

Kano Peace Committee Extols Virtues of Former DVC Admin, Says He Lived a Fulfilled Life

By Nura Garba

The Kano State Peace Committee under the leadership of Professor Ibrahim H. Umar, has extolled the virtues of the late Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administration, Professor Haruna Wakili, saying that he had lived a fulfilled life.

Speaking when the Kano Peace Committee and Kano Forward Committee paid a condolence visit on the University Management on 1st July, 2020, Professor Umar, who co-chaired Kano Forward Committee said the late academic icon had played a key role in ensuring harmonious co-existence among political parties in Kano during the last gubernatorial election in 2019 when he held sway as a member of the committee.

He said the committee had come to pay its respect to the former DVC whose contributions to the political, religious and social activities in the country could not be over emphasized, noting that the University had lost a rare gem and committed personality whose

void would be difficult to be filled.

In his part, Bishop John Namaza, who is the co-chairman of Kano Forward Committee stated that the death of Prof Wakili came to him as a great shock. He said the late DVC Admin had been symbolized with humility, selfless services and sacrifice to the humanity.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello said the Kano Peace Committee's role had manifested in the political sphere in the state. He explained that the committee was able to harmonize the religious and tribal differences in the state, adding that Kano State has been reaping the fruits of the committee's work.

He expressed happiness over the committee's condolence visit, noting that the University had greatly missed Prof Wakili and would forever cherish his utmost contributions.

Skyline Seeks Collaboration With BUK

By Lamara Garba

The Skyline University, a privately owned institution in Kano State has sought to collaborate with the Bayero University in the area of research development and other academic activities.

The Vice Chancellor of the University, Dr. Sudakhar Kota, who spoke during a visit to Bayero University on Wednesday, 1st July, 2020 said the decision to seek academic collaboration with Bayero University was informed by the high quality personnel the university was endowed with.

“We are young and new here and therefore, for us to succeed as a citadel of learning, we must collaborate with the older and well experienced institution such as BUK, hence our desire to work together,” said Dr. Kota.

In addition to seeking collaboration in the area of research, he also requested that their Mass Communication students be allowed to be doing their SIWES in the BUK FM Radio station.

Dr. Sudakhar Kota was particularly elated with the massive support it has been receiving from Bayero University since its coming to Nigeria, pointing out that Skyline University will never forget this kind gesture.

The Skyline University Vice Chancellor, said his institution will in addition to educating the populace also ventured into empowering the youth on entrepreneurship, so that they can be self reliant on completion of their studies.

Responding, the Vice Chancellor of Bayero University, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello, expressed readiness to provide any support and assistance to Skyline University.

Professor Bello while granting the request for SIWES at the Radio Station, also said they would also be sent to the Directorate of Public Affairs which produces Weekly Bulletin and the Monthly BUK Today Magazine with a view to learning the print journalism as well.

In the area of accessing research grant from TETFund, he advised the Skyline University to submit their request for any collaboration so that they would form a joint research team.

According to him, under the TETFund policy of funding research proposal, the lead researcher must be a staff of a public University, but other research fellows might come from any institution including private tertiary institutions provided that the project is for the benefit of Nigerian nation.

Professor Yahuza Bello assured the Skyline University that their doors are always open to support and assist them in any way possible. He said Kano, as the most populace state in the federation needs a lot of tertiary institutions in order to accommodate the teeming graduates of secondary school pupils.



VC, Prof. M. Bello (left) in a tete-a-tate with the VC, Skyline University Dr. Sudakhar Kota



The International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID) and Pfizer Global Medical Grants Announce: *Pfizer-ISID 2020 AFME Grant Challenge* *Competitive Grant Program*

I. Background

Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) supports the global healthcare community's independent initiatives to improve patient outcomes in areas of unmet medical need. These areas include research, quality improvement measures, and expanded educational opportunities that align with Pfizer's medical and scientific strategies.

Pfizer's GMG competitive grant program begins with a publicly posted Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a specific area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an external review panel (ERP) to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the specific gaps as outlined in the RFP.

For all quality improvement grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the quality improvement program.

The International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID), in collaboration with Pfizer Global Medical Grants, is initiating this RFP for research projects focused on the implementation and/or assessment of antimicrobial stewardship programs throughout Africa and the Middle East.

ISID is a non-profit organization composed of 80,000 professionals representing every country in the world. The mission of ISID is to support infectious disease practitioners in resource limited settings as they work to prevent, investigate, and manage infectious disease outbreaks. ISID encourages the collaborative efforts of health communities working locally, nationally, and globally for the best control and management of infectious diseases. We recognize that infectious diseases cross all geographic, financial, and political boundaries and that effective long-term solutions require international scientific exchange. www.isid.org.

