

ORIC N

ewsletter

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

February 16 to 28, 2025



UAF EXPERTS PARTICIPATE IN GREEN PUNJAB INITIATIVE AT CHAPPU

Under the leadership of Prof Dr Muhammad Sarwar Khan, Vice Chancellor, UAF is making meaningful strides in agricultural development, especially in the Cholistan region, through actively participating in the Green Punjab Initiative, which is going to be a game changer initiative of Pakistan Army and Punjab Government for Cholistan region. This initiative has been launched to uplift agricultural transformation and improve socio-economic livelihood of Cholistan's dwellers and ensure national food security. In this context, UAF experts participated in the formal inauguration of the Green Punjab Initiative attended by a galaxy of dignitaries from the military and Punjab Government and show innovative technologies being tested in Cholistan. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad and Dr Umair Gull participated in the event, and they highlighted the significance of synergic collaboration between academic institutions, government, and military to address pressing agricultural challenges through technological advancements aimed at improving agricultural practices in challenging environments. The chief guest CM Punjab Ms Maryum Nawaz and guest of honor Syed Asim Munir COAS and other members showed interest in field trials of industrial hemp, genetically modified sugarcane, and soybean at Chappu.



Inside NEWS

- UAF experts participate in Green Punjab Initiative at Chappu
- ELC holds session on turning waste into power
- Oilseed Research Laboratory, Dept. of PBG Offers
- FFC team visits Business Incubation Center
- HEC announces Int. Research Support Initiative Program (IRSIP)
- ICGB Offers Research Grants 2025
- PIDE invites applications for academic and administrative positions
- BIC invites applications for Cohort 2025
- National Institute of Health (NIH) invites Research Proposals (Round-5)

A large group of people, including men and women in traditional attire, posing for a group photo in front of the Engro Learning Centre. The building has a sign that reads "Engro Learning Centre" and "Engro Fertilizers". A sign on the wall also mentions "ASSEMBLY POINT".

