

MANAGER: HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

The National Research Foundation (NRF) is established by an Act of Parliament and mandated to contribute to national development by supporting, promoting and advancing research and human capacity development, through funding and the provision of the necessary research infrastructure, in order to facilitate the creation of knowledge, innovation and development in all fields of science and technology, including humanities, social sciences and indigenous knowledge; and supporting and promoting public awareness of, and engagement with, science.

The mandate of the National Research Infrastructure Platforms (NRIP) (Programme 4) is to provide leading edge research infrastructure platforms to support the production of world-class knowledge and innovation outputs and facilitate human capacity development and science engagement. This is done to ensure that the national research enterprise has the requisite infrastructure to undertake globally competitive research and innovation, train the next generation of researchers, support engagement with science by and with the public, and promote innovation that has a positive social, environmental, and economic impact.

The National Research Infrastructure Platforms (NRIP) seeks to appoint a Manager: Humanities and Social Sciences to:-

- provide input on the integration of Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS) into the National Research Infrastructure Ecosystem.
- provide a professional and comprehensive support to a broad range of HSS activities associated with programme administration, including Impact framework; Integration of HSS activities into NRIP; Access to global infrastructure; Future infrastructure and Reporting.

Key Responsibilities:

- Develop key performance indicators (KPIs) and reporting systems to drive the integration of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) across all NRIP activities.
- Ensure the NRF Impact Framework is embedded as a core strategic element within NRIP, enabling the NRF to deliver infrastructure that aligns with the needs of the National System of Innovation (NSI).
- Establish systems and processes for data collection and information compilation to demonstrate the impact of National Facilities in accordance with the NRF Impact Framework.
- Assess opportunities for access to global HSS infrastructure and identify potential areas for collaboration or alignment.
- Collaborate closely with National Facility Managing Directors to promote the development and implementation of transdisciplinary research within the National Facilities and their users.
- Engage with key stakeholders across the NSI to identify and respond to emerging infrastructure needs within the HSS domain.
- Contribute meaningfully to the planning, development, and execution of NRIP strategies.

Key Requirements:

Qualification:

- PhD in the field of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Post Graduate Management qualification would be a distinct added advantage

Experience:

- A minimum of 8 years working within the NSI (e.g. Higher Education, Science Councils, Government), 5 of which must have been in a mid- to senior management position
- Experience in developing policies and procedures.
- Experience in interacting with senior individuals within the HSS community (e.g. HSS researchers, HSS professoriate, HSS deans, Science Council senior managers/directors).

Required skills:

- Strong interpersonal skills
- Excellent writing skills
- Excellent communication skills, including presentation skills
- Leadership skills
- Strategic thinking skills
- Strong organizational and prioritization skills
- Self-motivated and independent, with the ability to work under pressure and with minimal supervision
- Comfortable with and able to successfully manage change

Knowledge:

- Excellent knowledge and understanding of the broad disciplines within the HSS environment.
- A thorough understanding of the NSI and key mandates of the various entities within the system.
- Performance planning including KPI development and scorecard development, performance management, and variance analysis.
- Project management.
- Management and reporting; particularly business-wide consolidation of National Facility HSS results,

Applications

Applicants should submit their detailed CV by logging to <https://ess.nrf.ac.za/Account/Recruitment> and apply online.

The NRF is committed to employment equity and redress. Correspondence will be conducted with shortlisted candidates only.

The NRF reserves the right to amend and/or withdraw adverts at any time without notification.

Closing date: