

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

## **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO HOST AND MANAGE TIA'S ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION CLUSTER PROGRAMME (AHTICP)**

### **PURPOSE OF THE CALL**

The Animal Health Technology Innovation Cluster Programme (AHTICP) was established as a national initiative that would exploit a high concentration of skills, expertise, and infrastructure. The initiative was aimed at stimulating and intensifying technology innovation within the animal health sector. The establishment of this cluster advocated for the participation of various institutions within the National System of Innovation.

**Whereas** TIA has realised that industry-led initiatives are the best operating practice and has identified a need for an appropriate entity to collaborate with and lead the strategic mandate of the Cluster. It is therefore envisaged that the Cluster be housed, hosted and managed by the identified institution;

**As a result**, TIA intends to appoint a host under the programme above, whereas TIA and the host will be required to enter into the Agreement to regulate their relationship concerning the above matters and any other matters incidental to it.

**Therefore**, TIA extends invitation to a prospective and capable institution to collaborate and host the management of the cluster by sending an expression of interest to host the Cluster herein referred. The expression of interest will be used to identify the most capable and appropriate entity to host the cluster within the context and objectives of its mandate.

### **THE SPECIFICATION**

**Entities expressing interest will need to satisfy the following:**

- Submit a 5 -page, succinct and precise brief on the extent they will satisfy the assessment criteria in the next section below
- In good financial standing and operating as a going concern
- SARS compliant (tax, no mitigation etc)
- Have good and solid corporate governance and stable operational structure (Board and Management structure in place)
- Be an industry-led entity or commodity association or recognised national structure.
- Be able to show sufficient representation of animal health industry and related industries
- Be able to raise funding and leverage joint partnerships
- Be able to manage and host the cluster independently from its business
- Have its core-business within the Animal Health and related industries
- Have a clear strategy to manage conflict of interest within its mandate, should such conflict of interest arise

# THE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Entities must express while remaining independently, how they are going to manage and coordinate amongst other things the following regarding the cluster:

## Cluster Processes

- Policies
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU’s)
- Terms of Reference/Cluster governance/Management
- Project funding agreement (s)
- Application procedure
- Due diligences
- Project selection criteria
- Annual plans and long-term plans
- IP management
- Project (s) contractual arrangement
- Contracting amongst parties
- Approval and management structures
- Transformation
- Commercialisation
- Sustainability
- Collaborations

## Cluster Systems

- Salary/HR
- Website
- Information management and security
- Applications and calls for proposals
- Screening and assessment of proposals
- Templates

# ELIGIBILITY

- Institutions must be of South African origin and owned
- Must have a mandate that sufficiently cover agriculture and animal health scope

## Submission and timelines:

Expression of interest must be submitted to [ahticp@tia.org.za](mailto:ahticp@tia.org.za) by 15 September 2025, no late submissions will be accepted. Enquiries can be directed to [ahticp@tia.org.za](mailto:ahticp@tia.org.za)

## Compulsory presentation:

The eligible entities will be required to make detailed presentations to the Animal Health Cluster Steering Committee on a date communicated. The presentation must cover how the entity will satisfy the **specification of the call and assessment criteria**.

The successful collaborator will support the Agency in managing, assessing, evaluating, and verifying projects for investment including access to leading expert knowledge as and when required.

TIA reserves the right to withdraw or cancel the invitation at anytime.