



# Research Funding Opportunity

## **About Us.**

Heshima Seeds Limited is a startup seed company based in Babati, Tanzania. We provide smallholder farmers with the quality sunflower seeds and services they need to sustainably increase their yields.

## **About the Competition.**

We are hosting an undergraduate competition to find innovative and practical solutions to sunflower production in Tanzania. The winner will receive a grant of up to 500,000 TSH to sponsor their research.

The theme of this year's competition is "**Cost-Effective Methods to Increase Sunflower Yields for Smallholder Farmers**".

## **Eligibility.**

The competition is open to 2nd year students who are pursuing a Bachelors of Science in an agriculture topic and who will be a full-time, 3rd year student in 2025. The student must attend Sokoine University of Agriculture, must be in good-standing with the university, must have proficiency in English, and must demonstrate an interest in sunflowers. The student must also agree to Heshima Seeds Limited's oversight of the use of the grant money.

## **Competition Guidelines.**

All eligible students are encouraged to submit all of the following documents to us:

1. A 1-page cover letter introducing yourself and your proposed research project.
2. A 3-page proposal describing observations, a hypothesis, a methodology to test the hypothesis, a project timeline, and a general budget describing the use of funds up to 500,000 TSH. **Please note that the grant MUST be used as budgeted and cannot be used to pay for school fees or for personal expenses!**
3. A 2-page resume describing relevant experiences and providing three references.

## **Competition Timeline.**

- **Proposals should be submitted by midnight on August 30, 2024. Any proposals submitted after the deadline or that do not meet the requirements will be disqualified.**
- All proposals will be reviewed by September 20, 2024 and all candidates will receive a notice. The top five candidates will be interviewed and will have an opportunity to submit revisions to their proposals and a detailed budget by September 30, 2024.
- The winning proposal will be selected by October 12, 2024.
- Funds are dispersed at the beginning of the research project.

## **Contact Details**

Please send the above requested documents to [admin@heshima.co](mailto:admin@heshima.co) by the deadline.

Goodluck!