



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the June 2023 edition of our bimonthly Newsletter – the third in the series for this year! In this edition, the Research Management Office (RMO) brings you some special grant calls that are currently open. As you all know, the research funding landscape is becoming more competitive than ever before! The RMO remains committed to providing full support to all our researchers with interest in applying for the advertised grants. We recognize that Research Funding Agencies are increasingly becoming more favorably biased to consider and fund multi-disciplinary teams sequel to successful reviews of grant applications. We currently have a simple but efficient database of research experts within the University's faculties, and we are happy to support you with recommendations of experts to collaborate with on your grant proposal from the database.

The RMO continues to strategically support UNILAG's researchers in engaging relevant stakeholders in the research development and uptake process as this approach is apparently central to impactful research. Thus, we encourage our researchers to involve stakeholders in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of research processes in-order to foster effective and efficient research outcomes. Our doors are always open to offer you all the needed support for collaborative research and to promote efficient utilization of your research outcomes.

In the coming months, we intend exploring various faculty forum platforms to engage with researchers through visitations to communicate more broadly, the agenda of the Office for research support services, linkages with the industry for rapid uptake of research output, and ensuring that our researchers are not just engaging in knowledge creation but are also prospering through meaningful commercialization of their research output. During these series of planned visits, we would entertain any questions you might have for the Office as well as take any recommendations for more efficient services.

Finally, we wish to congratulate our faculty members who were recently awarded research grants. Dr. Peter Elias (Department of Geography) won the Bill & Melinda Gates Research Grant for *Participatory Data-Modelling Project under the aegis of the IDEAMAPS Network*. Dr. Abidemi Akindele (Department of Pharmacology) also won the IREX Research Grant for his project titled "*Entrenching Research Ethics and Integrity Values: An Oversight Capacity Building Across Two Nigerian Universities*". Finally, we are appealing to some of our researchers who were successful at the last TETFUND funding rounds but have yet to receive their grants to enable them commence their proposed research activities. There were some technical glitches from Remitta and CBN lately, but this has been resolved, and your grant should be released soon! The 2023 round of TETFUND calls is still under reviews and all applicants who submitted Concept Notes shall be communicated about the outcome of their proposal hopefully soon.

Thank you.

Prof. T.G. Nubi





Small and Large Grants Program for the Advocates of Climate Change Mitigation

Funder: **The Minor Foundation for Major Challenges**

Amount: EUR 10,000 – 200,000

Closing Date: 10th Aug 2023

The Foundation supports advocates of climate change mitigation. The calls for applications are open to international applicants.

The Minor Foundation for Major Challenges (MFMC) is a Norwegian foundation that **supports communication projects which advance the transition to a low carbon economy**.

MFMC supports projects that support urgent, large-scale transformation, with a focus on changing policies and practices in public or private institutions. The foundation's priorities for the 2019-2023 period are to encourage and support innovation in climate communication, increase the number of voices and narratives in climate advocacy, help strengthen social and political movements that open up for radical change, and concentrate on supporting European proposals.

Please note that the foundation will **not** consider applications that have a purely local focus, that focuses on implementation of community-level projects such as forest conservation, tree planting, climate change adaptation, or that primarily seek to disseminate climate-related information to the general public.

The application process for larger grants is in two steps. In the first step, you are welcome to submit a short pitch on behalf of your organization. After thorough evaluation by the foundation's board, applicants may be invited to the second step, in which a full application will be submitted.

Further information: https://unifor.no/stiftelser/the-minor-foundation-for-major-challenges/?_sf_s=Minor

25 September 2023



Apply for the 2023 GCSP Prize for Innovation in Global Security

Closing date: 25 Sept 2023

Amount: CHF 10,000

Under the umbrella of the Creativity and Innovation Initiative, the GCSP and its Geopolitics and Global Futures Programme launched a prize to recognise deserving individuals or organisations that have an innovative approach to addressing international security challenges.

