



technology innovation

A G E N C Y

Innovating Tomorrow Together

SEED FUND

The purpose of the Seed Fund is to assist innovators at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Science Councils (SCs) and, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to advance their research outputs into prototypes and fundable ideas for commercialisation. It also enables innovators to de-risk research outputs for follow-on funding from TIA and/or other funders.

**Assist to advance research into
prototypes and fundable ideas**

Contact Us

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SEED FUND



The Seed Fund Programme has two sub-programmes:

1. The Higher Education Institution Seed Fund
2. The Regional SME Seed Fund



OFFERINGS

Sub-Programme: Higher Education Institution (HEIs)

- To fund University and SCs – based innovators and entrepreneurs
- Outcomes of basic research
- Supports the intended impact of the IPR Act

Partners:

HEIs through their Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) and some Science Councils

Applicants:

University and Science Council based innovators

Sub-Programme: SME

- To enable and support technological innovation and entrepreneurship among qualifying SMEs
- Qualify an SME applicant's work through the relevant Seed Fund Partner
- Address provincial needs and prospective economic growth areas
- Support pre-revenue stage

Partners:

Incubators and regional development agencies

Applicants:

SMEs focused on developing technological solutions to enable their businesses



FUNDING

Eligible applicants will engage directly with the relevant Seed Fund partners. Should the application be approved by the partner-

based structure, grant funding of up to R650 000 per application will be allocated together with the specified conditions around monitoring and evaluation.

Fundable Activities

- Initial proof of concept
- Prototype development
- Sourcing of IP opinions
- Production of market samples
- Refining and implementing designs
- Conducting field studies
- Support of certification activities
- Detailed primary market research

- Business Plan development
- Incubation support for SMMEs
- Piloting and scale-up and techno-economic evaluation

Funding Parameters

- TRL 3 to 7
- No basic research
- protected or protectable intellectual property is required
- Potential to create competitive, new intellectual property
- SMMEs must have to have a valid Tax clearance certificate for the company or individual applying in their own capacity