

# RESEARCH & INNOVATION NEWSLETTER



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## UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS

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# RESEARCH & INNOVATION NEWSLETTER

## WE WELCOME OUR DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (ACADEMICS & RESEARCH)



**Prof. Oluwole Familoni** Ph.D, FCS (Nig.), FICC (Nig.) FRSC (London), FAS

Professor Familoni is a Professor of Chemistry. He obtained his B. Sc. Special Honours in Chemistry in the Second Class Upper Division, M. Phil. in Chemistry and Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry at the University of Lagos in 1990. He was appointed Lecturer II, rose through the rank and became a full Professor in 2004. A distinguished academic and researcher, he is a member of distinguished professional organizations, including the Institute of Public Analyst of Nigeria; a Chartered Chemist and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, London; Fellow of the Chemical Society of Nigeria; Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Chemists of Nigeria; and a Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Science FAS. His area of specialisation is Synthesis of **Heterocyclic Compounds** with physiological activities and natural product chemistry. He has been publishing in these areas of research since 1987. His synthesis is mainly sulphur containing heterocycles, including [1,2-a]quinoxalinone, thiazolo[4,3-b]quinoxalinone, Isothaizoles, substituted Benzothiazines, Pyridobenzothiadiazines, deoxyjacareubin, Xanthones, Dibenzo[b,f]oxapinone etc.

In natural products chemistry, he has been active in the isolation of active ingredients and the physiological active compounds. The plants he had worked on include: *Buchholzia Coriacea*, *Ficus vallis-chouldae* Delile-holl (Moraceae) and *Datarium microcarpum* Gill-perr. (Caesapinaceae), *Lecaniodiscus cupanodes*, *Hymenocardia acadia* Tul. (Hymenocardiaceae) *Abrus precatorius* *Cissus populnea*, *Flabellaria paniculata* Cav., *Morinda lucida*, *Parkia biglobosa* (Jacq) Benth and *Sesamum radiatum*; among others. He has used these products to find remedy to the following: antioxidant and antibacterial activities, herbal medication for male infertility, anti-inflammatory and antinociceptive, gastric ulcer problems to mention but a few.

An alumnus of this prestigious University, Prof. Familoni has mentored students at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels with excellence. He is married and blessed with children. We wish him a successful tenure as DVC (A&R).

## TABLE OF CONTENT

THE RESEARCH & INNOVATION OFFICE.....	2
INAUGURATION OF FACULTY ADJUNCTS.....	3
ARUA CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE.....	4
NEW GRANTEES.....	5
FACULTY GRANTS.....	6 – 46
NEWS TO FACULTY.....	47

## About the Research & Innovation Office

*The Office of Research & Innovation (R&I), under the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics & Research) was established in 2013 to leapfrog current university research and has been expanding in capacity and staff strength. This Office was set up in recognition of the importance of research and innovation to promote multidisciplinary research, manage funded research using unique and innovative approaches in line with international best practices and accelerate the alignment of education, research, innovation and linkages with the industry into a seamless and dynamic ecosystem in delivering her mandate. Composed mostly by academics, at this time, the model, which is unique to the University of Lagos, is designed to advance the research processes through peer-to-peer engagements.*

*Our Mission and Vision statements drive our activities so as to attain our strategic outputs. Essentially, we galvanize faculty members and research students to develop their ideas into research queries and profound elevate deep research thinking for application and problem solving.*

## The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Oluwatoyin Ogundipe *FAS*, Inaugurates R&I Faculty Research Adjuncts (Next Generation Research Leaders)



## **UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS WINS TWO AFRICA RESEARCH UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE (ARUA) CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE**

The African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) is pursuing its goal of enhancing research and graduate training in member universities through a number of channels, including the setting up of Centres of Excellence (CoEs) to be hosted by member universities.

The ARUA CoEs are intended to be focal points for aggregating world-class researchers from member universities to undertake collaborative research in priority thematic areas while providing opportunities for graduate students from the region and elsewhere to work with the researchers.

### **1. CENTRE FOR URBAN AND HABITABLE CITIES DIRECTOR: PROF. N.G NUBI**



With the long term vision of providing internationally competitive research and capacity building services, the Centre for Housing Studies (CHS) was established in December 2013 to deliver a wide range of capacity building courses and academic research in the field of housing, real estate development and management. The Centre was established as a partnership between the University of Lagos, Nigerian-UK Housing Society (NUHS) and its partner, UK's Chartered Institute of Housing, England (CIH). It was the first of six Centres of excellence in housing to be established under an African Development Bank grant across African Universities. Brokered under the visionary of its Director, Professor T.G Nubi, who is a professor of housing and urban regeneration, the Centre has since been engaged in active engagement with key stakeholders in the management of the built environment, including Federal and State Government Agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, Real Estate Developers' Association and Slum communities. Housing research activities are centred around multi-disciplinary groups from both academia and industry. Its Masters of Housing Development and Management Programme is in its third session and has witnessed increased enrolment by the practitioners it was designed for. The Centre has also designed a research agenda for housing in Nigeria, coming from its National Housing Researchers' Workshop and has recently began a highly subsidized awareness building workshop on home-ownership for all. Its executive training programmes is also popular for the industry. The Centre therefore provides a solid grounding for the establishment of another Centre of Excellence in Urbanization and Habitable Cities.

The CoE has been designed around seven thematic areas which are organized as research clusters to attract and sustain funding for active, catalytic research in the area Sustainable cities and African urbanization dynamics; housing and regeneration, urban health and liveability, sustainable urban design and infrastructure, urban land management, sustainable construction and construction skill development and pro-poor city governance and management. Using already established networks and future collaborations with ARUA Institution partners, it will initiate, absorb and sustain strong platforms for the utilization of research outputs in these research areas, while providing strategic opportunities for ensuring the growth of early career researchers, postgraduate students and undergraduate students across Africa. Under the dynamic leadership of its Director, Prof Timothy Nubi, an active housing and urban regeneration expert, with a core theme of experts, themselves experienced researchers and mentors well-grounded in the integration of the principles of sustainable development in their key areas of expertise, the CoE will establish a high visibility for Africa's peculiar urbanization issues and offer profound, workable solutions for ensuring that Africa's urbanization leads to generative, habitable cities rather than dysfunctional cities.

2. CENTRE FOR UNEMPLOYMENT & SKILL DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR: DR. S. ADEBISI



***African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) Centre of Excellence for African Entrepreneurship Development for Unemployment and Poverty Solutions***

**Contact Details: 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, ESDC Building, Faculty of Social Sciences Premises, University of Lagos, Akoka, Yaba, Lagos. [sadebisi@unilag.edu.ng](mailto:sadebisi@unilag.edu.ng);**

Dr. Sunday Abayomi ADEBISI is an Associate Professor in the Department of Business Administration, and the Director of *(ARUA) Centre of Excellence for African Entrepreneurship Development for Unemployment and Poverty Solutions*; one of the two ARUA Centres of Excellence won by University of Lagos as the Leader and Hub in Africa for research in Sustainable Entrepreneurship.

Africa as at today has a population of 1.25 billion people of the World population of 7.52 billion with more than 500 million of this population suffering of poverty. This is an indication of the fact that close to 46 percent of African population live below the poverty line of \$1.25 per day which should be a grave concern for all meaningful researchers of African. An evaluation of the Fortune 500 Companies of the world showed that no African oriented company or Company of African origin ranked among this group; thereby indicating the level of misfortune of economic circumstances of African nations. If this continues, poverty, unemployments, frustrations and non-competitive economies will pervade the African nations; hence, the African continent will never be able to level-up with the quality of lives offered to citizens by other continents of the world like Latin America, Asia and Europe

Similarly, African ranking in the Global Competitive Index 2016-2017 Ranking is so poor that no African country made the first 40. It was only South Africa that could make 47<sup>th</sup> position making it the only African nation among the first 50 most competitive countries of the world. It was quite interesting to know that all the Fortune Companies are from the Nations that made the top 25 highest ranking in 2016-2017 Global Competitive Index.

In view of the above, *Centre of Excellence for African Entrepreneurship Development for Unemployment and Poverty Solutions* has carved out a five-year objective of:

- i. Promoting entrepreneurship innovation and design thinking capable of igniting the best collaborative research that can help discover the hidden treasures of Africa;
- ii. Establishing a state-of-the-art Incubation and Accelerator Centres for ideation and developing start-ups into business Champions;
- iii. Empowering students with entrepreneurial skills for self-reliance to fight poverty and unemployment across Africa;
- iv. Discovering and developing the creativity and entrepreneurial skills in students and Faculty Members toward product development and new business ventures that can support companies of African origin to be globally competitive;
- v. Promoting Student's entrepreneurship Ideas (SEI) by encouraging clusters of undergraduates working in teams to turn ideas into reality through venture creation and business across Africa, thereby depopulating the future unemployment and poverty group;
- vi. Providing training opportunities for entrepreneurs in Africa for capacity building and business development and scale-up strategies;
- vii. Linking African industries with the creative talent within the universities to foster a synergistic relationship of problem solving, funding of ventures, angel financing, job creation and employability enhancement;
- viii. Partnering and collaborating with interested organizations across the world in executing entrepreneurship developments programs across African Universities Campuses for the benefit of the Students, Faculty Members and African business owners; and
- ix. Partnering with established and upcoming African Entrepreneurs to build a Mega and multi-billion dollars businesses out of the Research Centre for African economy development and intervention.

## NEW UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS GRANTEES

As part of our quest to fast track research proposals submission and winning process, here are some of the University recent grantees.

### 1. Dr. Peter Elias

Dept: Geography

Faculty: Social Science

Founding Agency:

### Leading Integrated Research in Africa (LIRA 2030)

Leading Integrated Research for Agenda 2030 in Africa is a 5-year programme which aims to produce next generation of early career scientists in Africa with the capability for high quality, integrated (inter- and transdisciplinary), solutions-oriented research on global sustainability. The knowledge will be used to address complex sustainability challenges in Africa to provide solutions relevant to regional context, and contribute to national and inter-governmental development aspirations, such as the Sendai Framework, the New Urban Agenda and Agenda 2030.

**Value of Award: Euros 90,000**

**Duration: 2 Years (2018-2019)**

**Main Collaborators: University of Lagos, Nigeria & University of Legon, Ghana**

**Project Title:** Standardising City-Level Data-Gathering towards Implementing Sustainable Development Goal 11 in Africa (SCiLeD)



Peter Elias, Ph.D., MURP, RTP

**Principal Investigator**

## 2. Dr. Victor Odumuyiwa

Dept: Computer Science

Faculty: Science

Funding Agency: Royal Academy of Engineering

Grant Value:

### Blackout-Chasing: Tapping Peri-Urban Energy Perspectives, Preferences and Prospects

The Royal Academy of Engineering has awarded a grant of £20,000 under the Frontiers of Engineering Seed Funding Tranche 4 to a group of researchers including Dr. Victor Odumuyiwa of the University of Lagos, to carry out a research focussing on Blackout Chasing in Nigeria.

The project activities center on the design, and implementation, and analysis of a campaign to survey energy access among Lagos residents. The potential benefit of this work includes the discovery of energy access technology niches, input into the design of new regulatory structures that benefit both electricity customers and providers, and the creation of a robust, scalable approach to engaging populations on their energy access needs. Establishing a dataset, making an opportunity for broad hypothesis testing, and allowing exploratory collaboration are all activities within the framework of this project. A blanket deployment of the GridWatch mobile application and fixed-point measurement systems hosted by both residents and users acquired will complement the direct survey approach.

The participants include:

- Barry Gordon Rawn, Brunel University (Principal Investigator)
- Anh Tran, Coventry University
- Akintunde Babatunde, University of Leeds
- Muyiwa Oyinlola, De Montfort University
- Leanne Townshend, University of Aberdeen
- Victor Odumuyiwa, University of Lagos
- Oliver Dzobo, University of Johannesburg
- Prabal Dutta, University of California Berkeley
- Dénes Csala, Lancaster University

*You can become the next grantee. Contact Research & innovation to apply for a research funding opportunity.*

*researchinnovation@unilag.edu  
.ng*

*Tel: 09026752385*

*09051391612*

*0700RESEARCHLAG*



**TITLE: SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT RESEARCH PROGRAMME**

**FUNDING AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (EREF)**

**BUDGET:**

**DUE DATE: JUNE 1, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Environmental Research & Education Foundation (EREF) is currently accepting applications for the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Research Programme. The sustainability movement has reached the business models of nearly every industry in the United States, and many companies, municipalities and states have set aggressive sustainability goals that include how waste stream are being managed. The EREF Board of Directors has set an initiative to ensure research funded reflects EREF's long-term strategic plan to address all areas of integrated solid waste management, with a strong focus towards research that increased sustainable solid waste management practices.

**Objectives**

- Unbiased, scientific reports and analysis on waste management practices
- Scholarships for high potential graduate students and internships for highly qualified undergraduate students

- Targeted research to expand industry knowledge and understanding of the waste stream from generation to final disposition
- Improved public understanding of solid waste stream and sustainable solid waste management practices
- Increasing industry knowledge through educational programs

**Research Topics**

Pre-proposal topics must relate to sustainable solid waste management practices and pertain to the following topic areas:

- Waste minimization
- Recycling
- Waste conversion to energy, biofuels, chemicals or other useful products. This includes, but is not limited to, the following technologies:
  - Waste-to-energy
  - Anaerobic digestion
  - Composting
- Other thermal or biological conversion technologies
- Strategies to promote diversion to higher and better uses (e.g. organics diversion, market analysis, optimized material management, logistics, etc.)
- Landfilling

**TITLE: IMU–Simons African Fellowship Program**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Simons Foundation**

**BUDGET: \$5,000**

**DUE DATE: June 1, 2018**

The IMU – Simons African Fellowship Program is funded by the Simons Foundation, NY, USA and supports research sabbaticals for mathematicians from African developing countries employed in Africa to travel to an internationally known mathematical center of excellence (worldwide) for collaborative research. All travel and living expenses of the grantees will be covered by the fellowship up to 5,000 USD.

The Simons Foundation is a private foundation based in New York City, incorporated in 1994 by Jim and Marilyn Simons. The Simons Foundation’s mission is to advance the frontiers of research in mathematics and the basic sciences. They sponsor a range of programs in the sciences, including grants programs in mathematics and the physical sciences. The primary focus of the foundation’s Mathematics and Physical Sciences division is the theoretical sciences radiating from mathematics: in particular, the fields of mathematics, theoretical computer science and theoretical physics.

The “IMU – Simons African Fellowship Program” will run for 5 years until September 2021.

- The program supports research sabbaticals for mathematicians from AFRICAN developing countries employed in AFRICA to travel to an Internationally known mathematical centre of excellence/ university (WORLDWIDE) for collaborative research.
- The program is not for any post graduate courses or post doctoral training but for a LIMITED RESEARCH PERIOD.
- The grant covers TRAVEL and BASIC LIVING COSTS of African mathematicians working in Africa (Specifically coming from a developing country, the definition of which is determined by the IMU for all its schemes) during the sabbatical.

The Grant Selection Committee (GSC) consists of the CDC Secretary for Grants Selection as Chair and has six other members, three from CDC and three others each representing Latin America, Africa and Asia respectively.

**TITLE: GLOBAL FUND FOR CHILDREN GRANTS**

**FUNDING AGENCY: GLOBAL FUND FOR CHILDREN**

**BUDGET: \$5,000 - \$20,000**

**DUE DATE: JUNE, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Global Fund for Children supports organizations and programs that focus on four specific issues:

1. Learning
2. Enterprise
3. Safety, and
4. Healthy Minds and Bodies.

Grants are awarded on an annual basis, with a typical funding relationship of three to six years.

The grants range from \$5,000 to \$20,000 per year, growing in size and scope over the course of the funding relationship, and may be used for general or operating support of the grantee partner organization.

GFC considers each grant an investment in the grantee organization's mission and programs as well as its institutional growth and development. The Global Fund for Children's mission is to advance the dignity of children and youth around the world and pursues its mission by making small grants to innovative community based organizations working with some of the world's most vulnerable children and youth.

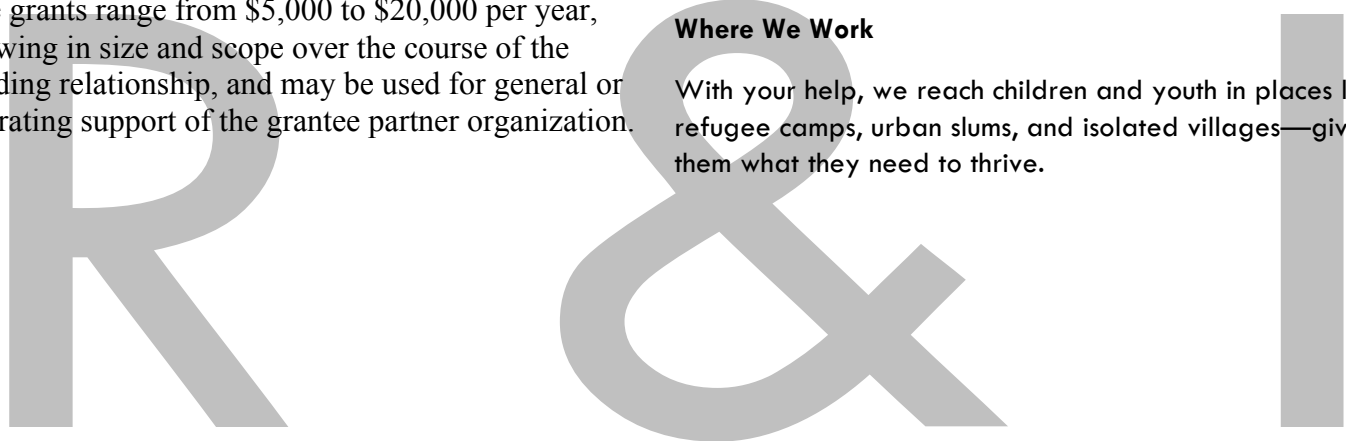
The grants have served 304 community-based organizations in 65 countries and more than 1 million children have benefited from the work of The Global Fund for Children. **Deadline:** Although GFC awards new grants only twice a

**Focus areas**

1. Education
2. Gender equity
3. Youth empowerment
4. Freedom from violence and exploitation.

**Where We Work**

With your help, we reach children and youth in places like refugee camps, urban slums, and isolated villages—giving them what they need to thrive.



**TITLE: Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Research and Piloting**

**FUNDING AGENCY: USAID**

**BUDGET: \$1,500,000**

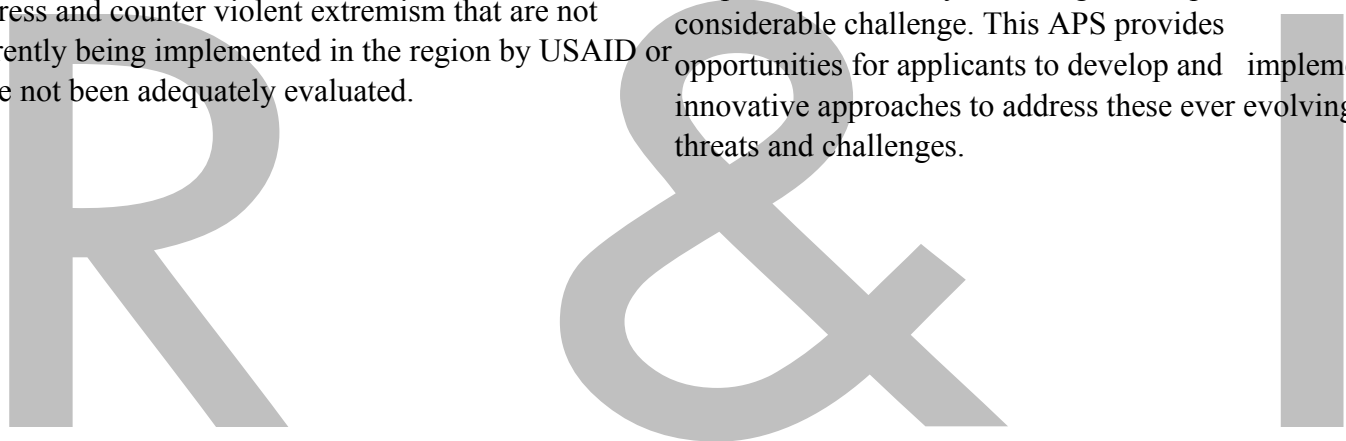
**DUE DATE: Dec 07, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The USAID/West Africa Regional Peace and Governance Office (RPGO) seeks to award up to four (4) cooperative agreements to research and pilot Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) approaches in West Africa under this Annual Program Statement (APS). The APS solicitation will have a rolling (continuous) selection round over the course of one (1) year and include extensive involvement by USAID in the design of activities following the presentation of a concept paper. Projects funded under this APS will be innovative and comprise new and inventive ideas to address and counter violent extremism that are not currently being implemented in the region by USAID or have not been adequately evaluated.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has long recognized the critical role of development in addressing social, economic, governance and other factors that can drive violent extremism (VE) or radicalization of individuals and communities. Preventing and countering the establishment of violent extremism in communities where we work in is central to creating an atmosphere for sustainable economic and political development. CVE is vital to achieving the Agency's mission to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing our security and prosperity objectives in developing countries.

In recent years USAID/West Africa has developed and implemented CVE projects in the Sahel region of West Africa. During this time the violent extremist landscape in West Africa has grown increasingly fractured and complex as new groups enter the fray and existing movements evolve. Adapting to address these threats to the peace and stability of the region has proven to be a considerable challenge. This APS provides opportunities for applicants to develop and implement innovative approaches to address these ever evolving threats and challenges.



## **TITLE: APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR RESEARCH GRANTS**

**FUNDING AGENCY: HARRY FRANK GUGGENHEIM FOUNDATION**

**BUDGET: \$15,000 - \$40,000**

**DUE DATE: AUGUST 1, 2018**

### **DESCRIPTION:**

The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation is seeking applications for its Research Grant from any of the natural and social sciences and the humanities that promise to increase understanding of the causes, manifestations, and control of violence and aggression.

Highest priority is given to research that can increase understanding and amelioration of urgent problems of violence and aggression in the modern world.

### **Funding Information**

Most awards fall within the range of \$15,000 to \$40,000 per year for periods of one or two years.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Applicants for a research grant may be citizens of any country.
- While almost all recipients of their research grant possess a Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent

degree, there are no formal degree requirements for the grant.

- The grant, however, may not be used to support research undertaken as part of the requirements for a graduate degree.
- Applicants need not be affiliated with an institution of higher learning, although most are college or university professors.
- Research with no relevance to understanding human problems will not be supported, nor will proposals to investigate urgent social problems where the foundation cannot be assured that useful, sound research can be done.

### **How to Apply**

Applicants can apply online via given website.

### **The Research Grant**

Most awards fall within the range of \$15,000 to \$40,000 per year for periods of one or two years. Applications for larger amounts and longer durations must be very strongly justified. The foundation awards research grants to individuals (or a few principal investigators at most) for individual projects and does not award grants to institutions for institutional programs. Individuals who receive research grants may be subject to taxation on the funds awarded.

**TITLE: HUMAN RIGHT SMALL GRANTS SCHEME**

**FUNDING AGENCY: AUSTRALIAN AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AUSAID)**

**BUDGET: \$20,000 - \$100,000**

**DUE DATE: OCTOBER 2, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) Human Rights Small Grants Scheme provides Short-term funding for Non-Government Organizations and human rights institutions in developing countries for projects that promote and protect human rights.

**Aims of the Human Rights Small Grants Scheme**

- Providing funding for organizations based in developing countries. The small grants are awarded annually for projects that promote and protect human rights in direct and tangible ways.
- Supporting human rights by funding projects that build the capacity of developing countries to promote and protect human rights.

**Eligible organizations:**

- Already involved in promoting and defending human rights

- Already based in an eligible developing country (Asia, the Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East.
- Have a proven track record in the type of activity it wants funded and experience in the country in which the project will take place in
- Are preferably non-government, although government bodies are not excluded.

**Eligible project activities:**

Must achieve one or more of the following objectives;

- Educating and awareness raising in the area of human rights
- Promoting democratic principles
- Educating and training human rights workers
- Promoting international human rights standards, including improved reporting to United Nations (UN) treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review
- Promoting and strengthening national or regional human rights institutions or policies.

Directly benefit marginalised groups (such as people with disability, women, children and youth, people living with HIV/AIDS, prisoners, homeless people, refugees and internally displaced people, Indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities and others) promote equal opportunities for women and men in line with AusAID's gender policy.

**TITLE: SPENCER RESEARCH GRANTS**

**FUNDING AGENCY: SPENCER FOUNDATION**

**BUDGET: \$50,000**

**DUE DATE: AUGUST 1, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Small Research Grants program is intended to support education research projects with budgets of \$50,000 or less. In keeping with the Spencer Foundation’s mission, this program aims to fund academic work that will contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived.

