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

Deadline for submission of proposals: 21st March 2022

CONTEXT

WIOMSA is implementing a five-year Cities and Coasts (C&C) Project (2018-2022), that aims to assist the countries of the western Indian Ocean (WIO) to achieve SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities amongst other SDGs and comply with the Paris Agreement. These two frameworks, particularly the SDGs, present a universally applicable and interconnected framework for integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development. While the focus of the new Programme will be on SDG 11, this will be linked to the other SDGs that have strong linkages with this goal, such as SDG 14 and SDG 17.

The C&C project provides a competitive research grant to support research in the WIO on sustainable coastal cities. The project also includes a capacity-building component. The capacity building extends beyond training to include several levels (individual, institutional, and enabling environment) as well as all stages of the knowledge production and knowledge translation cycle (from setting the research agenda and research design through to research use and communication).

The current call offers grants in the following areas:

1. Grants to support the organization of regional workshops and training.

This call is seeking a diverse array of proposals for organizing workshops and training. The workshops and training should cover a wide range of timely topics highlighting exciting advances in coastal cities research, management, and policy that can be of interest to a wide audience, from city planners, coastal zone practitioners, researchers, and early-career scientists. The focus should be on how the **sustainability of coastal cities** can be delivered i.e., **to heed the call of Sustainable Development Goal 11 – "making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" by 2030**

Workshops should be designed as hands-on learning exercises where participants engage in a mix of lectures and activities and leave with some new skill or knowledge set. Examples might include navigating new analytical software, exploring emerging city planning techniques, and field techniques for studying coastal cities. Workshops can also be scientific and provide an opportunity for the exchange of knowledge within a well-identified community.

Training can be lecture-based where the emphasis is more on the transfer of knowledge and targeted towards larger audiences or practical or academic training on a specific topic area.

2. Grants to support the publication of books/manuals and writing workshops.

WIOMSA promotes the dissemination of research outcomes from regional research projects. WIOMSA recognizes that scientists in the region have access to vital information for coastal community development. This call will provide limited funds to regional scientists and their

partners to help them publish their research findings as books/manuals and distribute them to as many people as possible. The grant can also support the development and dissemination of information packages, knowledge products, and decision-support tools relevant to policy development and implementation at the national or regional levels.

POINTS TO NOTE

Previous calls have shown that many of the proposals submitted for funds to support the implementation of regional training courses/workshops, as well as the publication of books/manuals and writing workshops, were not successful for a variety of reasons, including:

- No evident need for the planned course/workshop. These proposals either failed to clearly articulate a need for the course or failed to compare it to similar previous courses/workshops.
- Regional coverage is limited. Courses and workshops were not offered to participants from all or even the majority of the WIO region's countries.
- Absence of course content or book/manual outline. Proposals did not include detailed course /book/manual outlines making it difficult to assess the relevance of the proposed concept.
- Combining courses/workshops with other activities. This call is limited to the organization of short-term courses or workshops only.
- Proposals with weak methodology on course delivery and unrealistic budgets.

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 an 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 specific 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 from the WIO region and be employed by an institution based in the WIO region.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Institutions may submit more than one proposal. A major institution with multiple departments or units with financial and administrative autonomy, location, and specialist capacity may qualify for multiple grants. However, each proposal should have a different lead person and team members.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The workshops may take place in physical and/or virtual form, depending on the situation with COVID-19 and country-specific regulations. Given the current situation and uncertainties around the pandemic, proposals **must** show evidence that the proposal outputs can be achieved under the current situation.

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND METHOD OF SUBMISSION

Proposals should be submitted by 21st March 2022. The C&C Project Committee will review the submitted proposals within a period of one month and applicants will be informed of the Committee's decisions immediately thereafter.

Applications should be completed and support documents uploaded at Cities_Proposal_Submission_Page Only those applications submitted via this system will be processed.

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