The prize is designed to reach across all relevant disciplines and fields. It is intended to encourage and recognise excellence in contributing to new approaches to enhancing sustainable global security. A broad range of projects could qualify for consideration, including, but not limited to, technological and conceptual innovations, original [research](#) or grassroots initiatives.

Themes

- They aim to identify and analyse these emerging issues so that national and global actors have the necessary tools to be proactive rather than reactive, while maintaining [peace](#), security, dignity and equality for all.
- They strive to provide an analysis of the broad range of factors that will shape tomorrow's world under 5 themes:
 - **emerging strategic technologies:** artificial intelligence and run-away technologies, synthetic biology, human enhancement, human destiny and their implications for geopolitics, security, civil liberties
 - **outer space:** space security, space weaponisation, space debris, astrobiology and their role in the future of humanity.

Further information: <https://www.gcsp.ch/events/apply-2023-gcsp-prize-innovation-global-security>



Emerging Health Technologies Media Award of Excellence

Amount: USD 5000
Closing Date: 15 Sept 2023

Through the Platform for Dialogue and Action on Health Technologies in Africa ([Health Tech Platform](#)), the African Institute for Development Policy ([AFIDEP](#)) announces a call for entries for the second edition of the Emerging Health Technologies (EHTs) Media Award of Excellence. The EHTs Media Award is an annual recognition of journalists who contribute to increasing the public's awareness and understanding of EHTs, and putting them on the agenda of governments in Africa through quality media reporting.

Objectives

The objectives of the EHTs Media Award are to promote quality reporting of the emerging health technologies being developed for use in Africa, as well as to raise public awareness, understanding, participation, and local ownership of these technologies.

The award focuses on emerging health technologies prioritized by the [African Union](#) as having the potential to change the trajectory of disease and health in Africa if well developed, tested, and deployed. The technologies include gene drives and monoclonal antibodies for malaria control, drones, microgrids, artificial intelligence, gene editing, and next-generation medicine.

The entries should address EHT development issues relevant to Africa, such as ongoing research, regulatory frameworks needed to guide this work, community participation, public awareness and understanding, involvement of African scientists, and equity and benefit sharing. Stories may cover issues applicable to one African country or be regional in scope.

Link: <https://healthtech africa.org/2023-emerging-health-technologies-media-award-of-excellence/>

OpenAI cybersecurity grant program

Funding Agency: Open Ai
Funding amount: USD 10,000 **Closing Date:** 15 Sept 2023

This grant is launching the Cybersecurity Grant Program—a \$1M initiative to boost and quantify AI-powered cybersecurity capabilities and to foster high-level AI and cybersecurity discourse. The goal is to work with defenders across the globe to change the power dynamics of cybersecurity through the application of AI and the coordination of like-minded individuals working for our collective safety. Below are some general project ideas that the team has put forward:

- Collect and label data from cyber defenders to train defensive cybersecurity agents
- Detect and mitigate social engineering tactics
- Automate incident triage
- Identify security issues in source code
- Assist network or device forensics
- Automatically patch vulnerabilities
- Optimize patch management processes to improve prioritization, scheduling, and deployment of security updates
- Develop or improve confidential compute on GPUs
- Create honeypots and deception technology to misdirect or trap attackers
- Assist reverse engineers in creating signatures and behavior based detections of malware
- Analyze an organization's security controls and compare to compliance regimes
- Assist developers to create [secure by design and secure by default](#) software
- Assist end users to adopt security best practices
- Aid security engineers and developers to create robust threat models
- Produce threat intelligence with salient and relevant information for defenders tailored to their organization
- Help developers port code to memory safe languages

Link: <https://openai.com/blog/openai-cybersecurity-grant-program>





Quarterly Research Grant Funding Programme

Funding Amount: £50,000 to £2,500,000

Closing Date: 16-Oct-23

This programme primarily funds preclinical and clinical research focused on slowing, stopping, or reversing Parkinson's. They do not fund research which is directed at symptomatic relief. There are three strategic aims; they believe that if they deliver these, they are giving themselves the best chance of realising the goal of finding a cure.

