



ORIC NEWS

Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization
Transforming Concepts into Impacts



VISIT OF OFFICIALS FROM NATIONAL BANK OF PAKISTAN

A team headed by Mr. Tariq Latif Ansari, Executive Vice President/ Divisional Head, Agriculture Business Division NBP, Karachi visited the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad on February 24, 2021, for exploring new vistas of mutual cooperation.



Prof. Dr. Asif Tanveer, Vice-Chancellor, UAF chaired the session. Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Director ORIC welcomed NBP officials for visiting UAF and briefed the background of UAF and NBP close ties in R&D, internship, and community service. Mr. Tariq Latif Ansari explained that NBP was interested to collaborate in designing and conducting capacity-building programs for bank staff members and Finance loans to UAF students at low rates of interest. Dean, Faculty of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences proposed soft loans for livestock especially for female entrepreneurs on easy terms with minimal collateral requirements.

This initiative can promote the cottage industry so that it can play a vital role in the economy of Pakistan. Furthermore, it was also proposed that specialized microfinancing schemes may be designed for small farmers. Dr. Abdul Ghafoor, IBMS, also briefed about the ongoing activities at the Institute of Business Management Sciences in terms of Finance Management, Microfinance, and Islamic Financing.

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INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT INITIATIVE PROGRAM (IRSIP) BY HEC

Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan offers a six-month research fellowship abroad to full-time Ph.D. scholars, enrolled in higher education institutions of Pakistan and AJK including the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad under its International Research Support Initiative Program (IRSIP). The purpose of this program is to enhance the research capabilities of Ph.D. scholars and also develop linkages between Pakistani and foreign institutions.

For further detail please visit:
<http://hec.gov.pk/site/IRSIP>

CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

Deadline June 31, 2021

United Nation Environment Program (UNEP) has invited research proposals under the General Trust Fund for financing activities on research and systematic observations relevant to the Vienna Convention.

The prime focus of this trust fund is:

- To identify gaps and needs in research and monitoring of Ozone and related climate variables/parameters
- Exploring the use of new and cost-effective instrumentation
- Fostering stronger relationships with a scientific institution and related global networks and develop strategic plans for mobilizing public and financial resources for trust funds.

Request for proposed projects should not exceed USD50000. Priority will be given to the short-term activities (approx. during one year). The researchers at UAF may apply through ORIC for harvesting this opportunity.

For further detail: mea-ozoneinfo@un.org or info@nou.gov.pk

PASTIC-UAF EXPO 2021



PASTIC-UAF EXPO
On SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ICTs and
INDUSTRY RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC
AND SOCIETAL PREPAREDNESS

EXPO 2021

17TH March 2021

DISPLAY
 Innovative Projects relevant to Science, Technology, ICT and Industrial Products
 Poster Competition in Response to COVID-19

VENUE Exhibition Centre, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

PARTICIPANTS & EXHIBITORS
 Young Researchers Engineers
 Technologists Manufacturers
 from universities, R&D Organizations and Industry with innovative products for COVID-19

Cash Prizes for Best Projects
 Consolation Prizes for School Children
Win Prizes

EXPO COORDINATORS
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FIRST COME FIRST SERVE

<http://www.pastic.gov.pk>


VISIT OF DR. MUNAWAR RAZA KAZMI, COUNTRY MANAGER ACIAR, AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION PAKISTAN

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) is a joint collaborative research partnership with the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) and has funded various research projects in Agriculture and its allied sciences over the period of the last fifteen year. A mega project "Developing competitive and inclusive pulses value chain in Pakistan" was launched in 2020 in this regard. The main objective of the project is to develop successful market linkages of pulses growers in Pakistan so that they can fetch better prices using the value chain approach. Dr. Munawar Raza Kazmi, along with Dr. Mubashir Mehdi, Institute of Business Management Sciences UAF and National Coordinator of Pulses


Project visited ORIC on 19-02-21 to explore the possibilities of more collaborative partnership between UAF and ACIAR as well as to strengthen the ongoing research collaborations. Dr. Kazmi articulated that the counterpart Australian team of the pulses project would not be able to visit Pakistan due to COVID-19 in the current year. Therefore the money saved from their visit will be further spent on some additional research activities in Pakistan in the pulses project. Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir appreciated the ACIAR initiative and ensured that UAF shall continue its cooperation with ACIAR to provide research and development assistance for the farmers in Pakistan.




