

RGA No. 21-147 RG/BIO/AF/AC\_I – FR3240319486 dated 4 November 2021  
(please quote in all correspondence)

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**Research Grant Agreement (RGA)  
For Individual Scientist No. 21-147 RG/BIO/AF/AC\_I –  
FR3240319486**

4 November 2021

Pursuant to the Guidelines enclosed in Annex 1, The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) for the advancement of science in developing countries, a UNESCO programme unit (hereinafter referred to as "UNESCO - TWAS"), hereby awards a research grant amounting to a combined total of USD 16,100.00 to

**Dr. Alassane Ouattara**  
(hereinafter referred to as the "Principal Investigator", or "PI")

Who holds a position at the **Department of Plant Biology and Physiology, University Joseph KI-ZERBO, Burkina Faso** (hereinafter referred to as the "Administering Institute", or "AI").

UNESCO-TWAS, the PI and the AI (hereinafter, the "Parties") agree that the research grant shall be provided to the PI pursuant to the specifications and conditions set forth in Sections A), B) and C) below (hereinafter referred to as the "RGA").

**A) PROJECT AND GRANT OUTLINE**

1. Principal Investigator:

Dr. Alassane Ouattara

2. Administering Institution:

Department of Plant Biology and Physiology  
University Joseph KI-ZERBO  
03 BP 7021  
Ouagadougou 03  
Burkina Faso

3. Project title:

Epidemiology of emerging geminivirus diseases in tomato in Burkina Faso (hereinafter referred to as the "Project").

4. Project description: up to 24 months from the date of entry into force of the present Agreement.

5. Total award amount

Total amount of grant for research supplies: USD 13,800.00 (an increase of up to 10% of this amount depending on availability of funds can be authorized by UNESCO-TWAS if a substantial need for this increase is established).

As specified in Annex 1, Grants may be used for the purchase of scientific equipment, consumables and specialized literature (textbooks and proceedings only) to be used for the Project. The grant will also provide financial support for conference participation and open access publishing. The grant does not cover salaries of researchers and/or students, or field expenses. In addition, the purchase of laptops, drones, tablets and laboratory animals shall not be covered.

The research grant funds are paid as set forth below:

(a) Funds for conference participation and open access publishing shall be transferred to the PI, on the basis of the budget breakdown referred to in Article 6 below.

(b) Funds for equipment and supplies shall be kept at UNESCO-TWAS who will disburse the funds through direct payments to suppliers for the purchase of all items requested by the PI pursuant to Article 7 below.

Purchased equipment under this RGA shall be received and located at the premises of the AI, who will administer their use by the PI, pursuant to Section B) below.

#### 6. Budget breakdown for conference funds and open access publishing

The conference participation and open access publishing funds are payable according to the budget breakdown only upon certification by the UNESCO-TWAS Officer responsible for this Agreement of PI's satisfactory performance and proof of incurred expenses associated with the Project.

Budget breakdown of the awarded funds for conference funds and open access publishing only shall be transferred to the PI based on the presentation of incurred expenditure:

Research supplies	USD 13,800
MSc students	USD 0
Conference participation costs	USD 1,700
Open access publishing costs	USD 600
Total	USD 16,100.00

#### 7. Payment for equipment and supplies

Funds for equipment and supplies shall be retained by UNESCO-TWAS and shall only be released by direct payment to the suppliers. The funds for equipment and supplies shall not be provided to the PI.

All payments shall be made in the currency of each contract with regard to items requested by the PI. Payments expressed in USD and payable in another currency than USD should be converted at the official UNESCO rate of exchange in force on the date of payment.

Funds for travel expenses for conference participation will be released via direct payment to the PI as a reimbursement (see item 9).

UNESCO-TWAS may also, consider terminating the grant if no funds are used within a period of 12 months from the date of issuing the Agreement, or if the PI leaves her/his position for more than one month, except in the case that a No Cost Extension (NCE) as detailed in Section C) was approved by UNESCO-TWAS.

#### 8. Procurement (equipment and supplies)

In order to obtain the release of the funds pursuant to this RGA, the PI, with the support of

the AI, shall follow the UNESCO procurement process as further outlined in the Procurement Guidelines for the purchase of the research equipment (Annex 2).

