



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR UR-SWEDEN PROGRAMME RESEARCH GRANTS FOR THE 2020/2021 CYCLE

In line with the vision of the University of Rwanda to become research led, not only for the intention of improving teaching, but also to make the university more relevant through the identification of potential opportunities and also responding to the country's challenges, the University of Rwanda has strategically put in place a long-term plan that will mobilize funds in order to support research undertakings. In this regard, the University of Rwanda through the funding of the UR-Sweden Programme of Research, Higher Education and Institutional Advancement, by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), is calling for research proposals in specified categories from UR academic staff. While these grants are competitive, the college balanced distribution of quality proposals will be taken into account.

Proposals are invited from the University of Rwanda Academic staff in the following categories.

- i. Research grants for female academics
- ii. Research grants for academics who have completed PhD in the last 3 years.
- iii. Competitive research grants open to all academics.
- iv. Research grants for interdisciplinary research (i.e; the team consist of colleagues from different disciplines who perform different, specialized functions) aligned to the university research clusters (<https://ur.ac.rw/?UR-Research-Clusters>).

A project proposal can be submitted to only one category of grants, and a researcher cannot be a PI in more than one proposal during the same period. However, unsuccessful project can be resubmitted to the subsequent category of grant after addressing the comments of the reviewer. Nevertheless, this does not guarantee the resubmitted project proposal

• Eligibility for funding

- i. A PI must be a holder of a PhD degree, and where the PI does not have a PhD degree but has a master's degree, the Co-Investigator (Co-I) must have a PhD degree. The PI must have a proven evidence of research activeness based on research publications.
- ii. Whenever possible, each research team must include at least one postgraduate student.
- iii. Whenever possible, each research team must have at least 1/3 of the opposite sex of the PI. In this regard, 30% of female team members should be respected whenever possible.
- iv. The research proposal should be aligned with at least one of the UR Research Clusters that address the national priority needs and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This include the need for generating new knowledge (i.e fundamental or applied research) preferably using multidisciplinary approach.



- **Non-eligibility:**
 - i. A PI who has an ongoing research project or abandoned research project funded through UR is not eligible.
 - ii. To ensure equitable distribution of research funds among academic staff, it will take a minimum of three years for a PI who has completed his/her project to apply for a new project funding.
- **Project duration**

The duration for the funded project will be two (2) years, beginning from the date on which the fund was deposited in the PI's researcher account.
- **Budget**

The budget can include but not limited to following broad areas of research activities:

 - i. **Purchase of minor equipment and consumables** (e.g laptop, chemicals and reagents, stationery and other necessary gear). While the PI will keep the laptop for future research activities, other remaining consumables such as lab equipment, reagents and chemicals will remain in the laboratory.
 - ii. **Data collection and analysis:** Laboratory and/or field work, data access and analysis may include short visits abroad (if budget allows), etc.
 - iii. **Preparatory meetings** with the stakeholders meant to build rapport and enhance ownership which is a foundation for research uptake.
 - iv. **Research dissemination:** conference attendance, production of brochures, feedback to the stakeholders' events, etc.
 - v. Meetings for managerial implications/policy brief presentation and discussion
 - vi. **Capacity building:** Participate in specialised training
 - vii. **Other approved operational activities**

The natural and applied science-based projects will be funded to a maximum of Rwf 18,000,000, while Humanities and Social Science based projects will be Rwf 12,000,000.

Interdisciplinary project involving investigators from two or more schools or colleges of UR and having one or two Co-PIs or Co-Investigators will be funded to a maximum of Rwf 21,000,000.

- All research team members will sign on the research proposal to prove that they consent to the contents therein.
- The grant application will be channelled through the PIs' Head of Department and endorsed by the College Director of Research and Innovation of the concerned college and submitted to the University director of Research and Innovation, Prof Bideri Ishuheri Nyamulinda (drnbideri@gmail.com) and to the office of Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research using the following email address: urdvcaaroffice@gmail.com with copies to, the Dean of the School and the College Principal.



- **Project Proposal Template** (<https://ur.ac.rw/?APPENDIX-3-PROPOSAL-TEMPLATE>)
All applications must follow the format given attached to this call.
- **Deadline for the submission of the grant proposals is 23rd December 2021.**
- **Include the following in your application:**
 - i) A letter to the DVCAAR
 - ii) The completed application template
 - iii) Current CVs of the PI and all CO-PIs that include a list of current peer reviewed publications
 - iv) List of all research projects in which investigators on the team have been involved in (if any)

Done at Kigali, October 26, 2021

Prof. Nosa O. Egiebor
Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research
University of Rwanda

