CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR UR-SWEDEN PROGRAMME RESEARCH GRANTS FOR THE 2019/2020 CYCLE

In line with UR's 10-year strategic plan, a five-year UR Research Vision guided by "*UR's Theory of Change*", is to focus on research training, capacity building and knowledge generation taking cognisance of the interdisciplinary research clusters derived from national and sectoral priorities, as well as from national and global developmental agendas. These include the Rwanda's Vision 2050, National Strategy for Transformation (NST1, 2017-2024), Africa Union's Agenda 2063 and the SDGs (Agenda 2030). In this regard, UR-Directorate of Research and Innovation is calling for research proposals in specified categories from UR academic staff. The funding scheme is financed through the UR-Sweden Programme of Research, Higher Education and Institutional Advancement, by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida). While these grants are competitive, the college balanced distribution of quality proposals will be taken into account.

Proposals aligned to the University of Rwanda Research Clusters (**Appendix 1**) are invited from the University of Rwanda Academic staff in the following categories.

  i. Four (4) research grants for female academics
  ii. Four (4) research grants for academics who have completed PhD in the last 3 years.
  iii. Seventeen (17) competitive research grants open to all academics.
  iv. Two (2) research grants for interdisciplinary research with collaboration between two or more different schools or colleges of UR and having one or two Co-PIs, and Co-Investigators

A proposal can be submitted to **ONLY ONE** category of grants, and a researcher cannot be a PI in more than **ONE** proposal.

3. Eligibility for funding

(i) A PI must be a holder of a PhD degree, and where the PI does not have a PhD degree but has a Master's degree, the Co-Investigator (Co-I) must have a PhD degree. The research team must have a proven evidence of research activeness based on research publications in the UR approved journal databases;

(ii) The research team should include postgraduate students where possible;

(iii) Gender balance must be taken into account in terms of composition of researchers, research subjects as well as in addressing the gender dimension within the research content;

(iv) The research proposal should be aligned with at least one of the ten UR Research Clusters that address the national priority needs and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). (**Appendix 2**) This includes the need for generating new knowledge (both fundamental and applied) preferably using multidisciplinary approach.

4. Non-eligibility: A PI who has an ongoing research project, or abandoned a research project funded through UR is not eligible.

5. Project Duration: The successful research projects will be funded for a maximum of 24 months.

6. Budget: The budget can include but not be limited to the following broad areas of research activities:

(i) *Purchase of minor* **equipment and consumables** (e.g. laptop, chemicals and reagents, stationery, etc.);

(ii) *Data collection and analysis:* Laboratory and/or field work; data access and analysis which may include short visits abroad (if budget allows), etc.

(iii) *Research Dissemination:* conference attendance, production of brochures, feedback to stakeholder's events, etc.

(iv) *Capacity building:* Participate in specialised training.

(v) *Other approved operational activities*

The natural and applied science based projects will be funded to a maximum of Rwf 18,000,000, while the Humanities and Social Science based projects will be at a maximum of Rwf 12,000,000. *Interdisciplinary project* with collaboration between two or more different schools or colleges of UR and having one or two Co-PIs or Co-Investigators will be funded to a maximum of Rwf 21,000,000.

7. Proposal Template

All applications must follow the format given in the proposal template on the link provided below. **(Appendix 3)**

8. How to Apply

The grant application endorsed by the College Director of Research and Innovation of the concerned College should be submitted to the UR Directorate of Research and Innovation using the following email address: director.research.innovation@gmail.com.

Enclose the following in your application:

i. A letter addressed to the **University Director of Research and Innovation**;
ii. The completed application template;
iii. Current CVs of the Principal Investigators and all Co-Investigators that include a list of up to 10 current peer reviewed publications;
iv. List of all research projects in which the investigators on the team have been involved (if any)

EXTENSION OF DEADLINE

Call closes: 04th November, 2019

Late submissions WILL NOT be accepted

Prof Deogratius Jaganyi
UR-Director of Research and Innovation