9. The PI, the AI and UNESCO-TWAS agree to be bound by the provisions contained in the following documents, which form the only valid agreement between the parties and which shall take precedence in case of conflict in the following order:

The present Research Grant Agreement;  
The Research Grant Programme Guide for Individual Scientists (Annex 1)  
Procurement Guidelines (Annex 2)  
The Project Proposal (Annex 3)

## B) General Conditions

Projects involving human subjects in each country must provide evidence of ethical approval by the competent authorities of the country concerned.

In addition, projects involving clinical trials of drugs, vaccines or other pharmaceutical preparations shall be previously approved by a drug regulatory authority as well as any competent authority as required in the country concerned. As the UNESCO-TWAS Research Grants in Basic Sciences programme is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), in cases where it is proposed to test Swedish products, approval from the Medical Products Agency (Läkemedelsverket) in Sweden is also required.

Projects involving experiments with animals shall be previously approved by all competent authorities in the country concerned. Funds granted pursuant to this RGA shall not be used for the purchase of experimental animals.

If changes or additions are made to the original project plan, renewed ethical approval by the competent authorities as well as by UNESCO-TWAS shall be required.

The PI is responsible for ensuring that ethical approval in accordance with the above-mentioned rules is obtained before the Project is started- and before any request for funds under this RGA. The PI shall submit proof of the above approvals before the grant is disbursed.

### *Rights and Responsibilities of the Principal Investigator (PI)*

- The PI agrees that the funds provided under this RGA shall only be used as set forth in Article 5 above and Annex 1
- The PI shall seek prior approval of the UNESCO-TWAS Secretariat and the AI in case of any changes to the project description.
- According to Section C) below, the PI shall immediately sign and seek the AI's signature and return the Agreement to the UNESCO-TWAS Secretariat within a period of one month (30 days) from the date of receipt of the Agreement. The PI shall submit all necessary documents needed for the items to be purchased by UNESCO-TWAS under this award within a period of not more than 4 months from 4 November 2021. Should this not happen UNESCO-TWAS has the right to terminate the award with immediate effect, seek reimbursement of all funds that have already been paid pursuant to Article 5 above, and

allocate the funds to another applicant.

- All communication relating to this grant will be solely exchanged between the PI, the AI and UNESCO-TWAS.
- The PI shall not be considered in any respect as being an employee, consultant, expert or agent of UNESCO. She/he is neither a staff member under the UNESCO Staff Regulations and Staff Rules nor an official under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies (21 November 1947).
- The PI must promptly inform the UNESCO-TWAS Secretariat of any prolonged period of time (more than one month) away from their position that would impede their ability to work on the Project.
- The PI must seek prior approval from UNESCO-TWAS Secretariat for any long-term absences (more than one month and up to six months total) from the project. As a result, UNESCO-TWAS may consider granting a no cost extension (NCE) for up to six months from the agreed end date of the project, which shall be granted through the signature of an addendum to the duration of this agreement.
- The PI shall request UNESCO-TWAS's approval in the event of any additional/supplementary grants, funds and bursaries awarded in connection with the Project, specifying the donor, amount, duration and purpose of the grant. As long as the funds do not duplicate the funds awarded under this Agreement, will be seen as a positive demonstration of concept and feasibility.

#### *Publications and results dissemination*

- The PI shall communicate the results of the Project to the scientific and industrial community and that of decision-and-policy-makers through publications in peer-reviewed open access journals, or other publications, and at science conferences, seminars and other gatherings;
- The PI shall make all Project outputs available to the public on an Open Access basis and licensed by the Creative Commons Attribution (preferably CC BY-SA) license.
- The PI shall send one copy of each publication related to the project to UNESCO-TWAS and also keep UNESCO-TWAS informed about any applications of the research results. UNESCO-TWAS has the right to use and distribute all reports/publications submitted by the PI. The PI shall acknowledge UNESCO-TWAS and Sida in all their publications resulting from this grant.
- The PI shall submit a copy of the manuscript of each publication to the UNESCO-TWAS Secretariat by sending it via email to [researchgrants@twas.org](mailto:researchgrants@twas.org) within one week of the publication date to the publisher.
- The PI shall make any software developed under the scope of the Project open source (i.e. freely available to public).

#### *Rights and Responsibilities of the Administering Institute (AI)*

- The AI agrees to provide all necessary facilities and financial support for the project which are not provided for by UNESCO-TWAS through the RGA.
- The AI shall receive and host at its premises, and make available to the PI, all equipment, and supplies purchased pursuant to this RGA. This equipment and supplies shall remain UNESCO-TWAS property during the research period. All equipment and supplies shall be administered (including maintenance) by and become the property of the AI after the termination or expiration of this agreement.
- The AI shall notify UNESCO-TWAS promptly in the event of the absence for more than one month or departure of the PI. The AI will not request any administration charges related to the execution of the project.

