*All text in red are mandatory sections to be completed by the applicant.*

*Text in blue are guidelines to complete a section and will assist the assessment of the application form by TIA and the HEI. Applicant is advised to use best efforts to complete.*

*Project title:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Table 1: Applicant information** | |
| University reference number. |  |
| Name of Applicant: |  |
| University Department and Faculty: |  |
| Applicant’s Gender |  |
| Applicant’s Race |  |
| Contact Number (land line): |  |
| Email Address: |  |
| Principal Investigator (if different from applicant): |  |
| List other Project partners if part of a Consortium |  |
| Duration to complete the project |  |
| Total Funds Requested: |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 2: Identify the focus area(s) into which the project falls**: Mark with an X | | | | |
| Biotechnology | |  | Industrial | |
| Agriculture |  |  | Advanced Manufacturing |  |
| Health |  |  | Energy |  |
| Industrial Biotechnology |  |  | ICT |  |
| Other: |  |  | Natural Resources (mining, green tech, waste re-use) |  |
|  | Other (specify): |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 3: Select the activity(ies) for which funding is sought** : Mark with an X | | | | |
| Techno-economic evaluation studies |  |  | Initial product, process (comprehensive technology package) and prototype development |  |
| Sourcing of intellectual property opinions |  |  | Production of market samples and/or associated testing |  |
| Refining and implementing designs |  |  | Conducting field studies to test the assumption made about the technology, market and/or customer need |  |
| Support of certification activities and specification sheet development |  |  | Piloting and technology scale-up |  |
| Detailed primary market research |  |  | Business plan development |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Section 1: Project Description & Purpose** |

* 1. **Project summary (Compulsory):**
  2. **Project purpose (Compulsory):**

1. *What is the grand purpose or goal of the project?*
2. *Describe the identified problem/need you are addressing in more detail and its significance. How did you validate this need?*
3. *How will the end goal and deliverables of this project assist to address the need?*
4. *List the groups of people who have this problem/need and are likely to pay to have it solved.*
5. *What is the likely route to market for your proposed solution?*
6. *Provide a list of competitors with the same or similar offering to yours. Explain how your solution may be better than similar offerings. List the differentiating features in the table below*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Current/alternative offerings in the market** | **Features of current/alternative offerings**  **(mention the most important advantages and disadvantages of current offerings)** | **Competitive advantage: any superior features that you have over your competitors’ offerings/current offerings.** |
|  |  |  |
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**Section 2: Intellectual Property**

**2.1 IP Position:**

1. *Do you know of patents or other IP protection in place pertaining to the project? If so, list them and mention who the IP owners are.*
2. *Is there a likelihood that you will develop protectable IP as an outcome of this project? If so, briefly comment and describe.*
3. *What would you regard as the most difficult aspect(s) of your proposed solution for competitors to copy?*

**Section 3: Project Plan & Budget**

* 1. **Project plan and associated budget:**

1. Complete the table below to plan for project milestones:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project milestones (decision-making points):** | *Milestone 1* | *Milestone 2* | *Milestone 3* | *Milestone 4* |
| **Decision criteria for each milestone (How will you know that a milestone has been achieved?)** |  |  |  |  |
| **Deliverable(s) per milestone.** |  |  |  |  |
| **Activities per milestone (What needs to be done from the Seed Fund activities in Table 3)** |  |  |  |  |

1. Complete the tables below: Activities should bring you closer to achieving your goals and could entail a combination of technical and business development activities.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities (refer to Section 3.1a and Table 3)** | **Start Date** | **End date** | **Activity duration** | **Expected deliverables per activity (See section 3.1a)** | **Person/Team Responsible** | **Estimated cost of achieving activity** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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1. Please attach a summary of results on work already conducted on this project.
2. What further activities (beyond the above) would be required before you can commercialise your offering? Which partnerships do you require to achieve this?
3. Provide information on prior funding received for this project (funder’s name and amount received)
4. Have you recently approached other potential business partners/funders for financial support? If so, what is the status of your engagement and application with them?

Table 4: Select the stage of development or the Technology Readiness Level that your idea/technology is currently at with an ‘X”; and the TRL level you are likely to be at the end of your project with a “G”

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Technology Readiness Level | | Description | Mark TRL with an  X= current, G = goal |
| 1 | Basic Technology research | Basic science. Not application-focussed. Principles are observed and reported on. |  |
| 2 | Concept formulation | Some practical applications identified materials or processes required and confirmed. Technology and hypothesis formulated. Research plans and protocols are developed, peer reviewed and approved. |  |
| 3 | Analytical and experimental critical function or research proof of concept established | Laboratory measurements validate analytical predictions of separate technology elements. Hypothesis tested. |  |
| 4 | Validation in laboratory environment | Test results confirm design and meet technical performance. Hypothesis refined. Formulations tested. |  |
| 5 | Laboratory scale validation in relevant environment | Validation under relevant operational conditions, mimicked in the laboratory. |  |
| 6 | Integrated prototype system verified in relevant environment | Prototype demonstration in the operational environment. E.g. Phase 1 trials |  |
| 7 | Integrated pilot system demonstrated in operational environment | Integrated full scale pilot systems demonstrated in an operational environment or site. |  |
| 8 | Actual system completed and validated through test and demonstration | Actual product completed and qualified through certification, tests and demonstrations. |  |
| 9 | Proven system and ready for full commercial deployment | Product proven ready through successful operations in operating environment. |  |

**Section 4: Project Risks**

**4.1 Risk mitigation plan**

a. Complete table below and list any technical and/or commercial risks pertaining to the project and state how these risks will be mitigated.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Potential Risks | Probability of occurrence  (0-very low, 10- very high) | Impact/effect of Identified risk  (0-very low, 10- very high) | Mitigation Plan | Person Responsible |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Section 5: National Benefits**

* 1. **Describe potential national benefit of the outcomes of the project:**

How will your offering benefit South Africa and/or South Africans? Please consider the following, as appropriate to the proposed project:

**Section 6: Declaration**

I declare that:

* I am duly authorised to complete and sign this application form for the purpose of applying for funding from TIA and executing the proposed project plan in Section 3.
* I have read and understood TIA Seed Fund Application General Guidelines in the invitation letter or call for proposals; and I have engaged with my University’s technology transfer office, or the equivalent, in the preparation of this application form.
* I am familiar with the Intellectual Property Rights from Publicly Financed Research and Development Act, 2008 (Act 51 of 2008) and understand the implications of this Act on intellectual property derived from projects funded by TIA; primarily my Institutions’ Rights in terms of the Act.
* I am aware that there may be further information required by TIA in respect of this application, and that my failure to provide requested information timeously may lead to a rejection of this application.
* The information contained in this application plus any supporting information is to the best of my knowledge true, accurate and complete at the time of application. I accept that TIA has the right to terminate this application and/or any project funding that may ensue in instances where the information provided is found to be false, and where instances of fraud are detected.
* Unless disclosed above in section 3, I have not applied for or received any other funding from TIA or its previous entities in regard to the technology that is the subject matter of this application.

Applicant Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ RSA ID No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_