

CODESRIA

Comparative Research Networks
(CRNs)

Call for Proposals

As part of the programme initiatives being launched by the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), proposals are hereby invited for the constitution of Comparative Research Networks (CRNs) to undertake comparative studies on any of the following themes:

- ◆ Health, Politics and Society in Contemporary Africa;
- ◆ Higher Education in Africa: Crises, Reform and Transformation;
- ◆ Reforming the African Public Sector: Retrospect and Prospect;
- ◆ The Changing Political Economy of Land in Africa;
- ◆ Africa and the Challenges of Globalisation;
- ◆ The Popular Arts, Identity and Culture in Contemporary Africa;
- ◆ Re-thinking (African) Development;
- ◆ Migration Dynamics and Changing Rural-Urban Linkages;
- ◆ New Regionalist Impulses in Africa;
- ◆ Conflict and Reconstruction in Africa;
- ◆ Colonialism, Customary Law and Post-Colonial State and Society in Africa;
- ◆ State, Political Identity and Political Violence;
- ◆ Political Pluralism and Management of Diversity.

The primary purpose for which the CRNs are being introduced is to encourage the development and consolidation of a comparative analytic perspective in the work of African social researchers. In so doing, it is hoped to establish a strong corpus of comparative studies produced by African scholars, which could help to advance theoretical knowledge and discussion. In developing proposals therefore, interested researchers are requested to clearly highlight the:

- ◆ comparative question which they wish to pursue and its significance;
- ◆ methodology that they would employ; and
- ◆ output expected from the study.

Furthermore, each proposal should clearly indicate membership of the network, including the co-ordinator(s) of the group; the bio-data and institutional affiliation of the network members; a copy of the curriculum vitae of the co-ordinator(s) of the network; the budget outline for the activity proposed; and the time frame for the launching and finalisation of the network's research activities, it being understood that each network is expected to have a life span of 18 months, starting from the date of its launching. Also, each CRN will be entitled to organise two meetings: one methodological, and the other, to evaluate the work progress of members of the group. For the 2003–2004 period, the Council will be receiving proposals up to **30 September 2003**. Notification of the result of the selection exercise will be made by **31 October, 2003**.

Proposals for the setting up of CRNs should be sent to:

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