

Africa Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund for Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology

Progress Report 1 April – 30 June 2022

Executive Summary

Initiated and owned by African governments and implemented by *icipe*, the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF) aims to build a critical mass of skills and knowledge needed to increase the use of science, technology, and innovation for sustainable economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This report provides achievements of the RSIF program for the period running from **1 April – 30 June 2022**. Key achievements are included below:

1. The highlight of the second quarter of 2022 was holding of the Pan-African RSIF hybrid conference held at the Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (UM6P) in Morocco on 28 – 29 June 2022. The theme of the conference was *African-led Science, Technology and Innovation for Contributing to the SDGs and Stimulating Global Development*. In addition to the conference proceedings, an RSIF Development Partners Roundtable was convened. About 1200 persons were involved in the Conference, of which 102 attended in person in Morocco and the rest online. See the conference proceedings on the [Eventbrite website](#) and RSIF Youtube channel [here](#).
 - o OCP Africa, *icipe*, PASET and World Bank leadership held high-level consultations and potential future collaboration on RSIF. Discussions noted the need to follow up on the potential benefits in line with the RSIF program objectives. Further discussions are planned.
 - o At the RSIF Development Partners Roundtable, Nigeria updated that fund disbursement modalities have been discussed internally and it is expected that a proposal will be made soon to *icipe*. Further, Rwanda reconfirmed its commitment to PASET-RSIF and readiness to top-up its initial contribution. At the closing of RSIF conference, the Government of Ethiopia reiterated their unwavering commitment and continued dedication towards PASET and indeed the RSIF, confirming they are already working on ensuring they are fully up to date in their commitment to the partnership.
 - o Mr. Elton Bosch from Ai2 Institute presented a concept on the building of an innovation/impact fund for RSIF. The 'Carbon X' fund proceeds would accrue to RSIF activities, but run separately. A work plan will be presented to the PASET EB during the next period.
 - o Several countries engaged on international cooperation, expressed their readiness to partner with RSIF, with relevant follow-up ongoing including Japan, China, France and Brazil.
2. Following the no objection from the EB to engage with Mastercard Foundation to support both Master's students as well as PhD students, the discussion on partnerships with RSIF continues to advance.
3. PhD Scholars in Cohorts 1, 2 & 3 continue with their PhD studies. A total of **82** high quality peer reviewed papers have been published by RSIF PhD scholars.
4. The Government of Canada provided support through the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) to fund experts – 2 (in the areas of gender, resource mobilisation and entrepreneurship) have completed 14 day in-person working visits to the RCU at *icipe*.

Key challenges during the period

- a) As earlier reported, carry-over of delays occasioned by closures due to covid-19. A number of scholars have been granted short term extensions on their contracts to allow finalisation of research studies and thesis writing and defense.
- b) Administrative challenges with first few scholars who have arrived in their IPs for placement due to different country regulations relating to scholar registration status; for example, the scholars who are joining the Natural Resources Institute (NRI), could only enter the UK on a short term (6-months) tourist visa with no access to accommodation facilities on campus unless registered in the UK university. These are being handled on a case by case basis.
- c) Nigeria supported scholars – Delay in signing the contract on fund disbursement modalities continues to negatively affect the potential scholars as formal award of scholarships cannot proceed. Discussions have been held with the Government of Nigeria through the National Universities Commission who are pursuing the issue.

Summary of Request to the EB in this report

(1.1) RSIF General Fund and set up of the RSIF Permanent Fund:

EB is requested to note:

1. Note the Pan-African RSIF hybrid conference held successfully at the Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (UM6P) in Morocco, with the theme African-led Science, Technology and Innovation for Contributing to the SDGs and Stimulating Global Development. icipe thanks the EB, through the EB Chair for the support in the organisation and holding of the Conference.
2. To organise for a meeting for discussion on future contributions by countries to the RSIF program and related administrative costs.
3. Schedule a presentation from Ai2 to present the workplan for establishment of the Carbon X fund to the EB – a proposed independent innovation fund to drive growth of RSIF
4. Remind EB members and PASET GC members of the planned PASET EB and Ministerial meetings to be hosted in Cape Town, South Africa, 4-9 December 2022 and request them to save the dates.

(1.2) Capacity development for the operation and management of doctoral training scholarships in selected AHUs (RSIF Gender activities)

The EB is requested to note:

- The revision of the RSIF the Gender Strategy was undertaken and a draft report with recommended interventions, implementation plan and timetable for further gender related activities completed. The EB is requested to approve the gender strategy.

(Component 2) PhD Scholarships, Research Grants and Innovation Grants

The EB is requested to note the:

- Progress of the RSIF PhD scholar cohorts including employment of the five graduates.
- Progress in the implementation status of RSIF Research and Innovation Grants.

(3.3) RSIF communications

The PASET EB is requested to note the progress in communication activities and support of the RSIF resource mobilisation.

1.0 Introduction

The Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF), the flagship program of the Partnership for skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET), was established by African governments to build a critical mass of skills and knowledge needed to increase the use of science, technology, and innovation for sustainable economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This report provides progress in the implementation of the RSIF Program for the period **1 April to 30 June 2022**. The report is arranged along the two RSIF program component areas viz, Component 1: Capacity Development for the Operation of the Scholarship, Research, and Innovation Fund; and Component 2: PhD Scholarships, research grants and innovation grants.

Component 1: Capacity Development for the Operation of the Scholarship, Research, and Innovation Fund

1.1 Capacity building for the management of the RSIF General Fund and setting up the RSIF Permanent Fund:

This sub-component aims to strengthen the capacity of *icipe* as the RSIF Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) to engage in innovative fundraising strategies to reach and engage potential funding partners and to design and operationalise the RSIF Permanent Fund.

The highlight of the second quarter of 2022 was holding of the Pan-African RSIF hybrid conference held at the Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (UM6P) in Morocco on 28 – 29 June 2022. The theme of the conference was *African-led Science, Technology and Innovation for Contributing to the SDGs and Stimulating Global Development*. In addition to the conference proceedings, an RSIF Development Partners Roundtable was convened.

- About 1200 persons were involved in the Conference, of which 102 attended in person in Morocco and the rest online. There were more than 50 speakers across ten sessions covering topical issues ranging from the digital innovation, responding to global challenges; building Africa's STI capacity to support industrialisation in Africa; nurturing collaboration between universities and industry; and green growth for Sustainable Development. See the conference proceedings on the [Eventbrite website](#) and RSIF Youtube channel [here](#).
- During the RSIF conference a roundtable was held to engage with development partners on the topic of *“Investing in building STI capacities and higher education in Africa. RSIF's value proposition and progress to date. Possibilities for collaboration”*. The objective was to showcase achievements of RSIF and discuss RSIF sustainability. Specifically, the session aimed to i) present the RSIF model and value proposition to development partners, aiming to strengthen the quality and quantity of connections; ii) update on results to date in strengthening doctoral, training, research and innovation in Africa; and iii) exchange on the fund's plan for sustainability and discuss opportunities for future collaboration (see more on this under 1.1.2 below). A draft conference communique can be accessed [here](#).
- OCP Africa, *icipe*, PASET and World Bank leadership held high-level consultations and potential future collaboration on RSIF. Discussions noted the need to follow up on the potential benefits in line with the RSIF program objectives. Further discussions are planned.
- Several countries engaged on international cooperation, expressed their readiness to partner with RSIF, with relevant follow-up ongoing including:
 - Japan represented through the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS),
 - China, through the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS);
 - France through the French Embassy in Nairobi and the Agence française de développement, (AFD); and

- Brazil through the International Cooperation Group of Brazilian Universities (GCUB). GCUB is in the process of reviewing tripartite agreements for hosting students at Brazilian universities.
- Private sector partners including OCP Africa, IBM Research Africa and Microsoft also re-affirmed interest in pursuing collaboration with RSIF in doctoral training and research collaboration.
- Following the no objection from the EB to engage with Mastercard Foundation to support both Master's students as well as PhD students, the discussion on partnerships with RSIF continues to advance.

Country Funding Issues:

- **Nigeria:** Progress was made with the Nigeria government regarding the disbursement modality for the USD 4 million previously committed. At the RSIF Development Partners Roundtable on 29 June 2022, Nigeria updated that fund disbursement modalities have been discussed internally and it is expected that a proposal will be made soon to *icipe*. Nigeria intends to contribute an initial USD 4 million and further contributions will be explored from country financing.
- **Ethiopia:** At the closing of RSIF conference, the Government of Ethiopia reiterated their unwavering commitment and continued dedication towards PASET and indeed the RSIF, confirming they are already working on ensuring they are fully up to date in their commitment to the partnership.
- **Rwanda** reconfirmed its commitment to PASET-RSIF and readiness to top-up its initial contribution.

