

## **MRI FAQs**

- 1. Can the proposal be submitted in languages other than English?**
  - Yes, proposals can be submitted in English, French, or Portuguese.
- 2. Can I apply as an individual and also as part of a group?**
  - You can submit only one application: either as an individual or as part of a group. You cannot apply both ways.
- 3. I don't have a PhD; can I still apply for an individual initiative?**
  - No, PhD candidates are welcome to be part of a group but **cannot** apply for an individual grant. Kindly note that the grant is not intended to fund the completion of a PhD thesis.
- 4. Can PhD students be part of a research group?**
  - Yes, PhD students can be members of a research group but cannot serve as the team coordinator. The coordinator must hold a PhD.
- 5. Can male team members be included in a female-led research team for the MRI Female Scholars call?**
  - Yes, male team members can be included in a female-led research team, but only in exceptional cases and with proper justification.
- 6. Must you be a member of CODESRIA to apply?**
  - No, you do not have to be a member of CODESRIA to apply; however, we encourage applicants to submit their membership.
- 7. Is there a proposal template?**
  - There is no specific template for submitting the proposal. However, the Call for Applications outlines the key sections expected in the proposal (e.g., research questions, methodology, etc.).
- 8. Can I re-submit a revised proposal if it was not successful in a previous call?**
  - Yes, you can resubmit a revised proposal in response to a new call, provided you address the feedback received and make significant improvements to the original submission.
- 9. Are non-African nationals eligible to apply?**
  - Only nationals of African countries are eligible to apply for the MRI grants. While applicants may reside either on the African continent or abroad, priority is given to scholars based in Africa, in line with CODESRIA guidelines.
- 10. What is required for the institutional affiliation letter?**
  - The institutional affiliation letter should confirm your association with the institution and be signed by an authorized official. Independent researchers, however, may not be required to provide this letter.

**11. How can I Access CODESRIA's strategic plan?**

- You can access CODESRIA's strategic plan using this link: [https://codesria.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/CODESRIA-Strategic-Plan\\_2023-2027-17122024.pdf](https://codesria.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/CODESRIA-Strategic-Plan_2023-2027-17122024.pdf)

**12. Are there any limits or restrictions on the budget?**

- The grant can be used to cover costs such as data collection, data analysis, books, and materials. Specific expenditures may be included in your budget as long as they are justified and within the funding limits. A budget template is provided to help you outline these costs. Please note that the grant does not cover researchers' honoraria/fees.

**13. How many years of experience of post-PhD are required to apply for an MRI?**

- For the General and Female Scholars' grants, the coordinator must hold a PhD, with no requirement for the number of years since obtaining it, while applicants for the Advanced Senior Research Fellowship grant must have obtained their PhDs at least 15 years prior to the submission date.

**14. What is the exact budget amount for the Advanced Senior Research Fellowship grant?**

- The proposed budget will be evaluated based on the needs outlined in your proposal.

**15. What are the main selection criteria?**

- Projects should address relevant topics, adopt a strong and ambitious theoretical approach, and incorporate innovative methods. For more detailed guidelines, please refer to the specific calls for proposals.

**16. I am a member of an NGO/Consulting Firm; can I apply for the MRI?**

- Applications from consultants and members of NGOs are not eligible. However, independent researchers are eligible to apply.

**17. Can a group member belong to a discipline outside of the humanities and social sciences?**

- Yes, a member of a group can belong to a discipline outside of the humanities and social sciences, provided their involvement is properly justified.

**18. Is the MRI program open to proposals related to higher education?**

- No, the MRI program does not accept proposals related to higher education. The Council has other programs that address this topic. For more information, please visit the CODESRIA website.