



NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

STRENGTHENING THE PARTNERSHIP AMONG GOVERNMENT, ACADEMIA AND INDUSTRY IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Call Opening Date: 21st July, 2021

Call Closing Date: 20th August, 2021

1. BACKGROUND

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), established by the Science and Technology Act No. 26 of 1997, is a statutory body through which Governments directs policy in the development and application of science and technology in the country. The Council is mandated to promote, regulate and coordinate research and innovation, mobilise resources for science, technology and innovation (STI) and advise Government on STI matters, among other functions.

The NSTC is one of the Science Granting Councils (SGCs) participating in the Science Granting Councils Initiative (SGCI) for Sub Saharan Africa. The SGCI seeks to strengthen the capacities of the participating SGCs in supporting research and evidence-based policies that will contribute to socio-economic development of the countries.

The success of a country therefore is largely dependent on the level of collaboration among the three main pillars: Government, Academia and Industry. Successful management of collaboration among the three main pillars requires development and observation of performance measures. The measures provide valuable data for more effective management within and among the main actors. Policy makers and science support institutions such as the NSTC utilize results to determine further development directions and corrective measures.

In this regard, the NSTC secured a Grant from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, under the auspices of the SGCI, to fund a project aimed at **strengthening partnerships among Government, Academia and Industry (Triple Helix), the main pillars in Zambia's Research and Innovation ecosystem**. The Grant, is based on a co-funding arrangement between the IDRC on one hand and the NSTC on the other.



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2. OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL

The main aim of this study is to get an understanding of the local context of the Triple Helix relationship among Government, Academia and Industry and generate critical knowledge and policy advice and contribute to socio-economic development.

The specific objective is to develop a model to promote collaboration among Government, Academia and Industry, to foster innovations.

3. RATIONALE OF THE CALL

Science, technology and innovation (STI) are fundamental for a country's growth and transition from natural resource dependency to knowledge-based economies. Success of a country's economy is largely dependent on the level of partnership between the three main pillars of the economy; Government, Industry, and Academia. Successful establishment and management of this partnership requires development and observation of performance measures that are important in informing interventions, facilitatory and corrective actions to build and sustain the partnership among the pillars.

The Council is therefore calling for project proposals to undertake a study to understand Zambia's triple helix relationship and generate evidence-based policy advice for **establishing and strengthening partnerships among Government, Industry and Academia** in the country.

4. GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION

4.1. Scope of the Call

The study must address the following:

- i. Provide an in-depth insight and evaluate the performance of the Triple Helix (Government-Industry-Academia) relationship in Zambia.
- ii. Provide recommendations and tools for effective policy making and collaboration within and among Triple Helix actors.

4.2. Funding Ceiling and Expenses

The overall indicative amount made available under this call for proposals is **Eight Hundred Thousand Kwacha only (ZMW800,000.00)**.



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Only 'eligible costs' can be covered under this grant. The categories of costs that are eligible and non-eligible are indicated below:

Eligible costs:

- i. Research fees
- ii. Research materials and supplies
- iii. Research equipment and accessories
- iv. Local travel and associated costs
- v. Dissemination of results and publications
- vi. Institutional Administrative cost at 5% of the total budget
- vii. Monitoring and Evaluation cost at 5% of the total budget

Non-eligible costs:

- i. Salaries and Honoraria for the research team
- ii. Institutional financial management costs such as audit fees
- iii. Insurance costs not related to the project

4.3. Project Duration

The planned maximum project duration shall not exceed **twelve (12) months**.

4.4. Eligibility

This Call is open to:

- i. Public and private institutions and organization.
- ii. The team leader must have a minimum of a Masters degree in a relevant field and must have a minimum of five (5) years' experience in similar undertakings

Females and differently abled persons are strongly encouraged to apply.

4.5. How to Apply

Applicants must submit a **Proposal** electronically to: **srf@nstc.org.zm** and copied to **nstc@nstc.org.zm**. Hard copy applications will **not** be accepted.

The Closing Date for submitting applications is **20th August, 2021**. **Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.**



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5. REVIEW AND SELECTION OF PROPOSALS

- i. Proposals will be evaluated and reviewed by independent experts. Selection of projects will be on merit and priority, taking into consideration the following:
 - Potential significant contribution to strengthening the triple helix relationship in Zambia
 - Scientific merit and quality of the proposed project;
 - Multidisciplinarity of the proposed project;
 - Originality and innovativeness of the proposed project;
 - Collaboration and capacity of the research team.

- ii. The decisions of the Approvals Committee shall be final.

For further information and inquiries, contact NSTC on **Telephone: +260-211-255854, E-mail: nstc@nstc.org.zm**.