



**Grand Challenges Canada<sup>®</sup>**  
**Grands Défis Canada**

**BOLD IDEAS WITH BIG IMPACT<sup>®</sup>**

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**Ecosystem Catalyst for Kenyan County  
Readiness to Demand and Scale Innovation**

**July 19, 2021**

**RFP Reference No.: RFP-ECG-2021-07-19**

## Executive Summary

The principal responsibility of meeting the health needs of unserved and underserved communities lies with governments. The public sector therefore offers an optimal route of scaling for innovations that seek to serve these populations in low- and middle-income countries. If well-resourced, public sector can uniquely reach large portions of these populations quickly and efficiently offering both scale and legitimacy. Public accountability also typically prioritizes and aligns competing needs of populations appropriate for the unique contexts and challenges. With growing acceptance and enthusiasm for innovative approaches to meet these priorities efficiently, there is a unique opportunity to strengthen the innovation scaling ecosystem by providing support to public sector-led efforts to demand and scale innovation. While governments and other public sector stakeholders navigate these new and ambitious goals, Grand Challenges Canada is offering such support.

**Grand Challenges Canada seeks a team to speed significant change or action (“Ecosystem Catalyst”) in the public sector ecosystem within Kenya with the goal of increasing the demand for, and scale of health innovations.** The Ecosystem Catalyst is expected to be well connected to relevant governance structures, communities and other health innovation ecosystem stakeholders.

The successful applicant will receive a grant of approx. \$500,000 CAD over up to 24 months to **increase system capacity of Kenya county government to demand and scale health innovations.** Grand Challenges Canada expects to award one (1) grant.

## General RFP Information

**RFP APPLICATION DEADLINE: 4:59pm EDT (11:59pm Eastern Time)  
on August 9, 2021**

**Proposals will not be accepted after this date and time.**

### General Information

#### Objective

- a. The objective of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to select an Ecosystem Catalyst (“Funding Recipient”) to enter into a grant agreement with Grand Challenges Canada to **increase the capacity and improve Kenya county government processes to demand and scale health innovations.**

#### Period of Contract

- a. The resulting grant agreement will be in effect from approximately October 2021 to September 2023. The grant agreement may be extended by agreement of the parties.

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA

GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA / GRANDS DÉFIS CANADA (“**Grand Challenges Canada**”) is dedicated to supporting **Bold Ideas with Big Impact**®. Funded by the Government of Canada and other partners, Grand Challenges Canada funds innovators in low- and middle- income countries and Canada. The bold ideas Grand Challenges Canada supports integrate science and technology, social and business innovation – know as Integrated Innovation®.

One of the largest impact-first investors in Canada, and with a feminist investment approach, Grand Challenges Canada has supported a pipeline of over 1,300 innovations in over 90 countries. Grand Challenges Canada estimates that these innovations have the potential to save up to 1.78 million lives and improve up to 64 million lives by 2030.

For more information, please see: <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/>

### 1.2 BACKGROUND

Grand Challenges Canada supports several portfolios of ready-to-scale innovations designed to meet the health needs of underserved people. Over the past 10 years Grand Challenges Canada has supported innovators advance along their respective public sector scaling pathways by funding and assisting with evidence generation, scale readiness, and strategies to engage effectively with policymakers. These activities have focused on strengthening the supply health innovations.

Grand Challenges Canada is now embarking on a two-year journey of testing activities to strengthen the demand for health innovations.

### 1.3 THE PROBLEM

The public sector pathway remains an optimal and desired route of scaling for innovations that seek to serve unserved and underserved populations in low and middle income countries. Due to a variety of reasons ranging from poor alignment with public sector priorities to insufficient or belated engagement with public officials as well as lack of data or evidence that is required for public sector adoption, the public sector is often unable to support the desired scaling of innovations. It is clear that the public sector that navigates prioritization of health focus areas, limited budgets, public accountability, and limited resources and capacity to evaluate innovations as a fit for health priorities have resulted in the continued ecosystem barriers to public sector scaling. See [report](#) for detailed analysis of these barriers.

## 2. Scope

### 2.1 SCOPE OF WORK

We seek a team to speed significant change or action (“Ecosystem Catalyst”) in the public sector ecosystem in Kenya with the goal of increasing the demand for, and scale of health innovations. The Ecosystem Catalyst will work closely with 2-3 Kenyan county governments, to support their development of sustainable systems that demand, adopt and scale health innovations. The Ecosystem Catalyst is expected to leverage networks and assets to support county governments to articulate demand and evaluate innovations to enable successful scaling pathways.