II. Eligibility

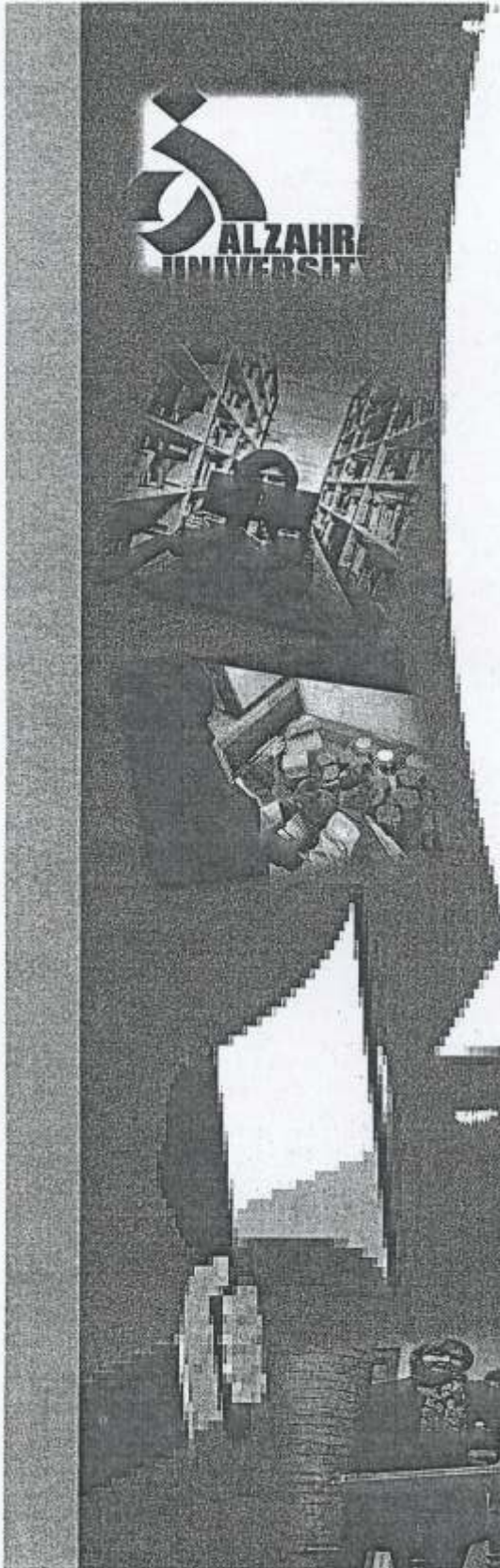
Geographic Scope:	Africa and the Middle East
Applicant Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following may apply: medical, dental, nursing, allied health, and/or pharmacy professional schools; healthcare institutions (both large and small); professional associations; public health organizations, environmental health organizations, government agencies; Research facilities and other entities with a mission related to healthcare improvement. • More information on organizations eligible to apply directly for a grant can be found at http://www.pfizer.com/files/IGLC_OrganizationEligibility_effJuly2015.pdf.

Do You Know?

- That BUK consumes a lot of Energy Daily?
- That Power Supply by PHCN is Poor?
- That The University Relies on its Generators for Power Supply at Staff Quarters, Administrative, Academic and Students Areas?
- That The University Spends a lot of money on Diesel and Generators' Maintenance?
- That Some Staff members Leave Offices Without Switching-off Electrical Appliances?
- That 1 Extra Hour of Air-conditioning in a Room Uses Enough Energy to Power A TV for a Year?
- ✓ To Reduce Cost and for Safety, Help the University by Putting-off all Electrical Appliances when not in use!

Embassy of Iran: Call for International Student Admission

This is to inform members of the University community that the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Abuja announces the call for International Student Admission at Al-Zahra



Call for International Student Admission at Alzahra University

It is hereby informing that, as previous years, Alzahra University grants international scholarships in all academic degrees (bachelor's-master's-PhD) in the form of full scholarships, half scholarships and non-scholarship.

The number of full scholarships is limited and only in the postgraduate course (master's and PhD) will be granted to the top and qualified applicants.

- ❖ Alzahra University's top graduate students take priority.

For more information on admission and requirements, course schedule, and tuition fees, etc., check <http://intl.alzahra.ac.ir/En> .

Those documents received only by email intl.office@alzahra.ac.ir will be checked.

For more information, contact via +98-21-8805-8925 or mentioned email.