An update on funding committed to the RSIF Program is provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Committed and Received Funding to the RSIF Program as of 30 June 2022

No	Donor	Committed Funding	Funds Received	Contract End Date	Type
1	Benin	2.0	0.3	30-Jun-24	WB project
2	Burkina Faso	2.0	0.8	31-Dec-23	WB project
3	Côte d'Ivoire	2.0	1.0	n/a	Direct
4	European Union	4.7	1.9	31-Jan-25	Direct
5	Ghana	2.0	0.8	31-Dec-23	WB project
6	Kenya	2.0*	2.0	n/a	Direct
7	Mozambique	6.0	1.6	31-Dec-25	WB project
8	Nigeria	4.0	-	30-Jun-24	WB project
9	Rwanda	2.0*	2.0	n/a	Direct
10	Senegal	2.0	0.3	31-Dec-23	WB project
11	South Korea	9.0	2.7	30-Jun-24	WB Trust Fund
12	World Bank	15.0	8.0	30-Jun-24	World Bank IDA Grant
	Total	52.7	21.4		

* Kenya and Rwanda have indicated their intention to top up their RSIF contributions with an additional USD 2 million each in 2022.

1.1.2. Design of the RSIF Permanent Fund

The conversation on establishment of RSIF endowment fund was pursued further during the development partners roundtable on 29 June 2022. Mr. Elton Bosch from Ai2 Institute presented on building an innovation/impact fund for RSIF. Representatives of the advisory group on the establishment of an RSIF endowment fund made comments. There was broad agreement on the need to look beyond traditional financing for RSIF sustainability. It was exciting to discover about the

opportunities provided by carbon credits, blockchain technology and innovative impact investment sources. A workplan for establishment of the Fund will be provided in the next period. At the same time, the African context and governance and regulatory environment would need to be given due attention and a clear road map agreed.

- The National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa confirmed its collaboration with PASET and its agreement to host a PASET Ministerial Forum in Cape Town on the sidelines of World Science Forum in December 2022.
- RCU drafted letters proposed to be signed by President Macky Sall to targeted funders to encourage them to join PASET and come to the December Ministerial meeting in South Africa.

Request to EB:

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2. To organise for a meeting for discussion on future contributions by countries to the RSIF program and related administrative costs.
3. Schedule a presentation from Ai2 to present the workplan for establishment of the Carbon X fund to the EB – a proposed independent innovation fund to drive growth of RSIF
4. Remind EB members and PASET GC members of the planned PASET EB and Ministerial meetings to be hosted in Cape Town, South Africa, 4-9 December 2022 and request them to save the dates.

1.2 Capacity development for the operation and management of doctoral training scholarships in selected AHUs

1.2.1 Selection of additional RSIF African Host Universities (AHUs)

The partnership agreement with the last of the additional African Host Universities (Makerere University, Uganda) was fully executed within this reporting period. The full execution of the agreement now enables Cohort 4 students to register in all four RSIF AHUs, including Makerere University in 2022.

1.2.2 RSIF Gender activities

Together with Prof. Lynne Brennan (CESO SACO), the revision of the RSIF the Gender Strategy was undertaken and a draft report with recommended interventions, implementation plan and timetable for further gender related activities completed. During the revision of the Gender Strategy, staff from Monitoring & Evaluation, Capacity Building, and Communication were interviewed for details of gender inclusion in their work and feedback on the gender strategy. A workshop on the Gender Strategy and Gender Implementation Plan was planned and delivered to create a common understanding of the Gender Strategy and each staff member's role within it. Data collected was used as a foundation to revise recommended implementation activities and to develop a pathway for further research into selection results for men and women RSIF applicants. This has contributed to an increased awareness of the gender strategy and staff commitment to operationalizing the interventions to reach the objectives of RSIF and the strategy. Data were compiled for a brochure listing gender-based and family-friendly services and resources available at the African Host Universities (AHUs). The brochure will allow women scholars to know about and access resources. We finalized content for the brochure and developed a draft version to be shared with AHU and scholars. A field visit to University of Nairobi was used to reinforce relationships with AHU Focal Points through

highlighting the work they are already doing in providing gender-based and family-friendly resources for scholars.

Ideas for useful future research and necessary gender activities were developed like collection of information about gender friendly resources at IPs and identifying “invisible” gender support work at AHUs. The analysis of application and selection differentials across country of origin, thematic areas, and AHUs allocation of stipend for men and women scholars based on the large number of received applications and the selections processes will provide useful information about Women in Science in Africa. Further gender sensitive monitoring of RSIF scholars’ careers like awarding of grants to women and men academics and scholars, leadership roles undertaken in research projects for women and men scholars, and the general tracking of career transition (role, level, starting salary, status) for women and men graduates will allow further improvements of scholarship programs.

1.3 Capacity development for improving the quality of PhD programs and research in ASET fields

The RCU continues to support the strengthening of capacity of AHUs to enhance the quality of their PhD training programs. The RCU also delivered training courses to RSIF Scholars to ensure that they are able to complete their PhD’s successfully and also to transition to research careers on the continent. Guided by the RSIF Capacity Building Strategy, guest webinars, student webinars and cross-cutting courses and mentorship platform development were delivered during the period as below.

1.3.1 RSIF Guest Webinar Series

Two monthly guest webinars were delivered for the April to June reporting period. The third was postponed to allow focus on the RSIF Conference:

- (1) Dr Francisco J. Marmolejo, Higher Education President at Qatar Foundation (QF); “A changing world: Are you ready?” on 27 April 2022.
- (2) Dr Margaret Kagwe, Educator, Researcher, Consultant and Mental Health Specialist at ESTEEM Counseling and Consulting Services; "Happy Scholar" on 25 May 2022.

1.3.2 RSIF PhD Student Webinars and delivery of cross cutting courses.

Scientific presentations by nine RSIF PhD students were delivered during three student seminar events, held monthly from April – June 2022. An Orientation training and a cross-cutting course were also delivered to RSIF PhD students. In addition, the following workshops were held:

- (1) A five-day virtual orientation workshop for the RSIF cohort IV scholars was delivered with an attendance from scholars and faculty of AHUs. There were 66 participants (19 Female, 47 Male) The course was delivered between 25-29 April 2022.
- (2) A virtual Monitoring and Evaluation training workshop was delivered. There were 150 participants (53 female, 97 male). The course was delivered 18 &19 May 2022.

1.3.3 Mentorship platform

The 2-hour pilot workshop held in March 2022 was used to identify challenges in navigating the mentorship platform, and recommendations from the pilot were implemented. Material to support users for a more uniform and seamless experience on the platform have been prepared and shared. Individual users have been consulted to establish how the platform can best support different team members in their work. The second roll out of the platform was carried out to Cohort 4 scholars during their orientation programme in April 2022. Resources were created to release to cohort 4 for their use on the platform. Material for the next roll out is being curated, in collaboration with the RSIF capacity building team to determine scholars and mentors for the roll out.

A report on African mentorship in higher education that will serve as a guidebook for the mentors on the Mentorship Platform is also being prepared. The guidebook is expected to be ready in the next quarter. A video was also prepared to communicate the mentorship platform to student, prospective mentors and others. The video can be seen [here](#).

1.3.4 Increased access to subscribed e-resources for AHU Libraries

RSIF recognizes the importance of enhancing access to high quality publications and up-to-date literature to support research at the AHUs. AHU libraries continue to access e-resources (e-book and e-journal collections) subscribed through RSIF. In total, the AHUs received subscription access in 2021 to 45,136 e-resources (41,926 e-books and 3,210 e-journals). Of the 45,136 e-resources, 4,474 e-books and 452 e-journals have perpetual access. Usage of the e-resources is currently at over 875,453 hits.

1.4 Capacity development for the operation and management of innovation grants

1.4.1 Implementation Status of RSIF Innovation Grants

1.4.1.1 Institutional Innovation Capacity Building Program (ICBP) grants

In the April to June 2022 reporting period, project teams implementing the Institutional Innovation Capacity Building Program (ICBP) grants continued their activities towards building entrepreneurial capacity of their faculty and students and strengthening their Institutional innovation environments. The project awarded to the African University of Science and Technology (AUST) completed implementation in April 2022 and reported milestones including; (i) a strengthened policy environment for research commercialization through the development of a strategic policy on Innovation and Intellectual Property management for the university, (ii) enhanced capacity of faculty and students of entrepreneurship and research commercialization through establishment of Centre for Life Long Learning offering short courses on various topics including entrepreneurship and innovation, (iii) increased awareness and linkage to industry through the launch of an Industry Advisory Board and facilitation of Industry Open days among other key milestones achieved.

