CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST

BUILDING RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS TO DISSEMINATE SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

Deadline for submission: 11 October 2019
See: https://www.who.int/tdr/grants/calls/building-research-partnerships/en/

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is “social innovation in health”? 
There are several definitions of social innovation. For the purpose of this call “social innovation in health” refers to a community-engaged approach and solution to address the health care delivery gap. This includes:

- A new lens to approach health care delivery and development
- A creative solution to a systemic (health) challenge that is effective, inclusive and affordable
- A process, engaging communities, government representatives, and other actors within and outside the health system with a multidisciplinary background.

For more information and examples please see: https://socialinnovationinhealth.org/about/what-is-social-innovation/

Which types of organizations are targeted in this call? 
Research institutions, universities, and other organizations with a focus on health research based in low- and middle-income countries interested in advancing community-engaged social innovations in their countries and beyond are encouraged to apply.

Which types of partnerships should be formed as part of the application? 
We are looking for new partnerships to disseminate community-engaged social innovation practices and research in low- and middle-income countries.

Each partnership applying for the call should include at least:

1. One organization based in a low- and middle-income country with (i) a focus on health research (ii) experience in advancing community-engaged social innovation in health through advocacy, research and capacity strengthening and (iii) a willingness to transfer these capacities to new partners in a different country. Such organizations include SIHI country partners but are not limited to them. For more information on SIHI country partners please see: https://socialinnovationinhealth.org/ (Partner tab)
2. One organization based in a low- and middle-income country with a focus on infectious diseases of poverty that may not yet have experience / expertise in social innovation in health but is willing to engage and embed this approach in the organization. This organization must be based in a different country than the partner institution mentioned above.

**We are an organization with a focus on health research and are based in high income country. Can we apply?**

Organizations with a focus on health research from high-income countries can be part of an application. Their engagement will enhance the partnership and leverage resources. Yet grant holders must be organizations with a focus on health research and based in low- and middle-income countries.

**We are a non-governmental organization. Can we apply?**

Non-governmental organizations can be part of an application. They will be eligible to hold a grant if they have a focus on health research and are based in a low-and middle-income country.

**We are working in the ministry of health of a low- and middle-income country. Can we apply?**

Ministries of health of a low- and middle-income country can be part of an application. They will be eligible to hold a grant if their directorate has a focus on health research.

**We are an organization in a low- and middle-income country with a focus on health research but with no expertise / experience with social innovation. Can we apply?**

An organization based in a low- and middle-income country having a focus on health research but no expertise / experience with social innovation can apply if:

- their research focus is on infectious diseases of poverty
- they partner with and get support from a research institution based in a low- and middle-income country which has the experience to advance social innovation in health through advocacy research and capacity strengthening (this can be a SIHI country partner but is not limited to them)

NOTE: Both partner research institutions should not be from the same country.

**Can I contact the existing SIHI country partners?**

Any interested institution is encouraged to contact a SIHI country partner, see partner brochure at: [https://www.who.int/tdr/research/social-innovation/SIHI-Overview-Brochure_2018-19.pdf](https://www.who.int/tdr/research/social-innovation/SIHI-Overview-Brochure_2018-19.pdf) and contact details at: [https://socialinnovationinhealth.org/about/get-in-touch/](https://socialinnovationinhealth.org/about/get-in-touch/)

**What is meant by “contributing to the SIHI network”?**

Each application should explicitly include their contribution to the SIHI network (e.g. cross-SIHI partner activities, enhancing sharing and learning from each other, specific collaborative research, capacity strengthening).
How many institutions can apply as one partnership?

The partnership should include at least two research institutions based in two different low- and middle-income countries. The partnership can include as many institutions as they see fit. Grant holders must be organizations in a low- and middle-income country with a focus on health research.

How will the grant be shared by the various partners of an application?

Each partner organization with a focus on health research and based in a low- and middle-income country can provide, as part of the partnership proposal, their respective budget to receive a grant directly from TDR.

Will there be opportunities for partner organizations to learn from each other and work on shared projects?

We anticipate a meeting of the entire SIHI group of partners in 2020 in order to share experiences and consider shared projects.

What does a successful partnership look like?

Success will be measured by (i) the level of institutionalization and dissemination of social innovation practices and research in countries, and (ii) the level of collaboration with SIHI partners to enhance coordination, synergy and expansion of the SIHI network.