



ORIC NEWS

Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialisation, UAF

Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

Transforming Concepts into Impacts



EVALUATION OF RESEARCH PROJECT BY JICA CONSULTANT

A project "Rehabilitating Lower Chenab Canal System (LCC) On Farm Research and Development Component" was completed by the Water Management Research Center, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. Dr. Naveed Ahmad, JICA Consultant (Pakistan) along with project



partners made a visit to Prof. Dr. Anas Sarwar Qureshi, Vice-Chancellor, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, and appreciated the UAF experts' contribution in terms of R&D of this international project. The Vice-Chancellor shared the success stories of the Japanese Govt. extended at UAF by supplying highly sophisticated equipment in the university in the year 1996-97 through the JICA project. He directed Director ORIC to facilitate the JICA consultant and his team for conducting field evaluation of the project. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Arshad, Dean, Faculty of Agri. Engineering and Technology, Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Director ORIC and other notables from Irrigation Department Govt. of Punjab were also present in the meeting.

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AI-ACCESSIBILITY GRANTS

Applications are invited from developers, NGOs, academics, researchers, and inventors to accelerate their work for people with disabilities through AI (Artificial Intelligence). This is a global program. Grant applications from all countries are eligible.

Deadline: **July 30, 2021**

For more details please visit:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/ai/ai-for-accessibility-grants>

AI FOR EARTH GRANTS

Call is open for proposal on (Artificial Intelligence) for Earth awards grants ranging USD 5000-15000 to support projects that use AI to change the way people and organizations monitor, model, and manage Earth's natural systems such as:

- Climate
- Agriculture
- Biodiversity
- Water

Deadline: **July 05, 2021**

For more details please visit:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/ai/ai-for-earth-grants#primaryR3>

South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) - Regular Research Grants

The South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) is a regional network that provides research grants to the researcher, graduate, and Ph.D. students engaged in research work related to the economics of environment and development. Currently, grants are made in three thematic areas: Ecosystem Management, Economics of Climate Change, Policies, and Programs for Greener Development.

Deadline: April and October.

However, preproposals are accepted throughout the year

For more details please visit:

http://www.sandeeonline.org/content_disp.php?id=12&cntid=54

THE MERCK RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

The Merck research grants program is open to the scientists in all career stages who are affiliated with any research-based institution, university, or company.

The proposals are accepted in the following areas:

- Drug Discovery
- Real-time testing and sensors
- Nanoparticle for nucleic acid delivery
- Digital Innovation
- Bioelectronics
- Sustainability
- Media recycling for cultured meat
- Organoids

Deadline: **August 31, 2021**

For more details please visit:

<https://www.merckgroup.com/en/research/open-innovation/2021-research-grants.html>

SERIES OF WEBINARS ON PROJECT APPRAISAL MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Institute of Agricultural and Resource Economics (IARE) & Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC), the University of Agriculture Faisalabad jointly organized Series of Webinars/Training Workshop on Project Appraisal, Monitoring & Evaluation (5 Seminars) from June 04-06 & 12-13, 2021. 100+ nominations were received from 25 different organizations across Pakistan. Dr. Khalid Mushtaq, Associate Professor, IARE & Mr. Nazim Ali (M&E) Specialist delivered the sessions. Dr. Abdul Rashid (ORIC) facilitated the whole process of the workshop.

USAID SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY THROUGH CHALLENGE FUND

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has launched Small and Medium Enterprise Activity (SMEA) through its Challenge Fund to support the efforts to expand your business. Under this initiative, grants are available in the following sectors.

- Women-led Business (from any sector)
- Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
- Hospitality
- Logistics
- Textiles (excluding spinning)
- Agri-Business and Process (off-farm only)
- Light Engineering

Maximum funding up to PKR 7.5 Million Per Grant

Deadline: **June 30, 2021**

For further details, please visit
challengefund@smea.com

SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

The Center for Water Informatics and Technology (WIT), LUMS is looking for interested students to take-part in 8-week internships (June – July 2021) in the following areas:

- Quantification of Microplastic in Environmental Samples (preferably a student from the Department of Biology for this Project for Collection of samples from the Field, Handling of various chemicals, and possible plastic biodegradation study)
- Magnetic Oxide/Graphene Oxide Nano-composite for Removal of Microplastic and other Water Pollutants (preferably a student from the Department of Chemistry having an understanding of graphene oxide preparation, ability to handle various chemicals)
- Establishment of a Microbial Fuel Cell for Application in Nature-Based Agriculture (preferably a student from the Department of Electrical Engineering having understanding of fuel cells, storage and transmission etc.)
- Development of a Framework to Understand the Role of Women in Informal Waste Collection and Plastic Recycling (preferably a student from the field of humanity and Social Sciences)

Interested students can email their CV and statement of interest for the project (500-1000 words with the subject) "WIT Summer Research Internship" at fozia.parveen@lums.edu.pk

Students will be paid a nominal amount of PKR 10000 per month along with a certificate after the successful completion of the internship.

