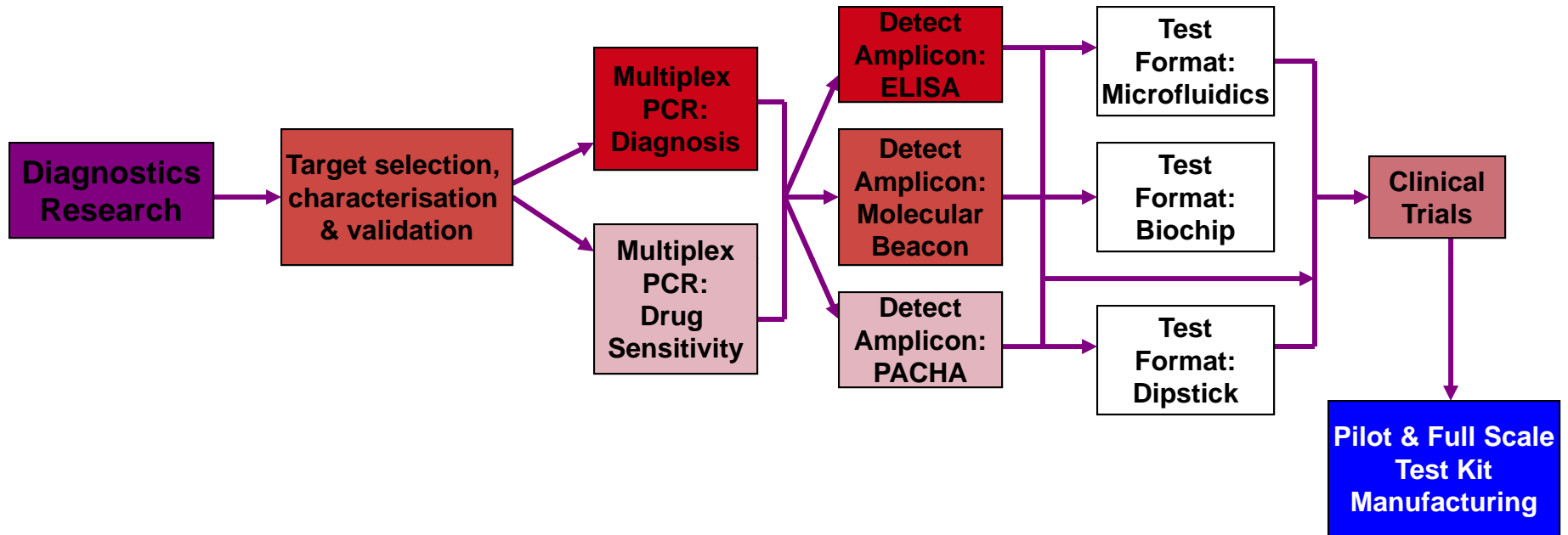
Team



Each team will be measured against RU KPIs
Minimum to qualify RU KPI =25

EXAMPLE: STRUCTURE WITHIN 1 TEAM

Diagnostic Research



Work established with track record	Work in progress	Preliminary work initiated	Work not done expertise required available	Work not done expertise required not available
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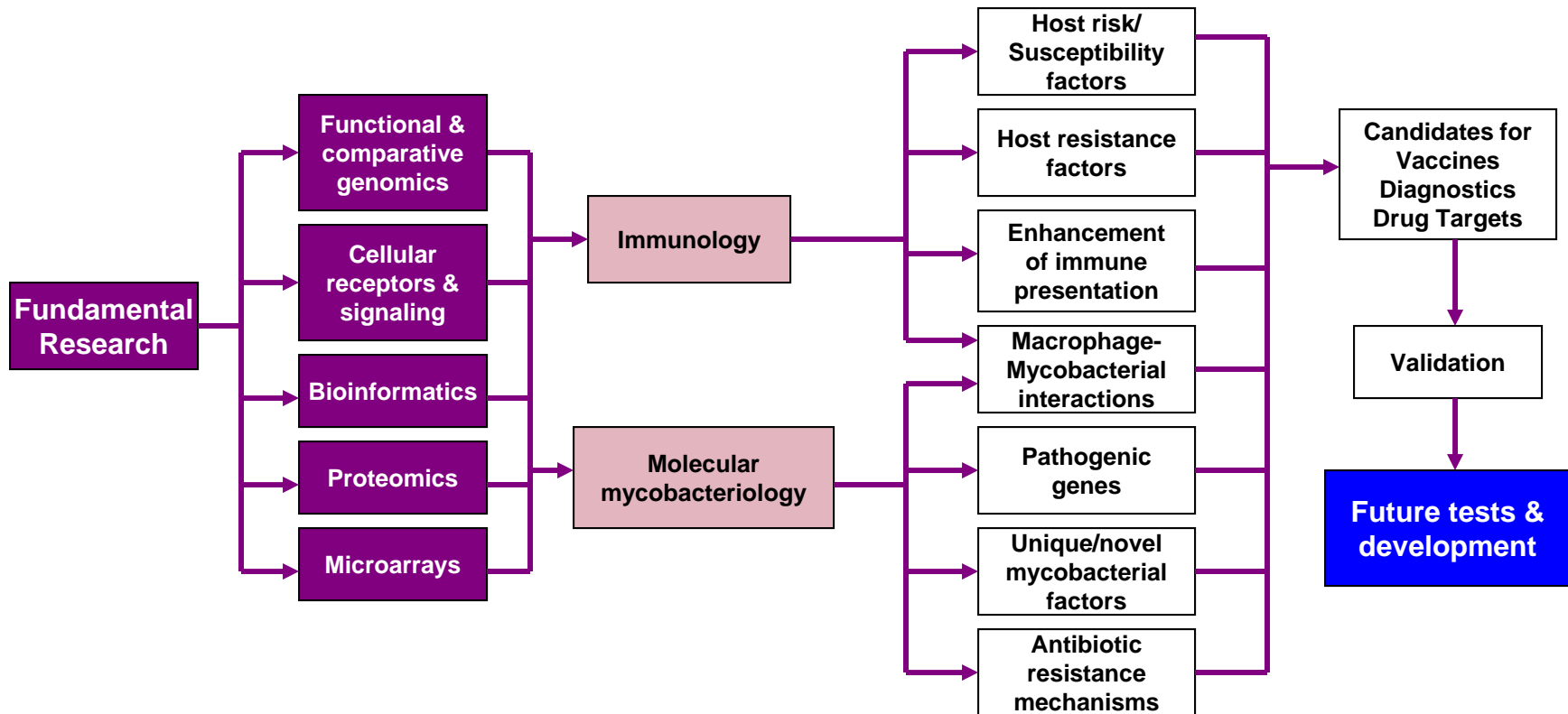
Thrust areas & Subareas	Final Objective
