The European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) funds clinical research to accelerate the development of new or improved drugs, vaccines, microbicides and diagnostics against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as well as other poverty-related infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa, with a focus on phase II and III clinical trials.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

**11 October 2018, 17:00**

**22 November 2018, 17:00**

**BACKGROUND**

Universal health coverage is paramount to all the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The most significant impediments to ensuring this achievement are the incremental challenges in providing access to good quality, effective, preventive, and curative products to all populations within a wide range of existing health systems. Currently, health systems in poverty-related diseases (PRDs) endemic areas in sub-Saharan Africa are either weak or not adequately prepared for delivery and uptake of new or improved medical interventions. Concerted collaborative efforts are needed to strengthen the governance, personnel, and infrastructure for uptake as well as effective delivery and monitoring of the implementation of existing and new cost-effective interventions. In collaboration with WHO AFRO and TDR, EDCTP has supported small grants to individual scientists for implementation research conducted between researchers and national disease programmes. EDCTP also supports product-focused implementation research on delivery and uptake of clinical research, which also provides new opportunities for partnerships in the field of health systems and optimisation of health services.

Whereas strides have been made towards establishment and strengthening of ethical review frameworks and medicines regulatory bodies in sub-Saharan Africa, targeted support is paramount to ensuring their continued development and consolidation within the ever-expanding R&D landscape in the region. Dedicated efforts are particularly required in countries where there are no or limited capacity for ethics review and national medicines regulatory bodies. The fortification of National Ethics Committees (NECs) and National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) will allow for long-term development plans for regional regulatory harmonisation goals.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- The content of the proposal should correspond, wholly or in part, to the topic/contest description for which it is submitted
- It complies with the eligibility conditions set out below, depending on the type of action:
  - At least one legal entity established in a European Participating State** or a sub-Saharan African country ***.
  - In addition, applications must include at least one legal entity hosting NECs or NRAs in sub-Saharan African countries ****.

**WHAT THE GRANT WILL COVER**

- What the grant will cover...
• The call budget is EUR 9 million.
• The requested EDCTP contribution per project shall not exceed EUR 2.25.
• The funding level is 100% of eligible costs.
• The South African Medical Research Council will support the EDCTP2 programme with a total cash contribution of up to ZAR 4.5 million (approximately EUR 300,000) to this Call for Proposals.

The call budget is EUR 4.5 million.
• The requested EDCTP contribution per project should not exceed 300,000 EUR.
• The funding level is 100% of eligible costs.

HOW TO APPLY

The application must be submitted online via EDCTPgrants
Template of application form – Letter of Intent (Word)

Only registered users of EDCTPgrants system can apply for grants and therefore you are advised to register on the system as soon as possible.

Should you have any queries, kindly contact:
• For questions related to this call for proposals, please contact: Ms Michelle Nderu at nderu@edctp.org
• For questions and issues about EDCTPgrants and the online application submission please contact EDCTP via edctpgrants@edctp.org.
• For guidance on online application procedure, please refer to the Guidance for applicants.
• For more information about EDCTP2 procedures, please refer to the EDCTP2 Grants Manual and EDCTP2 FAQs.

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