CONSERVATION, FOOD AND HEALTH FOUNDATION

The Conservation, Food and Health Foundation seeks to protect natural resources, improve the production and distribution of food, and promote public health in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Priority Areas:

- Conservation: Protection of natural resources.
- Food: Improve the production and distribution of food.
- Health: Promotion of public health in Asia, Africa,

Latin America, and the Middle East.

Eligibility:

The foundation will support

- Non-governmental organizations (NGO)
- Nonprofit organizations
- Civil society organizations
- Community-based organizations
- Colleges, universities, and academic institutions
-

Deadline: **July 1, 2021**

For further information:

<https://cfhfoundation.grantsmanagement08.com/>

DIRECT AID PROGRAM

The Direct Aid Program (DAP) is a small grants program funded from Australia's aid budget.

Priority Areas:

DAP projects cover a range of sectors such as:

- Education,
- Health,
- Water and sanitation,
- Environmental protection,
- Women's empowerment and gender equality,
- Supporting people with disabilities,
- Economic livelihoods,
- Human rights.

Deadline: **June 30, 2021**

For further information please follow the given link:

- <https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/direct-aid-program/Pages/direct-aid-program.aspx>

BIC, UAF DELEGATE VISITS TOP NOTCH EDUCATION INSTITUTES AND INCUBATORS OF FAISALABAD

Business Incubation Center (BIC), UAF, and representatives of Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) visited various educational institutes and business incubators for the outreach of the Plan-9 Launchpad event. The delegate was comprised of Muhammad Imran Munawar, In-charge, BIC, and Mr. Awais Aslam, Manager PITB. The main aim of the visits was to motivate and sensitize startups to come up with viable business ideas to be presented in the upcoming Plan-9 Launchpad Event. The Flagship event will shortlist the ten best business ideas to be incubated. The program will offer the following services:

- Monthly Stipend
- Office space
- Networking Opportunities

- Mentorship
- Business Development Assistance
- Legal Assistance



9TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD

The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Science & Education Foundation, and Institute of Hydrometeorology, Georgian Technical University Burgas, Bulgaria are organizing ninth International Conference on Agriculture & Food, to be held between **16th and 19th August 2021**.

The participants belonging to various sectors of Agriculture i.e. Plant Breeding and Genetics, Animal Breeding, and Food Production, Climate Change, Food Security and malnutrition, etc. to address recent research results and to present and discuss their ideas, theories, technologies, systems, tools, applications, work in progress and experiences. The papers presented will be published in an open-access journal indexed by AGRIS. The event will be held with both live and online sessions while observing all applicable safety measures.

Further information is available on <https://sci-edu.org/agriculture> OR Science & Education Foundation, Bulgaria, www.sci-edu.org

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

King Fahad University of Petroleum and Minerals (KFUPM) has announced Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the following areas:

- AI, Intelligent Secure System
- Membranes and Water Security
- Smart Mobility and Logistics
- Refining and Petrochemicals

- Nanotechnology
- Renewable Energy
- Macro/Micro-Economics
- Business Administration, Management and Finance

For more details, please visit:
<https://postdoc.kfupm.edu.sa>

UAF RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH ICAP



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) and Institute of Business Administration (IBA), under their mutual initiative, signed research grant agreements with three universities as part of their first cycle of Research Grant Award. ICAP and IBA have joined hands together and formed ICAP-IBA Research Unit (IIRU) with the aim to promote research and development in Pakistan.

A call for Research Proposals was invited in November 2020 against which a number of proposals were received across Pakistan. After a thorough review by Research Oversight Committee, three proposals were shortlisted for the First Cycle of Grants.

The proposals selected for the award is A diagnostic analysis of the role of middlemen in financing and marketing of agriculture business, its impact on the earnings of farmers and consumer price: A Case Study of Potato Farmers by Dr. Khalid Mushtaq from the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Mr. Khalilullah Shaikh, Chairman Research Oversight Committee and Council Member ICAP, in a signing ceremony held in Karachi and Faisalabad on June 04, 2021, congratulated all recipient Principal Investigators and Universities and said that this was the first-ever milestone achieved by ICAP through its

IIRU initiative that aimed to foster research culture and bring together industry and academia.

