EDUARDO MONDLANE UNIVERSITY

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS AND NUTRITION IN COLLABORATION WITH HIGHER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF GAZA (ISPG) AND HIGHER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF MANICA (ISPM)

CALL Nº 01/2025

June 16th, 2025

CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:

COMUNITY ACTION RESEARCH PROJECTS (CARP-E) FOR ENTERPRISE CREATION, INCUBACTION AND BUSINESS SPIN-OFFS

Title: **Poultry Production in Mozambique**

1. Background

Poultry production is a cornerstone of food and nutrition security, rural livelihoods, and economic development in Mozambique. With nearly 70% of the population residing in rural areas and relying on agriculture, poultry farming provides accessible protein, income diversification, and employment opportunities, particularly for smallholder farmers, women, and youth (FAO, 2021)[1]. However, the sector faces significant challenges, including high feed costs (60–70% imported), limited access to quality inputs, poor waste management, and weak market linkages, which constrain productivity and profitability (World Bank, 2023)[2]. The reliance on imported feed, primarily soy and maize, accounts for up to 70% of poultry production costs, making farming unaffordable for many smallholders (UEM, 2024)[3]. Environmental challenges, such as invasive aquatic weeds like water hyacinth clogging waterways and underutilized organic waste, exacerbate resource inefficiencies (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2022)[4]. Climate

[1] FAO (2021). *Livestock sector in Mozambique: Opportunities and constraints*. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

[2] World Bank (2023). *Mozambique Agri-Food Systems Diagnostic Report.*

[3] UEM Department of Animal Science (2024). *Preliminary Trials: Jacinto Aquático as Livestock Feed in Gaza Province*. Maputo.

variability, including droughts and disease outbreaks, further threatens poultry production, necessitating climate-resilient practices (USAID, 2021)[5]. Women and youth, who form a significant portion of the poultry workforce, face systemic barriers, including limited access to finance, technology, and markets, undermining inclusivity and sector growth (SNV Mozambique, 2023)[6].

Despite these constraints, opportunities for innovation are emerging. Sustainable feed production using local resources, such as black soldier fly (BSF) larvae, water hyacinth, and drought-resistant sorghum, offers cost-effective and environmentally friendly alternatives (ICIPE, 2023)[7]. Digital tools, including feed optimization apps and blockchain-based traceability systems, can enhance efficiency and market trust (GSMA, 2023)[8]. Small-scale processing and value addition, such as spirulina-enriched feed supplements, can improve nutrition and create new market opportunities (FAO, 2022)[9]. These innovations, when designed inclusively, can reduce dependency on imports, empower marginalized groups, and build resilient poultry value chains.

This call for proposals seeks innovative, scalable, and inclusive solutions to strengthen poultry production systems in Mozambique. Proposals should focus on sustainable feed production, climate-smart practices, inclusive value chains, and value-added enterprises that address community needs and foster economic empowerment. Projects must result in enterprises owned by communities, cooperatives, entrepreneurs, or university affiliates, actively engaging stakeholders to support business development. Proposals should identify specific value chain gaps and existing enterprises addressing similar needs, demonstrating the unique contribution of the proposed intervention.

Applicants are encouraged to propose solutions that:

- Develop cost-effective, locally sourced poultry feed to reduce reliance on imports;
- Promote climate-smart poultry production systems to enhance resilience;
- Foster inclusive business models that empower women, youth, and marginalized groups;
- Strengthen market linkages and value addition through processing and digital innovations;
- Translate research into viable enterprises to create jobs and improve food security.

This call aims to transform Mozambique's poultry sector into a catalyst for sustainable livelihoods, enhanced nutrition, and vibrant rural economies, aligning with the National Agricultural Sector Development Plan (PEDSA 2030)[10].

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[4] Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2022). *Circular Economy Models in African Agri-Food Systems*.
[5] USAID (2021). *Climate Risk Profile: Mozambique*. United States Agency for International Development.
[6] SNV Mozambique (2023). *Women's Participation in Agri-Entrepreneurship: Barriers and Opportunities*.
[7] International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) (2023). *Black Soldier Fly-Based Feed for Poultry: Cost-Benefit Analysis in East Africa*. Nairobi.
[8] GSMA (2023). Offline-First Agri-Tech Tools for Smallholders
[9] FAO (2022). *Small-Scale Feed Processing Technologies in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Rome.

