

## **INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS IN HEALTH AND NUTRITION**

### **CONTRACTING AUTHORITIES:**

The Zimbabwe Manpower Development Fund (ZIMDEF) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development's (NEPAD) Flagship Programme, the Southern Africa Network for Biosciences (SANBio) with the support of the Finnish-Southern African Partnership to strengthen the NEPAD SANBio Network (BioFISA II).

### **FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:**

Submit an application for your innovative solution in the human health or human or animal nutrition sector. The solution proposed should at least be at prototype phase leading to commercialisation. Up to R1 million will be provided to the selected innovator to implement the project over a 12 months period. Solutions proposed should have a short development phase and the 12 month timeline must account for any regulatory approvals needed during project implementation. Note that in some cases this process can take a minimum of 3 months.

### **TECHNOLOGY MATURITY:**

Solutions that have reached at least prototype stage and can be developed to a commercial product can be proposed.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

Innovative SMMEs and research groups from SANBio member states (Angola, Mozambique, Malawi, Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, and Madagascar) can apply. For this call, at least two SANBio member states should collaborate in finding a solution and one of the countries in the consortium must be from Zimbabwe. Applicants should ensure that the consortium has an industrial partner as part of the applicants. Project teams must include at least a business expert, the lead innovator and other experts needed to implement the project.

### **KEY SPECIFICATIONS**

The successful technologies must be:

1. Safe for humans or animals (where applicable);
2. Affordable;
3. Ready to use or require only short term development.

### **SOLUTIONS NOT OF INTEREST**

The following technologies are not of interest:

1. Ideas or concepts that have not been proven;
2. Solutions that require long term development;
3. Solutions that require large capital investments (note, the grant will not cover more than 5% of the grant value to purchase equipment).

## PROJECT APPROACH

**Phase 1:** Expression of Interest submission – submit an Expression of Interest clearly outlining the solution, cost of developing the solution, including production costs and any regulatory approvals needed before the product is commercialised. The expression of interest must also outline the market size and the target customer segment and should include the status of IP for the product developed.

**Phase 2:** Expression of Interest evaluation – an external panel of evaluators will assess the Expression of Interest and candidates will be shortlisted to develop full proposals.

**Phase 3:** Full proposal submission and evaluation – candidates will be trained in the lean start-up approach during the full proposal development phase over a five day period. Submitted full proposals will then undergo a final evaluation process.

**Phase 4:** Contracting – The main contract will be signed by the lead applicant with the SANBio BioFISA II Programme, and the Zimbabwe applicant will sign a contract with ZIMDEF for funding of the activities conducted in Zimbabwe.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA:

The following minimum administrative checks should be met, failure in which the application will be automatically disqualified:

1. A completed and signed application;
2. Applicants from at least two different SANBio Member States, one of which should be Zimbabwe<sup>1</sup>;
3. A maximum request for R1 million for the grant amount with a supporting cash contribution of at least R142 857 (which is 10% of the project value). For grant amounts below R1 million, a proportionate value of 10% should be provided.

This call is open to anyone with a necessary solution and will be evaluated on the below criteria:

- The scientific and/or technical merit and the ability of the proposed solution to meet the proposed specifications;
- The feasibility of executing the project and commercialising the product;
- The stage of readiness of the proposed solution – with at least a prototype available;
- The business case including the market for the product, the size of the market and the value proposition;
- Communication and explanation of any associated proprietary or 3<sup>rd</sup> party intellectual property aspects involved in the proposed solution;
- The team proposed in line with the technology being developed;
- The presentation, motivation and data to support all scientific and/or technical claims (provide as an attachment).

---

<sup>1</sup> Should you have any problems obtaining a partner, please contact [info@nepadsanbio.org](mailto:info@nepadsanbio.org) and visit <https://expertdb.nepadsanbio.org> to connect with other experts in the region that you can collaborate with