



# Transition to Scale Program

Photo: BEMPU Health Private Ltd.

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Grand Challenges Canada is excited to hear about your Bold Ideas with Big Impact! Through our Transition to Scale (TTS) program, GCC supports promising innovations with a proven impact that have the potential to save or improve lives.

We are currently investing in the following 5 portfolio areas, and also welcome innovations that intersect these areas:



### URBAN SANITATION & HYGIENE

Poor sanitation and hygiene are widely recognized as chief contributors to diarrheal disease, the second leading cause of death in children under the age of 5 years. This challenge is exacerbated by rapid urbanization in communities lacking basic infrastructure, forcing households to use inadequate sanitation facilities or practice open defecation.

#### We are looking for:

- ✓ Innovations using market-based approaches to stimulate demand and address the needs for improved sanitation and hygiene
- ✓ Innovations addressing critical gaps in the sanitation value chain
- ✓ Innovators well-positioned to integrate in government-led city-wide sanitation plans, or engage with local governments through public-private partnerships or municipal contracts

#### We can support your vision through:



Financial support (grants as well as repayable financing) ranging from \$250,000 CAD – \$3 Million CAD (in multiple investments) for project periods of 6 months up to 2 years subject to the stage, organizational maturity and needs of the innovation.



Venture advisory support to accelerate impact and sustainability including organizational capacity building, strategic partnerships, and business planning support.



## MATERNAL NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH

Grand Challenges Canada envisions a world where pregnant women and newborns do not die of preventable causes and are able to access effective, affordable, timely and high-quality services. We are particularly interested in investments addressing the major factors associated with an elevated risk of maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity.

### We are looking for:

- ✓ Innovations in products and services: scaling innovations that prevent, diagnose, treat, and/or manage major causes of maternal morbidity and mortality, including pre-eclampsia, postpartum hemorrhage, postpartum depression and other chronic conditions that exacerbate MNH problems
- ✓ Innovations in policy and practice: operationalizing improved guidelines for MNH such as kangaroo mother care, exclusive breastfeeding, new/lesser used devices or drug regimens at point of care
- ✓ Innovations in health systems: strengthening the continuum of quality care from home to health facility across the perinatal period through strengthening sustainable primary health care models, introducing digital health models, etc.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER MODELS

The community health workforce (CHW) is an integral part of primary healthcare services – a lack of formal CHW engagement has prevented the achievement of universal healthcare goals.

### We are looking for:

- ✓ Programs and/or solutions that promote quality service delivery by a professionalized CHW workforce, including reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health services
- ✓ Programs and/or solutions focused on improving supervision and monitoring strategies to improve service delivery in communities
- ✓ Innovations focused on generating evidence through data and mobilizing advocacy channels for CHW models to governments



## MEDICAL PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Medical Products and Technologies is a cross-cutting thematic area across Grand Challenges Canada's focus areas in reproductive, maternal and newborn health, mental health, and sanitation.

### We are looking for:

- ✓ Products and technologies that diagnose (screen and test at point of care) and treat major causes of morbidity and mortality among pregnant women and children
- ✓ Products and technologies that fill gaps in or strengthen oxygen supply and delivery systems for women and children
- ✓ New and innovative products and technologies that task shift from healthcare workers and/or support in efficient and timely decision making through automation
- ✓ Solutions and technologies that fill supply chain gaps in the primary healthcare system
- ✓ Solutions to support local manufacturing and development of healthcare products in LMICs, specifically in Sub Saharan Africa



## DIGITAL HEALTH

Digital Health is a cross-cutting thematic area across GCC's focus areas in reproductive, maternal, and newborn health, mental health, early childhood development, and sanitation.

### We are looking for:

- ✓ Solutions that enhance access to information and services and affordability, for example, targeted communication and remote patient monitoring tools that connect patients with lifesaving advice and referral to care
- ✓ Solutions for health care providers to promote efficient quality services delivery and strengthen continuum of care, for example, tech-enabled primary care models, clinical decision support systems, referral coordination, and training
- ✓ Solutions for health system managers to drive operational efficiency and quality of care
- ✓ Solutions for providers of data services to create user-friendly platforms to support programs and enhance policy decision-making and improve detection and prevention of disease



## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Low- and middle-income country (LMIC) incorporation, and ideally LMIC leadership
- Demonstrated attributable health impact and strong M&E approach (proof of concept already achieved)
- Initial business or financial model
- Match funding: level varies by stage of investment but ideally 1:1 match for GCC TTS funding
- Preference for innovations in Sub-Saharan Africa (particularly West and Central Francophone Africa) and female / non-binary led



## HOW TO APPLY

Transition to Scale applications are managed through an invitation process. If you have a great innovation to share, please send us a short concept note (no more than 3 pages) or slide deck (no more than 8 slides) to [tts@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:tts@grandchallenges.ca).

Provide a brief description of your innovation, its impact to date, your strategic goals, and how you meet the eligibility criteria. We will reach out only to select innovations to engage in the full application process.

We review ideas on a rolling basis and therefore there is no deadline. However, we encourage innovators to share their ideas soon as resources are finite.

More details can be found here: [TTS Requests for Proposals](#)  
Email: [tts@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:tts@grandchallenges.ca)

To learn more about our Transition to Scale program visit:



[www.grandchallenges.ca/programs/transition-to-scale/](http://www.grandchallenges.ca/programs/transition-to-scale/)