



Request for Proposal (RFP) for Guidance on the economic evaluation of the health impacts of climate action

1. RFP Background & Objectives

[Wellcome](#) is a politically and financially independent global charitable foundation. It supports science to solve the urgent health challenges facing everyone. Wellcome supports discovery research into life, health and wellbeing, and is taking on three worldwide health challenges: mental health, climate and health, and infectious diseases.

Wellcome's Climate & Health strategy aims to put health at the heart of climate action. We will deliver our strategy by supporting transdisciplinary research which brings together researchers from different disciplines e.g., climate, health, and social sciences, together with policy and implementation partners, to undertake research and take action to address policy and implementation challenges in Climate & Health.

Across submissions to climate and health funding calls we have observed an evidence gap in economic evaluation of the health impacts of climate action and inaction (HICA). Researchers have also expressed there is a capacity gap in producing such evidence, while policymakers see this as critical evidence to substantiate the investment case of implementing climate actions (mitigation and adaptation) with positive health impacts. There is a need to strengthen the research capacity and build the evidence base of the economic impacts of HICA.

A number of existing methods/approaches to economic evaluation already exist. For example, the World Health Organisation (WHO) have published a [framework on economic valuation](#) to provide guidance on the economic valuation of health co-benefits of climate action and established a [Technical Advisory Group](#) to provide independent advice to WHO on specific topics relating to economics for environment, climate change and health. However, although guidance and other resources are available, there are barriers and limitations in various aspects such as data availability, skills and capacity, knowledge integration, communication and method consistency. This makes the generated evidence harder to interpret and compare, and less useful to policymakers. For example, previous Wellcome-funded work to generate [guidance](#) for modeling population health effects from climate action identified that: incompatible approaches to modelling health effects has limited their comparability and usefulness to policymakers; the inclusion of the estimation of economic impacts is key for policy relevance and uptake; and economists should be included in transdisciplinary research teams.

In addition to this research gap regarding economic evaluation of HICA, there is a broader gap in terms of economic theory and practice. Existing economic framing and approaches have substantive climate and health ill-effects.¹ There is a need to review economic theory

¹ WHO, 2023. Health for All – transforming economies to deliver what matters: final report of the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All.



and practice to understand: why does economic growth have adverse climate and health outcomes; how do we assign value, why and for whom; what viable innovations in economic thinking/theory and practice can support better health and climate outcomes?

2. RFP Specification

This section sets out the specification of services for this RFP exercise. Suppliers should use this section to fully understand Wellcome's requirements and to inform their response.

We are commissioning this work to:

- A. identify and synthesise existing methods for economic evaluation of HICA
- B. provide guidance on when, why and how to best use these methods
- C. identify research recommendations to advance best practice in economic evaluation of HICA
- D. explore viable innovations in economic thinking, theory and practice with the potential to improve climate and health outcomes

This work will focus on the economic evaluation of HICA²; wider economic evaluation of climate change and other benefits is not in scope.

a) Objectives of the proposed work

To strengthen the research capacity and build the evidence base, there is a need for a more globally applied, consistent, comparable approach for the economic evaluation of HICA. Therefore, we are commissioning this work to:

- A. Review the research landscape of the economic evaluation of HICA including: review of existing evaluation methods; map out the stakeholders involved; identify specific gaps in capacity of both researchers to produce evidence and policymakers to use it.
- B. Collate and synthesise the available methods for the economic evaluation of HICA and specify when, why and how best to use them. Produce an accessible guidance for researchers (especially Principal Investigators (PIs) who may be designing transdisciplinary research projects and need to understand how best to approach economic evaluation) and policymakers to support them to commission and/or interpret the evidence effectively.
- C. Explore ways to improve economic evaluation of HICA, including comparability between methods and communication to policymakers. Produce an academic paper to advance best practice on economic evaluation

² This refers to the "estimate economic value of changes in health status" step under the "Valuation" process in the recommended "Practice and Reporting Guidance" (Figure 3) in Hess, J., 2020. Guidelines for Modeling and Reporting Health Effects of Climate Change Mitigation Actions. *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 128(11). <https://doi.org/10.1289/EHP6745>



of HICA for health and environmental economists, and other relevant researchers, to provide clear research recommendations.

- D. Review existing economic theory and practice in relation to how we evaluate and value climate and health impacts and explore what are the challenges and viable innovations for achieving better climate and health outcomes (drawing on both the literature and expert input). Produce an academic paper that summarises the review and outlines the research questions and recommendations.

b) Deliverables and target audience:

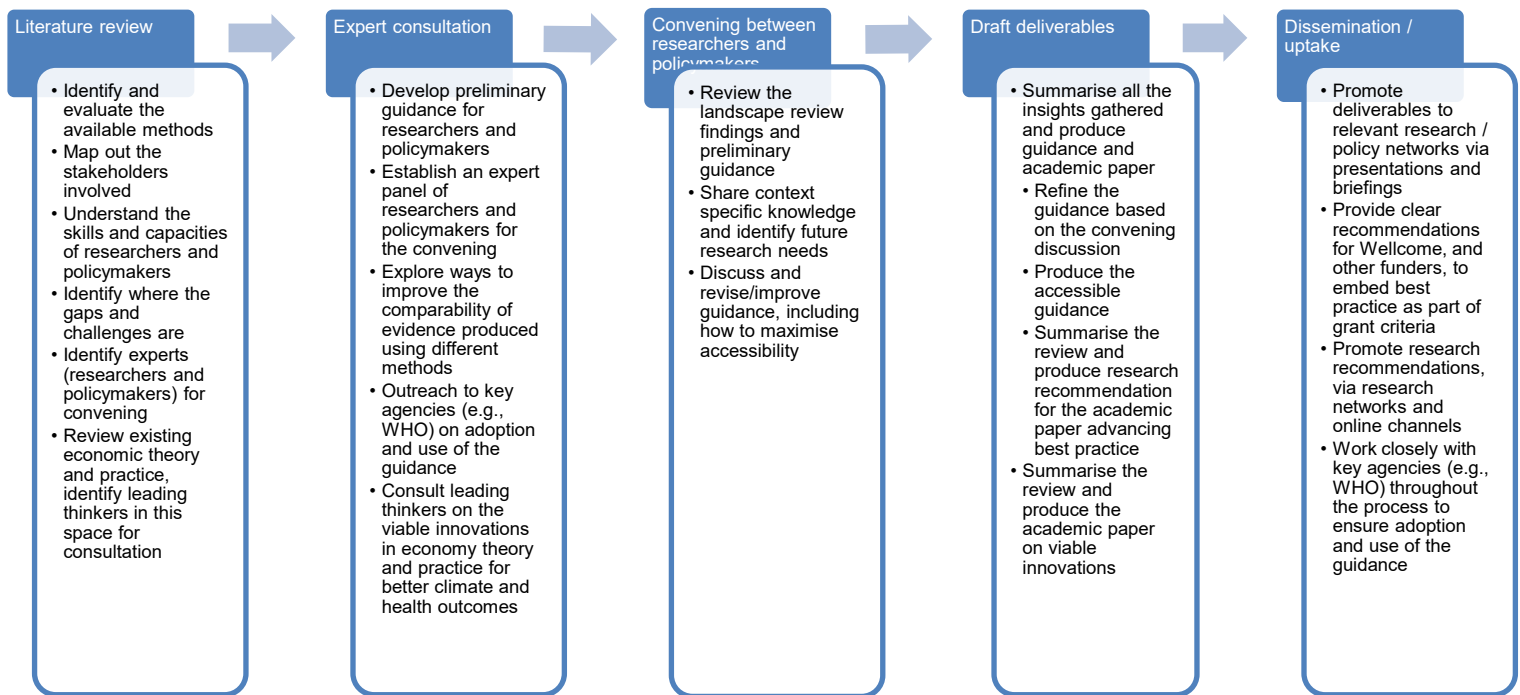
#	Deliverables	Target audience and purpose
1	An accessible guidance document synthesising existing methods for economic evaluation of HICA and setting out when, why and how best such methods should be used for different contexts and needs; including the strengths, limitations, uncertainties and equity considerations to be aware of and how to manage and communicate them	Policymakers: To understand how to commission, interpret and use economic evaluation of HICA, in order to support more effective decision making Researchers/PIs including economic evaluation in their research projects³: To understand what methods exist for economic evaluation and to follow best practices in using them when scoping, designing and conducting climate and health research
2	An academic paper advancing best practices on economic evaluation of HICA that reviews available economic evaluation methods, and identifies recommendations for how to improve them, including how to improve comparability across different methods	Researchers undertaking economic evaluation (e.g., health and environmental economists): To set a research agenda/research recommendations for advancing best practices in the field of economic evaluation of HICA
3	An academic paper outlining the research questions and recommendations for viable innovations in economic theory and practice with the potential to improve climate and health outcomes	Climate and health research community and research funders: To summarise the literature review and expert consultation, including a clear set of challenges and viable innovations identified and research questions and recommendations