Success may include the following outcomes:

- Increase in number of health innovations prioritized for adoption by governments;
- Increase in demand signals for health innovations articulated by government;
- Change in policy or procurement approach that creates greater demand for relevant health innovations;
- Leveraged funds from other partners to support scale of health innovations

### 2.2 GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

Implementation focus on 2-3 counties in Kenya where support has been invited by relevant government officials.

### 2.3 AVAILABLE FUNDING

Grand Challenges Canada has defined a budget of approximately \$500,000 CAD for this work over up to 24 months.

While matched funding is not a requirement, Ecosystem Catalysts are encouraged to secure co-funding. Initiating early strategic partnerships can improve the sustainability of the approach by creating early buy-in and providing resources and expertise that may provide longer term support to governments and public sector stakeholders.

**Please note:** The successful Applicant must take up the grant (begin the project period) no later than **November 1, 2021**. Any deferral beyond this period may result in the forfeiture of the award.

**Please note:** The successful Applicant must complete their project within **24 months**. Exceptions can be discussed at the contract negotiation stage or at the sole discretion of Grand Challenges Canada.

## 2.4 TEAM LEADERSHIP

### Project Team

The Ecosystem Catalyst is expected to include effective, results-driven leaders with the capacity to convene and engage with key influencers. Multidisciplinary and cross-sector teams are encouraged.

The Ecosystem Catalyst is also expected to have experience in:

- the support and scale of health innovation;
- public sector engagement;
- monitoring and evaluation; and
- data analysis and knowledge translation.

Teams interested in responding to this RFP should ensure they have the legal capacity to enter into a contract with Grand Challenges Canada. Grand Challenges Canada does not fund individuals, sole-proprietorships, partnerships, unincorporated trusts or any entity that does not have the legal capacity to enter into a contract.

### Understanding of Context

The Ecosystem Catalyst must have an understanding of the infrastructure and governance context (including relevant laws and regulations) and the social, political and economic context that will influence their project. This will help the team better understand the priorities and needs of relevant stakeholders, as well as identify and mitigate risks to project success.

The Ecosystem Catalyst will be required to work within priority areas identified by the county governments.

### Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholders should be engaged from beginning. Key stakeholders include:

- County and national government officials and departments
- Relevant global mechanisms and international agencies (eg. WHO, World Bank, donors)
- Key influencers and community leaders
- Innovation platforms and funders.

## 3. Application and Review Process

All applications go through an independent peer review process before Grand Challenges Canada makes a final funding decision.

Key Dates	Event
<b>August 9, 2021 at 4:59 pm EDT (11:59 pm EAT)</b>	<b>Application submission deadline</b>
<b>August 31 2021</b>	<b>Notification of approval or rejection</b>
<b>September, 2021</b>	<b>Negotiation of award</b>
<b>October 1, 2021</b>	<b>Anticipated project start date</b>

### 3.1 INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION

#### Submission of Proposal

- a. Grand Challenges Canada requests that each Applicant submit an application in response to this RFP (also referred to as “Proposal”) to the email address outlined below, as early as possible, but **no later than August 9, 2021, at 4:59 pm Eastern Time** (the “**Closing Date**”). For greater certainty, Proposals will only be accepted from July 19, 2021 until August 9, 2021 at 4:59 /pm (RFP period).
- b. The Proposal must include the Applicant’s firm or vendor’s name, a contact name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address.
- c. Grand Challenges Canada requests that each Proposal contain a covering letter signed by the Applicant or by an authorized representative of the Applicant. The covering letter should reference the RFP Reference Number indicated on the first page of this document. The Applicant’s signature indicates acceptance of the terms and conditions set out and/or referenced herein. The signatory must have authority to commit the organization by making such a Proposal. A contract will not be awarded until a signed covering letter from the Applicant is received by Grand Challenges Canada. If the Applicant fails to provide a signed covering letter when requested to do so by Grand Challenges Canada, then the Applicant shall be disqualified from the bidding process and be declared non-compliant.
- d. It is the Applicant's responsibility to:
  - i. Obtain clarification of the requirements contained in the RFP, if necessary, prior to submitting a Proposal
  - ii. Prepare their Proposal in accordance with the instructions contained in the RFP
  - iii. Submit their Proposal by closing time
  - iv. Send their Proposal only to the “Contracting Authority” named in Paragraph 2.2 below
  - v. Provide a contact name, address, telephone number and email address in its Proposal, as indicated in 2.1b above

- vi. Provide a comprehensible and sufficiently detailed Proposal, including all requested pricing details that will permit a complete evaluation, in accordance with the criteria set out in this RFP.
- e. Proposals will remain **open for acceptance** for a period of not less than twenty-one (21) calendar days from the Closing Date of the RFP. Upon notification to the responsive Applicants, Grand Challenges Canada reserves the right in its sole discretion to extend the RFP period at any time for up to twenty-one (21) calendar days.
- f. Proposals and/or amendments thereto will only be accepted by Grand Challenges Canada if they are received at the email address indicated below in Paragraph 2.2, on or before the Closing Date specified herein.
- g. Proposals received will become the property of Grand Challenges Canada and will not be returned.
- h. Grand Challenges Canada will not share Proposals with other Applicants.
- i. Except as specifically provided otherwise in the RFP, Grand Challenges Canada will evaluate an Applicant's Proposal only on the documentation provided as part of its Proposal. Grand Challenges Canada will not evaluate information not submitted with the Proposal, such as references to website addresses where additional information can be found, or technical manuals or brochures not submitted with the Proposal.

### **Contracting Authority**

**Grand Challenges Canada**  
661 University Avenue, Suite 1720  
MaRS Centre, West Tower  
Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1M1

Attention: Dr. Deepika Devadas, Chief of Staff, Programs  
**Email: [deepika.devadas@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:deepika.devadas@grandchallenges.ca)**

### **Late Proposals**

- a. The Applicant has sole responsibility for the timely receipt of a Proposal by Grand Challenges Canada and cannot transfer this responsibility to Grand Challenges Canada.
- b. Grand Challenges Canada will return Proposals delivered after the stipulated RFP Closing Date and time referred to in Paragraph 2, Sub-paragraph 1a, unless they qualify as a “delayed Proposal” (see below).
- c. A Proposal received after the Closing Date but before the contract award date may be considered, provided the delay can be proven by the Applicant to have been due solely to a delay in delivery that can be attributed to incorrect handling by Grand Challenges Canada (a “delayed Proposal”).

- d. Misrouting, traffic volume, weather disturbances, labour disputes or any other causes for the late delivery of Proposals are not acceptable reasons for the Proposal to be accepted by Grand Challenges Canada.

### **Communications – Solicitation Period**

- a. To ensure the integrity of the competitive Proposal process, all enquiries and other communications regarding the RFP must be directed, by email, only to the Contracting Authority identified in this RFP. Failure to comply can, for that reason alone, result in the disqualification of the Proposal.
- b. To ensure consistency and quality of information provided to Applicants, significant enquiries received and the replies to such enquiries will be provided to all Applicants, without revealing the sources of the enquiries.

### **3.2 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Before moving forward in the review process, all proposals will be screened for eligibility based on the below criteria.

- 1) The Applicant must be a non-profit organization, for-profit company, research/academic institution, limited liability companies or any other legal institution that is incorporated in Sub-Saharan Africa and is capable of receiving and administering funding. Applicants incorporated in Kenya will be preferred.
- 2) Proposals must include all required information and address all questions. Only complete proposals will be considered for review.
- 3) Applications must be submitted in either English or French.
- 4) A majority of the Applicant's activities and budget must be carried out/spent in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 5) Grand Challenges Canada may, at any time and at their sole discretion, modify eligibility criteria with respect to an Applicant, Project Leads and/or eligible countries, to the extent that such modifications do not materially undermine the review process.

#### **Please note:**

- Grand Challenges Canada must approve any changes in applicant organization from the originally funded grant
- Grand Challenges Canada must approve any changes to the original application relating to the Applicant or Project Lead
- Project Leads must get their affiliated institution's sign-off before submitting any application

### 3.3 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

#### 1.0 Format of Submission

##### Section 1: Technical Section

In the technical section, eligible Applicants must demonstrate how they will meet the requirements of the Evaluation Criteria. The technical section must not exceed 10 pages including the cover sheet and any appendices. The technical section must include:

- (i) **Theory of Change:** A Theory of Change (TOC) that explains how the Activities undertaken lead to the Proposed Immediate, Intermediate and Ultimate outcomes. The series of activities, outputs, outcomes and the assumptions underlying them will ideally inform the key indicators that will be monitored and evaluated by the team. Several public resources to construct a theory of change can be found on the internet. A few examples of resources are listed here from the [UN Development Group](#), [Global Affairs Canada](#), [Think NPC's Ten Step Process](#) and [Center for Theory of Change](#).
- (ii) **Work Plan:** A description of the proposed activities centered around the TOC that provides detailed activities, expected results and timelines.
- (iii) **Team:** Details of team composition, track record, experience and partnerships. References are welcome.

##### Section 2: Budget Section

The Applicant must submit a budget summary, that includes the attached categories, in the following format. Additional information may be requested from applicants during the RFP process.