Other projects continue to report progress. We highlight selected activities below:

- **Additional financing:** The RSIF Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) project was invited to collaborate in a proposal with the French Embassy in Dar Es Salaam and two other Tanzania based universities. The project titled, “Innoversity” has been awarded € 570,000 by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to contribute to strengthening of the university’s innovation ecosystem.
- **Courses and lecture seminars:** The University of Ghana through its “Alumni Passing Through” Program hosted three online seminars on (i) “Innovation and Technology Transfer in Modern Agriculture” by Professor Ahmed O. Haruna of the University Putra Malaysia, (ii) “opportunities for developing soyabeans as an industrial crop in Northern Ghana” by Professor Samuel Adjei-Nsiah, University of Ghana and (iii) “Science, Technology and Innovation in Ghana’s Agriculture: Lessons from policy mainstreaming perspectives”. The University of Port Harcourt trained 47 faculty, students on competitive grant writing and another 10 were trained on commercializing research results.
- **Industry linkages:** The AUST hosted an Industry Open Day with 28 industrial partners participating from various sectors in Nigeria. It was an opportunity for university researchers and faculty to show case their research outcome and interact with industrial partners.
- **Patent registration:** The University of Port Harcourt has secured one patent on “RP: F/P/2022/65 - Flavonoids in formulation of gas hydrates inhibitors provided by the Nigeria Patent Office. Two other patents are being processed for submission.

A detailed status of each grant project is provided in Annex 1.

1.4.1.2 RSIF Cooperability Grants

The two (2) innovation projects funded under the 1st round have progressed in laboratory and field work to improve their prototypes and produce minimum viable products. Specifically:

- a) The University of Rwanda's Smart Bee Hiving Technology has completed design of its Internet of things (IoT) device and is currently procuring material for its development. The project had experienced delays due to challenges in getting bidders for supply of IoT equipment for prototyping. No suppliers responded to the 1st expression of interest. However, a 2nd Call was launched, and two bidders responded and supplier selection is underway.
- b) The Université Felix Houphouët-Boigny (UFHB)'s pesticide project continues to carry out research work on developing its prototype. Various in vitro tests are on-going. A research paper has been submitted for publication based on results from the first phase of research (Annex 1).

An additional three projects (2nd round) have signed grant agreements and funds transferred in May 2022. Projects teams have initiated activities and held inception meetings (Annex 1).

1.4.2 Implementation of the Grantee Technical Assistance Action Plan

A three-day in-person inaugural entrepreneurship training workshop for RSIF scholars and AHU faculty was delivered with facilitation support by Mr Bryan Marshman from the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO SACO). This was part of a pilot phase done at the *icipe* Duduville Campus, Nairobi Kenya from 14-16 June 2022. 19 RSIF scholars and 2 faculty drawn from Kenyatta University and University of Nairobi participated face to face in the training workshop. The training was aimed at ensuring that RSIF doctoral scholars and the African Host Universities (AHU) faculty are provided with basic skill-sets to develop an entrepreneurial mindset that would enable them identify business opportunities or ventures preferably from their research work. A follow-up virtual two days training workshop was delivered on 22-23 June 2022, and reached a wider audience of RSIF scholars and grantees.

The EB is requested to note:

- The revision of the RSIF the Gender Strategy was undertaken and a draft report with recommended interventions, implementation plan and timetable for further gender related activities completed. The EB is requested to approve the gender strategy.

Component 2: PhD Scholarships and Research Grants

2.1 Training of Doctoral Students in ASET fields

2.1.1 Progress in the management of doctoral students

PhD Scholars in Cohorts 1, 2 & 3 continue to progress in their PhD studies despite the Covid-19 challenges. There are currently 245 RSIF PhD students across the four cohorts at various stages of doctoral training. As at submission of this report, **82 peer reviewed papers** have been published by students (Table 2). Students continue to publish high quality papers: Cohort 1 have published 51 peer-reviewed and conference papers, Cohort 2 and 3 have published 29 and 2 papers respectively. Of these, 19 papers were authored by females, while one paper was co-authored by female and male scholars. The publications have been cited 236 times (self-citations excluded), 43,523 full text views (downloads), 46,789 abstract views and 0 – 7.963 journal impact factor range. Click [here](#) to access full details of the peer-reviewed publications by RSIF scholars.

Table 2: RSIF Scholars (Cohort 1-4) publications (2018 – June 2022)*

Thematic area	Gender	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022*	Total	Thematic total
1. Climate change	Female	-	-	2	1	-	3	13
	Male	-	2	-	7	1	10	
2. Energy including Renewables	Female	-	-	-	1	-	1	4
	Male	-	-	1	2	-	3	
3. Food security and Agribusiness	Female	-	-	1	3	2	6	25
	Male	-	1	9	9	-	19	
4. Minerals, Mining and Materials Engineering	Female	-	-	-	5	3	8	25
	Male	-	1	5	10	1	17	
5. ICTs including Big Data and Artificial Intelligence	Female	-	4	-	1	-	5	15
	Male	-	-	4	3	3	10	
Total		0	8	21	43	10		82

*All works are uploaded on RSIF Repository: <https://repository.rsif-paset.org>

2.1.2 Status of Cohort 1 RSIF PhD Scholars

Five Cohort 1 scholars have graduated, and all currently employed (Table 3). Of these, three have taken on faculty positions, while two have been appointed as postdoctoral fellows at AHUs. Nine scholars who have completed their sandwich placements are back at their AHUs and are winding down on their research work as they prepare to defend their theses. Eight of these scholars were granted short extensions of their contracts to enable them complete their research thesis write-ups. Only one Cohort 1 scholar lags in his training due to some challenges. He has been allocated a new supervisor. The scholar has been granted re-admission into the AHU to allow him to continue with his studies since his original study period at the AHU had elapsed.

An Alumni network was launched as part of the RSIF Conference side event activities, to support alumni to contribute to the RSIF agenda.

2.1.3 Current Status of the Cohort 2 RSIF PhD Scholars

Cohort 2 has 64 scholars of which 40 have completed their proposal writing while 49 have successfully defended their proposals. Of the 49 that have defended, 12 are still refining their proposals. A further three have completed their proposal writing and are preparing to defend. Forty (45) scholars are at AHU carrying out their course work and research work while another 13 are in the field for data collection.

Table 3: Completion Status for RSIF Cohort 1 Scholars as at 30 June 2022

	Name of Scholar	AHU	Current status	PhD Research Topic
1.	Emmanuel Effah	UGB	Graduated: Lecturer, Dept. of Computer Science and Eng., UMaT, Tarkwa	Robust and Affordable Smart Agri-IoT Technology: From Theoretical Modelling to Real-World Implementation
2	Richard Kipyegon Koech	AUST	Graduated : Lecturer of physics, Moi University	Additive effects on the charge carrier dynamics and performance metrics of Formamidinium-rich mixed lead halide perovskite solar cell
3.	David Afolayan	AUST	Graduated: Post Doctoral Fellow, African University of Science and Technology, Abuja, Nigeria	Characterization, Gravity, Concentration, and Physicochemical Study of Artisanal Mining and Processing of Baryte and its Ores for oil Drilling Application
4.	Gahamanyi Noel	SUA	Graduated: Lecturer, University of Rwanda, College of Science and Technology, Biology Department. Visiting Lecturer of Genomics and Cytogenetics in MSc program; School of Veterinary Medicine ; College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine (CAVM) University of Rwanda.	Assessing the molecular epidemiology and antimicrobial susceptibility profiles of thermophilic Campylobacter species from human and animal feces in South Korea and Tanzania.
5.	Jean Nepomuscene Hakizimana	SUA	Graduated: Postdoctoral research fellow in virology at O.R. Tambo Africa ; Research Chair in Viral Epidemics of Short-cycle Animal Stocks (VESAS) of the SACIDS Foundation for One Health, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania.	Determination of the genetic variation and epidemiology of African swine fever virus in selected countries of Eastern and Southern Africa
6.	Fatoumata Thiam	UGB	Preparing for thesis defense, extension to 31/05/2022	Designing self-optimized irrigation in the Sahel area based on the Internet of Things
7.	Humphrey Andalo Mabwi	SUA	Preparing for thesis defense, extension to 31/08/2022	Potential use of synthetic human gut microbiome communities in screening phytochemicals beneficial to intestinal flora
8.	Jean Baptiste Habinshuti	AUST	Preparing for thesis defense, extension to 30/06/2022	Optimization of Tantalum recovery from typical Rwandan and Nigerian tantalite ores
9.	Jeanne Pauline Munganyinka	AUST	Preparing for thesis defense, extension to 31/07/2022	Geometallurgical Studies Of Selected Gold Ores With The Application Of Environmentally Friendly Lixivants
10.	Maxwell Wambua Waema	SUA	Preparing for thesis defense, extension to 30/09/2022	Detection of selected human respiratory viruses using hydrogel microparticles based multiplex RT-Qpcr
11.	Sodedji Frejus Ariel Kpedetin	UFHB	Preparing for thesis defense, extension to 31/08/2022	Genetic diversity and optimization for increased carotenoids biosynthesis in cowpea [Vigna unguiculata (L.) walp]
12.	Sylvia Wairimu Maina	SUA	Preparing for thesis defense, extension to 31/08/2022	Deciphering Biosynthesis and utility of bioactive compounds in neglected African cabbage and Ethiopian mustard vegetables
13.	Emmanuel Kifaro	SUA	Expected to defend thesis in September 2022	Development of Microparticles qPCR for the Detection of Selected RNA viruses from Non-Invasive Animal Specimens
14.	Traore Abdoulaye	UFHB	Preparing for thesis defense, extension to 30/09/2022	Relationship Between Local Cooking / Processing Methods And Glycemic Indices Of Three Varieties Of Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potato (Ipomoea Batatas) In Cote D'ivoire
15.	Levi Omache	SUA	Re-admitted to SUA up to May 2024	Antimicrobial Resistant Biofilm Forming Salmonella and its control in the Poultry Production Environments in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

A total of 50 scholars (22 females) have been matched with IPIs for their sandwich programmes (Table 4). The scholars started relocating to their respective IPIs in April 2022. So far six scholars have already joined the IPIs. Travel processes have been initiated for a further five scholars that are expected to relocate in June 2022. Another 19 are expected to join their IPIs in July 2022. Virtual meetings to initiate relocation of scholars are on-going with the scholars and their supervisors at the AHUs and the IPIs. Matching is in progress for 12 scholars while the process has not commenced for two. Good progress has been made on the processing of institutional level tripartite agreements. Twenty five agreements are at various stages of review and signature (Nine (9) tripartite agreements have been fully executed).

