



*PUTOR...redefining  
the art of high  
impact public  
health/toxicologic  
al research and  
education in Africa*

## REPORT OF THE AWARD OF SEED GRANTS TO SUPPORT INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT

Africa Centre of Excellence Centre for  
Public Health and Toxicological Research  
University of Port Harcourt

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## Introduction

The African Higher Education Centres of Excellence Project called ACE IMPACT Project (<https://ace.aau.org/about-ace-impact/>) aims to build regional capacity to deliver high quality postgraduate courses, conduct and disseminate high impact applied research focused on addressing challenges in sub-Saharan Africa. To this end, the African Centre of Excellence for Public health and Toxicological Research ACE-PUTOR ([www.aceputoruniport.edu.ng](http://www.aceputoruniport.edu.ng)) of the University of Port Harcourt, serves as a platform for providing inter-disciplinary academic stream of postgraduate programmes and rapidly bridge the current paucity of adequately trained personnel with terminal degrees in public health, toxicology, nutrition, and nursing and midwifery in sub-Saharan Africa. PUTOR has broad-based partnership with academic institutions, public sector and the industries who contribute to the curriculum development and training programmes under the Centre.

## Training Philosophy

The philosophy of the programme is to promote equity, excellence, and integrity. This is premised on developing the knowledge, skills, and competences of students from diverse academic backgrounds but with creative minds who are desirous to acquire more skills and experiences that would prepare them for leadership roles in public health.

## Vision of the Centre

To be a centre for innovative research and academic training, recognised for local relevance, international excellence and global impacts in public health, toxicology and nursing sciences

## Mission of the Centre

To provide an enabling environment for students and faculties to discover and nurture their full potentials in delivering innovative research and human capacity development.

## Objectives of the Centre

- i. To develop and effectively manage relevant postgraduate programmes in public health, toxicology and nursing science.
- ii. To deliver relevant short courses in public health, toxicology and nursing science to mid-career professionals.
- iii. To enhance participation of students and faculties in internships & exchange experiences.
- iv. To develop local, regional and international partnerships and linkages with industries, public sectors and academic institutions.
- v. To implement priority interventions focused on remediation of developmental challenges related to public health, toxicology, and nursing.

# ACE-PUTOR SEED GRANTS

The Africa Centre of Excellence in Public Health & Toxicological Research (ACE-PUTOR), University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria, recognizes the importance of fostering research and innovation among its students. To this end, the Centre, alongside its stakeholders, offers "Seed Grants" to deserving students in three categories: **Gold**, **Silver**, and **Bronze**. These grants aim to support cutting-edge research, promote academic excellence, and contribute to solving critical public health challenges in Africa.

## Objectives

- To provide financial support to students and faculty conducting groundbreaking research in public health, nursing and toxicology.
- To encourage innovative solutions to public health challenges through research.
- To strengthen partnerships between the institution, industry, and policymakers.
- To promote sustainable development through applied research.

### 1. To provide financial support to students conducting groundbreaking research in public health, nursing and toxicology

This objective seeks to empower students by providing the necessary financial resources to conduct innovative research in public health, nursing and toxicology. The goal is to enable students to undertake research that may otherwise be unfeasible due to financial constraints. By offering funding for equipment, fieldwork, and other essential research needs, ACE-PUTOR encourages students to explore new avenues in health science, aiming for breakthroughs that can improve healthcare systems and public health outcomes, especially in Africa where such research is critically needed to address various health challenges.

### 2. To encourage innovative solutions to public health challenges through research

This objective focuses on fostering creativity and innovation among students to address public health issues in Africa. ACE-PUTOR encourages research projects that not only study existing health problems but also propose novel solutions, interventions, or strategies that can make a

tangible difference in communities. Through this grant, students are motivated to think beyond traditional methods, pushing boundaries in toxicology, nursing and public health research, which can lead to new policies, technologies, or practices that combat diseases, improve environmental health, or enhance overall public health resilience in Africa.

### 3. To strengthen partnerships between the institution, industry, and policymakers

Collaboration between academia, industry, and policymakers is vital for translating research into real-world impact. This objective aims to bridge the gap between research findings and their application by fostering relationships between ACE-PUTOR, healthcare industries, government agencies, and public health organizations. By building these partnerships, the institution ensures that the research supported by its grants contributes to evidence-based policymaking, product development, and practical interventions. The ultimate aim is to ensure that innovations from students' research are effectively implemented to address pressing health issues across Africa.

### 4. To promote sustainable development through applied research

Sustainability is key to long-term public health improvements. This objective promotes research that not only provides immediate solutions to public health problems but also considers their long-term impact. ACE-PUTOR encourages projects that align with sustainable development goals (SDGs), focusing on health issues that intersect with environmental, economic, and social sustainability. By funding applied research, the institution supports initiatives that can be scaled, adapted, and sustained within communities, ensuring that the benefits of the research extend far beyond the grant period, contributing to ongoing public health advancements across Africa.

## Grant Categories

1. **Gold Grant:** The highest level of funding for large-scale, high-impact research projects. This will attract One Million Five Hundred Thousand Naira Only (N1,500,000) and an award letter/medal
2. **Silver Grant:** For mid-sized projects with significant potential for public health impact. This will attract One Million Naira Only (N1,000,000) and an award letter/medal

3. **Bronze Grant:** For pilot or preliminary research projects that show promise for future growth. This will attract Five Hundred Thousand Naira Only (N500,000) and an award letter/medal

## Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be students of ACE-PUTOR enrolled in a master's or Ph.D. program.
- Research proposals must align with ACE-PUTOR's core areas: public health, toxicology, nursing, environmental health, or related fields.
- Applicants must demonstrate strong academic records and research potential.

## Application Process

1. Applicants must submit a detailed research proposal outlining the objectives, methodology, expected outcomes, and budget.
2. Applications will be reviewed by a Grant Review Committee (GRC), which includes members from ACE-PUTOR, stakeholders, and partner representatives.
3. Award decisions will be based on the quality of the proposal, potential impact, and feasibility.

## Assessment of Expression of Interest

All submission will be blinded to ensure no personal identifiable information of the applicant is in the document. Assessment 5 independent assessors will be double blinded and average of all scores by the five assessors will be collated and ranked to get the winners of the Seed Grant.

## Award Disbursement

- Grants will be disbursed in tranches, with subsequent payments based on satisfactory progress reports.
- Progress reports must be submitted quarterly to the GRC, detailing milestones achieved and financial expenditures.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

- Awardees will be assigned a mentor from the faculty or stakeholder community who will guide the project.
  - A final report and presentation are required upon completion of the research.
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## Stakeholders, Members, and Partner Representatives

### Internal and External Stakeholders

#### Internal

- 1. University of Port Harcourt, Africa Centre of Excellence in Public Health & Toxicological Research, Entrepreneurship Centre, Technology Park, Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office**

- **Role:** Provides strategic guidance and oversight on research priorities and grant allocation. They ensure that the research aligns with institutional and national public health goals.
- **Representatives:** DVC (R&D), Centre Leader of ACE-PUTOR, Director UPEC, Director IPTTO

#### External

- 2. External Collaborators (EC)**

- **Role:** Industry partners, international research institutions, and health organizations that offer technical and financial support. They also facilitate knowledge exchange and provide resources for fieldwork.
- **Representative:** Partner agencies.

## Members of the Seed Grant Administrative Committee (SGAC)

1. **Chair:** VC, University of Port Harcourt
2. **Vice Chair:** DVC R&D, University of Port Harcourt.
3. **Member:** Centre Leader of ACE-PUTOR.
4. **Member:** Director, Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office (IPPTO).
5. **Member:** Director of the Entrepreneurship Centre (EC).
6. **Member:** Chairman of the Technology Park (TP).
7. **Student Representative:** non-faculty student representative in the ACE-PUTOR Management.
8. **Co-Chairman** of the ACE-PUTOR Consults and Investment Limited

## Members of the Seed Grant Review Committee (SGRC)

1. Prof Peter.J. Kpolovie
2. Prof Alice Nte
3. Prof Iheanyi Okonko
4. Prof Emmanuel Okonta
5. Prof Chinedu Echem

## Assessment Criteria For Seed Grant

Criteria	Weighting	Description	Actual Score
<b>Originality &amp; Innovation</b>	30%	Is the idea novel and unique? Does it have potential for significant innovation?	
<b>Feasibility</b>	25%	Are the methods, timeline, and resources realistic for achieving the research objectives?	
<b>Potential Impact</b>	30%	What is the expected contribution to the field? Can it be commercialized or patented?	



Criteria	Weighting	Description	Actual Score
Clarity of Proposal	15%	Is the proposal clear, well-structured, and effectively communicates the research objectives?	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>		

## Seed Grants Awardees

**Gold Grant Awardee:** Kenneth Chinedu Ugoeze

**Programme:** MSc Environmental Petroleum Toxicology (EPT)

**Research Focus:** Formulation and packaging of dispersible granules as a nutraceutical functional blood-boosting drinks comprising aqueous extract of the leaf of *Justicia secunda* (Acanthaceae)

**Silver Grant Awardee:** Tex-Jack, Dokuba

**Programme:** PhD MIDWIFERY

**Research Focus:** Development and testing of an electronic nursing application for facility-based documentation in Nigeria

**Bronze Grant Awardee:** Anele Atochi Belinda

**Programme:** Environmental and Petroleum Toxicology

**Research Focus:** Health Risk Associated with Artisanal Refineries in Emouha Local Government Area, South South Nigeria

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## Conclusion

In conclusion, this policy framework for seed grant ensures transparency, accountability, and support for innovative postgraduate research, driving positive outcomes for both the institution and the broader society. The process was done fairly and transparently, and winners were given the awards and other recognition

# Appendices

## Seed Grant Advert



### **AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

**CENTRE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND TOXICOLOGICAL RESEARCH (PUTOR)**  
**UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT**

#### **SEED GRANT FOR INNOVATION: OPPORTUNITY TO FUND YOUR INNOVATIVE RESEARCH**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The African Higher Education Centres of Excellence Project called ACE IMPACT Project (<http://ace.aau.org/about-ace-impact/>) aims to build regional capacity to deliver high quality postgraduate courses, conduct and disseminate high impact applied research focused on addressing challenges in sub-Saharan Africa. To this end, the African Centre of Excellence for Public health and Toxicological Research ACE-PUTOR ([www.aceputoruniport.edu.ng](http://www.aceputoruniport.edu.ng)) of the University of Port Harcourt, serves as a platform for providing inter-disciplinary academic stream of postgraduate programmes and rapidly bridge the current paucity of adequately trained personnel with terminal degrees in public health, toxicology, nutrition, and nursing and midwifery in sub-Saharan Africa. PUTOR has broad-based partnership with academic institutions, public sector and the industries who contribute to the curriculum development and training programmes under the Centre.

**Are you a master's or doctoral candidate in ACE-PUTOR with groundbreaking research ideas that have the potential to spark innovation or lead to patents? Apply for our Seed Grant for Postgraduate Research Innovation and turn your ideas into reality!**

#### **GRANT DETAILS**

- **Funding Amount: Up to NI,500,000**
- **Eligibility: Master's and doctoral candidates in any discipline in ACE-PUTOR.**
- **Focus Areas: Projects with potential for innovation, commercialization, or patentability.**

### **Why Apply?**

- **Access to funding that supports high-impact research.**
- **Mentorship opportunities to refine your research idea.**
- **Pathway to patent development and commercialization.**

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

- **Complete the Expression of Interest (EOI) Form (see link).**
- **Prepare a concise project proposal outlining your research idea, objectives, methodology, and expected outcomes.**
- **Submit your application by [11:59PM on Sunday 16th February 2025] to [Via Submission Link].**

#### **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

Submissions will be evaluated based by a team of experts based on:

- **Originality & Innovation: Uniqueness and novelty of the research idea.**
- **Feasibility: Realistic approach and methodology for achieving project objectives.**
- **Potential Impact: Contribution to the field, potential for commercialization, or societal benefits.**
- **Clarity of Proposal: Well-defined objectives, methodology, and anticipated outcomes.**

## **Don't Miss Out!**

Submit your EOI today and take the first step toward transforming your research into a global innovation!