SERIES OF WEBINARS ON BIOSECURITY AND IBC



UNIVERSITY OF
AGRICULTURE
FAISALABAD - PAKISTAN




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HEALTH SECURITY
PARTNERS

Focal Person




Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir
Director ORIC


SERIES OF WEBINARS ON BIOSECURITY AND IBC

Starting: February 22, 2021 to March 15, 2021 (Series of Seven Webinars)


Speakers




DR. Ali Ahmad Sheikh
Associate Professor
Department of
Microbiology
University of
Veterinary & Animal
Sciences, Lahore




**Prof. Dr. Shamsul
Arfin Qasmi**
MBBS, PhD
Department of
Pathology Fazaia Ruth
Pfau Medical College,
Karachi, Pakistan




Dr. Adnan Arshad
MBBS, PhD
(Radiobiology)
Assistant Professor
KAM School of Life
Sciences, Forman
Christian College,
Lahore




Mr. Zia Ashraf
Lecturer Medical
Sciences Forensic
Scientist (Pathology),
Government College
University, Faisalabad



Dr. Javed Muhammad
Assistant Professor
Department of
Microbiology,
University of Haripur,
KPK




Dr. Furqan Kabir
Manager Research
Lab, Pediatrics,
Member IBC and
Safety Community, Aga
Khan University,
Hospital (AKUH),
Karachi




Samreen Sarwar
Technical Advisor,
Health Security
Partners, US

Moderator/Coordinator



Dr. Sadia Aslam
PhD Biochemistry



Dr. Abdul Rashid
UAF Biosafety Officer/
Coordinator

Participation through nominations

Organized by
Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC),
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad - Pakistan
in collaboration with
Health Security Partners, USA

6:00PM To 7:00PM

Sr No.	Title	Proposed Speaker	Date
1	An introduction to Biorisk management system	Mr. Zia Ashraf	22-02-2021 (Monday)
2	An introduction to IBC, its importance, and its roles and responsibilities in the context of ISO 35001 in the arena of global IBCs	Dr. Furqan Kabir	26-02-2021 (Friday)
3	Constitution/composition of an IBC (members including subject matter experts) it's reporting and meeting frequency	Prof. Dr. Shams ul Arfin Qasmi	01-03-2021 (Monday)
4	IBC Operation: A case study (Review and Approval Procedure)	Dr. Ali Ahmad Sheikh	05-03-2021 (Friday)
5	Dual Use Research concern (DURC)	Dr. Samreen Sarwar	08-03-2021 (Monday)
6	Biosecurity and its Components	Dr. Adnan Arshad	12-03-2021 (Friday)
7	Comparison of IBC with other committees such as IACUC, IRE (DURC), Ethical Review Committee, IRB etc. and Role of a Biosafety Officer in an IBC and organization	Dr. Javed Muhammad	15-03-2021 (Monday)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY UNDER RASTA GRANTS PROGRAM

The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) has launched a Multi-Year Competitive Grants Program for Policy-oriented research in Pakistan titled 'Research for Social Transformation and Advancement' (RASTA) under the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) of the Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, the Government of Pakistan.

RASTA Competitive Grants Program invites the second round of research proposals on the following themes:

1. PUBLIC POLICY PROCESSES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
2. FOREIGN AID EFFECTIVENESS
3. AGRICULTURAL & REAL ESTATE MARKETS

- The maximum duration to complete a project will be 12 months.
- The maximum grant available for a project is 4.0 million.
- Proposals will be judged by the choice of the problem and expected knowledge outcomes for countrywide or local development.
- All data collected and work produced under RASTA will have to be submitted for authenticity checks.
- Multiple conferences/workshops will be organized allowing all reviewers, award winners, and sector specialists to see progress and develop network learning.