³ This refers to anyone who is designing transdisciplinary research projects that involve economic evaluation and need to understand how best to approach it, but themselves are not an economist, for example PIs and Co-PIs.



c) Process of the proposed work

Please see the below schematic:



d) Questions we expect the RFP to address:

- A. What is the research landscape of the economic evaluation of HICA? What methodologies already exist for economic evaluation of HICA? Who are the key stakeholders involved?
- Who are the key experts, and what are the specific disciplines (e.g., health and environmental economists), required for robust economic evaluation of HICA?
 - What are the capacities, support needs and challenges for researchers to incorporate and communicate economic evaluation of HICA? Researchers such as PIs and their teams undertaking transdisciplinary research on the health impacts of mitigation and adaptation actions.
 - What are the policymakers' needs? What are their capacities, support needs and challenges to effectively commission, understand and use the evidence?
- B. What are the available methods for economic evaluation of HICA; and when, why and how best should such methods be used for different contexts and needs? What are the strengths, limitations, uncertainties and equity considerations of different methods, and how best can they be managed and communicated? For example:



- Limitations in terms of providing the economic, but not financial case, for action
 - Equity considerations such as the impact of discount rates on intergenerational equity; and the effect of Value of Statistical Life (VSL) values in comparing economic impacts across high-, middle- and low-income contexts
- C. How can existing approaches be strengthened and policy-impact improved? What are the barriers to a more globally applied, consistent, comparable approach for economic evaluation of HICA? What are the opportunities to improve the usefulness of such evaluations to policymakers?
- D. How do existing economic theory and practice evaluate and value climate and health outcomes? What are the limitations and potential viable innovations for better climate and health outcomes?
- What are the challenges and opportunities in how we ascribe economic value, and undertake economic evaluation, of climate and health outcomes?
 - What are the potential, viable innovations in such economic valuation and evaluation, that could drive better climate and health outcomes and address the equity considerations of conventional economic evaluation approaches?
 - How could the climate and health research community contribute to the innovations identified through this work? What are the key research questions/needs and activities that, if addressed, would promote better climate and health outcomes?

e) Stakeholders:

Effective engagement of stakeholders will be key to project success. Stakeholders can include the following but not limited to:

- Economists who are undertaking the economic evaluation of HICA shall be engaged to support in developing the guidance for non-economic researchers/PIs and policymakers and identify research recommendations for improving best practices in the field of economic evaluation of HICA. As the scope focuses on the economic evaluation of the health effects of climate action and inaction, health economists will be central, we anticipate (subject to initial scoping) that we will also engage environmental economists and potentially economists of other disciplines/sectors in order to facilitate consistency between economic disciplines, enabling greater comparability across evidence generated using different methods.
- Researchers/PIs, who are designing transdisciplinary research that involves economic evaluation shall be engaged as 'users' to co-design the guidance,



ensuring that it meets their needs, and to inform the research recommendations in the academic paper to ensure they are aligned with the user needs.