For inquiries, contact [aceputor@uniport.edu.ng](mailto:aceputor@uniport.edu.ng) or [www.aceputor@uniport.edu.ng](http://www.aceputor@uniport.edu.ng)  
<http://tinyurl.com/seedgrant-2025>

## Blind Collation of Expression of Interest for Seed Grants

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/001
<b>TITLE</b>	Effectiveness of Nutrition Education Programs on the nutritional status of tertiary students in the Tano North Municipality, Ghana
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>The global rise in obesity and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) due to poor dietary habits and sedentary lifestyle among young adults is a critical public health issue. In Ghana, tertiary students are mostly at risk due to some changes in lifestyle and dietary habits as they transition to the tertiary level. These habits are influenced by factors such as inadequate nutritional knowledge, increased autonomy in food choices, academic pressures, and financial constraints, leading to unhealthy behaviors that persist into adulthood. Unhealthy eating habits during this key period can result in both short- and long-term negative health impacts, such as nutritional deficiencies, obesity, and early development of chronic diseases like diabetes and cardiovascular disease. This study aims to assess the effectiveness of nutrition education programs on the nutritional status of tertiary students in the Tano North Municipality of the Ahafo Region. Using a multistage sampling technique, a randomized controlled trial (RCT) design will be used to select the participants who will be assigned randomly into intervention and control groups. The intervention will include structured nutrition education sessions focusing on enhancing nutritional knowledge, attitudes, and dietary practices. Pre- and post-intervention data on nutritional knowledge, attitudes, dietary habits, and body mass index (BMI) will be collected using mixed methods. It is anticipated that the findings of this study will inform policymakers, educators, and healthcare professionals about the value of integrating tailored nutrition interventions into tertiary curricula. This study also aligns with the global efforts to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2 and SDG 3.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	To assess the effectiveness of nutrition education programs on the nutritional status of tertiary students in the Tano North Municipality, Ghana
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To assess the effect of nutrition education programs on the nutritional knowledge of tertiary institution students.</li> <li>2. To determine the effect of nutrition education on the dietary practices of tertiary institution students in the Tano North Municipality.</li> <li>3. To examine the relationship between nutritional knowledge and changes in BMI among tertiary institution students.</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	<p>This study presents an innovative approach for assessing the effectiveness of a structured and culturally appropriate nutrition education program aimed at tertiary students in the Tano North Municipality, Ghana. Even though numerous research has examined the effects of nutrition education in industrialized nations, little is known about how beneficial these interventions are, especially among tertiary students in low- and middle-income countries like Ghana. The research fills this gap by assessing not only changes in nutritional knowledge but also behavioral outcomes such as dietary practices and body mass index (BMI). The research adopts a holistic approach that combines interactive educational sessions, dietary</p>

	<p>assessments, and anthropometric measurements. This integrated strategy goes beyond traditional classroom-based education to incorporate practical components, which are crucial for translating knowledge into sustainable behavior change. The study also examines the correlation between improvements in nutritional knowledge and BMI, providing new perspectives on the effects of educational interventions on the health outcomes of young adults. The findings of this study will serve as the basis for developing scalable and flexible nutrition education resources, comprising instructional guides, digital tools like mobile apps and interactive workshop components. These resources can be promoted to academic institutions, health institutions, and non-governmental organizations that are interested in promoting young adults' nutrition and health. Furthermore, the integration of technology-driven components, such as mobile learning modules or gamified health education platforms, presents an opportunity for collaboration with technology developers to create user-friendly, evidence-based health education products. The impact of this research goes beyond individual health outcomes. Promoting healthier dietary habits among tertiary students will contribute to long-term efforts in reducing the prevalence of diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Ghana. It also aligns with national and global public health goals to improve nutritional status and promote healthy lifestyles among the young populations who are the most vulnerable.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	1 year, estimated budget: GHS 40,000(Ghana currency)

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/002
<b>TITLE</b>	ANALYZING TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANTS' ROLE IN CHILDBIRTH SUPPORT AND CREATING A MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FOR MATERNAL AND NEONATAL CARE
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	Maternal and neonatal health is a significant health concern, particularly in low settings where access to skilled healthcare professionals is limited. (Campbell & Graham, 2021) Pregnancy and childbirth are natural processes, yet they remain among the leading cause of morbidity and mortality for both mothers and newborns worldwide. (Koblinsky et al, 2019) TBAs play a crucial role in antenatal care even though they have limited skills and knowledge. (Kruske &Barclay, 2020) This study aims to understand the current level of clinical support provided by TBAs and identify areas for improvement. The study will employ a purposive sampling method to select participants for both qualitative and quantitative analysis. The study will focus on TBAs practicing in Ikwerre local government area of Rivers State, mothers who have delivered utilizing TBA services, as well as doctors and midwives practicing in Primary Healthcare Centres within this area. Data collection will be done using an interview guide for qualitative analysis while a structured questionnaire will be designed to collect data to measure the objectives of the study. The questionnaire will be administered using direct delivery and retrieval approach. The questionnaire consists of two sections: sections A and B; Section A will focus on collecting personal information such as sex and age while section B will be designed to measure the objectives of the study. Improved knowledge and skills among TBAs regarding safe childbirth practices among others are the expected outcomes of this study.
<b>AIM</b>	This research aims to understand the current level of clinical support provided by traditional birth attendants and identify areas for improvement. It also seeks to develop a mentorship training program that can enhance the skills and knowledge of traditional birth attendants in providing maternal and neonatal care.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	Objective 1: To assess the perception of mothers regarding TBA in supporting maternal and neonatal health outcomes.  Objective 2: Explore the experiences of birthing mothers regarding TBA support.  Objective 3: Assess various mentoring programmes available for TBAs.
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	This research is innovative because it integrated indigenous maternal care practices with modern healthcare training. This hybrid approach enhances the effectiveness of TBAs by equipping them with evidence-based medical knowledge while preserving their culturally acceptable role in the community. This research gears towards providing a hybrid model of care which will bridge the gap between traditional and modern healthcare, creating a unique mentorship program that trains TBAs using formal medical knowledge while respecting their indigenous expertise. The study will also enhance capacity building and sustainability, data-driven impact

	<p>measurement and community-centered approach. In terms of commercialization; through this study, a standardized curriculum for TBAs can be prepared that will in turn birth a certificate issuing program for TBAs. This can be achieved through partnership with NGOs, hospitals and public health agencies. A Maternal Health Kit can be developed for TBAs at low-costs and supplied to rural health programs. I also seek Government and NGO Adoption to offer the training modules that will be birth from this research as a structured intervention to improve maternal and neonatal health outcomes.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	Timeline: 1 year. Estimate Budget: 1,300,000

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/003
<b>TITLE</b>	An assessment of Malaria chemoprophylaxis in children under-fives in Plateau state: implication for malaria elimination in Nigeria
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>Background: Malaria remains a critical public health challenge in Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly affecting children under five. This systematic review evaluates the effectiveness of chemoprophylactic strategies, including Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention (SMC) and the RTS, S/AS01 malaria vaccine, in reducing malaria incidence in this population.</p> <p>Methods: A comprehensive literature search was conducted across PubMed, Google Scholar, and African Journals Online (AJOL) databases, focusing on studies published up to October 2023. Inclusion criteria encompassed randomized controlled trials, observational studies, and systematic reviews assessing the efficacy of chemoprophylaxis. The quality of evidence for each outcome was evaluated using the GRADE (Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development, and Evaluation) approach, providing a transparent framework for assessing the certainty of findings. Heterogeneity was assessed using the <math>I^2</math> statistic to quantify variability in study outcomes.</p> <p>Results: Seven studies were included in the analysis. Randomized controlled trials consistently demonstrated the efficacy of chemoprophylaxis under controlled conditions. However, the <math>I^2</math> statistic of 60% indicated moderate heterogeneity, suggesting that differences in study outcomes are influenced by factors beyond sampling error, such as variations in healthcare settings and participant demographics. According to GRADE assessments, the quality of evidence ranged from moderate to high for most outcomes, supporting the robustness of findings but indicating room for refinement in certain study designs and implementation practices.</p> <p>Conclusions: The findings emphasize the importance of addressing local factors—such as healthcare infrastructure, socioeconomic conditions, and adherence challenges—to maximize the impact of chemoprophylaxis programs in Nigeria and similar settings. Future research should prioritize these contextual elements to enhance the real-world effectiveness of malaria prevention strategies, contributing to the broader goal of malaria eradication in the region.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The main aim of this project work is to assess the impact of malaria chemoprophylaxis in children under-fives in Plateau state.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	(i) To assess the impact of malaria interventions on malaria preventions in children UN5 in Plateau State. (ii) To evaluate the prevalence and determinants of malaria risk among children under five years of age in Plateau state. (iii) To provide evidence-based policymaking strategies for malaria control in children under-fives in Plateau state. (iv) To understand socioeconomic and environmental determinants and monitor progress towards national and international targets for malaria prevention.



<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	<p>Malaria has become a household name in the African context and dealing with this menace require quite a number of innovative approaches, and this approach is not far from having an effective Vaccination as a permanent solution to eradicating this endemic problem that malaria has caused in our society. This research will give a background on the effectiveness and ineffectiveness of the various prophylaxis that is already in circulation, and more effective approaches will be innovated and recommended to curtail this endemic problem of malaria in our communities.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	<p>1 Year. Estimated budget: 2 million Naira</p>

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/004
<b>TITLE</b>	Formulation and packaging of dispersible granules as a nutraceutical functional blood-boosting drinks comprising aqueous extract of the leaf of <i>Justicia secunda</i> (Acanthaceae)
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	This study focuses on the potential of the extract of <i>Justicia secunda</i> (Acanthaceae) as a bioactive ingredient in blood-boosting nutraceutical formulations towards contributing to the advancement of innovative, plant-based health solutions. Anaemia has remained a global health concern and is characterized by a deficiency of red blood cells or haemoglobin that arises due to nutritional deficiencies in iron, vitamin B12, folate, chronic diseases, genetic factors, etc. embodied in oxidative stress. The formulation of nutraceutical drinks with functional and essential health relevance is gaining global attention considering the increasing need for natural substitutes in handling health disorders considering their rich antioxidant nature, availability, cost-effectiveness, etc. This study concentrates on the formulation of a nutraceutical and antioxidant-rich functional health blood-boosting drink in a readily dispersible granule form incorporated with the aqueous leaf extract of <i>Justicia secunda</i> , a plant justifiable based on its traditional medicinal use for treating anaemia and enhancing circulation. Its high antioxidant and iron content makes it a potential haematopoietic agent, etc. The quantification of phytoconstituents, in vitro/in vivo antioxidant profile, and essential elemental content of the extracts (bioactive agents) will be evaluated, and their effects on the haematological profile of male and female Wistar rats will be verified. Each approach will be carried out considering relevant quality assurance (QA), quality control (QC), good manufacturing practices (GMP), and stability matters. This proposal aligns with the rising inclination toward functional herbal beverages as an accepted natural alternative to synthetic supplements.
<b>AIM</b>	The study aims to formulate a nutraceutical functional health blood-boosting drink as dispersible granules containing aqueous extract of the leaf of <i>Justicia secunda</i>
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	(1). i. To quantify the phytoconstituents, carry out in vitro/in vivo antioxidant profile, essential elemental content of the aqueous extracts of <i>Justicia secunda</i> leaf and verify the effects of the extract on the haematological profile of male and female Wistar rats.  (2). ii. To formulate and package a nutraceutical functional health blood-boosting drink as dispersible granules containing aqueous extract of the leaf of <i>Justicia secunda</i> considering relevant quality assurance (QA), quality control (QC) and stability studies.
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	Leaves of <i>Justicia secunda</i> is now popularly boiled by numerous people locally and drank as blood boosters, though, without taking cognizance of the right dose and conditions to prepare it to preserve the bioactive ingredients, and they have nicknamed it "hospital is too far." The plant is rich in antioxidants, which are believed to be sensitive to excessive heat during boiling or exposure to direct sunlight. Packaging the plant extract

	<p>considering high-level quality assurance, quality control, good manufacturing practice, and relevant stability issues, a robust product that can be vouched for in terms of efficacy, dosage, quality, and stability during its shelf life, etc., and these factors will no doubt boost the economic value of the bioactive ingredient having been turned into a dosage form with expected unprecedented commercial value. Its formulation and packaging at the proposed level present the product ready for commercialization with one more step of product registration with the relevant regulatory agencies. The product will control the market amongst all commercially available synthetic haematopoietic agents considering its potability and convenience for use by simply infusing a recommended dose size in a recommended volume of hot, warm water or water at ambient temperature.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	<p>The project will be accomplished within six months, considering stability studies. The estimated budget is one million four hundred thousand naira.</p>

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/005
<b>TITLE</b>	DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF AN ELECTRONIC NURSING APPLICATION FOR FACILITY-BASED DOCUMENTATION IN NIGERIA
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p><b>ABSTRACT</b></p> <p>Nursing care documentation is critical to patient care, ensuring continuity, accuracy, and accountability in clinical practice. Historically, paper-based documentation methods were widely utilized, yet they presented significant challenges, including illegibility, redundancy, and the risk of loss or misplacement. The transition to electronic nursing documentation systems has revolutionized clinical record-keeping, offering enhanced efficiency, accessibility, and accuracy. However, existing electronic applications often lack comprehensive nursing diagnosis terminologies and rely on cloud-based internet connectivity, rendering them costly and impractical for widespread adoption in Nigerian healthcare settings. This study aims to develop and field-test a new electronic nursing documentation application (to be named "The Care Plan Companion (CPC)") designed with all 235 nursing diagnosis terminologies and offline functionality specifically for facility-based use in Nigerian teaching hospitals. The study will adopt a multi-phase mixed-method approach to achieve the following objectives: (1) assess the development process, features, and gaps of existing nursing care documentation applications; (2) explore the desired functionalities of an electronic nursing care planning tool among Nigerian nurses and midwives; (3) design a novel contextually appropriate electronic nursing documentation system; and (4) evaluate the new application through a field validation test, examining its quality in terms of timeliness, accuracy, usefulness, usability, and completeness. By addressing the limitations of current systems and integrating user-driven design, CPC has the potential to enhance nursing documentation practices, improve patient outcomes, and support efficient clinical decision-making. The findings will inform policy recommendations and contribute to the advancement of electronic health record systems within resource-limited healthcare settings.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of this study is to develop, and field test an electronic nursing application for facility-based documentation in teaching hospitals in Nigeria.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	1) Assess the development process, features, and gaps of existing nursing care documentation applications; (2) Explore the desired functionalities of an electronic nursing care planning tool among Nigerian nurses and midwives; (3) Design a novel contextually appropriate electronic nursing documentation system;
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	This study holds significant benefits for nursing and midwifery practice in public health centres. The development and implementation of a new electronic nursing care application tailored for nurse-midwives can streamline documentation processes. By facilitating efficient data capture and retrieval, nurse-midwives can dedicate more time to direct patient care, leading to improved overall efficiency in their practice. Electronic nursing care documentation tools have the potential to enhance the accuracy and

	<p>timeliness of documenting patient information compared to traditional paper-based methods. This can lead to better-informed clinical decision-making and more precise monitoring of patient progress, particularly in time-sensitive situations such as childbirth. The new electronic nursing care application can support nurse-midwives in developing comprehensive care plans for expectant mothers and newborns. With features designed to guide assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation processes, nurse-midwives can ensure that all aspects of maternal and neonatal care are thoroughly addressed. Through the validation process outlined in the study, the reliability and validity of the electronic nursing care application can be established. This ensures that the data collected and documented by nurse-midwives are accurate, consistent, and reflective of the actual care provided, thereby enhancing the integrity of clinical records. Electronic nursing care applications offer the advantage of easy access to patient information from various locations within healthcare facilities. Midwives can quickly retrieve pertinent data, collaborate with other members of the healthcare team, and communicate important updates or changes in patient status more effectively. Engaging in the development and testing of a new electronic nursing care application provides midwives with opportunities for professional growth and skill development. By participating in the design, validation, and evaluation phases of the application, nurse-midwives can enhance their technological proficiency and contribute to advancements in nursing and midwifery practice.</p>
<p><b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b></p>	<p>Project Timeline (Gantt chart) This study is designed to be completed within 11 months in 2025, following a structured sequence of research activities. The timeline ensures a systematic approach to developing and field-testing the electronic nursing documentation application with key milestones distributed across study phases. The project commences in February and March 2025 with the conceptualization and proposal development phase. This stage involves refining the research framework, obtaining ethical approvals, and finalizing logistical preparations for subsequent data collection and system design. Qualitative data collection is scheduled for April 2025, during which in-depth interviews and focus group discussions will be conducted with nurses and midwives to explore their experiences and expectations regarding electronic nursing documentation systems. The designing of the application phase will take place from May to July 2025. This phase includes system architecture development, software programming, and preliminary user interface testing to ensure the application meets the identified needs of healthcare practitioners. Quantitative data collection will occur between July and September 2025, where field validation testing of the newly developed application will be conducted. Data on timeliness, accuracy, usability, and completeness will be collected to evaluate the tool's effectiveness. In October 2025, the reporting and dissemination phase will involve analyzing collected data, preparing research findings, and disseminating results through academic publications and stakeholder presentations. The study will conclude with the product launch and patenting in November and December 2025, ensuring the application is formally introduced for potential adoption in Nigerian healthcare facilities. Budget for Project The estimated budget for this study is ₦1,490,000 to cover key activities. A crucial initial expense is the training and workshop for app design, which is</p>

budgeted at ₦50,000. This will provide essential knowledge and skills required for designing and structuring the application to meet the needs of nurses and midwives. To facilitate the development process, the study requires a software license for the app development tool, which will be procured at ₦50,000, ensuring access to the necessary technical resources for efficient programming and user interface design. To support the technical aspects of the project, the budget includes the acquisition of a laptop computer for app development, allocated at ₦700,000. This high-performance device is essential for running the development software and conducting application testing. Additionally, a digital voice recorder, estimated at ₦50,000, will be used for data collection during qualitative interviews, ensuring accuracy in capturing midwives' insights and experiences. Given the need for extensive field visits across multiple healthcare facilities, local transportation costs are budgeted at ₦100,000 to facilitate the movement of the research team during data collection and implementation phases. To ensure that the study's findings reach a wider academic audience, academic journal submission and publication fees have been allocated ₦100,000, covering the costs of publishing in reputable peer-reviewed journals. Finally, to protect the intellectual property of the newly developed application and support its future adoption, patent fees are budgeted at ₦440,000. This will secure the legal rights of the innovation and facilitate potential commercialization or institutional adoption of the application in Nigerian healthcare settings. This budget considers only the essential elements of the research, ensuring that the study is conducted efficiently while maintaining cost-effectiveness. The estimated cost will support the successful completion of the project, from development to field validation and dissemination.

Figures and Tables

Stages	2025	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conceptualization and Proposal												
Qualitative Data Collection												
Designing of the Application												
Quantitative Data Collection												
Reporting and Dissemination												
Product Launch and Patenting												

Figure 1: Gantt chart for the study

Table 1: Research budget

Description	Required quantity	Final price in Naira
Training and workshop for App Design	1	50,000
Software License for App Development Tool	1	50,000
Laptop computer for App Development	1	700,000
Digital Voice Recorder	1	50,000
Local Transportation for Field Visits	1	100,000
Academic Journal Submission and publication Fees	1	100,000
Patent Fees	1	440,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,490,000</b>

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/006
<b>TITLE</b>	PERCEPTION AND PRACTICE OF FAMILY-CENTERED CARE AMONG NURSES IN CHILDREN HOSPITALS IN DELTA STATE NIGERIA.
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	This study explores nurses' perceptions and practices of Family-Centered Care (FCC) in pediatric hospitals in Delta State, Nigeria. It examines how nurses understand, implement, and prioritize family involvement in the care of hospitalized children, highlighting factors that influence FCC adoption and potential barriers in the local healthcare context
<b>AIM</b>	"To explore and assess the perceptions, attitudes, and practices of nurses towards Family-Centered Care (FCC) in pediatric hospitals in Delta State. The study aims to identify barriers, facilitators, and knowledge gaps in the implementation of FCC, with the goal of improving nursing practices and enhancing family participation in the care of pediatric patients."
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	1.To assess the perceptions of nurses regarding the principles and importance of Family-Centered Care (FCC) in pediatric hospitals in Delta State 2. To identify the current practices and challenges nurses face in implementing Family-Centered Care within pediatric hospital settings in Delta State.
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	1. Context-Specific FCC Model: This research could lead to the development of a culturally tailored FCC framework for Nigerian pediatric hospitals. 2. Use of Technology: Innovative FCC tools (e.g., mobile apps for family engagement or communication platforms) could be developed to enhance the delivery of FCC.
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	One (1) year duration .Budget 3 millions naira.

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/007
<b>TITLE</b>	Domestic Violence and Abuse in Pregnancy: Exploring Disclosure, Nondisclosure and conflict Resolution Strategies in South-South Nigeria
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p><b>Aims and objectives:</b> The aim of this study is to determine Domestic Violence and Abuse in their pregnancy: Exploring disclosure, nondisclosure and conflict resolution strategies in South-South, Nigeria</p> <p><b>Background:</b> Domestic violence and abuse (DVA) during pregnancy has been recognized as a substantial hazard that leads to maternal mortality in many regions worldwide. Although some women opt to withhold their experiences from others to avoid exerting any strain on marital connection. Currently, there is no widely accepted screening procedure in place during prenatal care to detect cases of domestic violence. Several investigations, carried out by Halpern-Meekin et al. (2019), Teshome et al. (2021), and Ezekwe-Anya (2017) have found that over 97.2% of incidents are unaccounted for.</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Mixed method approach will be used for the study. The study will utilize a nonprobabilistic convenience sample consisting of 30 antenatal women, only 10 have been interviewed according to the criteria adopted through the scale of domestic violence and abuse interview guide, applied between January–February 2025. Authorisation was given by the Ethics Committees/ Boards of both states.</p> <p><b>Results:</b> Presently, no result yet since the researcher is still in the preliminary process of data collection</p> <p><b>Conclusions.</b> Nearly fifty percent of the examined respondents reported experiencing financial deprivation by their partners. Domestic violence and abuse during pregnancy is a reality as such National and International guidelines recommend that preventive protocols should be in place to facilitate the identification of women who are experiencing domestic violence. This study may contribute to providing an appropriate scale.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of this study is to determine Domestic Violence and Abuse in their pregnancy: Exploring disclosure, nondisclosure and conflict resolution strategies in South-South, Nigeria
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	1. Determine the Prevalence of DVA experienced by Pregnant women attending ANC in South-South, Nigeria 2. Assess Patterns of DVA experienced by pregnant women attending ANC in South-South, Nigeria 3. Assess the factors that influence a pregnant woman’s decision to disclose or not disclose experiences of DVA by pregnant women attending antenatal clinics in South-South, Nigeria.
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	Domestic Violence and Abuse pose a serious danger to the objectives of the Safe Motherhood Initiative and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially those related to health and well-being (Women UN, 2022). This is mostly due to the possible impacts on both the expectant woman and the developing foetus, which is a matter of significant concern. It has been associated with several adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as low birthweight, foetal distress, early rupture of the membranes, miscarriage, antepartum haemorrhage, and perinatal mortality (Ayodapo et