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Key to Colour Scheme

Courtesy Prof Zainul F Zainuddin

EXAMPLE: STRUCTURE WITHIN 1 TEAM

Fundamental Research



Work established with track record	Work in progress	Preliminary work initiated	Work not done expertise required available	Work not done expertise required not available
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Thrust areas & Subareas	Final Objective
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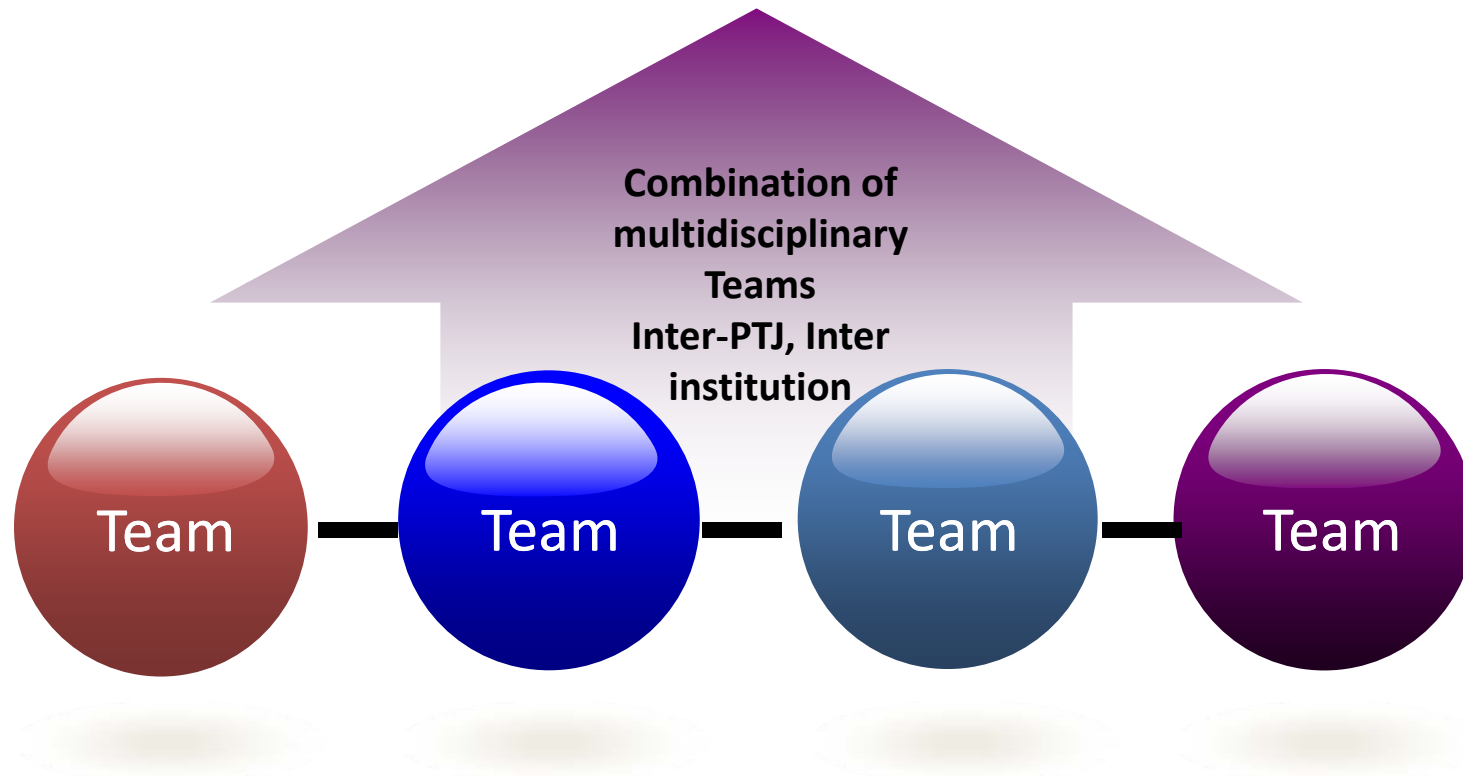
Key to Colour Scheme