Historically, the work we have funded through these grants has spanned, a range of topics and disciplines, including education, psychology, sociology, economics, history, and anthropology, and they employ a wide range of research methods. The following examples of recently funded small grants illustrate the diversity of what we support:

- an experimental study of how college students use visual representations in solving math problems
- a study exploring the process of racial and rural identity formation among African American high-school students who attend de facto segregated schools in the rural South
- a mixed-methods study focusing on the different types of knowledge novice and experienced teachers draw on in teaching for reading comprehension

The majority of small grant proposals that are funded by the Foundation are “field-initiated” in the sense that they

are not submitted in response to a Request for Proposal (RFP). In the past, we have requested that proposals within the Small Grants program be submitted within one of the areas of inquiry listed below. The Foundation does not use this information in the review process, but captures it in the application to better understand the variety of research that is proposed.

**Eligibility**

- Principal Investigators (PIs) and Co-PIs applying for a research grant must have an earned doctorate in an academic discipline or professional field, or appropriate experience in an education research-related profession.
- The PI must be affiliated with a college, university, school district, non-profit research facility, or non-profit cultural institution that is willing to serve as the fiscal agent if the grant is awarded. The Spencer Foundation does not award grants directly to individuals.
- Proposals are accepted from the U.S. and internationally, however all proposals must be submitted in English and budgets must be proposed in U.S. Dollars.

**Restrictions**

- Small Research Grant budgets are limited to \$50,000
- Small Research Grant budgets may not include indirect cost charges.
- PIs and Co-PIs may only hold one active research grant from the Spencer Foundation at a time. Simultaneous submissions to the Foundation from PIs and Co-PIs are discouraged due to this policy.

**TITLE: Health Systems Research Initiative: Providing evidence to strengthen health systems in LMICs**

**FUNDING AGENCY: MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL**

**BUDGET: £200,000**

**DUE DATE: JUNE 5, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Department for International Development (DFID), the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the Wellcome Trust (WT) jointly fund the Health Systems Research Initiative. All funders are committed to funding world-class research with high potential for impact on policy and practice.

Launched in 2013 this programme will generate world class and cutting-edge research that addresses key questions on strengthening and improving health systems in developing countries. Following an excellent response to this programme from the research community, funding has now been secured for an annual call under this initiative until 2021.

The programme's aims are to fund methodologically rigorous, high quality research that will:

1. Generate evidence on how to strengthen and improve health systems for people

living in low- and middle-income countries.

2. Use a health systems approach to inform the delivery of evidence-based interventions or structural changes. Proposals must demonstrate how interventions relate to and affect wider elements of a health system such as governance, financing, health workforce, information systems, service delivery etc.
3. Provide evidence that is of direct relevance to decision makers and practitioners in the field.

This is the fifth annual call for the Health Systems Research Initiative. Up to £6million is available for funding proposals under this call. Innovative proposals are sought from across the public health, social and biomedical sciences and must clearly identify what health system challenge is being addressed. Proposals must situate this clearly-defined challenge within an understanding of the broader health system linkages and describe how and why findings from the project have the potential to improve the health of people living in low and middle-income countries.



**TITLE: High Priority HIV/AIDS Research within the Mission of the NIDDK**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: Application budgets are not limited**

**DUE DATE: June 5, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

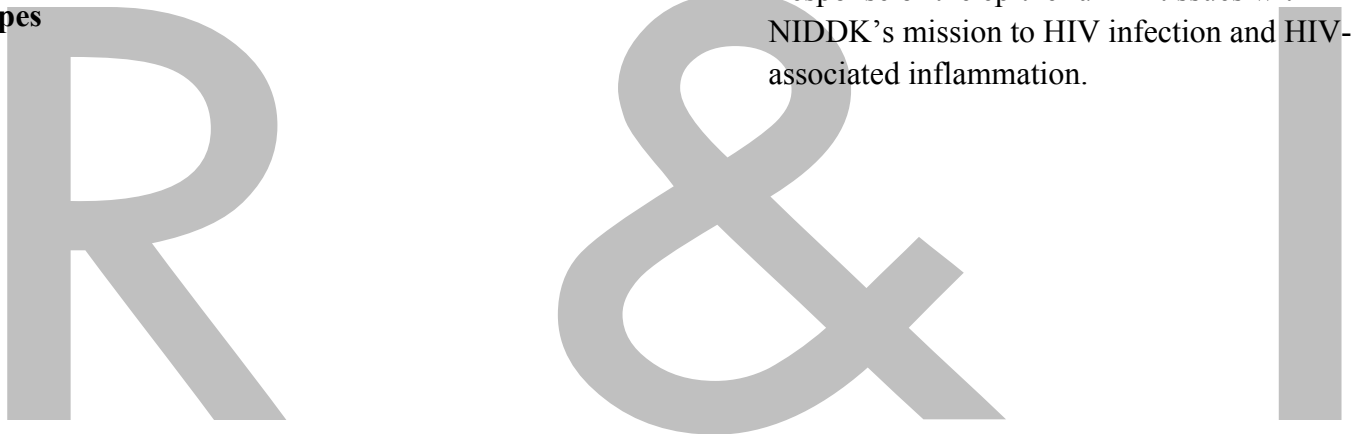
National Institutes of Health is seeking applications for its program entitled High Priority HIV/AIDS Research within the Mission of the NIDDK that is addressing high priority HIV/AIDS research priorities outlined by the NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR).

The NIDDK supports medical research on diabetes and other endocrine and metabolic diseases; digestive diseases, nutritional disorders, and obesity; and kidney, urologic, and hematologic diseases, to improve people's health and quality of life.

**Scopes**

The scope of this FOA includes, but is not limited to:

- Elucidation of pathophysiological pathways whereby HIV or its treatment contributes to comorbidities within NIDDK's mission.
- Interaction of HIV or its treatment with physiological processes within its mission, such as metabolism, normal blood development, or gastrointestinal mucosal immune homeostasis.
- The impact of HIV infection or its treatment on the gastrointestinal or penile microbiome, pathogenic enteric microbes, male genital tract infections, or co-infection with hepatitis viruses.
- Cellular and molecular characterization of the HIV reservoirs in the male genital tract, the gastrointestinal mucosa, adipose tissue, or other tissues within NIDDK's mission.
- Response of the epithelium in tissues within NIDDK's mission to HIV infection and HIV-associated inflammation.



**TITLE: Apply for 2018 Shark Tank of Wellness Student Global Competition!**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Global Wellness**

**BUDGET: \$10,000**

**DUE DATE: 1 June 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

**The “Shark Tank of Wellness” competition is a unique global challenge in which three university students are rewarded for their most innovative, impactful ideas for the wellness industry.**

We define the *wellness industry* broadly and are looking for innovations in sectors as varied as architecture/design, beauty, education, fitness, hospitality, investment, medicine, nutrition, real estate, spa, technology, travel, tourism, and more. Students are to submit a **concept submission form** detailing their idea, as well as a **short 1-2 minute video presentation** of their idea. The wellness industry is currently valued at over USD \$3.7 trillion, thus providing ample opportunity for people with great ideas!

**The top three finalists will be flown, along with their professors, to the annual Global Wellness Summit**

**(GWS) held October 6-8, 2018** at the Technogym Village in Cesena, Italy. Here, they will present their business idea to the attending Summit delegates — a “who’s who” in the global wellness world. Several business leaders will act as “Wellness Sharks” and ask questions of the students, who will defend their innovation and make a business case for its feasibility.

**Eligibility**

The competition is open to both individuals and teams of students over the age of 18 from anywhere in the world. **There is no entry fee.**

The contestant(s) must be an **undergraduate student** (working towards a one or two year diploma, a four year Bachelor’s degree or a Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification) or a **graduate/post-graduate student** (working towards a masters, MBA, JD, MD, or PhD degree) in a university or college of distinction at the time they develop and submit their concept.

The contestant(s) must be either a **full-time or part-time student** at the university or college, and must have a **professor or faculty advisor** who serves as a mentor for their project.

**TITLE: Global Infectious Disease Research Administration Development Award for Low-and Middle-Income Country Institutions**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$100,000**

**DUE DATE: July 31, 2018. LOI should be submitted 30 days prior to the application due date**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of this FOA is to encourage submission of applications from research institutions in LMICs, as defined by The World Bank, to provide their senior administrators with advanced training in the management of NIH grants. The overall intent of the initiative is to support the training of senior administrators and empower them to serve as institutional grants management leaders; provide them with access to good business practices for managing awards; assist the administrative staff in developing and implementing standard operating procedures for tracking grant expenditures, complying with NIH funding policies; and assist or train other administrators in the local area.

This FOA will provide support for travel of senior administrator(s) from the LMIC institution to a partner US host institution where they will receive hands-on training in grants administration. These senior administrator(s) are expected to train others at their home institutions and, as needed, implement grants

management changes, as well as serve as a resource for training other local or regional institutions receiving NIAID funds.

Up to two senior administrators from the LMIC institution will receive training at a US host institution for up to 1 month during the award period (2 weeks in the first year and 2 weeks in the second year), as well as attend either a NIH regional workshop on program funding and grants administration, or a NIAID post-award grants policy and management training event. The FOA will also support up to two senior administrators from the LMIC institution for five days of in-house training with the Grants Management Program (GMP) at NIAID in Rockville, MD. This training will allow GMP staff to provide customized information about managing NIAID awards, as well as tailored hands-on training based on the needs of the institutions.

**ELIGIBILITY**

**Eligible Organizations**

Eligible organizations must be in a LMIC, as defined by The World Bank, and include research institutions in LMICs. Eligible applicant foreign institutions in LMICs are limited to those receiving NIAID grant and/or cooperative agreement funding at the time of application submission. Eligible organizations must have received less than \$2.2 million in total NIH grant and/or cooperative agreement support (direct awards) in the last 5 years at the time of application submission.

**TITLE: Leverhulme Trust Research Project Grant**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Leverhulme Trust**

**BUDGET: £500,000**

**DUE DATE: There are no deadlines**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The aim of these awards is to provide financial support for innovative and original research projects of high quality and potential, the choice of theme and the design of the research lying entirely with the applicant (the Principal Investigator). The grants provide support for the salaries of research staff engaged on the project, plus associated costs directly related to the research proposed, and the award is paid directly to the institution at which the applicant is employed.

Proposals must reflect the personal vision of the applicant and demonstrate compelling competence in the research design. The Trust favours applications that surmount traditional disciplinary academic boundaries and involve a willingness to take appropriate degrees of risk in setting research objectives.

**Eligible research areas**

Both because of the substantial funding available from other sources for applied medical research, and the

Trust's priority to support investigations of a fundamental nature, we do not fund studies of disease, illness and disabilities in humans and animals, or research that is intended to inform clinical practice or the development of medical applications.

Similarly, because of the availability of alternative sources of funding, the Trust does not fund policy-driven research where the principal objective is to assemble an evidence base for immediate policy initiatives.

The Trust will not fund applications for research of which advocacy forms an explicit component.

The Trust does not support research which is aimed principally at an immediate commercial application.

The Trust will not fund applications in which the balance between assembling a data bank or database and the related subsequent research is heavily inclined to the former.

The Trust does not fund applications in which the main focus is on capacity building, networking, or the development of the skills of those involved.

If applicants are uncertain about eligibility, they are encouraged to telephone or email the Trust before submitting an application.

**TITLE: Global Brain and Nervous System Disorders  
Research Across the Lifespan**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$125,000**

**DUE DATE: November 7, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

**Funding Opportunity Purpose**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages exploratory/developmental research grant applications, proposing the development of innovative, collaborative research projects on brain and other nervous system function and disorders throughout life, relevant to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Research on neurological, mental, behavioral, alcohol and substance use disorders may span the full range of science from basic to implementation research. Scientists in the United States (U.S.) or upper-middle income countries (UMICs) are eligible to partner with scientists in LMIC institutions. Scientists in upper middle-income LMICs (UMICs) are also eligible to partner directly with scientists at other LMIC institutions with or without out a US partner. Income

categories used are as defined by the World Bank at <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups>.

These grants are expected to foster the development of more comprehensive research programs that contribute to the long-term goals of building sustainable research capacity in LMICs to address nervous system development, function and impairment throughout life and to lead to diagnostics, prevention, treatment and implementation strategies. The proposed work may also contribute to developing a base for research networking and evidence-based policy beyond the specific research project.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions) **are** eligible to apply.

Non-domestic (non-U.S.) components of U.S. Organizations **are** eligible to apply.

Foreign components, as defined in the *NIH Grants Policy Statement*, **are** allowed.

**TITLE: Explorer Awards RFA**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Simons Foundation**

**BUDGET: \$80,000**

**DUE DATE: Rolling**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This award program is designed to enhance our existing support of autism research by providing timely resources to enable high-risk/high-impact, exploratory experiments relevant to our mission. A deeper understanding of the mechanisms underlying autism spectrum disorders or potential therapeutic approaches will require investigation at multiple levels, including but not limited to studies focused on gene discovery, molecular mechanisms, circuits, anatomy, and cognition and behavior. We will consider proposals at all of these levels.

