ALL-AFRICA POSTHARVEST TECHNOLOGIES & INNOVATIONS CHALLENGE

THE 1st ALL AFRICA POST HARVEST CONGRESS & EXHIBITION

Reducing food losses and waste: Sustainable solutions for Africa

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The Organizers of the 1st All Africa Postharvest Congress and Exhibition, comprising of Global stakeholders in the Postharvest sector and other partners, are announcing the **All Africa Postharvest Technologies and Innovations Challenge**, 2017. The aim of the challenge is to document and showcase the best emerging postharvest technologies and innovations with potential for scale-up. Additionally the challenge seeks to establish and strengthen linkages between innovators and potential investors to facilitate up-scaling and out-scaling of their innovations with the ultimate goal of reducing postharvest food losses. The call is open to individuals and institutions from or working in Africa. The technologies/innovations should either be at Testing or Market-ready stages.

COMPETITION STAGES	IMPORTANT DATES
Call opens for entry submission	17th January, 2017
Deadline for entry submission	17th February, 2017
Notification to the 20 best entries	24th February, 2017
Notification of peer-review judgement to top 10 entries	10th March, 2017
Boot camp for the Top 10 entries	28th March, 2017
Pitching by top 10 entries during the Congress	31st March, 2017

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

The entries should be written in English language in MS word or rich text format and have a maximum of **TWO (2) PAGES** in Times New Roman font 12. The entries MUST contain the following details:

1. **Title** - Name of the innovation – (maximum 15 words)
2. **Biodata of the innovator(s)** – Names and institutional affiliation and contact details (telephone and email) of all the innovators and if they have previously participated in another challenge. Include a passport photo of the lead innovator(s) and a brief (2 page) CV that includes 2 referees.
3. **Geographical and food value chain focus** - Brief description of the postharvest problem being addressed by the innovation, clearly showing the importance and magnitude of the problem. The section should indicate the countries and regions where the technology has been developed and/or where it has potential for application. (Max 150 words)
4. **Technical quality -** Summary of the technical aspects behind the technology / innovation. How does it work? How is it practically used to food loss and waste reduction? Consider the following (but not limited to) aspects: energy requirements, water use, number of operators needed and their skill levels, servicing and maintenance, ability to reduce manual effort, etc. What is required to prepare, make or manufacture your innovation? Can it be locally produced / fabricated? (Max 200 words)

5. **Originality** - What is innovative about your technology? What is the competitive advantage over other technologies? Has the technology or innovation been tested? A picture of the design, prototype or actual innovation should be submitted (Max 100 words).
6. **Feasibility for commercialization –** What would be the cost implication for production and commercialization? What is the level of end-user/consumer acceptability of the technology/innovation? Evidence of testing and analysis of commercial viability should be presented (Max 100 words).
7. **Potential for up-scaling and worth of investment** - Describe briefly what you need to successfully commercialise or fully operate the innovation/technology. This may include funding, technical skills, linkages, or any other (Max 100 words).

Screening of the entries to identify the winning technologies/innovations will be conducted by a panel of globally-renowned jury in public and private sectors in relevant fields. The organizers and judges of the challenge will sign legally-binding non-disclosure and confidentiality agreements.

REWARD FOR WINNING ENTRIES

The top **TEN (10)** innovators will pitch for their innovations in a plenary session of all stakeholders during the 1st All Africa Postharvest Congress and Exhibition on 31st March 2017. The top **TEN (10)** innovators will receive a cash award (amounting to **35,000 US dollars**) during the special plenary session.

The top 20 postharvest technologies and innovations will be profiled in a special booklet edition and online platforms. The entries should be submitted by email to: *postharvest.challenge@uonbi.ac.ke* with a copy to *postharvest.challenge@gmail.com*

For more details about the 1st All Africa Postharvest Congress and Exhibition visit the website: africa-*postharvest.uonbi.ac.ke*