

## TRAVEL GRANT OPPORTUNITY

**Are you a biodiversity conservation/Bioinformatics specialist keen to share your research work and be trained at the PAFFA 6 conference?**



### **About Biodiversity and PAFFA 6**

Knowledge of freshwater fish biodiversity in African is grossly incomplete and the knowledge gap is greatest in Sub-Saharan African, where most biodiversity is concentrated. Addressing this problem requires increased participation of fish specialists from Sub-Saharan African countries in monitoring freshwater fish communities and populations; expanding repositories of fish specimens for use in research, including repositories in Sub-Saharan African countries; increased technology for gathering and accessing freshwater fish and fisheries data, and increased capacity of specialists from Sub-Saharan African countries to engage in fish and fisheries research.

The organizing committee of Pan African Fish and Fisheries Association (PAFFA) Sixth International conference with funding from the JRS Biodiversity Foundation is offering grants to cover for travel costs and accommodation to conference participants whose abstracts in the field of biodiversity data and information systems in fish and fisheries have been accepted for oral and poster presentation at the PAFFA conference.

As a pledge to their mission of increasing access to and use of information that will lead to greater biodiversity conservation and more sustainable development in sub-Saharan Africa, JRS Biodiversity Foundation through the PAFFA conference is awarding 12 grants to five Malawian post graduate students and seven African national participants. Limited spaces are available to those who want to be trained in Bioinformatics and who should respond to the Final Announcement at the PAFFA 2018 website [www.bunda.luanar.mw/conference/paffa/index.php](http://www.bunda.luanar.mw/conference/paffa/index.php)

### **The Grant Package**

Successful awardees will attend a side event on **Databases and Biodiversity Informatics (Bioinformatics) in fish and fisheries research** that will be organized at the PAFFA conference as one way of knowledge sharing with stakeholders be conservationists, public, investors and policymakers who are the key players in preserving the biodiversity in the fisheries sector.

Costs that will be covered include;

- A return air ticket and ground transfers
- Accommodation for 6 days
- Meals (Full Board)
- Registration fees for the conference

### **Who can apply?**

- African Scientists (Living within and Outside Africa)

- Researchers whose Paper/Poster has been accepted for presentation at PAFFA 6 Conference
- Those who have not sent abstract are requested to respond to Final Call of the conference and submit an abstract for consideration.

### **How to apply?**

The following should be included in the application process:

- Send a full oral PowerPoint and/or poster presentation of the accepted research abstract / abstract to be considered
- Motivation statement of not more than 150 words on how your participation to the PAFFA and the side event will benefit you as an individual involved in Fish systematics, biodiversity research and data management.

### **Selection Criteria**

The quality and relevance of the presentation, initiative or idea will be evaluated in terms of

- the applicability and relevance to the goals, the scope and values of JRS Biodiversity Foundation
- the contribution of the paper to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

### **Submission**

Applications must be submitted before **31<sup>st</sup> August 2018** to the following address:

[paffa2018@gmail.com](mailto:paffa2018@gmail.com) with copies to [mussahappy@gmail.com](mailto:mussahappy@gmail.com) and [ekaunda@bunda.luanar.mw](mailto:ekaunda@bunda.luanar.mw)