The maximum budget is \$80,000, including indirect costs for one (1) year, non-renewable.

Explorer Awards are intended to provide resources to support exploratory experiments that will strengthen hypotheses and lead to the formulation of competitive applications for subsequent larger-scale funding by SFARI or other organizations. Innovative, high-risk/high-impact proposals are prioritized. We especially encourage applications from investigators who are new to the field of autism, but who have expertise that could be brought to bear on this complex disorder.

We strongly advise applicants to familiarize themselves with the research projects that SFARI currently supports and to think about how their proposals might complement existing grants. Considering SFARI's significant efforts targeted at understanding the genetics of ASD, we encourage applications that propose research to link genetic or other ASD risk factors to molecular, cellular, circuit or behavioral mechanisms of ASD. See also the SFARI blog post "SFARI's 2018 funding priorities," where we discuss criteria for successful proposals.

Applicants are encouraged to use existing resources developed by SFARI. A number of mouse models of high-risk autism genes and copy number variants (CNVs) are available to the research community at minimal cost via a collaboration between SFARI and The Jackson Laboratory. Analogous to our mouse model efforts, SFARI is also generating and distributing genetic rat models through a collaboration with the Medical College of Wisconsin. Access to the Simons Simplex Collection (SSC), Simons Variation in Individuals Project (Simons VIP) and SPARK cohort — resources for phenotypic data, genetic data, biospecimens and recontacting participants — will be given to all approved scientists through SFARI Base. We encourage applicants to use these resources. Further information about data requests and the acquisition of biospecimens is available online. We expect Simons Investigators to share renewable reagents and data developed with SFARI funds with other qualified investigators.

**TITLE: Mobile Health: Technology and Outcomes in Low and Middle Income Countries**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$125,000**

**DUE DATE: August 31, 2018. LOI should be submitted 30 days prior to the application due date**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This FOA encourages research projects that study the development/adaptation and effectiveness of mHealth tools and/or interventions for the prevention, diagnosis, management, and treatment of specific health conditions or for disease agnostic/cross-cutting applications. Applicants are encouraged to propose research projects that have the potential to provide an understanding of principles underlying effective mHealth interventions or tools that are generalizable to the field.

Applications should have a strong emphasis on health-related outcomes upon application of the tool or intervention and should include rigorous study designs. Pilot studies that are necessary for more comprehensive future research projects may be proposed. Formative research that is necessary for technology development or project implementation (e.g. research on cultural acceptability) may be one aspect of the proposed research.

This initiative aims to support projects that adapt or develop technologies that are appropriate for LMIC settings. A plethora of mHealth applications and

devices have been developed in high-income countries, however, these technologies are not necessarily suitable for the needs of individuals in LMICs. Research that focuses on the problems and constraints in LMIC environments should produce more effective interventions and tools and may result in more sustainable mHealth use, especially if there is involvement from LMIC stakeholders, such as businesses, hospitals, or governments.

**Important Points for Consideration:**

- If the mHealth intervention or tool aims to produce a specific clinical outcome, applicants should incorporate appropriate biological endpoints and/or observational behavioral data to measure this outcome.
- Interventions that aim to produce behavior change should be based on existing social and behavioral science theories.
- The interventions or tools studied should take advantage of the unique functionality of mobile and wireless devices. Utilization of real-time data collection and feedback is encouraged where appropriate.

New software, devices, and systems should be interoperable with existing infrastructure and resulting data should integrate with relevant health information systems where applicable.

**TITLE: Healthy Habits: Timing for Developing Sustainable Healthy Behaviors in Children and Adolescents**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$275,000**

**DUE DATE: June 16, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), issued by the National Institute of Nursing Research, is intended to stimulate Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21) applications that employ innovative research to identify mechanisms of influence and/or promote positive sustainable health behavior(s) in children and youth (birth to age 18). Positive health behaviors may include: developing healthy sleep patterns, developing effective self-regulation strategies, employing effective decision-making in risk situations, practicing proper dental hygiene, eating a balanced and nutritious diet, engaging in age-appropriate physical activity and/or participating in healthy relationships. Applications to promote positive health behavior(s) should target social and cultural contexts, including, but not limited to: schools, families, communities, population, food industry, age-appropriate learning tools and games, social media, social networking,

technology and mass media. Topics to be addressed in this announcement include: effective, sustainable processes for influencing young people to make healthy behavior choices; identification of the appropriate stage of influence for learning sustainable lifelong health behaviors; the role of technology in promoting healthy behavior; identifying factors that support healthy behavior development in vulnerable populations; and, identification of mechanisms that are common to the development of a range of sustainable health behaviors. Given the many factors involved in developing sustainable health behaviors, applications from multidisciplinary teams are strongly encouraged. Applications should explicitly address the degree to which behaviors are sustained over time. Research that identifies and enhances processes, including social and cultural norms, that promote positive behavior in children and youth that is sustainable throughout life is the goal of this FOA.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions) **are** eligible to apply.

Non-domestic (non-U.S.) components of U.S. Organizations **are** eligible to apply.

Foreign components, as defined in the *NIH Grants Policy Statement*, **are** allowed.



**TITLE: Reducing Health Disparities Among Minority and Underserved Children**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$275,000**

**DUE DATE: June 16, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This initiative is designed to stimulate research that targets the reduction of health disparities among children. For purposes of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), "health disparities" applies to children who have limited access to resources and privileges that impact their health. As such, this initiative includes a focus on ethnic and racial minority children and populations of underserved children to include: children from low literacy, rural and low-income populations, geographically isolated children, hearing and visually impaired children, physically or mentally disabled children, children of migrant workers, children from immigrant and refugee families, and language minority children. The NIH defines children as individuals 0-18 years of age. The primary purpose of this initiative, therefore, is to encourage intervention studies targeting one of the aforementioned groups.

Rather than a singular approach, interventions using a multilevel approach (individual, health system, community, societal) are encouraged. In addition, basic studies designed to further delineate mechanisms/pathways of disparities that lead to the development of interventions are also encouraged. Specific targeted areas of research include bio-behavioral studies that incorporate multiple factors that influence child health disparities such as biological (e.g., genetics, cellular, organ systems), lifestyle factors, environmental (physical and family environments) social (e.g. peers), economic, institutional, and cultural and family influences; studies that target the specific health promotion needs of children with a known illness and/or disability; and studies that test and evaluate the comparative effectiveness of health promotion interventions conducted in traditional and nontraditional settings.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions) **are** eligible to apply.  
Non-domestic (non-U.S.) components of U.S. Organizations **are** eligible to apply.  
Foreign components, as defined in the *NIH Grants Policy Statement*, **are** allowed.

**TITLE: Collaborative Awards in Humanities and Social Science**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Wellcome**

**BUDGET: £1.5 million**

**DUE DATE: 4 July 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

**Who can apply**

You can apply for a Collaborative Award if you have a team of two to six principal applicants. Each applicant should have a good track record in their area of research, relative to their career stage.

**What we're looking for**

We're looking for teams with a track record of working together to tackle research questions that can only be

approached collaboratively. Teams can come from the same discipline or from a combination of disciplines. They can be from the same university department or a number of organisations (anywhere in the world).

We encourage applications that combine humanities and social science research with biomedical science research and/or product development and applied research. Please contact us if you're not sure which area to apply to.

Important factors when we evaluate your application are:

- the environment in which you do your research
- the support your host organisation provides
- the time you'll spend on the Collaborative Award, and how it fits in with your other academic commitments.

R & I

**TITLE: Improving Implementation of Seek, Test, Treat & Retain Strategies among People Who Inject Drugs in Low to Middle Income Countries**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: Not Limited**

**DUE DATE: April 13, 2018 and November 15, 2018.**

**LOL should be submitted 30 days prior to the application due date**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This FOA supports development and testing of implementation approaches that provide ways to scale-up evidence based interventions in low to middle income countries where PWID form an important component of the national HIV epidemic, including countries where PWID are a relatively emergent population for HIV cases. Sustainable programs will need to align with national HIV/AIDS plans and provide models for large scale implementation such as QA/QC systems. Applicants are encouraged to work with local or regional PEPFAR and Global Fund programs, which have platforms for reaching PWID and provide access to local epidemiology and services data. PEPFAR's implementing partners include SAMHSA which provides specific substance use technical

assistance in a number of countries. Recently implemented donor programs including syringe services and drug treatment settings that can be leveraged to provide or actively link to additional HIV and substance use services. Some countries are developing new health financing systems that also can be leveraged to expand HIV prevention and treatment for PWID. Some countries are working toward criminal justice reforms that may shape the size and scope of services available to PWID. Applicants are encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities as well as to leverage collaborations of existing NIH initiatives such as IeDEA (NIH's cohort of cohorts co-funded by NIDA) which provide clinical cohort platforms that can be leveraged for new research or existing NIDA-funded research studies.

Research that makes use of clinical trial designs well suited to local tailoring of project implementation such as adaptive or optimization designs are encouraged. Applications need not address all stages of the HIV care continuum but should address timely entry or re-entry (for those out of care) into HIV care, retention in HIV care and steps toward viral suppression. Proposed interventions should be sustainable in the study setting beyond the life of the grant. Consideration and integration of services to address HIV comorbidities such as TB or viral hepatitis is encouraged.

**TITLE: Research Awards for Health Professionals**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Wellcome**

**BUDGET: £350,000**

**DUE DATE: July 2018**

### **Who can Apply**

You can apply for a Research Award if you've completed general medical, dental, veterinary, nursing, clinical, or any other professional health training. You should be a practising health professional with some research experience.

You must also have sponsorship from an eligible host organisation in the UK, Republic of Ireland or a low- or middle-income country.

### **Who can't Apply**

If you hold a permanent academic post, you're not eligible to apply for this award.

### **What we're looking for**

Your research can address a real-life issue in a professional practice, or be conceptual and/or historical in scope.

When we consider your application, we'll assess:

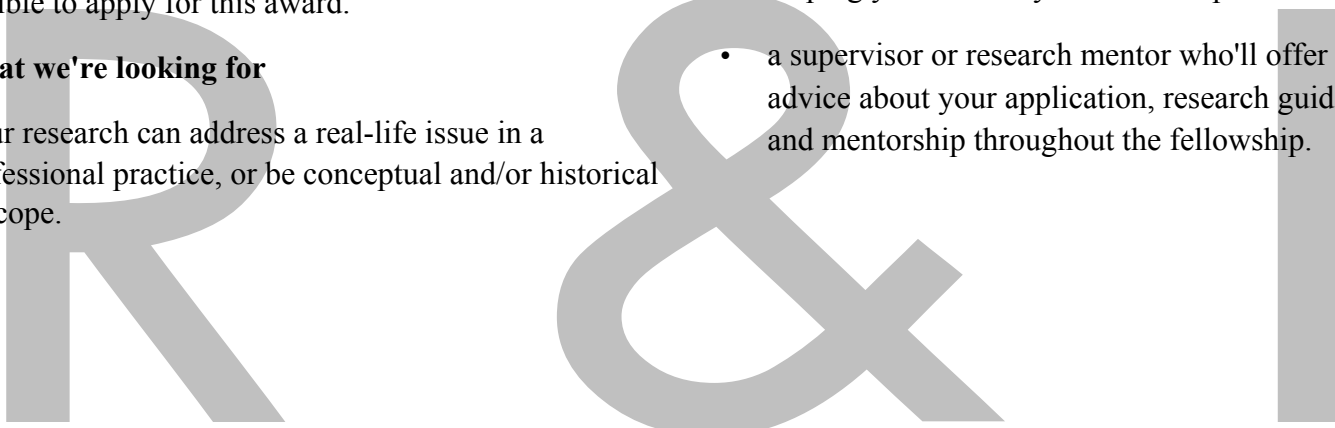
- the significance of your proposed research
- the strength of your approach
- your track record
- the suitability of the host environment for your research.

You can use this award for a short period of research, to enrol on a PhD or Master's while maintaining your professional salary, or to undertake postdoctoral research.

### **What's expected of your host organisation**

You must have:

- a sponsor who holds an established post (or an honorary academic appointment) at your sponsoring organisation and is committed to helping you achieve your career aspirations
- a supervisor or research mentor who'll offer you advice about your application, research guidance and mentorship throughout the fellowship.



