



## **Marine Research Grant (MARG) Programme**

### **Call for Research Proposals**

#### **Deadlines:**

**MARG I- 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

**MARG II & III applications are processed all year round subject to availability of funds.**

## BACKGROUND

Since its establishment in 1995, the Marine Research Grant (MARG) Programme of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) has sought to enhance the capacity of scientists in the WIO region to conduct research, so as to increase our understanding of various aspects of marine science. The MARG programme provides young and upcoming scientists with a reliable and flexible mechanism to turn their ideas into research projects and also offers opportunity for presentation of research results at various regional and international fora.

### Types, level and duration of funding available

**WIOMSA is calling for research proposals for consideration for funding support** under the MARG programme. Three types of grants are awarded:

**MARG-I:** Intended to provide opportunities for emerging research scientists including MSc and PhD students wishing to turn their ideas into real research projects by carrying out well-defined research activities in their countries/institutions. MARG-I Research Grants are awarded for a duration of 1 year. The maximum amount offered is US\$ 10,000 per year. Proposals for MARG I Grants are reviewed once a year. Please visit MARG I online application portal for more details.

**MARG-II:** Intended to provide opportunities to individual research scientists to share their work, or gain technical experience by working in a specific laboratory. MARG II grants are also available for data analysis and manuscript write-up within the WIO region or where necessary, outside the region. The maximum duration of MARG-II is 3 months, and the maximum amount offered is US\$ 6,000. Proposals for MARG II Grants are reviewed continuously through the year as long as funds are available.

**MARG-III:** Intended to provide opportunities for individual researchers to travel to attend scientific meetings and conferences for the purpose of presenting their work and learning from others. The maximum amount offered is US\$ 3,000. Proposals for MARG III Grants are reviewed continuously through the year subject to availability of funds. MARG III grants are provided for the purchase of return tickets, accommodation or daily subsistence allowance.

## ELIGIBILITY

Young and upcoming scientists and resource managers involved in research in marine sciences in the WIO region are eligible to apply as individuals or as teams. Additional requirements are:

- **Affiliation:** Employment at a recognised institution in the region.
- **Educational background:** Academic degree of not less than a bachelor's or equivalent.
- **Expertise:** Proof that the applicant possesses relevant expertise in the field in which the funding is being sought.

## REVIEW PROCESS

Applications for MARG support should be made online by visiting the WIOMSA website. Once received, the proposals are pre-screened at the Secretariat then assessed by a specially convened review team. Applications must be supported by all the requested documentation; failure to comply will lead to automatic disqualification.

Priority will be given to applicants requesting only partial support and to quality proposals from MSc and PhD students which meet all requirements. Applicants who have published research work from previous MARG Grants in peer reviewed journals will also have an added advantage.

Applications from women researchers, and from scientists in WIO countries whose working language is not English, are encouraged.

## PUBLICATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS

For the purpose of raising the profile of the MARG Programme as well as making the research results easily accessible, MARG I and II grantees are required to submit a final report and

- i) publish the results of their research in an international or regional peer-reviewed journal;
- ii) submit to the Secretariat, during their research projects, short summaries (one to two pages) of their preliminary results or lessons learnt, for publication in the *WIOMSA Newsbrief* as well as the WIOMSA website and social media platforms.

## TRANSFER OF FUNDS

MARG grants funds will be channelled through the grantees' institutions. It is therefore a requirement that grants applications are endorsed by heads of institutions.

## SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Please note that, applications will only be submitted through the online system. Only those applications submitted via this system will be processed. Applications should be completed and supporting documents uploaded on the provided links:

- i) For MARG I: <http://proposals.wiomsa.org/the-marine-research-grant-programme-application-for-marine-research-grant-marg-i/>
- ii) For MARG II: <http://proposals.wiomsa.org/the-marine-research-grant-programme-application-for-marine-research-grant-marg-ii/>
- iii) For MARG III: <http://proposals.wiomsa.org/the-marine-research-grant-programme-application-for-marine-research-grant-marg-iii/>

Please read the instructions carefully before completing the relevant forms.

The deadline for submission of MARG I applications is **1<sup>st</sup> March 2019**. MARG II & III applications are processed all year round subject to availability of funds, at the time of submission.

For more information please contact the Executive Secretary: [secretary@wiomsa.org](mailto:secretary@wiomsa.org).