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Special Release

18 July, 2016

## **MACARTHUR FOUNDATION GRANT CHALLENGE TO AWARD ONE HUNDRED MILLION UNITED STATES DOLLARS (100,000,000 USD) TO A SINGLE PROPOSAL**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT!!!**

This is to inform the entire members of the University community that there is an opening for a MacArthur Foundation Grant Challenge to the tune of one hundred million United States Dollars (100,000,000 USD) to be awarded to a single proposal. The Foundation's competition, called *100&Change*, is open to organisations working in any field of endeavour anywhere; also the following should be noted:

- No single field or problem area is designated; proposals from any sector are encouraged.
- Proposals should articulate both the problem and the proposed solution, and must have a **charitable purpose**.
- Competitive proposals will be meaningful, verifiable, durable, and feasible.
- **The competition will not accept applications from individuals or government agencies.**
- Nonprofit and for-profit organisations can apply, subject to eligibility rules.
- Further details regarding the grant can be obtained from the competition website [www.100andchange.org](http://www.100andchange.org)

The competition was announced on June 2, 2016 and registration closes on September 2, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. Central. Applications will be accepted through 11:00 a.m. Central on Monday, October 3, 2016. Semi-Finalists will be announced in December 2016 and Finalists in the Summer of 2017. A group of Finalists will present their solutions during a live event in the fall of 2017. Selection of the final award recipient rests with MacArthur's Board of Directors.

In this connection, The MacArthur Grant Liaison Office shall coordinate efforts to ensure that the University of Ibadan submits a single proposal that will emerge tops in the competition; hence the Liaison Office of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in the University of Ibadan is requesting the following:

- a) That all Multidisciplinary Teams or any Team within the University or beyond, Educational or Private Institutes, Centres of Excellence, Registered Organisations and Associations that wish to partner with the University in putting up a winning proposal that would solve one of society's biggest problems.

- b) That all prospective applicants (in the above mentioned) should first indicate their interest by communicating the Office via this email address [mglo.unibadan@gmail.com](mailto:mglo.unibadan@gmail.com) or send sms only to 08036691939 immediately. Thereafter, they should propose the fields that they would like to apply and provide a list of their members with a brief biodata.

**YOUR PROPOSAL SHOULD INCLUDE:**

**c) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (150 words)**

Provide a brief summary description of the problem that you are committed to solving and the solution that you are proposing. Your Executive Summary should be contained in a single paragraph. Focus on delivering a compelling overview so that the Evaluation Panel members assigned to score your application will want to read more. Your Executive Summary, along with other portions of your application, may be extracted and revealed to the public. Therefore, the paragraph should not require any other context to explain clearly the problem and your proposed solution. This is your opportunity to make a strong first impression.

**d) WHAT'S THE PROBLEM & HOW WILL YOU SOLVE IT?  
THE PROBLEM STATEMENT (250 words)**

Please provide a broad description of the specific problem that your team is committed to solving. Identify who or what is impacted by this problem. Offer an explanation of the current resources that are available to address the problem. Focus on why those resources are insufficient to support meaningful progress toward one or more aspects of a solution. Explain any previous attempts to solve the problem, if there were any, and/or why the problem persists within the current environment. Later, you will be asked to explain in detail your proposed solution; here, focus on defining the problem and setting the stage for your proposed solution.

**e) YOUR SOLUTION (250 words)**

Describe your proposed solution in general terms, using layman's language, and explain how it will make meaningful progress toward a solution to the problem you've identified. What will be the direct benefits (outcomes) of this proposed solution? Who are the direct beneficiaries? Explain how and for how long these benefits will be sustained once the solution has been implemented. Why have you chosen this particular solution, and what is the best argument for this approach, as compared to potential alternatives? Focus here on the broad goals that you seek to achieve. Describe any tactical or operational plans that you will employ in answering the next two questions.

**f) YOUR TACTICS & TECHNOLOGY (200 words)**

Since you have explained generally WHAT your team is offering; now, offer specific details of your proposed solution, describing your technical approach and/or related technology. Explain exactly HOW you will implement the proposed solution and the circumstances under which you will achieve optimal results.

If your plan or proposed solution involves the creation or use of any technology or other products, ideas, or processes on which copyright will be asserted or patents claimed, or if your proposed solution relies on existing specific technology, products, ideas, or processes on which there are existing claims of copyright or patent rights, please review the Intellectual Property Policy, which describes the treatment of Grant Work Product (as defined therein) funded by the MacArthur Foundation.

**g) WHAT'S THE EVIDENCE THAT YOUR SOLUTION WILL WORK?  
EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS (250 words)**

Present the results of any external evaluations that your proposed solution has undergone. Reference any literature or scientific consensus to verify that any actions you describe will lead to the outcomes that you predict. Explain the results of any pilot project or cases studies that have been completed using your proposed solution, if applicable.

**h) RISK ASSESSMENT (200 words)**

Please describe the principal risks or threats to the short- and long-term success of the proposed solution and your plans to address them. Include a consideration of whether your solution might trigger a response from policymakers and/or any public officials that might pose a risk. Persuade the judges that your team understands any specific operational or tactical hurdles.

**i) EVALUATION (250 words)**

If you are selected as a Semi-Finalist, you will be asked to submit a monitoring, evaluation, and learning plan. For an example, please review the Guidance for Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning. For now, briefly describe how you plan to evaluate that your solution will have worked. How will you demonstrate what is working, why, under what conditions, and for whom?

A team of experts would preview all entries and only Teams with viable projects would be invited for further discussions and preparation for the BIG proposal.

Thank you.

**O. I. Olukoya, MNIM, FPA**  
**Registrar**