Table 4: Cohort 2 Scholar sandwich placement by gender and institution

IPI	No. of Cohort 2 Students Matched	Female	Male
GBST-SNU	8	3	5
GRC-SNU	4	1	3
IRD	1	0	1
ILRI	2	1	1
IMTA	1	0	1
KIER	3	2	1
KIT	3	1	2
KIST	2	0	2
KRICT	2	1	1
NESTLE	1	0	1
NRI	7	6	1
Telecom SudParis	1	1	0
U-Gent	2	1	1
UM6P	6	3	3
UP	3	0	3
VT	4	2	2
TOTAL	50	22	28

The sandwich program at the IPIs presents opportunities to access state of the art and high-performance infrastructure in the IPIs, exposure to a richer research experience (e.g. using high performance computers, etc.), cultural exchange outside Africa to the scholars and access to post-doc opportunities at the IPIs or their collaborators. Each exchange remains specific, highlighting need to work out all aspects of the ‘sandwich’ including scholars’ welfare because some northern country institutional procedures remain rigid (i.e. procedures, agreements and the legal interpretation) and not directly prepared for the RSIF model.

To obtain partner feedback and progress in matching, a side session was organised during the RSIF conference in Morocco (28&29 June, 2022). The group discussion on “Fostering Intra Africa and International Collaboration, and Establishing Research-led Networks” noted that networking opportunities available among RSIF network members provide great opportunities to share good practices and create inclusion among peers as well as boost collaborations with socio-economic actors. There is the possibility of expanding opportunities for more national and international collaborations thus attracting more funding, including mentorship for scientific and grant writing skills. Challenges encountered in forming collaborations are related to mismatched expectations on duration, funding, accountability and administration (time & resource management). Partnerships must be partner specific as ‘No one solution fits all’.

2.1.4 Current status of Cohort-3 RSIF PhD Scholars

Cohort 3 scholars continue with their studies in their respective AHUs. Currently, 73 of the 94 scholars have reported to their AHUs while one scholar from UGB has begun studies online and will be joining

in-person in the course of the year. 19 scholars funded by the Nigerian government still await to be awarded scholarships since the Subsidiary Agreement between the Nigerian Government and *icipe*, which is yet to be executed.

Table 5: Cohort 3 Scholars' registration status at AHUs (Total of 94 scholars, 19 supported by Government of Nigeria and 2 not yet reported).

	AHU	No. of scholars
1.	AUST	5
2.	Bayero University	4
3.	KU	7
4.	NM-AIST	6
5.	SUA	13
6.	UFHB	10
7.	UGB	2
8.	University of Ghana	10
9.	UoN	9
10.	UniPort	1
11.	UR	6
		73

Six (6) Cohort 3 scholars have been matched with IPs. For the rest, the matching process continues including discussions involving their supervisors on potential IPs and co-supervisors that they have identified. A list of Cohort 3 highlighting their proposed research topics has been shared with a number of IPs to initiate selection. Significant progress on this is expected during the third quarter of 2022.

2.1.5 Cohort 4 Call for Applications

Following scholarship award to 74 students in February 2022, an orientation for Cohort 4 scholars was held 25 – 29 April 2022. This five-day virtual programme was mandatory for the incoming scholars as it facilitates the transition into the RSIF PhD program by introducing new students to the values and expectations of the program, builds a common set of skills across all RSIF scholars, and enables the establishment of a RSIF community. The orientation was led by *icipe* and RSIF partners. This orientation was organized for 51 Cohort 4 scholars with the exception of the 21 Nigeria funded scholars. However, once the Nigeria funds are confirmed, an orientation for this set of scholars will be organized.

A number of the Cohort 4 scholars have begun reporting to their respective AHUs. Currently, 31 scholars have already reported to their respective AHUs as indicated in Table 6 below, while the remaining 20 will report as per the AHU semester dates. It is anticipated that all Cohort 4 scholars will have reported to their respective AHUs by end of September, 2022.

Table 6: Cohort 4 scholars currently reported in respective AHUs

#	AHU	No. of scholars
1.	NM-AIST	1
2.	Sokoine University of Agriculture	2
3.	University of Nairobi	1
4.	2iE	12
5.	Haramaya University	6
6.	University of Gaston Berger	3
7.	Universite d'Abomey Calavi	6
8.	UniPort	1
	Total	32

2.1.6 Additional Call for Applications for Senegal and Mozambique

The call for scholarships specific for Mozambique and Senegal nationals that was approved by the PASET EB was published on 14 March 2022 and closed on 15 April 2022. A total of 107, of which 24 were female, applications (made to 14 of the 15 RSIF AHUs) were received in response to this special call. The eligibility screening process was completed by RCU on 22 April 2022 and followed by review and shortlisting of applications by AHUs. This review process has however been delayed. Thirteen AHUs completed and submitted their shortlisting documents on 9 June 2022 and these were duly forwarded for review by topical expert reviewers. The remaining AHU submitted its shortlist document on 24 June 2022. The Independent Evaluation Committee meeting will be held in early July 2022, to finalise the recommendations for award to the PASET EB.

2.2 Research Grants

2.2.1 Implementation status of First Cohort of Research Grants (Window 2, Type 1)

1st Round research project teams continue to advance in their field work, data collection and in the design and development of prototypes from their research work. This quarter, we highlight selected progress below:

- The University of Ghana's project on *"building the resilience of agribusiness practitioners through Design Thinking Approach"* established a Design Thinking Development Centre (DTDC) and its pilot phase has started rolling out activities to create awareness of adopting design thinking in all teaching and learning activities in the Department of Agriculture. The Centre showcases the circular economy model by recycling tree barks and cardboards for alternative uses. So far six students have been supported to execute experiments in soil, insect and organic product management. Additionally, a design thinking curriculum was developed, and the 1st year course implemented virtually attracting participation of over 50 students and faculty. 70 graduates on one-year National Service in the School of Agriculture were sensitized on entrepreneurship and developing agribusiness as a primary or secondary career. Partnership discussions are ongoing with a private input dealership and crowd-funding company, New Age Agri Solutions Ltd to encourage faculty members to join crowd funding and be part owners of grain farms located in different parts of Ghana. The project has also initiated partnerships with [Kosmos Innovation Centre](#) (KIC) to support the application of Design Thinking in agribusiness start-up development.
- Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NMAIST)'s project on Fluoride removal from drinking water using capacitive deionization (CDI) has successfully procured some of the pending research equipment to facilitate research work. The project Leader is expected to travel to South Korea in August 2022 for further research on the CDI technique
- The University of Rwanda's project on Indoor air pollution has now obtained ethical clearance to collect data from sample homes on the performance of the 3 prototypes developed in the previous period.
- The University of Nairobi's project on Perovskite Solar Cell Technology facilitated a short course on solar PV technology, sizing and installation from 18 – 27 April 2022. A total of 11 participants were trained

A detailed status of each grant project is provided in Annex 1.

2.2.2. First Call for award of Research Grants to RSIF post-doctoral graduates (Window 2, Type 2)

During the quarter, the RCU facilitated a 2nd information webinar on the first Call for award of the Junior Investigator Research Award (JIRA) targeting RSIF PhD graduates who hold a permanent or post-doctoral position in a university or research centre in Sub Saharan Africa (SSA). The Call was launched on March 9, 2022, with a submission deadline of June 30, 2022. Six (6) applications were received of which five (5) were found to be eligible for independent expert review. The RCU will advance in the

selection process the next quarter, a second Call for Proposals will be launched later in the year targeting more scholars who will have graduated.

