



**KENYA METHODIST UNIVERSITY**  
**DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND EXTENSION**

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REF: KeMU/B/DRIE/RFP/2023. Vol.1

**Request for Proposals: Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Health Impact Studies**

**Description:**

In alignment with Kenyan Government commitment to climate change actions, the Directorate of Research, Innovations, and Extension at Kenya Methodist University seeks to foster collaborations in the thematic areas of Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Health. This endeavour aims to support the ongoing development of faculty in Science, Health, Business, Education, and Technology.

We are pleased to announce the inaugural call for proposals, inviting applications for seed funding to investigate the multifaceted impact of climate change on biodiversity, agriculture, and health. Recognizing the interconnectedness of climate, biodiversity, and health, we emphasize the importance of understanding their synergistic effects. The compounded influence of climate change, biodiversity loss, and impacts on food production has a magnified effect on human health compared to when these challenges are addressed in isolation.

**Context:**

Climate change significantly influences people, animals, and the environment, exposing both humans and animals to heightened climate-related environmental risks. These risks encompass water and air quality, heat stress, and infectious diseases. Activities such as food production, processing, retail, distribution, and consumption contribute to climate change through greenhouse gas emissions. Consequently, climate change affects food production and diversity, intensifying food insecurity, malnutrition, and micronutrient deficiencies, particularly among vulnerable populations like children and the elderly. Exposure to air pollutants amplifies all-cause, cardiovascular, and respiratory morbidity and mortality, including lung cancer.

**Scope of Proposals:**

We invite proposals from all faculty and staff at Kenya Methodist University and their collaborators. Proposals should address the synergistic effects of climate change, biodiversity loss, and food insecurity on human health, considering diverse population groups and settings. Applications are welcome from any field or combination of fields within the thematic area of Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Health. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Climate change adaptation (e.g., indigenous agro-food systems, climate-smart interventions, built environment, and urban planning)
- Climate models (e.g., terrestrial and marine ecosystems)
- Health of agricultural systems
- Climate change impacts on people and biodiversity
- Food and nutrition insecurity
- Policy interventions (e.g., economic, health, science)
- Technology (e.g., artificial intelligence, digital health)
- National and global governance
- Ecology of infectious diseases (e.g., disease prevention with indicators)
- Climate science and education
- Disasters and risks associated with climate change

**Proposal Submission Guidelines:**

We strongly encourage innovative ideas or projects that aim to address the complex interplay of climate change, biodiversity loss, and food insecurity on human health. However, we do not seek to fund existing projects, approaches primarily focused on public awareness or advocacy campaigns, or products already available commercially. We look forward to receiving your proposals that contribute to the advancement of knowledge in these critical thematic areas.

**Application Information:**

We aim to fund 10 projects, providing a maximum funding of KES 300,000 each, over a one-year period starting in January 2024. To facilitate a cohesive and comprehensive proposal submission, please adhere to the following guidelines. Ensure that your application is formatted in a Word document using Times New Roman, font size 12, and does not exceed 3,500 words.

1. Application Form:

Provide a fully completed application form, addressing the following key details:

- Indicate whether you are applying as an individual or a team.
- Principal Investigator contact information.
- Co-investigators' contact information.
- Clearly state the topic area of your application.
- Include a concise project title.

2. Project Overview:

Present a brief but informative project overview consisting of:

- Project abstract.
- Introduction to the proposed project.
- Rationale behind the project.
- Clearly defined problem statement.

3. Methodology:

- Detail the methodology you intend to employ in executing the proposed project.

4. Sustainability Plan:
  - Outline your plan for sustaining the project beyond the initial seed funding.
5. Budget and Financials:
  - Provide a comprehensive budget, including a budget line statement. Ensure that personnel costs do not exceed 30 percent of the total budget.
6. Work Plan:
  - Present a well-structured work plan, outlining the various stages and milestones of the project.
7. Roles and Responsibilities:
  - Clearly define the role of each co-investigator in the proposed work.

**Inquiries:**

For any inquiries or clarifications related to the Request for Proposals, please feel free to contact the Directorate of Research, Innovations, and Extension (DRIE) at the following email address: [drie@kemu.ac.ke](mailto:drie@kemu.ac.ke)

**Submission Details:**

Kindly submit your completed application on or before December 30, 2023, to [drie@kemu.ac.ke](mailto:drie@kemu.ac.ke). Ensure that all necessary documents are included in your submission. We appreciate your prompt attention to this deadline, and we look forward to receiving your valuable proposals.