



Research Proposal Template



For Early Career African Physiologists

Sponsored by the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS)

Managed by the African Association of Physiological Sciences (AAPS)

Title of the Project

(Concise, descriptive, and reflective of the main research focus)

1. Project Summary (*max. 0.5 page*)

- Brief overview of the research question, objectives, and significance (max. 400 words).

2. Introduction and Rationale (*max. 1 page*)

- **Background:** Outline the current knowledge and context in the field of physiology relevant to your project.
- **Problem Statement:** Clearly define the gap in knowledge or challenge your project addresses.
- **Rationale:** Explain what this research would add to the topic or impact the health of people in the region and beyond.

3. State of the Art (*max. 1 page*)

- **Literature Review:** Summarize recent and relevant research, highlighting key findings and limitations.
- **Innovation:** Describe how your project is original or advances the field beyond the current state of the art.
- **Preliminary Data (if any):** Briefly present any prior findings or pilot data supporting your proposal.

4. Objectives and Hypotheses (*max. 0.5 page*)

- **Main Objective:** State the primary aim of your research.
- **Specific Objectives:** List secondary aims or research questions.
- **Hypotheses:** Present the expected outcomes or hypotheses based on existing literature.

5. Methodology (*max. 2 pages*)

- **Research Design:** Describe the study type (e.g., experimental, observational, clinical, etc.).
- **Methods:** Detail the procedures, techniques, and tools you will use to collect and analyze data.
- **Study Population/Sample:** Define inclusion/exclusion criteria, recruitment, and sample size.
- **Data Analysis:** Outline statistical or analytical methods to be used.
- **Ethical Considerations:** Address ethical approvals, consent, and data protection.
- **Timeline:** Provide a brief project plan or Gantt chart showing major milestones not exceeding 24 months.
- **Resources and Feasibility:** List the key equipment, facilities, and support available in your institute or accessible to you.

6. Team and Collaboration (*max. 0.5 page*)

- **Team Members:** Briefly describe the roles and expertise of each team member.
- **Collaborations:** Highlight any partnerships with other institutions or mentors, especially within Africa and internationally. Projects including collaboration between societies will be prioritized.
- **Capacity Building:** Explain how the project will build skills and research capacity among early career physiologists.

7. Expected Impact (*max. 1 page*)

- **Scientific Impact:** Describe how the project will advance physiological knowledge and research capacity in Africa.
- **Institutional Impact:** Explain anticipated benefits for your home institute, such as new methods, training, or infrastructure.
- **Regional/Societal Impact:** Discuss potential broader effects on health, education, policy, or community well-being in the region.
- **Sustainability:** Outline how outcomes will be maintained or expanded after the project ends.

8. Dissemination Plan (*max. 0.5 page*)

- List planned publications, presentations, or workshops that you plan to do in the course of this project.

9. Budget (*max. 1 page*)

- **Detailed Budget Table:**
 - Small equipment or accessories for an existing equipment.

- Chemicals, Supplies, and consumables
- Training and Capacity Building
- Dissemination (publications, workshops, outreach)
- Other Direct Costs
- **Justification:** Brief explanation for each budget item, demonstrating necessity and cost-effectiveness.

10. References (*max. 1 page*)

- List all references cited, formatted consistently and alphabetically.

Annexes:

- i. Motivation letter not more than one page, addressed to the President of AAPS
- ii. Letter of current employment or last promotion, evidencing the current academic rank and affiliation
- iii. Means of identification to prove citizenship of an African country (e.g., National ID card or Passport)
- iv. Curriculum Vitae of the Applicant
- v. Ph.D. certificate of the applicant. Applicants who are yet to obtain a Phd degree may apply and should submit their higher degree certificate with a strong justification of why they should be considered.
- vi. Links to the research profile of the applicant (e.g., Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and/or ORCID)
- vii. Endorsement letter by the head of the institute (or the authorized person) of the candidate stating that the institute will provide the needed administrative and logistic support to the submitted project.
- viii. Recommendation letter from two academic referees at Professorial ranks (Associate or Full Professor), canvassing for the scientific merit of the proposals and the competence of the applicant.

Formatting Notes:

- **Maximum length:** 12 pages (excluding annexes).
- **Font:** Arial or Times New Roman, size 12 pt, single spacing.
- To be submitted as a single PDF document.