- Policymakers and other policy actors (e.g., NGOs) shall be engaged as ‘users’ to co-design the guidance and inform research recommendations, in order to make sure it helps them better commission, interpret and use economic evaluation of HICA and support more effective decision making. We anticipate (subject to initial scoping) that we will engage policymakers across key sectors (e.g., energy, transport, food, water) to ensure economic evaluation results are widely used.
- Key agencies (e.g., WHO) shall be engaged to ensure adoption and use of the guidance produced. This will be key to credibility and uptake of guidance, helping to establish it as the new best practice.
- Leading economists, innovative thinkers and organisations shall be engaged to review how the existing economic theory and practice evaluate and value climate and health outcomes and explore the potential viable innovations that could drive better climate and health outcomes.

The sample of stakeholders should include a balance of all genders, and geographical diversity. A variety of stakeholders should be covered, including those with different power balances.

f) Composition of delivery team:

- Suppliers must be transdisciplinary: expertise from different relevant research disciplines in particular health and environmental economics and policymaking will be key to delivering the objectives of this RFP.
- Suppliers must have inclusive and diverse teams.
- Suppliers should demonstrate experience of delivering complex and highly collaborative initiatives.
- Suppliers should be willing to work with other individuals, teams or groups of stakeholders at Wellcome’s request to improve the overall delivery of the project.

g) Timeline:

#	Activities and deliverables	Deadline
1	Kick off meeting	September 2024
2	Literature review	November 2024
3	Expert consultation	January 2024
4	Convening between researchers and policymakers	February 2025
5	Draft deliverables	March 2025
6	Finalise deliverables	April 2025
7	Dissemination / uptake	May 2025



h) Deliverables:

#	Deliverables	Deadline
1	Accessible guidance document	April 2025
2	Academic paper advancing best practices on economic evaluation of HICA	April 2025
3	Academic paper outlining the research questions and recommendations for viable innovations in economic theory and practice with the potential to improve climate and health outcomes	April 2025

3. RFP Timetable

#	Activity	Responsibility	Date
1	RFP issued on Contract Opportunities webpage	Wellcome	Wednesday 24 April 2024
2	Submission of Expression of Interest and Supplier Q&A	Supplier	Thursday 16 May 2024
3	Return of Supplier Q&A to Suppliers	Wellcome	Wednesday 29 May 2024
4	Submission of RFP Response	Supplier	Thursday 20 June 2024
5	RFP Evaluation Period	Wellcome	Friday 21 June 2024 – 5 July 2024
6	Supplier Presentations	Supplier	15 July 2024 – 25 July 2024
7	Notification of Contract Award	Wellcome	Tuesday 30 July 2024
8	Contract Negotiation	Wellcome & Supplier	August 2024
9	Contract Start Date	Wellcome & Supplier	September 2024

4. Budget

Wellcome will be guided by the supplier as to what is a reasonable budget for this activity, as we do not want to limit ambition or innovation.

Proposals are in part assessed on value for money and as such we would expect to see a detailed budget breakdown (for example on time and resources) to allow Wellcome to feedback as needed with the awarded supplier.



5. Response Format

The following headers support the timetable by providing further detail of the key steps.

Expression of Interest and Supplier Q&A

Suppliers are asked to submit a short expression of interest by e-mail to the Wellcome contact in accordance with the RFP timetable, which should contain the following information.

- Outline your proposed approach to this work (max. 350 words)
- Confirming whether you are an organisation or individual
- If an organisation please provide registered name, address, and registration number.
- A non-binding cost estimate as a single figure in GBP
- Any questions you have about the exercise and activity

Prior to the submission of your full proposal to the RFP, Suppliers are provided the opportunity to submit any questions they have about the exercise and the activity. All questions will be collated, anonymised, answered and returned to all Suppliers who have submitted an expression of interest in the RFP process. Please make sure you ask all questions at this stage. Once Wellcome have responded to all questions if you have any additional questions after this deadline these will not be answered to ensure that this is a fair and equitable process.

Submitting an EOI/Q&A is not a binding commitment to submit a full proposal should your organisational priorities change, you will not then be penalised for future opportunities.

Please note, if we have an overwhelming response, we may choose to use this EOI stage as a selective phase, this is at Wellcome's discretion.

