



## **FinCEAL - Developing Finnish Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation between Europe, Africa and the Latin America and the Caribbean Region**

4<sup>th</sup> September 2013

### **CALL FOR TRAVEL FUNDING**

#### **1. Background**

FinCEAL is an initiative of the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture financed with the purpose of increasing support for Finnish researchers focusing on Africa and the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region. The project is focusing on supporting thematic research for each region:

*Africa - Food security, Health, Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Information Society;*

*LAC - Health, ICT for Societal Challenges, Bioeconomy, Renewable Energy, Biodiversity and Climate Change.*

The Ministry has mandated UniPID (Finnish University Partnership for International Development) to coordinate the project from 2013 to 2014.

The specific objectives of the project are to:

- Support and consolidate the participation of Finnish researchers and science policy experts in bi-regional STI policy dialogues and processes;
- Coordinate and network Finnish researchers and science policy experts working with Africa and the LAC regions;
- Expand awareness of Finnish researchers in both regions; and
- Highlight current Finnish research and scientific cooperation relevant to the regions.

These objectives will be achieved through the following planned activities:

- Creating database of Finnish researchers and research conducted on the regional thematic topics;
- Organizing regional thematic workshops in Finland to network Finnish researchers locally and create platforms for dialogue and cooperation;
- Organizing regional side-events to network Finnish researchers with relevant actors in Europe, Africa, and/or the LAC region;
- Issuing Travel Grants to enhance participation of Finnish researchers in bi-regional STI policy dialogue and events that expand awareness of Finnish researchers in Africa and LAC regions;
- Issuing Preparatory Funding to support applicants based in Finnish institutions, who are applying for EU research project funding; and

- Enhancing the communication and exchange of knowledge of the cooperation possibilities in the regions.

In line with the planned activities and project objectives, we are pleased to announce the first Open Call for travel grants applications.

## 2. Specifications of the Call

### 2.1 Aim of the Funding

The aim of this funding is to facilitate the participation of researchers in regionally significant Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) meetings, policy dialogue events, workshops and networking events *within the project thematic areas* (see point 1. Background). Ultimately, the aim is to increase Finnish involvement in bi-regional research cooperation and science policy formulation within the EU-Africa and EU-LAC frameworks.

### 2.2 Target Group

Researchers based in Finnish institutions and working within the FinCEAL themes, with the aim of networking, giving input into the policy dialogue and/or searching for research partners in order to apply for funding from the funding schemes that support the EU STI collaboration in the regions.

### 2.3 Definition of Relevant Events

Any events that satisfy the description given in 2.1 above are eligible for funding.

**Note: The planned travel must occur anytime during November, 2013 - October, 2014. Travel that is planned to occur before November, 2013 cannot be applied for.**

### 2.4 Criteria for Applicants

Applicants should fulfill the description given in 2.2. In addition, applicants:

- Must be working within the theme of the specified event.
- Must be willing to gather input from the Finnish research community prior to the event if possible and relevant in regard to the purpose of the event they plan to attend.
- Must be willing and dedicated to sharing information regarding the proceedings and findings from the event to a wider audience, e.g. in the FinCEAL regional thematic workshops.

### 2.5 Eligible Costs

- Eligible costs: accommodation, visa costs, per diem and transportation in accordance with the Finnish Government Travelling Regulations.
- Registration fees for events are not eligible costs.
- Applicants will be required to declare other funding granted or applied for the same event.

## 2.6 Issuing of Funds

The University of Jyväskylä is responsible for issuing travel grants for Africa (and related events in Europe) and the University of Helsinki, for travel grants to Latin America and the Caribbean (and related events in Europe). Recipients will sign an agreement with either the University of Jyväskylä or the University of Helsinki depending on which regional component the funds will be issued from.

## 2.7 Decisions and Disbursing Funds

Recipients of the travel grants will be notified via email by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013. The list of recipients will also be published on the UniPID website. Only recipients of the grant will receive emails on the said date. Further instructions on disbursing funds will be sent with the grant award notification.

## 3. **Applying for the Call**

3.1 Applicants should fill in the Application Form attached to this Call.

3.2 The Form should not exceed 3 pages.

3.3 Applications should be sent to the relevant coordinators (see the contact information below)

3.4 Save your application in PDF format and send it **by email**. Mailed applications **will not** be accepted.

3.5 All applications must be sent by **4<sup>th</sup> October 2013** at 16.00 to the FinCEAL Project Coordinators. All Africa-related applications are sent to Eva Kagiri, and LAC-related applications to Kajsa Ekroos. Contact information is provided below.

## 4. **Reporting and Accounting**

4.1 Recipients will be required to invoice costs and expenses **within 1 month** of attending the event in question.

4.2 No advance payments will be made unless otherwise agreed.

4.3 Along with the invoice, recipients will be required to submit a written report to the FinCEAL coordinators. The report should contain a summary of the event highlighting key outcomes and potential cooperation possibilities for the Finnish research community.

## 5. **Contact Information**

For more information on FinCEAL or the travel grants visit: [www.unipid.fi/finceal](http://www.unipid.fi/finceal) or e-mail the Project Coordinators, Eva Kagiri (Africa) [eva.m.kagiri@jyu.fi](mailto:eva.m.kagiri@jyu.fi) / Kajsa Ekroos (LAC) [kajsa.ekroos@helsinki.fi](mailto:kajsa.ekroos@helsinki.fi)