

AFRICAN UNION  
الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE  
UNIÃO AFRICANA

**Contracting Authority: African Union – Interafrican Bureau for  
Animal Resource**

**Strengthening the Capacity of African Countries to Conservation  
and Sustainable Utilisation of African Animal Genetic Resources**

**Guidelines  
for call for proposals**

**Contribution Agreement No: DCI-MULTI 2011/280-158**

**Reference: Call for proposal 002**

**Deadline for submission of requests:**

**31<sup>st</sup> August 2015**

## Table of Contents

SUMMARY OF AWARD OPPORTUNITY	3
SECTION I: FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION	4
1. Project Description	4
2. Award description	4
3. Overall objective of the Award	7
SECTION II: AWARD INFORMATION	7
SECTION III: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION	7
1. Eligibility of applicants: who may apply?	7
2. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made	7
SECTION IV: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION	8
1. How to apply and the procedures to follow	8
2. Where and how to send the Full Application form?	9
3. Submission deadlines and times	10
4. Further information for the Full Application form	10
SECTION V: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION	10
1. Evaluation and selection of applications	10
SECTION VI: AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATIONNL RESOURCE	12
1. Notification of the Contracting Authority's decision	12

## Summary of Award Opportunity

The African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) is a specialized technical office reporting to the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the AU Commission. The Institution is mandated to support and coordinate the improvement of Animal Resources (livestock, fisheries and wildlife) as a resource for human well-being in the member states of the African Union and contribute to economic development, particularly in rural areas. In the framework of the implementation of the EU funded project on “***Strengthening the Capacity of African Countries to Conservation and Sustainable Utilisation of African Animal Genetic Resources***”, which supports the implementation of the Global Plan of Action (GPA) for Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) in Africa, in line with its current strategy AU-IBAR plan to support livestock breeders association on the continent.

In order to give equal chance and opportunity to Member States for the financial support toward the implementation of their priority activities the project proposed to send out Calls for proposals which will lead to awards of Grants.

The following call for proposals is composed of six sections:

- The first describe the award as well as the framework in which it is availed,
- The second provides the necessary information on the award among which the total available funds and the possible amounts of the awards.
- The third refers to the eligibility conditions while the fourth provides the methodology to apply.
- The last two sections focus respectively on the analysis of the applications and the provision of support or guiding information to ease application.

## **Section I: Funding Opportunity Description**

### **1. Project Description**

#### **Strengthening the Capacity of African Countries to Conservation and Sustainable Utilisation of African Animal Genetic Resources**

Animal genetic resources (AnGR) for food and agriculture are essential for Africa food security and contribute to the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people. However, genetic improvement programs in Africa, by governments, non-governmental organizations, bilateral aid agencies, and the private sector, have favoured the use of exotic breeds for crossbreeding, upgrading, or replacement. These programs are mostly implemented without clear policies, regulatory frameworks, strategic thinking and a long term view and motivated by the objective of rapid productivity gains resulting in indiscriminate, uncoordinated or uncontrolled crossbreeding activities. Moreover, the trans-boundary nature of the spatial distribution of livestock breeds calls for harmonised legal and technical frameworks of exploiting the genetic attributes of Africa's livestock. Genetic resources are a global concern and of public interest that require global governance mechanisms.

Operating within the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and in coherence with the Strategic Plan of the African Union Commission (AUC) Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA), the African Union - Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) contributes to the initiation and promotion of policies and strategies that can significantly impact on the development of the African rural economy and improve livelihoods through increasing agricultural productivity, ensuring food security and enhancing sustainable use and management of Africa's natural resources.

The Genetics project aims at strengthening the capacity of Member States and Regional Economic Communities (REC) to sustainably utilize and conserve African animal genetic resources through institutionalising national and regional policy, legal and technical instruments that are crucial for judicious exploitation of AnGR across the continent. It is anticipated that the project will strengthen the inherent capacities of RECs and the end-users at community level to improve the utilisation of AnGR and rural livelihoods through:

- Establishment of the status and trends of animal genetic resources in Africa;
- Development of Policy frameworks for the sustainable use of AnGR;
- Supporting and strengthening national and regional conservation and improvement strategies and initiatives;
- Increasing knowledge, attitude and practice of the contribution of livestock and livestock sector to economic growth, food security and poverty reduction.