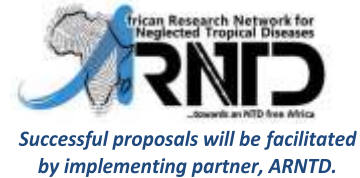
International and Academic Collaboration Affairs
Alzahra University



African Researchers' Small Grants Program (SGP IV)

A. Overview

Budget for SGP IV:	USD 300, 000
Maximum funding per award:	USD 30, 000
Call Opening date:	July 01, 2020, 08:00 GMT
Call closing date:	August 14, 2020, 17:00 GMT
Announcement of awards:	November 14, 2020, 17:00 GMT



Introduction

The African Research Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases (ARNTD) with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and UK aid from the UK government, through the Coalition for Operational Research on Neglected Tropical Diseases (COR-NTD), is seeking proposals for both operational and implementation research on "Emerging Challenges facing NTD program implementation in Africa." This fourth edition of the Small Grants Program (SGP IV) is to support African researchers in both early and mid/late career to undertake operational or implementation research aligned with the goals established in the London Declaration on Neglected Tropical Diseases. SGP IV is comprised of two small grant funding tracks:

- a. Small grants for junior researchers
- b. Small grants for mid-career and/or senior researchers.

Who is the target group?

This fourth call for proposals is targeted at outstanding researchers – especially beginning researchers – and academics based in research institutions or universities in Africa. Applicants will have to demonstrate that the proposed research or activity is aligned with country/program interests and has potential institutional/individual capacity-building impact. The small grants targeted at junior and senior researchers at the Masters or PhD level will provide grants ranging from USD 10,000 - 30,000. Applications are accepted in both English and French. Shortlisted applicants will be required submit full proposals and additional documentation in English in order to be eligible for the award.

Objectives of the call

1. To increase African leadership, involvement and visibility in neglected tropical disease (NTD) operational and implementation research, including through direct engagement with national NTD programs;
2. To contribute to improving the research capacity of an existing cadre of African NTD researchers and strengthening African research institutions in the process by supporting operational and implementation research on NTDs that is locally originated and African-led, either by junior researchers or experienced researchers ready to take on larger research programs;
3. To improve South-South communication and collaboration among researchers, policymakers and implementers, and for community participation in research and agenda-setting;
4. To provide an opportunity for young upcoming researchers not only to gain experience in research, but also in preparation of grant applications and management;
5. To supplement a clearly defined aspect of ongoing research or to answer a new question linked to ongoing research being carried out by mid-career/senior researchers;
6. To encourage a model of North-South collaboration which promotes engagement between researchers in the South and their control programs, and improves local leadership and ownership of initiatives and activities.

What's in Scope?

In order to be considered for funding, the proposed research must be informed by existing evidence and identified gaps. Proposals must demonstrate significant potential to inform or develop further research activities. Priority funding will be directed to projects focusing on the five preventive chemotherapy (PC) NTDs (i.e., lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, soil-transmitted helminthiasis, schistosomiasis, and trachoma) and projects focusing on improving equitable access to NTD interventions for vulnerable populations (e.g., nomads, groups in conflict zones, and rural/hard-to-reach areas, refugees, and the disabled). Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate how their research can contribute to the fight against COVID-19. All



applications should provide information on how the COVID-19 pandemic would likely influence the execution of the proposed research project. Eligible proposals may focus on:

1. Implementation research that aims to improve the effectiveness of NTD programs. This includes:
 - a. Identifying factors that hinder equitable delivery of NTD program interventions to vulnerable groups.
 - b. Developing, testing, and scaling practical solutions that are evidence-based, adaptive, and context-specific.
 - c. Identifying ways to improve uptake, adaptation, and adoption of existing evidence-based strategies, tools to achieve elimination and control targets.

For implementation research topics, applicants have the option of selecting one or both of the following:

- Conduct a formative study to quantify and describe implementation challenges and make recommendations for program improvements. In this case, applicants should clearly outline research hypotheses, methodology, and variables of interest.
- Conduct an intervention study, citing evidence from previous research and program dis-aggregated data through a gender, equity, and human rights lens and justifying the research questions, approach, and methodology in the background and significance section of the proposal. In this case, applicants should also clearly outline research hypotheses, methodology, and variables of interest; and document the proposed plan for evaluating the short-term or intermediate effect of the intervention on variables of interest.

2. Operational research with potential for generating knowledge that can directly inform programmatic decisions around program monitoring, stopping, and surveillance. Studies to develop or validate innovative new diagnostic technologies to support monitoring and evaluation of NTD programs are especially welcomed.

What's out of Scope?

SGP IV funding cannot be used for paying salaries, participating in meetings/conferences, payment of tuition/course fees, purchase of restricted commodities (e.g., contraception, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, vehicles, etc.), and for supporting existing programmatic M&E activities such as, but not limited to, mapping, mass drug administration, transmission assessment surveys (TAS), Kato-Katz impact evaluations, trachoma impact surveys/surveillance surveys, data quality assessments, onchocerciasis impact evaluations, onchocerciasis Stop MDA surveys, coverage surveys, knowledge attitude perception surveys, etc.).

