**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS**

**-YOUNG SCIENTIST PILOT RESEARCH PROJECT**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**NOTICE**

This is an open call for proposals for all KAFACI member countries

**This Request for Proposals will be open until the 17th of October, 2016**

1. **BACKGROUND**

**1.1 The Young Scientist Pilot Research Project**

The project was discussed during the KAFACI Planning Meetings on 5 programs (Basic Agricultural Science, Horticulture, Livestock, Food Crops and Agricultural Extension) held from February to April, 2014 and confirmed at the 3rd General Assembly held in Zimbabwe in May 2015. The Rural Development Administration of Korea finally secured the funding for the project and would like to roll out the project from the end of this year 2016.

* 1. **Objectives of the Request for Proposals**

The specific objective is to train young agricultural scientist from KAFACI member countries.

1. **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**
	1. **Eligibility of Applicants**

In order to be eligible under this project, applicants must:

1. Be under the age of 40 years at the time of application.
2. Not be a Principal Investigator (PI) in any of the KAFACI projects
3. Specifically have some knowledge within the 5 programs running under KAFACI
4. **PROJECT DESIGN**

3.1 Research areas are expected to be in the priority areas of any of the 5 programs that are running under KAFACI (Annex 1). The programs are Livestock, Horticulture, Food crops, Basic agricultural science and Agricultural extension. The exception is only when the scientist has a very brilliant idea outside the priority areas of the 5 programs. *The allocation of the 10 research projects across the 5 programs will depend on the strength of the proposals received*.

3.2 The project includes capacity building on the job training in Korea at ITCC, RDA**.**

3.3 A proposal template has been attached to guide the proposal design.

**\*\*\*However the information contained is for illustration only, you have to provide information relevant to your area of research.**

1. **FUNDING AND TIME FRAMES**

A total budget of **US$25,000** in two years of the project (US$12,500 per year) is available for each chosen research area. A total of 10 research projects will be accepted and funded. The duration of the project is 2 (two) years from November 2016-October 2018.

1. **ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION OF APPLICATIONS.**

Applications will be examined and assessed based on the applications submitted. Every year, evaluation team including KAFACI STAC Members and Korean counter parts will evaluate each research activity.

\*\* **Scientists who fail to cooperate during project implementation will be penalized**

1. **ATTACHMENTS TO ACCOMPANY THE APPLICATIONS.**

The following documents should accompany the proposal:

1. **Curriculum Vitae of the Principal Investigator (PI)**
2. **WHERE AND HOW TO SEND THE APPLICATIONS.**

The applications must be submitted through the email to *kafaci@korea.kr*

1. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS.**

The deadline for submitting applications is 17th of October 2016.

1. **NOTICE TO APPLICANTS.**

Applicants will be notified by the KAFACI secretariat of the decision concerning their applications.

1. **QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.**

Questions and clarifications may be sent via e-mail to the following address; kafaci@korea.kr

1. **AWARDING PROCEDURE.**

**Request for Proposals → Contest → Selection**

**ANNEX 1**

**PRIORITY LIST UNDER THE 5 KAFACI PROGRAMS**

**Basic Agricultural Science**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Research Theme Area** | **Project** | **Rank** |
| **Biotechnology** | INRA-KAFACI center of excellence for molecular breeding and capacity building for member countries | **1** |
| **Biotechnology** | Use of tissue culture for rapid multiplication of specific disease free crop varieties among KAFACI member countries | **2** |
| **Mechanization** | Development of suitable seedling machines for African small scale farmers | **3** |
| **Genetic resources**  | Conservation and seed quality management of genetic materials | **4** |
| **Genetic resources**  | Collection and gene profiling of genetic materials | **5** |
| **Soil sciences** | Establishment/improvement of soil information system  | **6** |
| **Soil sciences** | Identification and development in each agro-ecological area of the best soil and water management and agricultural productivity maintenance techniques | **7** |