**TITLE: Eppendorf & Science Prize for Neurobiology**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Eppendorf**

**BUDGET: \$25,000**

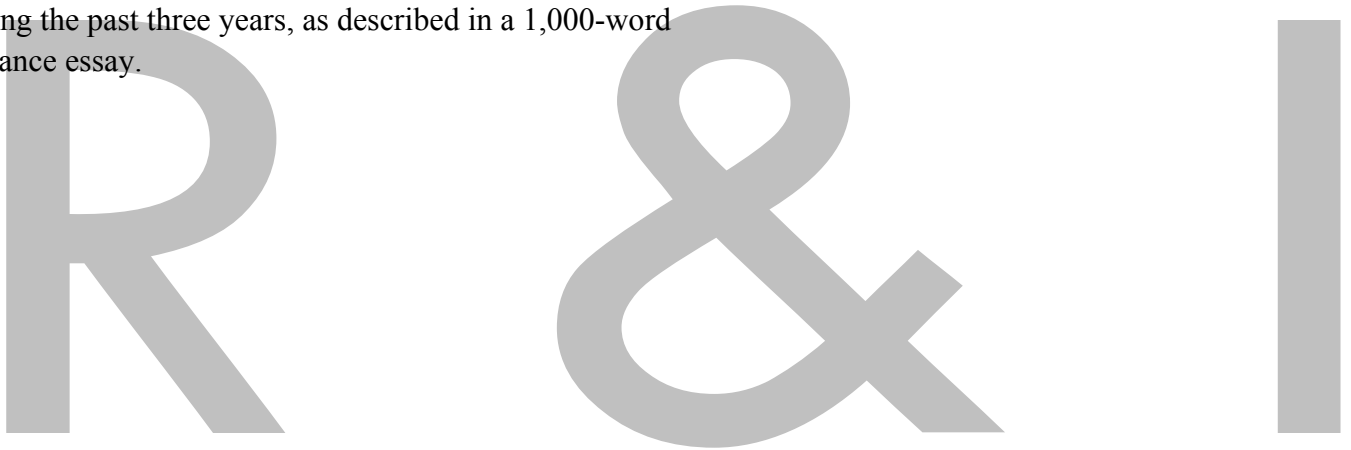
**DUE DATE: June 15, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Eppendorf & Science Prize for Neurobiology acknowledges the increasing importance of this research in advancing our understanding of how the brain and nervous system function - a quest that seems destined for dramatic expansion in the coming decades. Eppendorf and Science/AAAS established this international prize in 2002. The Prize is intended to encourage and support the work of promising young neurobiologists who are not older than 35 years. It is awarded annually to one young scientist for the most outstanding neurobiological research based on methods of molecular and cell biology conducted by him/her during the past three years, as described in a 1,000-word entrance essay.

**Rules of eligibility**

- The Eppendorf & Science Prize for Neurobiology is an international research prize.
- Entrants must be a neurobiologist with an advanced degree received in the last 10 years and not older than 35 years of age.
- The entrant's essay must describe contributions to neurobiological research based on methods of molecular and cell biology.
- The entrant must have performed or directed the work described in the essay.
- The research must have been performed during the previous three years.
- Employees of Eppendorf AG, Science and AAAS and their relatives are not eligible for the prize.



**TITLE: Ekhagastiftelsen Foundation Grant Program:  
Seeking Applications for Promoting Human Health**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Ekhagastiftelsen Foundation**

**BUDGET: Applicants are allowed to submit budget of their own**

**DUE DATE: 20 May 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Ekhagastiftelsen Foundation is seeking applications for its Grant program to promote human health by supporting the development of better food, natural medicines and healing practices, and to support research for a healthier way of life, which in itself may have a disease preventive effect.

A central idea is to focus more on preventive active care than reactive care to combat symptoms. The same applies to the agricultural and food areas where the focus should be to find methods that can prevent various problems instead of focusing on their manifestations. The focus should not be on tackling problems, but rather finding ways to prevent their occurrence.

**Prioritized Research Areas**

- **Better and healthier food:** For Gosta Videgard an important goal was the improvement in

quality of agricultural products through agriculture without toxins and artificial substances. The foundation therefore supports research and development based on the principles of organic and biodynamic food production or other methods and orientations that promote this goal. Research should be in line with IFOAMs (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements) principles of organic production.

- **Nutrition and way of life:** Gosta Videgard was very interested in significance of the diet for humans. The Foundation therefore supports research into the role of the diet in the treatment of diseases and strengthening the body's resistance.
- **Complementary medicine and natural medicines:** Gosta Videgard had a keen interest in complementary medicine and its goal of curing diseases by using the body's own innate healing abilities and utilize natural healing powers. He appreciated and also practiced the basic idea of avoiding artificial chemicals as far as possible.

**TITLE: Planning Grant for Fogarty HIV Research Training Program for Low- and Middle-Income Country Institutions** (NOT-OD-15-137) at a specific LMIC institution or at LMIC sites in an established HIV research network.

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$28,000**

**DUE DATE: August 23, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

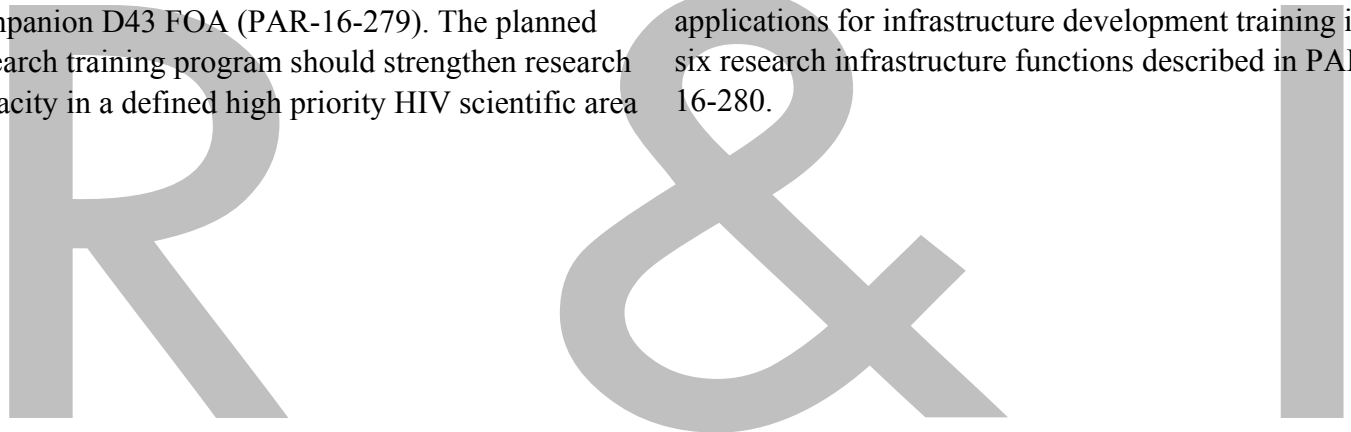
The Fogarty HIV Research Training Program supports research training that strengthens HIV research capacity of institutions in low-and middle-income countries (LMIC). This FOA offers an opportunity for LMIC institutions to submit a planning grant application to participate in the Fogarty HIV Research Training Program.

These applications must propose a plan to develop a research training program and the subsequent application that will be submitted in response to the companion D43 FOA (PAR-16-279). The planned research training program should strengthen research capacity in a defined high priority HIV scientific area

**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

The overall goal of the Fogarty International Center (FIC) HIV Research Training Program is to strengthen the scientific capacity of institutions in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) to conduct HIV research related to the evolving HIV epidemic in their country.

The Fogarty HIV Research Training Program currently invites applications for three different Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs). This FOA (D71) requests planning grant applications from LMIC institutions to develop a research training program and the subsequent application that will be submitted in response to the companion D43 FOA (PAR-16-279). The future research training is expected to strengthen scientific expertise needed for HIV research at LMIC institutions. The third FOA (G11) encourages applications for infrastructure development training in six research infrastructure functions described in PAR-16-280.



**TITLE: Fogarty HIV Research Training Program for Low- and Middle-Income Country Institutions**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$280,000**

**DUE DATE: August 23, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The overall goal of the Fogarty International Center (FIC) HIV Research Training HIVRT Program is to strengthen the scientific capacity of institutions in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC) to conduct HIV research on the evolving HIV epidemic in their country.

The Fogarty HIV Research Training Program encourages applications for three different Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs). This FOA (D43) encourages applications to support research training to strengthen scientific expertise needed for HIV research at LMIC institutions. The second FOA (D71) [PAR-16-281](#) encourages planning grant applications from LMIC institutions to develop a training program and application to submit under this FOA. The third FOA (G11) encourages applications for infrastructure development training in six research infrastructure functions described in [PAR-16-280](#). This FOA can support training in a broad range of HIV research areas:

- basic, epidemiologic, clinical, behavioral, and social science research across HIV prevention, care and treatment;
- pathophysiology and therapeutics research to address HIV infection, the effects of HIV on body systems, and HIV's interaction with other co-morbidities and co-infections;

- implementation, operations, health services, and health systems research to improve the HIV prevention, care and treatment care continuum;
- research on integrated bio-behavioral HIV prevention, care and treatment among high risk populations, including polysubstance drug (injection and non-injection) and alcohol use;
- research on HIV co-infections, AIDs-defining and HIV-related cancers, neurological and neuropsychiatric morbidities, and other co-morbidities and health conditions, both infectious and non-infectious, that contribute to HIV transmission or poor health in HIV-infected individuals, including HIV infected substance (drug and alcohol) users;
- community-based HIV research, HIV research on complex/multi-component interventions, structural interventions, and comparative effectiveness, and HIV research on impact evaluation or health economics;
- cross-disciplinary HIV research among vulnerable or under-researched LMIC populations, including women, substance (drug and alcohol) users, men who have sex with men, transgendered populations, aging populations, orphans, and children;
- clinical research for team members to support HIV clinical research and HIV clinical trials;
- bio-statistics for HIV research design and methodology bioinformatics, data analysis, data management, and data quality assurance and control to support HIV research;
- laboratory capacity, including bio-safety, and maintenance of lab quality assurance for HIV clinical research.

LMIC institutions are encouraged, in close collaborations with US institutions to apply to this FOA. The beneficiary of the training supported through this FOA can include LMIC sites in an established HIV research network.



**TITLE: The Africa-India Mobility Fund**

**FUNDING AGENCY: African Academy of Sciences**

**BUDGET: \$5,000**

**DUE DATE: Rolling**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Africa-India Mobility Fund (AIMF) is a two-year programme designed to provide researchers from Africa and India with opportunities for short visits in either direction to explore opportunities for building and strengthening scientific collaboration.

The AIMF initiative by the African Academy of Sciences and the Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance (India Alliance) intends to encourage South-South collaborations and learning between the two ecosystems. This is in recognition of the fact that Africa and India face similar challenges, both in the diseases that affect their populations and socio-political issues as well as the leadership required to address these. The exchanges are expected to enhance their skills and contribute to the growth of knowledge and leadership towards common health challenges.

At the AAS, the programme is implemented through the Alliance for Accelerating Excellence in Science for Africa (AESA), an initiative of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency.

**Scope**

Applications broadly focused on infectious and non-communicable diseases of relevance to local, national, or global health will be accepted every month. The scope of the collaborative opportunity may include but is not limited to HIV/AIDS, TB, dengue, malaria, vector-borne diseases, parasitic infections, emerging infections, cancer, diabetes, hypertension, health systems research, antimicrobial resistance, drug development, microbiome and general biomedical sciences.

While applications that involve existing collaborations will be considered, applications that target new collaborations and encourage diversity especially female and young applicants are particularly encouraged.

**Objectives**

- To strengthen research & innovation capacity and knowledge exchange
- To strengthen scientific collaboration between Indian and African teams

**Purpose**

To establish links and cultivate a culture of collaboration between African and Indian researchers that will serve as a vehicle to improve research capacity and build leadership in biomedical and clinical research for Africa and India.

**TITLE: Emerging Global Leader Award**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$75,000**

**DUE DATE: November 7, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of the Fogarty Emerging Global Leader Award is to provide research support and "protected time" to a research scientist from a low-or middle-income country (LMIC) who holds a junior faculty position at an LMIC academic or research institution as defined in Section III.1. At many LMIC institutions there is little support for junior faculty with long-term research training to launch an independent research career due to lack of protected time for research activities, inadequate pilot research project funding opportunities, insufficient training in advanced research methodology and data analysis, lack of mentorship in manuscript and grant writing and meager institutional support for developing, submitting and administering research applications and awards. This intensive, mentored research career development experience under the guidance of experienced LMIC and U.S. mentors is expected to foster an independently-funded research career for the most promising LMIC junior research scientist faculty. Overall, it is expected that this program will increase the scientific capacity for health research at LMIC institutions and foster long term research collaborations with U.S. scientists.

