

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: AGRICULTURAL BIOECONOMY INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (ABIPP)

The Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) is an entity of the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI). It was established in terms of the TIA Act, 2008 (Act No. 26 of 2008), with an objective to stimulate, intensify and exploit technological innovation; to improve economic growth and; the quality of life for all South Africans.

The Agricultural Bioeconomy Innovation Partnership Programme (ABIPP) is an instrument established by the Agricultural Biotechnology unit in DSI in 2017/18 to implement partnership programmes in support of a competitive and sustainable Agricultural Bioeconomy. The ABIPP facilitates, coordinates and funds multi-institutional, multi-stakeholder, and co-funded Agriculture Bioeconomy initiatives contributing to increased productivity, food security and rural economic development. TIA is the agency tasked with implementing ABIPP.

PURPOSE OF THE CALL

TIA and the DSI are calling for submission of proposals for the ABIPP focusing primarily on one or more of the five specific areas:

- Development of new technologies and processes and new or early stage research with identified market opportunities for South Africa.
- Pilot innovation demonstrations of Smart, Precision and Digital Agriculture technologies that include smallholder farmer development and enterprise development. Locally developed technologies will be preferred.
- Innovations or Late stage research, development for farmers, with demonstrated potential for farmers to farm efficiently – may include technology demonstrations, pilot studies, technology transfer, dissemination and accessibility.
- Development of product innovations or agro-processing that supports nutrition security and/or sustainable livelihoods.
- Feasibility studies or new value chain analyses that focus on new opportunities and value chain.

ELIGIBILITY:

Technology innovators that are eligible to apply are:

- Government departments
- Research Institutions, Science Councils and Higher Education Institutions (HEI)
- Industry Associations or Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) or Not for Profit Organisations (NPOs)
- Private and Public Entities and any other recognized legal entities in South Africa

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants applying for funding must meet the following mandatory requirements:

1. Applicants must be South African citizens with valid identity documents.
2. Already existing legal entities:
 - must be or in a process of registering with CIPC or relevant body.
 - Must be or in a process of registering on National Treasury's Central Supplier Database (CSD).
3. Primary technology development activities must be operated within South Africa.
4. For consortium agreements – Lead Applicant to disclose consortium members on the application form and provide agreements during due diligence phase.
5. Proposals must have a co-funding element - disclose amount on the application form and provide proof during due diligence phase.
6. An indication of how Intellectual property (IP) and Risk is managed.
7. Applicants must attend a compulsory briefing session.
8. Details of the proposed technology and/ innovation, linkage to National Priorities, e.g. NDP, DSI Decadal plan, Agricultural and Agro-processing Master Plan, market analysis and opportunity.
9. Applicants are required to demonstrate a value chain approach with multi-stakeholder collaboration and engagement with all key potential stakeholders in the field of study: for example consortium formations that may include, innovation; transformation technology transfer and dissemination; skills development; socio and/economic impact, in kind contributions/ support; roles and responsibilities of each contributor and letters of support from all major roleplayers.
10. Proposals to include human capital development such as technicians, postgraduate students and technology/innovation support to farmers.
11. Detailed Budget breakdown linked to deliverables.
12. Projects may be up to three year projects but disbursement and approval for subsequent years is subject to annual performance and approval by the ABIPP steering committee of the annual deliverables.

CLOSING DATE

The completed proposals must be submitted on the TIA portal <https://gms.tia.org.za/funding> on or before **22 July 2022**. Late applications will not be accepted. For further information regarding the call for proposal, please contact, Ms Nothando Mathe or Ms Kholofelo Ledoka. Projects that satisfy the minimum requirements in the first screening will be requested to submit detailed proposal on the ABIPP Minimal Proposal Template by a specified timeframe of the ABIPP steering committee.

COMPULSORY BRIEFING SESSION

Compulsory briefing sessions will be conducted on Microsoft Teams (link will be shared upon RSVP); to facilitate and assist applicants to understand the Call requirements. The briefing sessions will take place on the following dates; **23rd and 24th June 2022** from **10h00 to 13h00**. Individuals who are interested to attend the compulsory briefing session, must send RSVP to Ms Nothando Mathe Nothando.Mathe@tia.org.za or Ms. Kholofelo Ledoka Kholofelo.ledoka@tia.org.za by no later than **21st June 2022**.



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