Mr. M Muhammad Suleman Zahid, FCA guest of honor in Faisalabad, Dr. Zahir Ahmed Zahir, Director ORIC, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad; Dr. Khalid Mushtaq, Principal Investigator and Dr. Hammad Badar from IBMS were also present.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PARB VISITS UAF

Mr. Azhar Hussain, Deputy Director, Punjab Agricultural Research Board, Lahore visited the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad in connection with the monitoring and evaluation of ongoing PARB funded projects No.1093 and 1056 on June 09-10, 2021. The various ongoing activities aligned with the Gantt Chart of the project document were spot examined where Project Manager/Team Leader Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Prof. Dr. Saeed Ahmad, Prof. Dr. Javed Akhtar, Prof. Dr. Shahzad Maqsood Ahmad Basra, and Dr. Rizwana Maqbool explained various aspects of their project activities. Dr. Azhar Hussain was presented a souvenir from ORIC UAF as a token of memorandum where Dean, Confucius Center Prof. Chao was also present.



STATE-OF-THE-ART CHAMPIONS AWARD

Partnering for Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030 (P4G) is looking for the world's most innovative partnerships delivering measurable sustainable growth and climate action impact. An award of excellence will be presented to one partnership in each of five key SDG areas:

Priority Areas:

- 2: Zero Hunger
- 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Deadline: **31st July 2021**

For more details please visit:

<https://p4gpartnerships.org/state-art-partnership-awards>

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES INSTITUTE (HESI) INNOVATION PRIZE 2021

Nominations are now open for Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI) Innovation Prize 2021 to protect the health of patients, the public, and the environment.

The 2021 HESI Innovation Prize is an unrestricted cash prize of \$80,000 USD to be awarded to a single individual (or multiple nominees if applying together) who has helped to reduce disproportionate health burdens in underserved populations and/or to promote greater health equity.

The HESI Innovation Prize recognizes exceptional scientists who share HESI's commitment to synthesizing ideas, resources, and collaborators across scientific disciplines and sectors – and who have demonstrated particular creativity and impact in doing so.

Priority Areas:

- 1.Safe and effective medicines
- 2.Food safety and security
- 3.Chemical and consumer product safety

Environmental quality and sustainability

Deadline: **30th June 2021**

For more details please visit:

<https://hesiglobal.org/hesi-innovation-prize/>

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND SCIENTIFIC EVENT (IGNITE NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY FUND)

This grant scheme launched by Ignite National Technology Fund is aimed to train manpower and strengthen R&D institutions working in the fields of science and technology relevant to the national needs

The purpose of this grant is two-fold:

- To support the candidates in obtaining essential training/certification and
- To fund reputable institutions that want to either strengthen existing or start another program

Priority Areas:

- Funds should be provided to either completely or partially subsidize the training programs and to buy equipment/software that the institution cannot afford.
- From this grant, medium-sized scientific equipment can also be purchased with strong justification and cost-benefit analysis.
- Funds should not be spent on brick and mortar.
- The details of training and/or experiments that will be performed and the goals that will be achieved should be clearly stated.

(No deadline)

For more details please visit:
<https://ignite.org.pk/human-resource-development>

ISDB-TWAS JOINT RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER GRANT 2021: QUICK-RESPONSE RESEARCH ON COVID-19

Keeping in view the COVID-19 disasters worldwide, the Third World Academy of Science (TWAS) and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) are offering a competitive grant for research collaboration. Technologists and researchers from IsDB Member Countries are invited to submit research and innovation proposals that can help address challenges, directly and indirectly, related to COVID-19.

Priority Areas:

Examples of specific themes include, but are not limited to:

- Epidemiology of COVID-19
- Dealing with consequences of COVID-19
- Regional studies of COVID-19 infection

- Identification of possible sources of viruses: prevention of new zoonotic diseases
- HIV, SARS, MERS, COVID-19: lessons to learn on infections arising through species jump
- Evolution of viral disease: from animal to human and mutations of human strains
- Developing an emergency R&D response to any emerging infectious disease
- Discovery and development of diagnostics and therapeutics in viral outbreaks
- Dealing with viral infections: real-time data collection of the spread and preparation for future outbreaks
- Remote diagnosis and treatment

Deadline: **5th July 2021**

For more detail please visit:

<https://twas.org/opportunity/isdb-twas-joint-research-technology-transfer-grant-2021-quick-response-research-covid-19>

PSF CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INDIGENOUS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), under the Competitive Research Programme, intends to provide funding up to PKR 20.0 million to researchers, engineers, technologists, and innovators who can develop products in collaboration with the industry/private sector.

Focused Areas: Proposals on the idea of a product development having the potential to substitute imports, enhance exports, and/or be used as local raw material for value addition will be preferred.

Deadline: **June 30, 2021**

For further information please visit:

http://psf.gov.pk/call_for_research_proposals.aspx



Reduce your risk of COVID-19

World Health Organization
Western Pacific Region

Clean your hands often

Cough or sneeze in your bent elbow – not your hands!

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth

Limit social gatherings and time spent in crowded places

Avoid close contact with someone who is sick

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces



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

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

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