

## **Open Call for Umqombothi Food Processor**

In line with the objectives of the African Food Safety strategy, the UP-RISE international project contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals by simulating research and innovation activities to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. UP-RISE aims to provide groundbreaking knowledge to understand and prevent mycotoxin contamination and deliver solutions in Africa to strengthen the African Food Safety Systems. It responds to the challenge of reducing food contaminants, in particular mycotoxins, for greater food safety and fewer food-borne diseases.

This call aims to select processors that work on the fermentation of umqombothi food value chain in South Africa. The umqombothi food value chain faces significant challenges related to mycotoxin contamination, which can affect the safety and quality of the traditional beer due to fungal growth on raw materials like maize and sorghum.

The processors together with connected operators in the value chains will constitute the case studies in the UP-RISE project. The UP-RISE project would thus like to invite processors in umqombothi food value chain in South Africa to apply for participation in this project.

Additional details are available in the attached document here: ([Terms of the call](#)). Interested applicants should complete the application form ([Questionnaire](#)) and send to Bhekisisa Dlamini ([bcdlamini@uj.ac.za](mailto:bcdlamini@uj.ac.za)), Patrick Njobeh ([pnjobeh@uj.ac.za](mailto:pnjobeh@uj.ac.za)), and [UP-RISE@ugent.be](mailto:UP-RISE@ugent.be).