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| Funding Opportunities  ORIC, University of Malakand  June 2021 |

**Basic & Applied Sciences**

**1.**     **Product development through indigenous research and innovation (Deadline: June 30, 2021)**

**About:**Pakistan Science Foundation, under Competitive Research Programme, intends to provide funding upto PKR 20.0 million to researchers, engineers, technologists and innovators who can develop products in collaboration with industry/private sector.

**Priority Areas:**Proposals on idea of a product development having potential to substitute imports, enhance exports and/or be used as local raw material for value addition will be preferred.

**Eligibility:**The Principal Investigator must be a researcher in Public Sector institution/industry. Project team may include researchers from industry/private sector. However, funds will be released to public sector organizations by PSF.

**For further information please visit:**[http://psf](http://psf/).[gov.pk/call\_for\_research\_proposals.aspx](http://gov.pk/call_for_research_proposals.aspx)

**2.**     **AI for Earth grants (Deadline: 5thJuly, 2021, 11:59PM Pacific Time)**

**About:**

Azure compute credit grants provide you with Azure credits worth $5,000, $10,000, or $15,000, depending on your project scope, to start using Azure AI tools and cloud computing with your existing labeled dataset. By being a member of the AI for Earth grantee community, you also have access to additional resources – technical advice and support, online Azure training materials, and invitations to the AI for Earth Summit for networking and education opportunities.

**Priority Areas:**

AI for Earth awards grants to support projects that use AI to change the way people and organizations monitor, model, and manage Earth’s natural systems such as:

·         Climate

·         Agriculture

·         Biodiversity

·         Water

**Eligibility:**

Applicants can be affiliated with an academic institution, nonprofit organization, government entity, environmental startup, or innovative project within a company. For the Azure compute grants, we recommend that the main applicant has a demonstrated background in environmental science and/or technology, and that at least one member of the team has strong enough technical skills to complete the project successfully. Applicants should be close to or done with their data collection and ready to start with computation and model building.

**For further information please visit:**<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/ai/ai-for-earth-grants#primaryR3>

**3. IsDB-TWAS Joint Research & Technology Transfer Grant 2021: Quick-Response Research on COVID-19(Deadline: 5thJuly 2021)**

**About:**

The COVID-19 pandemic is a global crisis, affecting human health as well as economies and societies worldwide. TWAS and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) are offering a competitive grant for research collaboration. Technologists and researchers from IsDB Member Countries are invited to submit research and innovation proposals that can help address challenges directly and indirectly related to COVID-19.

**Priority Areas:**

Examples of specific themes include, but are not limited to:

·         Epidemiology of COVID-19

·         Dealing with consequences of COVID-19

·         Regional studies of COVID-19 infection

·         Identification of possible sources of viruses: prevention of new zoonotic diseases

·         HIV, SARS, MERS, COVID-19: lessons to learn on infections arising through species jump

·         Evolution of viral disease: from animal to human and mutations of human strains

·         Developing an emergency R&D response to any emerging infectious disease

·         Discovery and development of diagnostics and therapeutics in viral outbreaks

·         Dealing with viral infections: real-time data collection of the spread and preparation for future outbreaks

·         Remote diagnosis and treatment

**Eligibility:**

Each Principle Investigator (PI) must be a national of an IsDB member country and hold a PhD with good research experience and lead each research group. (Note: The PI will be responsible for the coordination of the research, submission of requested documentation and reporting of the expenses. All TWAS correspondence will be with each PI).

**For further information please visit:**

<https://twas.org/opportunity/isdb-twas-joint-research-technology-transfer-grant-2021-quick-response-research-covid-19>

**4. Reimagining the Future of Accessible Education (Deadline: 30thJuly 2021, 11:59PM Pacific Time)**

**About:**

AI for Accessibility grants support projects that use AI to empower people living with disabilities. We are looking for individuals or teams who are not only passionate about making the world more inclusive, but also firmly rooted in the communities they intend to benefit. We want to invest in ideas that are developed by or with people with disabilities.

**Priority Areas:**

·         AI-based innovations in education to empower people with disabilities.

**Eligibility:**Applications are invited from developers, NGO’s, academics, researchers, and inventors to accelerate their work for people with disabilities. This is a global program: Grant applications from all countries are eligible.

**For further information please visit:**<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/ai/ai-for-accessibility-grants>

**5.**     **The Merck Research Grants Program(Deadline: 31stAugust 2021)**

**About:** At Merck, creativity, initiative and curiosity are at the heart of everything that we do. That's why it's important for us to recognize and support these qualities in the work of scientists, students and entrepreneurs from all over the world.