2.2.3 Second Round of Research and Innovation Grants Projects

During the quarter, the RCU facilitated a 2nd information webinar on the first Call for award of the Junior Investigator Research Award (JIRA) targeting RSIF PhD graduates who hold a permanent or post-doctoral position in a university or research centre in Sub Saharan Africa (SSA). The Call was launched on March 9, 2022, with a submission deadline of June 30, 2022. So far five RSIF post graduate scholars are eligible and RCU continues to provide support to facilitate the application process. A second Call for Proposals will be launched later in the year targeting more scholars who will have graduated

2.2.4 RSIF Research and Innovation grants for Mozambique (MozSkills Project)

During the reporting period, the Grants Independent Technical Committee (GITC) approved seven projects for award to various Mozambican universities and research centres under “Improvement of Skills Development in Mozambique” (MozSkills). The RCU advanced in the award process by supporting grantees to revise their proposals, budgets and monitoring and evaluation frameworks in line with comments from the technical review process. A Grants Management Orientation Workshop was held on 23 - 24 May 2022 to provide project teams with guidelines on all project management aspects of the grants. Grant agreements for six projects have been fully executed by both *icipe* and the grantees and *icipe* is processing funds transfer to facilitate project activity implementation. One of the seven projects selected (University Eduardo Mondlane’s project for Institutional Capacity Strengthening) has not progressed citing administrative challenges in collaborating with the private sector partner. *icipe* is following up with the lead applicant for identify areas of possible support towards implementation.

The RCU launched a 2nd Call for Proposals to award the remaining eight grants under the three grant categories. During the period, information-sharing webinars were held and facilitated by the RCU on 17 April and 17 May 2022 to provide information and clarification on application guidelines to potential applicants. The Call closed on 31 May 2022 with a total of 18 applications received. See Table 7 for the applications received after the call. The RCU has initiated the review and selection process for eligible proposals.

Table 7: No. Grant Applications in 2nd RSIF/MozSkill Call for Proposal

Grant Window	Type of Grant	No. of Grants available*	No. of Grants awarded (1 st Call)	No. of unallocated Grants	No of applications received 2 nd Call	Amount per Grant (US\$)	Grant Duration
Research Grants	RSIF/MozSkills Research Award	7	4	3	8	90,000	2 Years
Innovation Grants	RSIF/MozSkills Institutional Innovation Capacity Building Program Grants (ICBP)	5	1	4	2*	70,000	2 Years
	RSIF/MozSkills Cooperability Grants	3	1	2	8	70,000	2 Years
Totals		13	7	8	18		

*The number of proposals received was lower than the grants available in this category. Depending on the outcome of the evaluation, RCU may request reallocation of ICBP grants to other grant categories.

The EB is requested to note:

1. Progress of the RSIF PhD scholar cohorts including employment of the five graduates.
2. Progress in the implementation status of RSIF Research and innovation Grants.

C. Cross-cutting activities

3.1 RSIF communications

Between April and June 2022, six issues of the RSIF weekly newsletter were produced bringing the total to 17 weekly issues since January 2022. The total number of subscriptions to the RSIF newsletter grew by over 1000 from 11,649+ to 13,173 with top subscription by location being Ethiopia at 15.7% followed by Kenya at 12.3%. Following consistent posting linked to strategic campaigns and events, RSIF's statistics and engagement on social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube continue to grow steadily (with 2743, 2700, 937, 230 and 287 followers respectively). The announcement for Cohort 4 PhD special call for scholarships for Mozambique and Senegal Scholars was widely disseminated by various news channels. Students' projects and success stories continue to be documented. Cohort 4 scholars were successfully trained in Communication skills during the Orientation workshop in April 2022.

A total of [four blog posts](#) about the various RSIF activities were prepared and some shared on the website while others continue to be edited. Also, eight short videos were developed in preparation for the RSIF-UM6P Conference for both the conference and for the Students Mentorship platform. More Documentary videos and Photographs will be produced post the Conference which took place from 28-29 June 2022. They will be uploaded on the RSIF [YouTube](#) channel.

Commented [IL1]: I have edited the link to drill down to the articles...

RSIF has been working with the marketing firm Professional Marketing Services (PMS), to help contribute to the successful implementation of the RSIF Communications Strategy and achievement of its goals and objectives. To enhance RSIF's brand awareness and visibility, the firm has supported development of distinctive branding, in form of a logo and tagline, for RSIF to ensure consistency in messaging, visual identity and representation in all communication material and platforms.

Under the leadership of RCU, the services provided by the Consultancy firm for this period are:

- A RSIF Logo and tagline which was approved (Fig. 1).
- Creative support towards the RSIF-UM6P Conference and creating effective messages that highlight RSIF achievements and products



Fig 1: Approved RSIF logo and tagline

3.3 Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation support was extended to RSIF grantees to further enhance their capacity to monitor and report on their respective projects' progress. Sessions were held on how to use the results framework in reporting project progress and challenges. Grantees were introduced to RSIF's research and innovations grants technical reporting templates and how to complete them.

Additionally, together with the grants management and finance teams, the project organized a monitoring and evaluation visit to the University of Nairobi to check on the progress of two Institutional Innovation Capacity Building Program Grants (ICBP) and Research Award Projects hosted by the university. During the meeting, challenges facing project implementation and mitigation measures were put forward and addressed. The project continues to track, collate, and document project activities and outputs.

3.4 Safeguards and RSIF Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

General grievances from the 19 Cohort 3 awarded scholars that are to be funded by the Nigerian Government contribution continue to be registered since they are yet to receive their formal award of scholarship contracts. These scholarship contracts are yet to be issued since the Subsidiary Agreement between the Nigerian Government and *icipe* has not yet been signed by Nigeria. Discussions are ongoing with the Government of Nigeria as has been mentioned earlier in this report.

Following a strike at Bayero University scholars were forced to go back to their home countries. The strike started in February and has since not been resolved. The University normal operations are expected to resume in August 2022.

Supervisors of a Cohort 2 scholar from University of Gaston Berger have withdrawn and ceased supervision of the scholar due to reported unsatisfactory progress of the scholar. The matter is under discussion for possible resolution within the university. A copy of the grievance log which shows more details on grievances during the reporting period is attached as Annex 2.

3.5 Procurement

As at end of June 2022, a total of ten (10) procurement activities were ongoing, including individual consultancies. There was one (1) activity at standstill period after which a notice of award will be issued to the consultant; one (1) activity whose contract has recently been signed and one (1) activity is awaiting advertisement in the public domain. Details of the current status of all ongoing procurement activities are included in Annex 3 of this report.

3.6 Key challenges during the period

Key challenges during the period were:

- a) There have been some teething problems with the first few scholars who have arrived in their IPs for placement. For example, the scholars who are joining the Natural Resources Institute (NRI), could only enter the UK on a short term (6-months) tourist visa with no access to accommodation facilities on campus. *icipe* is discussing these with IPs to find solutions on an on-going basis.
- b) Nigeria supported scholars – Delay in signing the contract on fund disbursement modalities continues to negatively affect the potential scholars as formal award of scholarships cannot proceed.
- c) Some cases of AHU administrative and supervisory-role challenges – for a number of scholars, such issues beyond the scholars control (such as de-registration and having to start over the research studies) will affect timely completion of studies within contract period

Request to EB:

- The PASET EB is requested to note the program in communication in support of the RSIF resource mobilisation.

3.7 RSIF Funds Allocation Report -Government Contributions (30 June 2022)

The total of funds received by RSIF as at 30 June 2022 remains at US\$18, 447,474 as received from eight African Governments (Table 8). A detailed expenditure report is included as Table 9.

Table 8. RSIF African Government Contributions as at 30 June 2022 *(Amounts in USD)*

INCOME	Recipient	Description	Total
B8501G00001	icipe	Fund Balance received from AAU (Govts of Kenya & Rwanda)	3,413,977
B8501G00001	icipe	Funds received from Ivorian Govt	1,033,497
B8501G00001	icipe	Signed Agreement - Govt of Ghana	2,000,000
B8501G00001	icipe	Signed Agreement - Govt of Burkina Faso	2,000,000
B8501G00001	icipe	Signed Agreement - Govt of Senegal	2,000,000
B8501G00001	icipe	Signed Agreement - Govt of Benin	2,000,000
B8501G00001	icipe	Signed Agreement - Govt of Mozambique	6,000,000
		Total Income	18,447,474

3.8 Key activities for the next quarter (July - September 2022)

The next period will focus on the following key activities:

- 1) Update current and prospective donors on global and country specific progress
- 2) Develop a detailed roadmap for endowment fund Carbon X, and RSIF Fund implementation to start soliciting subscriptions
- 3) Prepare PASET-RSIF Ministerial meeting and fundraising event in Cape Town – 4-9 December 2022
- 4) Finalise the selection process of the Additional Call for Students from Mozambique and Senegal
- 5) Finalise matching for Cohort 2 students and progress with matching for Cohort 3 students.
- 6) Continue with implementation of the capacity building strategy for RSIF
- 7) Provide implementation support for the RSIF Research and Innovation grantees
- 8) Finalise RSIF internal audit

Table 9: RSIF Funds Allocation Report – Government Contributions towards Scholarships (31 May 2022)¹