##### Budget Summary

Budget category	Year 1	Year 2
	GCC	GCC
Total 1.1 Remuneration	-	-
Total 1.2 Subcontractor Fees	-	-
Total 1.3 Travel Costs	-	-
Total 1.4 Goods and Supplies	-	-
Total 1.5 Equipment Costs	-	-
Total 1.6 Project Administration Costs	-	-
Total 1.7 Sub-grants less Sub-Grantee Indirects	-	-
Total 1.8 Indirect Costs	-	-
<b>Total Project in Local Currency</b>	-	-
<b>Total Project in CAD</b>	-	-

Any questions can be directed to GCC Finance Lead, Anil Pathela ([anil.pathela@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:anil.pathela@grandchallenges.ca)) during the duration the RFP stays open.

### 3.4 EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW

All eligible Proposals will be evaluated by an independent peer review panel of external public sector, scientific, social and business experts using the below criteria.

#### Evaluation Criteria

##### 1. Potential for Impact:

- Is there evidence that the proposed support has been invited by the proposed county governments?
- Do evidence and common sense suggest that the activities, if implemented will lead to proposed outcomes?
- Are underlying assumptions articulated and fair?
- Does the team own enough accountability to influence this theory of change?
- Are proposed metrics sufficient to evaluate progress on outcomes?

##### 2. Proposed Plan of Execution

- Is there a fair level of detail on the proposed plan of work that can be suitably assessed?
- Are proposed activities reasonable to achieve outcomes within proposed timelines?
- Are risks reasonably anticipated with associated mitigation strategies?

##### 3. Relevant Team Experience (30%)

- How well does the team reflect the experience to execute on the proposed plan of work?
- Is there a demonstrable experience of trust with public sector stakeholders?
- Does the team have the capacities to report on the outcomes of the proposed work?

##### 4. Value for Money

- Are funds requested reasonable, commensurate and sufficient to achieve proposed outcomes?
- Is there evidence of matched funding for the proposed activities that demonstrate buy-in from relevant stakeholders?

### 3.5 FUNDING DECISIONS

The External Peer Review process will result in a ranked list of Proposals. Based on these results, Grand Challenges Canada will make the final funding decisions at the Management's sole discretion, including its reserved rights set out in Section 5.7. Based on the results of the review panel or during the negotiations process, refinements to the proposed project plan, structure, amount and oversight may be required before a funding agreement is finalized.

## 4. Activities and Deliverables

The successful project team will be expected to engage in the following activities and provide similar deliverables listed below in order to demonstrate project progress and success:

- 1) Performance reporting focused on utilization of funds, learnings and outcomes achieved. The frequency of reporting will be every three or six months, depending on our assessment of project and institutional risk.
- 2) Sharing progress, achievements and lessons learned in a timely manner, including through:
  - stakeholder engagement
  - learning community
  - open access publications
  - press releases
  - social mediaGrand Challenges Canada must be acknowledged in any dissemination of knowledge activities.
- 3) A final report accounting for financial expenditures, that captures a clear assessment of project impact. Please note that a 5% hold back of funds will be released to the funding recipient upon submission of a satisfactory final report and full justification of costs.

Instructions for reporting will be provided to the funding recipient. Written progress reports and conversations via teleconference may be required to satisfy reporting requirements.

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, the successful application will be expected to:

- participate in safe public engagement activities; and
- contribute to the learning agenda for specific challenges, including participation in meetings such as annual Grand Challenges meetings, as requested.

The funded recipient must retain supporting project documentation until March 31, 2031 after the end of the Grant Agreement, including financial records, and may be audited by Grand Challenges Canada or any funders of this initiative. Associated requirements, as well as the full and detailed listing of activities and deliverables will be reflected in the Grant Agreement.

## 5. Guiding Principles and Additional Terms

This section reflects a high-level outline of Grand Challenges Canada's guiding principles and terms of funding. Should they be selected for funding, the funding recipient will be required to comply with the related Grand Challenges Canada policies. These policies may be updated from time to time and can be found on the Grand Challenges Canada website – see [Innovator Resources](#).

## 5.1 FINANCING TERMS

### 5.1.1 Eligible Costs

The following provides a high-level overview of costs directly related to the implementation of the Project which are eligible under Grand Challenges Canada funding. For more information, please refer to the Grand Challenges Canada [Cost Directive](#).

#### **Remuneration – Funding Recipient's Employees**

Remuneration includes salary and daily wage rates paid to employees for work directly related to the Project. Salary and wage rates should be comparable to the local market for similar types of work. The following costs are considered remuneration: direct salaries and benefits in accordance with internal policies.

#### **Subcontractor Fees**

Subcontractors are external individuals or groups who are engaged by a funding recipient to provide goods and/or services as part of the Project. Payments are made under a subcontract agreement. The funding recipient and the subcontractor must have an arm's length relationship to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest. The total subcontracting shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total value of Grand Challenges Canada's contribution.

