



Frequently Asked Questions – DELTAS Africa II Community Engagement Grant

Top Questions

Will you provide guidance on an application before I submit it?

No. We cannot provide individual guidance on ideas either before or after submission. You should decide if your idea meets the criteria of one of the available challenges. Pay special attention to sections that indicate what will **NOT** be considered for funding.

How do I apply for a grant?

All applicants must complete the application and submit their proposal through [SFA Foundation's Grant Management System - Agaseke](#)

Who is eligible to apply?

The call is only open to DELTAS Africa II grantees at PhD, Post-Doc, and Faculty level (supervisors of DELTAS Africa II fellows) who are citizens of African countries. They must hold a permanent or fixed-term contract with an eligible institution which spans the award's duration. The applicant must also be based in Africa.

What are the criteria for selection?

Reviewers will be encouraged to champion proposals according to the following criteria:

Responsiveness: Does the proposal address the problems described in the RFP? (Please note each challenge description includes a list of excluded items, typically under the heading "we will not consider funding for");

Innovative Approach: Does the idea offer an unconventional or creative approach to the problem outlined in the challenge? Does it demonstrate the application of a new or pioneering approach? Does the proposal describe how the project varies from current approaches, offer new premises or hypotheses to test, and does it provide a rational basis for expecting success?

The funding round is closed. Can I still submit my idea?



No. We can only accept ideas during an open round. Any proposals submitted via email or otherwise will not be reviewed. You can see if a current round is open by visiting our website.

Are the current challenges the only ones under consideration at this time?

These are the only applications under consideration at this time. Future rounds of the call might have a mix of previous and new considerations, or only focus on new aspects.

What if I forget my password?

If you forget your password, click on the "I forgot my password" link on the SFA Foundation Agaseke Online Application system and you will be asked the security question you supplied when you first created your account. When you answer the question correctly, a temporary password will be emailed to you. Sign in with this password and then create a new one.

What is Public Engagement with Science (PES)?

Science for Africa (SFA) Foundation is committed to ensuring that the public are engaged with the research we fund and support, and that communities play an active role in the research life cycle, especially those most affected by the challenges we seek to address in Health, Climate and Agriculture.

Public Engagement with Science is a programme (PES) of the Science for Africa Foundation that seeks to bridge the gap between science and the society through intentional meaningful, conversations among publics and scientists for mutual learning and shared decision-making. This programme focuses on discussing problems that communities view as worth solving; the information society needs and wants from scientists; the potential risks, benefits, and consequences of new technologies and science outcomes; and building trust among public stakeholders.



How much is the DELTAS Africa II PES grant?

Each award will be funded up to a maximum of \$20,000. These funds will cover the entire duration of the engagement project.

Ineligible costs Applicants may not seek funding for

- Conference attendance
- Equipment
- Per diem

How many awards will be funded?

We are seeking to fund a minimum of twenty-five (25) and a maximum of thirty (30) DELTAS Africa II grantees

Can I submit multiple proposals?

Only one proposal can be submitted per applicant, so please submit your best idea. However, multiple submissions from an institution are allowed. For example, a single lab could apply three times to a single challenge if the principal investigator (PI), a post-doc, and a graduate student each submit separate ideas as the lead. Applicants are advised to submit their best ideas as the calls are usually highly competitive.

Am I able to edit my profile and proposal once submitted?

Yes. You may edit and resubmit proposal content at any time prior to the close of the round.

When will I hear whether my application has been selected for funding?

We expect award notifications to be sent out via email approximately six months after the submission deadline.



What feedback can I expect if my proposal is not selected?

We cannot provide feedback specific to the technical content of each proposal. We will, however, communicate with applicants once a decision has been reached.

Are awarded grantees announced publicly?

Yes. We publicly announce winners after finalization of the review and due diligence processes.

Do I have to submit my proposal using the online application portal?

Yes. All applications must be submitted through [Agaseke](#).

Is it possible to have multiple applicants on a proposal?

Partnerships and collaboration are welcome within a single application. However, applicants need to elect one Principal Investigator per team. If awarded, the grant will be made to the institution of the Principal Investigator. If you are planning to collaborate with another institution on your project, please read the Rules & Guidelines, specifically the section addressing subcontracts, before you apply.

I submitted my proposal but did not receive a confirmation. How would I know if my proposal went through?

Our grant management system automatically sends an email when you submit your proposal. Occasionally these system-generated responses could be tagged as SPAM mail so please check your junk mail folder regularly.



Review Process

What is the review process?

The review process will be done in three steps:

- An initial screening for responsiveness to the problem described in the call for applications;
- Evaluation by two to three groups of reviewers -- one with significant expertise in program management specific to each challenge, and another group of individuals with a history of identifying creative solutions to difficult scientific problems. In each case, reviewers will be encouraged to champion a small number of ideas they consider to be both uniquely innovative and testable;
- A series of due diligence activities to ensure a legal and financial capacity to perform work described in the proposal.

What are the criteria for selection?

Reviewers will be encouraged to champion proposals according to the following criteria:

- Well-articulated plan of how the proposed engagement plan aligns with the applicant's research project.
- Quality of the engagement plan – i.e., Justification for who the proposed engagement plan will involve, why these groups are a priority, and rationale of the appropriateness of the approaches to these groups.
- Evidence of strong partnerships that allow for a diversity of perspectives to feed into the proposed engagement plan and enable successful delivery against outcomes.
- Clarity of the project goal and Objectives - Are the objectives specific and well-defined; are they time-bound to achieve a certain task; are the objectives measurable
- Feasibility of the engagement project - Can the proposed project be completed realistically within the project timelines.
- Novelty - How innovative is the project.
- Budget - Is the proposed budget realistic?



Will my idea be treated as confidential during the review process?

The SFA Foundation has put in place policies and procedures exclusive to the DELTAS Africa II initiative intended to restrict public dissemination of grant application materials. These policies and procedures include, when possible, having external reviewers sign confidentiality agreements and requiring that reviewers destroy or return to the Foundation all copies of information acquired or created during performing a review. In some instances, however, we are unable to put in place confidentiality agreements or to police the use of grant application materials.

Grant Terms and Conditions

Do you publish or publicly disseminate proposals or grant applications materials?

The SFA Foundation [Data Protection and Privacy Policy](#) sets out what SFA Foundation will do with the information that it collects from you during the grant/award application process and throughout the life of the grant/award (including all information relating to the grant/award application and, as applicable, any subsequent grant/award made).

The SFA Foundation may publish details of successful grants/awards and their outputs, including your name, employing organisation, project title, a summary of the grant/award and its value and, in the case of grants/awards funding research, scientific/academic abstracts and lay summaries of research (e.g., via the internet or via publicly accessible databases or other modes of publicity).

Who signs the grant agreement?

During the application process, you are required to provide your Institutional Officer's information. The Institutional Officer is the person authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of your organization. If awarded, all relevant due diligence questionnaires and the grant agreement will be sent to this person. We strongly encourage applicants to provide accurate contact information.

What are the reporting requirements for these grants?

Annual and Final Financial and Scientific Progress Reports will be required from all DELTAS Africa II – Community Engagement grantees. Detailed instructions for the reporting format will be provided post-award.



Technical Support

Who can I contact if I have a question about a particular challenge?

Please submit your challenge-related questions to **DELTA.S.CE@scienceforafrica.foundation** Due to the volume of requests we will not be able to provide feedback on your individual idea, but we can answer general questions regarding the application process.