### **2. Award description**

In the country reports submitted to the FAO for the 2<sup>nd</sup> SoW-AnGR, information was provided on the total number of breeds, number of breeds for which there were specified breeding goals and strategies and breeds for which individual identification, performance recording, genetic

evaluation procedures and AI were implemented. Countries presented their priorities with respect to species and breeding objectives and details of the organizational structures and tools used. Although most Country Reports had a common structure, the way in which breeding activities and breeding programmes were reported was variable making it difficult to make comparisons between countries.

The country reports also provided clear and strong evidence of the significant and irreplaceable contribution that the diversity of animal genetic resources makes to food security and rural development. Countries reported that the full potential of animal genetic resources (AnGR) is far from being realized. However, serious erosion of genetic diversity was occurring in most of the countries. Country reports described a number of primary factors contributing to genetic erosion, including: changes in production systems; mechanization; the loss of rangeland grazing resources; natural calamities; disease outbreaks; impact of genetic development practices in terms of long-term sustainability particularly including inappropriate breeding policies and practices, inappropriate introduction of exotic breeds; loss of animal keepers' security of land tenure and access to other natural resources; changing cultural practices; the erosion of customary institutions and social relations; the influence of population growth and urbanization; and the lack of adequate policies for sustainable utilization and conservation of AnGR. The country reports also highlighted clearly that the majority of systematic breeding activities for cattle and small ruminants in the countries are implemented by government institutions. Most of these government breeding programmes are carried out through nucleus herds/flocks on state farms. The animals and semen produced are then distributed to the general public. There is, therefore, no active participation of livestock keepers in these breeding programmes apart from being potential recipients of the products. These programmes are often implemented without monitoring of the influence of the breeding activities on the general livestock population.

The Interlaken Declaration on Animal Genetic Resources and the Global Plan of Action recognize that significant gaps and weaknesses exist in national capacities to inventorize, monitor, characterize, use sustainably, develop and conserve animal genetic resources, and that urgent attention is required to improve the situation. The establishment of conservation strategies is a critical part of the National Action Plan development process. The main challenge for conservation strategies is their implementation costs which are generally high and not matched with short-term returns on investments. Involvement and buy-in of stakeholders, livestock keepers in particular, are essential.

The preparation of National Strategy and Action Plans for Animal Genetic Resources and the stimulating momentum for their implementation ensures that countries domesticate the Global Plan of Action for maximum positive impact at national and local levels. Well-prepared National Strategy and Action Plans will provide a platform for identifying the national and regional options and synergies in planning and collaboration. The NSAPs will also act as resource tools for effective mobilisation of the substantial financial resources the sector requires. The preparation of a National Strategy and Action Plan will assist countries in deciding how to move forward to more effective utilization of their animal genetic resources, taking fully into account national circumstances and priorities, including the availability of human financial resources for implementation. The preparation of a National Strategy and Action Plan will as well help countries benefit from the international momentum that has resulted from the recent adoption of the Global Plan of Action. In order to play adequately their role in the breeding and conservation

domains, the Member States need to be strengthened and their capacities related to management of genetic resources improved.

In the framework of the Genetics project, it is planned to support Member States to establish and implement their National Action Plan (NAPs) within their livestock policy, as well as the support to strengthen their breeding and conservation strategies as part of their NAPs for AnGRs. In order to successfully conduct genetic improvement initiatives on the continent as an economically viable industry, the Genetics Project is proposing technical and financial support to national and regional initiatives. High importance is given to collaboration among breeding institutions, research organizations and large enterprises from the regions and abroad to build up strategic alliances to share resources, and to achieve synergies in the common goal of the development of AnGR on the Continent.

