



Strategic Pillar: Funding

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Strategic Pillar: Funding



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Southern African Hub

Funding

- Funding is major challenge that must be overcome to realise strategy.
- Innovative means should be found to sustain network and achieve objectives of strategic plan.
- NUST-NELGA Hub should prepare and maintain index of funding sources on its website.
- Index must be reviewed and updated continuously when new calls for proposals or grant research are made.

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Types of Funding

- NELGA Funding
- National Funding
- Regional Funding
- International Funding

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NELGA Funding

- The first source of funding is the NUST-NELGA Hub's current financial grant.
- This is a very limited resources of finite duration.
- It should be used as seed funding to kick start and enable affiliated researchers to draft research proposals and to generate research ideas.
- The premises is that once proposals are developed and partners identified, it should be much easier to attach funding from other sources.
- Often there are very short lead times when funding grant are announced, thus it requires researchers to be ready to respond immediately.
- This is only possible if proposals for funding are already being discussed and worked upon.

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National Funding

- The next port of call for funding is the national government programmes for research
- From experience in the region, this is usually a very limited resource
- Nevertheless, this should be our starting point for addressing the issues of national development as far as it pertains to land governance and administration.
- Often universities may also contribute in kind by making venues, offices and other facilities available as and when needed.

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Regional Funding

- There are a limited number of regional institutions that make funding available for research and capacity building
- From experience in the region, this is usually a very limited resource
- South Africa and its institutions are the primary source of regional funding for research.
- Grants for the Southern African region generally require multiple institutions and countries in the region to cooperate on research proposals



International Funding

- The biggest potential source of funds come from international organisation.
- These are typically competitive calls that require a high level of expertise and experience to be successful.
- This is the strength that the NUST-NELGA Hub must utilise to position itself as the pre-eminent partners for international researchers and funding organisations.
- That requires professionalism, expertise and preparedness from the NUST-NELGA Hub.
- When opportunities for funding are available, affiliated researchers should be organised, prepared and ready to engage immediately with proposals that have been well prepared and reviewed several times already.

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THANK YOU

End of presentation