

## Summary of the First Stage of TB REACH Wave 5 Call for Proposals

The TB REACH replenishment grant from Global Affairs Canada was announced in Geneva on 25 May 2016 and officially signed by all parties on 2 June. The Stop TB Partnership hosted a Partners' Consultation to discuss the structure and thematic areas of interest from 6 -7 June in Geneva followed by a meeting of the Program Steering Group (PSG) on 7 - 8 June.

During the meetings, recommendations on the new structure of TB REACH grants were made with an eye towards scale up and sustainability of effective interventions. The PSG asked TB REACH to develop a framework for 'transition to scale up' where ideas piloted by TB REACH grantees could be scaled up and receive broader financial support from other funders. A document outlining the framework is available at [http://www.stoptb.org/assets/documents/global/awards/tbreach/TBRw5\\_TransitionFramework\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.stoptb.org/assets/documents/global/awards/tbreach/TBRw5_TransitionFramework_FINAL.pdf)

New TB REACH grants will continue the focus on increasing the number of people detected and notified with TB and will also include grants that work to improve treatment outcomes for people with TB. In addition, a special track will be dedicated to product development to aid service delivery. Details of the grant offerings can be reviewed on the Stop TB webpage at <http://www.stoptb.org/global/awards/tbreach/wave5.asp>.

Following PSG consultation and the development of the application materials and website wave 5 was launched on 2 August and an online platform was created for applicants to submit proposals. Due to the anticipated high demand, a two-stage process was used, with an initial proposal (including concept and background information) and a smaller number of selected applicants invited to submit a full application. The first stage closed on 5 September after being open for five weeks. On closure of the first stage 1,070 user profiles had been created, 659 proposals were received of which 538 were technically and financially complete.

The complete proposals have been sent to the Proposal Review Committee (PRC) for evaluation. The PRC is a 13 member committee of external experts plus four additional alternate members. After receiving stated conflicts of interest from PRC members, each proposals was randomly assigned to two blinded reviewers. A conference call to discuss the review process with PRC members was held on 13 September. At the time of the Coordinating Board, the PRC will be in the process of reviewing all 538 proposals. At the end of September, a second PRC call will be scheduled to finalize decisions about which proposals move to the second stage of the application process. Successful proposals will be announced during the first week of October. Finalists will have six weeks to develop a full application (to be submitted via the online platform) and the PRC will meet in person during first week of December to discuss all proposals and make final funding recommendations.

The PRC funding recommendations and report will then be submitted for approval to the Executive Committee of the Stop TB Partnership Board. The public announcement of Wave 5 grantees can be made before the end of year holidays. Grant negotiation and signing will take place in the first quarter of 2017 and a meeting of all grantees is planned in April 2017.

To further strengthen the work of Wave 5 grantees a new area of work will be a collaboration with McGill University's International TB Center. McGill will provide support to TB REACH partners to help them build their capacity on implementation research and results dissemination to assist in the advocacy for successful approaches to be scaled up in country.

Below is a summary analysis of the proposals (n=538) currently under review by the PRC.

**The total amount of funding requested is USD 266.74 million.**

Proposals came from 67 countries

Top 5 countries of proposals

- India n=58, 11%
- Uganda n=46, 9%
- Nigeria n=39, 7%
- Kenya n=34, 6%
- South Africa n=27, 5%
- 24 proposals are multi-country

Global Fund Regions

- 237 (44%) proposals worth USD 120M from High Impact Africa
- 129 (24%) proposals worth USD 60M from High Impact Asia

Evaluation Categories

- 453 (83%) are for improving detection, linkage to treatment and reporting of TB - USD 234M
- 63 (12%) are for improving treatment adherence and outcomes - USD 29M
- 22 (4%) are for developing innovative resources and materials to aide service delivery USD 3.2M

Project Types

- 361 (67%) are 'Proof of concept' projects – USD 129 M
- 155 (29%) are 'Focus on scalability' projects – USD 134 M
- 22 (4%) are 'Special funding for developing resources and materials' projects - USD 3.2 M

Applicant Organizations

- 234 (43%) are national / local NGO
- 107 (20%) are international NGOs
- 40 (7%) are National, Provincial, State or District-level TB Programs
- Other organization types include university/research institute, UN agencies, other governmental agencies and social businesses.