B. Eligibility

General criteria:

1. Must be currently employed by or enrolled as a student in an academic, health, or research institution in Africa for the duration of the grant
2. Must demonstrate having a commitment to NTD-related research as well as the skills and experience required to carry out the proposed work
3. Must be able to provide evidence of research output, including publications and/or presentations at scientific conferences

Specific to applicants for the junior researchers' grants:

1. Must be an early career researcher, defined as a basic biomedical scientist, clinically qualified investigator, or public health researcher, who has not previously competed successfully as principal investigator for a major research grant (i.e., ≥USD 200,000)
2. Must hold at least a Master's degree or should be actively enrolled in doctoral studies. Applicants holding a doctoral degree (e.g. PhD, DrPH, DSc) must have graduated no more than seven years ago. Clinicians (e.g. MBChB, MBBS, MD, DVM holders), who have not completed a Master's degree must have some specialist training (e.g., Membership, Fellowship) or be able to demonstrate relevant research training/experience
3. Must not currently hold positions above lecturer/assistant professor level or equivalent
4. Must be able to provide written evidence of commitment to providing mentorship and supervision from a senior researcher with a track record and ongoing commitment to NTD research.



Specific to applicants for the mid-career/senior researchers grants:

1. Must be a mid-career/senior researcher, defined as a basic biomedical scientist, clinically qualified investigator, or public health researcher, who has previously competed successfully as principal investigator for a major research grant, but is no more than fifteen years from their highest degree of study
2. Must hold a doctoral degree (e.g. PhD, DrPH, DSc). Clinicians (e.g. MBChB, MBBS, MD, DVM holders), who have not completed a PhD must have completed specialist training (e.g., Fellowship) or be able to demonstrate relevant training tied to research (e.g., MSc, MPhil), or experience
3. Must hold a position no lower than Senior lecturer/Senior Scientific Officer level or equivalent
4. Must demonstrate that they have a track record and ongoing commitment to NTD research
5. Must demonstrate that the intended project is a clearly defined aspect of ongoing research or aimed at answering a new question linked to ongoing research.

C. Application

How to apply

1. Access the online application form and instructions [here](#), complete all required sections and submit ahead of the deadline¹
2. The application form provides a link [here](#) to download a budget template. Complete all required sections by following the funding rules as outlined in the Review Guide and Instructions page of Budget template. Upon completion, please click [here](#) to upload a copy of your budget. Please note that an application without an accompanying budget using the prescribed template will not be reviewed.

Review of the application will take the following into consideration:

1. The eligibility of the applicant and possession of a qualified team
2. The scientific merit and overall quality of the proposed project
3. The significance of the research and potential impact
4. The potential for scaling up the research²
5. The demonstration of reasonable and realistic estimation of costs

An independent panel will review all complete applications submitted, culminating in the preliminary shortlisting of grant awardees. You may download the reviewers' guide [here](#). You are kindly advised to go through the application checklist [here](#) to ensure that you meet all the eligibility criteria and conform to all the requirements. Applications which do not check all the boxes of the checklist will not advance for review. All shortlisted awardees will be supported through training to write and submit a full proposal based on a template. The final award and disbursement of funds will be conditioned on the head of department/unit of the host institution in which this award will be based confirming in writing that the research will be supported with appropriate space and facilities and administered in the name of the organization. In addition, successful applicants for the junior researchers' grants will be required to submit a letter of support from a senior researcher and mentor who will serve as their "research quality guarantor", and will be equally responsible for the success of the research project. Funded research will be closely monitored via bi-weekly calls with the ARNTD Secretariat, submission of quarterly reports, and field monitoring and evaluation visits by the ARNTD where necessary.

Please click [here](#) to find answers to Frequently Asked Questions by previous applicants. For further inquiries, email with the subject line "Inquiry SGP IV" to secretariat@arntd.org



Emeritus Professor Muhammad Sani Zahradeen OFR wishes to invite members of the University Community and the general public to the wedding fatiha of his children, **Abdulmalik Mustapha Zahradeen** and his bride, **Sadiya Ahmad Ali**, scheduled to take place as

follows:

Date: 21th Dhul Kadah, 1441AH

Time: 10:30am

Venue: Gwammaja Tagwayan Gida Opposite Aljazeeraah Stores, Kano State.



Published & Printed by the Registrar's Office (Directorate of Public Affairs), PMB 3011, Bayero University, Kano. Telephone 081860107570, Email: bukbulletin@buk.edu.ng; bukbulletin@gmail.com

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