



Call for Proposals¹: Maximising the impact of EDCTP research: translation of research results into policy and practice

Type of Action	Coordination & Support Actions (CSA)
Indicative Call Budget	3 million EUR
Funding threshold:	500,000 EUR per application
Expected number of grants	8-10
Open for full applications	17 December 2014
Deadline for full applications	16 March 2015, 17:00 (CET); 16:00 (GMT)
Status	Open

Background

Failure to translate research findings into policy and practice prevents research from achieving maximum public health benefit. Despite substantial investment in clinical research in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, the exploitation and use of research results beyond academia is often limited. Limited opportunities for engagement between researchers and policy-makers, lack of experience in exploiting research results beyond academia, and structural and cultural differences between research and policy-making are some of the barriers to an efficient uptake of research results. Health managers and policy makers can also face challenges in dealing with a large volume of research evidence and difficulties in adapting evidence from systematic reviews to make it locally relevant.

Scope

The purpose of this Call for Proposals is to accelerate translation of research findings from EDCTP-funded activities into policy and practice in order to maximise their public health impact in sub-Saharan Africa. Applications must be based on research findings from previously EDCTP-funded activities. Applications from multidisciplinary consortia are particularly encouraged. Proposals should focus on the translation and uptake of research findings from the former EDCTP-funded research activity into policy guidelines and defined changes in health systems or clinical practice, including advancing public health interventions; developing methodological tools for the successful translation into public health programmes or practices; or optimising strategies for widespread adoption and institutionalisation of research results within the public health systems. Examples of relevant activities include but are not limited to guidelines, development initiatives, roll-out of new interventions, and contributions to changes in policy and practice. Proposals could also include the evaluation of translational research activities. Applications should clearly define the activities and mechanisms to be used within the project, including details of any collaboration with public authorities, international organisations or commercial partnerships that will be established in order to achieve the expected impact. Dissemination activities, which constitute an integral component of the original research proposal, such as scientific publications, and feedback to trial participants and community advisory boards, are outside the scope of this call.

EDCTP considers that proposals for activities of between 24 and 36 months duration would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals for activities of a different duration.

¹ Grant awarding by EDCTP will depend on the successful conclusion of a delegation agreement between the European Commission and the EDCTP Association for implementation of the EDCTP2 programme.



Expected impact

Activities funded under this Call for Proposals should contribute towards the formulation and adoption of national and international guidelines and policies as well as contribute to evidence-based policies within the public health systems in sub-Saharan Africa.

Eligibility

Consortia of researchers composed of at least one legal entity can apply. The requested EDCTP contribution per activity shall not exceed 500,000 EUR.

Submission and evaluation procedure

This is a single-stage application procedure. A full proposal must be submitted via [EDCTPgrants](#) by 16 March 2015 at 17:00 CET (16:00 GMT).

The evaluation results will be available by 30 June 2015.

Evaluation criteria, scoring and thresholds

This call follows a single-stage application procedure. Following an admissibility and eligibility check, full proposals are evaluated by external, independent experts. Proposals are evaluated according to the criteria Excellence, Impact and Implementation. Each criterion is scored between 0 and 5. The threshold for individual criteria is 3 and the overall threshold for the sum of the three individual scores is 10. Applicants have the opportunity to submit a written response to the expert reviewers' comments prior to an expert review committee meeting convened by EDCTP to finalise the funding recommendations.

The following aspects are considered under the evaluation criteria:

1. Excellence

- **Fit with the scope and objectives of EDCTP2 and the call topic description**
- **Importance, relevance and clarity of the objectives**
- **Credibility of the proposed approach**
- **Clarity, pertinence and importance of the strategic vision.**
- **Soundness of the concept.**
- **Quality of the proposed coordination and/or support measures.**

2. Impact

- **Contributes towards the expected impacts listed for the call**
- **Likelihood to result in major advances for the field**
- **Effectiveness of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results.**
- **Sustainability of capacity beyond the end of the grant, where relevant.**
- **Contribution to networking, where relevant.**

3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation

- **Coherence and effectiveness of the proposed work, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources**
- **Feasibility and appropriateness of the methods and project management to achieve the objectives within the timeframe of the grant**
- **Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management, and how responsibilities for research data quality and sharing, and security will be met**



- Compliance with national and international standards of research, Good Clinical Practice, ethics and safety related issues
- Complementarity of the participants within the consortium and gender balance among consortium members (when relevant)
- Participants have the operational capacity, to carry out the proposed work, based on the competence and experience of the individual participant(s)

Financial provisions

The indicative call budget is 3 million EUR.

The total requested EDCTP contribution (direct + indirect costs) shall not exceed 500,000 EUR per project. Indirect costs may constitute up to 25% of direct costs. There is no co-funding requirement: EDCTP may fund 100% of eligible project costs.

EDCTP considers that proposals of between 24 and 36 months duration would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals of a different duration.

Grant agreement

A grant agreement with EDCTP (general EDCTP2 mono- or multi-beneficiary grant agreement) should be signed within three months of receipt of the conditional award letter. In the case of projects involving multiple beneficiaries, all participants in the project must sign a consortium agreement prior to the conclusion of the EDCTP2 grant agreement.

Application process

- The application must be submitted online via [EDCTPgrants](#)
- Only registered users of EDCTPgrants system can apply for grants and therefore you are advised to register on the system as soon as possible
- Please read the **guiding notes** embedded in the online application and the EDCTP2 workplan carefully before submitting an application

Further information

For questions related to this call for proposals, please contact:

- Ms Hager Bassyouni at bassyouni@edctp.org

For questions and issues about EDCTPgrants and the online application submission please contact EDCTP via grantshelpdesk@edctp.org or +31 (0) 70 344 08 80.