A technical meeting held in February 2015, gathered various departments to discuss and propose best options to support the different stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Genetics Project. The meeting concluded on the eligibility criteria for supporting the different stakeholders, the evaluation grid to facilitate the selection process and the appropriate mechanisms of support.

For the support to Member States, the following was agreed upon:

- Equal chance or opportunity should be given to each of the AU-Member States.
- Linking the National Advisory Committees on AnGR to the National Livestock Policy Hubs established in the context of the Vet-Gov Project. This should ensure that issues related to AnGR are considered in the Policy hubs.
- The financial facilitation of the meetings under that scope will be carried by the Finance department at AU-IBAR, upon request from the Policy hubs. This proposed approach should avoid transfer of funds and should not necessitate signing of sub-delegation contracts.
- The applications from interested Member States should be submitted following a call for proposal that should be published by AU-IBAR and circulated similarly to Member States.
- The transfers, monitoring and reporting should follow the other steps and procedures as described in the “sub-delegation manual”.
- The target to support and achieve extreme impact should be a maximum of two (2) actions per Member States and the amount should not exceed **US\$ 30,000** each. For regional actions, the amount to be allocated could reach **US\$ 75,000**.

In order to implement the activity, the project invites qualified Member States to participate in the call for proposal process.

### 3. Overall objective of the Award

The overall objective of the call of proposals is to enhance the transparency and efficiency of the provision of substantial financial resources to support and complement the efforts of AU Member States to implement the Global Plan of Action.

The specific objectives are to:

- Launch a call for proposal to select suitable/ priority actions to be supported within Member States
- Provide Support to Member States in concordance to the AU-IBAR sub delegation manual.

## Section II: Award Information

The total available fund for the award is **US\$ 450,000.00**

### Estimate of funds available

#### Amount earmarked for support to AU Member States

The maximum amount per Member States: **US\$ 30,000.00** (Maximum 2 actions per Member States)

- The maximum amount for regional proposals: **US\$ 75,000.00** (Maximum 2 actions per region)

## Section III: Eligibility Information

### 1. Eligibility of applicants: who may apply?

In order to be eligible for a grant, applicants must be:

- An AU Member State.
- A group of countries, acting collectively under the coordination of a REC

#### ***NB: Are not eligible***

- Member States under EU and/or AUC sanction;
- Member States and regions that have benefited of similar grants from the same project.

NB: The above-mentioned beneficiaries should be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action. In case they are associated with partners that are not part of the above mentioned categories, the beneficiary should not act as an intermediary.

### 2. Eligible actions: actions for which an application may be made

#### **Definition:**

An action (or project) is composed of a set of activities, with clearly defined targets, to be implemented in a limited timeframe.

### **Duration**

The planned duration of an action may not exceed 12 months.

### **Location**

Member States or cluster of member States or Regional Economic Communities

### **Types of action**

1. Actions included in the National and/or Regional action plans;
2. Actions aimed at animal genetic resources conservation and utilisation activities;
3. Actions aimed at promoting breeds or leading to labelling of specific breeds;
4. Actions aimed at awareness creation and advocacy activities for AnGR policy reforms/development

### **Types of activity**

The activities proposed should satisfy the following criteria

- A. Relevance to the overall objective of the Genetics Project
- B. Focus on breeding, conservation and utilization of animal genetic resources
- C. Innovative
- D. National and Regional relevance
- E. Replicable in neighboring countries or region / continent
- F. Targeting many stakeholders and departments (Gender, Youth, producers, traders, public and private services providers, regulatory bodies, policy makers)
- G. Based on a well thought needs analysis
- H. Potential to generate at least 1 best practice paper.

