



AFRICA-ai-JAPAN Project

(Africa Union – african innovation – JKUAT and PAUSTI Network Project)

INTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

AFRICA-ai- JAPAN PROJECT INNOVATION RESEARCH GRANTS (2017/2018)

1. INTRODUCTION

AFRICA-ai-JAPAN Project is a joint initiative supported by the Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA). To implement its objectives the Project is developing four main centres:

- ① Innovation and Prototyping Integrated Centre (iPIC)
- ② Innovation Centre for Molecular Biology and Biochemistry (iCMoB)
- ③ Innovation Centre for Bio-resources (iCB)
- ④ Innovation Centre for Open Data and Visualization (iODaV)

The Mission of the Project is to build capacity of students and staff within the shared JKUAT and PAUSTI community. The respective aim of each of the centres is to advance:

- i. Research and innovations in the area of engineering and related fields through innovative technologies that focus on local aspects and need – iPIC.
- ii. 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 – iCMoB.
- iii. Agricultural and related research through innovative bio-transformation of majorly locally available resources – iCB.
- iv. Research and innovations in the area of open research data, ICT for smart and sustainable development, data analytics and visualization– iODaV.

The Project is currently offering innovation research funding opportunities to qualified JKUAT/PAUSTI post-graduate students and staff. Young scientists are encouraged to apply.

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

2. THEMATIC AREAS:

| ①iPIC | ②iCMoB | ③iCB | ④iODaV |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Environmental and Infrastructure Challenges. 2. Sustainable Transport Vehicles and Systems 3. Industrial and Agricultural Machineries and Processes. | 1. Design and Drug Development. 2. Improvement of Disease Management. 3. Genetic Engineering. 4. Molecular Characterization of Endangered Species. | 1. Food Security and Value Addition. 2. Biodiversity Conservation. 3. Animal Health and Production. | 1. Open Research Data for Development 2. ICT for smart and sustainable development (smart cities, smart transport, smart learning, smart energy grids and disaster management) 3. Data analytics and visualization 4. ICT for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation |

3. ELEGIBILITY CRITERIA:

The Innovation Research grant is intended for persons of the following criteria:

Candidates MUST hold at least Bachelor's degree in the following areas:

①*iPIC* – Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Mechatronic Engineering, Agricultural Engineering, Biosystems Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Geomatic Engineering or other related disciplines.

②*iCMoB* – Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, or other life sciences.

③*iCB* – Horticulture, food science, Nutrition, Postharvest Technology, Animal Health and Production or related disciplines.

④*iODaV* - All disciplines

1. Student applicants MUST be registered in a postgraduate course in JKUAT and MUST have an approved research proposal from their departments in JKUAT/PAUSTI.
2. Candidates who hold a grant for postgraduate studies funded by JKUAT or any other organization should give a full disclosure of the current grant to justify the request for additional funding.
3. Priority will be given to members of JKUAT staff and PAUSTI students.

In case of questions about the eligibility criteria, applicants should contact the AFRICA-ai-JAPAN Project office at jicapausti@jkuat.ac.ke prior to submission of the application.

4. APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications must be received on or before **22nd March, 2017 at 1700HRS.**

Email: *iPIC* applicants at ipic@jkuat.ac.ke, *iCMOB* applicants at icmob@jkuat.ac.ke, *iCB* applicants at icb@jkuat.ac.ke and *iODaV* applicants to iodav@jkuat.ac.ke with a copy to jicapausti@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. A motivation letter.
5. A concept paper of not more than three pages.

Shortlisted candidates 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 *iPIC*, *iCMoB*, *iCB* and *iODaV* please visit:

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