

TWAS RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAMME

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

FOR

COLLABORATIVE GRANT

*IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-LAGGING COUNTRIES **

GUIDE

Applicants are advised to read this guide to ensure that they fulfil all the requirements in preparing applications and are familiar with TWAS general policies and guidelines concerning grants.

General Information

- **The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) - for the advancement of science in developing countries – www.twas.org** – is an autonomous international organization founded in Trieste, Italy, in 1983. TWAS represents the best of science in the developing world. Its principal aim is to promote scientific capacity and excellence for science-based development in the South.
- The administrative and financial operation of TWAS is undertaken by UNESCO, in accordance with an agreement between UNESCO and the Italian government for TWAS.
- Since 1986, TWAS has been supporting scientists and institutions in developing countries through a wide range of programmes that include providing merit-based grants to research projects.
- The TWAS Research Grants Programme for Collaborative Grants was established in response to the need of researchers in developing countries to link with each other in the context of interdisciplinary projects combining their skills and expertise.
- Under this scheme, grants are awarded to high-level scientists for interdisciplinary research projects. Each grant supports a collaborative project jointly carried out by two Principal Investigators (PIs) in the science-and-technology-lagging countries (S&TLC) identified by TWAS.
- The specific aims of the programme are to reinforce and promote interdisciplinary scientific research in developing countries, strengthen developing countries' endogenous capacity in science, enable scientists from developing countries to tackle complex problems through collaborative research projects and build and sustain collaborative links of scientific excellence in S&TLC to help them combine their complementary skills in addressing real-life problems facing their countries.
- The programme is generously supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).
- The Collaborative Grant amounts to a maximum of USD 30,000 per Principal Investigator (PI).
- Additional funds will be provided for visits between the two institutions of each PI.
- A grant is normally provided for a period of 24 months.
- A grant may be used to purchase scientific equipment and consumables. The grant does not cover salaries of researchers and/or students, or field expenses. In addition, the purchase of laptop computers, tablets and laboratory animals are not supported.

Subject Areas

- The Collaborative Grants programme provides support for interdisciplinary research projects that combine and integrate skills from multiple disciplines.

Eligibility of Applicants

- The applicants **must** be previous recipients of TWAS Research Grants (either Individual or Group). One Principal Investigator (PI) **must** be from an LDC and the other PI from any other country from the STLC list.
- Applying *Principal Investigators* must be two well-established researchers who are nationals of a developing country, who hold a PhD and have a good track record of publications in international journals. The grant should operate within a university or a research institution in one of the S&TLCs and should include two Principal Investigators submitting one combined application. The PIs may choose to include additional members such as researchers or PhD and MSc students, technicians, etc. There is no age limit for the PIs.
- Both PIs must be in two different countries; either both from an LDC or one from an LDC and the other from the remaining list of STLC.
- Both PIs must work in different fields to ensure the research project is interdisciplinary.
- The applications must show gender balance where one PI is female and the other male.
- Applicants must, at the time of application, NOT have an active research grant with TWAS or OWSD.
- PIs must submit a strong Research Proposal, you may find further information on how to write research proposals by visiting [AuthorAID](#).
- Both PIs must have completed and submitted a satisfactory final report on their previous TWAS grant.
- Be advised that applicants may apply for only one programme per calendar year in the TWAS and OWSD portfolio. Applicants will not be eligible to visit another institution in that year under the TWAS [Visiting Professor](#) programmes. One exception: the head of an institution who *invites* an external scholar to share his/her expertise under the TWAS [Visiting Professor](#) programmes may still apply for another programme.

Agreement

- If selected, a trilateral written agreement is drawn up between TWAS, each PIs and his/her home institution. The institution undertakes to administer the grant according to the agreement and to provide laboratory space, salaries and other facilities necessary for the project. Equipment, consumables and literature provided for the project through the TWAS Research Grants Programme remain the property of the home institution after the project is completed. The grant will not cover any institutional overheads.
- In general, the grant funds are kept at TWAS for the purchase of items requested by the grant holder. TWAS places the orders with the supplier(s) upon receipt of proforma invoices submitted by the grant holder in accordance with the approved itemized budget.
- Both PIs are required to submit a final report within one year of receipt of the last items purchased.

How to apply

- The application must be submitted via the online form portal, the link to which can be found on the TWAS website.
- A researcher may only submit one application at a time and for only one kind of grant (e.g. individual, research unit, collaborative, IsDB-TWAS Research Grant or OWSD Early Career Women Scientists (ECWS) Fellowship) for consideration by TWAS.
- For any queries please contact:
TWAS Research Grants Office
TWAS — ICTP Campus — Strada Costiera 11 — 34151 Trieste — Italy
Phone: +39 040 2240493 — E-mail: researchgrants@twas.org

When to apply

- The **deadline for receiving applications has been extended to 17 May 2022**. However, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the deadline to submit your application. No support will be available after 16:00 (Italian time) on the day of the deadline.

Notification of TWAS decision

- The Selection Committee meetings of the TWAS Research Grant programmes will be held by the end of the year. Applicants will be notified of the outcome shortly after the meeting.

*** COUNTRIES ELIGIBLE FOR THE GRANTS – LDCs shown in green**

Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Paraguay, Rwanda, São Tome and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu, West Bank & Gaza Strip, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.