

## **ARTERIAL NETWORK PROJECT CALL**

### **RESEARCH INTO THE IMPACT OF THE ARTS ON AFRICA'S ECONOMY**

The Arterial Network is an informal, dynamic network of individuals, institutions and donor partners working to support the effectiveness and growth of the African arts and culture civil society and to enhance the sustainability of creative industries in Africa.

#### **Project**

The Network invites interested parties to apply to organise a research and mentorship programme around the African arts economy that will both help to develop experts in the field on the continent and contribute to new research related to the impact of the creative sector on the arts economies of various African countries and regions.

#### **Problem statement**

Given the general state of underdevelopment on the African continent, the arts are often marginalised by those in authority as these are deemed to be “luxury items” that have little economic, developmental, poverty alleviation or job creation roles.

While the ideal would be for the creative and cultural sectors to be supported on their own terms as human rights (as articulated in Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights), in the African context, it would serve the arts and cultural development if they could be shown to have a broader economic and developmental value.

#### **Aims of Project**

1. to identify African researchers in the field of the arts economy and provide them with additional skills, training and mentoring to become increasingly proficient in researching and presenting the case for the economic and developmental value of the arts in the African context
2. to initiate ongoing research into the African arts economy, to publish related documentation and reports on an annual basis and generally to produce the research required to inform arguments in favour of the creative sector on the continent
3. to produce the information and analyses that would feed into annual conferences on the arts and the African economy as a way of increasing public and private support for the arts on the continent

#### **Participant target**

1. at least 6-8 researchers/academics in the field of arts, culture and the economy
2. the group should aim at an equal number of men and women, preferably between 25-45 years old

3. participants should be drawn at least from Francophone and Anglophone countries
4. African universities and relevant think tanks

### **Recommended format of the Project**

1. the project should be initiated with a seminar of a maximum of three days
2. it should combine the researchers to be mentored, African and international experts in the arts and the economy research
3. each researcher should have an experienced mentor to oversee and provide feedback to his/her research
4. the seminar should provide insights into the aims, methodologies, projected outcomes and theoretical models related to research in this area i.e. the primary purpose of the seminar is to ensure that researchers all have the same starting point, framework and skills to pursue research
5. the seminar should have an introduction to the possibilities and challenges of undertaking such research on the continent, and provide insights into areas where such research has been done
6. the seminar should produce a manual or information pack on undertaking research into the African arts economy
7. the seminar should be designed and led by experienced economists, arts researchers and related professionals
8. the seminar should provide a broad overview of
  - a. the geographical area where initial research is to be undertaken over a 6-month period
  - b. the minimum projected outcomes of the research
  - c. the proposed methods of research for that region
  - d. the time frameworks for phased delivery of research reports
9. the seminar should provide an overview of existing research into the arts and the African economy that has been conducted over the last five years

### **Expected outcomes**

1. an outline of a seminar, training and mentorship programme for developing arts economy researchers that could be developed further
2. practical and theoretical training for at least 6-8 researchers, who can be developed to become local experts in this area
3. hard data and analyses in at least two countries and/or regions on the contribution of the arts and the creative sector generally to the economy and development
4. a list of existing research on the arts and the African economy

### **Tasks required of the Implementing Agency (the Applicant)**

The successful applicant/s will be required to

1. design the content, structure and implementation of the training and research programme to realise the aims listed above

2. undertake and successfully manage all the logistical arrangements including venue hire, accommodation, flights, internal transport, ticket bookings, catering, etc
3. contract the tutors, experts and mentors
4. assist the Arterial Network in recruiting participants, and liaise with each subsequently
5. manage all relationships with relevant partners
6. maintain sound records of all income and expenditure and provide narrative and financial reports on the project as required
7. manage and oversee the ongoing work of the researchers till the submission of the final reports

## **Budget**

The budget should include flights and accommodation for 6-8 African researchers, the design and running of the seminar/s, venue and equipment hire, mentors, S&T, accommodation and catering for the participants and experts, project coordination fees, materials, local transport, auditing, etc.

## **Criteria**

The criteria to be used when evaluating applicants will include:

- a. the vision, content and structure of the course and the consistency of these with the project's projected outcomes
- b. the track record of the organisation with regard to managing projects generally and projects of this nature in particular
- c. the recommendations of the referees and of Arterial Network members about the applicant
- d. historical relationships between the applicant and associated funders i.e. to ensure that associated funders have at least not had poor experiences of the applicant
- e. the proposed budget and whether it is consistent with the budget approved by the Task Team and funders.

The Arterial Network reserves the right to visit and interview project applicants, and further reserves the right not to appoint an agency.

## **Time framework**

The project should be implemented between 1 June and 31 October in an African country.