Priorities

- Due to the urgency requirement, they prioritise research which has potential to translate into the clinic within five years.
- One priority is therefore to fund and support promising clinical trials. This includes funding for trials themselves and pre-clinical research to support potential trials.
- It can also include funding any other research supporting or accelerating clinical trials and their outcomes, including clinical trial design, research into exploratory outcome measures, cohort definition, patient stratification, genetic data collection (e.g. bio-banking of samples), flexible bridging support (extension funding) for trials running into difficulties, screening libraries with appropriate assays, carrying out epidemiological studies, novel approaches to treatment or new methods of treatment delivery.
- More widely, the aim to cure Parkinson's (i.e. slow, stop or reverse) can include potential for preventing or delaying the onset of the condition, although prevention and delay alone are not priorities for Cure Parkinson's: they seek to cure those living with Parkinson's now.

Link: <https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/for-researchers/apply-for-funding/quarterly-research-grant-funding/>

Strategic Opportunity Fund

Funding Agency: Actionaid

Closing Date: Ongoing Opportunity



It is a rapid response fund that can be accessed by women's organizations and their networks for the promotion and protection of women and girls' rights. It is designed to enable women's organizations and their networks respond promptly to rights violations as well as seize unanticipated opportunities to create change in the lives of women and girls in Nigeria.

The grant positions the Local Women's Rights Organisations (LWROs) to be nimble in responding to women and girls' rights issues in any location. Since project commencement, 19 organisations including non-project partners have benefitted from this fund.

Target Audience: Community people, Farmers, Akwa Ibom Women Cooperatives, Kano Youths, Partners and Stakeholders, Women Farmers etc.

Eligibility Criteria

- If you have been in the NGO world for quite a while, you will agree that winning grants is not just about bank credit alerts. There are processes that spans across proposal development, review, pre-selection, due diligence, final selection, Work Plan development, and Work Plan Approval, before granting finally happens. These processes could take months, and sometimes years, but imagine all these including implementation, reporting, and funds retirement happening in seven (7) days? Yes, 7 days – they present to you WVL Nigeria project Strategic Opportunity Fund (SOF).

Link: <https://www.feministhub.org/strategic-opportunity-fund/>



Applications open for Research Development Fellowships to reduce the burden of Disease in African Community

Deadline: 14-Sep-23

Amount: £50,000

Funding Agency: The Africa Research Excellence Fund,

AREF, is pleased to launch the call for the AREF Research Development Fellowship Programme for 2023/24.

The aim of the Research Development Fellowship Programme is to provide opportunities for talented health researchers based in Africa, so that they can lead research that is responsive to its African settings and can contribute to reducing the burden of disease. It aims to develop emerging African scientists through developing their skills, experience, confidence and research outputs. Fellowships offer awardees the opportunity to develop their own research ideas, research skills and capabilities, to grow their research relationships through collaboration and mentorship, and to work towards a substantial research funding proposal.

Aim: To support researchers in Africa who are emerging leaders and working on important challenges for human health, to develop their skills as a researcher. The scope includes human health research in infectious and non-communicable diseases that are significant and/or identified as “neglected” in Africa.

Funding Information

- Applicants can ask for a maximum of:
 - £25,000 for a Fellowship with a 3-month placement
 - £37,000 for a Fellowship with a 6-month placement
 - £47,000 for a Fellowship with a 9-month placement
 -
- **Seed Funds:** Towards the end of the Research Development Fellowship programme, AREF will hold a Seed Fund competition. The Seed Fund is an [award](#) of up to £50,000 over 12 months to give Fellows the opportunity to develop pilot data for a larger grant proposal, refine their research questions and develop, adapt or validate innovative methods and data collection.

