THE USE OF NRF 2017 RESEARCH GRANTS TO PROMOTE COLLABORATION AND SHARING OF RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

PRESENTATION AT HEADS OF INSTITUTIONS FORUM

BY

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NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND
OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Vision and Mission of NRF
- Functions of NRF
- Categories Funded by NRF
- Review Process
- Proposals received and processed in 2016/2017 FY
- Conclusion
Introduction

- In line with global trends and consistence with the African Union position, the government of Kenya formulated Science, Technology and Innovation Policy to integrate ST&I in national development.

- One of the strategic issues in the ST&I Policy was aimed at securing adequate and sustainable funding for various ST&I components that would facilitate cost implementation of the Policy such as:
  - Development of mechanisms to mobilize financial resources from both public and private sector for ST&I
  - Development and promotion of a robust institutional framework for mobilization and management of ST&I resources for strategic national priority areas
Cont.

- Support for establishment of a mechanism for regular review of the funding mechanisms in ST&I, and
- Review of administrative and financial procedures for ST&I Funding to enhance realization of set targets
- To achieve this goal, institutional re-organization and strategic alignment was necessary
- In view of the above, Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 was enacted
NACOSTI – NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

KENIA – KENYA NATIONAL INNOVATION AGENCY

NRF – NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND
Cont.

- NACOSTI has regulatory, coordination and advisory role
- KENIA manages the Kenya National Innovation System and drives the commercialization of innovations
- NRF facilitates research for the advancement of science, technology and innovation
The major components of the Kenya National Innovation System include:

- demand for science, technology and innovation
- education and research system
- business system
- intermediate organizations
- ST&I infrastructure framework conditions and governance systems
ST&I DEMAND

CONSUMERS (final demand)

PRODUCERS (intermediate demand)

BUSINESS SYSTEM

Large & multinational companies

Micro, small & medium enterprises

Start-up companies

INTERMEDIARIES

- Professional associations
- Academies of Sciences
- Special interest groups

EDUCATION & RESEARCH SYSTEM

Universities

TVET institutions

Research institutes & centres

Schools

National Research and Education Networks

FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS

- Financial Environment
- Taxation and Incentives
- Collaboration
- Commercialization
- Levels of education and literacy

GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

National Commission for Science Technology Innovation (NACOSTI)

National Research Fund (NRF)

Kenya National Innovation Agency (KENIA)

ST&I INFRASTRUCTURE

FINANCE

- Government
- Private sector financiers (Banks, Venture capitalists, Angel investors & Angel investor networks)

IPR & INFORMATION

- KIPI
- KNBS, Among others

STANDARDS & NORMS

- KEBS
- ICTA
- NEMA
- KENAS, Among others

INNOVATION & BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Incubation & commercialization
- Science & technology parks
- Special economic zones
Cont.

- 2008/2009
  - KES 250M

- 2015/2016
  - KES 497M

- 2016/2017
  - KES 3B

NRF (545 research projects)

Endowment Fund

Supported 1,816 research projects and innovations
Vision and Mission of NRF

Vision
A world-class research funding agency for competitive knowledge economy

Mission
To mobilize resources for research, capacity development, dissemination of findings and maintenance of inventory for advancement of Science Technology and Innovation for sustainable National Development
Functions of NRF

Mobilize Resources

- ME & R of funded projects
- Promote Dissemination of R&D Findings
- Promote Development of ST&I Infrastructure
- Promote Multi-disciplinary collaborations in ST&I

Management and investment of the Mobilized Resources

- Promote Human capital Development
- Promote Development of Research Capacities

Promote Development of ST&I Infrastructure
Resource Mobilization and Management

- Venture Capitalists
- Business Enterprises/Start ups (incubation)
- Philanthropists
- Innovators (concept, prototype, commercialization)
- Higher Education (Universities & TVET)
- PPP and Tax Rebate
- Public Research Institutions
- Strategic partnerships (Both local, and international)

2% GDP
Categories funded by NRF

- Postgraduate
- Thematic Research
- Infrastructure Support
- Bilateral and Multilateral Support
- Innovations
- Conferences, Workshops and Seminars
Infrastructure Support

- Development of research facilities by universities, research institutions and other bodies
- Facility to serve other institutions within its environment
- Funding: Ksh. 100,000,000
Review Process

Composition of Review Panel

- An external Chairperson
- Discipline based Reviewers
- A Secretariat
Role of the Chairman

- Preside over the review meeting
- Moderate discussions during report writing of their Panel
- liaise with the panel secretariat for clarification of rules

Role of the Reviewers:

- Apply prescribed tools and process to review proposals assigned to them
- Present the panel with a summary report of the review
Role of the Panel Secretariat:

- provide administrative and logistical support services to the Chairperson and the panel members
- prepare all required documentation in support of the task of the reviewers
- Collection of essential meeting documentation completed by panel reviewers (e.g. panel assessment forms, confidentiality forms, conflict of interest forms, attendance register, etc.)
# Proposals received in 2016/2017FY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PhD</th>
<th>Msc./MA</th>
<th>MMC</th>
<th>Infrastructure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposals received</strong></td>
<td>439</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposals rejected at screening</strong></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reviewed proposals</strong></td>
<td>415</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposals recommended for funding</strong></td>
<td>207</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Successful applications in 2016/2017 FY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MMC</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Msc./MA</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kenya-UK</strong></td>
<td><strong>No.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Links Bilateral</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researcher Links Bilateral</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researcher Links Trilateral</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa Funded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researcher Links Trilateral</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Bilateral and multilateral Programs 2017/2018 FY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Applications Reviewed</th>
<th>No of applications Shortlisted</th>
<th>No of Final Projects to be funded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Links</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researcher Links Bi-lateral</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researcher Links Tri-lateral</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>66</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

NRF does not support the following:

- Administrative cost
- Purchase of Vehicles
- Payment of Salaries
- Purchase of laptops
- Lease of offices
- Construction of buildings
THANK YOU

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