The award will provide salary and research project support. Awardees are expected to increase their

capabilities in advanced research methodology, analysis and data management, research administrative skills, responsible conduct of research, scientific presentation, and manuscript and grant writing. Applications should propose targeted activities and research projects that will propel awardees to become competitive principal investigators for new research project grant funding by the end of the grant period. This FOA invites applications from eligible LMIC research scientists at LMIC academic or research institutions who propose both critically needed career development activities and a research project that is highly relevant to the health priorities of their country. The research activities should take place primarily in the LMIC.

**Eligible Organizations**

Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions)

**Foreign Institutions**

Only non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions) in Low- or Middle-Income Countries are eligible to apply.

LMICs are defined by the World Bank classification system (according to Gross National Income (GNI) per capita as "low-income," "lower-middle-income," and "upper-middle-income" (<http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups>).

Non-domestic (non-U.S.) components of U.S. Organizations **are not** eligible to apply.

Foreign components, as defined in the *NIH Grants Policy Statement*, **are** allowed.

**TITLE: Reducing Stigma to Improve HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment and Care in Low and Middle- Income Countries**

**FUNDING AGENCY: NIH**

**BUDGET: \$125,000**

**DUE DATE: August 1, 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The objective of this FOA is to lay the groundwork for, or pilot, stigma-reduction interventions to improve HIV health seeking behavior across the HIV care continuum and improve biological and mental outcomes for PLWH or their caregivers. In the context of an intervention, the areas of focus may include but are not limited to:

- Adapting, developing, validating or implementing stigma reduction interventions in PLWH. Target populations may include adolescents and/or youth, caregivers, and other key populations such as sex workers, people who inject drugs, transgender people, prisoners, and men who have sex with men, among others.
- Adapting, developing, or validating measurement instruments to assess the success of the intervention in reducing stigma and in improving health outcomes.
- Formative research on novel stigma reduction interventions to understand the obstacles to seeking care.
- Formative research to assess the complexities in layered or intersecting stigma that might lead to strategies to address the synergistic burden.
- Studies to assess stigma reduction interventions in specific social groups (for example, unmarried pregnant women); or across multiple groups (for example PLWH and their health care workers) linking to a health outcome such as decrease in transmission.

- Studies to assess the association of structural level stigma reduction interventions with better health outcomes; for example, modifiable structural factors such as health policy and its impact on health outcomes.
- Tools for addressing stigma awareness in HIV+ adolescents, young children and orphans and increase their participation in care seeking and prevention strategies.

Applications proposing studies that do not address a stigma reduction intervention strategy linked to measurement of a beneficial health outcome would not be supported under this FOA.

Through this FOA, FIC seeks to initiate exploratory studies to determine feasibility of implementable and ultimately scalable approaches to understand and reduce stigma as a factor in HIV transmission. Applicants should assemble teams with the appropriate range of expertise required to accomplish the aims of the study, which may include a collaborative team with multi-disciplinary expertise.

The proposed collaborative exploratory research is expected to help build the capacity for full research programs by improving the research environment and strengthening LMIC individual and institutional research capabilities in the proposed research areas. The proposed work and follow up research are expected to contribute to the long-term goals of building sustainable capacity for stigma research in LMICs. One or more investigators from an academic or research institution in the U.S. and one or more investigators from an academic or research institution in an LMIC are strongly encouraged to collaborate as key personnel on the application. Applicants should explicitly address the needs of collaborating LMIC institutions to develop capacity for carrying out research in this field, and the plans for sustaining the research activity.

**TITLE: Seeding Labs Instrumental Access**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Seeding Labs**

**BUDGET: \$150,000**

**DUE DATE: 27 July 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Seeding Labs seeks applications from universities and research institutes in low- and middle-income countries for **Instrumental Access**, a program that provides high-quality scientific equipment for research and education at an affordable price.

**ABOUT SEEDING LABS & INSTRUMENTAL ACCESS**

Seeding Labs is a US-based non-governmental organization dedicated to helping scientists make discoveries that improve life and the planet.

Our **Instrumental Access** program removes a key barrier to research and science teaching by making laboratory equipment available to universities in low- and middle-income countries.

Through Instrumental Access, participants select items to meet their needs from Seeding Labs' inventory of new and used equipment, glassware, and consumables (see types of equipment that may be available [here](#)).

Selected items are then packed into a 20-foot shipping container and sent to the nearest or most convenient ocean port.

Every shipment is unique, but the fair market value of the items included in our shipments typically falls between \$60,000 and \$150,000 based on its value on the secondary (used) market. The cost to purchase equivalent items new would usually be up to four times higher.

**Who is Eligible to Apply?**

In order to apply, you must be all of the following:

- **An academic department** (or equivalent sub-unit) at a degree-granting institution of higher education OR a **university-affiliated or public research institute** that is actively engaged in research training as well as research.
- Located in a **low- or middle-income country (LMIC) as defined by the World Bank.**
- Able and willing to meet **all program requirements**, including the cost-share/fee (see next section).
- Regarding academic discipline, there are no specific requirements, but your application will not be successful unless your needs for equipment are a good fit for what Seeding Labs can supply. Our inventory includes equipment most appropriate for use in **biology and chemistry laboratories.**

**TITLE: Stimulating innovative research**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Merck**

**BUDGET: \$1050,000**

**DUE DATE: 15 August 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

In celebrating its 350th anniversary, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany offers a series of research grants to stimulate innovative research in challenging areas of future importance. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany intends to provide several research grants of up to **EUR 350,000 per year for 3 years** in various research areas with the option of extension or expansion.

**WHO CAN APPLY**

Researchers from around the world may apply for the grants.

**The research proposed for the grant must not:**

- involve interventional clinical research
- involve the testing of competitors' products

**HOW DOES IT WORK**

Fill out the Application Form with your research proposal, use only non-confidential information by

**August, 15th, 2018.** Please make sure you have read and accepted the terms and conditions before you submit the application form.

All selected applicants will be invited to a three day workshop after signature of a confidential disclosure and workshop participation agreement to discuss and optimize a more detailed confidential research proposal further together with our scientists.

At the end of the workshop participants will present their optimized research proposal and the winning applicants will be selected. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany will then enter into bilateral collaboration agreements with the winning recipients to enable pay-out of the research grant and project start in 2019.

**YOUR BENEFIT**

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany intends to provide research grants of up to EUR 350,000 per year for 3 years in several topic areas. Top submitters will be invited to a Deep Dive workshop to further advance the proposals together with our scientists. The deep dive workshop will include decision on grant recipients. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany will cover all travel and accommodation costs. Furthermore, grant winners may gain access to meaningful collaborations within Merck and all the resources and connections that this allows.

**TITLE: Ending the Pandemic Threat: A Grand Challenge for Universal Influenza Vaccine Development**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Bill and Gate Foundation**

**BUDGET: \$250,000 up to \$ 2 million**

**DUE DATE: 22 Jun 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

To find a game changing, universal solution to all these challenges, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Page Family are launching the "Universal Influenza Vaccine Development Grand Challenge" during the centenary year of the 1918 flu pandemic. The goal of this Grand Challenge is to identify novel, transformative concepts that will lead to development of universal influenza vaccines offering protection from morbidity and mortality caused by all subtypes of circulating and emerging (drifted and shifted) Influenza A subtype viruses and Influenza B lineage viruses for at least three to five years. It is envisaged that such a universal influenza vaccine would address the threat from both seasonal and pandemic influenza, thus alleviating the need for annual seasonal influenza vaccination campaigns, averting significant global morbidity and mortality, and better preparing the world for the next influenza pandemic.

While other funders are supporting development of universal Influenza vaccines, three things set this Grand Challenge apart. We seek to fund ideas that are bold and innovative, bridging the funding 'valley of death' to translate these novel approaches into products ready for human clinical trials. We also aim to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration and cross-fertilization of ideas from outside the traditional influenza research community. Third, we seek completely transformative approaches rather than incremental research.

Our collective belief is that innovation is catalyzed through rigorous collaboration and enriching of

ecosystems, and we hope this Grand Challenge will stimulate creative thinking beyond the traditional influenza community. Although not exhaustive, examples of researchers and disciplines we would like to see further integrated and supported include computational and systems biologists, virologists, immunologists, bioinformatics, artificial intelligence, deep learning, machine learning, the HIV/AIDS and cancer immunotherapy research communities, etc. Fundamentally, we are looking for unconventional approaches that effectively drive or harness immune responses in desired ways and **develop universal influenza vaccines that are ready to start clinical trials by 2021.**

**We are looking for proposals that:**

- Engage scientists across a variety of disciplines, including those new to the influenza field
- Demonstrate innovative thinking by incorporating concepts or technologies not currently being used within/addressed by the influenza vaccine field
- Present concepts and strategies that are "off the beaten track," significantly radical in conception, and daring in premise.

**We will NOT consider funding for:**

- Marginal improvements in current seasonal influenza vaccines
- Precedented approaches using biosimilars to antigens or adjuvants currently in clinical development
- Basic studies of pathogen or human biology without a clear component that tests the potential for translation into product
- Development of assays, new reagents, adjuvants, or production technologies improving licensed and late-stage vaccines already in development
- Therapeutic monoclonal antibodies for treatment of influenza patients

**TITLE: Public Engagement Fund**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Wellcome**

**BUDGET: £25,000 to £3 million**

**DUE DATE: 28 June 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This fund enables individuals and organisations to use creative approaches in engaging the public with health research. They are especially interested in work which promotes diversity and inclusion, and engages people and communities who are affected by social and economic disadvantage. This work can sit within a wider project or be its main focus. If your project addresses these issues, tell us how it does this, based on your experience and the context you are working in. If your project takes place in a low- or middle-income country, we particularly want to see how it will strengthen the public engagement skills of the people and organisations involved in developing the project in that country. They are looking for creative approaches to engage the public. Your project needs to support our public engagement goals, so it should do at least one of the following: (1) empower people by helping them to access, use, respond to, and/or participate in health research and innovation; (2) improve health research by making it more people-centred, to better understand people's experiences and draw on that knowledge; and (3) help people to value and think

critically about science, health research, innovation and the role these play in society.

**Eligibility**

The Public Engagement Fund is open to individuals and organisations working in the arts, culture, entertainment media, heritage, leisure, education, research, informal learning, social enterprise, non-profit and community sectors, or other fields.

**Location**

Actions must take place in UK, Republic of Ireland, low- and middle-income countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and East Asia and Pacific.

**Budget**

Awards may range from £25,000 to £3 million for the period of 3 years.

**Application**

Applications must be submit through the Wellcome Trust Grant Tracker. To request a grant of over £250,000, email an expression of interest to [pef\(a\)wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:pef(a)wellcome.ac.uk). They consider applications for grants under £250,000 four times a year and for grants over £250,000 throughout the year, so you can send us an expression of interest at any time. Deadline for applications is 28 June 2018, 17:00 BST.

**TITLE: African World Heritage Fund (AWHF)**

**FUNDING AGENCY: African World Heritage Fund (AWHF)**

**BUDGET: \$10,000**

**DUE DATE: 31 August 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) is an inter-governmental organisation that was launched in 2006. Its mission is to support the effective conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage of outstanding universal value in Africa. The African Members States of UNESCO and the African Union, with the aim to develop a strategy to deal with the challenges that many African countries meet in implementing the 1972 World Heritage Convention, initiated the AWHF. The AWHF strives to complete five missions: (1) provide support to identify and list African heritage sites on the World Heritage List; (2) provide support and assistance for the conservation and management of heritage sites in Africa, particularly those already inscribed on the World Heritage List; (3) rehabilitate sites inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger; (4) train heritage experts and site managers as ongoing capacity building; and (5) involve communities in decisions concerning their heritage and ensuring that tangible benefits accrue to them.

**Eligibility**

Request for proposals and assistance is open to all African member states that have ratified the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention. Note that only applications endorsed by the National Director in

charge of cultural/natural heritage, or equivalent, will be accepted.

**Location**

Funds are accessible to all African countries that are Member States to the World Heritage Convention. These include: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**Budget**

Grants are ranging from \$10,000 and above.

**Application**

For both grant programs, applicants should fill in the English or French application forms and submit them both electronically and in hard copies to the Fund: African World Heritage Fund, 1258 Lever Road Headway, Hill Midrand 1685, South Africa. As a general principle, assistance from the African World Heritage Fund requires that the organisation which receives the grant has secured matching funding from other sources as well. For nomination grants, applications can be submitted throughout the year. For conservation grants, the application date for financial assistance starts on 1st June every year and closes on 31st of August.