**Priority Areas:**

The proposals are accepted in the following areas:

·         Drug Discovery

·         Real time testing and sensors

·         Nanoparticle for nucleic acid delivery

·         Digital Innovation

·         Bioelectronics

·         Sustainability

·         Media recycling for cultured meat

·         Organoids

**Eligibility:**

The Merck research grants program is open to scientists in all career stages who are affiliated with any research-based institution, university or company. Applicants submit their application for the focus topics containing non-confidential information only. You may apply for more than one grant or submit your application for more than one focus topic. If your application is successful, you are invited to submit a full proposal under confidentiality and join a deep-dive workshop with the other finalists. All applicants will be informed about the decision of the selection committee at the beginning of October.

**For further information please visit:**

<https://www.merckgroup.com/en/research/open-innovation/2021-research-grants.html>

**6.**     **Human Resource Development Project and Scientific Event (Ignite National Technology Fund) (No deadline)**

**About:**

This grant scheme is aimed to train manpower and strengthen R&D institutions working in the fields of science and technology relevant to the national needs.

The purpose of this grant is two-fold:

·         To support the candidates in obtaining essential training/certification and

·         To fund reputable institutions that want to either strengthen existing or start another program.

**Priority Areas:**

Funds should be provided to either completely or partially subsidize the training programs and to buy equipment/software that the institution cannot afford. From this grant, medium sized scientific equipment can also be purchased with strong justification and cost-benefit analysis. Funds should not be spent on brick and mortar. The details of training and/or experiments that will be performed and the goals that will be achieved should be clearly stated.

**Eligibility:**  
Duly filled applications in all respects along with any documents should be sent to Ignite. There is no deadline for submission of the application; however, the application should be submitted at least three months prior to commencing the project.

**For further information please visit:**<https://ignite.org.pk/human-resource-development/>

**Social Sciences**

**7.**     **The Ned Grants Program (Deadline: June 25, 2021)**

**About:**

Each year the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) makes direct grants to hundreds of nongovernmental organizations worldwide working to advance democratic goals and strengthen democratic institutions. Each year,

**Priority Areas:**NED is interested in proposals from local, independent organizations for nonpartisan programs that seek to:

·         Promote and defend human rights and the rule of law

·         Support freedom of information and independent media

·         Strengthen democratic ideas and values

·         Promote accountability and transparency

·         Strengthen civil society organizations

·         Strengthen democratic political processes and institutions

·         Promote civic education

·         Support democratic conflict resolution

·         Promote freedom of association

·         Strengthen a broad-based market economy

**Eligibility:**

NED funds only nongovernmental organizations, which may include civic organizations, associations, independent media, and other similar organizations. NED encourages applications from organizations working in diverse environments including newly established democracies, semi-authoritarian countries, highly repressive societies and countries undergoing democratic transitions. **For further information please follow the given links:**<https://www.ned.org/apply-for-grant/en/>

**All disciplines**

**8.**     **E & T Innovation Awards (Deadline: 29 June 2021)**

**About :**

The E&T Innovation Awards recognize and celebrate the very best new innovations across the breadth of science, engineering and technology.The E&T Innovation Awards give global recognition to those who are creating innovative and creative solutions, which are delivering a return, whether that be in sentiment, sales, engagement, behavior or actions that meet your objectives.

**Priority Areas:**

1.      Digital Health and Social Care

2.      Future Power & Energy

3.      Communications & IT

4.      Sustainability and Climate Change

5.      Cyber Security

6.      R&D

7.      TechforGood

8.      Creating a Smarter World

9.      Future Mobility

10.  Intelligent Systems

11.  Future Unicorn

12.  Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Impact

13.  Young Pioneer

14.  Trust and Truth

**Eligibility criteria: Eligibility criteria is given with each category**

**For further information please visit:**<https://eandtinnovationawards.theiet.org/>

**10.**                  **Direct Aid Program (Deadline: 30thJune, 2021)**

**About:**The Direct Aid Program (DAP) is a small grants program funded from Australia’s Aid Budget. It has the flexibility to work with local communities in developing countries on projects that reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development consistent with Australia’s national interest.

**Priority Areas:**

DAP projects cover a range of sectors such as education, health, water and sanitation, environmental protection, women's empowerment and gender equality, supporting people with disabilities, economic livelihoods, and human rights. DAP projects engage a wide range of partners including community groups, non-government organizations, educational institutions and local governments.

**Eligibility:**

Funding is available on a not-for-profit basis to community groups, NGOs and other entities engaged in development activities in countries that are eligible for ODA.