Courtesy Prof Zainul F Zainuddin

RU Cluster (RUC) Grants

- Mature research leaders with proven track records are eligible to lead RUC grants
- RUC has a ceiling of up to RM 5 million for a maximum of 5 years .
- RUC are research funds that involve collaborations. Top down projects
 - 1. Multi-disciplinary and single institution(USM) ;(inter-PTJ) or
 - 2. Multi-disciplinary (inter-PTJ) and multi-institutional (inter-varsities) using (matching grant concepts for a max of RM 5 million for USM based-researchers only)
 - Evaluated based on merit .
 - All clusters upon evaluation must show RU KPI of average 50 (at least 3 years of data) with a minimum of 5 researchers to be eligible for application
 - Submit evidence for verification of RU KPI
 - Providing people-oriented solutions to sustainability issues, bottom billion and wealth creation agenda are **mandatory**
- Clusters that are ready and show achievement of RU KPI – 75 or higher AFTER completion of the project can be considered by Senate to be recognised as a CoE

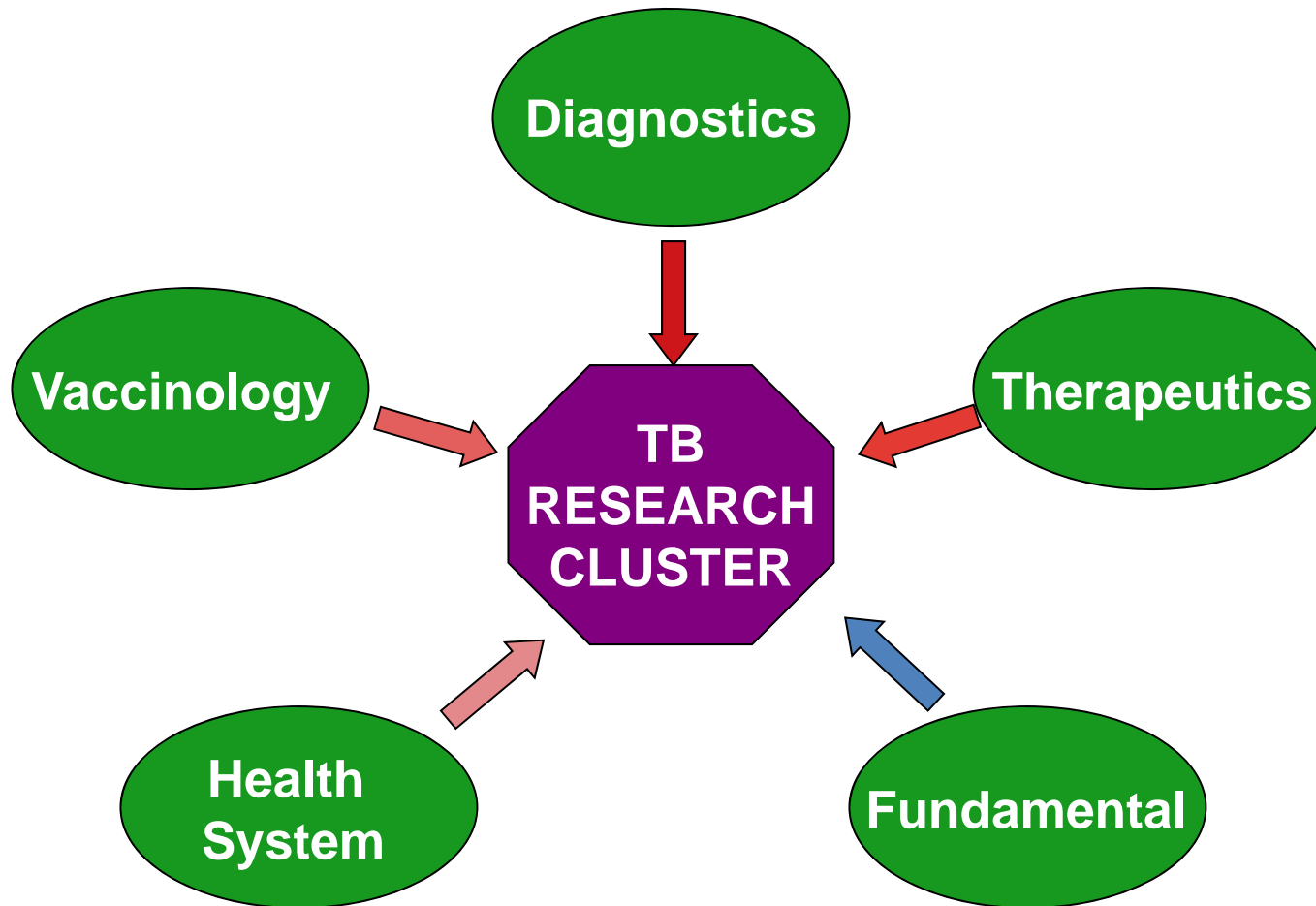
Cluster



Each cluster will be measured against RU KPIs.
Minimum to qualify = 50.

EXAMPLE

TB CLUSTER (combination of 5 teams)



 Darker arrow shades indicate level of current accomplishment of each team

EVALUATION POLICY

- To ensure smooth transition of R-D-C, all Research platform evaluation committees must consist of individuals with the following capabilities to address issues on :
 - Ethics
 - Social aspects
 - Cultural aspects
 - Innovation aspects
 - Additional members are domain experts

- The committee will also advise if the grant proposal need to be submitted to the animal or human ethics committee and biosafety committee

- RU, RUC and RUT grants will be evaluated by the University Evaluation Committee via cycles (every 3 months; Mac, June, Sept and Dec) to ensure evaluation is thorough and grants can be disbursed on time

