**RESEARCH AND INNOVATION DISSEMINATION AND FUNDING INFORMATION WORKSHOP**

**DATE: TUESDAY, 19TH AUGUST, 2025**

**VENUE: THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA (UNZA)**

**SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING – NEW LECTURE THEATRE II**

**Background**

The Research and Innovation Dissemination and Funding Information Workshop aims to provide a platform for researchers in Zambia to explore funding opportunities and enhance collaborative efforts. With the increasing importance of research and innovation in addressing both local and global challenges, this workshop seeks to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to navigate various funding landscapes, including those offered by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) and Horizon Europe. Notably, the recently launched Horizon Europe "Africa Initiative III," which features 24 call topics and a total budget of over 500 million euros, will be presented in detail to the participants.

**Objective**

The primary objective of the workshop is to inform and empower researchers by showcasing successful funded projects and providing comprehensive insights into available funding mechanisms, including those under the Horizon Europe "Africa Initiative III." Through presentations, testimonials, and hands-on demonstrations, attendees will gain practical knowledge on how to apply for grants, engage with international funding programmes, and develop collaborative research proposals. Ultimately, the workshop aims to foster stronger partnerships between African and European researchers, enhancing the overall impact of research initiatives and leveraging the substantial funding opportunities provided by Horizon Europe.

**Organisers**

The workshop is organised by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) in collaboration with the University of Zambia (UNZA), the Delegation of the EU to the African Union and EURAXESS Africa.

**PROGRAMME**

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| **TIME** | **ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION** | **PRESENTER** |
| 08:30 – 09:00 | Registration | NSTC & UNZA |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | **Welcoming and Introductory Remarks** | |
|  |  | **Prof. Michelo Syakalima**  NSTC Executive Secretary |
|  |  | **Prof. Trywell Kalusopa**  UNZA DVC – Research and Innovation |
|  |  | **Dr. Laurent Bochereau**  Minister-Counselor for Science, Technology, and Innovation at the Delegation of the EU to the AU |
| **Session 1:** | **Funded Research Testimonials** | |
| 09:30 – 09:55 | **1. NSTC-National Research Fund - SGCI Collaborative Research Participants** | |
|  | 1. Electric vehicle battery manufacturing value chain in Zambia - Lithium electric vehicle battery precursors. | **Dr. Jewette Masinja**  University of Zambia (UNZA)  School of Mines |
|  | 1. Soil extracted microbes for biofertilizers: Nature’s options for climate resilient crop production systems. | **Dr. Ikabongo Mukumbuta**  Golden Valley Agricultural Research Trust (GART) |
|  | **Q&A** |  |
| 09:55 – 10:30 | **2. Horizon Europe and ARISE Participants** | |
|  | 1. Gastric cancer in Zambia: A comprehensive evaluation of epidemiology and mechanisms of carcinogenesis | **Dr Violet Kayamba**  UNZA – School of Medicine |
|  | 1. Agile Exploration and Geo-modelling for European Critical Raw materials | **Dr. Cryton Phiri**  UNZA – School of Mines |
|  | 1. Geospatial Artificial Intelligence Analysis for Tailings Storage Facilities | **Dr. Mwansa Chabala**  **Copperbelt University** |
|  | **Q&A** |  |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | ***Health break / Viewing of Posters & Exhibits*** |  |
| **Session 2:** | **Research Funding Opportunities** | |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | **1. NSTC Funding:**  - National Research Fund (NRF) and Science and Technology Innovation Youth Fund (STIYF) structure, eligibility criteria, and general application timelines  **Q&A** | **Atridah Mulonga**  Programme Development and Implementation - NSTC |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | **2. EU Horizon Europe Funding:**   * Introduction to Horizon Europe Programme * Rules & Instruments * Call for Proposals (for year 2025) * Finding Partners for the Horizon Europe proposal * The Focal Point * African Participation in Horizon Europe * Other Related EU funded Programmes   **Q&A** | **Dr Laurent Bochereau**  Minister-Counselor for Science, Technology, and Innovation at the Delegation of the EU to the AU |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | 1. **Support Mechanisms for African Researchers in Horizon Europe through EURAXESS Africa:**   -EURAXESS Africa services, and available funding, mobility, and networking opportunities for African researchers and organizations through Horizon Europe  **Q&A** | **Dr. Yedilfana Setarge Mekonnen**  A Regional Representative for EURAXESS Africa and Associate Professor at Addis Ababa University |
| 12:30 – 13:00 | **4. Erasmus+ Funding:**  Erasmus+ structure, eligibility criteria, and general application timelines  **Q&A** | **Njira M’tonga**  Programme Manager  Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Zambia and COMESA |
|  | ***Lunch break*** |  |
| **Session 3:** | **Hands-on demonstration on how to participate in the Horizon Europe programme** | |
| 14:00 – 15:00 | * How to identify the opportunities under the programme * How to access the financing * How to prepare and submit the proposal * How to search for partners   **Q&A** | **Prof. Yedilfana Setarge Mekonnen**  A Regional Representative for EURAXESS Africa and Associate Professor at Addis Ababa University |
| 15:00 – 15.10 | ***Health break*** |  |
| **High-Level Closing Session** | | |
| 15:10 – 15:40 | **Roundtable on AU-EU Innovation Agenda and the High-Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation (HLPD). Status and Lessons Learned** | Moderated by Atridah Mulonga |
|  | Ministry of Technology and Science (MOTS) | **Dr. Brilliant Haabeenzu**  Permanent Secretary - MOTS |
|  | NSTC | **Prof. Sody Munsaka**  NSTC Council Chairperson |
|  | UNZA | **Prof. Mundia Muya**  UNZA Vice Chancellor |
|  | EU Delegation to the AU | **Dr. Laurent Bochereau**  Minister-Counselor for Science, Technology, and Innovation at the Delegation of the EU to the AU |
| 15:40 – 15:50 | **Project Showcases** |  |
|  | **ARISE Grantee** | **Dr Violet Kayamba**  UNZA – School of Medicine |
|  | **Horizon Europe Participant** | **Dr. Crayton Phiri**  UNZA – School of Mines |
| 15:50 – 16:00 | **Address by H.E The Ambassador of the Delegation of the EU to the Republic of Zambia and COMESA** | **H.E Karolina Stasiak** |
| 16:00 – 16:10 | **Address by the Hon. Minister of Technology and Science** | **Hon. Felix C. Mutati MP.** |
| 16:10 – 16:25 | **Viewing of Posters and Exhibits** |  |
| 16:25 – 16:45 | **Group Photo** |  |
|  | **Press Interviews** |  |
|  | Departure at Leisure |  |