



**CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO SUPPORT THE
ORGANIZATION OF TRAINING
COURSES/WORKSHOPS & PUBLICATION OF
BOOKS/MANUALS**

**WIOMSA is inviting the submission of proposals for the
organization of training courses/workshops and publication
of books/manuals**

Deadline for submission of proposals: 1 March 2019

CONTEXT

WIOMSA is implementing a five-year Marine and Coastal Science for Management (MASMA) Programme (2018-2022) that aims to assist the countries of the western Indian Ocean (WIO) to achieve the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and comply with the Paris Agreement. Collectively, these two frameworks present a universally applicable and interconnected approach to integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development and require a similarly integrative and widely useful mosaic of solutions. While the focus of the new MASMA Programme is on SDG 14, all efforts are being made to link to other SDG's as they interact to attain broader sustainability targets and ambitions; such as climate action (SDG 13), partnerships for the goals (SDG 17) and others.

As a regional programme, MASMA seeks to strengthen trans-disciplinary research by involving researchers from different disciplines, countries, and sectors. The central purpose of MASMA is to increase our shared knowledge relevant to the welfare of coastal communities, society at large, and their mutual sustainable development. This is considered paramount in bolstering the environmental management and the governance capability required to meet sustainability goals. In this context, MASMA provides an innovative way to link the development of new human and research capacity with existing capacities to address coastal issues and challenges. Accordingly, MASMA provides a platform and mechanism for addressing research needs required by countries of the WIO in achieving the SDGs.

The MASMA Programme also incorporates a strong capacity development component and adopts a holistic definition of the term capacity development to encompass much more than training and include-: **different levels** (individual, institutional, enabling environment), and all **phases of the knowledge generation and knowledge translation cycle** (from setting the research agenda and research design through to research use and communication).

The MASMA Programme offers grants in the following categories:

- i) **Grants for research.** This element provides 'open' and 'commissioned' grants for research support. These are considered as key mechanisms for building and strengthening scientific capacity for inter-, multi- and trans-disciplinary research in the WIO region
- ii) **Grants to support the organization of regional training courses/workshops.** WIOMSA and its partners have been at the forefront of initiating and pioneering innovative capacity development programmes, which go a long way towards improving the individual capacity of professionals, and consequently the management effectiveness of their organizations. Support for the organization of training courses and workshops is considered a key mechanism for building and strengthening scientific and management capacity.
- iii) **Grants to support the publication of books/manuals and writing workshops.** Dissemination of results from research work undertaken in the region is one of the main priorities of WIOMSA. In this context, support is provided to various forms of publications and dissemination of research and knowledge-building outcomes, including innovative use of modern media formats and technologies.
Related to this element of MASMA, writing workshops have also become a common feature of many projects supported by WIOMSA. These provide opportunities for brainstorming on key research findings, as well as for capacity building for emerging scientists in terms of

approaches to data analysis, information synthesis, access to data, and the best methods for disseminating information and results.

- iv) **The Marine Research Grant (MARG) Programme.** The MARG programme provides young and upcoming scientists with a reliable and flexible mechanism to turn their ideas into research projects. It also offers opportunity for presentation of research results at various regional and international fora. Three types of grants are awarded: MARG I (research support); MARG II (sharing/gaining technical experience away from your institutions) and MARG III (travel grants).

SUGGESTED FOCUS

Proposals for the organization of training courses and workshops should seek to involve different groups including scientists, policy-makers and practitioners. Proposals should focus on regional priority issues that are in alignment with the theme of the Programme, **“Generating the scientific and policy-relevant knowledge for achieving SDG 14 and facilitating implementation of the Paris Agreement in the WIO Region”**.

Dissemination of research results from research work undertaken in the region is one of the main priorities of WIOMSA. WIOMSA recognizes that substantial useful information on different aspects of relevance to coastal management is in the hands of scientists of the region. To address this problem, the MASMA programme provides grants to the scientists in the region and their partners to publish research results in the form of books/manuals, and assists with distributing them to as wide an audience as possible.

Furthermore, grants will also be issued to facilitate the preparation and publication of information packages, knowledge products and decision-support tools relevant to policy development and implementation at national or regional levels.

POINTS TO NOTE

Experience from previous calls demonstrates that many of the proposals submitted for grants to support the organization of regional training courses/workshops, and publication of books/manuals and writing workshops were not successful due to several reasons, including:

- A lack of clarity in the articulation of the need for the proposed course/workshop. Proposals need to be clear in identifying the capacity gaps that the proposed courses/workshop intends to address or include a review of previous and on-going courses/workshops on similar subjects and highlight differences between the proposed one and the previous ones.
- Lack of regional coverage. The courses and workshops need to be open to participants from all, or most, of the countries in the WIO region.
- Missing course content or book/manual outline. Proposals should include detailed course /book/manual outlines.
- Lack of focus of the proposals where proposals for short term courses/workshops/support for publication are combined with other activities such as data collection and purchase of equipment.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The proposals should be submitted by an institution, or a consortium of institutions. In the latter case, the lead institution should submit the proposal on behalf of the consortium. For the purposes of this call for proposals, institutions are defined as government departments, research and academic institutions, NGOs, CBOs, or private companies. Members of the project team should meet the following eligibility criteria:

- i) The project leader/s should have attained an education level of at least MSc or MA degree in a discipline(s) related to or relevant to the focus of the proposal.
- ii) Trans- multi-disciplinary teams of researchers are encouraged.
- iii) The grant is specifically for institutions from the WIO region. However, consortia of institutions may involve other institutions or researchers from outside the region as appropriate, and cover their costs from the grant funds applied for. The involvement/participation of scientists from outside the region may not exceed one man-month.
- iv) The project leader/s should be a scientist residing and employed by an institution based in the WIO region at the time of the application.
- v) PhD/Master students are not allowed to apply for these grants as Principal Investigators.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Institutions are permitted to submit more than one proposal. However, an institution will be awarded more than one grant only if it is a large institution and has different departments or units with financial and administrative autonomy, location, specialist capacity, and has submitted separate proposals. They should also have a different lead person and substantially different team members for each of the submitted proposals.

Proposals to organise workshops/workshops and books publications should **strictly NOT EXCEED 5 A4 PAGES (excluding annexes)** prepared as a WORD Document, using Times New Roman 12 pt, single spacing, normal margins (2.54 cm for top, bottom, left and right margins), portrait orientation.

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND METHOD OF SUBMISSION

Proposals should be submitted by 1st March 2019. The MASMA Programme Committee will review the submitted proposals within a period of two months and applicants will be informed of the Committee's decisions immediately thereafter.

Applications should be completed and support documents uploaded at <http://proposals.wiomsa.org/masma-proposals/>. Only those applications submitted via this system will be processed.

For further information contact **The Executive Secretary, Email: secretary@wiomsa.org.**