



## Tertiary Education Trust Fund

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### TETFUND NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND (NRF) 2020 GRANTS CYCLE: CALL FOR CONCEPT NOTES

#### INTRODUCTION

Following the successful completion of the processing of the research proposals submitted to NRF under the 2019 Grants Cycle, culminating in the total award of N3.9 billion to support 128 research projects, the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) wishes to inform the Nigerian research community, in particular, and the public in general, that President Muhammadu Buhari has approved the sum of N7.5 billion for the current 2020 NRF Grants Cycle. The process of accessing the 2020 NRF grants involves the response to this Call-for-Concept-Notes by the Principal Investigators of the proposed research projects, to be followed later by the submission of full proposals by only those whose concept notes have been evaluated and the research projects are considered fundable.

#### THEMATIC AREAS FOR THE 2020 NRF GRANT APPLICATION

The twenty eight prioritized thematic areas of research are, as presented below, in three categories: Humanities and Social Sciences; Science, Technology and Innovation; and Cross-Cutting.

##### Category 1

##### Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation

Thematic Area 1	Agriculture and Food Security
Thematic Area 2	Health and Social Welfare
Thematic Area 3	Transport
Thematic Area 4	Power and Energy
Thematic Area 5	IT, Computing & Telecommunications
Thematic Area 6	Space Science and Technology
Thematic Area 7	Geosciences
Thematic Area 8	Science and Engineering
Thematic Area 9	Water & Sanitation
Thematic Area 10	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
Thematic Area 11	Sustainable use of Natural Resources and Terrestrial Ecosystems

##### Category 2

##### Humanities and Social Sciences

Thematic Area 12	National Integration, Conflict, Defence and Security
Thematic Area 13	Education and Human Capital
Thematic Area 14	Economic Development and Globalization
Thematic Area 15	History, Culture and Identities

Thematic Area 16	Languages, Literatures and Media
Thematic Area 17	Social Development and Welfare
Thematic Area 18	Population and Migration
Thematic Area 19	Governance, Politics, law and Ethics
Thematic Area 20	Tourism, Sports and Recreation
Thematic Area 21	Gender, Equity and Social Inclusion
Thematic Area 22	Humanities, Social Sciences, Technology and Business Interface

##### Category 3

##### Cross-Cutting

Thematic Area 23	Entrepreneurship & Wealth Creation
Thematic Area 24	Environment, Housing & Urban and Regional Development
Thematic Area 25	Resource Governance
Thematic Area 26	Science, Technology and Innovation System Management
Thematic Area 27	Blue Economy
Thematic Area 28	Clean and Affordable Energy

#### ELIGIBILITY

Lecturers in any of our public universities, polytechnics and colleges of education in Nigeria are eligible. Multi-Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary research projects, comprising researchers from various disciplines, are most highly encouraged. The Principal Investigator (PI), who must preferably be of professorial cadre in a university, chief lecturer in a polytechnic or college of education, will lead the research team and be personally responsible and held accountable for the conduct of the research. An added requirement is that the PI must be institution based, with the PI's institution regarded as the Coordinating Institution. However, in line with the approval of Board of Trustees (BOT) of TETFund, additional members of the research team can be drawn from researchers in private tertiary institutions, research institutes, Centres of Excellence and the industry. This is consistent with the global best practice of involving non-governmental organizations and other non-state actors in research projects that are to address national needs.

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The process of application is entirely on an online platform. The Principal Investigator is expected to visit [nrf.tetfund.gov.ng](http://nrf.tetfund.gov.ng) upon the opening of the Portal, where he or she will be closely guided on the preparation and final submission of the concept note.

All the submitted Concept Notes will be evaluated by the National Research Fund Screening and Monitoring Committee (NRFS&MC). The PIs of the successful Concept Notes will be communicated to proceed to the preparation of the Full Proposals which will also be processed online. The PI and, at least a member of the Research Team of an adjudged fundable proposal, shall be invited to defend their proposal before the NRFS&MC. Thereafter, the successful proposals for grant awards will be presented to the Board of Trustees of TETFund for approval.

#### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF CONCEPT NOTES

The Portal will be open for the submission of the Concept Notes from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June to Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July.

For any enquiry, please contact the TETFund NRF Secretariat using the following e-mail addresses:

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Signed

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(Executive Secretary, TETFund, Abuja)