



**UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**  
**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT**  
**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORT**



# CALL FOR RESEARCH GRANTS

The National Institute of Transport (NIT), through the Directorate of Research, Consultancy, and Publications (DRCP), is committed to promoting high-quality, innovative, and impactful research that addresses national and institutional development priorities in the transport sector. In line with this commitment, the DRCP invites eligible academic staff of NIT to submit research proposals for institutional research funding. The call is open, competitive, and aims to support research that contributes to knowledge generation, policy formulation, technological advancement, and sustainable transport development.

## Research Priority Areas

Proposals must align with one or more of the following NIT priority research areas:

- i. **Road Transport:** Sustainable Urban Mobility & Road Safety
- ii. **Railway Transport:** Infrastructure Modernization
- iii. **Air Transport:** Airport operations & Aviation Safety
- iv. **Maritime Transport:** Port Operations & Maritime Safety and Security
- v. **Allied Transport Research Areas** (Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Transport, Transport Economics and Policy, Green and Sustainable Transport Technologies, Intelligent Transport Systems, Transport Safety and Logistics)

**Moreover, Proposal on the following areas will have an added advantage:**

- i. *Hybrid train automation*
- ii. *Seaweed-based sustainable aviation fuel*
- iii. *Solar-powered catenary system in BRT buses*



## **Eligibility Criteria**

Applicants must meet **all** of the following conditions:

- i. Applicant(s) must be academic staff of the National Institute of Transport (NIT).
- ii. The proposed research must be aligned with NIT research priority areas outlined above
- iii. Applicants must submit proposals in accordance with the application process described below.
- iv. The proposal must not have been previously funded or submitted elsewhere for funding.
- v. Applicants must not have any ongoing NIT-funded research project.
- vi. Applicants must declare any potential conflicts of interest at the time of application.
- vii. The research team must comprise both junior and senior academic staff, to promote mentorship and capacity building.

## **Criteria for Assessing Research Proposals**

Submitted proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- i. Relevance of the research proposal to the call
- ii. Alignment with NIT and national research agendas and priority areas
- iii. Significance of the research to the community and transport sector
- iv. Novelty and originality of the proposal
- v. Scientific and methodological quality
- vi. Feasibility of the proposed research
- vii. Appropriateness and realism of the proposed budget
- viii. Gender sensitive
- ix. Qualifications and experience of the PI with respect to the call and submitted proposal; and
- x. Composition of submitting consortium i.e. multidisciplinary and inclusivity including a component of junior mentorship

## **Duration of the Research Project**

The duration of the research project shall be completed within one year from the date of contract signing. Any extension shall be subject to approval by the DRCP.



## Expected Research Outputs

Funded research projects are expected to deliver, but are not limited to, the following outputs:

- i. At least one publishable research paper in a reputable peer-reviewed journal
- ii. A final technical research report submitted to the DRCP
- iii. Policy briefs, technical guidelines, or prototypes (where applicable)
- iv. Presentations at NIT research seminars or conferences
- v. Contribution to capacity building and student mentorship

## Application Process

1. Proposals shall be submitted electronically through the following email: [drcp@nit.ac.tz](mailto:drcp@nit.ac.tz)
2. The Principal Investigator (PI) must declare that the proposal has not been funded by any other funding agency.
3. Applicants must submit a plagiarism report indicating a similarity index of less than 30%, generated using an appropriate plagiarism detection software.
4. Proposals must strictly follow the DRCP proposal format.
5. Each submission must be accompanied by a duly filled application form
6. Proposals submitted after the deadline shall not be considered.

## Note:

- Only **shortlisted proposals** will proceed to the funding stage.
- Shortlisted applicants may be required to **present or defend** their proposals before a designated evaluation committee.
- Successful and unsuccessful applicants shall be **formally notified** by the DRCP after completion of the evaluation process.

## Available Funds

A maximum of **20,000,000/=** Tanzanian Shillings will be provided to fund one research project. The applicant must attach their research budget for a defined research implementation duration

**Application Deadline:** Deadline for submission of research proposals is 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2026

All required submission documents should adhere to the formats as per forms attached via the following link, <https://surl.li/atmxee>

**Inquiries:** *For further information or clarification regarding this call, please contact.*

**Director of Research, Consultancy, and Publications (DRCP)**

National Institute of Transport (NIT)

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