

Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South

REF: COMSATS/2025/ANSO/Research Proposal

The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) Secretariat, presents its compliments to the esteemed Focal Points in Member States, Centres of Excellence, and members of COMSATS Centre for Climate and Sustainability (CCCS), and has the honour to submit that the Alliance of National and International Science Organizations for the Belt and Road Regions (ANSO), of which COMSATS is a member, has made a 'Call for Proposals for **CAS-ANSO Co-funding Research Project-2025**'.

The program aims to establish a co-funding mechanism under the framework of ANSO and encourages its Member organizations to jointly engage in scientific, technological, and innovative research cooperation with the affiliated institutions of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). The program seeks to promote sustainable social and economic development and contribute to Belt and Road Initiative.

The program focuses on improving people's livelihoods and green development in Belt and Road partner countries through international industry-university-research application collaborations. Priority will be given to projects that have multiple partner organizations, address local development bottlenecks in terms of technology and model, localize the application of research results, and encourage the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), digital infrastructure or platforms, digitization and intelligence tools, blockchain technology, etc., in order to promote R&D and applications, and provide innovative solutions for sustainable development in the region. The key priority areas include: **Clean Energy, and Health & Public Health**. The funding amount for the research project is up to **USD 200,000** from ANSO.

The Call for Proposal, highlighting the guidelines for project proposal submission, eligibility criteria for researchers/scholars, and co-funding mechanisms, is enclosed (Annex-I). Moreover, the support letter template and brief proposal form are enclosed (Annex-II). The Regulations of the CAS-ANSO Co-funding Research Project and Financial Regulations for the ANSO Projects are enclosed as Annex-III & IV, respectively. The aforementioned announcement may please be disseminated among relevant scientists and researchers. The proposal and filled in support letter may be shared with COMSATS Secretariat via email (To: irfan@comsats.org, Cc: mehwish.durani@comsats.org, drazeema@comsats.org) by 11th May 2025, for consideration, endorsement and further submission to ANSO.

It is worth mentioning that COMSATS has been invited to submit only one Research Proposal. The proposals received will be directed to the Chairperson COMSATS Coordinating Council for selection of appropriate proposal to be endorsed by the COMSATS.

COMSATS avails itself of this opportunity to convey to the esteemed Focal Points in Member States, Centres of Excellence and CCCS members, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Islamabad, April 16, 2025