RFP Response

Suppliers submitting a full proposal should cover the following areas in their response:

#	Question	Max [Words/Pages]
1	<p>Provide a proposal outlining the proposed approach and the methodology, with details including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• how you will undertake the landscaping to review of existing economic evaluation methods; map out the stakeholders involved; identify specific gaps in research capacity and research uptake;• how you will synthesise the available guidance and resources and produce an accessible guidance document;	5 pages



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how you will establish the expert panel of researchers and policymaker and deliver the convening; • how to summarise the insights generated from the convening and produce an academic paper; • how you will engage and work with key agencies (e.g. WHO) to ensure adoption and use of the guidance; and • how you will undertake the scoping to review existing economic theory and practice in relation to how we evaluate and value climate and health outcomes, identify the limitations and explore potential innovations; and produce an academic paper 	
2	Provide a proposed delivery plan outlining the project deliverables and timelines	2 pages
3	Outline the proposed project team with a brief description of their relevant experience (please do not include CVs)	2 pages
4	Outline your approach to equality, diversity and inclusion, both in relation to your proposed methodology for the project, and within your organisation	1 page
5	Describe your approach to working closely with the Climate & Health team at Wellcome	1 page
6	Provide a detailed budget including breakdown justifying the proposed costs to meet Wellcome's requirements	N/A Table
7	What makes you best placed to fulfil the requirements outlined in this RFP? This could include networks, previous experience etc	1 page
8	Outline any major risks and challenges you foresee with meeting Wellcome's requirements. Please include your mitigation strategies for these risk and challenges	1 page
9	Provide two references of where you have successfully provided services similar to those described in this RFP	2 pages
10	<p>All our content should be WCAG 2.2. AAA compliant. Any documents being provided to Wellcome must pass accessibility requirements.</p> <p>An example of an accessible document you've produced must be provided in your response to the RFP. If you are unable to produce accessible documents, budget must be set aside to employ a suitable agency to do this work.</p>	NA Table



Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Detail	%
Methodology	<p><i>Coverage:</i> How well are the desired focus areas (as outlined in the specification) covered in the proposed methodology ?</p> <p><i>Quality:</i> Is the proposed methodology aligned with our needs?</p> <p><i>Utility:</i> Will the proposed methodology deliver the desired, credible, and useful results?</p>	40%
Experience	<p><i>Skills and Experience:</i> Does the supplier have the relevant skills, experience, and contextual understanding to deliver this work?</p>	25%
Delivery & Outputs	<p><i>Communication:</i> Is there a good plan for communicating with the Wellcome team?</p> <p><i>Delivery plan:</i> Is the proposed delivery plan appropriate and achievable?</p> <p><i>Feasibility:</i> How feasible is the delivery plan? Are there significant risks associated with the proposed timelines, and how well are they mitigated?</p>	25%
Budget	<p><i>Value for Money:</i> Is the proposed work within your budget and good value for money?</p>	5%
EDI	<p><i>Do they have EDI policies and are these being put into practice in the proposal?</i></p>	5%
Total:		100%

Contract Feedback

This section allows Suppliers to provide specific feedback to the contractual agreement which will be used should their proposal be successful. This is the suppliers' opportunity to provide negotiation points on Wellcome's terms and conditions.

Clause #	Issue	Proposed Solution/Comment

Suppliers submitting proposals as a registered company should review Wellcome's Standard terms and Conditions [document](#).

Individuals submitting proposals as a sole trader (not registered) should review this [document](#).

Individuals submitting proposals through their own personal services company please highlight this to the Wellcome contact immediately (see point 8 below).

6. Information Governance



Wellcome is committed to upholding data protection principles and protecting your information. The [Wellcome-Privacy-Statement-2023.pdf](#) explains how, and on what legal basis, we collect, store, and use personal information about you. This includes any information you provide in relation to this proposal.

Under [GDPR/Data Protection law](#), Wellcome must keep a record of all personal information it is processing (i.e., collecting, using, and sharing). This record will be made available to the Information Commissioner's Office upon request.

