



## MUST-IUC UCoBS PROJECT

### Call for Micro-Research Proposal Applications 2022/2023

The MUST IUC UCoBS Sub-Project one titled *“Improved Conservation Practices for the Environment and Natural Resources in South Western Uganda”* of Mbarara University of Science and Technology is pleased to announce a call for micro research proposals. This call is part of the MUST-IUC UCoBS Sub-project one initiative to provide seed grants to researchers to generate tangible research outputs such as high-end peer reviewed publications, conference papers and book chapters for MUST. **One winning team** will be awarded **4,000,000/=** (Four Million Uganda shillings only) to support the research and publication processes.

**Application deadline: July 14, 2023 (11:59 pm E.A.T)**

MUST IUC UCoBS Project one will follow a rigorous review to identify the possible Micro Research Seed grant recipient. Winning teams will be competitively selected from all the three themes of sub-project one by a multi-disciplinary and independent panel of judges after a detailed proposal review and grading. Selection will be based on successful applications among the three themes. The themes are;

- 1. Integration of governance principles into natural resource and environmental conservation Lake Mburo National Park and Bwindi Impenetrable National Park*
- 2. Determining the socio-ecological drivers and extent of degradation of Rivers -Rwizi and Ruhezamyenda to inform their restoration*
- 3. Enhancing the integration of indigenous knowledge and cultural values in management and conservation of natural resources*

#### **Eligibility Criteria and requirements**

- Applicants should be team members, scholars or from the implementing organizations/institutions of the MUST-IUC UCoBS sub-project one
- Applicants should submit as teams not as an individual
- Applicants should be able to publish their research results indexing Mbarara University of Science and Technology once the research project has been completed
- Female candidates are encouraged to apply
- Proposal concept should be a maximum of 4 pages, Times New Roman, Font 12. References are not considered as part of page limit. Applications that do not conform to this criterion will be administratively rejected.



### **Proposal Requirements**

Proposal Body should include the following sections

- Project title
- Introduction and project focus
- Problem statement
- Proposed solution including purpose and objectives of the study
- Justification of the study
- Overview of the research methodology
- Management team and partnerships
- Workplan and budget

### **Evaluation Criteria:**

The following criteria will be followed during evaluation:

1. **Originality and project title (2 marks)**
2. **Introduction and problem statement (10 points)**
  - Identifies a clear need/gap and illustrates how the research will address this need/gap
  - Demonstrates potential for widespread impact
3. **Literature and theoretical review (8 points)**
  - A good engagement with current relevant literature
  - Proper citations and referencing
4. **A clear research methodology (10 points)**
  - Demonstrates clear methods and materials
  - Outlines a feasible implementation plan and strategy (including workplan and budget)
  - Demonstrates a clear research dissemination plan
  - Discusses clear partnership opportunities with NGOs, governments and industry
5. **Proposed solution in line with the sub-project focus (5 points)**
  - Offers rationale for a new and creative solution ('better/faster/cheaper')
  - Addresses significant technical issues relevant for global settings, including low-resource settings
  - Shows promise for strong research publication output and new knowledge relevance
6. **Management Team (5 points)**
  - Brings relevant expertise according to the nature of the research
  - Part of the management team should be member(s) affiliated to MUST

### **How to Apply:**

Email applications as PDF to: tinkasimire90@gmail.com copied to [mtwinamatsiko@must.ac.ug](mailto:mtwinamatsiko@must.ac.ug) and [aamwikirize@must.ac.ug](mailto:aamwikirize@must.ac.ug). For any inquiries, please reach out to Dr. Medard Twinamatsiko on [mtwinamatsiko@must.ac.ug](mailto:mtwinamatsiko@must.ac.ug) and Mr. Rogers Tinkasimire – tinkasimire90@gmail.com