



# Contract Opportunity: Digital Mental Health Landscaping in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

## Summary

We are looking to engage up to two Expert Advisors to produce a report for Wellcome focused on the landscape of digital innovators in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). This will be a short-term assignment that will contribute towards advancing [Wellcome's Mental Health Strategy](#).

**Contractor Position: 2-5 days per week (remote)**

**Duration: no more than 90 full working days in total (based on a day being 7 hours). This can be completed by either one or two Expert Advisors over a period of up to 5 months.**

## Background

Wellcome is a global charitable foundation. We improve health for everyone by funding science, leading policy, and advocacy campaigns, and building partnerships. We plan to spend £16bn over the next ten years, funding new discoveries in life, health, and wellbeing, and taking on three global health challenges: mental health, infectious disease and climate and health. These challenges need the bold science we support, but they won't be solved by science alone.

The Wellcome Mental Health Translation team seek to engage up to two Expert Advisors on a paid consultancy basis to work together to produce a report reviewing the innovator landscape in digital mental health in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs). The findings should focus on translational activities and will inform a future Wellcome Mental Health funding call.

The remit of this opportunity includes individuals and organisations physically located in [LMICs](#), as defined by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), regardless of their sources of funding and academic institutional links outside LMICs.

## Deliverables and activities

The deliverables of this work will include:

- An inception report produced jointly by the Expert Advisor(s), to be delivered within 3 weeks of the position/s commencing. This should confirm the detailed scope of the work, including the proposed methodology for undertaking the landscaping, exclusions/inclusions, and timelines including any key milestones.
- A final report produced jointly by the Expert Advisor(s). This report should:
  - a. Include a desk-based detailed analysis of the landscape of LMIC-based institutions, researchers, companies, and developers whose work is in the area of digital mental

health and within the remit of the [Wellcome Mental health strategy](#). It may involve a small number of consultations/discussions if deemed appropriate.

- b. Digital Mental Health Solutions can include:
  - i. Diagnostics that can use a variety of data (such as sensors or questionnaires) to accurately diagnose mental health conditions, and monitoring and prognostic tools to predict relapse or worsening of symptoms.
  - ii. Triaging tools to filter people seeking mental health treatment or guidance into appropriate care pathways.
  - iii. Therapeutics that provide effective treatments for mental health conditions, either as standalone digital products (such as apps, programmes, games) or through a therapist-monitored or -guided model of care.Innovators not working on translational activities are beyond the scope of this work.
- c. Not set the research teams/programmes in competition with each other, but aim to review the wider, global context in which they are situated.
- d. Present the analysis by geography, type of asset being developed, and indication focused on.

The main activities to undertake will include:

- A review of the landscape.
- Stakeholder interviews and expert consultations, if appropriate. The format and list of stakeholders to be interviewed will be agreed with Wellcome.
- Attending regular meetings (at least fortnightly) with the Wellcome team, either online or in person.
- Submission of a final report and providing an overview presentation to Wellcome at the end of the project.

We are undertaking this activity in parallel with other scoping activities in the field of digital mental health. The Expert Advisor(s) may be asked to link scoping findings with our wider activities and/or consider these issues in their scoping.

The Expert Advisor(s) will complete these activities in collaboration with one another and with the [Mental Health team](#) and Lived Experience advisors. We anticipate the activities will take no more than 90 full working days in total, which could be undertaken by one individual or split between two separate individuals. The work is expected to begin by end of July 2023 and to be completed no later than December 2023.

Wellcome will pay a fixed fee of £700 per day (with a day being 7 hours).

#### What we are looking for and expressing interest

We are looking for individuals who have relevant expertise in digital mental health and research conducted in LMICs, as well as strong written communication and information synthesis skills. We welcome consultants from diverse backgrounds, experience, geographies and expertise, and do not require consultants to be based at an academic institution. We are particularly interested in receiving expressions of interest from those based in LMICs and those with previous experience working in LMICs. All activities can be conducted remotely, outside of the UK. Though all communication and report writing will be conducted in English, we understand that English may not be the first language of the Expert Advisor(s). We cannot contract to any countries on the UK Government financial sanctions list.

If you are interested, please submit a short expression of interest (in English) briefly outlining your suitability for this opportunity and attaching your CV. This should be sent by email to Elena Netsi at [e.netsi@wellcome.org](mailto:e.netsi@wellcome.org) (Senior Research Manager in the Mental Health Translation team) by midnight London time (GMT+1) on Friday the 14th of July 2023. The selection process will take place at the end of July, and you may be invited to a 45-minute online meeting with two Wellcome team members to discuss the opportunity and your skills and experience. This process will be run by the Mental Health Translation team at Wellcome.

The outcome of this project may inform the remit of future funding calls. Please note that as your activity as an Expert Advisor will directly inform the digital mental health funding call (launching Summer 2024), you will not be able to apply to that call (individually or as part of a team).

**Diversity and Inclusion is at the heart of everything we do.**

[Diversity and inclusion are central to our strategy](#). We want to make sure everything we do – and everyone who works with us – upholds these principles. Our intention is to work with kindness and consideration and to value the wellbeing of everyone involved in the collaboration. If you require any reasonable adjustments during the process, please contact us at [e.netsi@wellcome.org](mailto:e.netsi@wellcome.org).