

## **Suppliers Q&A – Consultation on communities of practice in climate change and health in Africa**

- 1. Are there envisioned target countries/regions within the African continent or are all regions (including North Africa) included in this consultation?** All regions, including North Africa and Africa small island states, are included in this consultation. Suppliers may wish to select a sample of focus countries across Africa but we would like the consultation to reflect perspectives from across the continent.
- 2. According to the headings in the RFP template, there seems to be no need to provide background information on climate change and health in the project location.** We do not require suppliers to give details of current and projected climate change or status of health systems in the proposal they submit. It would be beneficial to include comment on whether there are researchers and/or other stakeholders in the region actively engaged in the relevant sectors.
- 3. We would appreciate any information on a reasonable range of budget for the project. This would help in guiding our planned activities.** There is no budget guide for this work and we are requesting suppliers to propose how they will complete the work and calculate how much it would cost to do the work they propose.
- 4. What were the key shortcomings of the proposals received in the previous RFP with regards to meeting the original objectives?** None of the suppliers which submitted proposals for the Africa consultation to the previous RFP fully met the brief.
- 5. What are some of the outstanding best practices from the working COPs that are being supported by Wellcome Trust?** We are looking for a consultation which does not hold preconceived ideas of what transdisciplinary research and action, or communities of practice, might look like. We are looking for a supplier that has some existing understanding of the relevant context in Africa and the findings of the work should be led by the consultation process rather than past work in other areas.
- 6. What available resources can Wellcome Trust spare to co-create this COP?** We are looking for a Supplier to provide an objective consultation to

inform potential future work; we are not looking for the development or implementation of a COP so we will not be creating a COP under this RFP.

7. **Could you share link(s) to any past transdisciplinary research work that Wellcome Trust has been involved in or funded within your focus areas of infectious diseases, mental health, and climate & health?** We are looking for a consultation which does not hold preconceived ideas of what transdisciplinary research and action, or communities of practice, might look like. We are looking for a supplier that has some existing understanding of the relevant context in Africa and the findings of the work should be led by the consultation process rather than past work in other areas.
8. **Please confirm that the “Africa Region” highlighted in the RFP refers to the five sub-regions as per African Union (55 countries): Northern, West Central, East and Southern Africa?** Yes, the RFP relates to all regions and countries which are in Africa, including the five sub-regions and Africa island states.
9. **On page 3 (c. Stakeholders) informant interviews, and not desk review alone, are one of the ways of conducting the consultation. Yet on page 4 (deliverables and timelines) conducting focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs) are not mentioned as a critical phase of the consultation/research/study. Please confirm that suppliers should include fieldwork (collection of qualitative data) in their response.** Yes, suppliers should incorporate the collection of any data required, including through focus groups and interviews, in the timeline included in their proposal.
10. **What specifically does Wellcome mean by “African-based organization”? Does the bidder have to be legally registered in an African Country?** We are expecting to award a contract to a supplier based in Africa, so for the legal purposes of the contract, we would expect the supplier to be a legally registered entity somewhere in Africa.
11. **Does Wellcome have any regional/geographical coverage in mind as this affects language requirements and which partners will be approached?** All regions, including North Africa and African small island states, are included in this consultation. Suppliers may wish to select a sample of focus countries across Africa but we would like the consultation to reflect perspectives from across the continent.

- 12. To what extent is Wellcome seeking networks which include higher learning institutions including universities?** The consultation is on Communities of Practice for transdisciplinary research and action in climate and health. As research is a core feature of this work, and much research is done in universities, we would expect relevant researchers to be consulted as stakeholders, and universities and research institutes to feature in the stakeholder mapping. However, the intention for this work is for it to be driven by, and informed by, the regional context(s) so we are asking suppliers to outline proposed work which would respond to the questions posed in the RFP in a way which is appropriate for the region.
- 13. Are the COPs Wellcome is seeking inclusive of informal and formal networks across policy-making and civil society spaces as well?** This will be determined following the findings of the consultation. We expect the consultation to provide insights into existing formal and informal networks in relevant sectors and subjects in the region, and identify where there are opportunities and challenges for COPs with relevant stakeholders.
- 14. What were the disqualifying factors for the previous Africa RFP?** None of the suppliers which submitted proposals for the Africa consultation to the previous RFP fully met the brief.
- 15. What has been the experience to date for the Asia and Latin America regions that started in 2022 that we should take into consideration in the Africa region?** The consultations in Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean are ongoing and have not yet delivered findings which we could share.
- 16. Does participating in this RFP preclude the bidder from the follow-on contract/grant to implement the Communities of Practice or resulting platform?** Involvement in this RFP would not prevent future engagement should Wellcome decide to undertake any future activities in this space following the findings of the consultation and other strategic decisions.
- 17. Are there boundaries on the scope of climate and health action or is it part of the consultation?** We would expect the consultation to identify what the relevant boundaries are for the region and whether any opportunities or challenges present boundaries.

18. **There is a heavy emphasis on research, sharing research, shaping research - could you say more about how much the resulting platform/mechanism would focus also on implementation?** We have no concept for any resulting platform or mechanism as that will be determined following the findings of the consultation. If this is relevant we would expect that to become a part of the findings of the consultation with stakeholders.
19. **Can the project execution include travel to some of the interviewees/focus groups? (this will only be necessary where virtual connectivity is not feasible, and excluding such a region will then not ensure a representative range of participants);** Yes, suppliers may include a budget for any travel required to undertake the consultation.
20. **Will the funding allow for at least 2 joint workshops for the partners to join forces in this endeavour, one initial one at start up and one when finalizing the report?** Suppliers should provide a budget for whatever costs they consider to be necessary to undertake the consultation. If this includes workshops with partners then suppliers should include this in the budget and provide justification for why it is a necessary cost.
21. **Can university research levies be included in the budget?** Yes, but we may request further details on what the levies include and if these could be made clear in any budget breakdown you provide.