RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION (RDI) PROJECT PROPOSALS' SUBMISSION AND SELECTION AND CONTRACTING DATES FOR THE 2022/ 2023
(For 01 April 2023)

The WRC plans and implements Open and Directed Annual Calls for research, development, and innovation (RDI) projects proposals. These are the stages and activities of receiving and reviewing project proposals during the 2022/ 2023 Annual Call and their respective planned dates and timeframes.

The submission of project proposals is accessible on the WRC BMS portal that you can gain access by creating a new profile or logging using existing login details at https://wrc.microsoftcrmportals.com. The research, development, and innovation priorities for the 2022/23 annual call for project proposals has all thrusts and programmes that are being prioritised in thus Call as well as an indication of budgets and/ or funds available against each research area, optional.

1. THE START OF OPEN AND DIRECTED CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

01 April 2022	Internal deadline for submission of KSAs, Thrust and Programmes Priorities and budgets, including titles for directed calls (if available) that must be in the 2022/23 call for proposals.
01 June 2022	BMS is enabled to receive project proposals for the **Open Call** of the 2022/23 Cycle. The open call is published on the website and other platforms.
01 July 2022	BMS is enabled to receive project proposals for the **Directed Calls** of the 2022/23 Cycle. Terms of Reference (ToRs) are published on the WRC website and other platforms.
31 July 2022	Deadline for submission of **All project proposals** on the 2022/ 2023 Annual Call.

2. REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

2.1 SCREENING AND PRE-SELECTION SUBMITTED PROJECT PROPOSALS

01 - 15 August 2022	An internal screening and pre-selection of RDI project proposals and nomination of reviewers (in accordance with specified screening criteria) by the WRC's Research Manager are completed.
31 August 2022	All Business Units or KSAs conduct initial screening to pre-select all complete project proposals that correctly responded to the Call for proposals. The KSA identifies and recommends subject experts that are suitable, willing, and available to study and review project proposals that falls within their expertise and knowledge.

2.2 EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

01 September 2022	The WRC requests and invites external subject experts as reviewers to peer review project proposals. This starts the review and evaluation process of RDI project proposals.
30 September 2022	The last day for external subject experts to submit project proposals peer review reports to the WRC.
01 – 21 October 2022	The WRC Research Managers studies and consolidate RDI project proposals peer review reports and makes initial funding recommendations. The WRC business units or KSAs considers the recommendations of the Research Manager and makes further recommendations to the Research, Development, and Innovation Branch.
24 – 28 October 2022	Research, Development and Innovation Branch considers the finding recommendations of the business units or KSAs and then make further recommendations to the WRC Executive.
04 November 2022	The last day to finalise and submit project proposals that are recommended for a further and last review and evaluation by the WRC Executive, internally.
16 - 18 November 2022	The WRC's Executive meets and considers the recommendations of the Research, Development and Innovation proposal funding and conditions and then makes final review, evaluation and decision. The project proposals that are successfully reviewed and evaluated are selected with such amendments as the executive deems fit.
21 – 30 November 2022	The outcome of the WRC's Executive review and evaluation decision and conditions of grant are communicated to project proposers. All conditions of grant are clearly recorded.
09 December 2022	The last day for project proposers to confirm if they accept the WRC's funding conditions. The successful RDI project Proposals are then amended on BMS in accordance with the conditions of grant.
13 January 2023	The last day for project leaders and/ or proposers to make changes or amendments to the RDI project proposals to comply with the WRC's funding conditions.

3. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENTS ARE SIGNED AND NEW RDI PROJECTS STARTS

15- 31 January 2023	The WRC verifies compliance to conditions of funding and then prepares and signs the memorandum of agreements and make them available to the lead organisations/ contractors/ recipients of funds to also sign.
15 March 2023	The Last day for the Lead organisations/ Contractors/ recipient of WRC funds to sign the memorandums of agreements fully and properly, and to make original or electronic copy available to the WRC properly and fully.
01 April 2023	Project funds become available and new projects commences.
31 December 2023	The last day for Project Leaders to submits student verification documentation to the WRC i.e., student report, (with student identification and official proof of registration).