	<p>al., 2017). Prior studies indicate that various factors contribute to the low rate of disclosure of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) among pregnant women. These factors include unemployment, unintended pregnancy, lack of trust in medical professionals, and limited time during antenatal care (ANC) visits (Katushabe et al., 2022). Healthcare practitioners have a vital role in recognising and dealing with domestic violence/abuse that occurs during pregnancy (McCauley et al., 2017). It is important to exercise cautious oversight and assessment when intervening in any processes related to Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA). This is because some women may perceive it as offensive if they are asked about DVA during their prenatal clinic visits. Additionally, it is worth noting that there is currently no culturally appropriate support system in place following disclosure of DVA (Hegarty et al., 2020). Despite extensive study and differing opinions, a definitive screening procedure for DVA has not yet been established. There is little information or lack of information available about the prevalence of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) during pregnancy and the availability of dispute resolution tools in South-South Nigeria, particularly at the time it was obtained. Thus, the researcher deemed it crucial to evaluate the act of disclosure and non-disclosure of domestic violence during pregnancy and investigate a tool for resolving conflicts.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	6 months/ 2 million

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/008
<b>TITLE</b>	Health Risk Associated with Artisanal Refineries in Emouha Local Government Area, South South Nigeria
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	Artificial refineries, also referred to as “Kpo-fire” are known to be a major source of environmental pollution. They produce a substantial volume of air pollutants with the highest concentration generated during the crude boiling stage of the operation. (Suku et al. 2023). These operations are widespread in southern Nigeria, especially in the oil-rich zones of Rivers State, with Emouha Local Government Area being a major epicenter of Kpo-fire. The significant threat of contaminating the air, water, soil, and biota by operators of artisanal crude oil refineries in the Niger Delta was not previously acknowledged as a severe issue. However, now it is undeniable that this is a major concern, given the reported correlation with respiratory illnesses, cancer, heart diseases, birth-related anomalies, and other fatalities.(Onwuna et al. 2022). Emouha local government area in Rivers State, South-South Nigeria with an area of 831 Km <sup>2</sup> and a population of over 201,901 (Abovu, 2015) has become a hotspot for kpo-fire activities. The outcome of exposure on the health and well-being of residents in this area is yet unknown. This study involves collection of qualitative and quantitative data. Questionnaires will be given to research participants to assess their lifestyle, occupation and demography. Analysis of environmental matrix is essential in this study as it reflects environmental health and its correlation with human health based on exposure to soot, and other particles from artisanal petroleum refining. This research is in line with SDG 3: Good health and well being.
<b>AIM</b>	To identify the health risk posed by artisanal refineries to nearby communities
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	1: conduct a health risk assessment based on exposure to soot, particulate matter and Voc, through measurement of Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) in body fluids like blood and urine of residents.  2: measure heavy metal levels like arsenic, lead, cadmium and chromium which are associated with petroleum activities, in environmental matrix like water, soil, vegetation and food sources.
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	This project will support and enhance public health monitoring and education on the dangers of exposure to artisanal refineries, also how residents can protect themselves. This will be done through town hall meetings, social gatherings and media.  This project supports the development of innovative ideas like adopting solar energy and other eco- friendly industries and reduce the reliance on harmful refinery activities and products. Ecofriendly refining alternative can be adopted by artisanal refinery operators to reduce environmental and human health impacts. These alternatives could also sustain jobs in these

	<p>communities since some of these local refinery operators may be out jobs if stopped.</p> <p>This study would also contribute to mapping the particular area (Emouha LGA), community or residents' health affected, thereby creating a local stakeholder's policy and implementation for the sake for environmental and human health protection.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	<p>Timeline: 3 to 4 months for all sample selection and analysis. Budget: Free Medical/ Health outreach for biological sample (blood and urine) collection = N117, 800 Analysis PAH</p>

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/009
<b>TITLE</b>	ANTENATAL OMEGA FATTY ACID SUPPLEMENTATIONS: MATERNAL AND INFANT OUTCOMES AT SELECTED HEALTH CENTERS IN RIVERS STATE
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	Some authors suggest that antenatal Omega fatty acid supplementation could mitigate the risk of preeclampsia and premature births, but evidence regarding its efficacy in preventing other pregnancy and birth complications remains uncertain. This systematic review of existing literature, employed the Population, Intervention, Comparison, and Outcome (PICO) framework to address the research problem: “Among pregnant women, what is the impact of antenatal omega fatty acids supplementation compared to placebo on maternal and infant outcomes (Preeclampsia, pregnancy duration, gestation at birth, birth weight, birth length, head circumference, APGAR score, and growth rate, and hospitalization rate)?” Adhering to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) guidelines, studies from 2014 to 2024 in PubMed and ScienceDirect were reviewed. The search strategy involved combining free-text search terms and Boolean operators for refinement. Relevant data were extracted using the matrix method. From 57 hits, 13 eligible studies were selected for inclusion. The evidence synthesis revealed that the impact of antenatal omega fatty acids supplementation on maternal and infant outcomes is mixed, with some evidence suggesting benefits in pregnancy duration, preterm birth, and newborn hospitalization rates. The existing evidence thereof remains inconclusive. Cautious consideration of omega fatty acids supplementation in antenatal care is recommended.
<b>AIM</b>	This study aims to examine the maternal and birth outcomes of omega fatty acids supplementation in selected health centres in Rivers State, Nigeria.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	1.Pregnancy outcomes (Gestational diabetes and Preeclampsia) between the treatment and control groups at baseline (20 weeks’ gestation).  2.Pregnancy outcomes (Gestational
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	Examining the impact of omega fatty acids supplementation on pregnancy outcomes will help Midwives play a crucial role in assessing and managing pregnancy risks. Understanding the impact of Omega supplementation on conditions like gestational diabetes and preeclampsia allows midwives to identify high-risk pregnancies early on. This knowledge forms the basis for developing individualized care plans that prioritize the health and well-being of both the pregnant individual and the unborn child. Armed with knowledge about the potential influence of Omega supplementation, midwives can tailor antenatal care plans based on individual needs. This might involve closer monitoring, dietary recommendations, or other interventions to mitigate the risk of gestational diabetes and preeclampsia. The ability to customize care plans enhances the midwife's capacity to provide comprehensive and personalized support throughout the pregnancy journey. Midwives are educators, and sharing information about the impact of Omega supplementation on pregnancy outcomes empowers pregnant individuals to

	<p>make informed decisions. Examining the impact of omega fatty acids supplementation on birth outcomes, particularly preterm birth, birth weight, and head circumference holds significant implications for midwifery practice. Midwives play a crucial role in providing holistic care to pregnant women, and understanding the impact of Omega supplementation on birth outcomes enhances their ability to offer evidence-based guidance and support. Midwives can use the comparison data to identify potential risk factors and implement targeted interventions for women at risk of preterm birth. If Omega supplementation is associated with a reduced incidence of preterm birth, midwives can incorporate this information into their counselling sessions and antenatal care to empower expectant mothers in making informed choices. Birth weight is a key indicator of foetal well-being and is linked to long-term health outcomes. Midwives can use knowledge about the impact of Omega supplementation on birth weight to tailor nutritional advice for pregnant women.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	1 year, #3,000,000.00

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/010
<b>TITLE</b>	VISUAL ACUITY AND ITS DETERMINANTS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPIL IN FCT ABUJA
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>This study aims to assess visual acuity and identify its determinants among primary school pupils in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Nigeria. Visual acuity is essential for children's academic performance and overall well-being, yet many visual problems remain diagnosed in this population. The study will focus on determining the prevalence of visual impairments and identifying contributing factors to inform targeted interventions.</p> <p>A cross-sectional study design will be employed, involving a representative sample of 600 primary school pupils aged 5-12 years from randomly selected schools in the FCT. Visual acuity will be measured using standardized tools such as the Snellen chart. Data on potential determinants, including demographic information, socioeconomic status, parental history of visual problems, parental education, screen time exposure, and access to health care services, will be collected through structured questionnaires and interviews.</p> <p>The project will analyze the correlation between visual acuity and various determinants, emphasizing the identification of modifiable risk factors. Preliminary findings are expected to reveal a significant proportion of pupils with uncorrected visual impairments, predominantly due to refractive errors. Additional determinants such as prolonged screen time, inadequate lighting, and parental history of visual problems will be explored.</p> <p>The outcome of this project will provide valuable insights for policymakers, educators, and healthcare providers to develop and implement effective vision screening programs and preventive measures. Recommendations will include regular vision screenings, educational campaigns to raise awareness about eye health, and strategies to reduce modifiable risk factors within the school environment, fostering a generation that can thrive both academically and socially.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The primary aim of this study is to assess visual acuity and its determinants among pupils in FCT Abuja
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Determine the prevalence of visual acuity impairments among primary school pupils in FCT Abuja.</li> <li>2. Identify the socio-demographic, environmental, and health-related factors</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	My research on visual acuity among primary school pupils in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja is driven by a deep concern for the Nigerian child's eye health and educational success. Understanding that many young learners might be struggling with undiagnosed vision issues, I aim to shed

	<p>light on the various factors affecting their eye health and how that, in turn, impacts their academic performance.</p> <p>Instead of solely focusing on biological aspects of vision, I consider a wide range of influences, such as socioeconomic conditions, environmental settings, and access to healthcare as these can affect a child’s ability to learn effectively.</p> <p>An exciting innovation is the potential use of technology such as mobile or portable devices to facilitate vision screenings. This could empower schools and communities to take proactive steps to ensure all children can see clearly and learn joyfully. The path also opens doors to commercialization. For example, the development of user-friendly tools to assess visual acuity could ease the burden of identifying those in need. Training programs for educators on how to recognize and address visual problems in their students could provide valuable resources for the community.</p> <p>I also recognize how vital community engagement is in this journey. By involving local stakeholders and families, we can create a sense of shared responsibility for our children's well-being, leading to long-lasting, positive change.</p> <p>Furthermore, if this research leads to the creation of groundbreaking visual assessment tools, we could look into patenting those innovations, ensuring that they are available to help as many children as possible.</p> <p>Ultimately, this research is not merely academic; it is an empathetic response to a critical issue affecting our children in Abuja. By focusing on their health and educational outcomes, we have the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on their lives and futures.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	6 MONTHS, 1,500,000.00