Link: <https://www.africaresearchexcellencefund.org.uk/news/open-funding-up-to-47000-research-development-fellowships-2023-24>

Innovations in Water Management for Mining and Metals Industry

Start-ups or SMEs with innovative water management solutions are invited to apply



Co-funded by the
European Union

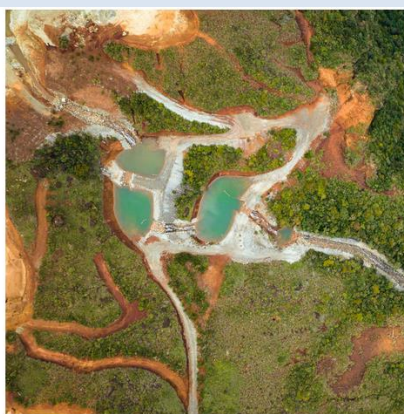
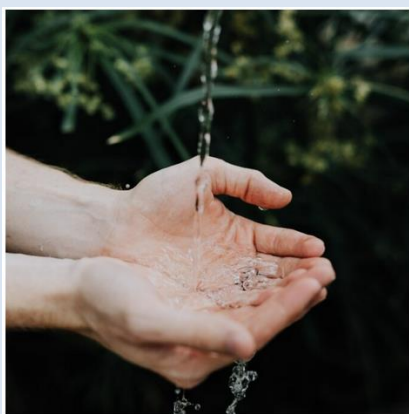
Funding Amount: 50,000 €

Closing Date:

As part of its commitment to sustainable and responsible mining practices, Eramet has launched a new start-up competition in collaboration with EIT RawMaterials: **the Eramet Water Resource Innovation Challenge 2023**.

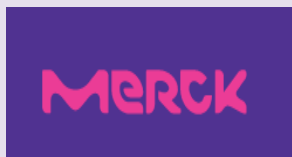
Water is a crucial resource in the mining and metals production, but its availability and quality are limited. The mining industry uses water for a variety of purposes, including mineral processing, dust suppression, slurry transport and storage, and extraction processes. Global water demand is projected to increase by 55 per cent by 2050 (OECD 2012) while global water shortage resulting from climate change aggravates. The Eramet Water Resource Innovation Challenge is about taking action to tackle the water challenges. In fact, Eramet has made [water conservation](#) one of the objectives of its [2018-2023 CSR roadmap](#) – and will very soon make it a major priority in its new roadmap.

Addressing Key Water Challenges



This innovation challenge aims to accelerate change within the mining and metals industry to minimize its environmental impact while also ensuring access to valuable resources. It calls for breakthrough solutions that will help create a better future for all. The mining industry faces significant challenges in managing water resources sustainably, including water scarcity, water pollution, and conflicts with other water users. That is why Eramet is looking for disruptive solutions designed to deliver rapid, transformative change towards a sustainable mining and metals industry. The primary focus of this challenge is to minimize the environmental impact of the mining and metals industry, and to promote sustainable development through technology.

Link for further information: <https://open-innovation.eitrawmaterials.eu/challenges/eramet-water-2023/>

**MERCK RESEARCH
GRANT ON GREEN
HYDROGEN**

Submission deadline 31 August 2023.

The Merck research grants program is open to scientists in all career stages who are affiliated with any research-based institution, university or company.

In the first stage of the Research Grants applications process, applicants submit their application containing non-confidential information only. You may apply for more than one grant or submit your application for more than one category. If your application is successful, you are invited to submit a full proposal under confidentiality and join a deep-dive workshop. All applicants are informed about the decision of the selection committee.

The second stage of the Research Grant process is a collaborative step, the deep-dive workshop. Finalists submit their full proposals and then work together with Merck managers and scientists to jointly optimize submitted project proposals. All teams reaching this stage will be informed in October. The deep-dive workshops are currently scheduled to take place in November 2023. The culmination of the deep-dive workshops will be the selection of the research grant winners.

