

PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC Partnership in Green Chemistry for Life

Guidelines for application for PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC research grants in green chemistry

Purpose

1. [PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC research grants in green chemistry](#) are intended to harness talents of young scientists worldwide for promoting the contribution of green chemistry for protection of the environment and human health, creation of new environmentally-sound science-based technologies, and identification of novel vistas for energy savings and use of natural resources.
2. The aim of the Guidelines for application for *PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC research grants in green chemistry* is to generate and apply new scientific knowledge in green chemistry through the promotion of the activities of young scientists in this area. It is also to reinforce the research capacities of the participating institutes and cooperation between them, and to increase awareness of policy - and decision-makers in governments, science and industry, and the public at large, of the opportunities offered by advances in green chemistry.

Research grants

3. PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC research grants in green chemistry are awarded to enable young scientists to carry out innovative scientific research projects in green chemistry that advance scientific knowledge and the use of the outputs to respond to one or more of the 12 (twelve) principles of green chemistry.
4. These grants are awarded to young scientists aged 39 or less (on the date of the deadline for submission of applications) for research projects having a work plan demonstrating that the proposed research will be completed in one year.
5. A PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC grantee is normally entrusted with full responsibility for implementation of his/her research project.
6. No grant or additional funding will be given by PhosAgro, UNESCO or IUPAC to the home institute of the grantee or, in the case of any part of the project having to be carried out away from the grantee's home institute, to the institute receiving the grant, and/or members of the research team he/she is heading, to cover research costs, bench fees or overheads.

7. Normally, in each call no more than one candidate per home institute will be awarded a grant.

8. Up to US\$30,000 (thirty thousand US dollars) will be provided for each research grant.

9. There will be 1 (one) call for applications for PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC research grants per year. The call will be issued for applications for grants to be awarded in 2023 for projects in green chemistry and for projects concerning phosphogypsum. The closing date for the submission of applications will be 30 June 2023.

10. Retrospective applications cannot be considered.

11. PhosAgro, UNESCO and IUPAC do not recognize recipients of their grants as agents or employees of the Partnership and accept no liability for their actions and activities, or for their health and safety. It is the responsibility of the grantee to ensure that the home institute and host institute(s) are fully covered by the appropriate insurances.

12. Medical and travel insurance are not provided by PhosAgro, UNESCO or IUPAC. Recipients of grants are urged to ensure that they are fully covered by the necessary insurances.

13. PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC research grants in green chemistry are not endowed with any tax privileges. It is the responsibility of the grantee to pay any taxes levied by a national authority.

Use of funds

14. The funds (up to US\$30,000) provided for each research grant may only be used for activities that enable promising research in green chemistry, and are proposed, and to be carried out, by young scientists, in particular through regional or international scientific collaboration and/or science/industry co-operation.

15. The resources made available through a grant may not be utilized for purposes other than those enumerated below unless recommended otherwise by the International Scientific Jury of the PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC Partnership in Green Chemistry for Life that is responsible for evaluating the project proposals received:

(a) Travel and living expenses that are indispensable for implementation of the research project and relate to:

i. research work of the grantee (and/or of a member(s) of the research team he/she is heading if involved in implementation of the research project) to be carried outside the country of his/her institute of origin;

ii. the acquisition abroad of additional research experience required for the grantee (and/or for a member(s) of the research team he/she is heading if

involved in implementation of the research project) in research methods to be applied for execution of the research project (no more than 50% of the grant);

iii. consultation at the grantee's institute of origin with invited foreign experts and/or the holding there of meetings of experts (no more than 20% of the grant);

iv. testing trials in co-operation with industry or environmental/health institutions, (no more than 30% of the grant); and

v. participation by the grantee (and/or by a member(s) of the research team he/she is heading if involved in implementation of the research project) in regional/international events connected to the topic of the grantee's research project and/or dissemination of information on its results (no more than 15% of the grant);

(b) purchase/rental of research equipment and/or consumables required for the project, subject to the approval by the International Scientific Jury on an item-by-item basis (no more than 50% of the grant); and

(c) preparation and publication of information material and reports on the project (e.g. editing, graphic design, printing, etc.), and communication and organizational expenses (no more than 10% of the grant). Any project proposal containing expenditures not enumerated in this point, yet deemed relevant to the research project, will be examined on a case-by-case basis by the International Scientific Jury.