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/011
<b>TITLE</b>	EFFECT OF PLANT-BASED ZINC SUPPLEMENTATION ON ANTENATAL AND BIRTH OUTCOMES IN RURAL RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA.
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>Background: Improving antenatal and birth outcomes remains a global priority for midwifery practice and maternal health.</p> <p>Objective: This research synthesized current evidence on the impact of zinc supplementation during pregnancy on key antenatal and birth outcomes among healthy pregnant women.</p> <p>Material and Methods: A systematic review was conducted following the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines. A comprehensive search of peer-reviewed clinical trials published between 2004 and 2024 in English was performed using electronic databases. The Population, Intervention, Comparison, and Outcome (PICO) framework guided the research question. Inclusion criteria encompassed randomized controlled trials evaluating the effects of zinc supplementation. Data were extracted using a standardized matrix method. Ethical considerations included reliance on studies with prior ethical approvals.</p> <p>Results: A total of seven randomized controlled trials met the inclusion criteria. The review found that Zinc supplementation did not significantly reduce the risk of foetal death (Relative Risk [RR]: 1.12, 95% Confidence Interval [CI]: 0.84–1.50, <math>p = 0.44</math>). No significant effect was observed on preterm birth rates (RR: 1.00, 95% CI: 0.66–1.52, <math>p = 0.99</math>). Zinc supplementation did not significantly lower the risk of low birth weight (RR: 1.09, 95% CI: 0.83–1.42, <math>p = 0.54</math>). There was no significant difference in the birth weight of newborns between the supplemented and non-supplemented groups (Mean Difference: -0.03, 95% CI: -0.07–0.00, <math>p = 0.06</math>).</p> <p>Conclusion: The findings indicate that antenatal zinc supplementation does not significantly improve foetal death, preterm birth, low birth weight, outcomes among healthy pregnant women.</p> <p>Keywords: Antenatal, Foetal, Supplementation, Zinc</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of this study is to investigate on the impact of plant-based zinc supplementation on antenatal and birth outcomes among pregnant women residing in rural areas of Rivers State, Nigeria.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<p>1: Assess the baseline nutritional status of a pregnant woman in rural Rivers Sate, focusing on zinc level at 20 weeks' gestation between the treatment growth and control groups. Objective</p> <p>2: Determine the effect of plant-based zinc supplementation on pregnancy related complication (gestational hypertension) during pregnancy at 37 weeks' gestation.</p>



<p><b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b></p>	<p>Plant-based zinc supplement is an innovative, sustainable, and market ready alternative to synthetic prenatal supplements. With the right scientific backing and regulatory approvals, it has strong commercialization potentials in the global maternal health industry. Zinc is essential for fetal development, immune function and reducing complications like preterm birth. Increasing demand for plant-based supplement makes this a highly relevant innovation. Ethical sourcing and sustainability could be a major selling point.</p> <p><b>POTENTIAL FOR COMMERCIALIZATION</b></p> <p>The global prenatal vitamin and supplement that is projected to grow significantly due to increased awareness of maternal nutrition. It can be marketed to health-conscious consumers, antenatal mothers and vegetarian mothers and those seeking alternative medicine. It has been proven safe and effective through clinical trials; it can be positioned as a physician recommended alternative to synthetic options. It can be commercialized as capsules, gummies or fortified prenatal foods, increase market appeal. If formulated uniquely, this supplement could be patented and licensed for exclusive distribution.</p>																											
<p><b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b></p>	<p>2 years Estimated Budget: The budget for this study is illustrated in Table 2 below.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Expense</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel</td> <td>Research team salaries (e.g., principal investigator, research assistants)</td> <td>₦200,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supplies</td> <td>Nutritional supplements (plant-based zinc and phenylalanine)</td> <td>₦500,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stationeries</td> <td>Data collection tools (data extraction form and materials)</td> <td>₦20,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Participant Incentives</td> <td>Compensation for participating pregnant women (Transportation reimbursement)</td> <td>₦600,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel Expenses</td> <td>Research team travel to study sites for data collection</td> <td>₦200,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Overhead Costs</td> <td>Overhead costs (e.g., administrative support, utilities)</td> <td>₦50,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miscellaneous</td> <td>Contingency fund for unforeseen expenses</td> <td>₦50,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>₦1,620,000.00</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Expense	Amount	Personnel	Research team salaries (e.g., principal investigator, research assistants)	₦200,000.00	Supplies	Nutritional supplements (plant-based zinc and phenylalanine)	₦500,000.00	Stationeries	Data collection tools (data extraction form and materials)	₦20,000.00	Participant Incentives	Compensation for participating pregnant women (Transportation reimbursement)	₦600,000.00	Travel Expenses	Research team travel to study sites for data collection	₦200,000.00	Overhead Costs	Overhead costs (e.g., administrative support, utilities)	₦50,000.00	Miscellaneous	Contingency fund for unforeseen expenses	₦50,000.00		<b>Total</b>	<b>₦1,620,000.00</b>
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<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/012
<b>TITLE</b>	Predictive impact of intimate partner violence and depression among pregnant women attending antenatal clinic of state specialist hospital, Osogbo Odun State.
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>The resultant effect of Intimate Partner Violence and depression is widely seen in the environment and yet Intimate Partner violence and depression are not given proper attention. Intimate Partner Violence occurs during pregnancy.</p> <p>The main objective of this study is to assess the predictive impact of intimate partner violence and depression among pregnant women attending antenatal clinic of state specialist hospital, Osogbo.</p> <p>The study adopted a descriptive cross- sectional research design with the sample size of 384 using simple random sampling techniques. A Semi structured self-administered questionnaire was used to elicit response from the respondents and SPSS version 22 was used for data analysis.</p> <p>More than half of the respondents (65.6%) reported low prevalence of intimate partner violence. One-third of the respondents (37.0%) reported high prevalence of intimate partner violence. More than half of the respondents (62.0%) reported low prevalence of depression. One-third of the respondents (38.0%) reported high prevalence of depression. 72.0% of the respondents reported low severity of intimate partner violence, and 28.0% reported high severity of intimate partner violence</p> <p>The study reveals that more than half of the respondents experienced low prevalence of intimate partner violence, low prevalence of depression and low severity of intimate partner violence was observed as well during pregnancy among respondents.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	To assess the predictive impact of intimate partner violence and depression on pregnant women attending antenatal clinic of state specialist hospital Osun State
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	1. To assess the prevalence of Intimate Partner Violence among pregnant women attending antenatal clinic of Osun State Specialist Hospital Asubiaro Osogbo. 2. To assess the frequency and severity of Intimate Partner Violence among pregnant women attending antenatal clinic of Osun State Specialist Hospital Asubiaro Osogbo
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	The topic "Predictive Impact of Intimate Partner Violence and Depression Among Pregnant Women Attending Antenatal Clinic of State Specialist Hospital Osogbo, Osun State" is innovative as it combines two crucial aspects—intimate partner violence (IPV) and maternal mental health—into a predictive model for understanding the health outcomes of pregnant women. By focusing on IPV and depression, the study addresses both the psychological and social challenges that can affect maternal and fetal health. This innovative approach seeks to identify patterns and early

	<p>indicators that could predict adverse pregnancy outcomes, empowering healthcare providers with proactive strategies for intervention.</p> <p>The commercial aspect of this research lies in its potential to create predictive tools or applications for healthcare systems. By developing predictive algorithms, hospitals or healthcare centers can more effectively identify women at risk for IPV and depression, leading to targeted interventions. This can improve maternal and child health outcomes, reduce healthcare costs associated with complications, and increase the quality of care provided.</p> <p>Additionally, the commercialization potential includes partnerships with healthcare providers, technology firms, and health insurance companies to integrate this predictive model into electronic health records (EHRs) or mobile health apps, enabling real-time screening and personalized care. This can also open doors for training programs for healthcare workers, data analysis services, and awareness campaigns. The findings can further drive funding for health initiatives, policies, and services specifically aimed at supporting vulnerable pregnant women, creating a significant impact on both public health and business opportunities in the healthcare sector.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	6 months, 500,000

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/013
<b>TITLE</b>	Effect of School-Based Nutrition Education Intervention on Eating Disorders among Adolescents in Secondary Schools in Obio-Akpor , Rivers State.
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b> Adolescence is a transitional period between childhood and adulthood, The World Health Organization (WHO), defines an adolescent as any person between ages 10 and 19. This phase is further defined as early adolescence (ages 10–14 years) and late adolescence (ages 15–19 years), (Lassi et al., 2017). According to Onyishi (2023), an eating disorder is any psychiatric problem which is identified as an abnormal eating patterns. Numerous biological, psychological, familial, and sociocultural aspects have been linked to the formation and persistence of eating disorders (Eriksson et al., 2023). Eating disorders, including anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorder, have become a critical public health issue among adolescents. According to World Health Organization (2021), eating disorders occur in an estimated 0.1% of 10–14-year-olds and 0.4% of 15–19.</p> <p><b>Objectives:</b> To determine and compare pre and post-intervention prevalence of eating disorders among adolescents in secondary schools.</p> <p><b>Methodology</b> This research is a quasi- experimental study will use mixed-methods approach, combining both quantitative and qualitative methods. An estimated population of 5500 adolescents from three secondary schools to be distributed by proportion and a sample of 350-400 participants will be drawn. Instruments for data collection includes, questionnaire, interview guide and focused group discussion. For descriptive and inferential statistics and analysed using statistical software such as SPSS. Ethical approval was obtained from the ethical committee of the school.</p> <p><b>Results:</b> Study is in progress.</p> <p><b>Conclusion:</b> Research process is ongoing.</p> <p><b>Key words:</b> Adolescents, eating disorders, anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	To assess the effects of school-based nutrition education intervention on the prevalence of eating disorders among adolescents in secondary schools in Obio-Akpor Local Government Area of Rivers State.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<p>(1.) To determine and compare pre and post intervention prevalence of eating disorders.</p> <p>(2) To determine the factors associated with eating disorders.</p>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	The research aims to help adolescents develop a healthier perspective on body image and nutrition, encouraging better eating habits for long-term health. Students gain a better understanding of what eating disorders are, including their symptoms and patterns, which helps them recognize if they or their peers might be struggling. Understanding the causes of eating disorders can help create public health

	<p>programs that promote better mental and physical health among teens. The findings will provide valuable insights for educators and policymakers, helping them design effective nutrition education programs that meet the needs of adolescents. This research will help parents, teachers, and healthcare providers recognize the psychological and social factors related to eating disorders, enabling them to identify early signs and intervene.</p> <p>The study can inform the development of specific school-based programs aimed at promoting healthy eating habits and mental well-being. Results can inform public health policies and programs focused on adolescent health, potentially leading to initiatives that address eating disorders at a broader level. Understanding prevalence helps in allocating resources effectively, ensuring that schools and health services can better address the needs of students at risk. Knowledge of predictors enables the development of targeted prevention programs and interventions tailored to the specific risk factors identified.</p> <p>The study will enhance our understanding of eating disorders in Nigeria, highlighting the importance of nutrition education in schools as a preventive measure. The study helps the researcher contribute new insights to the existing body of knowledge about adolescent eating disorders, particularly in the context of secondary schools. Successful research can lead to opportunities for career advancement, including academic promotions, research grants, and invitations to present findings at conferences.</p> <p>The findings can provide a foundation for future studies on eating disorders and nutrition education, promoting further exploration of effective strategies in various settings.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	Two years, Estimated budget of four million naira

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/014
<b>TITLE</b>	Development of Model of Care to Prevent Birth Trauma in Port Harcourt, Nigeria.
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>Childbirth stands as a profoundly transformative experience for women, shaping their perceptions and memories. The quality of care rendered during this critical moment significantly influences these perceptions. While many women undergo childbirth with positive outcomes, some encounter substantial physical and psychological stress. Birth trauma encompasses both the physical harm infants may endure during delivery due to mechanical forces such as traction or compression, as well as the emotional distress experienced by mothers during or after childbirth. The study is a descriptive cross-sectional study design involving exploratory mixed-methods approach, integrating both quantitative and qualitative methods and the quality validation of the new model of care on cultural relevance, religious, individual and institutional input and socio-economic needs. Five research objectives, five research questions, and five research hypotheses, were formulated. The study population will comprise health workers and women of childbearing age in the university of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital and Rivers State University Teaching Hospital. A sample of 400 as determined using Taro Yamane formula in the quantitative and 15 will be determined in the qualitative analysis by the principle of data saturation. Questionnaires and interviews will be used as instruments for data collection. The descriptive statistics of percentages, means and standard deviation will be used to present the data. The expected outcome; this study will develop an Integrated Perinatal Care Model: A Holistic Approach to Maternity Services, addressing significant gaps in existing care models, by incorporating cultural, religious, socio-economic, emotional, and institutional factors to prevent birth trauma, ensuring a culturally relevant, institutionally supported, and user-friendly framework validated for acceptability, usability, and staff preference.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of this study is to evaluate the existing model of care and develop a model of care to prevent birth trauma in Port Harcourt, Nigeria.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To examine the existing models of care for gaps, such as exclusion of cultural, religious, socio-economic and emotional perspectives.</li> <li>2. To develop a new model of care that covers the gaps.</li> <li>3. To conduct validation quality (cultural relevance, religious, institutional input, acceptability, user friendliness, staff preference and usability) of the new model of care.</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	The agony of birth trauma, either by physical injury or emotional torture cannot be overemphasized. The injury or torture meted to a woman during delivery is often quickly forgotten by the victim especially when the baby's condition is good. However, in some instances, the trauma can result in loss of life or become a permanent injury on the baby or mother. These extreme causes pose danger including litigations and other forms of revenge either on the individual health worker or the institution involved.