For further detail please visit: rasta@pide.org.pk

Deadline for submission of proposals: **10th April 2021**

ORIC FINANCIAL TEAM MEMBER PASSED AWAY

Mr. Munir Ahmad (Late) Office Assistant, Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) passed away on February 16, 2021, during duty time at ORIC due to heart failure. He served the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad for more than 25 years under various capacities and currently, he was attached with the financial management office at ORIC. He was a dedicated, honest, and restless official of this office. The ORIC prays for his high rank in Jannat ul Firdous.



COMMON FUND FOR COMMODITIES (CFC) 18TH CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) has invited applications for support of commodity development activities in its member countries including Pakistan through a wide range of financial and technical assistance in promoting business activities in the sectors like agriculture, commodity value addition and trade, minerals, and metals.

Project proposals incorporating innovative solutions for the commodity sector (e.g. new agritech applications, innovative productivity practices, regenerative technologies, increase availability of renewable and affordable energy, expanding environmental services, expediting green recovery, adding to the nutrition security, climate-friendly practices contributing to biodiversity, saving deforestation, digitalization, etc.) are especially considered.

Deadline: **April 15, 2021**

For more information: <http://www.common-fund.org/call-for-proposals/>

Email Address: opencall@common-fund.org

INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS AWARD COMPETITION 2021

Education and Research School for Future (ERSOF) and Socio-Economic Research Center (SIA), Sweden is soliciting applications for the International Teachers Award Competition 2021. The teachers and Professors working in colleges, universities, and institutes of higher learning with at least 3 years of academic experience and conducting research in the field of education (Pedagogy) may register themselves at <https://siaib.az/news/news-details/1042UAF> researchers may apply through proper channel and can get additional information from:

Email: info.ersof@gmail.com

Deadline: July 12, 2021.

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (PHASE III) BY HEC

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) Islamabad has launched Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program (Phase III) for facilitating the scientists to enhance their research capabilities through this initiative.

Eligibility:

- Ph.D. Degree from HEC recognized local and international university
- A regular employee of public-private sector recognized university/DAI
- Have not availed of any Post-doctoral fellowship before
- Having a placement letter in the top 200 QS world university ranking universities/R&D Institutes
- Having age not more than 45 years on the closing date

UAF researchers may apply through proper channel and after soliciting a clearance certificate from ORIC (in case of executing any research project).

For further detail please visit:

www.hec.gov.pk/site/postdoc

Deadline submission for receiving online applications:

April 15, 2021

CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER CPEC COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH GRANT BY HEC

The Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan has invited faculty members of public and private sector universities/Degree Awarding Institutions to submit research proposals that can help address

(public or private) of Pakistan that are members of CPEC Consortium of universities, as per the list provided on HEC website.

Queries regarding CPEC- Collaborative Research Grants may be directed to email: Info-R&D@hec.gov.pk

CALL FOR CONCEPT PAPERS

Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) in collaboration with China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) have announced the opportunity for Pakistani students/ researchers to conduct research/ experiments in the fields of space science & technology onboard/outboard at China Space Station (CSS) primarily in the following areas:

1. Space life science and biotechnology 2. Microgravity fluid physics and combustion. 3. Space material sciences 4. Space physics and environment. 5. Earth sciences 6. Fundamental physics 7. Space utilization novel technology

Please submit concept proposals through ORIC for seeking approval from the competent authority till or before March 2021.

For any further query feel free to contact Space Education and Awareness Department at 021-34650765 Ext 2078,2249 or email: manager.sead@gmail.com

issues in general, and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), in particular, through joint research by the universities of Pakistan and China, drawing upon research potential of academia on both sides.

Key Features

The CPEC-CRG is anticipated to support promising research partnerships between Pakistan and China to inspect priority thematic areas of national interest, utilizing research potential and past experience of China in resolving national challenges in these areas.

The CPEC-CRG awards will be selected competitively using a merit-based, independent, transparent evaluation and selection process based upon international standards.

The amount of funding will range up to PKR 50 million, with a maximum project duration of 3 years. In exceptional cases, the budget may go up to PKR 100 million. **Deadline March 31, 2021**

Applicant Eligibility

The PI must be a faculty member (Ph.D. or FCPS/MCPS/FRCS) working on a regular/contract basis (contract duration equivalent to project duration) in the Higher Education Institutions



**Vice-Chancellor, UAF
(Patron in Chief)**

**Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir
Director, ORIC, (Chief Editor)**

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