

## Call for applications: Jennifer Ward Oppenheimer Research Grant (JWO Research Grant)

URL: <https://jworesearchgrant.org/>

**Keywords:** African Studies, Biological Diversity, Conservation Biology, Environmental Conservation

**Funding amount and duration of funding:** \$150,000 for up to three years

**Funder deadline:** 02 May 2025 at 00:00 (SAST)

### UCT Internal Deadlines

- **UCT Intention to submit deadline:** Please complete [Intension-to- Submit](#) form an by **24 April 2025**
- Please note that this is a 2-stage application process. The initial stage requires the PI to submit a concept note, via the funder's portal [here](#), no later than **02 May 2025**. Institutional approval, via UCT's electronic Research Administration (eRA) system, is **NOT** required at this stage.

**Contacts:** Faculty of Health Sciences: [FHS.ResearchFunding@uct.ac.za](mailto:FHS.ResearchFunding@uct.ac.za) ; All Other Faculties - [internationalgrants@uct.ac.za](mailto:internationalgrants@uct.ac.za)

### About the Funding Opportunity

The [JWO Research Grants](#) aims to support early-career scientists conducting impactful research focused on addressing critical challenges in Africa, with a strong emphasis on biodiversity and conservation. Applicants are encouraged to propose research that advances knowledge within their field, provides scalable solutions to African challenges across multiple geographies, and incorporates innovative methodologies.

Key criteria for evaluation include:

- **Advancing Knowledge:** Pushing the frontiers of knowledge in the chosen field.
- **Solving African Challenges:** Addressing scalable African challenges with research conducted across multiple sites.
- **Innovative Methodologies:** Demonstrating innovative approaches and methodologies.
- **Scientific Rigour:** Maintaining high standards of scientific rigour and excellence.
- **Human Capital Development:** Contributing to mentorship and professional development for the next generation of researchers.
- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Engaging in intra-African interdisciplinary collaborations to leverage expertise and resources effectively.
- **Impact Potential:** Articulating potential impacts during and beyond the grant period.
- **Contextual Awareness:** Demonstrating understanding of recent or ongoing work in relevant African contexts.
- **Dissemination of Research:** Outlining clear plans for disseminating research outcomes to both scientific and broader communities.
- **Open Access:** Committing to open-access publication of research findings.
- **Ethical Considerations:** Ensuring research activities meet ethical and safety standards.

### Eligibility Criteria

The lead applicant should be:

1. An early career scientist
  - Applicant must already hold a PhD degree and should have no more than seven years of work and/or research experience post-degree (excluding time taken for family responsibilities).
2. Have strong links to a credible African institution

- The institution should have a proven ability to manage to fund and subscribes to good financial grant practice and can be any of the following: academic institution, research institution, government institution, NGO, for-profit organisation.

3. Please see more details [here](#)

## Application Process

### *How to apply*

- Please note that this is a **2-stage application** process. The initial stage requires the PI to submit a concept note, via the funder's portal [here](#), no later than **02 May 2025**. Institutional approval, via UCT's electronic Research Administration ([eRA](#)) system, is **NOT** required at this stage.
- Full Application (**By Invitation Only**)
  - If your concept note is accepted, you will be invited to submit a full application:
  - **Full applications:** Opens 06 June 2025 and closes 07 July 2025 (this **WILL REQUIRE** UCT eRA approval).