INCOME	Notes	Kenya	Rwanda	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Burkina Faso	Senegal	Benin	Mozambique	TOTAL
Funds received or per signed agreement	A	1,979,177	1,963,292	1,033,497	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	4,000,000	16,975,966
Less : AAU Admin charges	B	131,105	130,387	-	-	-	-	-	-	261,492
Funds available for Scholarships	C=A-B	1,848,072	1,832,905	1,033,497	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	4,000,000	16,714,474
Scholarship Cost per student (4 years)	E	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
Number of Scholarships Available	F=C/E	18	18	10	20	20	20	20	40	166
Allocation of Scholarships										
80% to Nationals	80% G	15	15	8	16	16	16	16	32	134
20% to Non Nationals	20% H	3	3	2	4	4	4	4	8	32
Scholarships Awarded										
Nationals	74% I	14	15	8	15	6	7	11	3	79
Non Nationals	26% J	5	3	2	3	4	4	4	1	26
Scholarships to Award										
Nationals	K=G-I	-	-	-	1	10	9	5	29	54
Non Nationals	L=H-J	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	8
Funds spent on Scholars										
By AAU	M	178,000	89,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	267,000
By <i>Icipe</i>	N	855,781	784,268	331,694	618,710	254,491	214,626	174,978	3,750	3,238,296
Fund Balance	O=C-M-N	814,292	959,637	701,803	1,381,290	1,745,509	1,785,374	1,825,022	3,996,250	13,209,178

¹ The total contribution from the Government of Mozambique is US\$6million with US\$2million towards RSIF Windows 2 & 3 on research and innovation grants. This table focuses on the contributions towards the RSIF Scholarships.

Annex 1: Status of 1st Round Research and Innovation Grant Projects as at June 30,2022

a. RSIF Research Award (Research Grant, Type 1)

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
1	RSIF/RA/001	Solar-assisted heat pump dryer with energy storage for drying biomaterials	Dr. Thomas Kivevele	Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology	81,133	36 Months	<p>Project objective is to develop a prototype of a solar assisted heat pump dryer integrated with energy storage system for drying fruits.</p> <p>Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Renovation of sustainable energy lab completed -2 RSIF PhD students engaged and currently researching on objective 2 and 3 of the project -Construction of prototype done, testing and modifications on going -Collection on samples of heat storage materials performance analysis initiated -Fruits samples for testing the drying capacity initiated, testing has been initiated. - Plans to finalize performance analysis of the dryer and initiate testing of quality of dried fruits - The project has increased understanding of stakeholders and partners on the issues of solar-assisted heat pump dryer designs, and suitable energy storage materials (natural rocks through virtual and face to face meetings with international and local partners. 	-Some research component related to field work delayed due to procurement delays however this has been resolved and most of the items have now been procured.	
2	RSIF/RA/002	Fluoride removal from drinking water using capacitive deionization	Dr. Yusufu A. Chande	Nelson Mandela African Institution of	90,000	36 Months	<p>Project objective: to produce capacitive deionization (CDI) stack to be used for fluoride removal from water.</p> <p>Status</p>	-One student involved in the project is expected to go to Hanyang University (Collaborating partner)	-RCU is following up with Hanyang University to sign MOU with PASET

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
				Science and Technology			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CDI laboratory has been renovated and 4 RSIF students using it -Presented in the virtual 12th European Symposium on Electrochemical Engineering (June 14-17, 2021) -Participated in a workshop on Capacitive Deionization Modelling at Botswana International University of Science & Technology (October 2021) -Research on various bio materials to be used for developing the stack at advanced stages - Procurement of some research equipment and software has been completed therefore facilitating advancement of research work 	for Sandwich placement, however, Hanyang Univ. is currently not an IPI	for hosting students
3	RSIF/RA/003	Do-It-For-Yourself Adaptation: New Pathways For Community Flood Risk Communication	Dr. Aliyu Salisu Barau	Bayero University, Kano.	90,000	24 Months	<p>Project objective: To strengthen flood resilience/adaptation capacity of dryland rural communities by developing an innovative, integrated, interdisciplinary, knowledge based, and solution-oriented approach.</p> <p>Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -translation of meteorological terms and flood hazards related scientific terminologies completed. -desk review of most flood hazard and meteorological key words based on key terminologies approved by the UN General Assembly and other national climate agencies completed. -trainings for community members on flood response mechanisms conducted including sensitizing 	None	N/A

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							<p>youth and women on following up politicians and policy makers for flood risk mitigation actions done.</p> <p>-produced 3 music tracks on flood related management</p> <p>-community members sensitized on human activities exacerbating flood incidences.</p> <p>-Developing cartoon related content on flood risk mitigation strategies</p>		
4	RSIF/RA/004	Real time Assessment of the indoor air pollution in Sub-Saharan households (Case study: Rwanda rural and urban areas)	Dr. Frederic Nzanywayingo ma	University of Rwanda	89,980	36 Months	<p>Project objective: to investigate indoor air pollution in households using effective and adapted indoor air pollution IoT monitoring tools to evaluate the potential health hazard associated with the exposure to the indoor air pollution against the World Health Organization air quality guidelines targeting the Rwanda rural and urban population.</p> <p>Status</p> <p>-Designed and developed prototype IOT device for indoor air pollution monitoring, 3 devices have been developed and deployed to home sites for live testing.</p> <p>-Server and user interface for monitoring data sent by the prototype device has been configured.</p> <p>-PhD students have been trained on to develop and use the new IoT device</p>	<p>-Lengthy and delayed procurement processes at the university.</p> <p>-Challenges getting suppliers for required IoT devices, however a supplier has now been identified and contracting is ongoing.</p>	-RCU to provide procurement support where possible
5	RSIF/RA/005	Research and Development of Photovoltaics based	Prof. Francis Nyongesa	University of Nairobi	89,988	36 Months	<p>Project objective: to conduct research and training in energy and renewable energy and policy</p>	Delays in procurement of facilities and equipment, however,	

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
		on Lead-Free Perovskite Solar Cell Technology					advisory in photovoltaics' (PV) specifically on lead-free perovskite solar cells. Status - A career mentorship talk done targeting physics students in the university, facilitated by NACOSTI, Kenya -Participated in the African Conference on Fundamental and Applied Physics -Research work is on-going with 2 publications done in two Journals (New Journal of Chemistry and Materials Letters) - 7 conference presentations made as at Nov 2021 - One mentorship workshop conducted targeting scholars on career in physics and soft skills -2 short courses on solar PV technology, sizing and installation held in April and August 2021 targeting -Participated in the energy policy and innovation workshop in Kenya organized by NACOSTI to influence policy regulatory framework on solar use systems in the country. -Partnership established with the NACOSTI for development of energy policy paper for domestic and commercial use in Kenya. - A 2 nd short course on solar PV technology, sizing and installation was held from 18 th -27 th April 2022 where 11 PhD scholars and researchers attended	the process has now been initiated.	

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							-One paper published by a student involved in the project		
6	RSIF/RA/006	Building Resilient Agribusiness Practitioners through Design Thinking Approach	Prof. Irene Egyir	University of Ghana	89,748	36 Months	<p>Project objective: to set up and pilot a Design Thinking (DT) Development Centre (DTDC) at the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness at the University of Ghana</p> <p>Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Design Thinking Development Centre fully established and has started rolling out pilot activities to create awareness of adopting design thinking in all teaching and learning - About 6 students were supported to execute experiments in soil, insect and organic product management. The centre showcased the circular economy model by recycling tree banks and cardboards, disposable containers and turning a dumping site into a composite. -The centre has partnered with an NGO (Prison Officers Wives Association) to establish an organic vegetable farm in Accra - The DTDC is attracting interest from students. Five incubates (3 undergrads and 2 graduates) have completed internship at the DTDC and have enhanced skills in business book keeping and backyard gardening among others -70 graduates on 1 year National Service in the school of Agriculture were sensitized on entrepreneurship and agri business as a primary or secondary career. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post-COVID restricting at partner institutions had affected their level of engagement in project activities. This is however, accelerating as partners are now beginning to actively participate in project implementation. - Networking platform meetings hindered by budget limitations however, virtual engagements via WhatsApp and telegram continue to be enforced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flexible timelines for implementation of workplan

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							<p>All staff and students of School of agriculture have been sensitized on benefits of Design Thinking.</p> <p>The School Management Committee has approved a 1 year-abroad Farm Business Internship for up to 50 students each year with AgroStudies Ltd in Israel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -TheDTCD has attracted partnership talks with a private dealership and crowd funding company, New Age Agri Solutions Ltd. The partnership aims to encourage faculty members to join crowd funding and be part owners of grain farms located in Ghana. -Design Thinking curriculum and training calendar for year 1 was executed. - 1st phase of DT sessions implemented. 70 students and faculty trained virtually. -The 2nd phase of training (Secondary & tertiary trainings) that started in Sept 21 were completed on April 28, 2022, with 50 participants. This was documented in a newsletter - Network of faculty of agri-product departments in Universities in Ghana established, consists of over 122 members. Virtual interactions among members. 105 network members expresses interest to support Agri-product development for students as part of the graduation requirements. - In march 2022, Kosmos Innovation Centre (KIC) a private NGO 		

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							partnered with the school of Agriculture to support the sensitization of applying Design Thinking in agribusiness start up development. - The project implementing partners (AGRA and RMG) had supported the recruitment of the DT facilitator and roll out of the online training sessions		
b. RSIF Institutional Innovation Capacity Building Program Grant (ICBP), Innovation Type 1									
1	RSIF/ICBP/001	Institutional Framework to enhance the Agri-Innovation Ecosystem within the University of Ghana	Prof. Irene Egyir	University of Ghana	50,000	24 Months	<p>Strengthening University Policy Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Draft University of Ghana Agri-Innovation Policy strategy developed. -University's 10-year strategic plan has been reviewed to contextualize research and innovation status of the university. i.e facilities, and relevant training courses. <p>IP and Entrepreneurship capacity development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 online seminars were delivered. On Dec 2021 on "Innovation and technology Transfer in Modern Agriculture by Prof. Ahmed Haruna of University Putra Malaysia. A 2nd seminar on February 2022 by Prof. Samuel Adjei-Nsiah of University of Ghana on "opportunities for developing siya beans as an industrial crop in Northern Ghana and 3rd on "Science Technology and Innovation in Ghana's Agriculture -2 workshops on IP protection and Agricultural Technology transfer conducted to 70 faculty and students 	-COVID 19, affected operations for partner organizations therefore affecting their engagement in the project	- The project is working with other partners to support implementation of the project

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							<p>- One online course with 2 modules on Agri-Innovation Development and Commercialization of Research developed and presented to graduate students and faculty. Four course facilitators have been identified for orientation; test classes planned for April 2022 were postponed due to industrial action by University Teachers Association of Ghana.</p> <p>- Training of Agri-TTO office staff on IP management conducted</p> <p>-Development of an accredited course on innovation and entrepreneurship ongoing. This is in collaboration with the UG WACCI centee. The draft course was developed and tested in Nov- Dec 2021. Course improvements have been done based on feedback from the pilot, accreditation requirements have been obtained to confirm eligibility. The course will be submitted for Board approval by Oct 2022.</p> <p>Networking with partners</p> <p>-1 Technical University and 4 Research Institutes of the Council for scientific and Industrial Research have been engaged in agri-innovation development and research commercialization by being a focal point in organizing faculty/ researchers with interest in new agri-product development.</p> <p>- A formal partnership has been discussed with Head of Department of Family of Consumer Sciences in</p>		

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							the UG School of Agriculture to host a maker space. The product lab of the Dept has been identified as a maker space. Another mapperspace has been identified at the TTIPs of the University to support new product development.		
2	RSIF/ICBP/002	Initiatives for Sustainable Food Security Innovations in the Drylands	Prof. Jibrin Mohammed Jibrin	Bayero University, Kano	50,000	18 Months	<p>IP and Entrepreneurship capacity development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Guest Lecturer on “Innovation Ecosystem” facilitated by Aart van den Bos from Verboos Academy, Netherlands, 79 attendees (-61 students trained on research and innovation best practices. -41 university staff trained on operating functional Tech Transfer Offices. <p>Networking with partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -MOU partnership discussions with 4 innovation hubs in Nigeria (Orange Corners/FATE Foundation, Abuja Technological village, IITA Business Incubation Platform (BIP) and ICRISAT Agribusiness and Innovation Platform. - Stakeholder mapping to identify interests and constraints of key actors in food and agriculture innovation ecosystem completed. -Guest lecture on “building an enabling innovation environment” held with 50 attendees -Database of local, regional and international innovation hubs created and uploaded to the CDA website 		

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
3	RSIF/ICBP/003	Capacity Building for University-Industry Business Technology Transfer	Prof Julius Mwabora	University of Nairobi	50,000	24 Months	<p>Strengthening University Policy Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review of relevant policies on technology transfer and research commercialization initiated -auditing of existing piloting and commercialization infrastructure initiated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Slow university procurement processes delaying implementation of some activities - There has been slower than anticipated pace of implementation of activities by the project due to restricting of the university and competing engagements by the Project Leader. The RCU is closely following the Project Leader to seek support from other departments to fast track project implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Project Leader has initiated procurement of materials for the Tech Transfer Office. Flexible timelines for implementation of workplan
4	RSIF/ICBP/004	From research to markets: Strengthening the Innovation Capacity of AUSTInspire	Prof. Peter Onwuaju	African University of Science and Technology (AUST), Abuja	50,000	14 Months	<p>-The project has finished implementing activities, initial end period was Dec 2021, a No Coste extension was provided ending April 2021. The following a key achievements</p> <p>Strengthening University Policy Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A strategic policy documents for copyright, innovation activities and startups developed -A feasibility study of university-based innovation hubs in Nigerai and beyond. A feasibility study report has been developed to guide establishment of the AUSTInspire innovation hub <p>Networking with industry partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -COVID 19 travel restrictions affected activity implementation for regional activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flexible timelines for implementation of workplan

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized an Industry open day with stakeholders in government and private sector participation. - Industry Advisory Board launched -Innovation and entrepreneurship boot camp done. <p>IP and Entrepreneurship capacity development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Inaugurated AUST Centre for Life Ling Learning, one course started, 3 certificate short courses have offered Project managers, HR and Quality Assurance Managers, Researchers and Result-Driven Teams. i)Advanced Diploma in Project Management, 8 weeks, 18 attendees ii)Introduction to M&E, 1 week, 30hrs intensive course, 11 attendees iii)Advanced Project Monitoring and Evaluation, 1 week, 30hrs intensive course, 15 attendees - Hosted a capacity building workshop on innovation and entrepreneurship, 100 students and faculty trained. 		
5	RSIF/ICBP/005	Innovative Biosystems for Self-sufficiency in Molecular Biology Reagents in Africa	Prof. Eson Karimuribo	Sokoine University of Agriculture	50,000	24 Months	<p>Strengthening University Policy Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1st draft of IP Guidelines developed to facilitate operationalization of the SUA IP Policy, consultations on-going. - Draft University-Industry linkage policy developed; consultations on-going <p>Networking with industry partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -COVID 19 affected possibility to import bioreactor from a partner institute, opted for local manufacturing by local company (TEMDO) - Lengthy and delayed procurement and funds transfer processes at the university delayed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RCU to provide procurement support where possible - Flexible timelines for implementation of workplan

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Agreement signed with TEMDO company for design and installation of a bioreactor for the project at SUA. -TEMDO has advanced in the design of the bioreactor - Networking visits to innovations hubs (RLabs and Kiota hubs) Capacity strengthening on IP, entrepreneurship and Innovation - 2 project staff attended a training on Patent Drafting and filling organized by COSTECH - Project staff were invited to collaborate in a proposal in collaboration with the French Embassy in Dar Es Salaam and two other Tanzania based universities , the project titled “Innoversity” has been awarded € 570,000) by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs - The university has supported organizing Annual innovation days to promote innovation awareness and culture among students and faculty. The 1st Innovation Day was held on May 7th 2022 	<p>the transfer of funds to TEMDO for construction of the bioreactor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback from the consultations on the IP Strategy and University-Industry linkage policy and instead develop guidelines, which may take longer than anticipated. 	
6	RSIF/ICBP/006	Strengthening Institutional Infrastructure for an Innovation Ecosystem	Prof. Onyewuchi Akaranta	University of Port Harcourt	50,000	24 Months	<p>Strengthening University Policy Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Draft University’s Technology Park Strategic Policy Document developed and is under review before final approval and printing. <p>IP and Entrepreneurship capacity development/ management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -An additional 47 faculty members, graduate students trained on competitive grants writing. 		