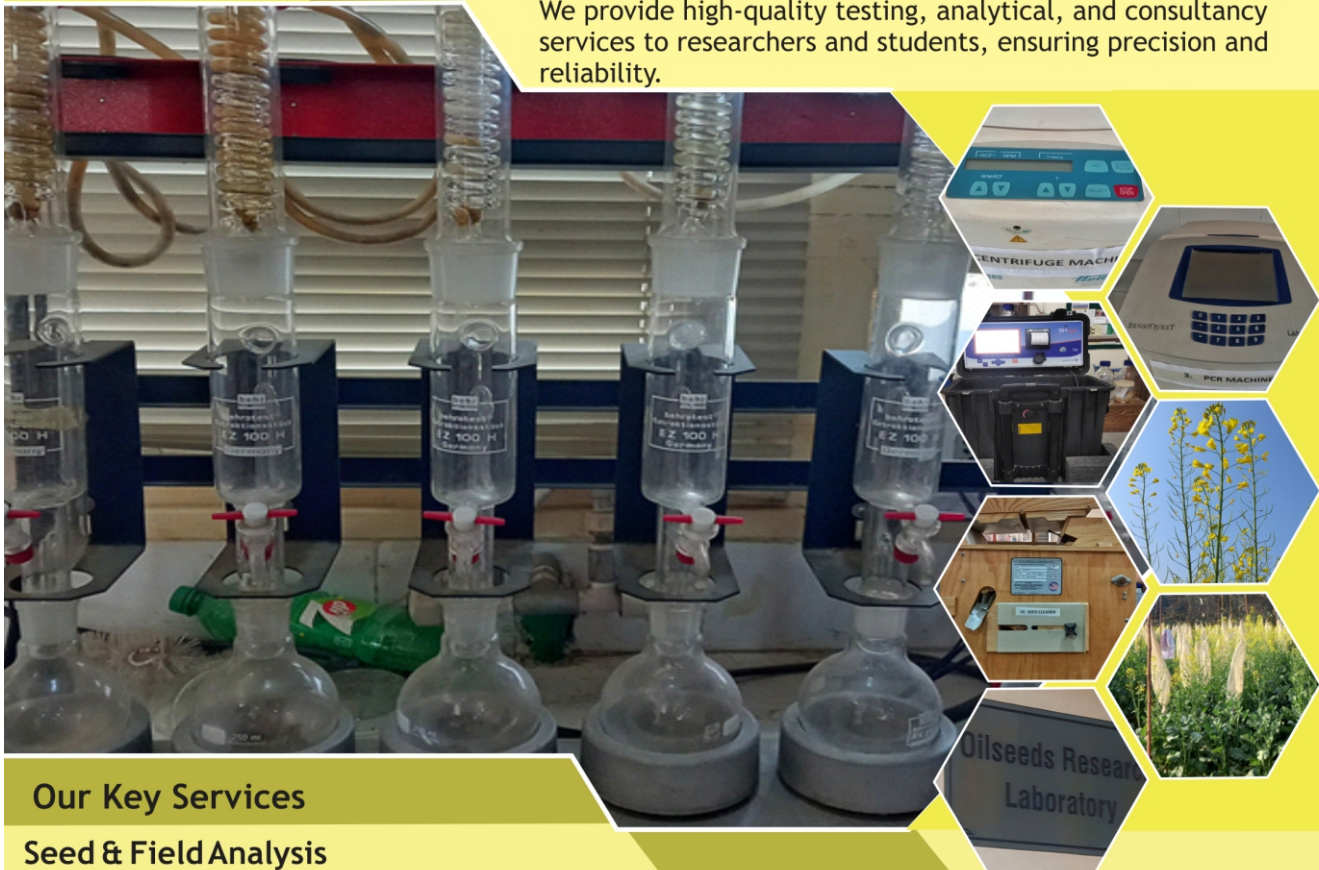


University of Agriculture,
Faisalabad - Pakistan

The Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC) has enlisted eight other Labs in its commercialization stream to extend analytical facilities to researchers and civil society at large.

The OILSEEDS RESEARCH LABORATORY Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics is one of them

The Oilseeds Research Laboratory at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, is dedicated to agricultural innovation. We provide high-quality testing, analytical, and consultancy services to researchers and students, ensuring precision and reliability.



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Cell & Chromosome Studies

- Chromosome & Pollen Studies
- Pollen Tube Germination & Viability
- Surface Morphology

Oilseed & Biochemical Analysis

- Oil Content & Profiling
- Protein & Nutritional Quality

- Superoxide Dismutase (SOD) & Peroxide Dismutase (POD)
- Chlorophyll & Carotenoid Analysis

Media Preparation

- MS Media (Zero, Half, Full Strength)

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REQUEST FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS (ROUND 5)

Health Research Institute (HRI) National Institute of Health

Health Research Institute, NIH is pleased to invite "Call for Research Proposals (Round 5) from Academia, R&D organizations (Public and Private) for health research funding in the following categories;

1. National Health Challenge Grants (upto 10 Million PKR)
2. Small Grants (upto 03 Million PKR)

Closing Date: March 15, 2025

For details please visit: <https://hri.nih.org.pk/>

**Research Development and Coordination Cell
Health Research Institute**

**Ph. 051-8207367, 051-9216773, 051-9207386 (Ext. 31)
Email: grants.hri@nih.org.pk**

FFC TEAM VISITS BUSINESS INCUBATION CENTER



As per directives of Vice Chancellor, Business Incubation Center, UAF hosted a meeting with Fuji Fertilizer Company (Pvt) Ltd (FFC) team to discuss the commercialization of UAF's innovative technologies. The meeting, chaired by Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Director BIC, who highlighted previous interactions between UAF and FFC, where UAF scientists had presented their promising technologies to the FFC team. During the meeting, Col. Salar Malik, Senior Manager for Sustainability and Innovation from FFC engaged in discussions with Dr. Saddam Hussain, Associate Professor, Department of Agronomy, regarding the potential for commercializing a plant-based super absorbent polymer for coating urea fertilizer. Dr. Muhammad Naveed, Associate Professor, Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences, explored the commercialization possibilities of Uni Grow, Soil

