

2017 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Project Based Training and Fellowship on Project and Intellectual Property (IP) Management for Health Technology Innovation in Africa

Background

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostic Innovation (ANDI) and Emory University in support of health innovation in Africa, was announced at ANDI's 5th Stakeholders meeting held in November 2015 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Under the MoU, ANDI and Emory have agreed to collaborate on the following activities: i) identification, mentorship and training of African students, researchers and entrepreneurs on IP management, technology transfer, business development and entrepreneurship to support the advancement of local African technologies in the biopharmaceutical and other areas, and ii) identification of one or two regional technology hub/incubator(s) from existing Centres of Excellence in Africa (CoEs) that can best be strengthened to provide technical support for viable projects. The technology hub(s) will be equipped to provide business development, as well as project, finance, intellectual property, technology transfer and entrepreneurship support for local projects.

The parties are continuing the implementation of the program through this second call for applications to select and enroll scientists or entrepreneurs (Fellows) from ANDI CoEs with promising project opportunities¹, to benefit from a 3-day workshop, taught by ANDI, Emory faculty and experts in the field, addressing foundational elements of entrepreneurship, legal concepts (including intellectual property, contracts, and licensing) and the life sciences business context in Africa. At the workshop, Fellows and select Emory graduate and professional students from the relevant scientific disciplines, law and medicine will learn together. The participating fellows/students will be matched into cross-disciplinary teams and paired with mentor(s) with experience (including industry experts), to work on relevant aspects of the opportunity's development plan.

Objectives of the call are:

- a) To identify promising project opportunities from ANDI CoEs
- b) To advance human capacity needed to support the progression of project opportunities through a training workshop on project and IP management, contracts and licensing, entrepreneurship and business development

¹ Project opportunities as used here include local technologies or products based on traditional medicine or natural products in biopharmaceutical area as well as other areas with the potential for health impact in Africa.

Course Duration and Venue:

The workshop is scheduled to take place from July 26-28, 2017 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

- 1) Fellow(s) must be employee(s) of or linked to ANDI Centres of Excellence (CoE) and projects thereof
- 2) The technology or product opportunity must demonstrate laboratory, clinical or field evidence of meeting local needs and priorities
- 3) Track record of fellows contributions in biopharmaceutical or other areas as measured by publications in international peer reviewed journals, patents, technologies developed, products discovered, developed, manufactured or commercialized
- 4) The capability of the CoE in terms of human capital and infrastructure to support the progression of proposed project “opportunity”
- 5) Clear articulation of the competitive advantage (for example, accessibility, ease of use, affordability, quality and time-to-market), and market opportunities for the technology
- 6) Clear articulation of the IP status of the technology (if any) and how this will facilitate progression of the technology
- 7) Female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply

Application form and guideline:

Interested applicants should submit the following documents:

- Cover letter describing how the fellow(s) qualify for the training and how participation in the program will advance the progression of the proposed opportunity (1page)
- Letter of recommendation from the head of CoE certifying the competency of the fellow(s) and how the participation of the fellow(s) in the program help to progress the proposed project opportunity
- Complete the application form [Here](#)

An individual or team can submit more than one application if the focus of the project opportunity is different.

Application submission, deadline and review process

Application should be submitted electronically to: secretariat@andi-africa.org, rahelbm@unops.org and ebitten@emory.edu on or before 30 June 2017, 5:00pm (East African Time, i.e. GMT+3). The ANDI Secretariat will collate application received by the deadline and send all completed applications to the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) for review and shortlisting based on established criteria. The final selection from shortlisted candidates will be made by a small panel comprising ANDI and Emory University. Limited space is available.

For further information and questions, please contact: secretariat@andi-africa.org and rahelbm@unops.org

Cost of training

The cost of participants, such as travel (economy airfare and transfers), meals and lodging is covered.

About ANDI and Emory

The mission of the African Network for Drugs and Innovation (ANDI) is to promote and sustain African-led health innovation to address the continent's health needs through the assembly of collaborative networks and the building of capacity to support public health and economic development. ANDI focuses on addressing Africa's unmet health needs by harnessing the untapped power of collaboration among African researchers as well as equitable North-South and South-South partnerships, with the vision of creating a sustainable platform for health innovation in Africa. ANDI is hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia).

For more information: www.andi-africa.org

The Emory Institute for Drug Development, part of Emory University, was founded and constructed to provide the multidisciplinary capabilities that are required to effectively advance cutting-edge drug discovery and development programs at the preclinical stage. The EIDD is housed in 12,000 sq ft of state of the art, fully equipped laboratory and office space that was specifically designed to support dedicated teams focused on Medicinal and Process Chemistry, Virology and Molecular Biology, Bioanalytical Chemistry, Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics. Together with its industrial partner DRIVE, LLC, (Drug Innovation Ventures at Emory) a new, not-for-profit company, wholly owned by Emory, but with the independence to run like a biotechnology company, the EIDD is currently focused on advancing a new generation of antiviral treatments to address new and emerging pathogens and biodefense threats. Through partnerships with local governments, academic institutions and pharmaceutical companies, EIDD has delivered multiple educational modules to bioscience entrepreneurs, students and government leaders. All modules are designed to teach participants the skills necessary to successfully address unmet needs in their home country or region.

For more information: <http://eidd.emory.edu/>