Individual rates or amounts negotiated under a subcontract agreement must comply with the requirements of GCC's [Contracting and Procurement Policy](#) and shall not exceed the fair market value for the service or good in question. Contracts greater than \$25,000 annually, must be tendered competitively, unless there is a valid reason not to, which would require prior approval from GCC.

#### **Travel Costs**

Actual and reasonable travel costs directly related to the implementation of the Project and incurred by the funding recipient in accordance with the provisions of GCC's [Travel Policy](#) are eligible expenses.

#### **Goods and Supplies**

Actual and reasonable costs arising from the purchase, rental, maintenance, transportation, and installation of goods, assets and supplies directly related to the Project, provided that such costs do not exceed the fair market value and are eligible expenses.

#### **Equipment Costs**

"Equipment" is defined as a good with a useful life of more than one year and costs more than \$1,000 CAD per unit. The price paid for this expense must be reasonable compared to alternative options in the market. Costs may include the basic purchase price, freight, and installation of the equipment.

Equipment which costs more than \$25,000 annually, must be tendered competitively in accordance with GCC's [Contracting and Procurement Policy](#), unless there is a valid reason not to, which requires prior approval from GCC.

### **Project Administration Costs**

Actual and reasonable administrative costs directly related to the implementation of the Project are eligible. These include:

- Telecommunication expenses (internet, fax, cellular), mail and courier costs;
- Translation and word processing costs, printing and production costs associated with Project reporting and production of reading material;
- Meeting, workshops, conference costs (includes; meal and travel costs for participants);
- Costs related to office space and associated utilities, required to implement the Project;
- Publication fees during the Project period;
- Ethical approvals and review board costs; and
- Other administrative type of expenditures relating directly to project activities.

### **Sub-grants**

A sub-grantee is defined as an external organization that acts like a partner to provide key services required to complete the Project and cannot be easily replaced by a vendor or supplier. Sub-grantee costs are eligible expenses as long as the following requirements are met:

- Sub-grantees must be legal entities, which can enter into legal agreements;
- Sub-grantees are subject to the same eligible expense requirements and policies as the funding recipient; and
- Sub-grantees must keep track of expenses incurred in a detailed general ledger and submit this detailed general ledger to GCC with the funding recipient's final financial report

### **Indirect/Overhead Costs**

The funding recipient is entitled to indirect costs, calculated as 10% of all direct costs. Indirect costs are costs that cannot be directly traced to a specific project activity.

The funding recipient must consistently charge costs as either indirect or direct costs and must not double charge or inconsistently charge the same cost, or categories of costs, as both.

**Please note:** Only costs incurred during the project period are considered eligible. Any expenses incurred after the project end date cannot be allocated to Grand Challenges Canada's funding.

#### **5.1.2 Terms of Disbursement**

- 1) Advance Disbursement: An initial advance equal to the estimated cash flow requirements for Eligible Costs forecasted for the first period will be made following signature of the Grant Agreement and any agreed upon milestones. Subsequent payments will be made through quarterly or semi-annual advances based on the estimated cash flow requirements for Eligible Costs. Advances will be subject to a 5% holdback on the amount forecasted.

- 2) All advance requests and financial reports submitted shall be signed by a senior executive holding a certified professional accounting designation and the Project Lead.
- 3) Outstanding Advances: Advance Disbursements cannot cover more than two periods and at no time shall there be outstanding advances covering the cash flow requirements of more than two periods. For example, before an advance payment is issued for a third period, the first period must be accounted for.
- 4) Separate Bank Account and Interest Earned on Advance Disbursements: a separate bank account, bearing interest, shall be maintained for the project.
- 5) Final disbursement will be subject to the following conditions:
  - a) The Project is completed in accordance with the grant agreement; and
  - b) Grand Challenges Canada has received and accepted all Final Reports, including completion and submission of any outstanding milestones and documentation due under the grant agreement.

### **5.1.3 Audit**

Project expenses will be subject to audit by Grand Challenges Canada until March 31, 2031 following the termination of the grant agreement between Grand Challenges Canada and the funding recipient.

