# Application Guidance

#### BloombergPhilanthropies | Data for HealthInitiative

The Initiative, supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Government of Australia, supports technical exchanges in low- and middle-income countries worldwide to improve public health data systems. The Initiative focuses on five areas: civil registration and vital statistics;data use for policymaking; non-communicable disease risk factor surveys, COVID-19 response and development of Cancer Registries. Collaborating institutions in the Initiative are: Vital Strategies, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and CDC Foundation, Global Health Advocacy Incubator, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, the University of Melbourne, and the World Health Organization.

**The Global Grants Program (GGP)** suppo**rts focused, results-oriented projects**that improve public health data in the priority areas of the Data for Health Initiative so that governments are equipped with the tools and systems to collect and use data effectively. Please see [pages six and seven](#_Priority_Funding_Areas_2)for a list of the priority areas we fund.

#### Eligibility

The Global Grants Program is targeted to ministries of health, statistical and other relevant agencies at the national, subnational or municipal levels in low- and middle-income countries that have **not** received funding from the Data for HealthInitiative. In certain instances, applications from national NGOs that have strong relationships with government will also be considered. The following countries are already part of the D4H Initiative and not eligible to apply:

* Bangladesh
* Cambodia
* Cameroon
* China
* Colombia
* Ethiopia
* India
* Indonesia
* Morocco
* Mozambique
* Myanmar
* Papa New Guinea
* Philippines
* Rwanda
* Senegal
* Solomon Islands
* Sri Lanka
* Tanzania
* Thailand
* Uganda
* Vietnam
* Zambia
* Zimbabwe

Please note that international NGOs are not eligible to apply, but are urged to encourage government partners to apply directly for funding.

#### Funding Limits and Timeframe

For the current funding round, up to $150,000 will be awarded for projects to be completed over an 18-month period. Short-term, highly-focused projects with lower budgets are strongly encouraged.

**Funding Exclusions**

* Projects related to contact tracing or the delivery of COVID-19 relief or other services
* Personal protective goods, laboratory equipment, biological analysis
* Individual study or training
* Increasing/”topping up” the salaries of existing MOH personnel (salary offset is acceptable)
* Lobbying
* Capital Expenses
  + New Construction
  + Vehicles
  + Computer or other electronic equipment (unless intrinsic to project)

#### Elements of an Effective Application

A good project must identify:

* Discrete and measurable deliverables aligned to the objectives of the Data for Health Initiative.
* Risks that may interfere with completing project deliverables.
* Sustainability mechanisms to integrate and/or continue the work past the designated funding period.

#### Submitting an Application

Applicants must submit a Project Idea Form for initial screening.If the idea meets the goals and mission of the GGP, applicants will be invited to prepare an application.Links to submit either application are available on our [website](https://www.d4hglobalgrantsprogram.org/process)

Although Project Ideas and Applications are submitted online, Microsoft Word templates are available for download on our [website](https://www.d4hglobalgrantsprogram.org/process) for applicants to prepare their responses ahead of submitting a formal request for funding.

Approved Project Ideas that are invited to prepare an application will be asked to include a project implementation plan, timeline and detailed budget in order to complete their application.Once applicants download the template on our [website](https://www.d4hglobalgrantsprogram.org/process), project work plans should be developed to reflect key activities, corresponding costs and identify who on the project team is responsible for implementation. Once complete, applicants will upload their document within the last section of the application.

Below are instructions for completing the workplan document:

* **Implementation Plan** 
  + The first tab of the excel file captures the steps toward success for each project. Teams should list key activities to be completed throughout the project and detail the intended impact(s). This document should also acknowledge potential risks to completing the activities and sustainability measures for ensuring long term integration of key objectives.
* **Project Timeline**
  + The second tab contains the project timeline, a project management tool that visualizes the project implementation plan over time. Tasks are listed on the left side of the spreadsheet and grouped by deliverables while a timeline runs horizontally across the top of the chart, spanning the length of the project.After completing the implementation plan, teams should copy the list of key activities (within project deliverables) into the project timeline. Once organized in sequential order, please indicate at what point throughout the project lifecycle each activity will start and finish using markers in the chart. The team member responsible for carrying out each activity is also indicated.
* **Activity Based Budget**
  + As the third tab, the Activity Based Budget is a financial management tool that is used in conjunction with the project’s implementation plan and timelineto project, monitor, and track expenses over the course of the grant period. Like the implementation plan, activities are transferred into quarterly expense projections that are used to plan for fund disbursements.
  + Teams will need to provide the description, location, and dollar amount of each expense with respect to the implementation timeline.
  + The column “Location of Expense” identifies whether an expense is to be paid in-country by the fiscal agent or by the GGP which is indicated by the dropdown selection “New York”. In some instances, particularly those where in-country procurement of goods or services can take a considerable amount of time, it may be most efficient for certain expenses (for example international service providers) to be contracted by and paid out of Vital Strategies Headquarters in New York City or via one of our regional offices. This also applies to travel expenses.

Applicants will also be asked to identify a **fiscal agent**within their application. A fiscal agent is an entity that acts on behalf of the applicant to perform various fiscal duties such as the receipt, disbursement, and reconciliation of funds. The fiscal agent will manage and report on the funds that are disbursed for the project.

#### Review Process by GGP

Project Ideas will be reviewed by the Global Grants Program team and comments may be provided to applicants for refinement and resubmission.

#### Post Award Actions

A provisional approval letter will be sent out with immediate next steps and contact information. The fiscal agent, previously identified by the project team, will be issued a subgrant agreement for the project. A decision regarding the need for a Memorandum of Understanding will be made at this time.

#### Reporting

All grantees will be required to provide monthly updates on implementation. Quarterly reports are required on spending.

#### Grant Renewal

Grants will not be renewed, but country teams may submit applications to scale-up work previously funded by the Global Grants Program.

#### Further Information:

Please contact [GGPinfo@vitalstrategies.org](mailto:GGPinfo@vitalstrategies.org)

### Priority Funding Areas

**CRVS**

* Enhancing CRVS Governance and Coordination
* Improving Notification and Registration of Vital Events
* Improving Medical Certification of Cause‐of‐Death
* Instituting or improving ICD coding
* Implementing Verbal Autopsy
* Improving Vital Statistics analysis, publication, dissemination
* CRVS Legal and Regulatory Review and Reform

**Data Impact**

* Indicator development
* Data dashboards
* Decision process design/reform – prioritization, budgeting, planning
* Capacity development – data analytics for public health practice
* Data report development or enhancement
* National health bulletin development or enhancement
* Online data access
* Scientific communications development

**NCDSURVEYS**

* Survey design and planning
* Survey implementation
* Survey analysis
* Survey dissemination

**Cancer Registry**

* Enhancing cancer registry governance and coordination
* Improving registration of cancer
* Improving quality of cancer registry data
* Improving cancer registry analyses, publication, dissemination

**COVID-19**

CRVS

* Rapid Mortality Surveillance
* Certification and Coding of COVID-19 & Iris Recommendations for COVID-19
* Verbal Autopsy in the Context of COVID-19
* Measuring Excess Mortality due to COVID-19
* Maintaining Civil Registration during COVID-19
* Assessing mortality data quality using ANACONDA during COVID-19

Data Impact

* COVID-19 Data Analysis for Public Health Action

Surveys

* Developing surveys to collect population data on COVID-19