2. Thematic Areas

Thematic Area 1: Sustainable Poultry Feed Production and Commercialization

This theme addresses the high cost and import dependency of poultry feed. Proposals should develop enterprises producing affordable, locally sourced feed. Proposals may include:

- Community-based feed production using black soldier fly larvae or water hyacinth;
- Modular, solar-powered feed processing units for rural accessibility;
- Digital platforms for feed formulation and cost optimization, integrating with mobile payment systems like M-Pesa or E-Mola.

Thematic Area 2: Climate-Smart Poultry Production Systems

This theme focuses on resilient poultry farming practices to address climate challenges like droughts and disease outbreaks. Proposals may include:

- Enterprises promoting drought-tolerant feed crops (e.g., sorghum) for poultry;
- Climate-smart housing and waste management systems for poultry farms;
- Community-led training on biosecurity and climate-adaptive poultry management.

Thematic Area 3: Alternative Protein Sources for Poultry Feed

This theme supports the integration of underutilized protein sources into poultry feed to enhance nutrition and sustainability. Proposals may include:

- Enterprises producing spirulina-enriched feed supplements or insect-based proteins;
- Partnerships with fisheries for fish byproduct-based feed production;
- Cooperative models for scaling alternative protein value chains.

Thematic Area 4: Inclusive Poultry Value Chain Development

This theme aims to integrate smallholder farmers, particularly women and youth, into profitable poultry markets. Proposals may include:

- Aggregation hubs or cooperative models for egg and poultry meat marketing;
- Branding and certification services for local poultry products;
- Digital market linkage platforms to enhance price transparency and access.

Thematic Area 5: Poultry Processing and Value Addition

This theme supports small-scale processing to reduce losses and increase profitability. Proposals may include:

- Enterprises producing processed poultry products (e.g., sausages, dried meat);
- Sustainable packaging solutions for poultry products;
- Community-based processing units for egg-based products like powdered eggs.

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[10] Government of Mozambique (2020). *PEDSA 2030: Plano Estratégico para o Desenvolvimento do Sector Agrário.*

Thematic Area 6: Digital Innovations for Poultry Enterprises

This theme focuses on leveraging technology to enhance poultry production and market access. Proposals may include:

- Blockchain-enabled traceability systems for feed and poultry products;
- Mobile apps for poultry health monitoring and farmer advisory services;
- E-commerce platforms for poultry product sales, targeting urban markets.

Thematic Area 7: Policy and Institutional Support for Poultry Enterprises

This theme emphasizes advocacy and institutional innovations to create an enabling environment for poultry enterprises. Proposals may include:

- Research and advocacy for policies supporting local feed production and poultry standards;
- Public-private partnerships to scale poultry enterprises;
- Streamlined regulatory processes for small-scale poultry processors and producers.

3. Who Should Apply

This call invites faculty members (Principal Investigators, Lecturers, and Researchers) from Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), Higher Polytechnic Institute of Manica (ISPM), and Higher Polytechnic Institute of Gaza (ISPG) to submit proposals aligned with the thematic areas outlined above.

4. Application Requirements

- Applicants must be a Principal Investigator, Lecturer, or Researcher from UEM, ISPM, or ISPG.
- Submit a technical and financial proposal (refer to Annex 1).
- Include a Curriculum Vitae.

5. Schedule of Activities

Table 1. Schedule of Activities

Activity	**Period/Date**
Submission of proposals	16 to 30 June, 2025
Evaluation and Selection	1ST to 3rd July, 2025
Publication of results	July 4th , 2025
Implementation period	July to December 2025

6. Budget

- Each selected project will receive funding of up to USD 15,000.

Application documents must be submitted to the following email address: dir.ceafsn@uem.mz by June 30th, 2025. The same email can be used for further details or additional information about the process. Details regarding the terms of reference and application forms can be accessed in the following website: www.ceafsn.uem.mz.

The Director of CE-AFSN

Rogério Chiulele

(Prof. Doutor Rogério Marcos Chiulele)

ANNEX 1:

1. CARP-E application form

2. Entrepreneurs/start-ups application form and with the Costing Excel.

Available in www.ceafsn.uem.mz