



## APPLICATION DEADLINE

30<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## BACKGROUND

On the African continent, the use of tobacco is on the rise. Tackling this challenge requires local evidence to increase awareness and effectively formulate a tailored response to attain a tobacco free Africa. These policies must be informed by research, data and statistics. The Tobacco Control Research Agenda (TCRA) articulates these priority research areas and sets out how they can be coordinated and shared among research institutions and partners in the region.

Centre for Tobacco Control in Africa (CTCA) was established in July 2011 by the World Health Organisation, with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The center provides technical and institutional support to governments in Africa with policy formulation, legislation and enforcement of tobacco control. It also helps to build and sustain the institutional capacity for tobacco control programmes. The CTCA has developed the TCRA to guide the researchers on the right priority areas of tobacco control. The aim of the agenda is to get up to date data and research to inform evidence-based policies that can be implemented on the continent. The aim of the agenda is to get African researchers involved in research related to African problems - and to provide the solution.

A number of gaps have been identified in tobacco control policy implementation which necessitates a harmonized approach to generate critical local evidence to drive the response. These include: limited local evidence to drive best practices for policy adoption and implementation; inadequate capacity for tobacco control research especially in non-health related areas such as economics, policy analysis and evaluation; disjointed platforms for communicating, disseminating and sharing best practices on tobacco control in Africa; and the need to focus research funding towards high priority tobacco control areas. TCRA addresses these research gaps by outlining a research framework that identifies research priorities and existing research capacities and gaps, documenting the existing research collaborations and teams, providing a guide for research coordination at regional and national level as well as identifying mechanisms that bring policymakers and researchers together to share information and translate research findings into actions. Tobacco control is dynamic and therefore requires updated evidence to suit the changing landscape and dynamic nature of the implementation environment.

As part of the TCRA, the CTCA has opened a funding call for research grants to African scholars. There are 12 grants of USD5000 available for Masters' students and part of a PhD research in the following areas of tobacco control: **Tobacco production, populations at risk, tobacco control policy, sustainable development, the socio-economic context of tobacco, trends in tobacco use, the tobacco industry and the economics of tobacco.**

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Masters or PhD students interested in having this research contribute to their academic research dissertations. The student **should have a supervisor** who will guide them in undertaking the research. Although it is not a requirement to be an expert in tobacco control at application stage, it is essential to be equipped with knowledge on tobacco control as you execute the research.
- Applicants must submit a [declaration of no conflict of interest](#) with the tobacco industry in the research they propose to execute.

- Only those applications **directly** addressing at least one of the eight research priorities described in section two will be considered as eligible.
- Applicants will be excluded from participating in the call for proposals procedure if they are (i) subject to conflict of interest; (ii) guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required by this call for proposals

#### IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS:

An information [webinar](#) will take place on the **25<sup>th</sup> June 2020** to assist students interested in apply for the grant (invite attached).

#### HOW TO APPLY

- Applications can be submitted [online](#).
- The submission languages are English and French.
- Applicants submitting projects for different research priorities should provide separate applications for each priority.
- All applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the selection process.

Application guidelines can be found [here](#) and on the attached documents.

**Please note that if funding is awarded a 15% UP recovery is applicable and should be budgeted for by the applicant.**

Please send a complete copy with all supporting documents, that you have submitted online to the Faculty Research Office – [natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za](mailto:natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za).

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#### CONTACTS FOR CALL QUERIES

Faculty contact person: Natasha Jeftha ([natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za](mailto:natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za))

CTCA help desk: [radesk@ctc-africa.org](mailto:radesk@ctc-africa.org)