**TITLE: Combating Wildlife Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa**

**FUNDING AGENCY: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement**

**BUDGET:**

**DUE DATE: 10 July 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

To strengthen Sub-Saharan Africa's domestic, criminal justice institutions in sub-Saharan Africa by supporting successful enforcement, investigative, and prosecutorial functions of wildlife crimes. Proposed projects should be designed to strengthen the capacity of wildlife-related institutions and actors in sub-Saharan Africa, specifically targeting Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Namibia, or Zambia. Each application may encompass activities in one or more of the target countries listed. The objectives are: (1) Objective 1: Build capacity of criminal justice entities and personnel to address, investigate, and/or support prosecution of illegal wildlife trade within and from Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Namibia, or Zambia; (2) Objective 2: Enhance legislative frameworks to better support proactive approaches and support wildlife prosecutions in Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Namibia, or Zambia; (3) Objective 3: Support arrests and convictions of wildlife criminals in Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Namibia, or Zambia; and (4) Objective 4: Provide non-lethal equipment for park rangers, police, prosecutors, other relevant officials and, where applicable, non-governmental and civil society entities to address the multifaceted dimensions of poaching and wildlife trafficking in Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Namibia, or Zambia.

**Eligibility**

Eligible are: (1) U.S. not-for-profit/non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or U.S. based educational institutions subject to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. tax code; and (2) foreign not-for profits/non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or foreign based educational institutions.

**Location**

Actions must take place in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Budget**

The anticipated total federal funding amount is not to exceed \$6,500,000. The awards for Democratic Republic of Congo are expected to total \$2,000,000. The awards for Malawi are expected to total \$1,500,000. The awards for Namibia are expected to total \$1,500,000. Awards for Zambia will not exceed \$1,500,000. The period of performance is two years with an anticipated start date of September 2018. INL may extend the award up to three additional years contingent on INL priorities, good performance of the recipient, Department of State management approval, and funding availability. They are giving 12 awards.

**Application**

Applicants must have Unique Entity Identifier (Dun and Bradstreet (DUNS) number) as well as a current Central Contractor Registration via [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov). Additionally, please ensure that registration in the following systems is in a current/active status prior to your organization's application submission. Applications must be submitted by July 10, 2018 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time via [grants.gov](http://grants.gov).

**TITLE: IPAF Call for Proposals 2018**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility**

**BUDGET: \$20,000-\$50,000**

**DUE DATE: 8 June 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The objective of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF) is to strengthen indigenous peoples' communities and their organizations by financing small projects which foster their self-driven development in the framework of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and generate lessons learned and approaches for replication and up-scaling. The IPAF supports indigenous peoples to determine and develop priorities and strategies to fulfill development needs of their communities. Through small grants ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000 and lasting up to two years, the IPAF supports the demand-driven initiatives of indigenous peoples' communities by funding small projects that are designed and implemented by indigenous peoples' communities and their organizations, and that build on their culture, identity, knowledge and natural resources. The IPAF finances projects that improve indigenous peoples' access to key decision-making processes, empower them to find solutions to the challenges they face, and promote collaboration in the public and private spheres. The focus of the IPAF for 2018 is indigenous youth. Priority will be given to proposals submitted by indigenous

peoples' organizations led by indigenous youth and projects focusing on indigenous young women and men.

**Eligibility**

In order to be eligible for this grant applicant must: (1) be an indigenous or tribal peoples' organisation; (2) not-for-profit/non-governmental organisations and local institutions such as a local government; and (3) be legally registered in an IFAD developing Member State.

**Location**

Actions must take place in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Budget**

The resources available for grant financing under this call for proposals amount to \$1,470,000. It is therefore expected that the IPAF 2018 cycle will finance around 35 projects in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Grants range from \$20,000-\$50,000.

**Application**

All applications must be sent completed using the IPAF Application Form 2018. Applications must be received by 8 June 2018, at 17.00 hrs, Italian time zone. Applications are accepted only in English, French, and Spanish.

**TITLE: GACD: scaling-up of evidence-based interventions at the population level for the prevention and/or management of hypertension and/or diabetes**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Medical Research Council, National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD)**

**BUDGET: £6 million (Call Budget)**

**DUE DATE: 10 Sep 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

With the burden of chronic non-communicable diseases rapidly increasing, the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) is launching a call for proposals with a focus on implementation research which examines interventions that aim to prevent and/or manage hypertension and diabetes in LMICs as defined in the DAC list of ODA recipients.

**Challenge**

The GACD call will support research associated with the scale-up of interventions for the prevention, or detection and management of hypertension and/or diabetes in LMICs. Both hypertension and diabetes contribute to the growing global pandemic of cardiovascular disease and stroke, which accounts for approximately 18 million deaths a year, nearly one-third of total deaths.

**Scope**

Proposals must focus on scalable interventions at the population level for hypertension and/or diabetes prevention, detection and management in LMICs. Proposals addressing the concurrence of hypertension and diabetes are encouraged, as well as those addressing the underlying risk factors of both conditions.

**All proposals should:**

- be multidisciplinary and cross-sectorial
- take into consideration relevant sex and gender and cultural aspects, as well as vulnerable populations
- promote a culture of evidence-informed learning and effective uptake of results by embedding real time monitoring/evaluation throughout the intervention selection and scale-up process
- incorporate considerations for capacity building for implementation science and knowledge translation, particularly within the countries where the research will be conducted
- have suitable governance structures in place to ensure oversight, consensus and appropriate engagement of relevant stakeholders throughout the projects
- fully consider ethical issues (including issues related to research with populations in vulnerable circumstances; potential harmful or inequitable impacts of research outcomes; and appropriate mechanisms for protection of sensitive data while enabling data sharing for research purposes)
- ensure conflicts of interest are appropriately minimised or managed to protect the scientific integrity and credibility of the research and fulfil ethical obligations to research participants, particularly in situations where interventions are supported by the private sector and/or there is the potential for commercial gains.

**TITLE: Third call for research to improve adolescent health in LMIC settings**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Medical Research Council**

**BUDGET: £400,000**

**DUE DATE: 18 Sep 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This call for proposals seeks to provide the research evidence needed to effect real and practical changes to improve adolescent health in LMICs.

Applicants should clearly identify the health issues and/or risk factors to be addressed. Proposals should explore how outcomes will be implemented within systems and seek to engage with related social and economic barriers within these systems. Applicants should describe the pathway for how the proposed approach can be scaled, as well as highlighting any potential generalisability of findings to improve the health of adolescents in other settings.

We encourage genuine interdisciplinary collaborations across social science, biomedical science and other disciplines.

Basic research relevant to adolescent health, for instance basic, aetiological, and epidemiological research is not eligible for this call for proposals but is welcome for submission to the MRC through our standard research boards and panels.

**Eligible research activities**

The research approach taken should be clearly justified in the proposal indicating why it is the most appropriate

and robust methodology to address the proposed research questions. The following research activities are eligible for submission under this scheme:

- developing complex health interventions that explicitly address health needs of adolescent populations
- using methodologies to assess the effectiveness of interventions specifically for adolescents, including adaptation of interventions of known effectiveness in other populations
- implementation research questions that address issues faced in making interventions of known effectiveness accessible to adolescent populations within the health system
- research that explores health system barriers to effective healthcare for adolescents, including user and provider perspectives, social and economic barriers, as well as policy and governance challenges
- capacity building, networking and community engagement.

All funders are committed to supporting capacity building in research and encourage proposals that incorporate capacity building within the whole project of work. Capacity-building elements should be set out in relation to the core intellectual agenda of the research proposal and not treated separately. The focus should be on the quality and impact of the research, and how increasing research capacity contributes to this. Proposals should demonstrate how capacity building for junior UK and LMIC researchers will lead to developing future scientific leadership.

**TITLE: Fondation Mérieux's grants programme**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Fondation Mérieux's**

**BUDGET: 5,000 euros**

**DUE DATE: September 1st**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Fondation Mérieux's grants programme contributes towards financing projects that aim to improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases. The projects including as beneficiaries mothers and children will be given priority. Fondation Mérieux's grants programme is open to the projects of private individuals, organizations or associations, provided that they are long-term and incorporate local health.

**The project must meet the following criteria:**

- It is run in developing countries by local people.
- It relates to HIV / AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, hepatitis neglected tropical infections and other infectious diseases that represent significant problems to public health.
- It provides concrete solutions that are suitable and sustainable for the local population and goes beyond education and outreach.

Each selected project will receive a maximum grant of 5,000 euros.

The programme has two sessions every year:

- For the first session, the deadline for receipt of applications is March 1st. A notification will be sent to the recipients at the end of April.
- For the second session, the deadline for receipt of applications is September 1st. A notification will be sent to the recipients at the end of October.

**Application process**

- To submit a project for selection and potentially receive a grant from Fondation Mérieux, applicants must
- provide the following documents:
- A summary of the project and budget details
- An explanation of the project, its objectives, partners and action plan;
- The Curriculum Vitae of an authorized representative from the organization;
- A copy of the organization's most recent audited of certified financial statements, from at least one year prior to the date of the grant application;
- A copy of the statutes or an official registration document for the organization.

**TITLE: Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Royal Academy of Engineering**

**BUDGET: £10,000**

**DUE DATE: 23 July 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Africa Prize encourages ambitious and talented sub-Saharan African engineers from all disciplines to apply their skills to develop scalable solutions to local challenges, highlighting the importance of engineering as an enabler of improved quality of life and economic development. Crucial commercialisation support is awarded to a shortlist of innovative applicants through an eight-month period of training and mentoring.

Following this period of mentorship, finalists are invited to present at an event held in Africa and a winner is selected to receive £25,000 along with three runners-up, who are each awarded £10,000

**HOW TO APPLY**

All applications must be submitted via the online grants system, applicants should ensure they read the guidance notes before submitting their application.

**Eligibility Criteria**

Applicants must have developed (or co-developed), or be in the process of developing (or co-developing) a new technological innovation. Applicants should have the ambition to take a leading role in creating a new business to commercialise this innovation.

Specific eligibility criteria are as follows:

Applicants must be individuals or small teams. Individual applicants must be citizens of a country in sub-Saharan Africa

For teams of two or more, the lead applicant must be a citizen of a country in sub-Saharan Africa

The innovation must be based in a country in sub-Saharan Africa

Applicants must have an engineering innovation, though are not required to be an engineering graduate or student

Applicants must provide a letter of support from a university or research institution, this can be as simple as stating an individual studied at that institution. If applicants are not affiliated with a university, another document proving the status of your organisation or innovation, such as a document of incorporation or similar, can be used.

The lead applicant must be over the age of 18. There is no upper age limit.

Industrial researchers and establishments are not eligible.

The applicant's innovation can be any new product, technology or service, based on research in engineering defined in its broadest sense to encompass a wide range of fields. This includes but is not limited to: agricultural technology, biotechnology, chemical engineering, civil engineering, computer science, design engineering, electrical and electronic engineering, ICT, materials science, mechanical engineering, and medical engineering. If you are in any doubt that your area of expertise would be considered engineering, then please contact the Academy to discuss your application.

Applicants should have achieved the development of, and be in the early stages of commercialising, an engineering innovation that:

1. Will bring social and/or environmental benefits to a country/countries in sub-Saharan Africa;
2. Has strong potential to be replicated and scaled-up;
3. Is accompanied by an ambitious but realistic business plan which has strong commercial viability.

**TITLE: Nature Research Awards for Inspiring Science**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Nature Research Awards**

**BUDGET: \$15,200 plus other benefits**

**DUE DATE: 11 June 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Inspiring Science Award is an annual award for researchers or academics who are female or who identify as female\* up to 10 years since completion of PhD (this is regardless of any maternity leave(s) or other leaves of absences, therefore the 10 years of research does not have to be continuous). Applicants not yet in a tenured position (tenure-track positions are suitable) and those who may have secured first or second round of post-doctoral or individual funding are eligible to apply.

The award will be given to a researcher or academic who has made an exceptional contribution to scientific discovery and the literature, sometimes in spite of resources, location or language skills, and exhibits the potential for developing and leading an independent research group:

- This is likely to be reflected in publications, poster presentations and/or conference presentations.
- Candidates are likely to have developed leadership skills, tutored undergraduate

students, and/or mentored graduate students and should show a capacity for mentorship and influencing the next generation of scientists in their country.

- We are particularly interested in hearing from candidates who have used social media or other forms of communication to showcase their own achievements, to network with researchers around the globe, who have organised events and/or facilitated access to science in their region. This will be supported by examples provided by the candidates.
- Applications are welcome from across the natural and social sciences – biology, chemistry, physics, earth & environment, clinical, applied & social sciences, maths and engineering (mirroring the scope of Nature itself).

Please note that researchers in areas that typically receive lower citations or engagement will have this taken into account during the application process.