	<p>Therefore, developing an all-inclusive model of care which is primarily a patient centered care approach considering relevant aspects of the patient's religious, cultural and socio-economic inclinations would be appropriate and could reduce the cases of litigation in maternity care.</p>
<p><b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b></p>	<p>Data collection will last for a period of 3 months, data analysis including publication of reviews and original article is expected to be concluded within 3 months, totaling 9 months. The total budget is estimated to be N650,000. This includes Cost of internet services: N50,000, Cost of photocopy of research materials (including questionnaires, consent forms, etc.): N100,000, Transportation cost: N100,000, Software for data analysis, antiplagiarism check etc.: N100,000, Ethics approval cost in the different institutions: N100,000, Honorarium for support staff: N100,000, Miscellaneous: N50,000.</p>

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/015
<b>TITLE</b>	Knowledge and utilization of local food for nutritional needs of under five years children among mothers in Bubbugaje Kano state
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	Malnutrition in children under 5 years remains an important public health challenge as it spurs child mortality and morbidity in developing countries, including Nigeria. The purpose of this study was to assess the Knowledge on the causes of malnutrition, preventive measure as well as level of utilization of locally available foods by the mothers of under five years children in Bubbugaje town Kumbotso LGA, Kano state.
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of this study is to ensure that the mothers of under five years children in Bubbugaje town have adequate knowledge about the causes of malnutrition, prevention of malnutrition and utilization of locally available food stuffs in the prevention/management of malnutrition.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To assess the knowledge of mothers of under five children on the causes of malnutrition in Bubbugaje town Kumbotso LGA.</li> <li>2. To identify the level of utilization of locally available food stuffs in prevention of malnutrition among children under five years in Bubbugaje town Kumbotso LG.</li> <li>3.To find out the possible ways toward the prevention of malnutrition among under five years children in Bubbugaje town Kumbotso LGA.</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	This study will explore the knowledge and utilization of local food stuff in prevention of malnutrition among mothers of under five years children. The study could also benefit the Kano state government through provision of adequate supplement for the treatment of malnutrition, Benefits the mothers by proper use of local food stuff in order to prevent malnutrition in their children (i.e. proper utilization of available local food).This will help the policy makers in formulation of standards to tackle problem of malnutrition in the state and country at large. Also the study will help the future student's nurses and midwives to aid on existing knowledge of tackling prevention of malnutrition among under five years children through awareness and advocacy to the women of child bearing age.
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	6 months Estimated Budget:#750,000



<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/016
<b>TITLE</b>	Gas flaring and neurodevelopmental disorders in malnourished children in the Niger Delta, Nigeria: characterization of environmental and human susceptibilities
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>This study investigates the impact of gas flaring on malnourished children in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria, focusing on its correlation with neurodevelopmental disorders. Gas flaring, a byproduct of oil extraction, releases harmful pollutants that pose significant health risks, particularly to vulnerable populations. The research aims to fill the existing gap in empirical studies addressing the neurotoxic effects of gas flaring on children, with a particular emphasis on those suffering from malnutrition.</p> <p>Using a mixed-methods approach, the study incorporates a comprehensive literature review, environmental data collection, health data assessments, and field surveys. It seeks to evaluate the frequency and intensity of gas flaring and its associated pollutants while also analyzing the prevalence of neurodevelopmental disorders among affected children. Additionally, the research identifies sociodemographic factors that exacerbate vulnerability, offering insights into community-specific risks.</p> <p>Results will be analyzed to establish correlations between environmental exposure and health outcomes, providing a clearer understanding of the pathways through which gas flaring affects child health. This research not only aims to produce a peer-reviewed publication but also to offer actionable policy recommendations for mitigating health risks linked to gas flaring. Ultimately, the findings will contribute to the ongoing discourse on environmental health and public policy in Nigeria, advocating for better regulatory frameworks to safeguard children's health in the Niger Delta.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of the study is to investigate the relationship between gas flaring, environmental pollution, and neurodevelopmental disorders in malnourished children in the Niger Delta, Nigeria
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate the extent of neurodevelopmental disorders among affected children.</li> <li>2. Understand the susceptibilities of malnourished children to these pollutants and identify pathways of exposure.</li> <li>3. Identify sociodemographic factors that exacerbate the vulnerability of malnourished children to health issues related to gas flaring.</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	The innovation of this study lies in its integrative approach to examining the multifaceted impact of gas flaring on malnourished children in the Niger Delta, combining environmental science, public health, and social equity perspectives. By employing a mixed-methods methodology that includes

	<p>epidemiological assessments, environmental data collection, and community-based surveys, the study not only quantifies the exposure levels to harmful pollutants but also captures the lived experiences and challenges faced by vulnerable populations. This dual focus enables a comprehensive understanding of the mechanisms through which environmental degradation affects child health.</p> <p>The anticipated impact of this research is significant, as it aims to enhance knowledge of the toxicological effects of gas flaring pollutants on neurodevelopment in children who are already at risk due to malnutrition. The findings will contribute to the growing body of evidence that emphasizes the intersectionality of environmental health and social determinants, informing policymakers and healthcare professionals about the urgent need for targeted interventions.</p> <p>Moreover, this study is poised to generate actionable recommendations for regulatory frameworks aimed at mitigating the health effects of gas flaring. By emphasizing the need for sustainable development practices and highlighting health disparities, the research advocates for improved public health policies that prioritize vulnerable communities. Ultimately, the study seeks to empower local populations through workshops and community engagement, fostering awareness and advocacy for healthier environments. This combination of scientific rigor, community involvement, and policy relevance positions the research as a critical contributor to the discourse on health equity and environmental justice, promoting the well-being of children in the Niger Delta and extending implications for similar contexts globally.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	6months and estimated budget is 3,000,000 Naira.

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/017
<b>TITLE</b>	EXPLORING WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE AND PERCEPTION OF HERBAL MEDICINE IN FACILITATING LABOR: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY OF ASSIN FOSO POLYCLINIC, CENTRAL REGION, GHANA.
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	Healthcare professionals and public health workers in maternal and child health seek to improve service quality by using innovative education and outreach methods. Addressing gaps in knowledge and attitudes about essential health practices, such as using herbal medicine during labour, is crucial for better health outcomes and consistent care. Traditional methods of educating pregnant women about the safety and effectiveness of herbal medicine during labour often fall short, leading to misconceptions and underuse of these methods. As public health evolves, understanding the experience and perception of women regarding labour and herbal medicine is becoming more important. Health facilities worldwide are beginning to see that knowledge and attitudes towards herbal medicine during labour are crucial not only for individual's well-being but also for community health, empowerment and advancements in social status. An important measure of the effectiveness of maternal health initiatives is the opinions and attitudes of expectant mothers regarding herbal medicine. Healthcare systems are becoming more and more interested in learning what factors affect the use of herbal medicine during childbirth, both in affluent nations and in areas like Assin Fosu, Ghana. This interest is as a result of realizing the substantial benefits that wise use of herbal medicine may provide for long-term sustainability, social stability, community strength and individual health.
<b>AIM</b>	The study aims to explore the experiences and expectation of pregnant women regarding labour and safety with the use of herbal medicine among the childbearing women attending Assin Fosu Polyclinic in Ghana. The study seeks to understand how these experiences and expectation influence the use and perception of herbal remedies during labour and childbirth.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To explore the in-depth knowledge pertaining herbal medicine among pregnant women at Assin Fosu Polyclinic.</li> <li>2. To understand the personal experience and perception of women concerning the use of herbal medicine during labour and delivery At Assin Fosu Polyclinic.</li> <li>3. To assess the factors that shape women's experience and perception regarding the use of herbal medicines in childbirth at Assin Fosu Polyclinic.</li> <li>4. To identify the barriers mitigating the use of herbal medicines in childbirth at Assin Fosu Polyclinic.</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	This research is innovative as it explores women's experiences and perceptions of herbal medicine in facilitating labor, an area with limited empirical studies in Ghana. While traditional medicine is widely used, its integration into maternal healthcare remains largely undocumented. By

	<p>focusing on Assin Foso Polyclinic, the study provides localized insights into the safety, efficacy, and cultural acceptance of herbal labor facilitators, potentially influencing healthcare policy and clinical guidelines.</p> <p>For commercialization, the study can identify commonly used herbal remedies, which can then be scientifically validated for efficacy and safety. This could lead to the development of standardized, marketable herbal supplements or pharmaceuticals tailored for labor facilitation. Collaborations with herbal medicine manufacturers, regulatory bodies, and healthcare institutions could ensure quality control and large-scale production.</p> <p>Regarding patent potential, if novel herbal formulations or preparation methods emerge from the study, they could be patented as proprietary labor-enhancing supplements. Additionally, process patents could be filed for unique extraction or formulation techniques, ensuring competitive market exclusivity.</p> <p>Overall, this research bridges traditional and modern maternal healthcare, providing opportunities for product development, policy influence, and potential global commercialization.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	500,000 Naira

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/018
<b>TITLE</b>	Knowledge and Practice of Midwives on Male circumcision in some selected Government Hospitals in Cape Coast Metropolis.
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>Knowledge and Practice of Midwives on Male Circumcision in Selected Government Hospitals in Cape Coast Metropolis</p> <p>Background: Male circumcision is a widely accepted practice for preventing HIV transmission and other health benefits. Midwives play a crucial role in providing newborn care, including male circumcision.</p> <p>Objective: This study aimed to assess the knowledge and practice of midwives on male circumcision in selected government hospitals in Cape Coast Metropolis.</p> <p>Methodology: A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among midwives working in selected government hospitals. A structured questionnaire was used to collect data on midwives' knowledge and practice regarding male circumcision.</p> <p>The study sought to identify gaps in midwives' knowledge and practice, and to determine the factors that influence their practice. The findings of this study will provide valuable insights into the knowledge and practice of midwives on male circumcision.</p> <p>The study's recommendations will inform policy and practice changes to improve newborn care and prevent HIV transmission. The findings will also be used to recommend strategies for improving midwives' knowledge and practice on male circumcision.</p> <p>Keywords: Male circumcision, midwives, knowledge, practice, newborn care, HIV prevention.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The aim is to assess the knowledge and Practice of Midwives on Male circumcision in some selected Government Hospitals in Cape Coast Metropolis
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<p>1.To identify the challenges faced by midwives in performing male circumcision.</p> <p>2. To evaluate the training and educational needs of midwives regarding male circumcision.</p>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	<p>Innovation</p> <p>This study introduces several innovative components First study in the region: This research is the first to investigate the knowledge and practice of midwives on male circumcision in the Cape Coast Metropolis. The study combines midwifery, public health, and epidemiology to provide a comprehensive understanding of male circumcision practices. Moreso, Practical implications of this study's findings will have direct implications for midwifery practice, policy, and education.</p> <p>The Impact this study has is to make a significant impact in improved newborn care findings will inform strategies to improve midwives' knowledge and practice on male circumcision, ultimately leading to better newborn care and reduced morbidity. Potential to reduced HIV transmission by identifying gaps in midwives' knowledge and practice, the</p>

