AFRICA-ai-JAPAN Project  
*(Africa Union – african innovation – JKUAT and PAUSTI Network Project)*

**INTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT**

**The -iCMoB Postgraduate Research Grant “AFRICA-ai- JAPAN Project”**

**Introduction**

The innovation Centre for Molecular biology and Biochemistry (iCMoB ) is one of the three Africa-ai-Japan research centres. It was established to drive studies aimed at understanding the molecular basis of biological activity in organisms (micro-organisms, human, animals and plants) as an avenue to enhance the development of innovative solutions to meet human needs. The centre will provide basic and advanced research facilities to staff and students of JKUAT and PAUSTI leading to innovations with tangible products in areas of health, environment and agriculture. Overall the centre’s goal is to become an innovations hub in Africa.

The iCMoB is currently offering research grants to qualified postgraduate students from JKUAT/PAUSTI, tutorial fellows, teaching assistants, research assistants, or technologists under the “AFRICA-ai- JAPAN Project” research grant. Young scientists are encouraged to apply.

The applicants are allowed to submit applications in only one of the following thematic areas. Submitting an application to more than one area or submitting an application without specifying the area will lead to automatic disqualification.

**Thematic areas;**

1. Design and Drug Development (Use of bioinformatics, Isolation and identification of active principles in medicinal plants, Development of *in vivo* and *in vitro* system, Identification and validation of drug targets)

2. Improvement of management of disease (Development of diagnostic kits of diseases, Development of in vitro and animal model of diseases, Development of vaccine and therapeutic agents)

3. Characterization and improvement of indigenous plant and animal genetic resources (Indigenous crops, domesticates and livestock, Orphaned crops and livestock, Neglected and underutilized species)

4. Characterization of endangered species (Status mapping and characterization of endangered species, Bio-prospecting)

5. Food Security & Value Addition (Food safety and zoonoses, Biodiversity adaptation to climate change, Food nutrition and bio-fortification)
ELEGIBILITY CRITERIA

The iCMoB postgraduate grant Programme “AFRICA-ai- JAPAN Project” is intended for young scientists of Kenyan nationality that fulfil the following eligibility criteria:

1. Candidates MUST hold a Bachelors and or a Master’s degree in the areas of Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, or other life sciences.
2. Candidates preferably be young scientists registered a postgraduate course in JKUAT/PAUSTI and MUST be in their research year.
3. Candidates who hold a grant for postgraduate studies funded by JKUAT/PAUSTI or any other organization should give a full disclosure of the current grant to justify the request for additional funding.

In case of questions about the eligibility criteria, applicants should contact the iCMoB Management Team at jicapausti@jkuat.ac.ke prior to submission of the application.

Application Process

All applications must be received on or before **1700HRS on 30th April, 2015** at jicapausti@jkuat.ac.ke, with a copy to icmob@jkuat.ac.ke. The applications must be submitted in one PDF format document containing the following information:

1. Personal and contact information.
2. The Curriculum Vitae, specifying the completed degree and any relevant information (publications, previous fellowships, mobility, professional experience, etc.) and two contact references (Name, Institution, Position, email).
3. Two reference letters from the referees proposed by the candidate. The referees must submit their scanned signed letters of recommendation directly to jicapausti@jkuat.ac.ke.
4. Copies of academic certificates and proof of admission to JKUAT/PAUSTI where applicable
5. A motivation letter with declaration of interests.
6. A concept paper of not more than three pages (indicating the thematic area).

Shortlisted candidate will be invited to make a ten minutes presentation on their areas of interest. Late applications as well as incomplete applications will not be considered.

For more information on iCMoB, please visit:

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