Conditioner and bio-active sulfur coating over urea. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, shared the insight regarding UAF-Gro, a patented indigenous soilless substrate for commercialization. Dr. Khurram Zia, Manager Academia Industry Linkages, ORIC UAF also provided valuable insights. The meeting concluded with agreement that Team FFC would hold another detailed meeting with the above researchers regarding their innovative products commercialization with FFC after completion of trials being in progress by FFC before finalizing successful commercialization. This collaboration between BIC and FFC marks a significant step towards bridging the gap between academia and industry, and it is anticipated that these innovative technologies will have a positive impact on agriculture and the overall national economy.

CENTRAL HI-TECH LABORATORY LAUNCHES ONE-WEEK HANDS-ON TRAINING PROGRAM ON ANALYTICAL INSTRUMENTS TO EMPOWER YOUNG RESEARCHERS

The Central Hi-Tech Laboratory (CHTL) kicked off a series of One Week Hands-On Training program focused on various analytical techniques like High Performance Liquid Chromatography, Gas Chromatography, Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry, Scanning Electron Microscopy, Zeta Analyzer, UV-Visible Spectrophotometry and Proximate Analysis. The prime aim of training program was marking an important step to enhance the practical knowledge of the participants. The training program was designed to bridge the gap between theory and practical applications. The program has attracted participants from multiple institutes with diverse educational backgrounds. About 290 students from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad; Govt. College University, Faisalabad; Govt. Graduate College, Samanabad, Faisalabad; The University of Faisalabad and Govt. College of Science, Lahore have enrolled in the hands-on training program showing overwhelming interest in gaining practical skills.

The inaugural session was held on February 24, 2025 at Old Senate Hall, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. The organizers welcomed the distinguished guests, faculty members, researchers and students. The inaugural session began with the recitation of the Holy Quran followed by the Naat-e-Rasool Maqbool (S.A.W). Prof. Dr. Haq Nawaz Bhatti, Dean Faculty of Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad chaired the inaugural session. In his insightful speech, he emphasized

the importance of hands-on training. He added that this training program will not enhance the analytical capabilities and skills but also fostering a spirit of innovation. Today, the need of practical knowledge in operating modern analytical instruments has become more important than ever. He pointed out that our education system provides more theoretical knowledge than practical exercise. It is the hands-on experience that truly prepares students to tackle challenges in their professional career.

Dr. Abdul Rashid, Deputy Director of the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) informed the audience that Central HiTech Laboratory operates under the umbrella of ORIC, playing an important role in providing analytical facilities to UAF researchers, other government organizations and agro-based industries. He further added the importance of hands-on training for students and researchers, suggested that such hands-on trainings should be arranged at least every three months, rather than annually. He highlighted the sample analysis schemes offered by Higher Education Commission (HEC) and Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR). The Deputy Director urged participants to get full benefits of these schemes, which are available, free of cost. He briefed the outlines and mechanism to utilize state-of-the-art analytical resources.





ICGEB

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

ICGEB Research Grants 2025

CRP - Collaborative Research Programme

ICGEB offers a dedicated source of **funding for outstanding projects** in ICGEB Member States, with the goal of promoting collaboration, training of young scientists and the development of research facilities.

The programme provides support for research activities in **basic life sciences, human healthcare, industrial and agricultural biotechnology and bioenergy**.

Applicants should hold positions at **Universities or Research Institutes** in any of the **ICGEB Member States***

A new special category, **Early Career Return Grants**, funds young researchers, who have spent a minimum of 2 years abroad and who have recently returned to an ICGEB Member State to establish an independent laboratory.

