



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

This document incorporates all queries as of February 20th, 2019

This document addresses questions received by Grand Challenges Canada with respect to the following RFP: RFP-HGC-2019-02-06 “Innovator Support Services: Non-financial support for humanitarian innovations” announced February 6, 2019. Additional questions must be submitted to Abdul.mohamed@grandchallenges.ca. Updated FAQ document(s) will be posted periodically and up to one week prior to the Request-for-Proposals deadline of February 27, 2019 (11:59p.m. ET).

General Questions

1. Please could you define ‘organizational resilience’?

A: Organizational resilience can broadly be defined as the ability for a team to execute on their objective, while also being capable of responding rapidly to unforeseen changes, even chaotic disruption. Organizational resilience should include, but is not limited to, supporting innovations improve in the following areas:

- Leadership
- Organizational Culture
- People/Staff
- Governance
- Systems and processes

2. Size and split of Innovation Teams:

a. What is the average size of the teams you support?

b. How big is the largest and the smallest team?

A:The size of teams we support varies, from small (<5 people start-ups) to larger and well established non-profit organizations that are implementing a new innovation. Typically, we would expect that the innovator non-financial support to be targeted towards the co-founders/project leads. For planning purposes, you can assume that typically there are 2-10 individuals directly working on the GCC funded innovations.

c. How do the teams split across ‘seed’ and ‘transition to scale’?

A:In year one, we expect 23 seed innovations and up to 3 TTS innovations. This ratio is expected to remain approximately the same in subsequent years.

3. Where are the innovators located? Are there any geographic clusters?

A: In year one, the majority of the selected innovators have headquarters located in North American and Europe. A subset of innovators have headquarters located in Turkey, Tanzania, Guatemala and Afghanistan. However, all HGC innovations are implementing in conflict zones (Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa).

4. Guidance on the budget

a. What is the budget and/rate cap for initial development costs of the learning materials?

A: There is not rate cap for the initial development costs of the learning material. As indicated in the RFP, GCC and HGC partners hope that vendor(s) “leverage existing content that is readily available first, and that new content is developed only as required”. If vendor(s) believe that new content is important to meet the objectives outlined in the RFP, vendor(s) should include applicable development costs.

b. Initial development costs for content etc. are clearly excluded from the \$2k-5k budget. Should ongoing, iterative development be accounted for separately too?

A: If iterative content development costs are required, these should clearly be identified in the budget and would be considered excluded from the quoted budget per innovator.

5. Is GCC prepared to issue up to three separate contracts for the components (bidding opportunities) or is GCC seeking a Lead with Sub-contractor(s)?

A: Based on the response and proposals received, GCC will pursue the procurement strategy is most effective. If required, we are willing to issue more than one contract for the defined scope. GCC is also open to vendors working collaboratively when submitting proposals.

6. To what degree do the three components need to be coordination/ integrated, including between separate winning bids?

A: The ultimate vision for the non-financial support would being a single program learning plan that is fully compressive. If multiple vendors are working on the various scopes of work outlined in the RFP, then GCC would expect coordination amongst the vendors to ensure the learning program are integrated and cohesive.

7. To what extent does the content of the third component need tailoring to humanitarian contexts and/or specific innovations versus imparting more general or non-sector specific skills, e.g. around scaling, evaluation, management?

A: GCC is seeking to leverage the expertise of vendor(s) to identify how to best support innovations. This includes the design of the ‘third component’ (which we’ve assumed is referring to the in-person cohort events). Though testing and scaling innovations do pose unique challenges, innovators are also likely to face many of the same challenges their peers not working in humanitarian contexts.

8. How strict is the May 2019 timeframe for the first in-person event?

A: The May 2019 date is currently a placeholder. GCC and the HGC partners would like to host the event sometime in May or June 2019, contingent on finding a suitable space that works for all stakeholders involved (GCC, HGC Partners, and the selected vendor(s))