## **Section IV: Application and Submission Information**

### **1. How to apply and the procedures to follow**

### **Full Application form**

#### **Proposed proposal format**

#### **I. APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

##### **A. Target Country or Region:**

##### **B. Contacts:**

- Contact person, Position, Institution
- Physical Address, City/Country, Telephone, Fax, Email & Web Page



## II. PROJECT SUMMARY *(Table format)*

- A. Project Title
- B. Estimated duration (months)
- C. Amount/Resources requested from Genetics Project (in US\$):
- D. Countries or country targeted
- E. Objective of the Proposal

## III. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

- A. **Justification** *(Approximately 800 words: Present the challenges to be addressed in the targeted countries or country, and highlight how the intervention on animal genetic resources would contribute to meet these challenges. Selection Criteria could be used as a basis of your arguments. The scope of the action (national, regional, sub-regional, agro-ecological zones, species/breed ....) could be presented here, and eventually the identification of breeds on which the action will focus. Indicate also the main beneficiaries).*
- B. **Information needs and methodologies to be used** *(Approximately 250 words: Indicate the information that needs to be collected or generated to be able to develop and monitor the results of the action. Describe the methodologies to be used to identify the priorities, targets and milestones of the action).*
- C. **Expected results** *(Approximately 200 words: Identify the expected results of the action).*
- D. **Activities** *(Approximately 200 words: Describe each activity of the action).*
- E. **Institutions involved and partnerships** *(Approximately 200 words: Describe parties to implement the action, as well as the roles and responsibilities).*
- F. **Budget** *(Present in a summary table the estimated cost of each activity of the action)*
- G. **Indicative co-financing** *(If any, with approximately 200 words: Identify actual and potential additional funds from other funding source).*
- H. **Potential to generate a good practice paper** *(Approximately 200 words :Describe best practice and lesson learnt document that could be generated)*
- I. **References** *(Literature review consulted).*

### 2. Where and how to send the application form?

Applications should be submitted by Email to: [procurement@au-ibar.org](mailto:procurement@au-ibar.org)

Applicants mentioning partners should send the applications with the partners' statements.

### 3. Submission deadlines and times

The applications must be received by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015

### 4. Further information for the application forms

Questions may be sent by e-mail [or by fax] no later than 21 days before the deadline for the submission of applications to the addresses listed below, indicating clearly the reference of the Call for proposals:

E-mail address: [pissang.tchangai@au-ibar.org](mailto:pissang.tchangai@au-ibar.org) and [edward.nengomasha@au-ibar.org](mailto:edward.nengomasha@au-ibar.org)

Contracting Authority has no obligation to provide further clarifications after this date.

Replies will be given no later than 11 days before the deadline for the submission of applications.

In the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the Contracting Authority cannot give a prior opinion on the eligibility of an applicant, a partner or an action.

Questions that may be relevant to other applicants, together with the answers, will be published on the internet: [www.au-ibar.org](http://www.au-ibar.org). It is therefore highly recommended to regularly consult the abovementioned website in order to be informed of the questions and answers published

## Section V: Application Review Information

### 1. Evaluation and selection of applications

Applications will be examined and evaluated by the Contracting Authority with the possible assistance of implementing partners and the European Commission. All actions submitted by applicants will be assessed according to the following steps and criteria.

If the examination of the application reveals that the proposed action does not meet the eligibility criteria, the application shall be rejected on this sole basis.

Criteria	Score
<b>1. Relevance and Geographic coverage of the action</b>	<b>35</b>
1.1 How wide is the geographic scope and impact of the proposed action? What is the national and/or regional importance of the proposal in achieving the objectives of the National/Regional Plan of Action?  What is the relevance of the action to the country's region's priorities as contained in national and regional strategies, plans and programmes for AnGR?  Does the action identify information that is available on existing national and regional animal genetic resources priorities?  Does the action proposal clearly indicate how proposed activities will complement work already carried out, or are underway and, or will not unnecessary duplicate other work?	
1.2 How relevant is the proposal to the objectives and priorities of the Call for Expression of	

