**Emerging Research Security Leaders Grant Opportunities**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Competition Opens:  | August 31st, 2023 |
| Application Deadline:  | October 31st, 2023 |
| Eligibility: |  Nigerian nationals, who took part in the *African Research Security Consortium* Workshop conducted by Sandia National Laboratories. |
| How to Apply:  | By email to nonpro-grants@crdfglobal.org |
| General Area:  | Security Studies  |
| Award Duration: | Up to six (6) months |
| Announcement and Application:  | On CRDF Global’s website: https://crdfglobal.org/what-we-do/research-data-and-technology-security/  |

**Overview**

* CRDF Global, on behalf of The U.S. Department of State Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction, will oversee a small-grants competition eligible for attendees of the *African Research Security Consortium* Workshop, conducted by Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), who are members of the related research security consortium. Applicants should have support from their affiliated institution.
* This competition aims to provide members of the Nigerian Research Security Consortium with the funding to establish the consortium by facilitating actions that strengthen research security and develop a strong community of researchers to counter attempts to acquire dual-use research.
* Grants are a one-time, six-month award. Institutions seeking grants must complete an application to be considered for selection. Required documents include an application, detailed budget, a copy of the national IDs or passports of all researchers on the team, and the CVs of all researchers on the team.

**Grant Scope**

These five grant opportunities will support and empower the Nigerian Research Security Consortium to develop a strong foundation to continue to advance research security in Nigeria. In your application, please note which grant you are applying for.

1. **Grant Opportunity One:** Plan and host the first two quarterly virtual meetings for the research security consortium. During the meetings consortium members will present their findings, lessons learned, and create a forum for knowledge transfer to the relevant policy community. This grantee will also be responsible for planning and implementing the consortium’s first in-person research security conference.
2. **Grant Opportunity Two:** Develop original materials to brief stakeholders at your home institution on topics, themes, and best-practices presented by SNL experts during the African Research SecurityConsortium Workshop and preceding webinars. Grantee(s) will incorporate knowledge and lessons learned through their attendance at SNL events to develop briefing materials and suggest institutional policies to mitigate risks and threats to sensitive research, data, and technology. Selected grantee(s) will brief appropriate stakeholders at their home institution, and share lessons learned from material development and briefings at following consortium meetings.
3. **Grant Opportunity Three:** Develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) and/or institutional best practice guides for Consortium member institutions. SOPs and/or best practice guides will cover institutional responsibilities in securing sensitive research, data, and technology such as; methods of research exploitation, identifying dual-use research of concern, research security best-practices, cybersecurity for research security, risk management, and due diligence. Grantee(s) will share lessons learned in developing and implementing SOPs and/or best-practice guides at the research security conference.
4. **Grant Opportunity Four:** Design, develop, and regularly update the Nigeria Research Security Consortium webpage. The grantee will also be responsible for developing a communication strategy and will communicate consortium activities to internal and external stakeholder groups, as necessary. The grantee will be responsible for the long-term maintenance and execution of the consortium’s website.
5. **Grant Opportunity Five:** Propose a project which contributes to the long-term viability of the research security consortium, and/or stakeholder awareness/capacity on the subject of research security in Nigeria.

**Eligibility**

* Applicants may apply individually or as a team.
* At least one member of the applicant team must have attended the in-person workshop on research security consortiums held by SNL.
* Members of the grant team must be Nigerian nationals.
* Institutional and/or managerial approval is required for applications to be considered for this competition for Institutional Grantees.
* CRDF Global reserves the right to restrict the participation of any individual or institution in its programs. CRDF Global complies with all U.S. laws and regulations pertaining to export control and the participation of foreign nationals or institutions in its activities. It is the policy of CRDF Global not to conduct any transactions with U.S. restricted entities without appropriate authorization from the U.S. Government.

**Application Materials:**

* A completed application and supporting documents with all application sections filled out, including:
	+ A letter of institutional support, demonstrating host-institution approval of the project
	+ A completed application form including all requested supporting documentation;
		- A one-page abstract and proposed action plan, stating the purpose and goal of the project, possible and feasible ways to design, develop, and implement the project, and an impact statement. The abstract should be double-spaced in 12-point font no more than 900 words. The abstract, goals, and action plan of the grant application should closely match one of the five grant opportunities articulated above.
		- A project schedule detailing expected timelines, expected level of effort for each project milestone, and anticipated completion dates for the project.
		- Proposed detailed budget: the primary sheet of the budget should be used to fill out the project budget. Any Institutional support should be filled out in the CostShare tab.
		- The curriculum vitae (CV) ***and*** passport or state-issued ID card for each individual on the project team.
		- Contact information for at least two professional references for the project team lead.

**Proposal Evaluation Criteria**

All applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria. All decisions by CRDF Global are final.

1. Project topic / relevance and impact:
	* Does the proposed project meet the expected scope and objectives?
2. Sustainability and commitment
	* Ability to sustain the project and support outcomes after the grant ending period
3. Clarity, feasibility, and detail
	* Is the project clearly outlined and possible to be successfully accomplished? Can the project feasibly be completed during the grant period?
4. Past performance
	* Do applicants have a track record of high-quality outcomes on matters relating to responsible science & research?

**Additional Information**

* Applicants receiving provisional notice of selection may be asked to provide additional information to determine eligibility for receipt of funds.
* CRDF Global provides equal opportunities to all qualified individuals without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran, or disabled status. We are committed to prioritizing an inclusive and collaborative space in which diversity and equity is discussed, championed, and supported. We acknowledge and honor the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals. We pledge ourselves to creating and maintaining an environment that respects diverse traditions, heritages, and experiences.
* For detailed information regarding general CRDF Global grant policies please visit:

<https://www.crdfglobal.org/funding-opportunities/#information-applicants>

<https://www.crdfglobal.org/funding-opportunities/#information-awardees>

* For additional questions regarding the grant competition please list the competition name in the email subject and use the below address: (nonpro-grants@crdfglobal.org)