

جامعة الإسكندرية
ALEXANDRIA
UNIVERSITY



وحدة إدارة المشروعات

Emergency Targeted Program COVID -19 Emergency Call

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OPENED

EMERGENCY TARGETED GRANT, CALL-1

Grant : Emergency Targeted Grant

Program : Special Targeted Call Grants

Proposal Type : Full Proposal

Call : 1

Industrial Topics :


STIFA Rules of submission contracting and
follow up : <http://www.stdf.eg:8080/help/382799>


Apply»

 **announcement:** 2020-Mar-26

 **Deadline:** 2020-Apr-09

 Ms. Mariam Fawzi

 COVID-19 Emergency targeted call
Guidelines.pdf

 COVID -19 Emergency targeted call application
form.docx

Grant objective:

- **STIFA's targeted COVID -19 EMERGENCY CALL** has been introduced to address national priority needs with the ultimate goal of finding efficient emerging disease management. The objectives of this call are proposed to encourage scientists to respond to societal and governmental needs highlighted by Egyptian authorities, and to apply **innovative and applicable solutions to pandemic disease COVID -19 facing the society and needed for welfare.**

- **COVID -19 EMERGENCY CALL** could be addressed from different research perspective, including; *Medicine and Health, Pharmaceutical and drug development, Material, Textile, Engineering, Biotechnology, etc.* The main objective is the development of effective, efficient, economic products for diagnosis, control, protection and treatment of the viral infection and spread. Epidemiological and immunological studies and digital apps for viral tracking and healthcare management.

- The main objective of the current call is better management of the outbreak of COVID -19, with applicable effective economic research outcomes to enable their application at large scale for health developments, industry production of sanitizers, ventilators, drugs, vaccine and other sectors.

- Egyptian researchers are invited to collaborate in consortium to manage research projects addressing the outbreak of COVID -19, for better research outcomes and to enable better local facilities, Biosafety lab needed for the work addressed in the proposals, to control and solve the pandemic. The projects outcomes shall enable Egypt as a developing country, to utilize research outcomes for better control and management of the pandemic.

- The call is not limited to government agencies of a country, but may address private companies support for completion of mission of the grant. STIFA encourages proposals submission involving multi-disciplinary teams, which will be highly supported through the evaluation process.

Priority areas:

- The current COVID -19 EMERGENCY Targeted call focuses on the applied research outcomes in the [following areas](#);

1- Medical

- Developing a rapid fully validated diagnostic kit for COVID-19.
- Alteration of existing drugs to reduce severity and mortality of COVID 19 patients
- Adaptation of Egyptian treatment protocol.

2- Pharmaceutical

- Drug repositioning for treatment for COVID-19.
- Vaccine production against COVID-19.

3- Medical Equipment and Utilities

- Development of ventilators with or without splitting singular ventilator to several patients
- Air purification solution for medical isolation facilities
- Development of local reliable inexpensive personal protection equipment (N95 masks, eye protection, faceshields, clothing and gloves) for health care providers.

4- Public Health

- Effective solutions for sterilization of all surfaces and spaces
- Rapid determining exposure risk in offices and shared spaces via air sampling.

5- ICT

- Digital apps for Covid-19 pandemic tracking and healthcare management
- Big data platform for mapping the spread of the pandemic to track the diffusion of the pandemic in time and geography.

6- others (please specify)

Grant amount, budget allocation & duration:

- A successful proposal will receive STIFA funding of up to **LE 2 million over a maximum period of nine months.**
- **Maximum team incentives: 800 KEGP.**
- STIFA allocate a budget up to 40 Million for **15-20 projects.**
- Fund disbursement will be **50% initial installment, 20% after 3ms and 25% at the end of the project.**
- **No equipment purchase.** PIs are strongly encouraged to build alliances or rent equipment when necessary.
- **No international travel, workshops, or conferences are allowed.**
- **Multi-organization consortiums** teams are prioritized.
- Teams can involve **non-academic researchers/Industrial partners**

Specific guidelines:

- Virus isolation in cell culture and initial characterization of viral agents recovered in cultures of COVID-19 specimens are NOT recommended at this time, except in a ***Biosafety Level 3 (BSL- 3) laboratory.***
- Routine diagnostic testing of specimens, such as the following activities, can be handled in a ***BSL-2 laboratory using Standard Precautions:***
 1. Using automated instruments and analyzers
 2. Processing initial samples
 3. Staining and microscopic analysis of fixed smears
 4. Molecular analysis of extracted nucleic acid preparations
 5. Using inactivated specimens, such as specimens in nucleic acid extraction buffer
 6. Performing electron microscopic studies with glutaraldehyde-fixed grids

Eligibility criteria:

- Any Egyptian researcher (PhD/MD holder) affiliated to an Egyptian research entity (university, research institution/center...etc.) is eligible for funding. The applicant and research team shall have well-documented scientific research in the field of application. The applicant will act as the project's Principal Investigator (PI).
- The proposed activities must include a well-planned applied research project which has clearly defined technical and economic objectives and the desired outcomes, as well as a detailed methodology shall lead to an applicable and feasible approach to fulfill the objectives addressed by the call.
- The proposed project should not be funded by any other STIFA funding grant or any other funding agency. Otherwise, any other sources of funding should be clearly stated and explained in the proposal with full specification of each funding agency role and outputs without repetition of fund addressing same objective.
- If more than one research institution is involved, it has to be clearly stated which institution is in charge and the role of each institution has to be specified.
- Proposals which do not fulfill the eligibility criteria will not be evaluated

Proposal Submission and Evaluation Process:

- All proposals must use the exact formatting requirements for the current call given in the relevant Application Form (Please refer to the application form). All proposals must then be uploaded to the STIFA website (www.stdf.org.eg), to which registration is required. The proposals will be evaluated by independent experts, and STIFA will ensure that the process is transparent, impartial and applicant-supportive.
- Proposals submitted to this grant will be subjected to different levels of evaluation

Evaluation criteria:

- Generally speaking, funds are awarded to proposals that are:
 1. Competitive.
 2. Innovative.
 3. Having the settlement of the S&T in Egypt as one of its main outcomes
 4. Having a clear impact on industry and/or research
- **Evaluation criteria applied to proposals**
 1. **S&T QUALITY (Scientific and/or technological excellence)**
 2. **Applicability (Quality and efficiency of the implementation and the management)**
 3. **IMPACT of the project on socioeconomic indicators (Potential impact through the**
 4. **development, dissemination and use of project results)**

Submission timeline:

- The launching of the call will on the 26th of March, 2020 and the deadline to receive applications via the STIFA submission website is on the 9th of April, 2020- 12:00 midnight.

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

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



Best of luck!