<p>interest?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance to Genetics Project overall objective</li> <li>• Focus on breeding, conservation and utilization of animal genetic resources</li> <li>• Regional relevance</li> <li>• Innovation</li> <li>• Replicable in neighboring countries or region / continent</li> <li>• Based on a well thought needs analysis (GPA, NAP,...)</li> <li>• Potential to generate a good practice paper</li> </ul> <p>1.3 Species and breed relevance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contribution of the species or breed of target to national or regional food security and sustainable utilization</li> <li>- Relevance of the species or breed of target to human livelihoods</li> <li>- Contribution of the action to conservation of the species' gene pool and potential adverse impacts</li> <li>- Is the action addressing the conservation and/or utilization of the species in one of its "hotspots" of diversity?</li> <li>- To what extent the gene pool covered by the action is threatened at a national, regional or global level?</li> </ul>	
<b>2. Design of the action</b>	<b>10</b>
<p>2.1 How coherent is the overall design of the action?</p> <p>In particular, does it reflect the analysis of the problems involved; take into account external factors and relevant stakeholders?</p>	5
2.2 Is the action feasible and consistent in relation to the objectives and expected results?	5
<b>1. Financial and operational capacity</b>	<b>20</b>
1.1 Do the applicant and, if applicable, partners have sufficient experience of project management?	5
1.2 Do the applicant and, if applicable partners have sufficient technical expertise? (notably knowledge of the issues to be addressed) Does the proposal indicate that the capacity of the team is adequate to perform the activities indicated? Are partners with different disciplines, gender and from different stakeholder groups included in the team?	5
1.3 Do the applicant and, if applicable, partners have sufficient management capacity? (including staff, equipment and ability to handle the budget for the action)?	5
1.4 Does the applicant have stable and sufficient sources of finance to ensure co-funding and implementation?	5
<b>4. Sustainability of the action</b>	<b>15</b>
4.1 Is the action clearly indicate who the immediate beneficiaries and likely to have a tangible impact on this target groups?	5
<p>4.2 Does the proposed action clearly indicate how the expected results will directly or indirectly address the needs of the proposed target groups</p> <p>Is the proposal likely to have multiplier effects? (Including scope for replication and extension of the outcome of the action and dissemination of information.)</p>	10
<b>3. Effectiveness and feasibility of the action</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1 Are the activities proposed appropriate, practical, and consistent with the objectives and clearly linked toward effectively achieving the project's net results, its outcome and impact?	2.5

3.2 Is the action plan clear and feasible? (Are the proposed activities feasible in terms of resources and timing and in terms of regional characteristics?)	2.5
3.3 Does the proposal contain objectively verifiable indicators for the outcome of the action? Is evaluation foreseen? Does it have proper milestones and indicators incorporated or does it indicate how the progress will be monitored and its impact assessed?	2.5
3.4 Is the partners' level of involvement and participation in the action satisfactory? What is the extent of collaboration promoted by the proposal? How is collaboration expected to contribute to the effectiveness and efficiency of the proposal? Does it indicate any counterpart funding, inputs or in kind contributions?	2.5
<b>5. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the action</b>	<b>10</b>
Are the activities appropriately reflected in the budget?	10
In particular, is the budget adequate to fully cover the proposed activities and produce the expected results?	
<b>Maximum total score</b>	<b>100</b>

## Section VI: Award Administration Information

### 1. Notification of the Contracting Authority's decision

#### A. Content of the decision

Applicants will be informed in writing of the Contracting Authority's decision concerning their application and, in case of rejections, the reasons for the negative decision.

#### B. Indicative time table

	DATE	TIME*
<b>Deadline for request for any clarifications from the Contracting Authority</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> August 2015	15.00 hours local time
<b>Last date on which clarifications are issued by the Contracting Authority</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> August 2015	15.00 hours local time
<b>Deadline for submission of applications</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2015	15.00 hour's local time (as evidenced by the date of dispatch, the postmark or the date of the deposit slip).
<b>Information to applicants on the evaluation</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	-
<b>Notification of award (after the eligibility check)</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	-

Contract signature	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	-
--------------------	---------------------------------	---

**\*Provisional date.** All times are in the time zone of the country of the Contracting Authority

This indicative timetable may be updated by the Contracting Authority during the procedure. In such case, the updated timetable shall be published on internet at the AU-IBAR website.