Eligibility and receivable applications

16. To be eligible for a PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC research grant in green chemistry a candidate should:

- (a) be a young scientist aged 39 (thirty-nine) or less (on the date of the deadline for submission of application);
- (b) hold a PhD or equivalent in chemistry or an interdisciplinary allied area;
- (c) have at least 3 (three) publications in recognized scientific journals; and
- (d) have submitted no more than one project proposal for the call for applications for which he/she is submitting an application.

17. To be considered, a project proposal should:

- (a) have as its objective innovative research that advances green chemistry and/or the use of its outputs as called for by the **12 (twelve) principles of green chemistry**;
- (b) contain clear evidence that if awarded the PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC grant will be used to carry out key research required for implementation of the proposed project;
- (c) include a work plan of the project that shows that the research proposed will be completed in one year; and

(d) contain evidence that the research proposed in the work plan of the project will be carried out by the candidate, either individually or with the team of scientists he/she may be heading.

18. Candidates should ensure that their application is complete. Incomplete applications or applications that do not correspond to the criteria defined in these guidelines will be rejected.

Submission of applications

19. Applications for the grants to be awarded in 2023 should reach the Secretariat of the International Scientific Jury of the PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC Partnership in Green Chemistry for Life no later than 30 June 2023.

20. **Application forms may be downloaded from a zipped file that is available on the [web-page](https://www.unesco.org/en/basic-sciences/green-chemistry):**

<https://www.unesco.org/en/basic-sciences/green-chemistry>.

21. Completed application forms, typewritten in English or in French, should be sent electronically to the Secretariat of the International Scientific Jury of the PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC Partnership in Green Chemistry for Life **together with the following documents** also written in English or in French:

(a) A synopsis of the proposed research project in green chemistry of no more than 6 (six) A4-sized pages of single -spaced text (in Times New Roman font size 12) set out under the following headings and written on the **project proposal form**, specifically prepared for this purpose

- i. title of the proposed research project in green chemistry;
- ii. purpose, including the immediate and longer-term aims;
- iii. background relating the new knowledge or innovations to be brought about by the proposed research to the present body of knowledge;
- iv. plan, including details of the experiments to be carried out;
- v. Principal expected results and their potential or immediate application(s) with a relevant reference to some of the 17 **Sustainable Development Goals** adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by **2030**.

vi. suitability of the home institute for the project to be carried out and reasons for choosing the host institute (s)/science centre(s)/science network(s) to be involved in its implementation.

Any synopsis of the proposed research project not set out under the foregoing 6 (six) headings will NOT be considered.

In addition:

- ◆ a timetable of the experimental work to be carried out is to be set out on an extra page

◆ a budgetary breakdown of the proposed use of the funds (in line with guidelines recapitulated in paragraph 15) required for implementation of the research project is to be provided on a separate page(s)

(b) A short curriculum vitae (academic qualifications and positions held/other academic activities carried out; major fields of training and research experience; and, in no more than five lines, current research work) with a list of publications – an asterisk should be marked next to the three most significant ones. Abstracts should not be listed.

(c) A copy of the candidate's PhD diploma or diploma of equivalent degree (including translation of the diploma into English or French if the original is neither in English nor in French).

(d) A letter of approval from the candidate's home institute in which he/she is a staff member and at which the proposed research project will be carried out **(on the official approval form referred to below)** signed by the appointed head of the institute or department, and countersigned by the head of the research group(s) in which the candidate will be working, acknowledging that the candidate will be neither an agent nor employee of PhosAgro, UNESCO or IUPAC, which will accept no liability for his/her actions or for his/her health and safety, and that these conditions will also apply to any member of his/her research team who may be involved in the proposed research project; approving the proposed project and those stays away from the institute envisaged in the work plan outlined in the project proposal; and confirming that responsibility for carrying out the project will lie with the candidate, and that the institute will make its facilities needed for its execution available to him/her (and the member(s) of his/her research team, if applicable) without asking PhosAgro, UNESCO or IUPAC, or the candidate (or member(s) of his/her research team, if applicable), for any additional research grant or funding. This letter should be provided on the **official approval form** prepared for this purpose.