## **Contract**

The successful applicant/s will enter into a direct contracting relationship with a funder who will fund or manage the project on behalf of a variety of funders.

## **Applications**

Applications are to be sent to The Secretariat, Arterial Network, c/o The Africa Centre, PO Box 137, Lynedoch, 7603, Stellenbosch, South Africa or to [info@africacentre.net](mailto:info@africacentre.net) no later than 16 May 2008. Please ensure that the applications address the criteria above and in the notes below. Include two reference letters from credible sources, with the contact details of the referees.

**NOTE:**

**DECISION-MAKING PROCESS FOR PROJECTS AND IMPLEMENTING AGENTS**

Projects and project managers under the Arterial Network banner are decided upon in the following manner:

1. The Task Team, associated donor or Arterial Network member or partner proposes a project as an Arterial Network project.
2. The Task Team considers each proposal and decides
  - a. to approve the project as an Arterial Network project
  - b. to lend its support to the project but not for funding as an Arterial Network or
  - c. to reject the project (See criteria for evaluating projects under 7 below)
3. Projects (their aims, projected outcomes, country of implementation, budget, etc) approved by the Task Team are presented to the associated donor partners for consideration. Funders may agree to fund a project multilaterally or as a single donor. The Task Team may seek new donors or different donors for projects approved by the associated funders' collective where necessary, and may seek new donors for projects that the associated funders' collective is unable to support. The associated funders' collective includes those funders who funded the original Arterial Network conference, or who joined this collective voluntarily as a partner in the Arterial Network or one of its projects. These funding partners include (but is not limited to) HIVOS, DCCD, Stromme Foundation, Prince Clause Fund, Doen, Africalia, Pro Helvetia and the Dept of Arts and Culture of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
4. As a matter of principle, all projects will be open for tender by implementing agencies. Once a project has been approved by the Task Team for funding and one or more funders have expressed their commitment to cover the entire budget, the Task Team calls for agencies to implement the project. (Those projects that have been proposed to the Arterial Network by an implementing agency, and which is approved for funding, will generally be assigned to the implementing agency, provided that the funders and Task Team approve of its capacity to implement the project). The call for implementing agencies may be done in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to
  - a. via the Arterial Network D-Group, newsletter, website and associated contacts
  - b. via funders to their existing partners
  - c. the arts community and media in the country in which the project may be planned for implementation
  - d. pro-actively headhunting suitable implementing agencies to apply by anyone associated with the Arterial Network
5. The call will include an outline of the project, the aims, the projected outcomes, the target market, the tasks required of the implementing agency, the time frameworks, reporting responsibilities and the deadlines. Applicants are to respond to each of

these reflecting their capacity to manage all aspects of the project, and in addition, need to provide an indication of their track record of financial and managerial probity. At least two referees from credible organisations or people should accompany the application.

6. After the deadline for submission of applications, the Secretariat will summarise the applications, and submit the summary along with copies of the application to the Project Evaluation Committee before a fixed deadline. The Committee will comprise members of the Task Team and representatives of the associated funders' collective, particularly those directly involved in funding that project. Implementing agencies must be agreed by consensus (rather than majority vote) within the Project Evaluation Committee. In the event of there being no suitable applicant, the Project Evaluation Committee may headhunt and recommend a particular agency to implement the project, possibly in a different country or region to the one originally agreed upon.

7. The criteria to be used when evaluating applicants to manage projects will include:

- a. the vision, content and structure that it will apply to the project and the consistency of these with the project's projected outcomes
- b. the track record of the organisation with record to managing projects generally and projects of this nature in particular
- c. the recommendations of the referees (to be checked by the Secretariat) and of Arterial Network members
- d. historical relationships between the applicant and associated donors i.e. to ensure that associated donors have at least not had poor experiences of the applications
- e. the proposed budget and whether it is consistent with the budget approved by the Task Team and donors.

If necessary, the Project Evaluation Committee may require representative of the Arterial Network to interview and/or visit selected applicants to gain further insight into their capacity to deliver.

8. Based on the applications received, members of the Project Evaluation Committee rank the applicants and submit their rankings to the Secretariat before a fixed deadline, which are then distributed with related comments to all members of the Committee. Through discussion via email and/or telephone conferences, the Committee arrives at a decision by consensus to award the project (subject to further negotiation with the selected party if necessary) to a particular implementing agency.

9. The funders supporting the project will select one of their number (if more than one) to be the contracting party on their behalf, and this funder will enter into a direct contracting relationship with the approved project applicant, and will oversee the management and reporting of the project as it would any of its other projects.

10. Each stage of the application and decision-making process will be governed by a fixed deadline to ensure efficiency.