SOUTH AFRICA / KENYA JOINT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH

CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS (2013)

CLOSING DATE: 31 October 2013

The Government of Kenya and the Republic of South Africa signed an Agreement for Cooperation in science and technology in August 2004. The two countries have decided to jointly support researchers from public universities and public research institutes on an equal and mutually beneficial basis in an effort to enhance scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries.

Who may apply?

South Africa: This call is open to all full time researchers residing in South Africa and affiliated with a recognised higher education or research institution such as a university, university of technology or science council. An application must designate two principal investigators, one in South Africa and the other in Kenya, who will bear the main responsibility for the project, including its technical and administrative coordination as well as scientific and financial reporting. Commercial institutions and private education institutions are not eligible to apply under this programme.

Kenya: The Principal Investigator (PI) and other investigators in Kenya should be Scientists/faculty members working in regular capacity in recognised Universities, Academic Institutes and National Research & Development Laboratories/Institutes. The Kenya PI should not be retiring or leaving the parent institute during the proposed duration of the project.

Researchers from both countries must be in possession of a Masters degree (preferably a PhD)

Disciplines

For the purpose of this call, research projects falling within the following areas/disciplines will be considered:

- Biosciences (food, agriculture and biotechnology, health and indigenous knowledge)
- Space Science (Astronomy & earth observation)
- Water management (harvesting, purification and water resource mapping)

Which activities may I apply for?

During the present Call, funding will only be made available for the following activities:

- Flight
- Accommodation
- Subsistence
- Consumables and
- Publication costs

Funding will be available for a maximum of two years, starting in 2014. Bursaries, scholarships, project management fees, consultant fees, VAT and purchasing of equipment will not be accommodated under this programme.

The onus is on the applicant to find their own research partner. Proposals must be received in both Kenya and South Africa. Proposals received in only one of the two countries will be automatically disqualified. The NRF call
process is highly competitive and the number of projects to be supported will therefore be subjected to the availability of funds.

**How much should I apply for?**

In South Africa the total cost of the project will be funded up to a maximum amount of R300 000.00 over two years (R150 000.00 per project per year) and Ksh 3 000 000.00 over two years (Ksh 150 000 per year). Researchers should therefore note that two separate budgets would be required from each side. Researchers should take note that they will be responsible for their own costs for international travel, subsistence and accommodation.

**How are applications evaluated?**

Following the closing date indicated below applications will be assessed separately by the NRF based on the following criteria:

- Track record of the applicant;
- Quality of the proposal / scientific & technical merit;
- Potential for promoting equity and redress / capacity building;
- Significance for both countries; possible impact of the research / nationally & internationally;
- Methodology; and
- Suitability & feasibility

(Note that proposals demonstrating strong elements of capacity building, particularly among **historically disadvantaged institutions**, will be favourably regarded by the South African side). Following these assessments, projects will be shortlisted for funding through mutual consultations between DST and NRF based on the results of the evaluations done in both countries.

The Principal Investigators will be responsible for the scientific and financial reporting, as well as other technical and administrative co-ordination of the project. They will also be required to submit an annual and final report to their respective funding agencies upon completion of the project.

**How do I apply?**

**In South Africa:**

Applicants can apply by following the steps below:

- Applications must be submitted through an online application process to the National Research Foundation (NRF)

- **Applicants can apply for the SA-Kenya Call for 2014 by accessing the link:** [https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/)

- Register/Login using your ID number and password

- Select create new application from the list of existing calls

- Select the call for which you are applying for: **SA-Kenya Call for 2014**

- Remember to complete all sections of the application

  Please attach the necessary documents in **one PDF file in the following order:** CV of partner, Budget of partner and the signed page of partner.

- Should you not follow the guidelines for attaching the necessary documents your application may not be considered
• Remember to **submit** your application on completion

• Complete applications will go to the host university for verification before being forwarded to the NRF for further processing

• Incomplete applications will not be considered

• Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be considered (please refer to the call document for details on eligibility for the SA-Kenya call)

• Please contact the university research office if you have any queries

• **All endorsed applications must be submitted electronically via the NRF’s Submission system at** https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za.

No hard copies of the application will be accepted.

**In Kenya:**

Application forms for proposal submission may be obtained from the National Commission for Science and Technology and Innovation (www.nacosti.go.ke) for Kenyan applicants. Electronic copies must be submitted to stifund@ncst.go.ke.

Researchers must submit their applications in their respective countries.

Researchers must ensure that applications have been submitted in both countries. Applicants that do not adhere to this criterion will be disqualified. The NRF and NACOSTI will not be held responsible for non-submission of applications in the relevant country.

**When is the closing date for applications?**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The NRF closing date for validated applications is 31 October 2013. Institutions must set their own internal closing date for DAs to validate applications before the closing date.

**Where can I obtain more information?**

**South Africa:**

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