

SASUF-NRF Seed Grants

The South Africa Sweden University Forum (SASUF), in partnership with the National Research Foundation (NRF), currently offers the opportunity for seed funding for mobility and **you are encouraged to attend to the comprehensive information below**. For detailed information, please consult the attached [framework document](#).

The aim of this programme is to foster new linkages and engagements with small cohorts of emerging researchers. Therefore, the funding within this programme will support research capacity development activities, such as the following:

- Postgraduate student exchange programmes
- General research-related mobility
- Joint workshops, seminars, conferences, symposia, lecture presentations
- Capacity-building sessions, such as participation in winter/summer schools, masterclasses, etc.
- Meetings, local/regional dissemination of research results aimed at involving stakeholders, and/or end-users from outside the consortium.

Submitted proposals should clearly indicate how applicants aim to address the **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** (see page 4 of the attached document), and **proposals that do not illustrate the link with one or more of the SDGs will not be considered for evaluation**.

Duration of the project: All projects will be supported for a maximum duration of 16 months, starting from September 2023.

All applicants must be based at one of the partner universities of SASUF. See the following link for a full list of SASUF members: <https://www.sasuf.org/partner-universities>.

A proposal must include participants from at least two (2) South African and two (2) Swedish universities to be eligible. Therefore, a proposal must be submitted by a minimum of four (4) consortia members. Each proposal must nominate one main applicant based in South Africa and one main applicant based in Sweden; they are the principal investigators (PI) on the South African and Swedish sides respectively. The PIs will bear the main responsibility for the project, including its technical and administrative coordination as well as timely delivery of scientific and financial reports. Additional research partners based in South Africa and/or Sweden can also participate in the joint projects and form part of the consortia, provided that there is a strong motivation for value addition. All PIs and their co-applicants must hold a PhD to be eligible.

Projects must demonstrate potential for promoting human capacity development, equity, and redress through the involvement of the next generation, mid-career researchers, historically disadvantaged individuals (including female and disabled), and the participation of HDIs.

FUNDING: Researchers should ensure that all expenses are calculated and covered in line with the rules and regulations in force in each country. Funds requested should not exceed 100 000 SEK (SASUF portion) plus 130 000 ZAR (NRF portion) per consortium project. Funding will be made available for a maximum of 16 months and exclusively

for **activities commencing in September 2023**. Leveraged funds should be clearly indicated in the application.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: The South African PI must submit their consortia proposals to the NRF through an online application process on the **NRF Connect system** at <https://nrfconnect.nrf.ac.za>. Rejected applications during the screening phase will be given a maximum of three (3) working days from the date of receipt of the email to query the outcome thereof. Please use the 'General Application Guide 2024' for assistance on the steps to follow when applying for international research grants. The link to the guide will be published on this webpage: https://www.nrf.ac.za/funding/nrf_calls. PIs must attach the required compulsory documents in PDF format in the following order:

1. CVs of all consortia partners.
2. Budgets of the Swedish principal investigator.
3. Budget division of the South African team, in particular budget sharing between historically advantaged and historically disadvantaged institutions. Failure to submit compulsory documents will result in the disqualification of the application and will make the entire project consortium ineligible.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: UFS internal closing date: 25 April 2023