The third stage of the Research Grants process is the Research Grant funding phase. To enable pay-out and project start, Merck enters into bilateral collaboration agreements with the winning recipients. Our collaborative Research Grants are a unique opportunity for researchers who are interested in working with Merck's scientists and receive guidance from industry. During the Research Grant funding period, there will therefore be regular meetings with Merck scientists.

Link: <https://www.merckgroup.com/en/research/open-innovation/research-grants.html>

**DARWIN
INITIATIVE**

AMOUNT: £100,000 and £600,000
DEADLINE: open

Round 29 sees the continuation of Darwin Initiative Main, now in its 30th year. Darwin Initiative Main invites applications for environmental projects between £100,000 and £600,000.

You need to apply online for Round 29 Darwin Initiative projects through the Flexi-Grant Application Portal.

Round 29 of the Darwin Initiative include the following schemes:

- Darwin Initiative Main – Stage 1 closed, Stage 2 by invite only
- Darwin Initiative Extra – now open
- Darwin Initiative Capability & Capacity – now open
- Darwin Initiative Innovation – now open

Additional material that you will be required to complete as part of your application can be downloaded from Flexi-Grant.

Darwin Initiative Extra will continue under Round 29 for projects between £600,000 and £5m. Darwin Initiative Extra is intended for projects that are on a clear scaling pathway: building on good evidence from smaller projects to demonstrating the potential to scale further by completion and delivering strong results for biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction. Darwin Initiative Innovation is aimed at projects intending to test a novel approach that if proven could scale to deliver results for biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction.

Further info please see link:
<https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/apply/>



Horizon Europe 2021 - 2023

The European Commission has recently launched the Horizon Europe work programme 2023-24, as part of the broader Horizon Europe programme for 2021-2027.

Horizon Europe is the ambitious EU research & innovation framework programme for 2021-2027 that tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth. The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges and supports creating and better dispersing of excellent knowledge and technologies. The work programme of Horizon Europe for 2023-2024 aims to support researchers and innovators in Europe to pursue breakthrough solutions for environmental, energy, digital and geopolitical challenges, contributing to the EU reaching its climate goals, increasing energy resilience, and developing core digital technologies.

This year, the programme includes targeted actions with key non-EU partners, including the second ever 'Africa Initiative II'. Building on the positive outcome of the Africa Initiative I of Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022, the Horizon Europe work programme 2023-2024 includes ~25 topics under calls for proposals to boost EU-Africa cooperation on research and innovation (13 open calls and 10 forecasted calls), with a budget of around €300 million under Calls for Proposals that are particularly relevant for cooperation with Africa. The calls for proposals, enabling the implementation of the short-term and medium-term actions of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda, require or encourage participation of African entities. Topics range from climate change, rural innovation, sustainable food systems and sustainable energy to bringing European highly innovative SMEs to the forefront of African markets.

Deadlines: Kindly note that the call submission deadlines vary between March and April 2023.

Important Notes:

- The budgets, project periods, deadlines and requirements regarding consortia and eligibility vary from one call to the other and must be consulted carefully with OSP before working on the call.

For more Information:

- Please visit the Horizon Europe Africa initiative calls tenders and funders portal which showcases all 15 open calls - under 'Africa'
- Please refer to the following link with related EU-Africa cooperation in research and innovation (R&I) details:
<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/worldwide/africa/events/horizon-europe-launch-event-focus-wp-2023-2024-and-africa-initiative-ii>

If you are interested in any of the above opportunities or want to discuss further details, please contact **osp@aucegypt.edu**.



STELLENBOSCH INSTITUTE
FOR ADVANCED STUDY

INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP

**Join a cohort of leading thinkers in a
creative space for the mind.**

Closing: 31 Oct 2023



INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

STIAS provides and maintains an independent ‘creative space for the mind’ to advance the cause of [science](#) and scholarship across all disciplines. It is global in its reach and local in its African roots, and values original thinking and innovation in this context. No restriction is placed on the country of origin, discipline, or academic affiliation when STIAS considers a [fellowship](#) invitation. It encourages the cross-pollination of ideas and hence gives preference to projects that will tap into, and benefit from, a multi-disciplinary discourse while also contributing unique perspectives to such a discourse. This interaction is fostered by inviting individual fellows or project teams where each team member is evaluated individually.

