

COMISSÃO DA CEDEAO

ECOWAS COMMISSION



COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO

ECOWAS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION SUPPORT PROGRAMME (PROGRAMME PARI)



2018 CONDITIONS TO APPLY

OBJECTIVES

**FINANCE RESEARCH PROJECTS BY CALL FOR
APPEAL AND EQUIP THE LABORATORIES OF
EXCELLENCE OF THE REGION**

1- PRESENTATION

The ECOWAS Research and Innovation Support Program (PARI) is a competitive program that aims to select the best projects submitted by researchers through calls for applications. It is included in the ECOWAS Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Action Plan (ECOPOST, Strategic Axis 3, Activities 3.2.1 to 3.2.3) and is in close alignment with the Community Strategic Framework. (CSC) 2016-2020 of the ECOWAS, the African Union Strategy on Science, Technology and Innovation (STISA), the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-30). This program is implemented to respond to the many challenges of the research sector (obsolescence and degradation of equipment and infrastructure, low production of researchers, development of regional research programs, etc.).

2- OBJECTIVES

The PARI pursues the following specific objectives:

- i- Financing research on a competitive basis of call for applications of research projects contributing to the fight against poverty and having an impact on the development of the region;
- ii- Promote the mobility of researchers through the development of regional projects;
- iii- Support research laboratories to strengthen their capacities (equipment and connectivity) and access to scientific information;
- iv- Build the capacity of young researchers to ensure the next generation of scientists of the research institutes within the region.

3- RECIPIENTS

The PARI shall award grants to two types of recipients¹:

- ✓ ***research Institutions;***
- ✓ ***laboratories in ECOWAS Members State.***

4- CRITERION TO APPLY

The laboratories and research Institutions must fulfil the following conditions:

- ✓ Be located in one of ECOWAS member country;
- ✓ work in the field of Research in science, technology and Innovation;

¹ For the purposes of Community law, the recipient shall carry out an economic activity, that is, any activity which involves offering goods and/or services in a given market. Therefore, associations, learned societies can be recipients.

- ✓ Apply in one of the fields identified by the call for applications;
- ✓ Propose an integrative research project with a need to form consortia of researchers;
- ✓ Comply with the deadline for the submission of applications;
- ✓ Present a project of 10 pages maximum. The project must
 - Have an impact on the development of the region;
 - Contribute to the development of Science, Technology and Innovations through its results;
 - Integrate young researchers (doctoral student, junior researchers) with the consideration of the gender issue;
 - Contribute to the resolution of a sustainable solution;
 - Contribute to the sustainable acquisition of equipment for research.

5- CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

Under the PARI Program, research projects must be integrative. Projects submitted by an Institution or a Laboratory of a country must be in partnership with **researchers from a third country speaking another official ECOWAS language (English, French, Portuguese) in order to promote regional integration**. A project is community-based if it involves at least three ECOWAS Member States with at least one Member State speaking another official language.

The partnership with several research Institutions and laboratory or *consortium agreement* or equivalent will have to be concluded between the Partners or the natural persons specifying in particular:

- ✓ the Laboratory or the coordinating research institution must be clearly designated;
- ✓ Partners or natural persons participating in the Project must be clearly designated;
- ✓ conditions for Community-type cooperation;
- ✓ sharing of intellectual property rights on the outcomes of the project;
- ✓ publication regime and the dissemination of outcomes.

A Consortium Agreement shall not be necessary where there is already an arrangement contained in a contract or contract framework or MoU, linking the recipients.

The consortium agreement is only concluded if the research institution or project coordinating laboratory wins the grant. The proposal for the research project lists the partners who must participate in the project.

6- GRANT AMOUNT

The PARI program provides a grant of one hundred thousand dollars (\$ 100,000) per field of research.

Award Domain of research:	<i>Earth and Life Sciences</i>	<i>Basic Science, Technology and Innovation</i>
Value	100,000 US \$	100,000 US \$

7- DOMAIN OF RESEARCH / RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

The PARI support projects for fundamental research, industrial research and experimental development projects. The PARI also provides support for technical feasibility studies preparatory to industrial research and experimental development.

(a) ***Earth and Life Sciences:***

Earth Sciences envelope all sciences relating to the Planet Earth covering (though not restricted to) the following disciplines: ***geology, geophysics, geodesy, paleontology, etc.***

Life Sciences involve all sciences on «organisms» such as plants, animals and human being. This may include ***agro-technology, zootechnics, phytology, biotechnology, biology, science and environment, food science, medicine and tissue engineering, etc.***

(b) ***Basic Science, Technology and Innovation:***

Basic Science, Technology and Innovation includes any other sciences, technology and innovation apart from the sciences covered by Life and Earth Science. This may include ***physics, chemistry, mathematics, engineering (mechanical, electrical, electronic and civil, etc), artificial intelligence, materials science, manufacturing and production technology, metallurgy, textile engineering, energy and innovation, etc.***

8- CONDITION OF DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

(a) The provisions relating to the grants awarded shall be contained in a Convention granting or a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) between ECOWAS (through PARI) and the recipient. This Convention shall precise that the recipient shall allocate the grant obtained solely for project implementation. The Convention shall set out among other things:

- ✓ the grant recipient;
- ✓ the associate Partners;

- ✓ place of project implementation;
- ✓ maximum estimated amount of grant;
- ✓ project duration;
- ✓ payment schedule;
- ✓ suspensive conditions.

(b) A consortium agreement between the research institutions and the coordinating laboratory and the other partners.

9- PROJECTS NOT ELIGIBLE

Project with a "Double funding": Only one grant may be awarded for any single project (in whole or in part) from PARI for one and the same beneficiary. Two projects shall be deemed similar when the projects (in whole or in part) present identical main objectives or have simply been adapted, **AND** comprise teams which are largely similar.

10- Expenditure Not eligible in proposals

Staff Expenses (salaries, bonuses and allowances), relevant social costs (including unemployment insurance contributions or allowances for loss of earnings at the end of the given contract) and tax on salaries, internship grants.

11- SECRETARIAT FOR THE PARI PROGRAMME

The PARI Programme shall be managed by the ECOWAS Commission. The Commission sets up an International Jury for deliberation.

12- JURY INTERNATIONAL

The selection, eligibility and evaluation of the two (02) best projects is done by an international jury in accordance with the standards of competitive selection of projects, scientific excellence, quality of construction of the project and impact potential of the project described in a detailed proposal.

13- ECOWAS MEMBERS STATES

ECOWAS MEMBER STATES	Bénin Burkina Faso Cap Vert Côte d'Ivoire	Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinée Bissau	Liberia Mali Niger Nigeria	Senegal Sierra Leone Togo
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14- DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS

Projects must reach the Education, Science and Culture Department of ECOWAS Commission not later than **30th September 2018**.

15- AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY

The awarding of the two (2) Grants will be made respectively in the respective countries of the research institutions or laureate laboratories in the presence of the Ministers in charge of Integration and Science and Technology.

16- SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications must be sent to the following postal address:

Postal Address

2018 PARI PROGRAMME

ECOWAS Commission

101, Yakubu Gowon Crescent, Asokoro District, P.M.B 401, Abuja, Nigeria.

Annex of River Plaza, 2nd Floor.

Department, Education, Science and Culture

Science and Technology Programme,

17- MORE INFORMATION CONTACT :

- **Science and Technology Division, Email: eescdrsi@gmail.com**