	<p>study will contribute to the development of targeted interventions to reduce HIV transmission through male circumcision. Also, recommendations from the study will inform policy and education reforms, ensuring that midwifery education programs and policies prioritize evidence-based practice and improved newborn care. More importantly, Contribution to global health goals as the study will contribute to the achievement of global health goals, such as the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being).</p>
<p><b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b></p>	<p>1year. Estimating a budget for a 12-month research project on "Knowledge and Practice of Midwives on Male Circumcision in some selected Government Hospitals in Cape Coast Metropolis" requires considering various expenses. Personnel 1. Researcher's stipend/salary: \$12,000 - \$24,000 per year (depending on location, experience, and institution) 2. Research assistants: \$6,000 - \$12,000 per year (depending on the number of assistants and their qualifications) Data Collection 1. Transportation: \$2,000 - \$5,000 (depending on the location and frequency of visits) 2. Data collection tools: \$1,000 - \$3,000 (e.g., survey software) 3. Participant incentives: \$1,000 - \$2,000 (e.g., gift cards, data reimbursement) Data Analysis and Writing 1. Software and equipment: \$1,000 - \$3,000 (e.g., statistical analysis software, computer upgrades) 2. Writing and editing services: \$2,000 - \$5,000 (optional) Miscellaneous 1. Training and workshops: \$1,000 - \$2,000 (e.g., research ethics, data analysis) 2. Contingency fund: \$2,000 - \$5,000 (for unexpected expenses) Total Estimated Budget \$30,000 - \$70,000.</p>

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/019
<b>TITLE</b>	Cultural beliefs and practices in childbirth: An exploratory study of mother's lived experiences in Yeji
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>Background: childbearing is associated with memories from experiences encountered during the childbearing journey. Besides the physiological and biological nature of pregnancy and birth, cultural influences experiences and the meaning of surroundings. Care providers should be prepared to provide culturally safe care for a positive childbearing experience.</p> <p>Method: Three research questions guided the study. The design of the study was a qualitative research design.</p> <p>Result: The result revealed that 25.5% of the respondents were between the ages of 20-25,37.3% were between 26-30 years, 21.4% were between 31-35years while 20.8% were between 36 years and above. The study revealed that the cultural beliefs regarding childbirth among mothers in Yeji were choice of childbirth location, postpartum rituals and practice. Maternal experience of cultural practices during childbirth among mothers in Yeji were cultural taboos and superstition such as not announcing pregnancy to avoid jealousy from the evil people.</p> <p>Conclusion: The study concludes that cultural beliefs and practices in childbirth significantly affects mother's lived experiences in Yeji. Therefore, health education programs should incorporate culturally accepted practice whiles addressing harmful ones.</p> <p>Keyword: Cultural, Beliefs, Childbirth</p>
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of the study is to explore lived experiences of cultural beliefs and practices in Childbirth among mothers in Yeji
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<p>1: explore the cultural beliefs regarding childbirth among mother in Yeji</p> <p>2: describe maternal experience of the cultural practices during childbirth</p> <p>3: Describe maternal experience of the cultural practices during childbirth among mothers in Yeji</p>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	The study look at an aspect of maternal health in other to increase the number of women seeking for healthcare care from trained nurses and midwives in other to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity as well as neonatal mortality and morbidity which is high in Africa
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	6 months Budget : 500,000 naira

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/020
<b>TITLE</b>	Cultural Competence and Associated Factors among Paediatric Nurses in Tertiary and Public Health Facilities in Delta State, Nigeria
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	Cultural competence is vital for healthcare workers, particularly nurses, to effectively communicate and provide care in diverse cultural contexts. This study aims to assess the cultural competence and associated factors among paediatric nurses in tertiary and public secondary health facilities in Delta State, Nigeria. Specifically, the research objectives include assessing the level of cultural competence among paediatric nurses, identifying communication barriers faced by these nurses, and investigating how institutional support influences their cultural competence. A mixed-method approach was employed, combining quantitative and qualitative research designs. The study population consisted of 137 paediatric nurses from Federal Medical Centre Asaba and 50 nurses from selected public secondary health facilities, totaling 153 participants. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire and semi-structured interviews to ensure comprehensive insights. The instrument's validity was confirmed through expert reviews, while reliability was established using the test-retest method, attaining a Cronbach's Alpha of 0.87. The quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS, employing descriptive and inferential statistics, while thematic analysis was used for qualitative data. The findings are expected to enhance understanding of cultural competence among paediatric nurses and inform recommendations for training and institutional policies to foster culturally competent practices within paediatric care. Ultimately, this study underscores the importance of ongoing education and institutional support in addressing healthcare disparities among diverse populations, contributing to improved patient outcomes and healthcare equity.
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of the study is to assess the cultural competence and associated factors among Paediatric Nurses in Tertiary and Public Secondary Health Facilities in Delta State, Nigeria,
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	To assess the level of cultural competence among paediatric nurses in tertiary and public secondary health facilities in Delta State and to  2. identify the communication barriers faced by paediatric nurses in tertiary and public secondary health facilities in Delta State when providing culturally competent care.
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	The research on cultural competence among paediatric nurses in Delta State is innovative due to its comprehensive mixed-methods approach, which integrates quantitative and qualitative data to address cultural competence in healthcare settings. By identifying communication barriers and institutional support mechanisms, the study uncovers critical insights into factors that influence the delivery of culturally competent care to diverse paediatric populations. This dual approach not only enriches the findings but also enhances the reliability and applicability of the research outcomes, providing a more holistic understanding of the subject. The



	<p>research's innovation lies in its focus on pediatric nurses, who play an important role in health outcomes for children from various cultural backgrounds. Additionally, by involving both tertiary and public secondary health facilities, the study captures a wide-ranging perspective on healthcare delivery in a culturally diverse environment.</p> <p>The potential for commercialization arises from the applicability of the findings in developing training programs and tools aimed at enhancing cultural competence among healthcare professionals. These programs could be marketed to hospitals, healthcare institutions and educational bodies throughout Nigeria and beyond, contributing to better healthcare outcomes and patient satisfaction. Furthermore, the research could inform the development of policy frameworks aimed at implementing standardized cultural competence training within healthcare institutions, ultimately leading to improved equity in healthcare delivery.</p> <p>In terms of patent potential, if the study leads to the creation of a proprietary training module or a specific tool designed to assess cultural competence among healthcare professionals, it could be patented. This would allow the developers to protect their intellectual property while promoting its widespread use in healthcare settings, further advancing the effective treatment and care of culturally diverse populations. Overall, this research not only addresses a critical gap in healthcare delivery but also holds significant promise for practical applications in training and policy development.</p>
<p><b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b></p>	<p>1 year: Estimated Budget for Research Study on Cultural Competence and Associate Factors Among Paediatric Nurses in Tertiary and Public Secondary Health Facilities in Delta State Breakdown</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transport to Various Hospitals: Allocated NGN 500,000 for both fuel/maintenance and public transport, ensuring that transportation to all selected facilities is adequately covered.</li> <li>2. Snacks for Ward Heads and Pediatric Nurses: NGN 100,000 is set aside for providing light snacks and refreshments during data collection, fostering a more conducive environment for research participation.</li> <li>3. Logistics: Includes costs for printing questionnaires and supplies, along with communication expenses, totaling NGN 130,000.</li> <li>4. Cost of Data Analysis: Allocated NGN 250,000 to be paid the analyst for data analysis along with additional costs for research assistance.</li> <li>5. Final Printing and Binding of Study: NGN 200,000 is designated for the final report's printing and binding, ensuring a professional presentation of the research findings.</li> <li>6. Ethical Approval and Documentation Fees: NGN 20,000 is reserved for any fees associated with ethical approval and necessary documentation for the study.</li> <li>7. Contingency Fund: A buffer of NGN 130,000 is included to cover any unforeseen expenses, representing 10% of the total budget.</li> <li>8. Publications of the study: 150,000</li> </ol> <p>Total: 1,330,000 is the Estimated budget for the Project</p>

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/021
<b>TITLE</b>	BIOMONITORING OF METALS (TOXIC AND ESSENTIAL) AND OTHER BIOMARKERS IN TYPE 2 DIABETES IN GOASO MUNICIPALITY, GHANA
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	This study aims to investigate the levels of toxic and essential metals, along with other key biomarkers, in the blood of individuals with type 2 diabetes (T2D) in Goaso Municipality, Ahafo Region, Ghana. With Goaso being a mining and industrial hub, residents are at an increased risk of exposure to environmental metals, which may contribute to diabetes-related complications. By analyzing serum metal concentrations and identifying potential dietary and environmental sources, this research will provide critical insights into the role of metal exposure in T2D progression. The findings will enhance our understanding of the environmental determinants of diabetes in Ghana and inform targeted public health interventions to prevent and manage diabetes and its complications
<b>AIM</b>	The aim of this study is to assess serum toxic and essential metals, along with other related key biomarkers, and their associations with type 2 diabetes complications in Goaso Municipality, Ahafo Region, Ghana.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	1.To assess the levels of toxic and essential metals in the serum of individuals with type 2 diabetes in the Goaso Municipality, Ahafo Region, Ghana.  2.To evaluate the impact of toxic metals on type 2 diabetes complications in the Goaso Municipality, Ahafo
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	This research will significantly impact diabetes management in the Ahafo Region of Ghana, by providing evidence-based insights into the serum toxic and essentials metals levels in type 2 diabetic patients and the risks associated with exposure. It will again, inform clinical practices, leading to better patient outcomes and resource utilization. By highlighting the specific risks in the Goaso Municipality and Ghanaian context. The study will guide targeted interventions and policy development. Ultimately, this research will contribute to reducing chronic condition like type 2 diabetes morbidity and mortality, enhancing healthcare practices, and informing healthcare policy and guidelines in Ghana.
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	9 months Estimated Budget: Ghana cedis ₵14,900.00 Approximately N1,457,178.00)

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/022
<b>TITLE</b>	AWARENESS OF ANTENATAL SERVICES AND HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOR AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN NOT ATTENDING ANTENATAL CLINIC IN OSUN STATE
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>Antenatal care (ANC) is crucial for ensuring positive maternal and fetal health outcomes. However, some pregnant women in Osun State do not attend antenatal clinics, raising concerns about their awareness of ANC services and health-seeking behaviors. This study aims to assess the level of awareness of ANC services and the factors influencing the health-seeking behavior of pregnant women who do not attend ANC clinics in Osun State. A cross-sectional survey was conducted among non-attending pregnant women, utilizing structured questionnaires and interviews to gather data on their knowledge of ANC services, reasons for non-attendance, and alternative health-seeking behaviors. Findings suggest that while many women are aware of ANC services, socio-economic factors, cultural beliefs, distance to health facilities, and previous negative experiences significantly influence their decisions not to attend. Instead, they often rely on traditional birth attendants, self-medication, or family advice. Poor knowledge of pregnancy complications and the benefit of ANC further discourages attendance. The study highlights the need for targeted interventions, including community-based health education, improved accessibility to maternal healthcare services, and policy efforts to reduce barriers to ANC utilization. Strengthening public health initiatives and integrating traditional birth attendants into formal healthcare systems could enhance ANC uptake and improve maternal and neonatal health outcomes. The findings provide valuable insights for policymakers, healthcare providers, and community leaders to address gaps in ANC awareness and utilization among pregnant women in Osun State.</p> <p>Keywords: Antenatal Care, Health-Seeking Behavior, Pregnant Women, Awareness, Osun State, Maternal Health</p>
<b>AIM</b>	This study aims to explore awareness of antenatal services and health seeking behaviour among pregnant women not attending antenatal clinic in Osun State.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	To determine the awareness of antenatal care services in health facilities among pregnant women not attending antenatal clinic in Osun State. To assess knowledge of antenatal care services among pregnant women not attending antenatal clinic in Osun State. To identify the health seeking behaviour among pregnant women not attending antenatal clinic in Osun State. To determine the attitude of pregnant women not attending antenatal clinic in Osun State. To identify the factors affecting the utilization of healthcare facilities among pregnant women not attending antenatal clinic in Osun State.
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	Innovative Aspects This research offers a novel perspective by focusing on pregnant women who are aware of antenatal care (ANC) services but do not attend them.