**Horticulture**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Subsector** | **Project** | **Rank** |
| **Postharvest** | Development and Dissemination of Appropriate Postharvest Technologies of Major Horticultural Crops for Small-scale Farmers in Africa | **1** |
| **Tomato** | African Regional Consortium of Tomato Improvement Excellence: Improving Tomato productivity in a variable and changing climate | **2** |
| **Citrus** | Citrus plant material improvement and crop management enhancement for increased productivity, fruit quality, and marketability  | **3** |
| **Pepper** | Improvement of pepper (Capsicum spp. L.) production and productivity in selected African countries  | **4** |
| **Cabbage** | Development of seed production, crop protection, and postharvest technologies for cabbage | **5** |

**Food Crops**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Crops** | **Projects** | **Rank** |
| **Rice** | Development of high-yielding rice varieties tolerant/resistant to blast, drought, and low nitrogen | **1** |
| **Maize** | Development of varieties (OPV and hybrids) with resistance to pest and diseases | **2** |
| **Rice** | Study to design and modify harvester and thresher for use by smallholder rice farmers | **3** |
| **Rice** | Development of appropriate agronomic practices to improve upland rice productivity in terms of plant density and organic/inorganic fertilizers | **4** |
| **Maize** | Promotion of maize management practices for low N and acidic soil by use of crop legumes and rotation | **5** |
| **Maize** | Development of ‘Aflasafe’ maize variety (OPV and hybrids) | **6** |
| **Cassava** | Development of cassava breeding lines with resistance to cassava brown streak (CBSD) | **7** |
| **Cassava** | Development of cassava with improved agronomic performance and consumer preference | **8** |
| **Maize** | Development, promotion, and dissemination of effective postharvest technologies for drying, storage, and processing | **9** |
| **Others** | Evaluation of genetic resources of wheat and cowpea for resistance to biotic stresses | **10** |
| **Maize** | Development of varieties (OPV and hybrid) tolerant to drought and with nutrient use efficiency | **11** |
| **Others** | Evaluation of millet genotypes from various sources for Striga resistance | **12** |
| **Cassava** | Enhancement of availability and accessibility of quality “seed” for cassava growers | **13** |
| **Others** | Evaluation of modern agronomic management packages for food crops to small-scale farmers’ practices | **14** |
| **Others** | Scaling up of post-harvest technology in cereals and legumes for the control of storage pests | **15** |
| **Cassava** | Development of processing technology for value addition and prolonging shelf life in cassava | **16** |
| **Others** | Marker assisted selection of sorghum for Striga resistance | **17** |

**Livestock**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Subsector** | **Project** | **Rank** |
| **Poultry** | Utilization of locally available feed resources for chicken and promotion of good management (health and housing) for increased productivity | **1** |
| **Cattle** | Improvement of milk and beef production of cattle through improving nutrition and management | **2** |
| Improvement of milk and beef production of cattle through improving genetic make-up using modern breeding technologies. | **3** |
| **Livestock** | Improving the small ruminants production in Africa | **4** |
| **Pig** | Transforming the pig industry within the west African sub-region through the use of improved reproduction technologies. | **5** |

**Agricultural Extension**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Subsector** | **Project** | **Rank** |
| **Capacity****Building** | Building capacity of farmers for improved demand articulation and acquisition of agricultural extension services.  | **1** |
| Building capacity of extension workers for improved delivery of agricultural extension services.  | **2** |
| Institutional capacity development on the best use of research results and technologies | **3** |
| Improving agriculture productivity by enhancing farmer research results and technologies. | **4** |
| **Network****Reinforcement** | Improve networking among participating countries for enhancing information sharing through innovative information and communication technologies/methods  | **5** |
| Network Reinforcement for extension and research programs  | **6** |
| Reinforcement of Knowledge and Skills for farmers in good agriculture capacities and networking Actors | **7** |
| **Good****Agricultural****Practice****(GAP)** | Promotion of improved technologies and good agricultural practices (GAPs) on major crops among farming communities through innovative/practical methods and provision of relevant support.  | **8** |
| Promoting and sharing the Good Agricultural Practices between KAFACI member Countries.  | **9** |