

Call: Expressions of Interest for CARTA Research Hubs

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CARTA seeks to create CARTA research hubs at our partner institutions as we progress through the third phase of the CARTA strategy (2021-2025) dubbed CARTA2025.

CARTA2025 aims to strengthen our proven CARTA approach to research capacity strengthening by establishing research hubs aimed at providing research knowledge, **training and expertise** in specific thematic areas. From the existing network of CARTA scientists, we seek to identify areas of expertise that will lay the foundation for research in areas of strategic interest for CARTA partners and the countries where they sit in line with regional and continental development agendas. The research hubs will build on and consolidate the research expertise existing in the CARTA network and will bring in new collaborators as needed to strengthen a research hub.

CARTA will provide small-scale support for the initial conceptualization and to facilitate the establishment of the research hubs. A core objective of the hubs is to attain their own long-term sustainability.

Selection process

The selection will take place in two steps: 1) Expression of Interest, and 2) submission of Extended Concept for the establishment of a research hub. Submission of the Expression of Interest is open to all CARTA African partner institutions while submission of the Extended Concept is by invitation only after positive evaluation of the EoI. For more details on the evaluation process see the document “How the CARTA Research Hubs will be evaluated”.

This is the Call for Expressions of Interest (EoI).

Eligibility

- The lead applicant must be academic research staff of a CARTA African partner university.
- The team must include at least one other CARTA African partner institution and one CARTA non-African partner institution.
- The teams can include external collaborators to bring in expertise and skills not available within the Consortium.
- The team must include and build on the expertise of CARTA graduates.
- The work must include elements of the CARTA interventions to strengthen research, research training, and research management capacities.

How to apply

Submissions will be submitted via e-mail to carta@aphrc.org with CC to mvicente-crespo@aphrc.org with subject SUBMISSION OF EoI FOR CARTA RESEARCH HUB **before February 28, 2023 at 5pm EAT.**

Teams must submit:

1. **ONE pdf document** with a maximum of 6 pages (Times New Roman size 11; page size “Letter”; Margins “Normal”) including:
 - A short 2-page concept describing the research area that the hub will focus on and why this area, ie link it to existing expertise and national and regional needs;
 - The strengths of the collaborating team (lead and collaborators) proposed (up to 1000 words) including details of at least one academic per institution involved (full name, position, department, school if applicable, institution, e-mail and phone number);
 - Under this section the team may describe capacities that they wish to add onto the team through new partnerships, whether a suitable partner has been identified or not (up to 500 words);
 - Strategy to incorporate CARTA graduates and provide opportunities for ECRs’ career growth (up to 500 words);
 - A plan for sustainable research capacity strengthening and (up to 500 words);
 - A research grant management plan (up to 500 words); and
 - A plan to engage stakeholders (up to 500 words).

And

2. **ONE pdf document** with the 2-page CV’s of the PI and key co-investigators (at least one per partner institution)

It is important to note that not all the concepts need to include the CARTA focal persons, rather experts in the research area who will be involved in the implementation of the research should be the priority, but integrating the focal persons will be important to work towards the sustainable incorporation of the CARTA interventions within the hub. However, **hubs must include CARTA graduates at their core.**