



Seed Funding 2025 for Collaborative Projects between the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and the University of Tübingen

	University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (Wits) and the University of Tübingen (UT) are jointly contributing funds to support collaborative research initiatives through a joint call for proposals. Applicants from all schools and disciplines are encouraged to submit funding applications for innovative and sustainable projects.
Max. Grant Amount:	10.000€ per collaborative project (budget needs to be divided equally between Wits und UT)
Purpose:	Planning a larger collaborative initiative or preparing an external grant application
Application Deadline:	30th of June 2025 (Wits funds to be used by 30 th of November 2025, UT funds to be used by 31 st of December 2026)
Who can apply:	Applications must be submitted by a team of researchers from both universities and include at least one full-time research or teaching faculty member (with a doctoral degree) from each university. Graduate students and postdocs can be part of the team.
How to apply:	Please request an application form from a contact below. Send one joint application form to: alison.simons@wits.ac.za and international.research@uni-tuebingen.de
What can be funded:	The following costs or activities can be covered by the Seed Grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel costs to visit project partners, including lab rotations, joint graduate training activities or collaborative projects; • Organization of joint workshops or seminars on the research topic for researchers and graduate students • Other costs directly related to project planning or implementation
Other Funding:	The Seed Grant can be combined with other grants, provided funds are not covering the same activities or costs.
Selection Process:	Applications will be evaluated by a joint Wits-UT committee
Selection Criteria:	Projects will be selected in accordance with the following main criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic quality of the proposal including ambition, innovation, output and impact (40%) • Clarity of project intentions, including project planning and budget feasibility (25%) • Potential for sustained partnership between Wits and UT & follow-up funding prospects (25%) • Alignment with strategic research priorities of the universities (for UT: Core Research Areas and Profile Areas, for Wits: Eight Priorities) (10%)
Contacts:	Wits: Alison Simons (alison.simons@wits.ac.za) UT: Elmar Hofman (elmar.hofman@uni-tuebingen.de)