#### *Acknowledgement of support*

- The PI will acknowledge the support received from UNESCO-TWAS Secretariat at UNESCO-TWAS and Sida in any publication or other Project output generated as a result of this funding.
- On publications, reports, presentations, etc. the PI will include the following text:

“This work was carried out with the aid of a grant from UNESCO-TWAS and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of UNESCO-TWAS, Sida or its Board of Governors.”

- Failure to fulfil the obligations as specified in this Agreement gives UNESCO-TWAS the right to terminate the agreement with immediate effect, seek reimbursement and disqualify the PI from future support.

#### *Reporting requirements*

- The PI will submit a final report no later than one year from the receipt of the last order for equipment and consumables pursuant to this RGA
- The PI will complete at least one follow-up survey on her/his career development upon completion of the Project. This shall be submitted within three years of grant completion.

#### *Liability for Death, Injury or Damage*

- UNESCO-TWAS shall not be liable for the death or for injury or damage to any person or property arising out of the conduct of the project.

The PI and the AI shall indemnify, hold and save harmless and defend, at its own expense UNESCO-TWAS and its officials, agents, and employees, from and against all suits, claims, demands, and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, arising out of acts or omissions of the PI or the AI. This provision shall extend, inter alia, to claims and liability in the nature of workmen's compensation, products liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the PI. The obligations under this Article do not lapse upon termination of this agreement.

#### *Duration*

This RGA shall enter into force upon signature by the Parties and shall be in force from the latest date of signature until 3 November 2023 and is subject to the availability of funds.

#### *Termination*

Any Party may terminate this RGA, upon thirty (30) days' notice in writing to the Parties.

UNESCO-TWAS may terminate the RGA, with immediate effect, or suspend the research grant awarded to the PI, fully or partially, if it deems the obligations by the PI or the AI under this Agreement have not been met.

UNESCO-TWAS may also terminate the RGA if the funds have not been requested within a



period of 12 months from the date of signature of this RGA, or if the PI leaves her/his position for more than one month, except in the case that a No Cost Extension (NCE) as detailed in Section B) was approved by UNESCO-TWAS.

*Use of UNESCO's name and logo*

Unless authorized in writing by UNESCO, the AI or the PI shall not use the name, acronym or official logo of UNESCO, or any abbreviation of the name of UNESCO, for advertising or any other purposes.

*Settlement of disputes*

*Amicable Settlement:*

The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of, or relating to this Agreement or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof. Where the Parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules then obtaining, or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the Parties.

*Arbitration:*

Unless any such dispute, controversy or claim between the Parties arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof is settled amicably under the preceding paragraph of this Article within sixty (60) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party's request for such amicable settlement, such dispute, controversy or claim shall be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules then obtaining, including its provision on applicable law. The arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such controversy, claim or dispute.

*Privileges and Immunities*

Nothing in or relating to this Agreement shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of UNESCO.

**C) ENTRY INTO FORCE AND SIGNATURES**

1. The World Academy of Sciences (UNESCO-TWAS)

Name: Romain Murenzi, TWAS Executive Director

Signature .....

Date 4 November 2021

2. The Principal Investigator (PI)



I accept the grant and undertake to carry out the research project as specified in Section A), to comply with the reporting requirements and to abide by the conditions expressed in Sections A) and B).

Name: Alassane Ouattara

Signature ..... 

Date ..... 04 November 2021

3. The Administering Institute (AI)

We undertake to administer the project as specified in Section C), and in accordance with the conditions expressed in Sections A) and B).

Name: ..... 

Signature ..... 

Date ..... 08 November 2021



All three parties shall sign each of the three copies of this RGA. Return one scanned copy via email, one original copy to the UNESCO-TWAS Secretariat at UNESCO-TWAS by mail at the specified address below, and retain one original copy for the AI and one copy for the PI:

UNESCO-TWAS  
Research Grants Office  
ICTP Campus,  
Strada Costiera, 11  
34151 Trieste  
Italy  
Email: researchgrants@twas.org

- ANNEX 1 - THE RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAMME GUIDE
- ANNEX 2 - PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES
- ANNEX 3 - THE PROJECT PROPOSAL