

Stars in Global Health

Health Impacts of Climate Change - Request for Proposals

The Stars in Global Health (Stars) program supports Bold Ideas with Big Impact® from the best and brightest scientists and innovators, both in low- and middle-income countries and in Canada, to address some of the most pressing global health challenges. It provides funding to explore transformative ideas at proof-of-concept that apply Integrated Innovation® in order to sustainably bring solutions to scale.

Through this funding call, the Stars in Global Health program **seeks bold ideas that address the human health impacts of climate change in low- and middle-income countries. These innovative solutions are expected to address the adaptation gaps and build resilience against the effects of climate change on the human health and wellbeing of underserved communities.**

Solutions should consider the fact that older adults, women, young people, Indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, LGBTQI+ individuals, and other traditionally underserved and minority groups are most vulnerable to the health impacts of climate change in many contexts.

The Challenge

The adverse effects of climate change on human health range from injuries, mental health impacts, cardiovascular & respiratory disease, undernutrition, and communicable diseases (vector-, water-, food-borne) – just to name a few. It is widely believed that these consequences could ultimately reverse progress made towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report highlights how limited climate adaptation financing is constraining the ability of the health sector to respond to climate change. There is a clear need for funding directed specifically towards the implementation of adaptation efforts in low- and middle-income countries. There is also a role for innovation as implementers explore the cross-sectoral collaboration needed to effectively address the health impacts of climate change.

Successful proposals will be awarded seed grants of up to \$150,000 CAD for up to 18 months to develop and test the proposed innovation.

Through this funding call, GCC seeks to create an opportunity to landscape the state of innovative ideas seeking to address adaptation needs as climate change continues to impact health and wellbeing. With this, the area of investment for this call is quite broad and captures innovations that address any climate-sensitive health risk, including:

- malnutrition
- mental & psychological health
- air quality
- heat stress
- vector, water- and food-borne disease threats

Where possible, all innovations should seek to build the resilience and response capacity of the communities and systems they are intervening within (healthcare, food & nutrition, water & sanitation, etc.). Proposed innovations must be bold, innovative and designed with and for people who are not adequately served by current approaches. Innovations should seek to enable communities – in either (or both) urban and rural environments – to prepare for and protect health and wellbeing as the climate emergency makes the way we've lived unsustainable.

Applicants will be required to describe how the health challenge being addressed is specifically being worsened by climate change (current and anticipated) in the proposed implementation context. They will also need to explain how the proposed solution will address the selected human health impact as exacerbated by climate change.

We highly encourage Francophone entities based in Western and Central Africa, and organizations led by women or non-binary individuals to apply to the Request for Proposals.

All applicants must register for an account through Grand Challenges Canada's Fluxx portal no later than 2:00pm EST (6:00pm UTC) on December 15th, 2022 due to processing times.

The application submission deadline is 2:00pm EST (6:00pm UTC) on December 22, 2022. Applications submitted by email will not be accepted.

For more information, visit:

 www.grandchallenges.ca/programs/stars-in-global-health/



Please submit questions related to the Request for Proposals that are not answered in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) to stars@grandchallenges.ca.