- All RU grants can be submitted at any time but the evaluation exercise will occur in the cycles determined.

**RESEARCH UNIVERSITY
KEY PERFORMANCE
INDEX (KPI) GUIDELINE
FOR RESEARCHER**

1. Research University (RU) KPI categorized as follows:

Section B: Quantity and Quality of Researchers

Section C: Quantity and Quality of Research

Section D: Quantity of Postgraduates

Section E: Quality of Postgraduates

Section F: Innovation

Section G: Professional Services and Gifts

Section H: Networking and Linkages

2. Researchers are advised to fill individually the *ASSESSOR'S REPORT FORM* that had been developed by Bahagian Pembangunan Lestari dan Korporat (BPLK) for RU grant application only.

3. The *ASSESSOR'S REPORT FORM* is an online system which can calculate automatically the marks of each section in RU KPI once the user key in the data/input. It is available at <http://ernd.usm.my>

4. Researchers need to print out the marks and attach it with the Grant Application Form before submitting to School Research Committee (JKPTJ) or University Evaluation Committee (JKPU). **Only applications that meet the minimum requirement of RU KPI will be considered.**

5. Addressing the RU KPI as required in the Grant Application From:

i. RU-Individual – minimum of 10 marks for RU KPI

Means that the total marks of the Principal Investigator (PI) and his co-researchers MUST at least achieve a minimum of 10 marks

ii. RU-Team – minimum of 25 marks for RU KPI

Means that the total marks of the team members for the year evaluated (PI and co-researchers) This is to encourage formation of new teams MUST at least achieve a minimum of 25 marks.

iii. RU-Cluster – minimum of 50 marks for RU KPI

Means that the total marks of the cluster (PI and co-researchers for at least 3 years) MUST at least achieve a minimum of 50 marks

6. For further information please contact the Science Officers of the respective Research Platforms.