27 August 2025

**RESEARCH DIVISION COMMUNIQUÉ**

 FINAL REMINDER: FOUNDATIONAL BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION PROGRAMME (FBIP) - SMALL GRANTS 2

Dear Staff

**PLEASE NOTE: BOTH NRF AND INTERNAL CLOSING DATE – 29 AUGUST 2025**

Applications for FBIP Small Grants 2 must be submitted electronically on the new NRF Connect system at <https://nrfconnect.nrf.ac.za/>

**APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY**

* Researchers working towards the generation and mobilization of foundational biodiversity knowledge are the priority target group for accessing programme funding
* Applicants (Principal Investigator) must be either:
1. Full-time researchers based at NRF-recognized research institutions in South Africa.
2. Part-time researchers on contract at NRF-recognized research institutions in South Africa, on condition that the appointment is for (at least) the duration of the project applied for in the submission. The length of the contract should be stated on the application form. Salaries must be paid by the research institution and the primary employment of the individual concerned must be at that institution
3. Retired researchers affiliated with an NRF-recognized research institution provided that institutional support is evident in the form of an employment contract, office space, administrative support, and access to research equipment and space. The institution will have to ensure that a minimum of six months is spent at the facility for research and research capacity development. The researchers must have a research publication track record and must be actively supervising postgraduate students at present.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (Small Grants)**

* Only researchers based at NRF recognised research institutions in South Africa are eligible to apply as a principal investigator.
* Team members may also include a co-investigator(s) and research associates / collaborators
* Projects must identify specific users of the knowledge generated / information coordinated and must indicate how the data will be made accessible.
* Proposals must indicate how the project will impact on understanding and mitigation of global change and/or the bio-economy.
* Research must focus on South African (including Prince Edward and Marion Islands) biodiversity, and funding can only be provided for fieldwork within the boundaries of the country.

**PLEASE NOTE**: Postdoctoral fellows and students are **NOT** eligible to apply

For further queries kindly contact: **Mrs Patricia Ngwenya** at ngwenyap@ukzn.ac.za or call Ext 3273 **COPYING Ms Nondumiso Radebe** at RadebeN4@ukzn.ac.za or call Ext 8431

**Issued by the University Research Division**