(e) A letter of acceptance from the host institute (in the case of any part of the project having to be carried out away from the home institute) on the official acceptance form referred to below, signed by the appointed head of the institute or department, and countersigned by the head of the research group(s) in which the candidate (and/or member(s) of his/her research team, if involved in implementation in the project) will be working, acknowledging that the candidate (and/or member(s) of his/her research team, if involved in implementation in the project) will be neither an agent(s) nor employee(s) of PhosAgro, UNESCO or IUPAC, which will accept no liability for his/her(their) actions or for his/her(their) health and safety, and confirming the institute's readiness to host the candidate (and/or member(s) of his/her research team, if

involved in implementation in the project) and to make its relevant facilities available to him/her(them) to pursue the research or training proposed without asking PhosAgro, UNESCO or IUPAC or the candidate (or member(s) of his/her research team) for any additional research grant, bench fees or overheads, and listing those dates the candidate (or member(s) of his/her research team) will be spending/has already spent at the institute. This letter should be provided on the **official acceptance form** prepared for this purpose. If there is to be more than one host institute, there should be a letter of acceptance from each institute.

(f) A letter of recommendation from an experienced scientist who knows the applicant's work supporting the application and assessing the candidate's scientific skills and ability to carry out the proposed research project. This letter should be written on headed paper of the referee's laboratory, signed by the referee and should be sent directly to the **Chair of the International Scientific Jury** of the PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC Partnership in Green Chemistry for Life, independently of the other documents. It should be sent electronically as a PDF file. With the exception of the reference letter, which should be sent separately by the scientist writing it, candidates should send all the documents electronically **in PDF format, preferably as a single PDF file and in the following order:**

- i. application form;
- ii. project proposal form giving the synopsis of the proposed research project;
- iii. timetable of the experimental work to be carried out;
- iv. budgetary breakdown of the proposed use of the funds required for implementation of the research project;
- v. curriculum vitae;
- vi. copy of PhD diploma or diploma of equivalent degree;
- vii. letter of approval from the home institute at which the candidate is employed when carrying out the project: and
- viii. letter of acceptance from the host institute(s).

Candidates are to keep one complete copy of the entire application with original signatures in paper form (with the exception of the reference letter, which is to be sent separately by the scientist writing it) so that they may submit it to the Chair of the International Scientific Jury if so requested.

22. Candidates having submitted an application will be sent an electronic acknowledgement of the application within 2 (two) weeks of its receipt.

23. Applications from candidates who have in any way modified the PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC Application Form or the Project Proposal Form will immediately be rejected, irrespective of the quality of the application.

24. Applications submitted will not be returned to the candidates.

Evaluation and awarding of grants

25. Applications will be assessed by the International Scientific Jury of the PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC Partnership in Green Chemistry for Life.

26. The Chair of the International Scientific Jury will inform candidates on the decision taken on their application. Candidates having submitted an application for a grant to be awarded in 2023 will be informed of this decision before 30 September 2023.

27. A grant should be taken up within 5 (five) months of notification of its award. Any delay will require the authorization of the Chair of the International Scientific Jury.

28. The funds are granted by means of a contract established by UNESCO.

29. A letter from the International Scientific Jury recommending support for the project from other international, regional or national science programmes will be sent to those candidates having submitted a promising project proposal for which it was not possible to provide a PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC Grant due to budgetary limitations.

Reporting and Acknowledgements

30. Grantees **must** prepare reporting documents that will be specified in the contract established by UNESCO for the implementation of the research projects they proposed. These documents are to be sent electronically and by mail as required to the **Chair of the International Scientific Jury**.

31. If judged relevant by the International Scientific Jury, a grantee may be invited to make a presentation on his/her research project at a meeting of the Jury or at an international meeting related to green chemistry.

32. The PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC grant should be acknowledged in any work published relating to the project funded, and one reprint of each article should be sent electronically to the Chair of the International Scientific Jury.

Distinctions

33. Grantees having carried out an outstanding research project may be awarded a PhosAgro/UNESCO/IUPAC distinction in green chemistry in recognition of the quality of the research they carried out, and to promote awareness of the results they obtained and foster use of these results or follow up research. The distinction may, in particular, take the form of a follow-up grant to develop the promising research carried out, or another form to be recommended by the Jury on case-by-case basis.