WORKSHOP ON *LITERATURE SEARCH FOR CONDUCTING RESEARCH FOR EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS*

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Workshop seeks to increase the quality and effectiveness of research and education in agriculture, environment and related biological sciences, which would contribute in improving food security and encourage innovative research among early career professionals. The expected outcome of the workshops is to enable professionals and students alike to have access to high quality, relevant and timely information on research.

BACKGROUND

Nigerian Women in Agricultural Research for Development (NiWARD) www.niward.org is a group of Nigerian Scientists from a number of Higher Institutions, Agricultural Research Institutions and Private Organizations based in Nigeria. We have a membership of about 500 people. Our group is a Country Chapter of the African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD, www.awardfellowships.org). The Fellows use the support from AWARD and their research to respond to the daily challenges rural agro and fish farmers' face, by focusing on researches that are essential to good household nutrition, community trade and innovating processes to improve their access to information while also enhancing the process of value addition in their farming enterprise.

NiWARD is proposing a capacity building workshop on the search and management of information to enhance quality of research by early career professionals. This project is being proposed as a capacity building programme which is one of the AWARD/NiWARD's cornerstones as a strategic solution for achieving science and research skills of workshop participants.

GOAL

To provide participants with skills required to search for information, manage and share data through online and offline search engines and to reduce the gap in scientific knowledge between industrialized countries and the developing world

OBJECTIVES

On completion of the course, participants will be better able to:

- Explain the difference between a web browser and a search engine
- Identify and access different types of search engines
- Perform simple and advanced searches using google scholar
- identify popular scholarly databases
- Perform targeted searches using Research4Life internet gateways
- Translate search results from other languages into English
- Use MENDELEY software to generate citations and organise references and bibliography effectively generator

WORKSHOP CONTENT

- Workshop Introduction
- Brief Overview of Internet Terminologies –
- Web browsers and Search Engines
- Formulating search strategies
- Introduction to Research4Life programmes
- Introduction to online databases e.g. AGORA
- Reference Management: Mendeley

WORKSHOP STRUCTURE

The workshop will be conducted as one of the supporting events within the framework of the NiWARD conference. The workshop will be conducted over 4 hours.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY

The workshop will comprise lectures delivered in a classroom setting, with exercises. Some of the exercises will involve accessing relevant live websites and portals on the Internet and others will be conducted offline. The workshop will be evaluated using an online survey tool.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This initiative is targeted at researchers, librarians, graduate and under-graduate students and academic staff in research institutions, agricultural production, institutions of higher education, Ministries, Departments and Agencies in Nigeria and Civil Society Organisations actively involved in collecting and collating data in agriculture,

environment, biological sciences and natural resources management to advance research and practice. The workshop is intended for early career professionals. Thirty (30) participants will be accepted for the workshop.

WORKSHOP PRE-REQUISITES

The language of instruction is English. All participants must have basic computers skills - particularly Internet access and navigation. Computer literacy is a necessary criterion for acceptance. Participants are encouraged to attend with their own laptops.