

Strengthening Health and Disease Modeling for Public Health Decision Making in Africa

Grand Challenges

Application Instructions

Information Required for Application

Please refer to the following guidelines as you prepare your application to the RFP “Strengthening Health and Disease Modeling for Public Health Decision Making in Africa”.

Your application includes:

- Applicant profile and information – completed via our [application portal](#)
- Proposal – uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file
 - Maximum 3 pages
 - Figures and references are included in this page count
- Budget Table and Narrative (1 page, use [template provided](#), in GBP for Option A or USD for Option B) – uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file
- Team Description – explanation of the team composition, including the roles of co-applicants and collaborators, and description of team gender balance (1 page) - uploaded as a Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF file

Please note that a template for the budget table and narrative can be found within the application portal within the corresponding upload task. Details on each section can be found below. Along with this application instructions document, we encourage you to reference the request for proposals overview document and the challenge [rules and guidelines](#) to ensure that your proposal responds to the challenge.

Applicant Profile

To begin your application, please click on the “Apply for this opportunity” button at the top of the challenge page. Through this link, you will be able to access the “Strengthening Health and Disease Modeling for Public Health Decision Making in Africa” program. Either create a new account, or log-in to the system if you have previously created an account and begin your application by filing out the applicant profile.

Proposal Document – 3 pages maximum

Proposal Format

Your proposal must be formatted as follows.

- No longer than 3 pages maximum
- 11-point font or larger
- At least 0.5” margins all around
- Single line spacing
- Standard character spacing (neither expanded nor condensed)

- Arial or Times New Roman font
- Microsoft Word® or Adobe® PDF filetype
- Entire file size of 3MB or less
- Please do not include a cover sheet with your proposal. A cover sheet will be automatically generated from your registration data.

Applications that do not adhere to these restrictions may be blocked from submission and review.

Proposal Content

Please include the following in your proposal document: (suggested lengths in parentheses)

- 1. Introductory information (approx 1/2 page):**
 - A short description of the specific problem your proposal addresses
 - Provide one or two sentences (in bold) that summarizes your idea for a solution (1-2 sentences)
 - Why your idea is unconventional or creative
 - Who/which structure/organization and geography is your solution targeted at?
- 2. Proposal information (approx. 2 pages):**
 - A clear hypothesis and vision for the proposed work
 - A brief description of the work you will undertake to achieve your idea, including explanation of how the core objectives of this RFP will be achieved
 - A description of the thematic area you will address, including the specific research question(s) and why these are a priority for your target geography(ies)
 - An explanation and justification of the methods and approaches you will take.
 - What data do you require to achieve your aims? How will you access this data? Please also include an explanation of any primary data collection required if applicable.
 - A confirmation of willingness to engage in collaborative activities with other projects funded under this RFP
- 3. Path to impact (approx. 1/2 page):**
 - What is your plan for collaboration with local and/or regional public-health decision- and/or policy-makers across the full lifespan of the project? What will/has been their involvement in shaping this proposal?
 - How will you ensure that the research objectives of your project translate into programmatic and/or policy impact?
 - What would your next steps be if you are successful in this work?

Budget Table and Narrative – 1 page maximum

Please use the [budget template](#) (linked and on the application portal) to include a breakdown of allowable direct costs under the following categories.

- Personnel
- Subcontracts
- Subgrants
- Capital Assets/Equipment

- Travel
- Supplies
- Other Expenses
- Wellcome-funded (option A): For Wellcome funded proposals, please refer to Wellcome's information on [what we offer](#) and the [Wellcome overheads policy](#).
- BMGF-funded (option B): Indirect Costs (please review the [Indirect Cost Policy](#)).

Additionally:

- Please provide a one (1) paragraph budget narrative to explain the major cost drivers and how costs relate to planned activities and target outcomes. Please also indicate what proportion of the budget is reserved for collaborative activities with the cohort of projects awarded through this RFP.
- Please specify the currency you are using when filling out the budget document (USD or GBP)

Team Description – 1 page maximum

Please provide a description of the lead project team and how you are qualified to achieve this project.

Also provide a list of collaborators and their roles, including details on where the collaborators are based (country and region), and whether they are policy/decision making collaborators, data scientist/collectors, or other. Suggested collaborations should be key to advancing the project goals and yield insights that are unlikely in the absence of the co-produced approaches.

Please include a description of the gender diversity across the project team and the steps that are being, or will be, taken to address any barriers to gender diversity.

Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to many application questions can be found on the [frequently asked questions](#) document.

Inquiries

Please direct all questions about this initiative, selection criteria or application instructions by e-mail to the following address: grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org