STDF Grants

Sustainable Development of SINAI

Science and Technology Development Fund

www.stdf.org.eg

Call for Proposals

TARGETED CALL

“TC/4/April /2013/DS”
I. Preamble

Sinai is a triangular peninsula with total area 60,000 km². It is the only part of Egypt located in Asia, effectively serving as a land bridge between two continents. It has a population of approximately 500,000 people. Sinai has a wealth of diverse, valuable and virgin natural resources. Over the past years Sinai has become a tourist destination due to its natural setting, rich coral reefs, and religious history. The most popular tourist destinations in Sinai are Mount Sinai (Jabal Musa), St. Catherine’s Monastery, and the beach resorts of Sharm El-Sheikh, Dahab, Nuweiba and Taba. Large numbers of Egyptians from the Nile Valley and Delta have moved to the area to work in tourism, while at the same time development has negatively affected the native Sinai Bedouin population. Such development attracts people from other places throughout the national country to settle down and start new activities, other than tourism, in Sinai. Such widespread activities can improve the economic and social status of the native Bedouin population with a consequent improvement of the security side. The new strategy of the country development required approaching all areas in Egypt in order to reach all populations in their habitats. Sinai is a unique ecosystem with a lot of resources (diverse minerals deposits, agriculture, medicinal and aromatic plants, wind patterns, scattered communities, and others). New sustainable technologies are required to develop such resources into economic value to be added to either Sinai populations or national country as well.

II. Call Description

This call is an STDF initiatives aiming at the deployment of technological approaches to improve the economic value of the resources and to develop the livelihood of Sinai population and to solve the stressing and pressing problems hindering the sustainable development.

TC/4/APRIL/2013/DS is dedicated to support the researchers to carry out applied and innovative research projects that will help in the development of Sinai. Preference will be given to applicable projects with short term tangible outcomes. The priority areas listed in this call were recommended by the recently held national conference "Science and Technology for the development of Sinai, Egyptian Ministry of Scientific Research", April, 2013.
III. Call Objectives

The main goal of this call is to develop Sinai. It is the first STDF Targeted Call (TC) dedicated entirely to develop a specific part of Egypt; Sinai.

IV. Priority Areas

1. Renewable energies (Bioenergy, solar, wind and geothermal)
2. Water (ground water, water desalination, water treatments, harvest of rains and floods)
3. Social sciences, humanities, and Indigenous knowledge (IK)
4. Health care (Medical tourism, cancer and genetic diseases)
5. Green suitable housing
6. SMEs (textile, medicinal and aromatic plants, furniture, seed production and food)
7. Mineral recourses
8. Remote sensing and earth sciences
9. Agriculture, animal and fish production
10. Survey, updating and fulfillment of studies needed for development and investment in Sinai and Suez Canal Corridor
11. Others (please specify)

V. Eligible Applicants

Any Egyptian researcher who is affiliated to an Egyptian university or research institution and holding Ph.D. can apply as a Principal Investigator (PI).

VI. General Terms and Conditions

- All research projects shall be evaluated on a competitive basis.
- All proposals should follow STDF template for the call.
- The estimated budget structure should follow STDF budget format and be justified according to the proposed scope.
- Teams formed of researchers, industrial and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) partners are encouraged to apply. The benefits of such partnerships should be highlighted in the proposal.
• Preference will be given to proposals which are built on existing experiences or pilot studies or patents or prototypes. And with clear and achievable objectives, tangible, feasible and applicable short term outcomes.

**VII. Proposal Submittal Process**

All applications must be uploaded on the STDF website (www.stdf.org.eg) to which registration is required. Proposal submission will be a two-stage process, as follows:

**The first stage:** A pre-proposal is submitted (Please download the pre-proposal template by clicking the following link: [Sinai Development Pre-proposal Template](#)).

**The second stage:** The applicant PIs, whose pre-proposals are selected in the first stage, will be invited to submit their full proposals.

**VIII. Important Dates**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Announcement of the call</td>
<td>22/4/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline date for pre-proposal submittal</td>
<td>20/5/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date of announcement of the accepted pre-proposals</td>
<td>30/5/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline date for full proposal submittal</td>
<td>30/6/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date of announcement of the accepted full proposals</td>
<td>30/7/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date for grant contract agreement</td>
<td>15/8/2013</td>
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**IX. Evaluation Process**

The evaluation process will be executed by independent experts and the STDF will assure that the process is transparent, impartial and researcher-supportive. In addition, after full proposal submission, the STDF officers may make field visits to assess the facility preparedness for the proposed research.

**X. Negotiation and Contract Signing**

Negotiation and grant contract agreement will come into force shortly after the announcement of the second stage results (to assure budget allocation according to STDF
XI. Biosafety, Ethics and IPR considerations

1. **Biosafety**: the pre-proposal should provide answers to the following points:

   a. Does your project have any biosafety considerations? (Yes/No)
   b. If yes; has biosafety permission been obtained to conduct this project?
   c. If the biosafety permission has not been obtained yet, please state reasons:
   d. Please provide more information about your institutional facilities for the evaluation of GMOs.
   e. If your project has any bioethical considerations, you will be asked for the approval of your institutional or national bioethics committee in the second phase.

2. **Ethics**: the applicant must be aware that:

   a. The project submitted to STDF shouldn't be submitted or funded by any other national or international organization.
   b. All STDF staff (Project Officers, STDF committees and panels) are not allowed to be a part (directly or indirectly) of any project funded or administrated by STDF. For more information contact STDF.
   c. STDF reviewers aren't allowed to evaluate any pre-proposal, full proposal or report for a team they are working with, for a PI with whom they had joint publications, for a PI for whom they supervised their M.Sc. or Ph.D. thesis, or if the PI is one of their relatives, or working under their direct supervision. If any of the above cases are applicable to any reviewer, he/she must decline to review. If the applicant received any sign from the reviewers indicating that he/she is the reviewer of his project, he/she must directly contact the Executive Director of STDF.

XII. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

The applicant and the endorsing institution(s) shall conform to the STDF-IPR regulations, detailed as a separate document on the STDF website (www.stdf.org.eg).