UCT’s 2030 Vision for Research strives to unleash knowledge in, for and from Afrika to redefine and co-create a sustainable global future. The implementation plan for this vision recognises the need for enhanced research support systems, facilitating approaches to inter-and transdisciplinary research and to engaged scholarship, development of the next generation of transformed and diverse research leaders, the nurturing of strong postgraduate programmes and the facilitating of impactful research programmes, particularly those focused on grand challenges core to Africa.

The 2030 Research Catalytic Programme developed to deliver on this implementation, under the custodianship and leadership of the DVC responsible for Research & Internationalisation, Prof Sue Harrison, will consist of various initiatives.

The first of these is the UCT Vision 2030 Grand Challenges Programme, which seeks to provide impetus to further advance on UCT’s research and innovation capabilities for addressing Africa’s Grand Challenges. Included in the Programme is **seed funding for one-year pilot projects** to stimulate research and piloting of ideas towards formation of large-scale programmes addressing Africa-focused grand challenges. Through this initiative we aim to build and leverage on our unique and emerging strengths in a way that will enable and enhance UCT’s capacity to contribute meaningfully to generating new knowledge relevant to, and for the benefit of, the City of Cape Town and its surrounding areas, South Africa and our continent while, importantly, also contributing positively to the global knowledge base from our Global South perspective. Through the Initiative we also seek to build the next generation of transformed and diverse research leaders to maintain sustained research excellence at UCT.

Template instructions:

1. Conform to all page limits, formatting and other requirements:
   1. Page limit: 6-10 pages
   2. Formatting: Arial font 11, single spaced, 2cm margins
2. Include additional files where indicated (a one-page Theory of Change, a budget, budget justification [no more than 2 pages], and a maximum 3-page biosketch for principal investigator and co-investigators must be included)
3. Save your completed proposal as a single pdf file named as “Grand Challenges Pilot – SURNAME, NAME,” e.g. “Grand Challenges Pilot – Baartman, Sarah.”
4. Email pdf to [internationalgrants@uct.ac.za](mailto:internationalgrants@uct.ac.za) on or before the due date.

Abstract

In words for a general audience, summarise the pilot project and its expected outcomes, including the potential to develop to expanded projects that will address at least two of the Sustainable Development Goals, have translational and policy impact and forge significant collaboration with external non-academic partners. The abstract must not exceed 300 words.

DELETE THIS TEXT AND INSERT YOUR ABSTRACT IN THIS SECTION

Scope of Work

Provide detail on the scope of work, including the objective(s), the significance and relevance of the proposed work, the methodology or approach to be used, the expected outputs and outcomes, and the contribution that a successful project, if expanded to full-scale, will make in delivering on the University’s strategic goals. This section should cover:

* The grand challenge/s important to Africa, the UCT Vision 2030 research priority areas and which SDGs the pilot project addresses (see Annexure A of the call release)
* The pilot project’s geographic focus
* The inter- or transdisciplinary approach, built on disciplinary strengths from multiple research teams from at least three departments, drawn from at least two faculties
* How the pilot project will lead to a full-scale research or innovation project
* How funding will be leveraged to support the full-scale research project
* How a full-scale project, if developed, will have impact
* Collaboration opportunities with at least two external non-academic partners; for example, NGOs, policy makers, civil society and/or industry
* How a demographically (gender and race) diverse project leadership team will be established

DELETE THIS TEXT AND INSERT YOUR SCOPE OF WORK IN THIS SECTION

Theory of change

Produce a theory of change model for your project. An example is provided as a separate PowerPoint file with this template. Email the [International Grants Hub](mailto:internationalgrants@uct.ac.za?subject=Sustainability%20call%20-%20Theory%20of%20change%20info) for more information on developing a theory of change.

Team Composition and Biosketches

Identify the senior (principal and co-principal investigators) and key individuals (co-investigators) who will contribute to the pilot project’s success. Include the faculty and department they are affiliated to, their roles and responsibilities in the pilot project, and demographics. Please attach a maximum 3-page biosketch (template provided as a guide) of the principal/co-principal and co-investigators.

DELETE THIS TEXT AND INSERT YOUR TEAM COMPOSITION IN THIS SECTION

Budget

Please use the budget template provided and attach a budget justification (no more than 2 pages).