



Conference/Workshop Organisation Funding Scheme (CWOFS)

Introduction

The CWOFS provides funding support for the organization of conferences and workshops on themes/issues of national importance and/or on priority areas. The objective of this scheme is to allow a maximum number of scientists and researchers to benefit from the experience of eminent scientists/specialists who are ready to share their knowledge and insights with others.

Purpose of the Scheme

The Conference/Workshop Organisation Funding Scheme (CWOFS) is a scheme intended to support knowledge sharing among policy makers, researchers, administrators, young graduates and the public in general with external organisations and individual scientists/professionals with international experience on issues of relevance to Mauritius. CWOFS is intended to run annually from 2011 until 2015 and aims at holding 4-5 Conferences/Workshops in each year. It will also provide a forum for more international visibility for Mauritius in the area of R&D.

The CWOFS will allow:

- Multi-disciplinarity –exchange among researchers working in a variety of different areas within the context of one specific theme/issue.
- Multi-generational exchange – Will provide a forum where participants, from undergraduate students to senior scientists, executives and professionals, can meet and share knowledge and experience.
- International – The resource person(s) will be internationally recognized.
- Tutorials/Proceedings – Most conferences will have conference tutorials and proceedings
- Networking – The conference/workshop will be an excellent opportunity for networking and to extend partnership/collaboration possibilities.
- Keynote Speakers – World renowned keynote and invited speakers.
- Awards – Some of the conferences may have awards for best paper and best PhD paper.

- Industry Tours – If related to industrial development, the conference/workshop may include an industry specific tour.
- Indexing – Conference proceedings are indexed by leading indexing organizations.

Eligibility

The scheme is targeted to meet the needs of Mauritius in terms of exchanges/capacity building through conferences and workshops. Each request will need to fully justify why such a conference or workshop should be held and how it will benefit Mauritius. The Conference or Workshop may be organized by one lead institution and/or in collaboration with other organizations. Only Ministries, Parastatal Bodies, Tertiary Education Institutions and registered NGO's shall be eligible to apply for support under this scheme. Each event shall be organized for a programme over 3-4 days.

Funding

The MRC will fund up to a maximum of Rs 250,000 or half the total cost, whichever is the less. Co-funding, sponsorships and part-funding are highly encouraged.

Procedure

Applications have to be submitted to the MRC through the Head of the institution in the prescribed form at least three months before the event. The application will be assessed by an independent committee which will make recommendations to the Board of the MRC. The decision of the Board will be final. The applicant institution will be informed of the Board's decision and follow-up action will be initiated.

Organisation

The working language of the conference/workshop will be English or French.

The conference/workshop will be of interest to:

- Policy makers and politicians concerned with the design and implementation of national and international S&T and Socio-economy policies and strategies;
- Members of Academia. Research Institutions;

- R&D managers in funding agencies, in universities and research institutes, and in the business sector;
- Scientists and Researchers in the field of S&T and SE studies;
- Science publishers and editors, writers and journalists;

Terms and Conditions

The total cost for organizing a Conference or Workshop represents mainly the cost of international travel , accommodation, local travel and incidentals, conference/workshop logistics, renting of venue, tea breaks and lunches for participants, conference/workshop material (hand-outs, CDs, other printed matter), and Conference/Workshop proceedings/report. The Conference/Workshop will have an Organizing Committee.

The following documents have to be submitted with the application form:

1. Cover letter from the Head of the lead institution
2. Confirmation letter from overseas expert/specialist/organization/institution/University
3. Full CV of expert/specialist/resource person
4. Proof of air ticket and hotel booking (if applicable)
5. Official letter(s) of support/sponsorship/co-funding/part-funding
6. Certified itemized account of expenditure

Following the organization of the Conference/Workshop, the Organising Committee will submit a full report of the outcome of the International Conference/Workshop.

Proceedings and reports of the Conference/Workshop will be prepared and published or shared in digital format within 2 months.