The STIAS programme comprises projects which are entirely self-generated and proposed by applicants, as well as projects and programmes initiated and led by STIAS, typically with select partner organisations (see Initiatives). STIAS fellows are expected to be resident at STIAS for the duration of a fellowship, with no academic obligations other than pursuing the proposed [research](#) project. The only other obligations are to share in the discussion over lunch which is served daily at the STIAS Wallenberg Research Centre, and to participate in the ‘Tuesday and Thursday STIAS fellows’ seminar where fellows in turn present their work to other fellows and invited academics from the local community.

STIAS accepts and welcomes proposals for team projects (typically three to five participants). Team members are usually accommodated in a large office with five workspaces and adjoining seminar room and lounge.

Link: <https://stias.ac.za/fellowships/individual/>



2023 Call for Proposals to Advance Transformative Change in Key Sectors

4

- **Opening Date:** 26 May 2023
- **Closing Date:** 10 September 2023
- **Amount:** \$800,000

The CCAC's 2030 Strategy aims to drive significant reductions in short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) this decade to simultaneously improve air quality and slow temperature rise in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

These 2030 goals are achievable using existing technologies and practices. The SLCPs methane and black carbon can be reduced by 45% and 70% respectively (from 2010 levels). Another SLCP, hydrofluorocarbons, can be almost completely eliminated by 2050.

While efforts to reduce SLCP emissions are advancing, mitigation must be scaled up across multiple emitting sectors, and quickly, to reach our 2030 goals. In response, the CCAC has developed engagement strategies targeting the main SLCP emitting sectors. These strategies set out mechanisms and structures to reduce emissions this decade.

This call for proposals seeks projects to accelerate implementation of the CCAC sector engagement strategies. Projects should lay the groundwork for scaled up mitigation of SLCP emissions by demonstrating the desirability, viability, and feasibility of a mitigation solution or approach across a country, sector or region.

Projects should propose and pilot an innovative approach to mitigating short-lived climate pollutant emissions in at least one of the main SLCP emitting sectors - agriculture, cooling, fossil fuels, heavy-duty vehicles and engines, household energy, or waste. The proposed approach must align with the actions and goals outlined in the relevant [CCAC sector engagement strategy](#) and should include at least one of the following:

- Technical or technology solution
- Economic incentive or business model
- Behavioral or social change
- Regulation or regulatory enforcement regime
- Solution to unlock finance and investment
- Global or regional strategy for sector transformation

Projects are expected to create the enabling conditions for scaled up implementation of the proposed approach.

For further information, please visit: <https://www.ccacoalition.org/en/content/2023-call-proposals-advance-transformative-change-key-sectors>





West African Regional Research & Training Centre for Low Vision Rehabilitation, UNILAG (WARTCLOR)

The West African Regional Research and Training Center on Low Vision and Rehabilitation (WARTCLOR), UNILAG is one of the newly established Research Centres at the University of Lagos (UNILAG). The establishment of the Centre was considered imperative in order to reduce the burden of visual impairment and avoidable blindness at both national and regional levels - as there is currently not a single training Centre for Low Vision Rehabilitation in sub-Saharan Africa nor is there any degree awarding academic institution for full-time accredited postgraduate programmes in Low Vision Rehabilitation within the region.