Closing date for online submission: 30 April 2025

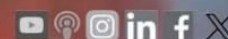
*ICGEB Member States

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte D'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Italy*, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

*Laboratories in Italy are excluded from the call

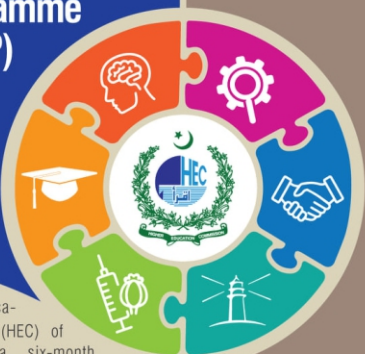
Information and Submission:
ICGEB Research Grants - CRP & Fellowships Programmes
Loc. Padriciano, 99 - 34149 Trieste, ITALY
Tel.: +39-040-3757382
Email: crp@icgeb.org

<https://www.icgeb.org/activities/grants/>



International Research Support Initiative Programme (IRSIP)

6-Month Research Fellowship Abroad for PhD Scholars



The Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan offers a six-month research fellowship abroad to full-time PhD scholars, enrolled in higher education institutions of Pakistan and AJK, under its International Research Support Initiative Programme (IRSIP). The purpose of this Programme is to enhance research capabilities of PhD scholars, and also develop linkages between Pakistani and foreign institutions. HEC receives applications for IRSIP throughout the year, and fellowships are awarded on quarterly basis after thorough evaluation of applications.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA



- Full-time PhD scholars, who are Pakistani/ AJK nationals.
- Minimum two years of enrollment in PhD Programme and maximum up to 3.5 years.
- Coursework of at least 18 credit hours.
- He/She must have passed PhD admission test at the time of PhD admission, as per Higher Education Commission of Pakistan's rules.
- He/She must have an approved PhD research topic and synopsis by the Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASR) or Directorate of Advanced Studies and Research (DASR) or equivalent body of the university.
- He/She must have an official acceptance/ invitation letter for research from a foreign university/ institute/ laboratory. The university/ institution must be listed in top 200 universities list as per Times Ranking of World Universities either in general category or in the relevant subject of applicant.
- Foreign Supervisor should not be an ex-supervisor of the Local Supervisor.
- Scholars already availing any other local HEC scholarship are also eligible to apply provided they submit NOC from concerned HEC focal person.

HOW TO APPLY



Applications can be submitted round the year. Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as they fulfill the basic criteria. Incomplete applications are not entertained. For details about application procedure and more information, please visit <http://hec.gov.pk/site/IRSIP>

Jehanzeb Khan
Project Director (IRSIP)
Higher Education Commission
Islamabad, Pakistan

Research Positions

No. of Positions: 03

Joint Director BPS - 21

01	Macroeconomics and Political Economy
01	Energy and Climate Change
01	Labor Markets & Demography

No. of Positions: 03

Chief of Research / Senior Research Fellow BPS - 20

01	Trade and Industrial Policy
01	Governance and Institutional Reforms
01	Urban and Infrastructure Policy (Smart City, Urban Regeneration, Housing, Transport, Infrastructure)

No. of Positions: 07

Research Economist / Demographer Research Associate BPS - 18

01	Economic Modeling and Growth
01	Geopolitics and International Relations
01	Markets and Regulatory Frameworks
01	Monetary Economics
01	Public Health
01	Urban and Infrastructure Policy
01	Debt Management

No. of Positions: 06

Staff Economist / Demographer BPS - 17

01	Exports and Global Value Chains
01	Fin-tech
01	Real Estate
01	Development Economics
01	Demography
01	Finance and Accounting

No. of Positions: 01

Associate Staff Economist BPS - 16

01	Development Economics
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Academic Positions

No. of Positions: 07

Professors BPS - 21

01	International Economics and Finance
01	Finance (Fin-Tech)
01	Behavioral and Experimental Economics
01	Public Policy and Governance
01	Food Security and Climate Change
01	Political Economy
01	Urban and Infrastructure Policy

