



University of Mauritius -WTO Chairs Small Research Grants for Young Africans

Call for Research Proposal

The WTO Chair at the University of Mauritius is pleased to open the 2013 edition of the call for Research Proposals for Young African Researchers bidding for small research grants. In this regard, proposals for research projects are hereby invited from young African researchers (not more than 40 years of age) and working in collaboration with a relevant senior policy maker, on subject areas which are in line with the WTO mandates and objectives (see below for details on the WTO chairs programme). We welcome proposals addressing, but not limited to the following themes:

- International Trade and Economic Crises
- Non Tariffs Measures: Implications for Developing Countries
- Regional Trade Agreements
- Trade in Services
- Climate Change, Trade and Green Development
- Trade in Agriculture
- Trade and Poverty

Award

The Research Grants awarded would not exceed US\$ 4,000. A maximum of three (3) Research Grants would be awarded after a review by a panel of experts.

Guidelines for the Submission of Proposals and Important Dates

Proposals should be submitted electronically to the WCP-UoM Co- Chairs (Dr V Sannasseer (rvtan@uom.ac.mu) and Dr B Seetanah (b.seetanah@uom.ac.mu))

The deadline for submitting proposals is May 15th 2013. Selected researchers will be notified by June 15th 2013. The interim report is due on 15th August 2013 and the final report on 31st October 2013. Selected candidates may be required to make a presentation of their interim report at the International Conference on International Trade and Investment (ICITI) 2013 which will be held in Mauritius from 4th - 6th September 2013. The interim report will be also be assessed by the ICITI2013 resource persons.

Each proposal should not exceed 2000 words and should include the following:

- Background: The policy context of the proposed research.
- Objective(s): A statement of the specific research objectives, the issues to be addressed, and the questions that would be answered

- Existing knowledge: A brief review of the relevant literature, and previous research on the given topic. Also the existing policy of the state on the research topic
 - Proposed Methodology: a description of the proposed research methodology - surveys, interviews, econometrics, including a discussion of data requirement and availability (and, where necessary, data collection strategy).
 - Value added, and policy relevance: Anticipated results and how they might contribute to knowledge, future research and especially public policy
- Interested Researchers should also submit the following:
- CVs of the researcher/team members/Policy Maker(s);
 - Timeline of the proposed research, including a brief description of activities and timeline needed for each activity and the total duration of research project; and
 - Estimated budget including expenditure by major line item, e.g., research assistants, travel, computer time, etc. Maximum budget per proposal would be USD 4,000.

Technical Queries

Technical questions and further information regarding the call for proposal can be directed to the members of the co-coordinating team:

Vinesh Sannasee - rvsan@uom.ac.mu

Boopen Seetanah - b.seetanah@uom.ac.mu

Verena Tandrayen- v.tandrayen@uom.ac.mu

About the University of Mauritius -WTO Chair programme

The WTO is providing annual financial support to the UoM for a period of four years to facilitate continuous interaction between the University and other national and international think-tanks. It provides financial support to the UoM and associated individual scholars towards their course preparation, teaching, research and outreach activities. This programme is part of the technical assistance and training programme that the WTO delivers, with a view to enhancing the quality and level of participation of developing countries in the multilateral trading system. The ultimate objective of the WTO Chairs Programme is to strengthen the human and institutional capacities of universities from developing countries to support governments in the formulation of sound trade policies. The programme also seeks, through the Chairs, to support and facilitate the involvement in the process of other relevant stakeholders, such as the private sector, non-state actors and civil society. Policies that are understood and supported by the public at large are far more likely to succeed than those which are simply imposed, whether by internal or external decision-makers.

One of the main objectives of WCP is to promote research focused on extending specialized knowledge and explaining the policy relevance of existing research. As part of its research agenda, the WCP-UOM organises international conferences on trade related aspects, encourages and facilitates networking for African researchers, engages in capacity building and also funds research.