The broad objectives of the proposed WARTCLOR are to:

1. Design, offer, and run postgraduate courses (PgDip and MSc) in Low Vision Rehabilitation at national and regional levels (this is currently undergoing critical reviews at the PG School)
2. Promote an ongoing hybrid distance learning programme with focus on modern practice of Low-vision care using affordable and cost effective approach.
3. Conduct, and foster cutting-edge research in Low Vision Rehabilitation (including Orientation & Mobility for Blind Persons, and Vision Rehabilitation Therapy) as well as inform policy and practice for the adoption of international best practices in low vision training and service delivery
4. Facilitate research collaboration with research institutions globally on the principles and practice of low vision

Low vision remains a public health problem in Nigeria. Vision loss imposes social and economic burdens to individuals and society. Vision rehabilitation enables individuals with low vision to optimize their residual vision with the aid of optical and non-optical devices, training in orientation and mobility, independence in carrying out activities of daily living, job modification, as well as adaptive techniques for daily social communications. Sadly, Low vision services have traditionally suffered neglect in organized eye care settings in Nigeria despite being an issue of huge public health concern. There is a paucity of eye care professionals and a scarcity of academics able to teach contemporary 'principles and practice' of low vision at the postgraduate level.

The Centre plans to commence full academic training as soon as approvals are finalized at the School of Postgraduate studies. Already, the Centre has signed MoU with Western Michigan University, USA for support in various ramifications; including co-training and supervision of students, joint applications for local and international funding etc. There is also a strong collaboration with vision clinics, and ophthalmology hospitals in Nigeria and West Africa. The Centre training is tailored to meet international standards and shall attract students from the entire West African region as it will be the first and only Centre to run the program if approved. The Current Director of the Centre is Prof. Folasade Akinsola.

Webpage: https://research.unilag.edu.ng/?page_id=539

RESEARCH FUNDING



Darwin Initiative: Round 30

The Darwin Initiative Innovation is aimed at projects intending to test a novel approach that if proven could scale to deliver results for [biodiversity](#) conservation and [poverty](#) reduction. Darwin Initiative Capability & Capacity invites projects that focus on developing the capability and capacity of national and local organization to efficiently deliver effective and successful biodiversity conservation – poverty reduction projects.

- Call for Extra applications: currently open – deadline **Monday 18th September 2023**
- Shortlisted applications will be invited to interview (remote): **Monday 15th – Friday 19th January 2024**

Main – Two Stage process

- Stage 1 (Main): currently open – deadline **Monday 3rd July 2023**
- Stage 2 (Main): *by invite only* – deadline **Monday 27th November**

Innovation and Capability & Capacity – Single Stage process

- Call for Innovation / Capability & Capacity applications: currently open – **deadline Monday 23rd October 2023**

Results for Innovation and Capability & Capacity are expected by end of January 2024 at the earliest, and for Main and Extra they are expected by end of February 2024 at the earliest.

Successful projects are expected to start **from 1st April 2024**. You should consider the best date to start your project to allow for start-up and recruitment, based on the expected notification of results.

Link: <https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/apply/>



Fellowship Program:

- The fellowship has two tracks – i) a wet-lab track focusing of end-to-end protocols for next-generation sequencing of pathogens; and ii) a dry-lab track with a focus on public health bioinformatics data analytics, interpretation, and reporting.
- The fellowship program aims to support technical experts and future leaders in public health pathogen genomics and bioinformatics in Africa.
- Training led by continent-based educational and professional subject matter experts
- Training at State-of-the-art facilities across the continent
- Multilingual fellowship program

The fellowship program has the following objectives:

- To train pathogen genomics and bioinformatics workforce to improve outbreak detection, investigation & disease surveillance in Africa
- To contribute to strengthening the prevention, preparedness, surveillance, and control of infectious diseases while supporting the implementation of Africa's New Public Health Order
- To contribute to knowledge and technology transfers and capacity building within and between African Union Member States

Potential candidates and host institutions:

- We are anticipating at least 25 fellows for the 2023 cohort
- 15 host institutions across Africa. Applicants should provide evidence of the host institution's agreement to accept the fellow for the duration of the fellowship period. Africa CDC and ASLM will support fellows to identify host institutions.