## **5.2 SUBMISSION MATERIALS AND PRIVACY NOTICE**

To help us in the evaluation and analysis of projects, all proposals, documents, communications, and associated materials submitted to Grand Challenges Canada (collectively “Submission Materials”) may be shared with Global Affairs Canada, and/or with other funding and/or strategic partners and may be publicly disclosed. By submitting any Submission Materials to Grand Challenges Canada, each applicant thereby grants to Grand Challenges Canada and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (“Her Majesty”) a worldwide, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive, non-commercial, free of charge and royalty free license to use, reproduce, adapt, modify, improve, develop, translate, publish, disseminate, distribute, communicate to the public by telecommunication and display the Submission Materials, in whole or in part, in any form, media, or technology now known or later developed, including the right to authorize others to do such acts and the right to sublicense such rights to others, on the same terms. Each applicant also thereby waives any and all moral rights that it has in the Submission Materials in favor of Grand Challenges Canada, Her Majesty, and each of their sub-licensees, successors, representatives, assigns, employees and agents.

The proposals will be subject to external review by independent subject-matter experts, advisors, and potential co-funders (the results of which will be confidential), in addition to analysis by our staff. Please be advised that a copy of the external reviews for each submitted proposal will be shared with Grand Challenges Canada staff and may be disclosed to Grand Challenges Canada Board of Directors.

Please carefully consider the information included in the Submission Materials. If you have any concerns about the disclosure of confidential or proprietary information (including information related to inventions), please advise us as soon as possible and in any event prior to disclosure of such materials to Grand Challenges Canada. We also recommend you consult with your legal counsel and take any steps you deem necessary to protect your intellectual property. You may wish to consider whether such information is critical for evaluating the submission and whether more general, non-confidential information may be adequate as an alternative for these purposes.

Grand Challenges Canada will attempt in good faith to respect the confidentiality of information that is received in Submission Materials, if it is clearly marked “Confidential”. Nonetheless, notwithstanding your characterization of any information as “Confidential”, Grand Challenges Canada reserves the right to publicly disclose all information contained in Submission Materials as may be required by law and as is necessary for potential co-funders, advisors, and external reviewers (such as government entities) to evaluate them and the manner and scope of potential funding, consistent with appropriate regulations and their internal guidelines and policies. Grand Challenges Canada expressly disclaims any and all liability that may arise from disclosure of confidential information contained in Submission Materials.

### **Privacy Notice**

In order to conduct due diligence and audits, and to manage and monitor the performance of a grant agreement, Grand Challenges Canada may collect personal information (such as names, addresses, employment history, criminal and other legal checks where legally permissible) about some of a successful applicant’s directors and officers, employees, project lead(s), and others engaged on the project before and during the course of the grant agreement. Some of this personal information is collected for the purpose of complying with applicable legal and policy requirements that apply to Grand Challenges Canada and our funders in order to provide the funding and services by Grand Challenges Canada under a grant agreement. Refusing to provide information that GCC needs in order to conduct required legal and contractual due diligence may impact GCC’s ability to provide such funding and services and may result in not being able to enter into a grant agreement with you or early termination of a signed grant agreement. Grand Challenges Canada’s [Privacy Policy](#) explains how Grand Challenges Canada collects, use, discloses, and protects the personal information that it collects and receives. Do not provide personal information about others unless you are authorized or required to do so by applicable law or contract and you consent to the Privacy Policy on behalf of yourself and the person about whom you provide personal information. By submitting any personal information about others, you represent and warrant that you are authorized to do so. If applicable law allows or requires you to supply the information without authorization, you represent and warrant that you have abided by that law and that it allows Grand Challenges Canada to receive and disclose the information under the Privacy Policy without any further action on the part of Grand Challenges Canada. You agree to indemnify and hold harmless Grand Challenges Canada against any failure by you to comply with the requirements set out here.

### **5.3 WARRANTY**

By providing any Submission Materials, applicants represent and warrant to Grand Challenges Canada that they have the right to provide the information submitted.

## 5.4 GENDER EQUALITY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY & HUMAN RIGHTS BASED APPROACH

Grand Challenges Canada is committed to furthering the principles of environmental sustainability, gender equality and human rights-based approach as follows:

**Environmental Sustainability:** Grand Challenges Canada requires that applicants commit to ensuring that the project will not have significant adverse environmental effects including, but not limited to, long-term and cumulative effects. Applicants shall ensure that the management of environmental effects, including any analysis, is carried out in accordance with the environmental processes and requirements of Grand Challenges Canada. Where possible, applicants should incorporate having positive environmental effects throughout the project.

**Gender Equality:** Grand Challenges Canada is committed to furthering principles of gender equality in the innovations it funds and across the organization. Specifically, Grand Challenges Canada is supportive of the following objectives: (1) advancing women, girls, boys, men and LGBTQI+ people's equal participation as decision-makers in shaping the sustainable development of their societies; (2) promoting the realization of the human rights of all genders; and (3) reducing gender inequalities in access to and control over the resources and benefits of development. We believe that supporting gender equality is an important objective in and of itself, and that by using a gender lens in the sourcing and management of development innovations, sustained impact will be bolstered. Applicants shall explicitly and systematically implement the gender equality commitments identified by Grand Challenges Canada and its funders at all steps of the funded project.

