# tetfund
**TERTIARY EDUCATION TRUST FUND**

## TETFund NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND (NRF) 2025 GRANT CYCLE CALL FOR CONCEPT NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

Following the successful completion of the processing of the research proposals submitted to NRF under the 2024 Grant Cycle, culminating in the total award of close to ₦4.25 billion to support 158 Research Projects, the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) wishes to inform the Nigerian research community, in particular, and the public in general, that the Federal Government has approved a total sum of ₦7.5billion for the NRF 2025 Grant Cycle. The process of accessing the 2025 NRF Grant starts with the response to this **Call-for-Submission-of-Concept-Notes** by Principal Investigators of the proposed Research Projects. This will be followed by the submission of Full Proposals by only those whose Concept Notes have been evaluated and the Research Projects are considered fundable.

### THEMATIC AREAS FOR THE 2025 GRANT APPLICATION

The thirty prioritized thematic areas of research are in three categories: Humanities & Social Sciences; Science, Engineering, Technology & Innovation and Cross-Cutting

| Category 1 | Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) |
|---|---|
| Thematic Area 1 | Citizenship and National Integration |
| Thematic Area 2 | Conflict, Defense and Security |
| Thematic Area 3 | Economic Development and Globalization |
| Thematic Area 4 | Education and Human Capital |
| Thematic Area 5 | Gender, Equity and Social Inclusion |
| Thematic Area 6 | Governance, Politics, Law and Ethics |
| Thematic Area 7 | History, Culture and Identities |
| Thematic Area 8 | Humanities, Social Sciences, Technology and Business Interface |
| Thematic Area 9 | Languages, Literatures and Media |
| Thematic Area 10 | Population and Migration |
| Thematic Area 11 | Social Development and Welfare |
| Thematic Area 12 | Tourism, Sports and Recreation |
| Category 2 | Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (SETI) |
| Thematic Area 13 | Agriculture and Food Security |
| Thematic Area 14 | Geosciences |
| Thematic Area 15 | Health and Social Welfare |
| Thematic Area 16 | Industry and Innovation |
| Thematic Area 17 | Information Technology, Computing and Telecommunications |
| Thematic Area 18 | Power and Energy |
| Thematic Area 19 | Science and Engineering |
| Thematic Area 20 | Space Science and Technology |
| Thematic Area 21 | Sustainable use of Natural Resources and Terrestrial Ecosystems |
| Thematic Area 22 | Transport and Infrastructure |
| Thematic Area 23 | Water and Sanitation |

| Category 3 | Cross-Cutting (CC) |
|---|---|
| Thematic Area 24 | Blue Economy |
| Thematic Area 25 | Clean and Affordable Energy |
| Thematic Area 26 | Entrepreneurship and Wealth Creation |
| Thematic Area 27 | Environment, Housing, Urban and Regional Development |
| Thematic Area 28 | Innovation and Technology in National Defence Capabilities |
| Thematic Area 29 | Resource Governance |
| Thematic Area 30 | National System of Innovation |

### ELIGIBILITY

Lecturers in Public Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria are eligible. Multidisciplinary and Interdisciplinary researches, comprising researchers from various disciplines, are encouraged. The Principal Investigator (PI), who must not be below the rank of a Senior Lecturer in a University or Principal Lecturer in a Polytechnic or College of Education, will lead the Research Team and be personally responsible and held accountable for the conduct of the research. An added requirement is that the PI must be institution-based, with the PI's institution regarded as the Coordinating Institution and guarantor of proper application of the funds for the project.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The process of application is entirely on an online platform. The Principal Investigator is expected to visit nrf.tetfund.gov.ng, where he or she will be closely guided on the preparation and final submission of the Concept Note as well as the Research Proposal. Applicants are encouraged to acquaint themselves with the Research Brief and the Guidelines for the application.

All the submitted Concept Notes will be evaluated by the National Research Fund Screening and Monitoring Committee (NRFS&MC). The PIs of the successful Concept Notes will be communicated to proceed to the preparation of the Full Proposals, which will also be processed online. The PI and, at least, a member of the Research Team of a proposal that has been screened and adjudged fundable, shall be invited to defend their proposal before the NRFS&MC. Thereafter the successful proposals for the award of grant will be presented to the Board of Trustees of TETFund for approval and disbursement of funds.

### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF CONCEPT NOTES

The Portal will be open for the submission of Concept Notes from 1st August 2025. Deadline for submission of Concept Notes shall be on 28th August 2025, Nigerian time. For enquiries, please contact the TETFund NRF Secretariat using the following email addresses: salihugb@tetfund.gov.ng, odoju@tetfund.gov.ng, abdullahih@tetfund.gov.ng, zanginas@tetfund.gov.ng, ugwubs@tetfund.gov.ng

**Signed:**
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