

February 23, 2018



AFRICA -ai- JAPAN Project
African Union - african innovation - JKUAT AND PAUSTI Network Project

INTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

AFRICA-ai- JAPAN PROJECT INNOVATION RESEARCH GRANTS (2018/2019)

1. INTRODUCTION

AFRICA-ai-JAPAN Project is a joint initiative supported by the Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA). To implement its objectives, the Project has developed 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 for a period of one year (April 2018-March 2019) to qualified JKUAT/PAUSTI post-graduate students and staff. Each successful project proposal will be funded up to a **maximum of Kshs.1,000,000**. 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:

① <i>iPIC</i>	② <i>iCMoB</i>	③ <i>iCB</i>	④ <i>iODaV</i>
1. Infrastructure and Environment; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials for infrastructure development • Energy and Energy Systems • Housing • Fuels and combustion • Environment and Health 2. Industrial and Agricultural Machineries and Processes and Biomedical Applications; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of machines and tools for industrial and Agricultural applications • Optimization of performance of machines • Postharvest Technologist 3. Manufacturing Processes; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimization of manufacturing processes • Enhancement of productivity • Enhancement of quality 4. Sustainable Transport system; 5. Multidisciplinary Research-Cutting across other areas within the project themes.	1. Design and Drug Development; 2. Development of Diagnostic Kits; 3. Genetic Engineering; 4. Biomedical Equipment Fabrication.	1. Food Security and Value Addition; 2. Biodiversity Conservation; 3. Animal Health and Production.	1. Mobile and Web applications development whose concept is already proven/demonstrated (eg through Hackathons, TechExpos) and with a ready design for implementation; 2. ICT for smart and sustainable development (smart cities, smart transport, smart learning, smart energy grids and disaster management); 3. Application of data analytics and visualization in a specific case for policy, service and product improvement; 4. ICT for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation.



3. **ELEGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

The Innovation Research grant is intended for JKUAT/PAUSTI staff and students of the following criteria:

Candidates MUST hold at least Bachelor's degree and/or equivalent 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 proposals with JKUAT/PAUSTI staff as Principal Investigator.
4. Joint proposal collaboration are allowed as long as JKUAT/PAUSTI staff is the principal investigator.

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

4. **APPLICATION PROCESS**

All applications must be received on or before **23rd March, 2018 at 1700hrs.**

Email: jicapauti@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 or equivalent and any relevant information (publications, previous fellowships, mobility, professional experience, etc.) and two contact references (Name, Institution, Position, email);
3. One reference letter from the referee proposed by the candidate. The referee must submit a scanned signed letter of recommendation directly to jicapauti@jkuat.ac.ke;
4. A concept paper of not more than three pages;
5. A cover letter.

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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