**Human Rights Based Approach:** Grand Challenges Canada acknowledges the considerable gaps in equality, access and justice across gender, race, ability and socio-economic status and in response we are committed to advancing and upholding Human Rights across all of our work and investments. Towards meeting this essential commitment, we look for proposals and investments that are community-driven and promote power sharing, inclusion, equity, transparency, and accountability.

If selected for funding, as part of their grant agreement, the funding recipient will be required to comply with the Grand Challenges Canada policies regarding these cross-cutting themes, as well as others.

## 5.5 GLOBAL ACCESS AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IN PROJECT

The solutions supported by this program comprise innovative technologies, services, business models, knowledge and/or products to promote global health in low- and middle-income countries. The successful development and deployment of these solutions in order to ensure meaningful access for persons in low- and middle-income countries may require involvement by, support of, and/or collaboration with multiple organizations, including the private sector, government, and academic and/or non-profit research institutions. Accordingly, it is the intent of this program to support the formation of appropriate partnerships that are essential to meet these urgent global health needs.



Successful applicants retain ownership of intellectual property rights in supported innovations, including those rights that arise in outputs of funded projects. Grand Challenges Canada aims, however, to ensure that any such intellectual property rights are utilized and managed in a manner that is consistent with achieving the goals of this program. Grand Challenges Canada's [Global Access Policy](#) (also see below) will guide our approach to intellectual property, and we urge all applicants to consider their willingness to submit an application in compliance with Grand Challenges Canada's [Global Access Policy](#), as it may be updated from time to time.

The guiding principles of **Global Access** are as follows:

- 1) Breakthrough solutions to global challenges are made accessible to those in need, particularly in low-resource settings. Accessibility relates to both price and availability.
- 2) Knowledge gained through discovery is broadly and, as promptly as possible, distributed between related projects and to the global scientific community.
- 3) Commercialization of resulting outputs is encouraged, as long as the first two principles are achieved.

Successful applicants will be required to:

- 1) **Commit to compliance with the Grand Challenges Canada [Global Access Policy](#);**
- 2) **Develop an Access Plan for making resultant learnings meaningfully accessible to persons in low- and middle-income countries, meaning broadly and quickly available at costs that are reasonable in the context; and**
- 3) **Sign a Global Access Agreement with Grand Challenges Canada, in line with the Guiding Principles, applicable to the innovative solutions and project outputs supported by this program.**
  - The Global Access Agreement may provide a non-exclusive license to intellectual property rights in supported innovations (including background intellectual property) and/or an agreement for distribution and supply of products, in each case permitting Grand Challenges Canada and its sub-licensees to implement and disseminate products, processes, knowledge, or solutions in low- and middle-income countries in which applicants or their partners are unable to achieve meaningful accessibility.

Applicants should note that the above global access commitments survive the end of project activities.

## 5.6 GLOBAL ACCESS AND DATA ACCESS

In addition to the above approach with respect to intellectual property in funded projects, Grand Challenges Canada is committed to optimizing the use of data to translate knowledge into life-saving solutions. To fulfill this objective, data generated with Grand Challenges Canada funding must be made available widely and rapidly to the Grand Challenges Canada community and the broader global health community through ethical and efficient data access practices. In accordance with global access, data access represents an elaboration of the second guiding principle of the Global Access Policy, which states that knowledge gained through discovery is broadly, and as promptly as possible, distributed between related projects and to the global scientific community.

The guiding principles of **Data Access** are as follows:

- 1) anonymized data will be shared as broadly and as promptly as possible to foster innovation and optimize prospects for the translation of knowledge into life-saving solutions;
- 2) respect for attribution, cultural diversity, scientific integrity, and the privacy of individuals and communities that contribute data will be appropriately considered in all data access activities;
- 3) collection, production, sharing and use of data will be consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and standards of ethical research conduct; and
- 4) the individuals and communities who enable and support inquiry, particularly those in low- and middle-income countries, be they research participants or investigators, benefit from data to the extent possible.

Funding recipients are required (1) to commit to compliance with the above Global Access and Data Access policies, (2) to ensure that intellectual property rights, including those of third parties, do not impede meaningful access to innovations and widespread dissemination of knowledge, (3) to develop a specific plan for implementation of the Global Access Policy and Data Access Policy (the “Action Plan”), and (4) possibly to enter into separate agreements that grant Grand Challenges Canada rights in project data, as well as certain rights in innovations if meaningful access is not attained (the “Global Access Agreements”).

