



WRC 2021/2022 RDI PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION CYCLE

The WRC plans and implements Open and Directed Annual Calls for research, development and innovation (RDI) project proposal funding and/ or budget streams. This document records summaries of various Annual Call activities and their respective due dates that are applicable for the 2021/2022 Annual Call Cycle.

RDI PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS AND EVALUATION TIME FRAMES FOR 2021 (FOR FUNDING FROM 01 APRIL 2022)

1. CALL FOR PROPOSALS: OPEN AND DIRECTED STREAMS

- 15 April 2021 Deadline for submission of KSAs, Thrust and Programmes Priorities and budgets, including titles for directed calls (if available) that must be in the 2021 call for proposals, with a notice that directed calls will be open on the 1 June 2021, with ToRs available on 1 June 2021
- 1 June 2021 Call for open RDI project proposals by Special Announcement on the WRC website.
- 1 June 2021 Call for directed RDI project proposals and Publication of Terms of Reference (ToRs) by Special Announcement on the WRC website.

These will be accompanied by:

- a) A list of thrusts and programmes (research, development and innovation areas) priorities to be addressed; and
 - b) An indication of budgets and/ or funds available against each research area, optional.
- 31 July 2021 Deadline for submission of open and directed calls for RDI project proposals. The WRC On-line proposal submission for the 2021 Annual Call closes.

2. PRE-SELECTION PROCESS: OPEN AND DIRECTED PROPOSALS

- 1 – 13 August 2021 Completion of internal screening and pre-selection of RDI project proposals and nomination of reviewers (in accordance with specified screening criteria) by the Research Manager
- 31 August 2021 KSAs peer review Screening meetings: Pre-selection/ screening by KSAs and confirmation of external reviewers who were identified and recommended by the Research Managers to review project proposals.

3. PLANNED REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

- 1 September 2021 External reviewers are invited to review project proposals that were received during the current cycle and the RDI project proposal review process starts.
- 30 September 2021 Deadline for submission of completed external proposal reviews to the WRC.
- 1 – 22 October 2021 Research Managers start and complete consolidation of RDI project proposal reviews and KSAs conduct internal peer review and assessment and make recommendations to the Research and Development Branch.
- 25 – 31 October 2021 Research and Development Branch meets and considers KSAs recommendations and make final (branch) recommendations to the WRC Executive, EXCO.
- 5 November 2021 Deadline for submission of final and/ or internal (KSA) RDI project proposal evaluations and consolidation of final (branch) recommendations to the WRC Executive, EXCO.
- 17 - 19 November 2021 WRC Executive meets and considers recommendations by the Research and Development Branch and makes final selection of project proposals to be funded during the 2021/ 2022 financial year.
- 22 – 30 November 2021 The outcome of the WRC Executive funding decision and conditions of grant i.e. acceptance/non-acceptance of RDI project proposals, are communicated to proposers.
- 3 December 2021 Deadline for confirmation of acceptance of the WRC's EXCO funding decision and conditions by project leaders/ proposers to the WRC. And the RDI project Proposal amendments period start.
- 31 December 2021 Deadline for project leaders and/ or proposers to complete RDI project proposal amendments and comply with the WRC's funding conditions.

4. PREPARATION AND SIGNING OF CONTRACTS AND COMMENCEMENT OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- 3- 31 January 2022 The WRC verifies compliance to conditions of funding and the prepares, finalises, signs and couriers/ emails the contracts to the lead organisation/ contractor.
- 15 March 2022 Lead organisation's/ Contractor's deadline to process, sign and return contracts to the WRC.
- 1 April 2022 The WRC funds become available for successful RDI project proposals and all approved new projects commences.
- 1 April – 30 June 2022 The Project Leaders submits student verification documentation, i.e. student identification and official proof of registration, to the WRC.