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
							- An additional 10 faculty members , students and professionals have been trained on research commercialization -3 certificates filed as at April 2021 secured, a further 2 patents have secured. Networking with industry partners -3 draft partnership MoUs with 3 industrial partners are under review by university's legal unit.		
Cooperability Grant (Innovation Grants, Type 2)									
1	RSIF/COOP/001	Smart Bee Hiving Technology	Dr. Damien Hanyurwimfura	University of Rwanda	49,995	24 Months	Project objective: To design and implement a smart bee hiving monitoring system using IoT devices for smart bee honey farming production. Status -Design of IoT tool developed. Testing and validation will be done after the 1 st prototype is available. - Data collection and procurement of relevant IoT devices for development of prototype ongoing - One paper published in sensor journal under MDPI publisher	-Delayed procurement, there were limited suppliers for some of the equipment needed for developing the prototype.	- The procurement process has now been initiated by the university
2	RSIF/COOP/002	Production durable et innovante de l'igname en Côte d'Ivoire par le contrôle des parasites post-récolte (Sustainable and innovative production of yams in Côte d'Ivoire by post-harvest pest control)	Dr. Brahama Camara	Universite Felix Houphouet-Boigny	50,000	24 Months	Project objective: To develop biopesticide from 4 plant extracts to treat fungi in yams Status. - Research work to develop a prototype ongoing, field work on data collection of infected yams and in vitro tests done, control tests done, -One article published based on research work done.	None	

Status of 2nd Round Research and Innovation Grants projects

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
Research Award Projects									
1	RSIF/RA/007	Exploiting the potential of solar-powered cooler for vaccine and perishable foods storage in remote areas of Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)	Dr. Juma Selemani	Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST)	83,996	2 yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 17 th March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 61,259 made on April 29, 2022		
2	RSIF/RA/008	Enhancing Biodegradable Sanitary Towel Production through Utilization of Seaweed and Banana Pseudo stem Residues: A Value Addition Strategy	Dr. Jacqueline Kisato	Kenyatta University	81,114	2 yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 23 rd March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 41,426 made on April 29, 2022 - Project inception meeting held on April 26, 2022		
3	RSIF/RA/009	Agricultural Data from Acoustic Monitoring	Dr. Emmanuel Ndashimye	University of Rwanda	83,957	2 yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 23 rd March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 55,257 made on April 29, 2022		
4	RSIF/RA/010	Electromagnetic Compatibility Monitoring and Prediction Models for Biomedical Devices	Dr. Omar Gatera	University of Rwanda	83,688	2yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 22 nd March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 56,269 made on April 29, 2022		
5	RSIF/RA/011	Tools for Evaluating African Lakes	Dr. Gerard Rushingabigwi	University of Rwanda	83,973	2yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 22 nd March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 56,096 made on April 29, 2022		
6	RSIF/RA/012	Innovating Out of the Urban Street Food safety Challenges	Dr. Abigael Ampomah Adaku	University of Ghana	84,000	2 yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 31 st March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 27,416 made on April 27, 2022		

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
7	RSIF/RA/013	Developing Orange Mesocarp and Red Onion Skin into Multifunctional Materials for Oilfield Applications	Pro. Onyewuchi Akaranta	University of Port Harcourt	83,994	2 yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 21 st April 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 51,519 made on May 10, 2022 -Project inception meeting held on May 4, 2022		
8	RSIF/RA/014	Practical development of microparticles-based assay for direct detection of viral RNA from non-invasive and complex animal matrices.	Prof. Christopher Kasanga	Sokoine University of Agriculture	84,500	2yrs	-Grant Agreement signed by icipe on March 30,2022. The university has not signed. Funds not disbursed.	The RCU has noted the slow response from the Project leader in updating the status or any challenges hindering signing of the agreement	icipe has testified follow up with the project leader on signing of the agreement including using alternative contacts at the university. Progress will be updated next quarter.
9	RSIF/RA/015	Self-Cleaning Solar Module for Enhanced Electrical Output	Prof. Robison Musembi	University of Nairobi	84,000	2 yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 11 th April 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 41,330 made on May 12, 2022		
10	RSIF/RA/016	Deep Learning Approaches to Mineral Prospect Modelling of Rare Earths in Carbonatites	Prof. Hudson Kalambuka	University of Nairobi	84,290	2yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 25 th March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 59,273 made on May 10, 2022		
Cooperability Grants									
1	RSIF/COOP/003	An Integrated Near Infra-Red and Magnetic Field System for Non-Invasive Monitoring of body Glucose and Na+/K+ Concentration anomalies: for Diabetes/Cancer Diagnosis	Dr. Mathew Munji	Kenyatta University	50,000	2 yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 29 th March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 42,455 made on April 27, 2022		

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	African Host University	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
2	RSIF/COOP/004	Infectious Diseases Outbreak Prediction using Geolocation Data with Machine Learning	Dr. Kizitoi Mkukeyeyezu	University of Rwanda	49,990	2yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 29 th March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 42,455 made on April 27, 2022		
3	RSIF/COOP/005	Large-Scale Manufacturing of Personal Protective Equipment for the Medical Industry in Nigeria and Sub-Saharan Africa via 3D Printing	Dr. Vitalis Anye	African University of Science and Technology (AUST)	50,000	2yrs	-Grant Agreement fully signed on 30 th March 2022 -Funds disbursements of USD 24,354 made on April 28, 2022		

Status of 1st Round RSIF/MozSkills Projects

No	Grant Ref No	Project Title	Project Leader	Mozambican Institution	Proposal Value (USD)	Duration	Status	Challenges noted	Proposed solution offered
Research Award									
1	RSIF/RA/017	Segurança alimentar, agronegócio sustentado e eficiência do uso de recursos na agricultura baseados em sistemas de observação da terra (Earth Observation System in support of Food security, sustainable agribusiness and resource use efficiency in agriculture)	Prof. Sosdito Mananze	Universidade Eduardo Mondlane	90,000	2yrs	Grant Agreement signed by icipe on June 14,2022		
2	RSIF/RA/018	Increasing resilience of smallholder farmers to Climate change through adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture practices in Mozambique	Dr. Oscar Chichongue	Mozambique Agricultural Research Institute (IIAM)	89,957	2yrs	Grant Agreement signed by icipe on June 14,2022		
3	RSIF/RA/019	Solar dryer integrated with natural rocks as energy storage for drying fruits and vegetables in Mozambique	Prof. Luis Cristovao	Universidade Zambeze	89,999	2yrs	Grant Agreement signed by icipe on June 14,2022		
4	RSIF/RA/020	Produção in vitro de espécies florestais premium nativas de Moçambique (In vitro production of premium forest native species of Mozambique)	Prof. Celia Martins	Universidade Eduardo Mondlane	89,997	2 yrs	Grant Agreement signed by icipe on June 14,2022		
RSUF/MozSkills Institutional Capacity Building Grants (ICBP)									
5	RSIF/ICBP/007	Criação de Empresas Sustentáveis de Estudantes como Alternativa de Auto-Emprego (Creation of Sustainable Student Companies as an alternative to self-employment)	Mr. Arnaldo Uetela	Instituto Superior Politecnico de Manica	69,999	2yrs	Grant Agreement signed by icipe on June 14,2022		
RSIF/MozSkills Cooperability Grants									
6	RSIF/COOP/006	Universidade Rovuma	Dr. Emilio Antonio	Biogas e Energia (Biogas and Energy)	69,979	2yrs	Grant Agreement signed by icipe on June 14,2022		

Annex 2: RSIF Scholars' Grievance Log (April – June 2022)

Reg No.	Complaint Received				Grievance Summary	Category	Redress Activities						
	Channel used	Name and address of complainant	Date of complaint	GRM Level (AHUs/RCU/EB)			Rectification of Issues			Resolved	Referred		
							Not Commenced	In Progress	Completed				
1	Email	RSIF Cohort III scholars funded by Nigeria	Various Follow-up Emails from scholars in different times April-June 2022		The Scholars would like to know when they will sign their contracts	Scholarship	X					In Progress	
2	Email	Bayero University scholars	01/04/2022		The Scholars were compelled to go back to their countries because of the strike at the university	Scholarship	X					In Progress	
3	Email	Supervisors of a Cohort 2 scholar from University of Gaston Berger	27/05/2022		The supervisors have ceased supervision due to dissatisfactory progress of the scholar.	Scholarship	X					In Progress	

Annex 3: List of RSIF Project Procurement as of 31 March 2022

No.	Procurement activity	Status
1.	Consultancy for the development and design of a Scholarships and Grants Information Management System	Ongoing until 30/12/2022
2.	Procurement of Translation and Simultaneous Interpretation services	Ongoing until 28/02/2023
3.	Consultancy for Planning and facilitation of the first Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF) Annual Conference	Ongoing until 31/12/2022
4.	Short term consultancy for a Communications officer	To extend until 28/02/2023
5.	Procurement of Consultancy Services for design and development of a mentorship platform for the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund	Ongoing until 30/11/2022
6.	Consultancy to Design and Deliver a Business Incubation Workshop for Entrepreneurial Scientists Implementing RSIF Funded Innovation Projects	Ongoing until 31/07/2022
7.	Consultancy Firm for Communications, Branding and Outreach for the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF).	Ongoing until 31/12/2022
8.	Video documentary and still photography services for the RSIF annual conference	Ongoing until 31/08/2022
9.	Consultancy for AGriDI Website development	To extend until 31/10/2022
10.	Consultant to Develop and Deliver high-quality Safeguarding Training Course and Training of Trainers (ToT) Pack for RSIF.	The final contract has been signed and will be ongoing until 28/01/2023
11.	Consultant to Facilitate the Creation and Implementation of RSIF Research Networks.	At standstill period after which a Notice of award will be issued to the consultant who scored the highest ..
12.	Individual Consultant to Coordinate the Virtual Management of the RSIF Conference to be held from 24-25 as a hybrid ² event.	Ongoing until 07/07/2022
13.	Short-term consultancy to provide Financial Management Services for RSIF Research and Innovation projects in Mozambique	Awaiting advert before 29 th July 2022