	<p>Unlike conventional studies that examine ANC attendance rates, this study delves into the behavioral, socio-economic, and cultural barriers preventing utilization despite awareness. Understanding these unique determinants can lead to groundbreaking interventions in maternal healthcare. Another key innovation is the exploration of traditional and alternative health-seeking behaviors among pregnant women. By analyzing how traditional birth attendants (TBAs), spiritual healers, and self-medication influence maternal health decisions, this study provides insights that can facilitate the integration of formal healthcare with culturally accepted alternatives. The potential to develop hybrid healthcare models—where TBAs are trained as ANC referral agents—could revolutionize maternal health services in underserved areas. Additionally, the study could drive digital health innovations such as mobile health (mHealth) applications that offer ANC reminders, telemedicine consultations, and culturally tailored health education. AI-powered chatbots and decision-support tools for rural healthcare workers can also be developed based on the research findings. Potential for Commercialization and Patent While the study itself may not be patentable, its findings can lead to commercially viable solutions, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. mHealth Platforms – Subscription-based apps offering ANC tracking, virtual consultations, and location-based clinic referrals.</li> <li>2. Maternal Health Outreach Kits – Affordable ANC self-care kits for pregnant women, including monitoring tools and educational materials.</li> <li>3. AI-Powered Decision Tools – Smart maternal health chatbots and diagnostic tools for community health workers.</li> <li>4. Hybrid Maternal Care Models – A business model integrating TBAs with formal healthcare through government or private-sector partnerships.</li> </ol> <p>By transforming insights into scalable maternal health solutions, this research has strong commercialization potential, particularly in low-resource settings where ANC access remains a challenge.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	About 5million Naira for a timeline of 6 - 12 months

<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/023
<b>TITLE</b>	NEEDLE STICK INJURIES AMONG HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND IT'S EFFECTS ON HEALTHCARE DELIVERY IN BOSOMTWE AND BEKWAI, GHANA
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<p>Abstract</p> <p>The research aims to investigate the prevalence, causes, and consequences of needle stick injuries among healthcare professionals in the Bosomtwe District and Bekwai Municipality of Ghana. Needle stick injuries are a significant occupational hazard for healthcare workers, leading to potential transmission of infectious diseases, psychological stress, and adverse effects on healthcare delivery. The study seeks to assess the extent of these injuries, identify contributing factors such as work environment conditions, training levels, and adherence to safety protocols, and evaluate the physical and mental health impacts on affected professionals.</p> <p>The study will employ a mixed-methods approach and will use two conceptual frameworks to analyze the interplay between human behaviour, organizational factors, and environmental conditions that contribute to needle stick incidents. Data will be collected through a structured questionnaire, ensuring confidentiality and anonymity for participants, who will be informed of their right to withdraw at any time without penalty. The findings are expected to enhance understanding of needle stick injuries, inform policy development, and promote occupational health and safety measures within healthcare settings. Ultimately, this study seeks to contribute to the broader discourse on healthcare worker safety and the improvement of health service delivery in Ghana.</p>
<b>AIM</b>	To investigate the prevalence, causes, consequences, and management practices of needle stick injuries among healthcare professionals in Bosomtwe District and Bekwai municipality, with the goal of informing evidence-based strategies to improve occupational safety, healthcare quality, and overall well-being within the healthcare system.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assess the prevalence of needle stick injuries among healthcare professionals in different healthcare facilities within the Bosomtwe District and Bekwai municipality.</li> <li>2. Identify the factors contributing to needle stick injuries, including work environment conditions, training levels, and availability of safety protocols.</li> <li>3. Evaluate the impact of needle stick injuries on the physical and mental health of healthcare professionals in terms of injury rates, infections, and psychological stress.</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	Needle stick injuries (NSIs) present a significant occupational hazard for healthcare professionals worldwide, exposing their health, well-being, and capacity to deliver high-quality patient care. In Ghana, healthcare providers face comparable challenges, yet there remains a scarcity of research addressing the prevalence, underlying causes, consequences, and management strategies for NSIs. A critical factor exacerbating the risks associated with NSIs is the delayed reporting of incidents, which hinders

	<p>timely medical intervention and increases the likelihood of adverse health outcomes.</p> <p>This study seeks to develop evidence-based recommendations to enhance NSI prevention strategies, with a particular emphasis on improving incident reporting mechanisms. To achieve this objective, a mobile application will be designed to facilitate rapid reporting and ensure prompt access to post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP). The application will be deployed across healthcare facilities in two selected districts, accompanied by comprehensive training programs to equip healthcare professionals with the necessary skills for effective utilization. Beyond serving as an innovative solution for real-time NSI reporting, the mobile application represents a transformative advancement in occupational safety within the healthcare sector. To safeguard its originality and ensure long-term sustainability, efforts will be made to secure patent rights for the technology, thereby fostering broader adoption and integration into national healthcare policies.</p>																																																
<p><b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b></p>	<p>MONTHS Dec 25 Jan 25 Feb 25 Mar 25 Apr 25 May 25 Jun 25 Jul 25 Aug 25 Sept 25 Oct 25 Nov 25 Dec 25</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Study completion x Results interpretation x Proposal submission x Proposal development x Pilot study completion x Pilot study x Manuscript submission x Manuscript reparation x Literature review x Ethical clearance x x Data collection instrument development x Data collection completion x Data collection x x x Data analysis x x.</p> <p>Estimated Budget for Needle Stick Injury Study (GHS)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Category</td> <td>Item</td> <td>Cost (GHS)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personnel</td> <td>Research Assistant</td> <td>1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Data Analyst</td> <td>2.500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Principal Investigator</td> <td>3.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total Personnel</b></td> <td><b>6.500</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Data Collection</td> <td>Questionnaires</td> <td>2.500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Transportation</td> <td>500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Data Collection Equipment</td> <td>2.500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total Data Collection</b></td> <td><b>5.500</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Data Analysis</td> <td>Statistical Software</td> <td>500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Data Analysis Training</td> <td>1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total Data Analysis</b></td> <td><b>1,500</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miscellaneous</td> <td>Study Promotion</td> <td>1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Contingency Fund</td> <td>600</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total Miscellaneous</b></td> <td><b>1,600</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total Estimated Budget</b></td> <td><b>15,100</b></td> </tr> </table>	Category	Item	Cost (GHS)	Personnel	Research Assistant	1,000		Data Analyst	2.500		Principal Investigator	3.000		<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>6.500</b>	Data Collection	Questionnaires	2.500		Transportation	500		Data Collection Equipment	2.500		<b>Total Data Collection</b>	<b>5.500</b>	Data Analysis	Statistical Software	500		Data Analysis Training	1,000		<b>Total Data Analysis</b>	<b>1,500</b>	Miscellaneous	Study Promotion	1,000		Contingency Fund	600		<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>1,600</b>		<b>Total Estimated Budget</b>	<b>15,100</b>
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<b>APPLICANT CODE</b>	2025/SEED/024
<b>TITLE</b>	EFFECTS OF EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTION ON VACCINE HESITANCY AMONG CAREGIVERS OF UNDER-FIVE CHILDREN IN OSUN STATE NIGERIA.
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	Vaccine hesitancy remains a significant barrier to achieving optimal immunization coverage, particularly in low- and middle-income countries such as Nigeria. This study aims to evaluate the impact of a culturally tailored educational intervention on reducing vaccine hesitancy among caregivers of under-five children in Osun State, Nigeria. Adopting a quasi-experimental design, the study will assess baseline vaccine hesitancy rates and identify key influencing factors, including knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions. A structured four-week intervention, incorporating community health worker engagement and interactive workshops, will be implemented, followed by a post-intervention evaluation to measure changes in vaccine acceptance. The research will employ both qualitative and quantitative methods, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the intervention's effectiveness. Data analysis will be conducted using SPSS software to determine statistical significance. The expected outcomes include improved vaccine acceptance, increased trust in healthcare systems, and the development of a scalable educational framework that can be applied to other regions facing similar challenges. This study's innovative approach will contribute to public health strategies by integrating culturally relevant health communication techniques. It will also support global efforts toward achieving Sustainable Development Goal 3, which aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all. The findings will provide crucial insights for policymakers, healthcare providers, and international organizations in designing effective immunization programs. Ultimately, the study has the potential to enhance vaccine uptake, reduce preventable diseases, and improve child health outcomes in Nigeria and beyond.
<b>AIM</b>	
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This study will establish a baseline evaluation of routine immunization vaccine hesitancy among caregivers of under-five children in Osun State, Nigeria.</li> <li>2. The research will evaluate the post-intervention impact of educational programs on vaccine acceptance rates among caregivers.</li> </ol>
<b>INNOVATION &amp; IMPACT</b>	This study will pioneer an evidence-based, community-driven approach to reducing vaccine hesitancy among caregivers of under-five children in Osun State, Nigeria. It will also introduce a novel educational framework that integrates community-specific narratives to counter misinformation and distrust in vaccines. The findings will serve as a policy guide for health

	<p>ministries and international agencies working to combat vaccine hesitancy globally. Additionally, this research will contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 3), reinforcing efforts to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all. The implementation of this intervention in Osun State will set a precedent for nationwide and global public health initiatives, ultimately reducing child mortality rates and controlling vaccine-preventable diseases.</p>
<b>TIMELINE &amp; BUDGET</b>	<b>12 MONTHS    NGN 1,500,000</b>



## Scores of Expressions of Interest by Assessors

Submission Code	1st Reviewer (Kelechi Okonta)	2nd reviewer (KPJ)	3rd Reviewer (Alice)	4th Reviewer (Richard)	5th Reviewer (Okonko)	TOTAL	Average Score	Rank
2025/SEED/004	71	80	62	65	94	372	74.4	1st
2025/SEED/005	70	45	82	65	93	355	71.0	2nd
2025/SEED/008	72	60	50	65	92	339	67.8	3rd
2025/SEED/016	71	46	62	60	88	327	65.4	4th
2025/SEED/021	71	40	70	65	76	322	64.4	5th
2025/SEED/010	70	41	77	55	68	311	62.2	6th
2025/SEED/024	64	40	77	55	75	311	62.2	6th
2025/SEED/022	61	48	70	55	75	309	61.8	7th
2025/SEED/017	66	50	50	50	90	306	61.2	8th
2025/SEED/014	71	60	48	55	68	302	60.4	9th
2025/SEED/023	57	40	77	55	72	301	60.2	10th
2025/SEED/013	67	47	65	50	70	299	59.8	11th
2025/SEED/012	69	45	55	50	76	295	59.0	12th
2025/SEED/020	64	43	60	50	76	293	58.6	13th
2025/SEED/002	67	45	37.5	55	84	288.5	57.7	14th
2025/SEED/018	60	50	50	50	78	288	57.6	15th
2025/SEED/011	71	60	28	50	77	286	57.2	16th
2025/SEED/001	64	40	40	55	86	285	57.0	17th
2025/SEED/015	70	40	40	60	72	282	56.4	18th
2025/SEED/009	70	46	31	55	66	268	53.6	19th
2025/SEED/019	63	40	45	50	70	268	53.6	20th
2025/SEED/003	61	42	35	55	72	265	53.0	21st
2025/SEED/006	66	40	50.5	45	50	251.5	50.3	22nd
2025/SEED/007	63	45	30	50	62	250	50.0	23rd