The DAP Committee will assess the applications against the following criteria:

·         the costs and the development benefits of the project;

·         whether it has achievable and sustainable outcomes;

·         the soundness of the project's objectives and design;

·         the practicability of the proposed implementation arrangements, and;

·         Whether the project conforms to the objectives of the Direct Aid Program.

**For further information please follow the given link:**

<https://pakistan.embassy.gov.au/islm/directaidprogram.html>

<https://dap.smartygrants.com.au/DAPIslamabad2020-21>

<https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/direct-aid-program/Pages/direct-aid-program.aspx>

**10.**                  **HESI Innovation Prize 2021(Deadline: 30th June 2021)**

**About:**Nominations are now open for Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI) Innovation Prize 2021 to protect the health of patients, the public, and the environment.

The 2021 HESI Innovation Prize is an unrestricted cash prize of $80,000 USD to be awarded to a single individual (or multiple nominees if applying together) who has helped to reduce disproportionate health burdens in underserved populations and/or to promote greater health equity.

The HESI Innovation Prize recognizes exceptional scientists who share HESI’s commitment to synthesizing ideas, resources, and collaborators across scientific disciplines and sectors – and who have demonstrated particular creativity and impact in doing so.

**Priority Areas:**

Awardees will have applied this approach to catalyze health equity progress in relation to one or more of the following areas that are central to HESI’s core operations:

1.      Safe and effective medicines

2.      Food safety and security

3.      Chemical and consumer product safety

4.      Environmental quality and sustainability

**Eligibility:**

Nominees(s) must hold a master’s degree, M.D., Ph.D., D.V.M., or equivalent degree. Academic, government, NGO, or non-profit sector scientists may be nominated or may self-nominate but Centers, Programs, Institutes, Universities, etc. are not eligible for the Prize. There are no geographic restrictions. HESI staff and HESI elected leadership (Board of Trustees and Emerging Issues Committee science advisors) are ineligible for the Prize.

**For further information please follow the given link:**<https://hesiglobal.org/hesi-innovation-prize/>

**11.**                  **Skål International seeking Nominations for Sustainable Tourism Awards (Deadline: 30-Jun-21 23:59 CET)**

**About:**

The Skål International is seeking nominations for its Sustainable Tourism Awards to all public and private sector companies, educational institutions, NGOs, and government agencies.

**Priority Areas:**

Entry submission can be made in one of the following categories:

·         Community and Government Projects

·         Countryside and Biodiversity

·         Educational programmes and Media

·         Major Tourist Attractions

·         Marine and Coastal

·         Rural Accommodation

·         Tour Operators-Travel Agents

·         Tourist Transport

·         Urban Accommodation.

**Eligibility:**

Skål International Sustainable Tourism Awards are open annually to all public and private sector companies, educational institutions, NGOs, and government agencies related to tourism worldwide.

**For further information please follow the given link:**<https://www.skal.org/sta-winners>

**12.**                  **State-of-the-Art Award Champions Award (Deadline: July 31, 2021)**

**About:**

P4G is looking for the world's most innovative partnerships delivering measurable sustainable growth and climate action impact. Our State-of-the-Art Partnerships are best-in-class examples of multi-stakeholder partnerships that can rapidly scale and replicate their models of change. We welcome the most entrepreneurial solutions capable of delivering transformative impact in this decade of action.

**Priority Areas:**

An award of excellence will be presented to one partnership in each of five key SDG areas:

·         2: Zero Hunger

·         6: Clean Water and Sanitation

·         7: Affordable and Clean Energy

·         11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

·         12: Responsible Consumption and Production.

**Eligibility:**

The global competition is open to partnerships in any country or combination of countries.

**For further information please follow the given link:**<https://p4gpartnerships.org/state-art-partnership-awards>

**13.**                  **South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) - Regular Research Grants (Deadline: Regular Research Grants (two times a year in April and October)**

**About:**

The South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE)is a regional network that uses economic tools and analyses to address South Asia's environmental challenges. It is based on the premise that solutions to economic development concerns and environmental problems are integrally linked. Thus, SANDEE brings together South Asian researchers and institutes interested in the inter-connections among development, poverty and the environment.

**Priority Areas:**

SANDEE provides research grants related to the economics of environment and development. Currently, grants are made in three thematic areas: Ecosystem Management, Economics of Climate Change, Policies and Programs for Greener Development. For providing research grants, we generally invite the submission of research pre-proposals two times a year in April and October. However, pre-proposals are accepted throughout the year..

**Eligibility:**

Graduate, PhD students, researchers are encouraged to apply.

**For further information please follow the given link:**<http://www.sandeeonline.org/content_disp.php?id=12&cntid=54>