No. of Positions: 04

Associate Professor BPS - 20

01	Industry and Digital Economy
01	Logistics and Infrastructure
01	Social Policy
01	Economic Modeling and Forecasting

No. of Positions: 12

Assistant Professor BPS - 19

01	Agricultural and Resource Economics
01	Microeconomics
01	Monetary Economics
01	Growth and Development
01	Climate Resilience
01	Transport and Logistics
01	Innovation and Productivity
01	Marketing
01	Leadership and Organization Behavior
01	Business Strategy
01	Sociology
01	Public Policy and Governance

No. of Positions: 04

Lecturer BPS - 18

01	International Economics
01	Accounting and Finance
01	Monetary Economics
01	Labor Economics

No. of Positions: 01

Associate Faculty Member BPS - 18

01	Microeconomics
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Administrative Positions

No. of Positions: 05

BPS - 20

01	Treasurer
01	Literary Editor & Chief of Publications
01	Chief (Library & Documentations)
01	Director (QEC)
01	Director (ORIC)

No. of Positions: 03

BPS - 19

01	Senior Systems Analyst
01	Additional Registrar
01	Deputy Chief (Library & Documentation)

No. of Positions: 02

BPS - 18

01	Deputy Director (QEC)
01	Deputy Director / Manager Research Development

No. of Positions: 19

BPS - 17

02	Computer Programmer
02	Warden
05	Assistant Registrar
01	Manager Intellectual Property / Legal Services is optional and Publication
01	Welfare Officer (Pension)
04	Private Secretary
01	Assistant Controller of Examination
01	Translator
01	Documentation Officer
01	Web Manager

No. of Positions: 08

BPS - 16

01	Computer Operator / Assistant
01	Assistant Publications Officer
01	Joint Librarian
03	Research Associate (ORIC)
02	Accountant

Policy Positions

No. of Positions: 01

BPS - 21

01	Director (Policy)
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No. of Positions: 01

BPS - 20

01	Chief (Policy)
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No. of Positions: 04

BPS - 19

01	Deputy Chief (Policy)
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No. of Positions: 03

BPS - 18

01	Assistant Chief (Policy)
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No. of Positions: 05

BPS - 15

01	Compositor / Graphic Designer
01	Senior Transport Assistant
01	Assistant Librarian
02	Assistant Accountant

No. of Positions: 04

BPS - 13

01	Upper Division Clerk
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No. of Positions: 01

BPS - 11

01	Lower Division Clerk
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No. of Positions: 02

BPS - 09

01	Lab Technician / Computer Technician
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No. of Positions: 04

BPS - 04

01	Driver
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Important Instructions

Details and job descriptions are available at the PIDE website
www.pide.org.pk/jobs/

Only online applications are accepted through PIDE job portal
Hard copies will not be entertained

BIC-UAF is Inviting Applications for Cohort 2025

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SUBMISSION OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS UNDER NRPU

The Office of Research Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC) always commends the efforts of UAF researchers who strive hard to hunt research funding from diversified sources. Against the Call for proposals (Concept Proposals), the faculty members at UAF submitted 167 Research Proposals (Concept Proposals). As per details, Faculty of Agriculture submitted 36 projects, followed by Faculty of Sciences 25, Faculty of Agri Engineering and Technology 15, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences 12, Center of Agricultural Bio-Chemistry & Bio-Technology 11, National Institute of Food Sciences & Technology 10, Institute of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development 08, UAF Community College PARS 08, Institute of Soil & Environmental Sciences 07, Institute of Microbiology 06, Institute of Pharmacy, Physiology and Pharmacology 05, Faculty of Social Science 02, Institute of Business Management Sciences 01, Institute of Animal and Dairy Sciences 02, One each from Department of English and Humanities, Punjab Bioenergy Institute (PBI), and Water Management Research Centre. As for as the proposals submitted by UAF Constituent Colleges there are 10 research proposals submitted by Burewala Vehari 10, followed by Okara and Toba Tek Singh with 05 and one respectively.

After short listing of these proposals, the Principal Investigators (PIs) will submit full length proposals for evaluation by the technical experts. It is anticipated that UAF will get a sizable funding share out of this opportunity.

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