Applicants will be required to develop and submit an Action Plan that specifies when and how findings and publications will be made openly accessible, how data access will be implemented, and the timeframe for data release.

At a minimum, ‘data’ refers to final, annotated quantitative and qualitative datasets, and accompanying information, such as metadata, codebooks, data dictionaries, questionnaires and protocols.

Grand Challenges Canada recognizes the value of intellectual property and commercialization, and the benefits of first and continuing use of data, but not prolonged or exclusive use. In some cases, intellectual property protection, laws or regulations may delay or preclude access to data. In cases where an adequate justification has been provided, Grand Challenges Canada may grant a partial or complete waiver of the data access requirement.

## **5.7 RIGHTS OF GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA**

This Request for Proposals is part of a discretionary granting program. Submission of an application does not create a contractual commitment by Grand Challenges Canada to advance a grant to any applicant and/or enter into any contractual relationship.

Furthermore, all applicants acknowledge that the program may evolve and that all terms in this Request for Proposals are subject to change. In particular, Grand Challenges Canada reserves the right, in its sole discretion and without notice, to:

- 1) Cancel this Request for Proposals at any time and for any reason.

- 2) Amend and re-issue the Request for Proposals at any time and for any reason. This Request for Proposals is valid commencing on July 19, 2021 and supersedes any previous Request for Proposals of this nature. The terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals apply to all applications submitted from July 19, 2021, going forward and may be replaced by a revised Request for Proposals in the future. Grand Challenges Canada recommends checking for any revisions to the Request for Proposals prior to the submission of your application materials.
- 3) Accept or reject any application that is non-conforming because it does not meet the eligibility criteria, does not comply with the application instructions and/or does not comply with the instructions for allowable costs.
- 4) Not award an application based on performance on a previous Grand Challenges Canada grant or project or based on the award of a grant to the applicant for the same or similar research by one of Grand Challenges Canada's partners or collaborating institutions.
- 5) Disqualify any application at any stage where there is an indication that the proposal was, in any way, plagiarized.
- 6) Accept or reject any or all applications, regardless of an application's rating based on the evaluation criteria, with or without providing an explanation.
- 7) Award fewer awards than expected.
- 8) Award applications with different funding amounts, different durations and/or different conditions than set out in this Request for Proposals.
- 9) Verify any information provided by applicants through independent research or by contacting third parties deemed to be reliable by Grand Challenges Canada and use that information to inform Grand Challenges Canada's funding decision.
- 10) Modify eligibility and evaluation criteria, including but not limited to criteria assessed at the triage stage, at any time.
- 11) Use video or other visual representation submitted by applicants on Grand Challenges Canada's website for public engagement.
- 12) Not provide critiques or feedback regarding the reasons a proposal was or was not selected.
- 13) Design grant awards to link to possible funding partners, including private sector investors.

## 5.8 COSTS

No payment will be made for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application in response to the Request for Proposals. Costs associated with preparing and submitting an application, as well as any other costs incurred by the applicant

associated with the evaluation of the application, are the sole responsibility of the applicant.

## **5.9 GOVERNING LAW**

This Request for Proposals and any resulting agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario and the federal laws of Canada applicable therein. Each applicant agrees that this any and all disputes, actions or proceedings relating to this Request for Proposals whether as to interpretation, validity, performance or otherwise, shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the Province of Ontario and each applicant and Grand Challenges Canada irrevocably attorn to the jurisdiction of the courts of such province.

## **5.10 RISK MANAGEMENT, SAFETY, ANTI-TERRORISM, ANTI-CORRUPTION & ANTI-BRIBERY**

Proposals must comply with all relevant Canadian legislation, as well as any applicable international anti-bribery and anti-terrorism legislation. Any person or organization named in Canadian or United Nations Security Council sanctions will not be funded. We may add to this list as more partners join the challenge.

Funding recipients are to manage material risks.

Proposals for projects that include work in insecure locations, must detail how they'll manage the safety and security risks faced by people and assets. If selected for funding, during negotiations funding recipients will be required to explain how they'll avoid corruption and the diversion of funding from its intended purpose.

For example, during negotiations funding recipients will be asked to provide a description of the organization's policies and procedures to address conflicts of interest and financial or other irregularities, including without limitation, adequate procedures:

- requiring the organization and its representatives to declare any personal or financial interest in any matter concerning the funded activities, and exclude that individual from the matter concerned;
- identifying steps to investigate an irregularity; and
- a timely and appropriate plan of action to recover any funds that have been subject to proven fraud.

During negotiations, innovations will also be required to include a description of the organization's policies and procedures to adequately implement internal controls for preventing bribery, corruption, fraud, and other situations of misuse of funds.