Further information: <https://africacdc.org/news-item/call-for-application-africa-cdc-pathogen-genomics-and-bioinformatics-fellowship-program/>



**A TEAM FROM THE RESEARCH OFFICE,
FEDERAL TEACHING HOSPITAL
KATSINA, VISITED THE UNILAG
RESEARCH MANAGEMENT OFFICE**

June 2023

Reminder: 2019 – 2021 UNILAG RESEACRH REPORT

We are pleased to present to all faculty and staff of the University, as well as the external community and the world at large, our 2019-2021 Research Report.



A Team of Faculty Researchers and Research Administrators from the Federal Teaching Hospital, Katsina, visited the Research Management Office in June. The purpose of their visit was to gain understanding of the day-to-day research and administrative support functions of the RMO, and how to effectively run a Research Office, as they have only just established one in their Institution.

They were hosted by members of staff of the RMO who took time to share their wonderful experiences, roles, and responsibilities working at the RMO. The team were further provided with information on the day-to-day activities at the office, and some of the giant strides made by the Office over the years – such as having a formalized career progression plan for Research Administrators in the University, having Research Governance protocols and Policy documents, supporting the establishment of Research Centres, building strong partnerships with researchers in local and international Universities, encouraging and supporting faculty members to explore local and international funding opportunities through sharing requests for applications (RFAs) in the RMO's bi-monthly newsletters and capacity building programs for proposal writing and ethics, as well as seeking partnership opportunities with the industry.

The RMO appreciated their visit and the team was treated to a tour of the Office.



The Research Report for this period provides comprehensive details on the Research activities across the different disciplines and faculties in the University, publications in peer-reviewed journals, grants successfully won and implemented, engagement with society, innovation from cutting-edge research, and research partnerships built for stronger research impact on our society. Although the 2019-2021 period marked the years in which the COVID-19 pandemic caused significant declines in academic research productivity globally, the University of Lagos sustained its tenacity for research excellence and reputation as a premiere public research university with over N17b attracted in research income. We are glad to have electronic copies accessible to all our readers. To download a copy, please visit:

<https://research.unilag.edu.ng/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Annual-Report2.pdf>



OUR MOTTO

Advancing translational research output and uptake to meet societal needs

OUR VISION

To support researchers with information on funding opportunities, encourage collaboration and provide adequate training/services for the acquisition of knowledge and skills in grantsmanship that will enable carrying out of cutting-edge research

OUR MISSION

To be the flagship of innovative research administration and management in Sub-Saharan Africa, a catalyst for doing and up taking cutting edge research in the society

WHAT WE DO?

Pre-grant application services

- Funding opportunities: disseminate research funding opportunities
- Confirm eligibility of researchers according to sponsor guidelines
- Liaise with funding agencies on behalf of the university
- Interpret sponsor guidelines & regulations
- Register & assist with agency submission websites

Proposal Writing

- Review Request for Applications (RFAs) and Request for Proposals (RFPs)
- Proposal development
- Ensure compliance with submission guidelines
- Institutional support documentation for grants application
- Edit and format grants applications for readability
- Review and sign research proposals on behalf of the University or as a delegate of the University

Budgeting

- Budget templates
- Cost sharing
- Routing and approval

Training

- Provide training opportunities relating to grantsmanship for early career researchers.

Award Services Communication

- Identify and communicate proactively and effectively award parameters and sponsor terms and conditions to researchers and other administrative staff.
- Network with researchers to share and obtain information for effective scientific communication.

Project management

- Provide assistance to researchers and staff on post-award administrative processes
- Liaise with sponsors to ensure compliance with guidelines and to resolve conflicts and concerns (where applicable)
- Initiate and manage partnership agreements, sub-awards and sub-contracts with external collaborators

Fiscal Stewardship

- Provide support to researchers to facilitate the management of research funds and ensure financial management and control on behalf of external Sponsors.
- Ensure the preparation and submission of financial reports to sponsors according to set deadlines
- Coordinate and respond to audits and monitoring visits requested by sponsors in collaboration with other units such as bursary, procurement services and the researcher.

