



TANZANIA COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

2018 Call on Opportunities for Support to Innovation Hubs

1.0 Introduction

The Commission for Science & Technology (COSTECH) in collaboration with the Human Development Innovation Fund (HDIF) invites applications from Hubs including Incubators; Innovation Spaces; Accelerators, and the like to participate in a development programme for Hubs in Tanzania. This is to support development of hubs in the country through a competitive call. The initiative is jointly funded by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID). The aim of the Call is to strengthen the innovation ecosystem in Tanzania through supporting hubs as centres for nurturing and facilitating the building up of capacity to innovate amongst researchers, private entrepreneurs, innovators and others.

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Hubs Support Fund is to provide financial support to enable Hubs bridge some financial gaps in running programmes to support innovations and entrepreneurship, which could contribute to the social-economic development of Tanzania. The fund is a limited resource made available for an agreed set of focused activities with clear deliverables.

3.0 The Context

The Hubs Support Fund Programme will support hubs to strengthen their sustainability. The programme will support participating hubs to develop their business support, capacity building and advisory services to innovators and entrepreneurs. The expected outcome for the programme is a more vibrant network of stronger hubs across

Tanzania that stimulates increased capacity in innovation ecosystems in the hubs' locations.

4.0 Commencement Date: 30th August, 2018

5.0 Closing Date: 28th September, 2018 @ 15:00hrs

6.0 Who can Apply

The fund will be provided to support hubs from any of the below categories namely:

- i. Incubators;
- ii. Innovation Spaces;
- iii. Accelerators,
- iv. Living Labs- Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs)
- v. Co-working spaces,
- vi. Fab labs, makerspaces,
- vii. Hackerspaces, and
- viii. Other innovation centers.

7.0 What will be funded?

- i. *Skills development* -Targeted at students or other individuals who are interested in entrepreneurship and innovation, but need support to achieve necessary skills, networks or business idea to get started.
- ii. *Self-employment* -Targeted at grassroots communities and innovators who are interested in new ways of self-employment and entrepreneurship, but need support in understanding the fundamentals of problem solving, innovation and entrepreneurship to get started and to be successful.
- iii. *Events* - Targeted at any of the above target groups. These events may include business plan or business idea competitions, pitching competitions, hackathons, networking and matchmaking events or other events aiming to create interest and awareness towards innovation and entrepreneurship, to educate and inspire or to support linking entrepreneurs, funders, support organizations to each other.

8.0 Assessment Criteria

The relevance of the proposal to call objectives needs to be conclusively established. The proposal relevant to call objectives will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

8.1 Role of the hub

- i. What are the main activities of your hub?
- ii. What are your main current activities or initiatives?
- iii. Can you quantify some of these elements?

8.2 Viability

- i. Needs assessment and demand for proposed work
- ii. Affordability of the solution be to the targeted end user group
- iii. Sustainability of the project beyond the funding period
- iv. Practicability and how realistic is the implementation of the proposed activities.

8.3 Impact

- i. Scientific appropriateness of deliverable of proposed approaches and technical merit
- ii. The societal impacts aimed to be achieved through the project.
- iii. Economic Impact aimed to be achieved through the project.
- iv. Other impacts including start-up ventures, jobs, new products and services, future investment (public and commercial), talent development, regional talent retention, informal education and engagement, training, urban regeneration, research and development, new networks, innovative models of organization, quality of life enhancements and resilience.
- v. How the project will minimize negative impacts.

8.4 Management and operations

The management and operation of a hub is primarily about the careful selection and compatibility of tenants and the interaction between the actors and activities based on a

clear understanding of the values of the hub. Effectiveness and commitment of the management team to the success of the hubs as well as availability of the team during the implementation period.

8.5 Successfulness

Successful hubs are embedded in local and economic ecosystems and are sustained by the respect of participants and audiences. The hub should indicate its acceptance to the society surrounding it.

9.5 Sustainability

Hubs need to indicate the potential for its sustainability particularly in establishing programmes that could guarantee sustainability.

10.0 Grant period: Up to 12 months (2018-2019)

11.0 Grant amount per project: Maximum of TZS 50,000,000. About 15 successful hubs will be supported.

12.0 Application process

12.1 It is important that applications are submitted through the COSTECH email account to be provided by COSTECH. Completed application packs must be submitted to COSTECH through this E-mail: **hubsupport2018@costech.or.tz**

For further information, please visit the website: www.costech.or.tz

NOTE: [This is](#) for submission of applications ONLY.

- 12.2 Application packs must include:** Fully executed copies of completed application forms. Incomplete application forms will not be assessed. All fields in the Application Form should be completed. Application packs received after the due date will not be considered. The application forms are available through the COSTECH website (*www.costech.or.tz*).
- 12.3** The budget should not exceed the amounts stipulated in the investment parameters set out in paragraph 11 above.
- 12.4** Applicants should submit a letter from the host institution (legal entity). For successful applicants, all project funds will be disbursed through host institution bank account.
- 13 Gender Consideration:** This is among the affairs for consideration during team composition and implementation of the project. The proposal must show how it will have an impact in both men and women, as well as indicate the strategic action for inclusiveness of the less represented gender.
- 14 Language:** Applications may be submitted in Kiswahili or English Language.
- 15 Inquiries and Application forms:** To get application forms and further enquiries please use the below link: <https://goo.gl/forms/rSVQyTm27cITpX2X2>. Application forms can also be downloaded in the COSTECH website: *www.costech.or.tz*.