The award is given globally. To ensure applications from developing and emerging STEM nations, location will be taken into account during the process. Applicants from listed Springer Nature Research for Life countries (<https://www.springernature.com/gb/group/responsible-business/research-for-life>) will be awarded an additional 5 points before judging officially begins.

**TITLE: Nature Research Awards for Innovating Science Award**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Nature Research Awards**

**BUDGET: \$15,200 plus other benefits**

**DUE DATE: 11 June 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Innovating Science Award is an annual award for an individual or a group\* from across academia, education, organisations and corporate entities who have set up or run grassroots initiatives that support girls and young women to study, engage with and enjoy STEM subjects.

The award will be given to an individual or a group who has made an exceptional contribution to the promotion and engagement of girls and young women in any area of STEM, and exhibits the potential for developing and encouraging more girls and young women to study STEM subjects

- These contributions are likely to include teaching courses, the development of online applications, apps or career material, running/being involved in organisations, events, social media campaigns or groups and/or speaking in or supporting schools.

- The candidates will have demonstrated the ability to go beyond the 'norm' and worked hard to encourage, support or promote the interest of girls and/or young women in any of the STEM subjects.

- Please note the grassroots initiative can be a day-job or an additional project (if an additional project the amount that can be achieved alongside a full-time job will be taken into consideration)

The award is given globally. To ensure applications from developing and emerging STEM nations, location will be taken into account during the process.

Applicants from listed Springer Nature Research for Life countries

(<https://www.springernature.com/gb/group/responsible-business/research-for-life>) will be awarded an additional 5 points before judging officially begins.

**Nominations**

The candidate(s) should fill in an application form including a description of the initiative and evidence of successfully increasing the interest and participation in STEM subjects among girls and young women alongside a supporting statement from an independent nominator. The independent nominator can be the candidate's principal investigator or someone from the candidate's research institute, company or organisation or other institution, but should not be personally involved in the activity or initiative that they are submitting for the award.



**TITLE: Nominations Open for 2019 the Third Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize!**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize**

**BUDGET: 100 million yen**

**DUE DATE: 31 July 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Nominations are open for 2019 the Third Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize with an aim to honour individuals with outstanding achievements in the fields of medical research and medical services to combat infectious and other diseases in Africa, thus contributing to the health and welfare of the African people and of all humankind.

The Laureates will be announced in 2019 and the award ceremony will be held during the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7).

**Categories**

The Prize consists of two categories:

- Medical Research which honors individual(s)
- Medical Services which honors individual(s) and organization(s).

**Scope**

- **Medical Research**
  - Basic medical research
  - Clinical medical research

- Research in all fields of life science closely related to medicine

- **Medical Services**

- Field-level medical/public health activities to combat diseases and advance public health

**Award Information**

The Prize consists of a citation, a medal and 100 million yen (equivalent to about one million US dollars).

**Eligibility Criteria**

- No distinction will be made based on the nationality, age or gender of the nominees, who are limited to people still living.
- Nominee eligibility for the two categories are as follows:

- **Medical Research**

- Nominations are in principle to be for one individual. In the case of joint research, however, a maximum of three individuals will be considered.

- **Medical Services**

- In the case of nominating an organization, nominations are limited to one currently active organization

**TITLE: Global Leap Off-Grid Cold Chain Challenge for sustainable technologies for cold storage of food**

**FUNDING AGENCY: Global LEAP Off-Grid Cold Chain Challenge**

**BUDGET:**

**DUE DATE: 31st May 2018**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The **Global LEAP Off-Grid Cold Chain Challenge (OGCCC)** is an international competition to identify and promote the most energy-efficient, sustainable and cost-effective technologies that can meet the cold storage requirements for fresh fruits, vegetables and dairy products in the following countries: Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

The Challenge was developed in partnership with Energy 4 Impact and support from the UK Department for International Development through the Ideas to Impact Programme to stimulate off-grid cold chain refrigeration for farmers and small traders, enabling better commercialisation of agricultural produce.

By supporting the development of innovative cold chain solutions that run off clean energy, the Off-Grid Cold Chain Challenge will catalyse technology innovation and market development.

Innovation prizes will be awarded to products that demonstrate innovation in energy efficiency, off-grid appropriateness, scalability and feasibility of deployment. A category will be eliminated if there is not more than one nominee and prize money distributed between the other categories.

**Benefits to Winners and Finalists**

Global LEAP Off-Grid Cold Chain Challenge Winners and Finalists benefit in the following ways:

- Shortlisted technologies will receive a cash prize of £10,000 to cover shipping and set-up costs in an eligible country. Four category winners will receive innovation prizes of £37,500.
- Attraction of further investment or development for piloting, replication and scaling, with franchise development for larger technology manufacturers.
- Opportunity to participate in donor initiatives and programmes dedicated to cold chains in developing countries.
- Use of the Global LEAP Awards logo and brand.
- All shortlisted technologies will be promoted in a global campaign, which will include publicity and networking opportunities with distributors and investors.

# Planned 2018 calls for proposals

The EDCTP calls for proposals are supported through three distinct types of Horizon 2020 'actions':

- **Research & Innovation Actions (RIA)** are multicentre clinical trials conducted by research consortia involving both European and African re-search teams, with integrated capacity development and networking elements.
- **Coordination & Support Actions (CSA)** support activities that strengthen the enabling environment for conducting clinical trials and clinical research, including ethical review and regulatory capacity.
- **Training & Mobility Actions (TMA)** are fellowships that focus on the career development of individual researchers or research team members.

In 2018, EDCTP intends to launch 11 calls for proposals to support clinical research and related activities on poverty-related diseases (PRDs). Details of the call texts are planned to be published on the website in May 2018, pending approval of the EDCTP work plan for 2018 by the European Commission and the EDCTP General Assembly. **All dates are therefore indicative.**

## Diagnostic tools for poverty-related diseases

Type:	Research & Innovation Action (RIA)
Procedure:	Two-stage application
Open to applications:	4 July 2018
Deadline for applications:	11 October 2018

## Advances in product development for effective prevention, treatment and management of co-infections and co-morbidities

Type:	Research & Innovation Action (RIA)
Procedure:	Two-stage application
Open to applications:	4 July 2018
Deadline for applications:	18 October 2018

## Strategic action for overcoming drug resistance in malaria

Type:	Research & Innovation Action (RIA)
Procedure:	Single-stage application
Open to applications:	4 July 2018
Deadline for applications:	30 October 2018

## Vaccines for diarrhoeal diseases or lower respiratory tract infections

Type:	Research & Innovation Action (RIA)
Procedure:	Single-stage application
Open to applications:	4 July 2018
Deadline for applications:	30 October 2018

## Strategic action for the comparison, selection and development of malaria vaccine candidates

Type:	Research & Innovation Action (RIA)
Procedure:	Single-stage application
Open to applications:	4 July 2018
Deadline for applications:	1 November 2018

## Capacity development to facilitate delivery and uptake of new or improved medical interventions in African health systems

Type:	Coordination & Support Actions (CSA)
Procedure:	Two-stage application
Open to applications:	4 July 2018
Deadline for applications:	18 October 2018

## Ethics and regulatory capacities

Type:	Coordination & Support Actions (CSA)
Procedure:	Single-stage application
Open to applications:	2 August 2018
Deadline for applications:	22 November 2018

## Career Development Fellowships

Type:	Training & Mobility Actions (TMA)
Procedure:	Single-stage application
Open to applications:	6 August 2018
Deadline for applications:	27 November 2018

## EDCTP Clinical Research and Product Development Fellowships

Type:	Training & Mobility Actions (TMA)
Procedure:	Single-stage application
Open to applications:	25 October 2018
Deadline for applications:	1 February 2019

## EDCTP-AREF Preparatory Fellowships

Type:	Training & Mobility Actions (TMA)
Procedure:	Two-stage application
Open to applications:	2 November 2018
Deadline for applications:	February 2019

## Senior Fellowships

Type:	Training & Mobility Actions (TMA)
Procedure:	Single-stage application
Open to applications:	2 November 2018
Deadline for applications:	28 February 2019

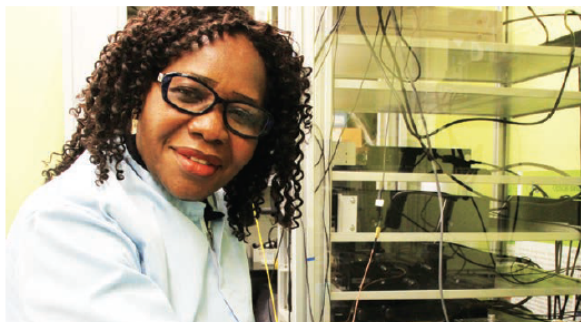
# PEOPLE



**BEYOND ICFO**  
Emilie Wientjes shares her "beyond ICFO" experience with ICFONIANS.

p. 10

## IN FOCUS



## Women for Africa Foundation

**Contributing to sustainable development in Africa through the drive of female scientists like Prof. Rose Alani**

**ICFO participates for the third consecutive year in the Science by Women program, sharing our knowledge and facilities, while benefiting from the expertise and perspectives of a visiting senior researcher in the ICFO community.**

**The Women for Africa Foundation** (Fundación Mujeres por África), a private entity aimed at contributing to the sustainable development of Africa through the drive of its women, began the Science By Women program in 2014, offering fellowships for African women scientists to spend a six month sabbatical in a Severo Ochoa Research Institute in Spain. The program specifically aims to enable African women scientists to tackle the great challenges faced by Africa through research which can be transferred into products and technologies having impact on people's lives.

**Prof. Rose Alani:**  
Senior Lecturer in the Chemistry Department at the University of Lagos. (Nigeria)

**Research Interests**  
Air quality monitoring, particularly passive air monitoring for POPs with the main aim of assessing the status of the environmental pollutants in coastal regions along the Maritime Silk Road from Southeast Asia to Africa and the globe as a whole. Other interests include ambient air monitoring of the chemical compositions, sources and health impact of fine particulate matters (PM2.5) in Nigeria.

**Work at ICFO**  
Prof. Alani will spend March through August 2018 working with the Optoelectronics research group led by ICREA Prof. at ICFO Valerio Prunerì to develop new photonic technology platforms for air pollution assessment and water quality monitoring.

*"The Women for Africa Foundation... did not just provide funds but made possible the collaboration with ICFO."*

**What motivated you to participate in the Visiting Senior Research Fellowships program?**

**Rose Alani:** The World Health Organization (WHO) recently showed four cities in Nigeria as the worst cities in the world for air pollution. A love for my country and passion for my people motivated me to search for solutions. Air pollution is a serious problem because of its ease of proliferation, direct negative health effects on humans and potential to pollute both land and water.

**What inspired you to pursue a career in science?**

**RA:** My first teachers were my parents who both taught mathematics and science related subjects. All but one of my ten siblings work in science related fields. In secondary school, my Chemistry teacher, Miss Ette, took special interest in me. Physics was my best subject but somehow, I ended up with Chemistry. My late husband, Mr Anthony Alani, helped me to realize my dream of earning my PhD in Environmental/Analytical Chemistry and sponsored my stay in the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research (GLIER), University of Windsor, Ontario, where I did all my PhD laboratory work. The University of Lagos took over the sponsorship of my PhD program after the demise of my husband. My pastors also gave me a great push. I remarried and my husband, Mr Adekunle Adelani and my five children are a very strong positive influence to me, even now.

**Are there any obstacles that make it more difficult for women to access scientific careers in Nigeria?**

**RA:** In Nigeria, and I think in Africa as a whole, everyone belongs to each other and so has responsibility towards each other in the family and the community. Women's responsibilities are multifaceted: facing her career, being a wife, being a mother, being a sister, being a child to both her biological parents and her husband's parents, also being a good neighbor. An African woman needs the grace of God and all available support to survive all these and still go into reasonable scientific research.

**What issue would you most like to see resolved for the next generation of women scientists in Nigeria?**

**RA:** I would like to see communities encourage their girls to go to school and to bring them back to school if they are put in the family way during their education. This would require support from the government or NGOs. The government should give all the necessary support and encouragement to women scientists, knowing that as homemakers they will surely use their scientific research to better their society.

**What role will this sabbatical program play in overcoming challenges in your country?**

**RA:** The Women for Africa Foundation stepped in when I was facing challenges and frustrations of lack of capacity and lack of access to proper experimental infrastructures to resolve problems in my research. They did not just provide funds but made possible the collaboration with ICFO. This will help to bridge the knowledge gap and provide the infrastructures necessary for tackling the pressing air pollution problem in Africa generally and in Nigeria in particular. This research, when concluded, will have a great impact on air and water quality monitoring in Nigeria.

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