

## 2026 BrainLink X-Lab Day Announcement

The Korean Federation of Science and Technology Societies(KOFST) is launching the BrainLink X-Lab Day project to expand domestic and international networks and leap towards becoming a global talent hub. We hereby announce the "2026 BrainLink X-Lab Day" We encourage those who are interested to apply and participate.

March 10, 2026

Oh Nam Kwon, President of KOFST

Won-hwa Hong, President of NRF

### 1. Overview

#### ☐ Purpose

- To expand global research collaboration through the Brain Circulation network
- To organize technology exchange conferences in key fields of research for domestic and international scholars, mid-career and young scientists, and to promote the expansion of domestic and international networks of human resources and the leap towards becoming a global talent hub.

#### ☐ Areas : 12 National Strategic Technologies

Secondary Battery	Advanced Mobility	Next-generation Nuclear Energy	Semiconductor & Display	Advanced Biotech	Aviation-Aerospace&Marine
Cyber Security	Hydrogen	AI	Next Generation Communication	High-tech robot-Manufacturing	Quantum

\* Core science and technology areas for enhancing national R&D capacity and global network are also eligible

#### ☐ Venue : Geographically isolated region in Korea (Incheon, Gyeongju, Andong, Yeosu, Pyeongchang)

#### ☐ Period : May ~ mid December 2026 (2 nights & 3 days per event)

#### ☐ Method: Open call (Approx. 16 projects)

※ Two Organizers (one Korean scientist and one foreign or overseas Korean scientist) are required to jointly prepare and submit proposal

#### ☐ Intended Participants

- (Domestic) Government-funded research institutes, national research institutes,

universities, university-affiliated research institutes, academic societies in science and engineering fields, non-profit foundations, corporate-affiliated research institutes, industrial area etc.

- (Overseas) Overseas universities and research institutes, Overseas Korean Scientists and Engineers Associations, Overseas Professional Branch Associations

#### ☐ Operation : Organize X-Lab Day and Follow-up Club Activities

- X-Lab Day (2 nights & 3 days per event)
  - (Program): Organizer should develop a free-form program that meets the characteristics of the respective technology
  - (Format): Avoid a simple lecture-style seminar format and instead promote in-depth discussions, idea sharing, and problem-solving on recent trends and research outcomes in key technology fields.
  - (Participants): Domestic and overseas participants invited by organizers, About 40 per meeting
    - Domestic and overseas organizers, 7~8 overseas speakers, approx. 20 domestic scholars, mid and early career scientists, approx. 10 graduate students (Ph.D students and postdoctoral researchers etc.)
  - (Follow-up Engagement) Form and operate Participant communities( "Clubs" ) after the X-Lab Day to maintain ongoing networking

### 2. Application Eligibility

#### ☐ Eligibility

- 2 Organizers who are outstanding S&T expert with extensive R&D experience and capable of organizing and leading X-Lab Day(One domestic and one foreign or overseas Korean scientists)
  - Domestic Organizer: Korean scientists affiliated with institutions in Korea
  - Overseas Organizer: Foreign scientists and overseas Koreans affiliated with institutions abroad
- ※ Those selected for X-Lab Day 2022~25 are eligible as well, but speakers and participants must be composed differently

### ☐ Responsibility of Organizers

- Write and submit the project proposal
- Invite speakers, organize and manage program and participants for BrainLink X-Lab Day
- Submit related materials and outcome report including participant list, CV, outcome report and etc.)
- Establish field-specific communities or clubs to promote ongoing networking among participants following the event

### ☐ Covered Expenses

- All expenses incurred during the stay for the purpose of participating in BrainLink X-Lab Day (No registration fee)
  - ※ The event expenses will be managed by the KOFST Secretariat.
- (Domestic) Honorarium for organizer and key role-holders, accommodation, dining, and etc.
- (Overseas) Round-trip airfare\* for organizer and invited speakers, honorarium, accommodation, dining, and etc.
  - ※ Airfare will, in principle, be provided in economy class. Up to two business-class tickets may be provided per meeting for participants designated by the organizer.
  - ※ If economy-class airfare is provided for all participants, support may be provided for up to eight participants. If two business-class tickets are requested, support may be provided for up to six participants.

## 3. Application Method & Process

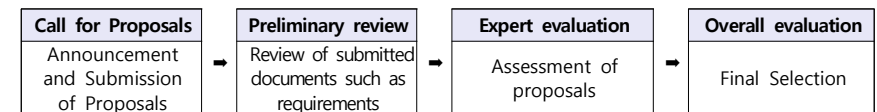
### ☐ Method

- Period : March 16(Mon) ~ April 16(Thu), 2026
- Method : Online (KOFST International cooperation website)
  - ※ In order to apply for BrainLink X-Lab Day 2026, please sign up our website first
- Documents required
  - Project Proposal \* See the attached file
  - CVs of domestic and overseas organizers and overseas invited speakers (each)
  - Speaker Confirmation and Personal Information Collection & Usage Agreement form for overseas organizer and invited speakers (each)

### ☐ Note

- The proposal should be written in Korean and submitted with the official seal of the head of the applicant institution.
- After the selection of the X-Lab Day, changes to invited overseas speakers (including organizers) are not allowed. Any changes to invited speakers will result in a reassessment, and the selection may be canceled.
- Ensure diversity in the nationality and affiliation of invited speakers, and include distinguished, mid-career, and early-career researchers.
- To receive a business class airfare(up to 2 individuals), be sure to indicate this in the proposal.
- All participants are expected to attend the entire day of the event.

### ☐ Selection Process



### ☐ Future Schedule

- Evaluation : April-May 2026
- Notification of Selection Results : May 2026 (Individual notification to domestic organizers)
- Orientation for the selected participants : May 2026
- ※ The above schedule is subject to change.

## 4. Inquiry : International Cooperation Division, KOFST

(☐ bl@kofst.or.kr, ☎ +82-2-3420-1273, 1275)

- ※ This program is also planned to continue in 2027. Those who wish to participate in the future are advised to prepare in advance.