[This is Wellcome's record of data processing activities which meets GDPR article 30 requirements.](#)

Suppliers will be asked to complete the [TPSRA2](#) assessment before presentation stage to assess how you handle data.

Supplier Presentations

Following a submission of the proposal successful proposals will invited to a virtual meeting which will last 50 minutes in total and will be a PowerPoint presentation followed by questions and answers session.

7. About Wellcome

Wellcome improves health for everyone by funding research, leading policy and advocacy campaigns, and building global partnerships. Collaborative research that involves a diverse range of people from different fields of interest is key to progress in health science – and to achieving our aim of fostering a healthier, happier, world. We're taking on the biggest health challenges facing humanity – climate and health, infectious disease, and mental health – to find urgent solutions and accelerate preventions. Find out more about Wellcome and our work at: wellcome.org.

8. Prospective Suppliers Personnel - IR35 and Off Payroll Working Rules

Before the RFP response deadline, Prospective Suppliers must make the Wellcome Contact aware if they are intending to submit a proposal where the services will be provided by any individuals who are engaged by the Prospective Supplier via an intermediary i.e.

- Where the Prospective Supplier is an individual contracting through their own personal services company; or
- The Prospective Supplier is providing individuals engaged through intermediaries, for the purposes of the IR35 off-payroll working rules.

9. Equity Diversity and Inclusion

Embracing [diversity and inclusion](#) is fundamental to delivering our mission to improve health, and we are committed to cultivating a fair and healthy environment for the people who work here and those we work with. We want to cultivate an inclusive and diverse culture, and as we learn more about barriers that disadvantage certain groups from progressing in our workplace, we will remove them.



Wellcome takes diversity and inclusion seriously, and we want to partner with suppliers who share our commitment. We may ask you questions related to D&I as part of our RFP processes.

10. Disability Confident

The Wellcome Trust is proud to be a Disability Confident Employer (DC Level 2) and we encourage all our partners and suppliers to do the same. More information about this can be found on the government website [Disability Confident employer scheme and guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/disability-confident-employer-scheme). Disability Confident is creating a movement of change, encouraging employers to think differently about disability and take action to improve how they recruit, retain and develop disabled people.

11. Accessibility

Wellcome is committed to ensuring that our RFP exercises are accessible to everyone. If you have a disability or a chronic health condition, we can offer adjustments to the response format e.g., submitting your response in an alternate format. For support during the RFP exercise, contact the Wellcome Contact.

If, within the proposed outputs of this RFP exercise, specific adjustments are required by you or your team which incur additional cost then outline them clearly within your commercial response. Wellcome is committed to evaluating all proposals fairly and will ensure any proposed adjustment costs sit outside the commercial evaluation.

All our content should be WCAG 2.2. AAA compliant. Any documents being provided to Wellcome must pass accessibility requirements. If you are unable to produce accessible documents, budget must be set aside to employ a suitable agency to do this work.

12. Independent Proposal

By submission of a proposal, prospective Suppliers warrant that the prices in the proposal have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication, agreement or understanding for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices, with any other potential supplier or with any competitor.

13. Funding

For the avoidance of doubt, the output of this RFP exercise will be funded as a **Contract** and not as a Grant.

14. Costs Incurred by Prospective Suppliers

It should be noted that this document relates to a Request for Proposal only and not a firm commitment from Wellcome to enter into a contractual agreement. In addition, Wellcome will



not be held responsible for any costs associated with the production of a response to this Request for Proposal.

15. Sustainability

Wellcome is committed to procuring sustainable, ethical and responsibly sourced materials, goods and services. This means Wellcome seeks to purchase goods and services that minimise negative and enhance positive impacts on the environment and society locally, regionally and globally. To ensure Wellcome's business is conducted ethically and sustainably, we expect our suppliers, and their supply chains, to adhere to these principles in a responsible manner.

16. Wellcome Contact Details

The single point of contact within this RFP exercise for all communications is as indicated below;

Name: Hardip Dhaliwal
Pronouns: She/Her
Role: Procurement Officer
Email: RFP@wellcome.org