



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

BID SOLICITATION – GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH PLATFORM

This document addresses frequently asked questions regarding the Bid Solicitation for Global Mental Health Platform (RFP-MH-2020-04-14) issued by Grand Challenges Canada in April 2020. This document was last updated on May 1, 2020.

Can groups put together a joint bid – one team focusing on the learning platform and one team focusing on the youth support platform?

A. Yes

How many grantees is the service provider would be expected to work with over the initial 20-month period?

A. We anticipate 10-15 Transition to Scale grants, being awarded on a quarterly basis. These grants last 24-26 months. An additional 15 seed grants awarded in the spring of 2021. While we anticipate the Learning Platform team will work with the seed grantees, the amount of support will depend on whether you plan on submitting a proposal for the youth support platform as well.

What is your ongoing hypothesis for the approximate volume and structure of support required to each grantee?

A. We do not have a set idea and are interested to see what proposals we receive. We anticipate support will likely be different for our seed versus Transition to Scale grantees given the differing scope and size of their work and will need to be tailored to each grantee's needs. These needs may change over the course of their project.

Does the call only apply to institutions in Canada or is it possible for international institutions to participate? Additionally, can the call for bids can be proposed with virtual platforms that facilitate international work?

A. The bid for proposals is not limited to institutions in Canada, we are open to proposals from institutions based in any country. As for the use of virtual platforms, we are open to any number of means to support our grantees, virtual or otherwise.

Are we able to have an understanding of the current/prior GMH Program of support (status quo)? What worked, what didn't, and is it preferable to integrate components of the prior programming or to start from scratch?

- A. Our previous platform was designed to help create and nurture a community that was focused on the challenge of Global Mental Health. In particular, it was effective in creating and disseminating best practices to the wider community, as well as tracking and disseminating the individual and collective impact of GMH innovations to external stakeholders. A major difference is that the prior platform placed a larger emphasis on tracking the impact of each innovation as well as the broader portfolio while we expect this iteration of support to focus on more technical expertise and program support as shown in the breakdown of activities.

Who will be the fundees of this program? Are all innovations sourced from Canadian teams (working in partnership with others)? Will there be a focus on Indigenous / Local challenges as well as LMIC?

- A. Innovators from the United Kingdom, Canada and LMICs are eligible to apply. We strongly encourage innovators from high income countries to partner with those in LMICs although it is not mandatory. To give you a sense of portfolio make up, approximately 70% of our previous Global Mental Health innovators were based in LMICs, 30% in HICs. Projects will be supported at both the seed and transition to scale levels. Given the focus of the Global Mental Health Program all activities must be implemented in LMICs. We do have a separate [Indigenous Innovation Initiative](#) that funds and supports Canadian based activities with Indigenous populations.

Note: Though page ten of the RFP states that “This Bid Solicitation seeks to engage **an individual for hire** in the role of...” this bid is not restricted to individuals but is open to firms/organizations as well.